



# *St. Nicholas News*



**Price 50p**

**March 2012**

## *Church Diary March 2012*

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Event</b>
Thursday 1st	7.30pm	Community choir
Friday 2nd	7.30pm	Women's World Day of Prayer service at East Didsbury Methodist
Sunday 4th	8.30 a.m. 10.30am	<b>Lent 2</b> Holy Communion (BCP) Parish Communion with guest preacher Canon Andrew Shanks, Canon Theologian Manchester Diocese
Tuesday 6th	2.00pm 7.30pm	Lent Study Group at the rectory. Taize Evening Prayer
Wednesday 7th	10.00am 7.30pm	Eucharist Christians Together in Burnage Lent Study Group starts at St. Bernard's with Pastor John Owens.
Thursday 8th	<b>7.30pm</b>	<b>Community choir in church</b>
Saturday 10th	<b>7.30pm</b>	<b>Quiz Night in the hall, tickets £6 to include supper.</b>
Sunday 11th	8.30 a.m. 10.30am	<b>Lent 3</b> Holy Communion (BCP) Parish Communion
Monday 12th	7.30pm	PCC meeting, glass room
Tuesday 13th	<b>2.00pm</b>	Lent Study Group at the rectory
Wednesday 14th	10.00am 2.30pm <b>7.30pm</b>	Eucharist Women's Fellowship— Francis House' with Joan Dillon Christians Together in Burnage Lent Study Group at St. Bernard's
Monday 12th	7.30pm	PCC meeting, glass room
Thursday 15th	7.30pm	No Community choir in church
Saturday 17th	10.30	<b>Women's Fellowship Coffee Morning 10.30 to 12noon</b>
Sunday 18th	8.30 a.m. 10.30am	<b>Mothering Sunday</b> Holy Communion (BCP) Parish Communion
Tuesday 20th	<b>2.00pm</b>	Lent Study Group at the rectory
Wednesday 21st	10.00am <b>7.30pm</b>	Eucharist Christians Together in Burnage Lent Study Group at St. Bernard's
Thursday 22nd	7.30pm	Community choir in church
Saturday 24th	10.00	Quiet Day at St. Chad's led by Rev'd Rachel Mann 10.00 to 3.00
Sunday 25th	8.30pm 10.30pm	<b>Passion Sunday</b> Holy Communion BCP Parish Communion with guest preacher Rev'd David Morphy
Tuesday 27th	<b>2.00pm</b>	Lent Study Group at the rectory
Wednesday 28th	10.00am <b>7.30pm</b>	Eucharist Christians Together in Burnage Lent Study Group at St. Bernard's
Thursday 30th		No community choir

## Rachel writes...

'giving things up' can be a potent symbol of commitment to God's simplicity.

There is surely no denying that we, in prosperous countries, have never known such an abundance of food.

Eating no longer has to be seasonal.

As a result of modern storage techniques and global transport it is possible for a Brit to eat strawberries all year round if she wants to. This

would have been inconceivable thirty years ago. Equally, we are now all too aware of the epidemic levels of food waste being generated by British households. It could be argued that we simply have too much food and we are being poor stewards of what we have. It is perhaps not too over the top to suggest that in the Wealthy West we have simply become overwhelmed by an excess of food.

If we are only too aware of the sheer quantity of food available

We seem to live in an age obsessed with food. We now have chefs who are now so famous they are known only by their Christian names – Delia, Jamie, Nigella and so on. There are also countless shows devoted to competing over food including Britain's Best Dish, Bake Off, and the granddaddy of them all, Masterchef. There are reports that

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simplicity.*

such shows have inspired a whole new generation, especially men, to have a go in the kitchen. At the same time, there are other reports which suggest that the only effect of all these programmes is that we are just watching more food programmes and eating as badly as ever.

At this time of Lent, when we meditate upon repentance and our call to holiness, it seems appropriate that we think a little about that which nourishes – that is, about food. As we all know, at this time of year, as a sign of commitment to holy living, many people will 'fast' by giving up indulgent foodstuffs. Some folk criticize this as a trivialization of Lent. Nonetheless, in a society in which we have so very much,

There is another dimension here. What is the food that truly nourishes us? Jesus tells us that he will provide the Bread of Life & Living Water. That is, in him lies the food which brings us to eternal life. In our food-rich, food-obsessed culture it can be very easy to forget that at the very heart of existence is The One who offers us true food – food that lasts. At the centre of our worship is what we call the Eucharist – the thanksgiving service in which we share bread & wine. The full meaning of this ‘meal’ escapes even the profoundest of theologians, but even the simplest of us can feel its significance: to feed us and to send us out refreshed and renewed for service. This Lent let us open ourselves to receive Christ again in bread and wine. Let us be made ready for our service in the world.

Rachel  
x

## *Lent Study Groups*

### **St.Nicholas**

Tuesday afternoon group with Rachel at the rectory starting at 2.00pm and studying the York Course ‘Handing on the torch’

Tuesday 28th Feb, Tuesday 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th March



### **Christians Together in Burnage**

Wednesday evening sessions at St.Bernard’s Church Hall, Burnage lane from 7.30pm with Pastor John Owens from Klingsburn Hall,(South Manchester Family Church)

Wednesday 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th March.

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



## *Help with St. Nicholas Church fundraising*

If you or your family & friends 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](http://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...

# Poem

You can shed tears that she has gone  
Or you can smile because she has lived.  
You can close your eyes and pray that she'll come back  
Or you can open your eyes and see all she's left.  
Your heart can be empty because you can't see her  
Or you can be full of the love you shared.  
You can turn your back on tomorrow and live yesterday  
Or you can be happy for tomorrow because of yesterday.  
You can remember her and only that she's gone  
Or you can cherish her memory and let it live on.  
You can cry and close your mind, be empty and turn your back  
Or you can do what she'd want; smile, open your eyes  
Love and go on.

From Susan Morris

## FURNITURE

IN THE OLD DAYS THE  
ITEMS OF FURNITURE  
WERE FIXED IN PLACE

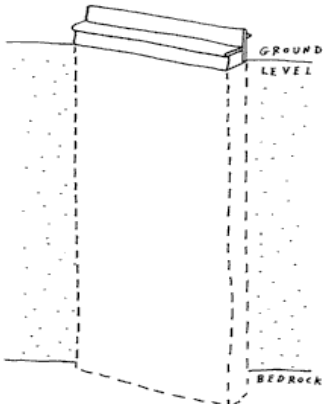
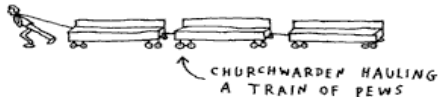
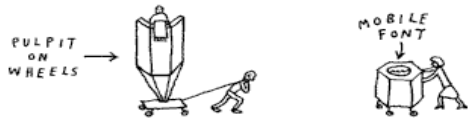


DIAGRAM SHOWING A PEW  
AND ITS FOUNDATIONS

BUT NOW IN OUR MODERN AGE  
THERE IS OFTEN A NEED  
TO MOVE THINGS AROUND



THE CHOIR CAN  
BE WHEELED IN  
WHEN REQUIRED



THE YOUTH GROUP CAN  
BE WHEELED OUT  
WHEN NOT REQUIRED

# *“With Grapes and Chalice”*

Donated to St Nicholas Church by Rob Floyd, the artist.

Please see image of the painting on the front cover of this Magazine.

In the Autumn of 2011, St Nicholas Church was a venue for the Didsbury Arts Festival – with two exhibitions by Rob Floyd entitled “Sacred and Profane Love”; and “The Red Diamond”. One of the works exhibited was entitled “With Grapes and Chalice”. Rob has kindly donated this painting to St Nicholas Church and I have sent him a letter to thank him on behalf of St Nicholas Church for his generous gift.

Jill Lomas

*Rob Floyd is a talented artist living in Manchester. He has held a number of exhibitions in churches including St John the Evangelist, Old Trafford and Christ Church, West Didsbury. Rob’s paintings are vibrant and full of movement and colour. They also have a spiritual dimension- Rob has described it as allowing the oil painting-*

*“as a physical object in the corporeal world, to transcend through texture, colour, proportion and subject matter to the more spiritual regions.”*

*A friend and author wrote:*

*“To contemplate these paintings is to have the mind awakened, the eye entranced, the spirit quickened and the imagination set a-whirl. In returning from this hot wind to the turmoil of the street we recognise the twin tasks of art in our hectic, destructive world – to rejuvenate the wasteland and to celebrate the miracle and the glory of creation.”*

*John Fitzgerald*

# *Snowdrops*



Doesn't it give you a feeling of delight to see the first Spring Bulbs pop up and into flower in your garden, window box or bulb bowl at home. I spied a few snowdrops, my favourites, at the bottom of my new garden today. Filled with cheer I spent a happy afternoon, I peeped out again to see the "harbingers of my Spring" before closing the kitchen blind—BUT oh dear ! How silly I felt. My lovely snowdrops had melted away ! And the now bedraggled weed leaves lay listlessly waiting for the next fall of snow or severe frost.

I shall stay with sketching snowdrops or visiting the garden centre to find a basket full in the future. Perhaps there I might find a snowflake !

A Snowflake is the most beautiful of white, tiny Spring bulbs. It is very similar to the thousands of types of snowdrops, you can find in classified special gardens and estates. But this bulb is surprisingly from a different family. The flowers have a delicate beauty which is enhanced by planting them in a green state—after they have flowered.

At dusk - early evening, a spread of them can be seen like some of Professor Brian Cox's stars, that have floated to earth to inspire in our unconscious, praise to Our God, for the beauty and marvels in his CREATION.

*Irene Smith*

## *Annual General Meeting 2012*

**Sunday 1st April at 12noon**

The Annual General Meeting for St.Nicholas Church will take place after the 10.30am service. Refreshments will be available from 11.30am.

We hope all members of the congregation will be able to join us for this important meeting to reflect on the events of the last year and to look ahead to the future. The meeting will last approximately one hour.

Thank you,

*Rachel, Jill. and Alison*



You are invited to St.Nick's Church annual

# QUIZ NIGHT



on

**Saturday 10th March 2012**

@ 7.30pm with Rachel as question master !

Tickets £6 to include a choice of :

*Fish & chip supper*

*Meat & potato pie & chips supper*

*Cheese & onion pie & chips supper*

*Or sweet potato & goat's cheese pie & chips*

*(please make your food choice when buying or reserving your tickets)*



**Bring your own drinks or make a donation.....**

Tickets available from Jill, Alison or by calling 0161 432 7009

## *Holy week services 2012*

Monday 2nd April 7.30pm Stations of the Cross

Tuesday 3rd April 7.30pm Taize Evening Prayer

Wednesday 4th April 7.00 to 9.00 Easter Labyrinth Prayer Evening

Friday 6th April 10.00 Young People's Church, 2.00 to 3.00 At the foot of the cross

**EASTER SUNDAY 10.30am ALL-AGE WORSHIP**

# Church Duty Rota (March 2012)

Date	Warden 8.30 a.m.	Warden 10.30	Altar Duty	Lay Assistants	SidesPeople
4th	Fred Murphy	Alison Mills	Jane Cawley	Grace Manley Jane Cawley	Sybil Gawkrödger Caroline Abiodon
11th	Fred Murphy	Jill Lomas	Jenny Cullen	Julie Crossley Alison Mills	Margaret Vessey Michael Vessey Muriel Clark
19th	Fred Murphy	Jill Lomas	Lucy Crossley	Anne Holmes Anne Tudor	Muriel Nicol Amy Haygarth
25th	Fred Murphy	Alison Mills	Claire Lancaster	Louise Hollingsworth Jill Lomas	Brenda Maclese Grace Manley

## Parish Registers—(January 2012)

Week Ending	Communi- cants	Cash	Envelopes	Total
1st	52	23.00	356.00	379.00
8th	48	19.50	338.00	357.50
15th	45	10.00	c/fwd	10.00
22nd	98	54.00	654.00	708.00
29th	42	12.00	303.00	315.00
			Total for month	1,770.50

## Women's Fellowship Coffee Morning



Saturday 17th March

10.30 to 12noon

Gifts, cakes, refreshments

All Welcome !

# 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 January

Winner : Norma Cookson

Raised £35 Church Funds

## St Nicholas Club Draw Drawn Sunday 1st Jan 1st Prize : 42 Ailsa Cookson 2nd Prize : 21 Valerie Acton

## Christians Together in Burnage

.All church members enjoyed the services for the week of Christian Unity in January. Lent arrangements were finalised (please see page 4 of the magazine for details).

On Good Friday there will be the usual walk of witness starting at 12noon from the car park of St.Bernard's Church on Burnage Lane. The event will conclude with a joint outdoor service. The 'holiday special week' for older people will take place from 6th to 10th August at St.Margaret's Church.

*Alison & Jill*

You don't have a soul.  
You are a soul  
You have a body.

C.S.Lewis



"Wireless communication is nothing new.  
I've been praying for 75 years!"

# 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.

<b>Minister</b>	Rev'd Rachel Mann 0161 432 7009
<b>Organist</b>	Mr Oliver Mills (07786 337087)
<b>Churchwardens</b>	Mrs. Jill Lomas (0161 432 5426) Mrs. Alison Mills (01625 540376)
<b>Assistant Wardens</b>	Mr. Fred Murphy Ms Jane Cawley
<b>Hon. Treasurer.</b>	Ms. Elaine Jess
<b>Minutes Secretary</b>	Mrs. Ann Ackerman
<b>Deanery Synod</b>	Mrs. Grace Manley Ms. Jane Cawley
<b>Elected on PCC</b>	Mrs. Lyn Rimmer, , Mr. Fred Murphy Mrs. Margaret Witty, Mr. Tony Witty, Ms. Jane Cawley, Mrs. Margaret Vessey, Mrs. Sue Morris Mrs. Eunice Wilshaw,
	Mr. Michael Vessey, (Co-opted non-voting) Mrs. Christine Price (Co-opted 2011) Mrs Ann Ackerman ( Hon. Sec)
<b>Magazine Distribution</b>	Mrs. Brenda Maclese
<b>Missionary Secretary</b>	Mrs. Christine Taylor
<b>St. Nicholas Church Website</b>	<a href="http://www.st-nicholas-church.org.uk">www.st-nicholas-church.org.uk</a>