



### St Mary's in the Marketplace

Churchgate Stockport SK1 1YG

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**Rector: Rev Roger Scoones**

St Mary's Rectory

24 Gorsey Mount Street

Stockport SK1 4DU

Tel: 0161 429 6564

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#### Service times at St Mary's

**Sunday: 10:30am Holy Communion or  
Morning Prayer**

Normally the first and third Sunday is Holy Communion with Morning on the second and fourth.

**Tuesday: 10.00am Holy Communion  
12.15pm Lunchtime Service**

Wedding, Baptism, Funeral and other services by arrangement with the Rector.

**St Mary's and the Nave Café is open – Tuesday, Thursday, Friday &  
Saturday from 9.00am – 3.00pm**

Readers contributions to the magazine are always welcome. Editorial discretion with regard to content and space available will apply.

**web site: [www.stmarysinthemarketplace.com](http://www.stmarysinthemarketplace.com)**

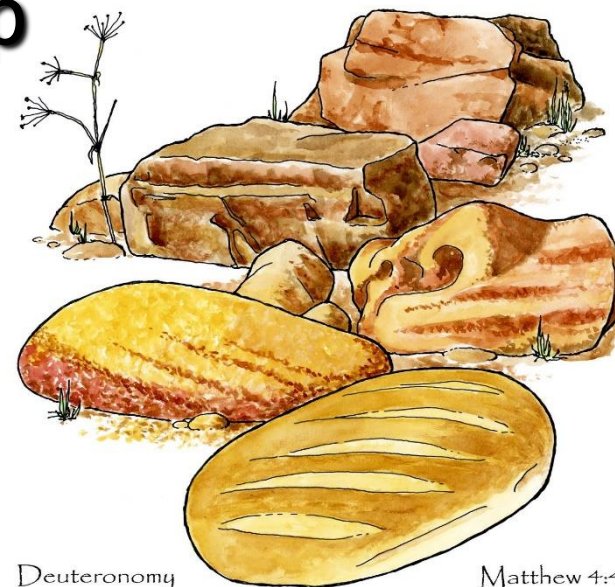


STOCKPORT PARISH CHURCH

St Mary's in the Marketplace

## Parish Magazine - February 2016

50p



Deuteronomy  
8:3

Matthew 4:4

Bread is not enough to keep us alive;  
we need to feed on every word of God

Lent brings us the 40 days in the wilderness  
when Jesus was tempted to turn stones into bread.

## FEBRUARY AT ST MARY'S

Tuesday	2 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	Holy Communion Lunch-time service Baptism/Confirmation preparation [1]	10.00am 12.15pm 2.00pm
Sunday	7 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Holy Communion	10.30am
Tuesday	9 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Holy Communion Lunch-time service Baptism/Confirmation preparation [2]  Pancake Party St Mary's Rectory	10.00am 12.15pm 2.00pm 5.00pm
Weds	10 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Ash Wednesday Holy Communion	7.00pm
Thursday	11 <sup>th</sup> Feb	PRIVATE RECEPTION	5.00pm
Friday	12 <sup>th</sup> Feb	ARC Exhibition	9.00am – 3.30pm
Saturday	13 <sup>th</sup> Feb	ARC Exhibition	9.00am – 3.30pm
Sunday	14 <sup>th</sup> Feb	First Sunday in Lent Morning Prayer	10.30am
Tuesday	16 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Holy Communion Lunch-time service (Lent 1) Baptism/Confirmation preparation [3]	10.00am 12.15pm 2.00pm
Sunday	21 <sup>st</sup> Feb	Second Sunday in Lent Holy Communion	10.30am
Tuesday	23 <sup>rd</sup> Feb	Holy Communion Special Service of Baptism and Confirmation with the Bishop of Chester	10.00am 12.15pm
Sunday	28 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Third Sunday in Lent Morning Prayer	10.30am

## NICHOLAS HENSHALL CELEBRATION CONCERT

**SATURDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> APRIL 2016 7.30pm**

**ST MARY'S IN THE MARKETPLACE  
STOCKPORT SK1 1YG**

featuring

James Bowman (counter tenor)

Margaret McDonald (mezzo soprano)

Alex Jones (double bass)

Harvey Davies (harpsichord)

John Turner (recorder)

Peter Lawson (piano)

Simon Fraser (oboe)

music includes

Bach/ Purcell / Handel / Douglas Steele / Peter Hope / Luke Whitlock

**ADMISSION FREE**

**RETIRING COLLECTION**

**FOR ST ANN'S HOSPICE & ST. MARY'S CHURCH**





The 2016 World Day of Prayer will be held on Friday 4th March 2016.



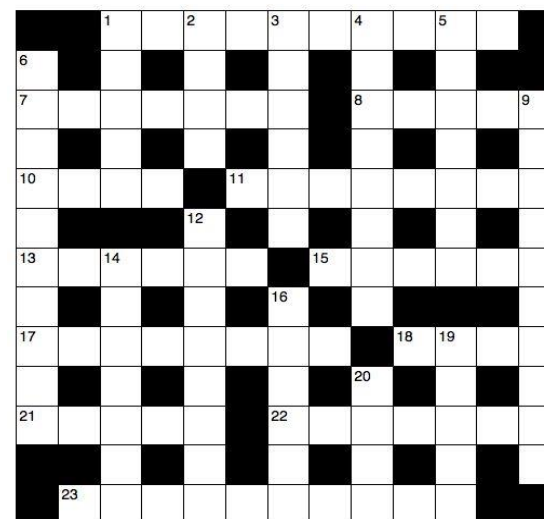
This year the service for Stockport will be at the Salvation Army Citadel on Stockport Road, Cheadle Heath at 2pm, led by Major Sarah Murray. The speaker is Rev. Canon Elaine Chegwin Hall from St George's.

The service is entitled "**Receive children, Receive me**", based on St Mark's Gospel Ch 10 v 13-16, and the central message is that everyone is a child of God and equally worthy of our love and respect, and has been written by the Christian women of Cuba.

You can expect some tropical colour and lively music to take away the winter blues. Refreshments will be served afterwards.

Do come if you can and bring your friends..... All are welcome. Be part of this annual special day, and be one of over 3 million people in 170 countries and islands who create a "Mexican wave" of prayer and praise across the globe.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to ask me.  
Catriona Smith



## CROSSWORD

Across :

- 1 Success or wealth (Deuteronomy 28:11) (10)
- 7 Forbidden fruit for Nazirites (Numbers 6:3) (7)
- 8 Concede (Job 27:5) (8)
- 10 Look at (Psalm 48:13) (4)
- 11 Much in evidence after weddings (8)
- 13 Condense (Job 36:27) (6)
- 15 Breakwater (6)
- 17 Give a tan (anag.) (8)
- 18 More usually now called Pentecost, — Sunday (4)

- 21 After living for 365 years, it was said of him that 'he walked with God' (Genesis 5:23-24) (5)
- 22 Trampled (Judges 9:27) (7)
- 23 For example, Miriam, Deborah (Exodus 15:20; Judges 4:4) (10)

Down:

- 1 Arrogance (Proverbs 8:13) (5)
- 2 Roman poet from first century BC (4)
- 3 So rapt (anag.) (6)
- 4 Declare again (2 Corinthians 2:8) (8)
- 5 Paul's 'fellow worker', to whom he sent two epistles (Romans 16:21) (7)
- 6 God's foreseeing care and protection (Job 10:12) (10)
- 9 Traditional form of Roman Catholic Mass (10)
- 12 'The Lord... has given the — of Israel to David and his descendants for ever' (2 Chronicles 13:5) (8)
- 14 'My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my —' (Luke 1:46-47) (7)
- 16 The central element in Nebuchadnezzar's dream, identified and interpreted by Daniel (Daniel 2:31) (6)
- 19 'On this rock I will build my church, and the gates of — will not overcome it' (Matthew 16:18) (5)
- 20 City where Paul was under house arrest for two years (Acts 28:16) (4)



## "Paradise in the snow"

On more than one occasion during my stay in Wengen in January I was told that "this is paradise", something I've heard said before. I suppose if you look up at the mountains and the snow covered peaks and the deep blue sky it is a sort of paradise. But if you look at the gravel on the road when the snow melts, and if you see the flag at half mast outside your hotel when a neighbour has died, and if you notice men and women walking down the streets with an arm in a sling or a leg strapped up, or on crutches, you begin to realise that this is not paradise at all. It's the real world at 1300 metres. It would be very easy to say that being a chaplain in a ski resort in Switzerland is great fun. Life is what you make it, by and large, and if my time in Wengen were not to have an element of fun in it, I probably wouldn't do it each year. The fact that for two weeks I wear a badge around my neck which



declares that I am clearly "Church of England, ICS Intercontinental Church Society CHAPLAIN Roger Scoones" means that I am very much "on duty" at all times. A call late one evening to say that one of the British skiers in a downhill race was in hospital in Interlaken after a serious fall, brings that fact home. It would require a visit to hospital which would come as a priority in my diary in the next couple of days. When a young woman asked if she might talk with me after the morning service, I could not have known the depth or length of counselling that would be needed at that point, leaving the rest of

the congregation having coffee on their own. As I walked down the main street of the village cheerily saying hello to all who pass by, I could not have anticipated that someone I have known for many years in Wengen, someone who comes to church and sings beautifully, would say quietly in the course of the conversation "I buried my son last year, 53; a parent should have to bury their child"!

Paradise? I think **not**; this is the real world in a beautiful place. My Swiss friend took me for a walk on snow shoes, big plastic plates fitted onto my boots. It was fantastic, walking, trudging through the deep, soft powder snow, where no one had walked, because it had only snowed the day before. We went up the mountain and into the woods, and out to peaks, which gave us wonderful views over the valley thousands of feet beneath us. It was stunningly beautiful. But this was also near the place where a few years ago a young Englishman fell to his death in tragic circumstances, leaving his family and friends devastated, and to this day mystified over his terrible end. Paradise? Not for some. For my friend and I that day, though, it was as near as it comes to perfection in the mountains.

This year for the first time my Chaplaincy coincided with that of a Roman Catholic priest Fr. Philip Sainter, who was brought up in Stockport and is a parish priest in the UK. Did we have fun? We certainly did! For one day only, we skied the mountain together, probably like no other clergyman have ever done before. Both of us were





determined to have fun, on our "day off" you might say, and we skied as fast as we could from place to place, and we had a super lunch in a beautiful old chalet restaurant, near Grindelwald. Ecuemenical relations have never been better! I attended his Mass one day. It was in Italian. (Fr. Philip speaks four languages) I fell asleep! They heard me snoring! So they woke me up for the Peace!



Many churches nowadays rely on musical accompaniment from CDs, and St. Bernard's in Wengen is no different in that respect. When someone who is musical comes to Wengen and is willing today the organ for services, it makes a real difference. And so it was that Ai Li Chung from Melbourne, Australia came to Wengen during the second week of my Chaplaincy and in the company of her friend Choc Pin Foo, from Seattle (they are both originally from Malaysia). Ai Li teaches the piano back home, and being Christian wanted to offer her gift to the church's life while she was on holiday. What a gift! That Sunday the worship was lifted to a point that I was inspired in a way I don't ever remember happening before! Paradise? Yes a glimpse of paradise, just as the sun shines brightly and dramatically through the clouds which swirl around the mountains sometimes. It was the season of Epiphany while I was chaplain, and we thought a lot in the services about the "showing forth" of the glory of Jesus. And if that is Paradise, then we were there, part of it, if not physically, then certainly in a spiritual sense.

As chaplain one has so many God given opportunities, in word and deed, to share the Good News. One such occasion was the arrival in

Shrove Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2016



You are invited to our  
**"Tea Time" Pancake Party**  
at  
**St Mary's Rectory**  
**[24 Gorsey Mount Street]**



5.00pm  
RSVP for catering purposes  
donations accepted for the work of St Mary's

**Ash Wednesday: 10<sup>th</sup> February**

**Holy Communion: 7.00pm**  
**St Mary's in the Marketplace**



**Unpicked: Restitched**



**Returning to St Mary's for a two  
day public exhibition (the final art  
works) on the 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup>  
February**

**9.00am – 3.00pm**



**The Wellspring** - There are smiles on the faces of the volunteer team at the Wellspring nowadays. The stores are full to the ceiling after a bumper Christmas of giving to this much loved good cause in the heart of Stockport. "PEOPLE WERE INCREDIBLY GENEROUS" said Pauline Cook seen here with Margaret, both longstanding members of the volunteer team, and daunted by the awesome scale of donations to the food stores in recent weeks.

Visiting the Wellspring with the left over mince pies from church, Roger was also hugely impressed by the sight of tins and packets piled high. "The last time I saw this room" he said "the boxes were nearly empty!" Thank God for His wonderful provision for the Wellspring in this New Year!

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**Crossword answers:**

ACROSS: 1, Prosperity. 7, Raisins. 8, Admit. 10, View. 11, Confetti. 13, Distil. 15, Groyne. 17, Navigate. 18, Whit. 21, Enoch. 22, Trodden. 23, Prophetess.

DOWN: 1, Pride. 2, Ovid. 3, Pastor. 4, Reaffirm. 5, Timothy. 6, Providence. 9, Tridentine. 12, Kingship. 14, Saviour. 16, Statue. 19, Hades. 20, Rome.

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the village of the Annual British Schoolboy Races teams. One of the schools taking part was my own almer mater, Tonbridge School in Kent. I have kept actively in touch with the school over the years, and it was the greatest fun and privilege to be able to meet the team and their Master and supporting parents, and to share with the boys how I had come to Wengen to learn to ski in 1973. Little did I know that 10 years later I would come back as Chaplain, and that for the rest of my life I would find myself so intimately involved with this beautiful part of God's creation, this lovely little village perched high up on a mountainside, surrounded by majestic and famous mountain peaks!

Paradise, you might say. Well yes, for moments it can seem awesomely beautiful, and near to perfection, as it was for me on my latest visit as Chaplain of the English Church in Wengen. If only I could find those valuable church keys I lost in the snow on my very first night; paradise, not for me!



Rev. Roger Scoones



Tuesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2016

Service of Baptism  
& Confirmation  
with the Bishop of Chester  
The Rt Revd Dr Peter Forster  
at  
St Mary's in the Marketplace  
12.15pm

### From Roger's ipad



Dear Reader

I once knew a Christian lady, who took her faith very seriously. She was a secretary in a Missionary Society in London, where I had been taken on as a sort of pioneer missionary. My job was to go round the country, visiting University Christian Unions, encouraging students to go on evangelistic holidays in Europe in their Summer Vacation. They were called Purpose Holidays, and for a number of years they were very successful, not so much in making new Christians, as training enthusiastic young Christians, like myself at that time, to share the Gospel, the Good News of Jesus Christ, with others. The Mission was called the Commonwealth and Continental Church Society( Com and Con for short) later to change its name to The Intercontinental Church Society ( now known as I.C.S) the name having been changed to more accurately reflect its scope of mission in the second half of the 20th Century. There are many men and women today who will, I'm sure, look back on that experience of evangelising the British tourists in sunny places like Lloret de Mar, on the Costa Brava and Lido Di Jeselo near Venice, as a time of preparation for service in the Christian church, to which God would lead them in the years to come. Indeed one or two like myself would go on to be ordained. It was a time of preparation, a means to an end, rather than an end in itself.

As I look back over the past few years of huge activity and upheaval in the life of St. Mary's, that's how I see it, as means to an end rather

### **Operation Christmas Child**

Thank you to all of the congregation of St Mary's and friends who gift-filled their own shoe box. Also thank you to everyone who knotted or made items or brought things for the boxes or gave donations. From these items I made up 6 boxes.

44 boxes were taken from St Mary's to the Manchester Area Warehouse where they were processed and packed in cartons. 8637 boxes went into a container to Kyrgyzstan in Central Asia and 8275 in another container to Liberia in Africa to go by sea. 2 lorry loads were then sent to Romania.

The final number of boxes from the Manchester Area was 33,412 going to these special children. The boxes from St Mary's probably went to Liberia.

It is hard work at the warehouse but rewarding processing so many lovely boxes which will give love and hope to needy children showing they are not forgotten.

Thank you for supporting this Christmas project.

Margaret Forster

**Thank you to our visiting Clergy – attending our Sunday/Tuesday services whilst Roger was in Switzerland:**

**Rev Canon John Briggs  
Rev Richard Lawry**

**Rev Ken Kenrick  
Rev David Brewster**

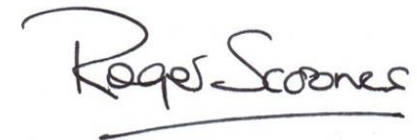
Such was the Christian woman I knew and hugely respected in London in those early days of my Christian life, a time of preparation for the years of ordained ministry which lay ahead ( though little did I know it at that time) For "C.C." as she was affectionately known, Mrs Childs Clarke led a disciplined Christian life. This meant that every Thursday, instead of having lunch, and a normal lunch break in the office, C.C." would quietly fast, and get on with her work, the work of the Mission, to which she was committed. I only learnt this of her years later. You see, it was not obvious, but it was gracious, full of Christian grace.

Fasting in Lent can be, and is, a special part of many people's lives, not just for Christians. Lent begins this Month, and Easter is early this year, March 27, so soon!

However you may decide to prepare for Easter, I hope that the example of my dear late friend "C.C." may be an encouragement to you, in your own walk with The Lord this Lent.

God be with you in the silence of the day and in the quiet place of your life, this Lent, and always.

Yours very sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Roger Scoones". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.



## Amendments to working arrangements with Pure Innovations at the Nave Café

Due to a change in transport arrangements for clients (previous arrangement with Solutions SK having come to an end) Pure Innovations are now using taxi facilities which has necessitated the need to review travelling hours. Because of this the official hours of work (on site) at St Mary's are from 09.00am until **4.00pm**. We appreciate that although our normal church opening hours of 09.00am – 3.30pm will remain (the café closing at 3.00pm), **it may be that those responsible for security checking and locking the premises at the end of the day are delayed in leaving.** Unfortunately this is unavoidable although every effort will be made for clients/managers to have left slightly earlier than 4pm. **Opening up procedures remain the same as at present in that the Church should be open prior to Pure Innovations arriving (and the direct delivery of goods) no later than 8.45am.**

We also appreciate that this is adding pressure to our limited number of key-holders / volunteers. However, in the interest of security we do require two responsible church representatives to be present at the end of the day to sweep and search the premises, and check that all the lights and heaters etc (that should be OFF) are indeed switched off! We have had recent incidents of people trying to remain in the premises (hiding behind the choir stalls) and of lights (in the Vestries) and electrical heaters (in the Memorial Chapel) being left on. Our colleagues in the Stockport Heritage Trust have agreed to assist us and will as necessary adjust their volunteer hours, for which we are most grateful. Clearly no representative from Pure Innovations will take any responsibility for securing our premises etc.

## **Behind the big red door!**

It is quite a responsibility and a serious commitment on those of us who keep the doors open during the week and on a Saturday.

St Mary's is in many ways a "mini business" in that we need to be open no later than **8.45am** on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday to allow access to Pure Innovations and take delivery of café supplies now being delivered directly to Church. New travel arrangements for Pure Innovation clients have also pushed our church lock-up to **4.00pm**.

In an ideal world no one should need to "work" more than a day a week, even half a day. We are all volunteers and need time for ourselves and to do other things. As arrangements stand at present we have "key holder" volunteers covering up to two/three full days (including a Saturday) each week, with others coming in and out during the day to provide front of house assistance. Our aim is to get what is termed an improved "work/life" balance and to do this we need more help! **If you don't at present , but could, make a regular commitment of time to supporting the ministry and mission of St Mary's – please let us know.**

## NEW CAFÉ DELIVERY ARRANGEMENTS

Arrangements are now in place for the on-line ordering of catering and other goods from both Asda and Booker. Where possible deliveries will be made directly to St Mary's on a Tuesday morning between 09.00am – 11.00am.

than an end in itself. Of course it's very nice to see the Old Church, as some know it, full of life and light , with people coming and going through the now-open doors. But all the work that has been done, and is now complete, is surely only the beginning of a new era of ministry and witness in the world in which St. Mary's is set, at the heart of the old town. It has been a time of serious and strenuous hard work, and preparation , a time of laying the foundations , a time of setting out new ideas and structures for daily life and worship in a strategic town centre church, which is now well and truly "on the map", as people keep telling me! What happens next remains to be seen; all eyes are on St. Mary's to see where it will go in the future, now that it has been saved and restored to health. A sort of resurrection , I'd say!

Lent is a time of preparation , preparing for the great events of Holy Week and Easter . It's an important time of thinking, praying , listening, and leaning about the reason for Christ's coming , His crucifixion and His Resurrection. It is a time of preparation for the rest of the year ahead , indeed of the years of life ahead , when we Christians celebrate His Resurrection and His Presence with us always. And although many like to come to a regular church service to do that, others do so quietly away from the sight of others, privately, making their act of preparation , something that is strictly between them and God

## African Enterprise

We were delighted to welcome back to St Mary's the Rev Ozzie Post (AE Ambassador) who kindly took our service of Holy Communion on Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup> January whilst Roger was away.

African Enterprise (AE) was founded in 1962 by a South African, Michael Cassidy.

It is a Christian interdenominational, multicultural ministry "Evangelising the Cities of Africa, through Word and Deed, in Partnership with the Church"

AE works with Local Churches in four main areas:

- Evangelism
- Peacebuilding and Reconciliation
- Aid and Development
- Leadership Development

AE Team leaders are African Nations who work with local church and para-church leaders. AE has bases in ten African countries.

**Thanks on behalf of Ossie to everyone who supported African Enterprise by making a donation or by the purchase of books AND by signing up to become a "Prayer Partner".**

For those of you who were not with us at the service but who would like to support African Enterprise leaflets are still available on the desk in church. A gift of £50 was made by St Mary's at the end of the service.