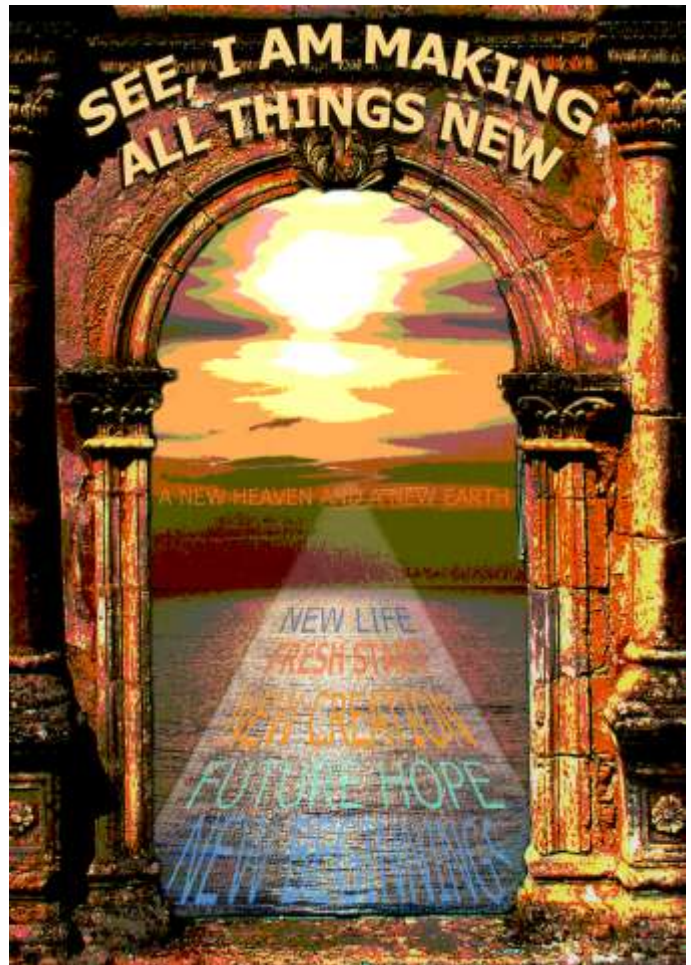




St. Nicholas News



Church Diary January 2011

| Date | Time | Event |
|----------------|-------------|--|
| Sunday 2nd | 8.30am | EPIPHANY Holy Communion (BCP) |
| | 10.30 a.m. | Parish Communion |
| Tuesday 4th | 7.30pm | Taize Evening Prayer |
| Wednesday 5th | 10.00am | Eucharist |
| Sunday 9th | 8.30 a.m. | BAPTISM OF CHRIST Holy Communion (BCP) |
| | 10.30 a.m. | Parish Communion |
| Wednesday 12th | 10.00am | Eucharist |
| Thursday 13th | 6.00pm | Pastoral Committee, Parrswood Pub |
| | 8.00pm | CTiB Executive 8pm Christ Church, Parrswood |
| Saturday 15th | 10.30 | Coffee Morning, Bring and Buy Sale and Box Opening in aid of Children's Society 10.30 to noon, All Welcome |
| Sunday 16th | 8.30 a.m. | 2nd of EPIPHANY Holy Communion (BCP) |
| | 10.30am | Parish Communion |
| Tuesday 18th | 8.00pm | Prayer Group, Rectory |
| Wednesday 19th | 10.00am | Eucharist |
| Thursday 20th | 7.30pm | CTiB Service for Christian Unity at St.Nicholas |
| | 8.00pm | Worship Committee, Rectory |
| Sunday 23rd | 8.30 a.m. | 3rd of EPIPHANY Holy Communion (BCP) |
| | 10.30 a.m. | Parish Communion |
| | 4.00pm | CTiB United Service for Week of Christian Unity, Christ Church, Burnage Lane |
| Wednesday 26th | 10.00am | Eucharist |
| | 2.30pm | Women's Fellowship meeting 'The Sceptred Isle' Mr.S.Higgins |
| Thursday 27th | 7.30pm | Fundraising Committee, Glass room |
| Sunday 30th | 8.30 a.m. | PRESENTATION OF CHRIST Holy Communion (BCP) |
| | 10.30am | Parish Communion |

Rachel Writes...

I want to talk about a very difficult thing: self-acceptance. 'Phew', I hear you cry, 'Is that all? We thought that by 'difficult thing' you meant something like suffering or how to end war'.

Well, self-acceptance is, I think, one of the great challenges of being human: constantly I meet people who put themselves down or (as the rappers put it) 'big themselves up'. It is very difficult to accept oneself as one is – warts and all – and allow oneself to believe that one is lovable. A very fine thinker once said that faith is 'the courage to accept acceptance'. I have to admit that at first sight this is one of the most puzzling statements you're ever likely to come across. However, bear with me as I try to make sense of it.

Most of us probably see 'faith'

as a matter of believing this or that – for example, faith in Jesus Christ is believing he is the Son of God. Instead, this clever thinker, Paul Tillich, invites us to see faith not as believing something, but as a matter of relationship. The courage to accept acceptance is nothing

*Accepting
God's love
takes
courage*

more than the courage to allow God, who is always taking the initiative, to love us. Faith, according to this picture, isn't so much a matter of what we have to do, as a matter of 'letting go' into the cherishing arms of God.

Some of you might be saying, 'Now wait a minute. What's that got to do with faith?' Well, everything. For to be on a journey of faith is to accept (to a greater or lesser degree) that God says 'yes' to you – that God affirms and confirms you.

When one really believes this, then one can respond by saying 'yes' to God. St. Augustine



says, 'By loving us, God makes us lovable'; one of the things he means is that God's love is not a conditional thing, but something that is simply there, always. And this love longs to set us free to accept we are lovable.

Accepting God's love takes courage because it means knocking ourselves off centre stage and recognising God as the heart of everything. It strikes me that, so often, our natural human condition is to be self-centred; it is a brave person who 'lets go' and allows God to love them. But I assure you, the more we do it, the more faithful and wondrous we discover the Living God to be.

May you be more self-accepting during this new year.

Rachel
x



Churches Together In Burnage News

Celebrating the 400th anniversary of the King James Bible, The CTIB motto for 2011 is taken from Psalm 119, verse 105

“ Your word is a lamp for my feet a light for my path.....”

Services for the week of Christian Unity 17th to 23rd January 2011

Monday 17th January 10.30am Christ Church, Burnage Lane

Tuesday 18th January 7.00am South Manchester Family Church, Kingsburn Hall

Wednesday 19th January 2.00pm St.Bernard's , Burnage Lane

Thursday 20th January 7.30pm St.Nicholas

Friday 21st January 12noon St.Margaret's, Burnage Lane

Saturday 22nd January 8.30am, Christ Church , Parrswood

Sunday 23rd January 4.00pm United Service at Christ Church, Burnage Lane

Please try to attend one of the services.....thank you.

Fielden Campus opens new training restaurant



Restaurant 141
Fielden Campus,
Barlow Moor Road,
West Didsbury
M20 2PQ

If you are looking for a lunch or evening meal venue, why not try the newly refurbished restaurant. Meals are excellent value.

Lunch served on Fridays and an evening meal twice a month on Thursdays.

Church Magazine through the years....

We have published a parish magazine for 80 years. Initially the magazine was published jointly with Emmanuel Church. From January 1930 we created and published 'At the sign of St. Nicholas'. The cost was 1d and 1,000 copies were printed. The cost was increased to 2d in 1939. In the 1950's the cost was 4d, between 750 and 800 copies a month were distributed. In the 1960's we once more shared our magazine 'The Link' with Parrswood Congregational Church, at this time the cost was 6d.

We started to publish our own magazine again in 1970, 'St Nicholas News'. In 1980 the cost was increased to 9p with a special deal—'a year's subscription in advance will be £1, saving you 8p'

In 1998 the magazine cost 20p and included the Crux (which has an advertised cost of 25p). In the last 10 years the cost of the magazine has been increased to 30p.

We now distribute 125 copies per month and the cost of our magazine will increase to 50p a month starting with this issue, the Crux will be included. Printing and paper costs have increased significantly over the past few years and the PCC made the decision to increase the price to help to cover some of the costs.

Thank you to the team who prepare and distribute the magazine and to all those who buy the magazine for your loyal support.

Historical detail taken from the 'History of St. Nicholas Church' by Mr B. Taylor

Items for the Parish Magazine are most welcome. Please hand Items for the next issue to Rachel by Sunday 16th January or email to editor@st-nicholas-church.org.uk



*In Aid Of
The Children's Society*

Coffee Morning, Box Opening and Bring & Buy Sale

**Saturday 15th January
From 10.30am to 12noon in
the church hall.**

**Coffee & Biscuit—50p.
Everyone welcome!**

*Boxholders please bring your boxes to the Coffee
Morning*



Grannie?

The little boy came home from his first day at Sunday School and informed his mother that his Sunday school teacher was Jesus' grandmother. Astonished, the mother demanded: 'What on earth makes you think that?' "Easy, said the little boy. 'She never stops talking about Jesus.'



You're always there for me



When the world comes crashing in
And chaos rules my mind
I turn my heart to you, Lord
And pure, sweet peace I find.

In times of joy and bliss
When things are going right
You lift me even higher
And fill me with delight.

You lift me out of trouble
You comfort me in pain
You nourish, heal and cleanse me
Like cool, refreshing rain.

You listen to my prayers;
You hear my every plea;
I'm safe because I know
You're always there for me

By Joanna Fuchs

SuDuKa

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| 8 | 4 | 6 | | 2 | | | | |
| 7 | | 4 | | 1 | | | | |
| 9 | | | | | 6 | 8 | | 2 |
| | 2 | 1 | 8 | | 5 | | | |



“If it was not for Traidcraft helping us all these years, every one of us would leave this place.”

Pieter van Wyk, farmer,
Eksteenskui Agricultural
Co-operative (EAC), South Africa

Photo: Traidcraft/Richard Elbe

Raisins to be cheerful

Farmers at EAC grow the grapes that become Fairtrade, sun-dried raisins and sultanas used in Traidcraft products, including our Christmas cake and Christmas puddings. Many of these small-scale farmers work small, uneconomic pieces of land and some still lack electricity and piped water. Through working with Traidcraft, EAC has been able to fund the purchase of fertilisers and machinery, improve irrigation and invest in training and business support.



Manna from heaven

As well as tractors and community water pumps, the Fairtrade premium on EAC raisins and sultanas has paid for schoolbags for local primary school children.

"It is like manna from heaven," school principal Don van Wyk said. "Our people are so poor in this area those things are luxuries in their eyes. They have used plastic carrier bags to put their books in. I can tell you the parents will be overwhelmed."



Water pumps

A community water pump paid for with the Fairtrade premium means Elizabeth Mentoor can cook and wash dishes in her kitchen without having to carry water from the canal.

"We only used to carry two buckets and that is not enough for the family so we had to walk the whole day to get water. I like to make my own cakes, especially baking birthday cakes for my family. I like to make a variety of cakes: fruit cake, chocolate cake and cookies."

The extra mile

Traidcraft's relationship with the farmers is much more than just buyer and grower. Our extra mile approach includes sending advance payments to help them rebuild when a hailstorm wiped out 70% of their vines and providing an ongoing support programme. Every time you buy Traidcraft products you contribute to this type of work.



Church Duty Rota (January 2011)

| Date | Warden 8.30 a.m. | Warden 10.30 a.m. | Altar Duty | Lay Assistants | SidesPeople |
|------|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------|--|
| 2nd | Fred Murphy | Jill Lomas | Jenna Bartlett | Jill Lomas Louise Hollingsworth | Anne Tudor Anne Holmes Jane Cawley |
| 9th | Fred Murphy | Grace Manley | Jenny cullen | Anne Holmes Enid Harvey | Sybil Gawkrödger Alma Cockshoot Caroline Abiodon |
| 16th | Fred Murphy | Alison Mills | Lucy Crossley | Grace Manley Julie Crossley | Margaret Vessey Michael Vessey Muriel Clark |
| 23rd | Fred Murphy | Alison Mills | Clare Lancaster | Brenda Maclese Cliff Stockton | Muriel Nicol Christine Taylor Elaine Johnson |
| 30th | Fred Murphy | tbc | Emily Crossley | Jane Cawley Grace Manley | Brenda Maclese Amy Haygarth Sue Morris |

Parish Registers—(November 2010)

| Week Ending | Communicants | Cash | Envelopes | Total |
|-------------|--------------|--------|-----------------|----------|
| 7th | 48 | £37.00 | £313.50 | £350.50 |
| 14th | 55 | £24.10 | £336.70 | £360.80 |
| 21st | 39 | £9.00 | £270.50 | £279.50 |
| 28th | 42 | £14.00 | £295.30 | £309.30 |
| | | | Total for month | £1300.10 |



...Joshua says he's very sorry - but it's something to do with the recent weapons procurement review...

Organisations

The Maker's Club (Sunday School)
Mrs. Margaret Witty (0161 432 2933)

For all children aged 3 years upwards in the Vestry at 10.15 a.m.

Women's Fellowship
Chairman: Mrs Ann Holmes (0161 434 2245)

Second and Fourth Wednesdays at 2.30 p.m.

Confirmation Classes

For young people and adults by arrangement with the Minister.

Church Lads' & Church Girls' Brigade
Mrs. Margaret Witty (0161 432 2933)

Every Friday in St. Nicholas Church Halls

Martins (5-6 years) 6.30—7.30 p.m.
The "Y" Team (7-9 years) 6.30—7.30 p.m.
JTC (10-12 years) 7.30—8.45 p.m.
Seniors (13+ years) 7.30—8.45 p.m.

Now you can order an Easter Egg which mentions Jesus on its box !

Developed by Manchester based The Meaningful Chocolate Company, working in conjunction with a number of Churches and Dioceses. It is made from high-quality Fair Trade Chocolate and retails at £3.99.

Order from www.RealEasterEgg.co.uk

30p from the sale of each egg will be donated to Traidcraft Exchange and a further 10% to baby Lifeline



"It's the only way we stand a chance of raising enough for a new boiler."

Church Prize Draws St Nicholas Club Draw

Drawn Sunday 5th December

1st Prize 4: Enid Harvey
2nd Prize 15: Colin Maclese

P.C.C. Raffle

November : Eunice Wilshaw

Raised £67.80 for church funds

Solutions Su Du Ko

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| 3 | 9 | 2 | 7 | 6 | 8 | 1 | 5 | 4 |
| 1 | 5 | 7 | 2 | 4 | 9 | 3 | 8 | 6 |
| 4 | 6 | 8 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 9 | 2 | 7 |
| 2 | 7 | 9 | 1 | 8 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 3 |
| 5 | 1 | 3 | 6 | 9 | 7 | 2 | 4 | 8 |
| 8 | 4 | 6 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 7 | 9 | 1 |
| 7 | 8 | 4 | 9 | 1 | 2 | 6 | 3 | 5 |
| 9 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 7 | 8 | 8 | 1 | 2 |
| 6 | 2 | 1 | 8 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 7 | 9 |

The Parish Church of St Nicholas

Burnage

Sunday Services

8.30 a.m
10.30 a.m.

Eucharist (BCP)
Family Service and Eucharist

For Saints and other weekday Services, please see the Diary page inside the magazine.
Holy Baptism on 3rd Sunday of each month at 10.30 a.m.
Holy Communion is taken to the housebound by arrangement with the Minister.

Minister

Rev'd Rachel Mann
0161 432 7009

Organist

Mr. Stephen Delves
0779 338 4025

Churchwardens

Mrs. Jill Lomas (0161 432 5426)
Mrs. Grace Manley (0161 442 2535)

Assistant Wardens

Mr. Fred Murphy
Mrs. Alison Mills

Hon. Treasurer.

Mrs. Elaine Jess

Minutes Secretary

Mrs. Anne Ackerman

Deanery Synod

Mrs. Grace Manley
Ms. Jane Cawley

Elected on PCC

| | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Mrs. Lyn Rimmer, | Mr. Fred Murphy, |
| Mrs. Margaret Witty, | Mr. Tony Witty, |
| Mr. Michael Vessey, | Mrs. Margaret Vessey, |
| Mrs. Anne Holmes, | Mrs. Eunice Wilshaw, |
| Mrs. Jane Cawley, | Mrs. Sue Morris |

Magazine Distribution

Mrs. Brenda Maclese

Missionary Secretary

Mrs. Christine Taylor

St. Nicholas Church Website

www.st-nicholas-church.org.uk