



# *St. Nicholas News*



# Church Diary February 2011

Date	Time	Event
Tuesday 1st	7.30pm	Taize Evening Prayer
Wednesday 2nd	10.00am	Eucharist
Sunday 6th	8.30am 10.30 a.m.	<b>5th Before Lent</b> Holy Communion (BCP) Parish Communion
Wednesday 9th	10.00am 2.30pm	Eucharist Women's Fellowship 'Mission Aviation Fellowship' Ms J. Kay
Thursday 10th	7.30pm	Publicity Committee, 7.30pm Rectory
Saturday 12th	10.30am	<b>COFFEE MORNING, 10.30 TO 12noon in aid of the</b> <b>FLOWER LEAGUE, everyone welcome.....</b> 
Sunday 13th	8.30 a.m. 10.30 a.m.	<b>All Age Worship</b> Holy Communion (BCP) Parish Communion
Tuesday 15th	8.00pm 8.00pm	Prayer Group, Rectory CTIB Executive Meeting, glass room
Wednesday 16th	10.00am	Eucharist
Saturday 19th	6.00 to 9.00pm	Opening Party for Antonia Rolls 'Graceful Death' art exhibition in church until 25th Feb.
Sunday 20th	8.30 a.m. 10.30am	<b>4th Before Lent</b> Holy Communion (BCP) Parish Communion
Wednesday 23rd	10.00am 2.30pm	Eucharist Women's Fellowship 'A Potted History of Manchester' Mr.R Frost
Friday 25th	7.00 to 9.00pm	Closing party a 'Graceful Death' exhibition
Sunday 27th	8.30 a.m. 10.30 a.m.	<b>2nd Before Lent</b> Holy Communion (BCP) Parish Communion

## Rachel Writes...

If I said the word 'Wittgenstein' to you, I wonder how you'd react. Those of you who know me well, might sigh and say, 'Oh no, she's going to talk philosophy' and beat a hasty retreat. For, philosophy was, at one time, quite a passion of mine and Wittgenstein was one of my favourite philosophers. When, in my mid-twenties, I experienced a re-ignition of my faith, and felt a call to ordination, my friends and colleagues at Lancaster University's philosophy department were either puzzled or horrified. They felt that my faith was incompatible with the hard-nosed work of a modern secular philosopher. Perhaps they were right – I ultimately left my work and began the journey towards ordination. Then again, since leaving Lancaster, I've never worked my philosophical skills or pushed my brain harder to work out the relationships between faith and reason.

*Taking  
responsibility  
for our own  
faith is  
crucial.*

Many people will dismiss faith on the grounds that faith isn't rational –that God cannot be proven to exist as scientific fact. And it is absolutely true that it is impossible to prove either that God exists or that he loves us by any measurable means. This doesn't trouble me.

The philosopher David Hume famously demonstrated that there is no philosophical reason to believe that the sun will rise tomorrow, and yet we all believe that it will. Indeed, most sane people will say that it is more than reasonable to believe that the sun will rise tomorrow. Equally, the real question is whether it is reasonable to believe in God. My sense is that it is: the reasons that one might give may not be scientific, but they are grounded in human experience and history. Not only is belief in some form of transcendent presence as old as time, but most of us have lots of personal reasons for believing in the divine.



Even in an age that tends to belittle this, we should not feel ashamed for believing in God.

But nor will blind faith do us either. Fundamentalism in any of its forms is unattractive and is a terrible advert for faith. The path I invite you all to follow is that of St Anselm whose approach was always that of 'faith seeking understanding'. That is, to dare to put your beliefs to the test; to dare to think through what you believe carefully and intelligently. The Anglican way has always sought to use intelligence and reason to illuminate what we believe. Indeed it is one of the famous marks of the Church of England.

Each of us is called to be responsible adults in all we do. Taking responsibility for our own faith is crucial. Do not be afraid to use your brain as well as your heart as you journey with God!

*Rachel  
x*



*Thank you*

Thank you Rachel for the lovely Christingle Service you did for the Children's Society on the 12th December.

Thank you Jill and the Brigade for making the Christingles. Also thank you to everyone who organised and took part in the service.

I was able to send £205.26p to the society. Thank you to everyone who Gift Aided their donations. A receipt of thanks for all your donations will be pinned on the church hall notice board as soon as I receive it from the Society.

Brenda

## *'A Graceful Death' – An exhibition of paintings by Antonia Rolls.*

Between 19<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> February, St Nick's will have the privilege of hosting an exhibition of paintings by well-known painter Antonia Rolls. For a week, our church will not only be a worship space, but an art gallery as well.

Antonia's works primarily as a portrait artist (she has even painted our own Rector!), but this special exhibition explores the nature of death and dying and hope. At its heart are paintings she made of her partner Steve as he succumbed to cancer in 2007. Her work transforms this painful journey into a story of possibility and hope and, at previous exhibitions in London, Dublin and elsewhere, visitors have commented on how healing this exhibition is. Indeed, a new section devoted to 'Survivors' has been included in the exhibition. Its visit to Manchester is the only opportunity so far for people in the North West to experience this event.



An **Open Evening** will be held on **Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> February** between **6 and 9pm**. You and your friends are cordially invited to join us for wine and nibbles. There will also be an opportunity for you to meet the artist, Antonia Rolls and perhaps add something of your story to this growing exploration of the reality of human life.

The exhibition will be open daily between 12 and 1pm and 7 and 8pm and at other times by appointment with Rachel on 4327009.

There will be a closing party on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> February between 7 and 9pm.

[www.agracefuldeath.blogspot.com](http://www.agracefuldeath.blogspot.com)

*St. Nicholas Flower  
League*



*Invite you to a*

**Coffee Morning,  
and Bring & Buy Sale**



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

**Coffee & Biscuit—50p.**

*Church Flowers*

The Flower League welcome donations to Church flowers. To celebrate a birthday, a special anniversary, to commemorate a birthday or an anniversary of a loved one or simply because you would like to have an arrangement created for you.

Please sign the list in the church porch or contact Norma Cookson,  
Anne Tudor or the Churchwardens.

We are delighted that St Nicholas Church will be participating in Traidcraft's Big Brew this year. Last Year there were over 3000 Traidcraft Big Brew events around the country.

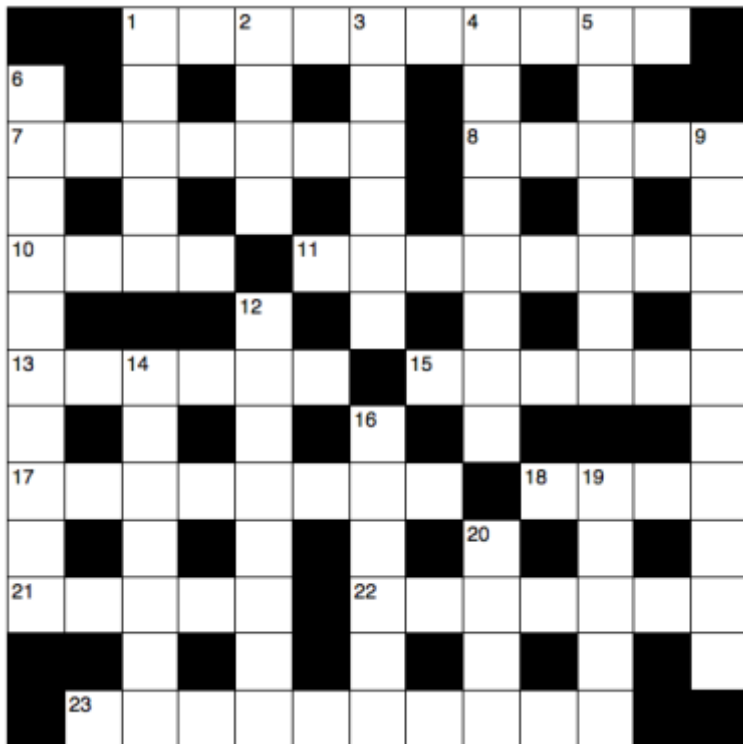
We will be holding our Big Brew on 12<sup>th</sup> March and joining with other

people across the UK to bring about positive change in the lives of thousands of producers in the developing world – and millions of bees! In the UK we can only produce 12% of the honey we love to eat. Think of the difference we could all make if all the honey we imported was fairly traded. Traidcraft is helping beekeepers in Chile, Guatemala, Tanzania and Kenya build better futures for themselves and their communities. By holding a Big Brew we'll be supporting this valuable work and creating a buzz around fair trade. So put that date in your diaries now!





# February Crossword



## Across

- 1 Success or wealth (Deuteronomy 28:11) (10)
- 7 Forbidden fruit for Nazirites (Numbers 6:3) (7)
- 8 Concede (Job 27:5) (5)
- 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)





## Church Duty Rota (February 2011)

Date	Warden 8.30 a.m.	Warden 10.30 a.m.	Altar Duty	Lay Assistants	SidesPeople
6th	Fred Murphy	Alison Mills	Claire Cawley	Grace Manley Julie Crossley	Anne Tudor Anne Holmes Jane Cawley
13th	Fred Murphy	Jill Lomas	Jenna Bartlett	Anne Holmes Enid Harvey	Sybil Gawkrödger Alma Cockshoot Caroline Abiodon
20th	Fred Murphy	Grace Manley	Jenny Cullen	Jane Cawley Alison Mills	Margaret Vessey Michael Vessey Muriel Clark
27th	Fred Murphy	Alison Mills	Oliver Mills	Brenda Maclese Cliff Stockton	Muriel Nicol Christine Taylor Elaine Johnson

### Parish Registers—(December 2010)

Week Ending	Communicants	Cash	Envelopes	Total
5th	52	£31.20	£382.00	£413.20
12th	50	£28.00	£450.10	£478.10
19th	93	£7.00	£206.50	£213.50
26th	57	£85.60	£251.00	£336.60
			Total for month	£1441.40

#### Crossword Solution

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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# 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.

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## 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.



Today's hymns are based on last week's trend in petrol prices...

## Church Prize Draw

### St Nicholas Club Draw

Drawn Sunday 2nd January

1st Prize 60: Grace Manley

2nd Prize 33: Clare Lancaster

### P.C.C. Raffle

December : Elsie Jubb

Raised £11.80 for church funds

## Advance notice of events:

Saturday 5th March Women's Fellowship Coffee Morning

Wednesday 9th March Ash Wednesday

Churches Together In Burnage Lent Course :  
16th, 23rd, 30th March and 6th April. Venue and more detail to follow

Good Friday 22nd April. CTIB Walk of Witness.

Easter Sunday 24th April

# The Parish Church of St Nicholas

## Burnage

### Sunday Services

8.30 a.m

Eucharist (BCP)

10.30 a.m.

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,

Mrs. Margaret Witty,

Mr. Michael Vessey,

Mrs. Anne Holmes,

Mrs. Jane Cawley,

Mr. Fred Murphy,

Mr. Tony Witty,

Mrs. Margaret Vessey,

Mrs. Eunice Wilshaw,

Mrs. Sue Morris

### Magazine Distribution

Mrs. Brenda Maclese

### Missionary Secretary

Mrs. Christine Taylor

### St. Nicholas Church Website

[www.st-nicholas-church.org.uk](http://www.st-nicholas-church.org.uk)