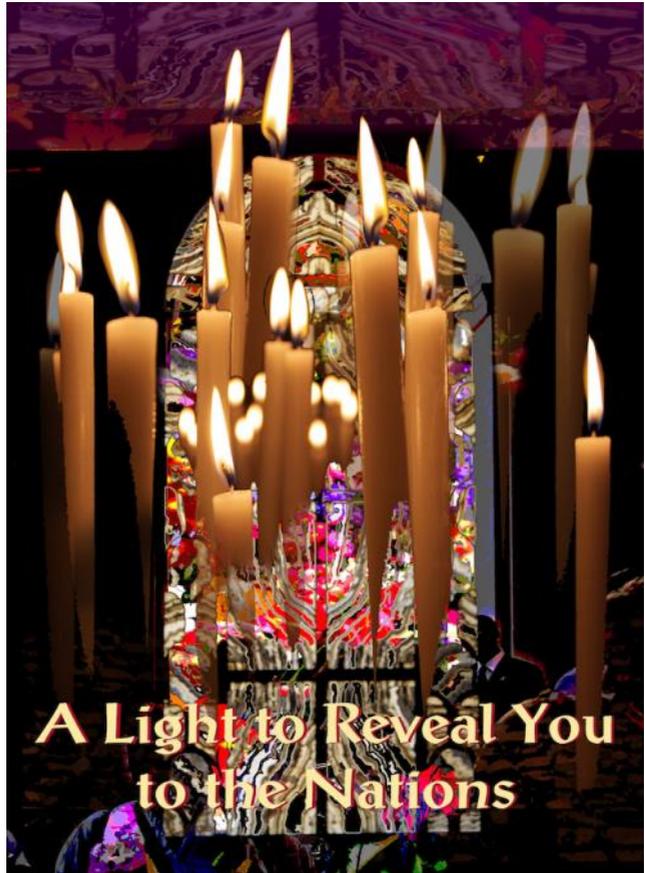




St. Nicholas News



Price 50p

February 2012

Church Diary February 2012

Date	Time	Event
Wednesday 1st	10.00am 7.30pm	Eucharist Fundraising committee, glass room
Thursday 2nd	7.30pm 6.00pm	Community choir Pastoral committee , Parrswood Pub
Sunday 5th	8.30 a.m. 10.30am 11.30am	3rd before Lent Holy Communion (BCP) Christingle Service Short PCC meeting after 10.30am service
Tuesday 7th	7.30pm	Taize Evening Prayer
Wednesday 8th	10.00am 2.30pm 7.30pm	Eucharist Mrs Jean O'Reilly, title to be announced Maker's Club publicity group meeting, rectory
Thursday 9th	7.30pm	Community choir in church
Sunday 12th	8.30 a.m. 10.30am	2nd before Lent Holy Communion (BCP) Parish Communion
Wednesday 15th	10.00am 7.30pm	Eucharist CTIB meeting, glass room
Monday 13th	6.00 pm 7.30pm	Opening of MAGPIES Art Exhibition 6.00 to 8.00pm in church Worship Committee, rectory
Thursday 16th	7.30pm	Community choir in church
Sunday 19th	8.30 a.m. 10.30am	Last before Lent Holy Communion (BCP) Parish Communion
Tuesday 21st	8.00pm	CTIB Executive Meeting, glass room
Wednesday 22nd	10.00am 2.30pm 7.30pm	Eucharist Women's Fellowship Ash Wednesday—lunch Ash Wednesday Service
Thursday 23rd	7.30pm	Community choir in church
Sunday 26th	8.30pm 10.30pm	Lent 1 Holy Communion BCP Parish Communion
Monday 27th	7.30pm	PCC meeting with Diocesan Stewardship Officer
Wednesday 29th	10.00am	Eucharist

Rachel writes...

February will always be special for me. One reason for this is my sense that it is a month 'caught between' and therefore of multiple possibilities. That is, it both properly belongs to winter – to ice and cold and all that such things bring – and yet it points towards spring. For example, during February we so often see the first hints of new life – of snowdrops and bluebells – and yet it can provide some of the fiercest weather our winter can bring. Because February seems to hold within it both the reality of the old and the promise of the new I think it is an especially evocative month. Perhaps it is also special because at least half my family have birthdays during February! Indeed, my father, my younger brother and one of my nephews all celebrate their birthdays on 19th February!

It is also, of course, the month when Lent typically begins. Perhaps more than any other period within the Church year, Lent signals a great shift. Definitively we are invited to turn our attention away from the festal celebrations of Christmas and Epiphany and

set our eyes on the road towards Jerusalem and the pain and the glory that path brings.

Lent will always be associated in the popular mind with giving things up and with self-denial. I have no wish to undermine the power of this idea. For Lent is about chastening ourselves in preparation for the greatest moment in history of the world:

*Lent is an
opportunity for
an extended
retreat in daily*

the passion, crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Inevitably, there is a danger that we might trivialize this time of preparation by an over-emphasis on giving up things like chocolate or

alcohol. Nonetheless there is much to be said for finding ways of demonstrating our commitment to Christ either by setting things aside or taking something on.

We can feel that Lent is something to 'get through' or be endured – six weeks of challenge before we get to the 'reward' of Easter and the rejoicing which goes with it. However, I wonder if it is possible to receive Lent with joy. What do I mean?

Well, I sense that there is real liberation to be had when we embrace the rigours of prayer and devotion and allow some

of the clutter of living in the modern world to fall away and be seen for what it really is. In so many ways, Lent is an opportunity for an extended retreat in daily life. Some Christians – including me – gain real spiritual benefit and refreshment from going away from daily life and taking a retreat. While I encourage everyone to try this, going on retreat is not always possible. However, Lent offers us a chance to refocus our lives on prayer and devotion to God. And, of all things in our lives, this ought to bring us joy. Instead of being something to be survived, Lent can refresh us in the way that a retreat can. And this is something to be very glad about.

Rachel
x

Do you enjoy singing ?? Fancy joining a choir ??
Well we have an answer

Burnage Community Choir

Meets on Thursday evening 7.30pm in St.Nick's

No auditions, everyone welcome



Nominated Charities for 2012

The congregation were asked to nominate their favourite charity in a secret ballot. The four charities listed below have been selected:

January to March : Stop the Traffik

July to September: Smile Train

April to June : The Christie

October to December: Air Ambulance

Donations can be made in the charity box in church.

Thank you

We would like to thank Mike and Mary at F & S Whieldon on Queensway for their very generous donation of a huge Christmas Tree and a Turkey voucher.

The Christmas tree looked splendid in the sanctuary. We are grateful to Sharon Bartlett, Jill Lomas, Tony and Margaret Witty for erecting and decorating the tree. Our thanks also to Norma Cookson and Anne Tudor from the 'flower league' who decorated the rest of the church and arranged the flowers.

Help with St. Nicholas Church fundraising

If you buy goods on-line through Argos, Amazon, John Lewis and many other retailers you can earn money for our church funds by simply registering your email account on a website called

www.easyfundraising.org.uk

I have already set up **St. Nicholas Church, Burnage, Manchester** as a 'good cause' on the easyfundraising website.

Please visit this website and register your email address for St. Nicholas Church, Burnage, Manchester. Every time you buy something St. Nick's receives a 5% cashback. Our Treasurer has approved this website.

Please visit this website, register your email address and that's it the job is done, St. Nick's benefits every time you shop on line !!

Thank you, Alison

Raise money for your charity, school, sports club and more...

Register now

easyfundraising
.org.uk

Search for any retailer...

All in the month of FEBRUARY

It was....

- 200 years ago:-** on 7th Feb 1812 that Charles Dickens, celebrated British novelist, was born.
- 150 years ago:-** on 1st Feb 1862 that Julia Ward Howe's poem 'The Battle Hymn of the Republic' was first published in Georgia, USA.
- 100 years ago:-** on 6th Feb 1912 that Eva Braun, German mistress and (briefly) wife of Adolf Hitler was born.
- 90 years ago:-** on 8th Feb 1922 that the first radio was installed in the White House.
on 28th Feb 1922 that Egypt became independent from the UK.
- 80 years ago:-** on 24th Feb 1932 that British racing driver Sir Malcolm Campbell set a new land speed record of 253.96 mph at Daytona Beach, Florida.
- 70 years ago:-** on 9th Feb 1942 that soap rationing began in the UK (so that oils and fats could be saved for food production during WW2)
- 65 years ago:-** on 7th Feb 1947 that the first of the Dead Sea Scrolls were found in caves in Khirbat Qumran (now in the West Bank, Palestine).
on 24th Feb 1947 that Louis Mountbatten, Earl Mountbatten of Burma, was sworn in as the last viceroy of India.
- 60 years ago:-** on 6th Feb 1952 that King George VI died, and was succeeded by his daughter, Queen Elizabeth II
- 40 years ago:-** on 2nd Feb 1972 that anti-British protestors burned down the British Embassy in Dublin, in retaliation for 'Bloody Sunday' on 30th Jan.
on 9th Feb 1972 that the British Government declared a state of emergency over the miners' strike which began a month earlier.
on 17th Feb 1972 that the House of Commons voted narrowly in favour (by 8 votes) of joining the Common Market (now the European Union).
- 30 years ago:-** on 2nd Feb 1982 that the Syrian Government quashed an uprising by the Muslim Brotherhood, killing about 25,000 people.
- 20 years ago:-** on 7th Feb 1992 that the Maastricht Treaty was signed, establishing the European Union.
- 15 years ago:-** on 22nd Feb 1997 that scientists at the Roslin Institute in Edinburgh announced they had successfully cloned an animal for the first time: Dolly the sheep.
- 10 years ago:-** on 9th Feb 2002 that Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, sister to the Queen, died.

Another new year....

Here we are again at the beginning of another year. Time to store away last years memories on shelves within our minds. Some shelves are for happy reminiscences, some for sad memories, and some for very personal-own thoughts.

We can share past memories with family and friends for amusement together, or shared for consolation. Maybe we can mediate on a difficult past situation and perhaps find more understanding about it, than previously. Jesus Christ and our Heavenly Father will support and comfort you with troubled memories. "Take it to our Lord in prayer."

We praise and thank our Lord for the events and actions leading to Happy Memories. So will our Heavenly Father's grace, let us go forward into this New Year '2012' with our Lord beside us, as we start making new memories. We could carry two quotes with us into the new year, the first being—"Memory is the treasury and guardian of all things" Cicero. The second is from Psalm



118:24 "This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it."

A very happy new year to All.

Irene Smith

Hint !

If you cannot sleep st night, instead of counting sheep try :

Counting the HAPPY & POSITIVE things from your dayif its been a bad and unproductive day, try little things e.g Aah! That was a smashing cuppa! I needed that (who made it ?)

The heavy shower that soaked me ...!also washed my old muddy pathway!

That old tramp that pestered me for money might have been an angel in disguise !

Make your own examples

- A) How MANY before you fall asleep !!
- B) LISTEN for the mouse that was snoring and woke you up.

Special Church Services to mark HRH Queen Elizabeth's Diamond Jubilee 2012

The Churchwardens have received a letter from the Bishop of Manchester:

The Lord Bishop of Manchester, the Lord Lieutenant of Greater Manchester, and the Borough Deans of the Diocese of Manchester, have agreed to hold a special church service in each of the eleven boroughs, that form the Manchester Diocese, during the period from the sixtieth anniversary of the Queen's Accession to just after the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations. Each service will be led jointly by representatives from other denominations and, as appropriate, there will be other faiths present.

It is planned that each service will be attended by the Lord Lieutenant of Greater Manchester together with the three bishops of the Manchester Diocese.

The purpose of this service will be to use the natural opportunity, provided by thanksgiving for Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee Year, to draw together many aspects of the life of each borough, and to celebrate and affirm the roles of churches and faiths for the ways in which they support and enhance the cohesion and well-being of the varied communities that make up each borough.

Further details of the opportunities to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee can be found at www.diamondjubilee.churchofengland.org/.

The Bishop would like to invite you to attend one of these important and hopefully memorable occasions.

Here are details of the services in our locality:

Jill Lomas and Alison Mills

Date	Borough	Venue	Time
Sunday 5th February	County Service	Manchester Cathedral	3.30pm
Sunday 29th April	Trafford	St. Matthew Salford	3.30pm
Sunday 3rd June	Manchester	St. Ann Manchester	4.00pm
Sunday 17th June	Stockport	St. Elisabeth Reddish	3.00pm

Church Duty Rota (February 2012)

Date	Warden 8.30 a.m.	Warden 10.30 a.m.	Altar Duty	Lay Assistants	SidesPeople
5th	Fred Murphy	Jane Cawley	Jenny Cullen	Grace Manley Jane Cawley	Muriel Nicol Amy Haygarth
12th	Fred Murphy	Alison Mills	Lucy Crossley	Anne Holmes Anne Tudor	Brenda Maclese Grace Manley
19th	Fred Murphy	Jill Lomas	Claire Lancaster	Alison Mills Lyn Rimmer	Julie Crossley Cass Williamson Sue Morris
26th	Fred Murphy	Jane Cawley	Emily Crossley	Brenda Maclese Cliff Stockton	Anne Tudor Anne Holmes

Parish Registers—(December 2011)

Week Ending	Communi- cants	Cash	Envelopes	Total
4th	41	10.30	323.50	333.80
11th	76	15.30	314.30	329.60
18th	107	10.40	241.50	251.90
24th /25th	93	98.10	197.00 Christmas Offering Env. 340.60 Sub -Total 537.60	635.70
			Total for month	1,551.00

Funerals

St.Nicholas has lost two dear friends, our thoughts and prayers are with their family and friends.

Wednesday 18th January Mr John Worthington

Monday 16th January Mr Brian Whitwell

May the souls of the faithfully departed rest in peace...

Organisations

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

For all children aged 3 years upwards in the hall from 10.15 a.m

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

Second and Fourth Wednesdays at 2.30 p.m.

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.

Confirmation Classes :For young people and adults by arrangement with the Minister.

P.C.C. Raffle December

Tony Witty

Raised £46 Church Funds

St Nicholas Club Draw

Drawn Sunday 4th Dec

1st Prize : 61 St.Nick's (donated by B.Taylor)

2nd Prize : 9 Tony Huddart

Children's Society Coffee Morning



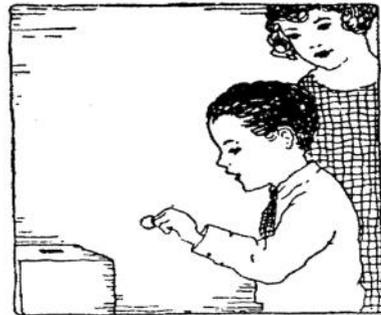
Thank you all who helped and supported The Children's Society Coffee Morning on Saturday 14th January 2012.

It was lovely to see so many people there and I was able to send £285 to the society. This included a donation of £45.

Brenda Maclese



"It's either an appeal to youth culture or the heating's playing up again"



Jonathon wondered even if he saved enough for a whole missionary what he would do with it when it arrived.

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 Oliver Mills (07786 337087)

Churchwardens

Mrs. Jill Lomas (0161 432 5426)
Mrs. Alison Mills (01625 540376)

Assistant Wardens

Mr. Fred Murphy
Ms Jane Cawley

Hon. Treasurer.

Ms. Elaine Jess

Minutes Secretary

Mrs. Ann Ackerman

Deanery Synod

Mrs. Grace Manley
Ms. Jane Cawley

Elected on PCC

Mrs. Lyn Rimmer,
Mrs. Margaret Witty,
Ms. Jane Cawley,
Mrs. Sue Morris

, Mr. Fred Murphy,
Mr. Tony Witty,
Mrs. Margaret Vessey,
Mrs. Eunice Wilshaw,

Mr. Michael Vessey, (Co-opted non-voting)
Mrs. Christine Price (Co-opted 2011)
Mrs Ann Ackerman (Hon. Sec)

Magazine Distribution

Mrs. Brenda Maclese

Missionary Secretary

Mrs. Christine Taylor

St. Nicholas Church Website

www.st-nicholas-church.org.uk