



*St. Nicholas
News*



80th Anniversary December 2012

Price 50p

Decemeber 2012

Church Diary December 2012

Date	Time	Event
Sunday 2nd	8.30 a.m. 10.30am 11.45am	Advent Sunday Holy Communion (BCP) Parish Communion Fundraising Committee ;
Tuesday 4h	7.30pm	Taize Evening Prayer
Wednesday 6th	10.00am	Eucharist
Thursday 6th	7.30pm	Burnage Community Choir
Saturday 8th	1.30pm	Burnage Community Choir singing at Didsbury Arts Festival Victorian Christmas Event , Parsonage Gardens
Sunday 9th	8.30 a.m. 10.30am 3.00pm	BIRTHDAY SUNDAY/Advent 2 Holy Communion (BCP) All Age Worship Festal Evensong for Church 80th Anniversary
Wednesday 12th	10.00am	Eucharist
Thursday 13th	7.30pm	Burnage Community Choir
Saturday 15th	12.00 to 2.00pm	CTIB Carol Singing at Tesco Burnage
Sunday 16th	8.30 a.m. 10.30am 3.00pm	Advent 3 Holy Communion (BCP) Parish Communion CAROL SERVICE
Wednesday 21st	10.00am	Eucharist
Thursday 19th	7.30pm	Burnage Community Choir
Sunday 23rd	8.30 a.m. 10.30am	Christingle/Advent 4 Holy Communion (BCP) CHRISTINGLE SERVICE
Monday 24th	11.30pm	Midnight Eucharist
Tuesday 25th	8.30am 10.30am	Holy Communion BCP Family Carols
Wednesday 27th	10.00am	Eucharist
Sunday 30th	8.30 a.m. 10.30am	Christmas 1 Holy Communion BCP Parish Communion

Please hand in articles for January magazine by Sunday 16th December

Rachel writes...

Well, Christmas shall soon be upon us. However, as I write this, not only am I looking forward to that extraordinary story, but thinking back on what has been a tough couple of weeks for the Church of England. For, unless something has shifted unexpectedly before this magazine went to press, the C. of E. is facing a major crisis concerning the recent events at General Synod. The failure of Synod to vote to enable women to be bishops has called down significant opprobrium from wider society. Twenty years after women were permitted to be ordained priest, there seems to be a vocal minority still opposed to the ministry of women.

One of the key characters in the Christmas story is Mary, the mother of Jesus. Intriguingly she is a figure who, over two thousand years, has divided Christianity. For many Roman Catholics she is Mary, Queen of Heaven, spotless and without sin. She has been presented as 'co-redemptrix' – i.e. joint redeemer of the world – along with Jesus. Using the Rosary, people pray to Mary for intercession to this day, and she has often been held up as the perfect role model for women –

virginal, compliant and servile. Among more reformed, Protestant Christians, Mary has been treated with more suspicion. While she has been respected, Protestants are often careful to avoid any hint of devotion, or as it is sometimes called, 'Mariolatry'. Nonetheless, she has still often been presented as an ideal of femininity, in contrast to that other Mary, Mary Magdalene.

General Synod's inability, in the House of Laity, to achieve the required majority for women to become bishops indicates that for some women's ministry is a problem. The good news is that over 90% of bishops and over 75% of clergy voted for the measure to allow women as bishops. 64% of the laity – representing the people in the pews – voted yes, but not enough to reach the two thirds majority. I do not think these 'representatives' of the people actually represent how most people in the pews feel about women's ministry. However, the vote shows that some are still troubled by the thought of women as bishops. The wider world has rightly challenged

us – the church – about our commitment to justice and equality. We say that men and women are created equal by God, but cannot seem to demonstrate this in the way we shape our ministries.

All this might seem a very long way away from the message of Christmas. I am inclined to disagree. Consider Mary. Whatever else the church might have done with her, it seems clear from her appearance in Luke's Gospel that she is an extraordinarily determined and faithful character. The Angel of God comes to her, a young woman, and she chooses to trust the promise that God will bless her with child. She travels while pregnant to Bethlehem and gives birth in an outhouse. She is tough and unstoppable. Let's set aside the idea that Mary was a shrinking violet; she was a woman faithful to God who overcomes the odds. That is an inspiring image for the vast majority of people – men and women – in the church who feel it is time for women to be able to serve God as he calls. It may take us longer to get to equality in ministry than many of us hoped, but it will come.

Christmas is coming and when it comes we shall proclaim joy to the world. Equally, 'women as bishops' is coming and there will be rejoicing. But we are not there yet. Until then be glad in the love of God and the trust of the One who comes to us as a baby, calling us out to love and serve.

Have a very happy Christmas!

Rachel
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A Short History of Our Church

St. Nicholas Church is a Grade II* building. It is the first church designed by architect Nugent Francis Cachelmille Day. In 1931 the foundation stone was laid. The 'old hall' was built and used for services. In 1932 the building was completed at a cost of £11,600.

From 1963/64 an extension was added to create choir stalls to the rear of the

building.



In the late 1990's the rectory and two halls were demolished the land sold in preparation for the restoration project.

At a cost of over £1 million a complete restoration was carried out in 2000/02 under the guidance of the architect Anthony Grimshaw.

The interior was redesigned with the rear (West End) of the church, including the choir stalls, being converted into a hall for community use. The new hall and worship area are separated by a moveable screen and a striking glass circular meeting room has been constructed at first floor level. The exterior remains as in 1932.



As a part of the restoration a new rectory was built on the corner of Kingsway and Poplar Road.

The new building was dedicated by the Bishop of

Christmas: Why does it begin at midnight with Holy Communion?

The hour was first chosen at Rome in the fifth century to symbolise the idea that Christ was born at midnight – a mystical idea in no way hindered by historical evidence! No one knows the hour of his birth.

Certainly in recent times, Holy Communion at midnight on Christmas morning has proved popular with modern families. One British writer pointed out its “domestic convenience” in 1947: “for where there are children and no servants, husband and wife may be unable to communicate at any other time.” (So things don't change, then!)



LUCY, 22, NURSE
How do you keep the kids entertained?
 They all have their own TV, then 'play' leathers go round each day with games, books and Lego, as well as arts and crafts. The ward wins are purely popular, too. **What's the best thing about your job?**
 Knocked out, but proud. It's so satisfying seeing the change in the kids when they go home, and knowing you've played a part in their recovery.

HOLLY, 23, NURSE
How do you wind down after work?
 After a stressful shift I like to go home and watch telly. I like *Forrest Gump*. **What would you say to someone who is thinking of going into nursing?**
 It's hard work, but you'll make friends for life. Nobody except fellow nurses understands how challenging and rewarding this job can be.

EMILY, 24, STUDENT NURSE
Did you always want to be a nurse?
 Yes, I've always wanted to be a nurse. **What's the best thing about it?**
 When you meet the children, you can see the terror in their eyes. But once they've settled in, they look at you like a friend. It's the best feeling in the world.

ROXANNE, 27, NURSE
How did you get into nursing?
 I studied health and social care at college and realised I wanted to go into a caring profession. I went on to do a three-year diploma in nursing. **What's the best thing about nursing?**
 The best bit can take a good few days to get over a week of night shifts. I've worked the last three Christmases, although I must admit I love watching the kids unwrapping their presents more than I enjoy opening my own.

Michelle has perfected her story-telling voice

Workmates of the week

Manchester Children's Hospital

Nurse Michelle, 26, and her team work hard – but it's worth it

It's so much fun working with kids. It can be stressful at times, but being a nurse is very rewarding. Some of the children I look after are incredibly poorly. One minute, they can be fine and the next they've taken a turn for the worse. You have to be on it at all times, both of being a good nurse is stressful, so you can't let your guard down.

I look after kids from newborns to 16-year-olds. It's nice there's such a mix of ages – the younger ones are so cute, but you can have a laugh with the older kids. I get to know my patients and their families really well, so even though I'm happy for them, it's still a bit sad to see them go home. – I think it's due to the nature of our jobs. If one of us has had a tough day, we all understand. This year, a few of us jetted off to Ibiza to let our hair down.

I'd always wanted to work with children so I decided to try paediatric nursing. If you're not sure, you can do some voluntary work in a hospital to see if it's for you. – I've never even been to hospital before, so it was a shock. It's demanding and the pay is never going to buy you a designer wardrobe, but you get something happy you've done something that counts.

Love your workmates?
 Yes? Then we want to hear about them! Send a pic and 100 words explaining why you should grace the pages of our next workmate feature to workmates@moremagazine.co.uk.

2012-1013

The Year 2012 is drawing to a close and we contemplate what 2013 holds for us, and our Church; “Adventure of Mission” but

“What will it mean for the Church to follow the Spirit into mission?”

(An Apostolic Adventure. B.K.)

But we all can journey on a personal path with Jesus Christ, who leads us to His Father, God, our Father and Holy Spirit.

We could find three aims to follow, on our paths to start 2013. Each aim, or obstacle, strangely enough begins with the letter **P**. Can you guess? (See below.)

Here in Manchester as in other cities and countries, there is a variety of cultures and religions to learn about. But because of languages and accents we hear around us and don't understand, we can be hesitant in approaching people. But do you remember the tragedy of the Chilean Miners, early in the year? One of the last miners rescued said into the cameras –“I've held God's hand.” Another said later, “Work together and all join in harmony and respect.”

In finishing, I have a New Year's present for you. These were given willingly, with a big smile, and a chat usually.

Answers:- **P**

POSITIVITY – How long a list can you make in thought and action?

PRAISE – Worship and prayer to God.

PEACE – Pray to God our Father for

Peace in war torn lands

Peace in our hearts and thoughts.

Irene Smith



Thank you from the Magpies Art Group

The Magpies art group would like to thank St Nicholas Church for hosting their Autumn Exhibition and all those who visited. They are already planning a Spring Exhibition – look out for details in the New Year. (The exhibition raised £85 for church through sales of work and refreshments and a donation of £50 from the group.)

Christmas Fair



Thanks to everyone who helped with the fair. We had a good day and welcomed lots of new

faces. It was a great team effort and we raised £1070.00 for Church Funds.



Rev Rachel Mann and St. Nicholas PCC

Would like to invite you to join them for a service
of 'Festal Evensong' at 3pm

On Sunday 9th December

Followed by 'High Tea'

To celebrate the 80th Anniversary

of St. Nicholas Church

Upcoming events:

Friday 30th November Lighting of Burnage Tree, corner of Fog Lane and Kingsway, refreshments at St. Nicholas Church Hall.

Sunday 9th December 3pm Festal evensong

Saturday 15th December 12.00 to 2.00 Carol Singing with CTIB at Tesco Burnage

Sunday 16th December 3.00pm Carol Service with guests Burnage Community Choir

Sunday 23rd December 10.30am Christingle Service

Monday 24th December 11.45pm Midnight Mass

Tuesday 25th December services at 8,30am and 10.30am

Pray for the folk next door

Have you ever considered praying for your own neighbours? That is the aim of a new national initiative, Neighbourhood Prayer Network (NPN). It was launched at the recent National Day of Prayer at Wembley (which drew Christians from 114 of the 124 post code districts from around the UK).

NPN wants to encourage Christians throughout the country to commit to praying for the people along their own street on a regular basis. Regular prayer for our neighbours, and the willingness to give them practical help where possible, is something any Christian can do.



It responds to Jesus' commandment to 'love your neighbour as yourself'. So far over 500 streets across the country are being prayed for each day by the Christians who live on them.

Parish Registers—(October 2012)

Date	Attendance	Cash	Envelopes
7th	42	£36.10	£299.50
14th	36	£4.50	£323.00
21st	52	£43.00	£361.00
28th	37	£20.00	£309.50
		Total	£1293.00

Organisations

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

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

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

Every Friday in St. Nicholas Church Halls

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

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.

Second and Fourth Wednesdays at 2.30 p.m.

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

Church Duty Rota (December 2012)

Date	Warden 8.30 a.m.	Warden 10.30 a.m.	Altar Duty	Lay Assistants	Sides People
2nd	Fred Murphy	Jane Cawley	Claire Lancaster	Alison Mills Lyn Rimmer	Sybil Gawkrödger Caroline Abiodon
9th	Fred Murphy	Alison Mills	Jane Cawley	Jane Cawley Jill Lomas	Julie Crossley Cass Williamson Sue Morris
16th	Fred Murphy	Jill Lomas	Emily Crossley	Louise Hollingsworth Grace Manley	Margaret Vessey Michael Vessey Muriel Clark
23rd	Fred Murphy	Jane Cawley	Caroline Abiodon	Julie Crossley Margaret Vessey	Muriel Nicol Amy Haygarth
24th 11.30 pm	Fred Murphy	Alison, Jill, Jane	Emily Crossley	Katy Mills Alison Mills	Wardens
30th	Fred Murphy	Alison Mills	Cass Williamson	Jill Lomas Peter Scott	Brenda Maclese Grace Manley

St Nicholas Club Draw

1st prize- (13) St.Nicholas

2nd prize- (66) Anne Frost

PCC Raffle

Winner Muriel Clark

Raised £45.00 for funds

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

Vacancy

Churchwardens

Mrs. Jill Lomas (0161 432 5426)

Mrs. Alison Mills

(01625 540376 mobile number 07932071977)

Assistant Wardens

Mr. Fred Murphy

Ms Jane Cawley

Hon. Treasurer.

Mrs. Elaine Jess

Minutes Secretary

Mrs. Ann Ackerman

Deanery Synod

Mrs. Grace Manley

Ms. Jane Cawley

Elected on PCC

Mr. Fred Murphy (Ass Warden)

Ms. Jane Cawley (Ass Warden)

Mrs Ann Ackerman (Hon. Sec)

Mrs Elaine Jess (Hon. Treasurer)

Mrs Julie Crossley,

Mrs Alison Cullen

Mrs. Sue Morris

Mrs Christine Price

Mrs. Lyn Rimmer (Electoral Roll Officer)

Mrs. Margaret Vessey

Mr. Michael Vessey, (Co-opted non-voting)

Mrs. Margaret Witty,

Mr. Tony Witty,

Magazine Distribution

Mrs. Brenda Maclese

Missionary Secretary

Mrs. Christine Taylor

St. Nicholas Church Website

www.st-nicholas-church.org.uk