

Sunday Services across the Team

St Bartholomew's:	8.00am (2nd & 4th Sundays) 11.00am each week
St Thomas'	8.00am (1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays) 9.15am each Sunday
St George's	9.15am each Sunday
St John's	8.00am (1st & 3rd Sundays) 9:30am each week
St James'	8.00am (2nd, 4th & 5th Sundays) 10:45am each Sunday
St Katharine's	8.00am & 11.00am each Sunday

For all enquiries relating to baptism and weddings, and for other routine matters, please come to Bartholomew's Church on any Monday [other than Bank Holidays] from 6 – 7pm

DIRECTORY

Team Ministers

Team Rector	<i>Vacant</i>	
Team Vicar	Rev'd Angela Wynne	01204 468150
Curate:	Rev'd Kirsty Screeton	01942 575383
Reader Emeritus	Alan Morris	01942 817871
Reader	Christine Radford	01942 790091
Reader	Elaine Simkin	01942 810762

Parish Wardens

Margaret Dolphin		01942 790415
Edward McHale		01942 812193

Deputy Wardens

<i>St Bartholomew</i>	Christine Andrews	01942 817146
<i>St George</i>	Pat James	01204 492994
	Sarah Barry	01942 840441
<i>St Thomas</i>	Tim Browning	07827 275262
	Janet Perfect	01942 814090

www.westhoughtonchurches.org.uk

Follow us on Twitter @Wparishchurch and on Facebook

Items for inclusion in future newsletters should be sent to the parish office:
westhoughtonparish@outlook.com
or given to Edward McHale, churchwarden and Director of Music

www.westhoughtonchurches.org.uk

Parish of St Bartholomew Westhoughton
St Bartholomew St Thomas St George

NEWSLETTER JUNE 2018



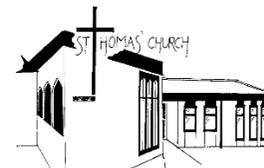
Kirsty writes

Dear Friends,

Over the last few weeks the church has celebrated the end of Easter, has reflected on Jesus' Ascension and has given thanks for the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, not just to the disciples over 2000 years ago, but also to each person who accepts God's presence and turns to faith.

During June, and the few months following, the churches readings and themes are based around our role as people of faith in the communities which we belong to. There are lots of ways to look at these roles, but one that is currently at the front of my mind, is leadership. I have just recently attended a weekend, as part of my curacy training, where the subject was leadership. But it wasn't just about how the ordained lead, it was about how all people of the church lead together to grow and keep the church alive.

A leader is someone: who supports and encourages others, a person who works as part of a team and as an individual, a person who is good at using initiative when spotting opportunities. As people who have chosen to follow Christ, we are all given these gifts in the receiving of God's Spirit. Our faith commitment is not to store these gifts, but to in fact use these gifts, not just on a Sunday or Wednesday morning in church or when we meet with church friends. They are to be used in every situation that we find ourselves in. Now for some talking about your faith is easy, for others not so much. For some setting good examples of living is easier than it is for others. You each know your own God given gifts and we are encouraged not to keep these for ourselves, but to share them with others. If we do, together we can lead the church, and through talking, setting examples and sharing our God given gifts with others, not only allows will we be good disciples of Jesus Christ, we become leaders of the church. And if we do this together, we have the potential to, as individuals and as a church, both spiritually and potentially physically to grow. However, the task is too great for just one person, even Jesus recruited helpers. Therefore, I encourage us all that, as we go through this season of Trinity, let's remind ourselves of our God given gifts, let's look at the situations we already have before us, and let's committed to sharing and using our gifts in them. And let's commit that together we will grow and share God's love with all whom we meet. Amen.



Rev'd Kirsty Screeton





Christian Aid Week

Many thanks to all who donated – we'll let you know the total raised in a future newsletter.

Concert by the Meraki Duo

Friday 15th June 7:30pm

St. James' Church, Daisy Hill

There is a concert by the Meraki Duo [guitar and flute] at St. James' church this month. Tickets are £8 with people under 18 accompanied by an adult free. Ticket prices include refreshments. All welcome.

Stewardship 2018

As we approach the mid-point of the year, it's a good time to look again at our stewardship. Between our three churches we have to pay our Parish Share of £53,000 this year as well as our heating, lighting, insurance bills etc. To do this we need regular and planned giving from individuals to keep the buildings open for worship as a beacon of the life, light and love of Jesus in our parish.

You can give in several ways:

- putting cash on the plate during the collections at our Sunday services
- becoming part of a **planned giving scheme** – ask for a pack of weekly envelopes and decide on a regular commitment
- setting up a standing order / direct debit to pay your donations each week or month directly to our bank accounts.

Planned giving is best for us as it allows us to budget throughout the year and demonstrates a commitment to good stewardship.

If you pay tax, then you are eligible to **Gift Aid** your giving. By signing a simple form, we can reclaim from the Inland Revenue 25p for each £1 that you give. One-off donations can be Gift Aided using the blue envelopes available.

For further details, please speak to any of our Finance team:

St. Bartholomew's – Elaine Simkin / Andrew Jolley

St. George's – John Thompson

St. Thomas' – Claire Smith / Janet Perfect

James Emmerson from the Diocese of Manchester will be at our next PCC meeting on Monday 11th June to spend some time looking at this with us.

Confirmation Service

Sunday 10th June 3:30pm St Bartholomew's Church

We pray for our candidates as they prepare for confirmation this month in this service led by the Bishop of Bolton

Data Protection Legislation

This came into force at the end of May. Do read the enclosed letter explaining more about it and ask the Parish wardens if you have any questions.

12th Annual Blackrod Scarecrow Festival

Saturday 30th June – Sunday 1st July 10am – 7pm

Come along and follow the Scarecrow trail, spot the celebrities and enjoy a fun-filled day for all the family. Pictures from last year's event are on www.stkatharine.net/gallery
Further information – 01204 691 575

Team Rector Vacancy Update

The four PCCs have met together to formally sign off the Parish Profile [which is the document that sells our team to any interested candidates] and choose the Parish representatives who will form part of the interview panel. These are now sent to the Diocese who add their section and draw up the person specification based on our requirements. After we've approved that, we can advertise the vacancy. Although it seems a bureaucratic process, we're moving through it quickly. Do ask any of the wardens or clergy if you have any questions.

GRACE THOMAS moved with Revd. Gareth Thomas and family to their new parishes in Salford last year. Grace began training for ordained ministry while here in this team. As she prepares to be ordained Deacon at Manchester Cathedral this month, we continue to pray for her and her family. Here's a short piece she wrote for this month's CRUX magazine.

I grew up in the URC church. Although I left in my teens, when I had my son, aged 18, I wanted to return, but was nervous about going on my own as a single, teenage mum. I started attending a C of E church with my now husband, Gareth, in my early twenties. I felt a sense of belonging, but being called to ministry was not at all on my radar!

A turning point was when I was asked to help deliver a new monthly service - I would never have volunteered! As I began to lead, I became aware of how right it felt. Despite deep reservations about not being good enough in so many ways, God kept nudging me – speaking to me through friends, family, and even the occasional stranger, until I had to listen! I trained locally with All Saints, while working as a Family Support Worker. I've had fantastic support from family, friends and colleagues, and, during my training, I have been lucky enough to go to India on placement, staying with a family and volunteering for a charity.

I am delighted that I will be serving my curacy in the Benefice of Moss Side, St James and Whalley Range, St Edmund's. I am passionate about issues of inclusion and diversity – about church being a place where all feel welcome and encouraged. As ordination draws near, I have a strong sense of being where I am supposed to be, while simultaneously feeling hugely astonished that this is the path God has called me to!