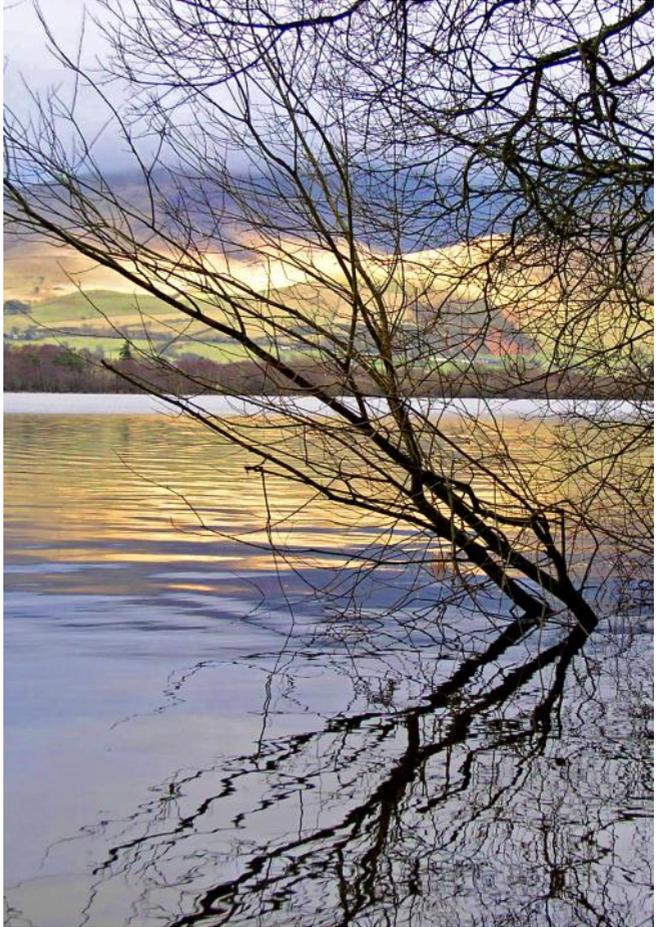




*St. Nicholas
News*



Price 50p

January 2013

Church Diary January 2013

Date	Time	Event
Thursday 3rd	7.30pm	Burnage Community Choir
Sunday 6th	8.30 a.m. 10.30am	Feast of Epiphany Holy Communion (BCP) Parish Communion
Tuesday 8th	7.30pm	NO Taize Evening Prayer
Wednesday 9th	10.00am	Eucharist
Thursday 10th	7.30pm	Burnage Community Choir
Sunday 13th	8.30 a.m. 10.30am	Baptism of Christ Holy Communion (BCP) All Age Worship
Monday 14th	7.30pm	PCC Meeting, church vestry.
Wednesday 16th	10.00am	Eucharist
Thursday 17th	7.30pm	Burnage Community Choir
Saturday 19th	10.30am	Coffee Morning in aid of The Children's Society, includes a 'bring and buy sale' and exchange of boxes.
Sunday 20th	8.30 a.m. 10.30am	Epiphany 3 Holy Communion (BCP) Parish Communion
Monday 21st	7.30pm	Taize Evening Prayer , with Churches Together in Burnage for week of Christian Unity.
Wednesday 23rd	10.00am 2.30pm	Eucharist Women's Fellowship 'St.Chad's Community Wildlife Gardens with Mrs Muriel Hargreaves—open meeting, everyone welcome
Thursday 24th	7.30pm	Burnage Community Choir
Sunday 27th	8.30 a.m. 10.30am	Epiphany 4 Holy Communion (BCP) Parish Communion
Wednesday 30th	10.00am	Eucharist

Please hand in articles for February magazine by Sunday 10th February.

Rachel writes...

O brave new world that has such people in't!' Miranda's famous words from Shakespeare's *The Tempest*, uttered as she sees young men for the first time, have become a token of youthful wonder and innocence. For, as a young woman brought up on an isolated island, she has no concept of the real nature of human hearts; she does not appreciate that the people she spies may be capable of deception and meanness.

I guess many of us feel that the world we live in lost its innocence long ago. Indeed, I know of people who dream of times when the world seemed simpler or more innocent. I suspect it is the instinct of parents to want to protect their children from the evils and depredations of the world. How many parents would wish their child might be as innocent as Miranda? And yet we know there was no golden age. The lesson of Jimmy Savile is that it is very easy for the vile and appalling to come masquerading as an angel of light. Perhaps the past looks so very nice because it was easier to cover up the ugly things that were there.

And yet, as Christians, surely we do not want become completely cynical. We do not wish to dismiss Mi-

randa out of hand. For if we do so we run the risk of losing the wonder of the world and the possibility of seeing humans as the remarkable creatures we are. Yes, we need to seek to see the world aright – and this will entail being clear eyed about its threats – but we also enter it in hope. And, as we enter a new year – full of both possibilities and uncertainties – this genuinely matters.

What are our hopes for this new year? The coming weeks represent a serious opportunity for

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each of us and as a church to sit down and have a think. Jesus says, 'I come into the world that you might have life and have it abundantly.' So what does this abundant life look like? Well, for sure, we are not called to live life as if it were straight out of the pag-

es of *Better Homes* or *Hello* magazine. In another part of *The Tempest*, Miranda's father Prospero says, 'We are such stuff as dreams are made on.' I think he's right. As humans we are called to dream dreams and have hope, but that doesn't mean that we are supposed to live the celebrity dream of money and passing glamour.

The story of Jesus Christ is the story of the God who shows us what both love and living abundantly looks like. And this story

is all about being exposed to reality. Jesus enters the world as a Palestinian peasant with very few advantages. People call him 'King' and yet he grows up outside the palace and never has this world's riches. As an adult he stirs things up so much he's put to death as a criminal. This could not be more different from the strategies we all use to protect ourselves from the world.

I hope and pray that as a church community and as individuals we all find ways to be a little more like Christ this year. That is, that we would be more exposed to the world rather than turning our back on it. When we are frightened our instinct is to hide and make ourselves safe. I worry that any of us can use church in that way, as a safe place to get away from our call to serve the world. There is one command from God – to love. And this is not simply to love those who we find easy to love, but those who we struggle with. Nor is it to be confined to our household or to church. It is to be given out to the world, even when it is undeserving.

Have a wonderful New Year!

Rachel
x

Churches Together in Burnage CTIB member churches will each offer a 30minute service during the week of Christian Unity (21st to 27th January)- refreshments available

Monday 21st Jan 7.30pm Taize service at St.Nicholas

Tuesday 22nd Jan 07.00am Service at Kingsburn Hall, Family Church

Wednesday 23rd Jan 2.00pm St.Bernard's, Burnage Lane

Thursday 24th Jan 11.00am Christ Church, Burnage Lane.

Friday 25th Jan 12 noon St.Margaret's Burnage Lane, followed by lunch.

Saturday 26th Jan 08.30am Christ Church, Parrswood, Fog Lane, followed by Breakfast.

Sunday 27th Jan 4.00pm Joint Service to end the week at Christ Church, Burnage.

St Nicholas Church Heritage and Open Weekend

Friday 8th – Sunday 10th February

Friday 7.30 Film Night £3

Saturday 10.30-12.00 Charity Fair and Coffee Morning

2.00 – 4.00 pm Music & Poetry

Sunday 10.30 Parish Eucharist

Ken Rylatt Celebrates his 90th Birthday

Mike Cherry kindly sent us this photograph of Ken Rylatt celebrating his 90th birthday. Family and friends joined Ken to celebrate with a birthday lunch. Ken has a long association with St. Nicholas Church.



Happy Birthday Ken from everyone at St. Nick's.

Conscientious

A minister walked into his church office and found his eager young assistant minister had emptied a huge box of various teaching resources that had been sent to the church, including a Noah's Ark for the very young children. The assistant had most of the animals lined up along the desk, and he was searching for more. "Whatever are you doing?" asked the minister in bewilderment.

The assistant minister looked up eagerly. "The box clearly said: 'Do not use if seal is broken'. So - I'm looking for the seal."

Vocation! Vocation! Vocation!

I have been at St. Nick's for three months now so it is probably a little late for introductions! Nonetheless, you may be wondering: why is he here? Well... As part of my progress towards ordination, I'm required to be on an extended placement at a church other than my 'home' church. So here I am. That, at least, is the short answer. A longer answer is that the Diocese considered that St. Nick's would be a good place for me to begin to acquire some practical ministerial skills and to carry on the work of deepening my sense of what it is to be a priest. You should consider that a compliment.

A journey towards ordination can be long or short. Mine has been both. I've been thinking about ordination for ten years and more. However, I only began the formal process in September 2011 when—after some encouragement from fellow Christians at St. Chad's—I summoned up the courage to fill in a form and send it to the Diocese. I was approved for training in June 2012, under the sponsorship of the Bishop of Manchester.

You have been helping me adjust to a new reality: that I am under orders in a new way. I hold a high view of priesthood—which has nothing to do with being unapproachable and everything to do with living out a special responsibility. In leading worship, in preaching, in praying with you and for you, I'm setting out on a journey. What does that mean?

My own faith is about making connections. As you can probably guess, Incarnation is at the heart. Making connections with the Church's past, making connections with the wider culture in which we live, making connections among ourselves—and putting all this at the service of others. It's hard as well as joyful work, and the work of all Christians. Yet a priest may be a focus for such labour.

So far, you seem to have tolerated my first steps on this journey very well! I have appreciated the warm welcome and your willingness to let me be involved in various activities. As you get to know me better, I hope you will feel able to tell me where I can improve, where you understand me, and where I lose you.

I'm enjoying the pride and pleasure that you take in the church building, your singing, your ability to laugh at Rachel's jokes, the hard work that went into the Christmas fayre, and the camaraderie of church hall conversations. (It's a bit disappointing how many of you support Manchester City, but there you go...) You've also been telling me—directly and indirectly—about some of the challenges you understand yourselves to be facing as a congregation. As I move into the second half of my placement, there will be opportunities for me to reflect back to you some of those concerns in ways that I hope you'll find helpful.

Peter Scott

CHILDREN'S SOCIETY COFFEE MORNING

With BRING & BUY SALE

In the Church Hall

SATURDAY, 19TH JANUARY

10.30am -12.00 noon

COFFEE & BISCUITS £1

BOXHOLDERS please bring your boxes. Thank you



Six songs of the lukewarm church

Blest Be the Tie that Doesn't Cramp my Style
Pillow of Ages, Fluffed for Me
I Surrender ... Some
I'm Fairly Certain that My Redeemer Lives
Sit up, Sit up for Jesus
Take My Life - and Let Me Be



Looking forward to the 105th Archbishop of Canterbury

The Right Reverend Justin Welby, Bishop of Durham, will be enthroned as the 105th Archbishop of Canterbury in Canterbury Cathedral on 21st March. Dr Rowan Williams retired at the end of December, after ten years as Archbishop.

Bishop Welby admits: “To be nominated to this post is both astonishing and exciting. It is something I never expected, and the last few weeks have been a very strange experience. It is exciting because we are at one of those rare points where the tide of events is turning, and the church nationally, including the Church of England has great opportunities to match its very great but often hidden strengths.

“I feel a massive sense of privilege at being one of those responsible for the leadership of the church in a time of spiritual hunger, when our network of parishes and churches and schools and above all people means that we are facing the toughest issues in the toughest place.”

So – what is the new Archbishop like? Where does he come from?

Born in 1956 in London, the Right Reverend Justin Welby was educated at Eton College and Trinity College, Cambridge, where he studied history and law. For 11 years - five in Paris and six in London – he worked in the oil industry, becoming group treasurer of a large British exploration and production company. He focused mainly on West African and North Sea projects. During this period he became a lay leader at Holy Trinity, Brompton in London, having been a council member at St Michael’s Church in Paris.

His father’s family were German Jewish immigrants who moved to England to escape anti-Semitism in the late 19th century, and integrated quickly. His British ancestors, on his mother’s side, include several clergymen.

A major influence both on Justin and his wife Caroline was their experience of personal tragedy. In 1983 their seven-month old daughter died in a car crash in France. Six years later in 1989, after sensing a call from God, Bishop Justin stood down from industry to train for ordination.

He took a theology degree at St John’s College, Durham, in which he focused on ethics – particularly in business. He has since published arti-

cles on ethics, international finance and reconciliation. His booklet, 'Can Companies Sin?', drawing on his experience in the oil industry, evolved from his dissertation at theological college. He has frequently said that the Roman Catholic approach to Christian social teaching, beginning with the encyclical of Leo XIII's Rerum Novarum, up to Pope Benedict XVI's Caritas Veritate, has greatly influenced his social thinking.

For 20 years, Justin Welby's ministry has blended deep devotion to his parish communities with church work around the world, especially in areas of conflict. After being ordained Deacon in 1992, he spent 15 years serving Coventry Diocese. His curacy was at All Saints Chilvers Coton with St Mary the Virgin Astley, in Nuneaton. In 1995 he became Rector of St James, Southam, a small market town in the same Diocese – and also the next year of St Michael and All Angels, Ufton, the neighbouring parish. He helped revive both churches, growing their congregations and launching bereavement and baptism teams, among other things.

Between 2000 and 2002 he also chaired an NHS hospital trust in South Warwickshire.

In 2002, he was made a Canon of Coventry Cathedral, where he ran the reconciliation work based there. With Canons Andrew White and Stephen Davis, he worked extensively in the field in Africa and the Middle East. He has a particular interest in Kenya, the DRC and Nigeria, where he was and remains involved in work with groups involved in conflict in the north. In the Niger Delta, he has worked on reconciliation with armed groups.

He met with religious and political leaders in Israel and Palestine, and on one trip to Baghdad reopened the Anglican Church with Canon Andrew White, shortly after the allied invasion. In 2006 he also took responsibility for Holy Trinity Coventry, the main city centre church, as Priest-in-charge.

He left Coventry five years later, being installed Dean of Liverpool on 8 December 2007, replacing the Right Reverend Rupert Hoare. Liverpool Cathedral is the largest cathedral in England. Its local area, Toxteth, is among the most deprived in north-west Europe. During his deanship, he brought the Cathedral into much greater contact with its local community, working with asylum seekers and in partnership with neighbouring churches. The Cathedral also hosted events from a TUC rally to royal services. Over his four years, during which he also continued to work on reconciliation and mediation projects overseas, the Cathedral's congregation increased significantly.

In 2011, Justin Welby returned to the place where his journey towards becoming Archbishop began: on 2 June 2011, he was announced as the new Bishop of Durham, taking over from the Right Reverend Tom Wright. He was enthroned at Durham Cathedral on 26 November 2011, and drew parallels between Liverpool and Durham – noting both the struggles and the enduring spirit of the two places. On 9 November 2012, the Right Reverend Justin Welby was announced as the 105th Archbishop of the See of Canterbury.

An expert on the politics and history of Kenya and Nigeria, he has lectured on reconciliation at the US State Department. In the summer of 2012, he was asked to join the Parliamentary Commission on Banking Standards.

His interests include French culture, sailing and politics. He is married to Caroline, who studied Classics at Cambridge, where they met. They have two sons and three daughters.

6 January - Epiphany

On 6 January we celebrate Epiphany - the visit of the wise men to the baby Jesus. But who were these wise men? No one knows for sure. Matthew calls them 'Magi', and that was the name of an ancient caste of a priestly kind from Persia. It wasn't until the third century that they were they called kings - by a church father, Tertullian. Another church father, Origin, assumed there were three - to correspond with the gifts given. Later Christian interpretation came to understand gold as a symbol of wisdom and wealth, incense as a symbol of worship and sacrifice, and myrrh as a symbol of healing - and even embalming. Certainly Jesus challenged and set aright the way in which the world handled all three of these things. Since the eighth century, the magi have had the names Balthasar, Caspar and Melchior.

Church Duty Rota (January 2013)

Date	Warden 8.30 a.m.	Warden 10.30 a.m.	Altar Duty	Lay Assistants	SidesPeople
6th	Fred Murphy	Jane Cawley	Louise Hollingsworth	Louise Hollingsworth Jill Lomas	Anne Tudor Anne Holmes Elaine Johnson
13th	Fred Murphy	Alison Mills	Emily Crossley	Anne Holmes Anne Tudor	Sybil Gawkrödger Caroline Abiodon
20th	Fred Murphy	Jill Lomas	Caroline Abiodon	Grace Manley Margaret Vessey	Muriel Nicol Amy Haygarth
27th	Fred Murphy	Jane Cawley	Brenda Maclese	Brenda Maclese Cliff Stockton	Margaret Vessey Michael Vessey Murile Clark

Parish Registers—(November 2012)

Date	Attendance	Cash	Envelopes
4th	78	16.00	293.00
11th	42	23.50	299.00
18th	53	30.00	474.70
25th	35	16.00	298.70
		Total	1365.40

St Nicholas Club Draw

1st prize- (18)

Christopher Lancaster

2nd prize- (37) Elsie Jubb

PCC Raffle



Winner Leonie
Pomfret

Raised £40 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