

St Nicholas News

May/June 2019

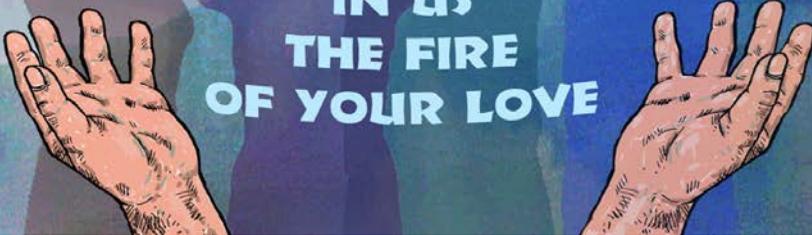
Price £1

The background is a blue-toned illustration of a church interior. It features tall, slender columns and a vaulted ceiling. In the foreground, several silhouettes of people are shown with their arms raised in prayer. The overall style is expressive and artistic, with visible brushstrokes and a textured appearance.

**COME
HOLY
SPIRIT**

**FILL
OUR
HEARTS**

**AND KINDLE
IN US
THE FIRE
OF YOUR LOVE**



Church Diary

Date	Time	Event
May		
Wednesday 1 st	10.00 am	Eucharist
Sunday 5 th	8.30 am 10.30 am	Easter 3 Holy Communion (BCP) Parish Communion
Tuesday 7 th	7.30 pm	Taize Evening Prayer
Wednesday 8 th	10.00 am 2.30 pm	Eucharist Women's Fellowship – 'Nature Talk' – Mr Russ Hedley
Sunday 12 th	10.30 am	Easter 4 Parish Communion
Wednesday 15 th Friday 17 th	10.00 am 7.30 pm	Eucharist Greater Manchester Voices in concert, tickets available from members of the choir
Saturday 18 th	10.30	Saturday craft and coffee café, all welcome
Sunday 19 th	10.30 am	Easter 5 Parish Communion
Monday 20 th	7.30 pm	PCC meeting, glass room
Wednesday 22 nd	10.00 am	Eucharist
	2.30 pm	Women's Fellowship – Annual General Meeting
Sunday 26 th	10.30 am	Easter 6 Parish Communion
Wednesday 29 th	10.00 am	Eucharist
June		
Sunday 2 nd	8.30 am 10.30 am	Easter 7 Holy Communion (BCP) Parish Communion
Tuesday 4 th	7.30 pm	Taize Evening Prayer
Wednesday 5 th	10.00 am	Eucharist
Sunday 9 th	10.30 am	Day of Pentecost Parish Communion
Wednesday 12 th	10.00 am	Eucharist
Sunday 16 th	8.30 am 10.30 am	Trinity Sunday Holy Communion (BCP) Parish Communion

Wednesday 19 th	10.00 am	Eucharist
Sunday 23 rd	8.30 am 10.30 am	Trinity 1 Holy Communion (BCP) Parish Communion
Wednesday 26 th	10.00 am 2.30 pm	Eucharist Women's Fellowship – Folk Magic – Mr Peter Watson
Sunday 30 th	8.30 am 10.30 am	Trinity 2 Holy Communion (BCP) Parish Communion



Deadline for July/August Edition: 15th June!

Cover image, book review, article about Mary, and Crossword from www.parishpump.co.uk, used with permission. Image of Carlisle Cathedral Nave: Creative Commons Attribution Clintheacock66 [CC BY-SA 3.0] (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/>)

For an easy way to donate to church funds when you shop on line, please register <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk>

Rachel writes...

As Christians, we live cyclical lives. The church year – which is not to be confused with the secular year – returns, again and again, back to the preparatory season of Advent. Any movement in the Church has to take into account this cycle of prayer, worship, fasting and feast. It is never progress for progress's sake. Inevitably, then, in a culture that is obsessed with the next thing or progress or change, to be part of a church can feel at odds with the prevailing culture. At best this sense of being counter-cultural can create liberating, prayerful joy; at worst, the repetitive nature of the Christian year can feel oppressive.

The opportunity, at this time of year, to look back and forth at how we live our Christian calling at St Nick's does not fill me with dread or disappointment. Our liturgical life together – which is the ground of our wider life – has been rich and rewarding, even in the face of ongoing challenges.

Highlight, of course, was the 90th Anniversary celebration of the foundation of this parish. So often these kinds of events resolve themselves into de-energising ‘bun-fests’ with no sense of transcendence, thanksgiving and hope. Rather, I felt like that Sunday brought together the essence of what we seek to be at St Nick’s: prayerful, thoughtful and joyous, with a genuine sense of fun grounded in a trust in God’s abundant goodness. The food and drink we shared together flowed out of our desire to enjoy our worship together. It was exhausting to bring about and my thanks are too numerous to mention, though I especially thank Bevan Taylor for – in many ways – being the spur to actually bring something together.

In a wider context, our worship continues to be a refreshingly Anglican. We seek to balance Catholic good sense with liberal honesty and an Evangelical commitment to scriptural seriousness. This is a place where we seek to live authentically, by which I mean with a honesty about our wounds, our gifts and our differences. We are unafraid of mistakes and embody a relaxed confidence. In the summer, our staff team will grow to include a new curate, and our liturgical life continues to be enriched by Fr Alan and the many people involved in leading worship.

Alan once said to me, ‘Isn’t St Nick’s amazing? You turn up and it all just happens.’ I trust he now appreciates that this is an illusion. It requires incredible levels of commitment and passion from a dedicated team behind the scenes. Nothing ever just happens. If I have some anxiety for the future it is ensuring that we do not take for granted that worship and ministry just happen. There are so many gifts and talents in this congregation, and I want each of us to feel we are cherished simply for who we are. Worship is a space where one ought to feel one can simply be and receive. At the same time, I also hope each of us is alert to God’s call. For some that will be towards licensed ministry, lay and ordained; for others that may be towards helping on the tea rota or being on the PCC. Time and energy matter, especially for those of us with demanding jobs. Nonetheless, it will be a token of our community if we can widen those who are involved in leadership.

I am delighted that we continue to pursue a path which leads towards greater community participation and relationship. Our support of Burnage Food Bank is well-known. Equally, our new dementia-friendly community

craft café looks like it has real potential to serve and grow. We shall once again hold a Summer Holiday Club which we hope builds on last year's brilliant offering. The variety of social and cultural events continues to expand and I trust this is a token of our preparedness to both look outwards and be changed by our relationships with the wider world.

There are any number of other aspects of life at St Nick's I might comment on. I feel I do need to acknowledge the way hope is always grounded in realities and facts. I'd be lying to you if I said that we do not face serious financial challenges over coming years. Every church does, pretty much. We have become much smarter in our ways of recovering gift aid, and the PCC continues to review how we can ensure we use our hall effectively. We are also in the midst of preparing a new stage of work on our building which should both help us further secure the building for years to come, as well as adapt it for better community use.

We have grown and we have lost in the past year. Some of the dear friends who have gone to glory in the past year include Lucy Males and Muriel Clark. Many of us have lost individual loved ones and we are diminished when they die. Some of our friends struggle with ill-health. A significant sign of our faithfulness to God is revealed in our willingness to support and sit alongside those in greatest need, not simply those in florid health. We are not simply those who gather on a Sunday. The work of para-church organisations like the Women's Fellowship, for example, is sterling and reaches beyond the bounds of this church's core constituent. Equally, however, I've been excited to see new faces adding to our number in recent times. I think so much of this depends on a culture of invitation. If we are not encouraging people to come along, how confident are we in the fellowship of which we are part? What we offer here – both on a Sunday and during weekdays – is a real feast of intelligent Anglicanism and community service.

For me, personally, it has been a rich year and I thank you for your support for all I do. There have been numerous highlights including the simple joys of day-to-day ministry: being with people at the big moments of life, as well as laughing and crying with those who are trying to make sense of it all. My involvement on General Synod and in the wider theological world has been exciting. I may be an unconscionable show-off, but you, my church family, keep me grounded. I offer particular thanks to our Church Wardens and the

Curate for what they do, often unseen behind the scenes. I thank the many others who quietly ensure that St Nick's is a place of hope and transformation.

There is much to be excited about in the coming years. I see new faces and new energy emerging in our worship life. I think closer working with St Chad's will help us identify how God is calling us. There is so much talent and ability in this congregation, and oodles of commitment. God is good. God is abundant. God invites us into joy and new life. We are called to discern where that is and get involved.

Rachel x

Carlisle Cathedral

The Cathedral is one of the oldest and most northerly English dioceses, it lies only a few miles south of the Border with Scotland and dates from 1122.



In 1122 Henry 1st gave permission for the founding of Augustinian priory dedicated to St Mary and eleven years later the priory church was designated as the cathedral to service the new diocese of Carlisle: the diocese was carved out of Durham in 1133.

Today's cathedral is the second smallest in England.

The priory was dissolved on the orders of King Henry 8th in 1540. The cathedral suffered a fire in 1292 and the Norman tower collapsed in 1652.

There is a memorial to a Reverend Theodore Bayly Hardy. He was a chaplain in the first world war. He was the most highly decorated non-combatant of the war. He died three weeks before the Armistice in 1918.

This is just a taster of Carlisle Cathedral. I for one should visit it as my Great Grandfather and Grandmother on my father's side came from Carlisle!

Brenda Maclese

Mr Bevan Taylor

In Conversation with Ilma Scantlebury

Produced by Oliver Mills

Music, The War & Life in Didsbury.

On Easter Monday I sat down and listened to the wonderful recording of Bev's life.

He started with his early life: talked about his church, school and everything up to getting too meet the Queen.

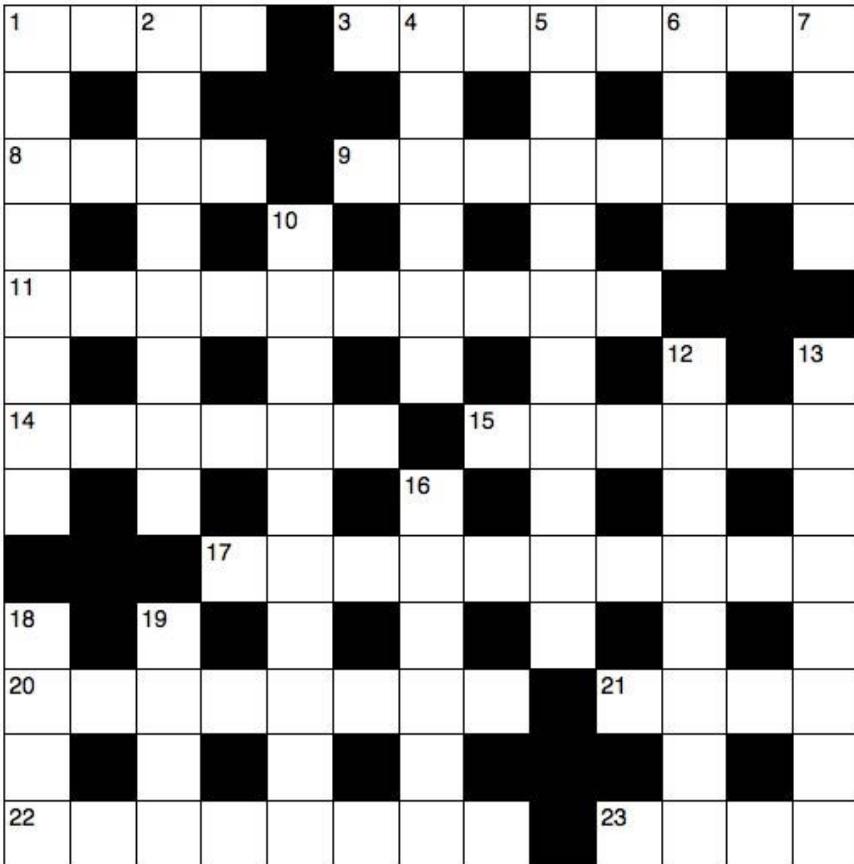
I found myself picturing Bev as he went on his journey.

The music and pictures were very moving. Bev finished with his favourite hymn: When I Survey The Wondrous Cross.

I do recommend you get a copy of 'Bev in conversation'

Brenda Maclese

Crossword



Across

- 1 Infant (Luke 2:12) (4)
- 3 Luis must (anag.) (8)
- 8 What Jesus called the devil (John 8:44) (4)
- 9 'My God, my God, why have you — me?' (Matthew 27:46) (8)
- 11 Anglican form of church government (10)
- 14 'Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like — ' (Isaiah 40:31) (6)
- 15 Ministers of religion (6)

- 17 Make stronger (1 Thessalonians 3:13) (10)
- 20 Devoutness (1 Timothy 2:2) (8)
- 21 The father of Jesse (Ruth 4:22) (4)
- 22 Pool where Jesus healed a man who had been an invalid for 38 years (John 5:2) (8)
- 23 '[Jesus] said to them, " — here and keep watch"' (Mark 14:34) (4)

Down

- 1 Follower of Christ (Acts 16:1) (8)
- 2 One of the punishments endured by Paul (2 Corinthians 6:5) (8)
- 4 Soldiers (Exodus 14:9) (6)
- 5 Scholarly study of melody, harmony and rhythm (10)
- 6 'I am God, and there is none — me' (Isaiah 46:9) (4)
- 7 'And how can they preach unless they are — ?' (Romans 10:15) (4)
- 10 Favourable reception (1 Timothy 1:15) (10)
- 12 Hip orbit (anag.) (8)
- 13 End of life (Isaiah 22:14) (5,3)
- 16 'About midnight the sailors — they were approaching land' (Acts 27:27) (6)
- 18 He married Jezebel (1 Kings 16:30–31) (4)
- 19 'According to your great compassion — out my transgressions' (Psalm 51:1) (4)

(solutions page 14)

Message from Brenda Maclese

Thank you Alison for all your support on Sunday 28th April.
 Also thank you to everyone who sent cards and supported us at the service. The service was difficult for both Colin and I we do appreciate all the support and prayers received.
 With love from Brenda

(Please remember Brenda and Colin Maclese and family as they mourn the passing of Brenda's sister Dorothy Eades.)

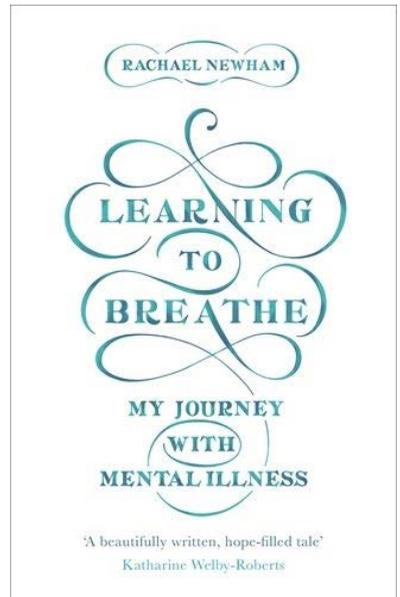
Book Review

Learning to Breathe - my journey with mental illness By Rachael Newham

'It begins slowly, so slowly that I hardly notice at first. My chest tightens and my heart begins to beat a fraction faster. I try to draw breath, but instead I choke on oxygen I can't inhale. As I realise that I can't breathe, the panic wraps itself around me... I can't make myself draw a breath.'

Rachael was aged just six when she had her first suicidal thought. Over the next decade, life would become increasingly fraught with depression and self-harm, and her outlook only bleaker. Before her 18th birthday, Rachael would twice try to take her own life. And yet amidst this darkness, a flicker of faith lived on.

This is Rachael's story of her journey into, and out of, the darkness of depression. With unflinching realism and complete honesty, she shows us what it looks like to live with mental illness, and how God can find us and rescue us even in the most desperate of places.



31st May - Mary, the Blessed Virgin, visits Elizabeth

Mary – the virgin mother of Jesus. For centuries the eastern and western churches have considered her pre-eminent among all the saints.

In the gospels, Mary makes her first appearance as a teenager. Nothing is known of her childhood, and what we do know of her is found mostly in

Matthew 1 – 2 and in Luke 1 – 2. If you read both accounts, you'll notice that Luke's account seems to give the story from Mary's standpoint, whereas Matthew concentrates more on Joseph's side of things. In both accounts the virginal conception of Christ is clearly stated. Mary's quiet devotion to God and her total acceptance of His will shine forth.

Her visit to Elizabeth, when both were pregnant, is a moving and poignant account of two humble, ordinary women, suddenly caught up in a great event that would shape world history. Their trusting faith in God and acceptance of His will, shine through.

After Jesus is born, Mary fades into the background, and makes few appearances: when the family visits Jerusalem and she loses her son on the way home; when she urges Him to help the wedding party in Cana with its wine problem; and when Jesus gives her into the keeping of the beloved disciple when He is dying on the cross. Mary's last appearance is in Acts chapter one, just before Pentecost.

Mary obviously joined the early Church, but her role was never one of teaching and preaching, and indeed she remained so much in the background that nothing more about her is known for certain. Both Ephesus and Jerusalem have claimed to be the place of her death.

Mary, chosen to be the mother of Jesus Christ, one who is both God and Man, holds a unique place in the history of mankind. Down the centuries that have followed, the Church has paid special honour to Mary – and well deserved it. “All generations shall call me blessed...”

In Camera': Rachel's Favourite Films

'A Room With A View' (Dir: James Ivory, 1985)

Think of a film adaptation like A Room With A View, based on the Edwardian novel of the same name written by E.M. Forster. I suspect you picture it as cosy, comforting and lush. The genre to which it belongs is sometimes

called 'heritage cinema'. That is, the kind of British cinema that exists to celebrate nostalgic and soothing visions of the past. Heritage cinema is marked by sumptuous costumes, glorious locations and superb, trustworthy performances from top-notch actors.

In so many ways, Merchant-Ivory's production of *A Room With A View* ticks all of the heritage cinema boxes. It is set partly in Florence and partly in Surrey at the turn of the twentieth century, among the upper-middle- and upper-classes. It is a romantic-comedy which focuses on the relationships between Lucy Honeychurch, a young, eligible woman, Cecil Vyse, a snobbish upper-middle class aesthete, and George Emerson, a troubled young middle-class man who was raised to be a free-thinker.

The direction and the soundtrack consistently communicate that it is a well-made, sumptuous film: it is bright and clean and studied, and the soundtrack makes extensive use of brilliant bel-canto opera arias. The casting is also pitch-perfect: it includes Daniel Day-Lewis, Denholm Elliot, Judi Dench, Maggie Smith and Helena Bonham Carter. Part of the pleasure of watching the film lies in the way they work as an ensemble cast. The film benefits from the fact that the entire cast has been drawn from people who cut their acting-teeth on the stage. Their performances simply bounce off each other.

I love a bit of heritage cinema. Such films enable us to escape the usual run of our lives and enter long-lost worlds. *A Room With A View* is precisely one of those films that seems to avoid the gritty realities of modern, ordinary lives. It is ultimately a romance with a happy ending. Being set before the Great War also adds to its sunny appeal for some viewers. It captures a world which definitively disappeared in the carnage of the Western Front.

What I really love about this film, however, is the stuff that resists the comforting lens of heritage cinema. *A Room With A View* is far sharper than many viewers think. It is a superb study in changing social attitudes and mores. The Church is represented by two clerics, Mr Eager and Mr Beebe. Eager presents the old stuffy ways of the C of E, whereas Beebe is far more daring and risk-taking. He encourages Lucy Honeychurch to take the risk of breaking free from her stuffy life. However, the film (and novel) ultimately suggest that Beebe himself is more of a humbug than he should be.

Ultimately, it is life and love and courage which are celebrated in the bold, class-breaking marriage between Lucy and George. There are lots of parodies along the way – including those of the priggish Cecil and the New Woman, Eleanor Lavish – but it is ultimately a film which celebrates life. James Ivory’s film still looks glorious now and is full of gentle humour. However, behind the warm-toned images lies a serious point: are we prepared to take the risk of living in the face of social and moral disapproval?

Rachel x

Parish Registers - Feb-March 2019

Date	Attendance	Cash	Envelopes	Total
3 rd Feb	42	59.60	270.30	329.90
10 th Feb	68	71.00	181.50	252.50
17 th Feb	48	75.75	213.00	288.75
24 th Feb	43	52.00	221.35	273.35
3 rd March	48	49.50	275.00	324.50
10 th March	65	72.05	134.00	206.05
17 th March	47	131.10	238.60	369.70
24 th March	93	119.50	203.50	323.00
Total		630.50	1737.25	2367.75

St Nicholas Club Draw

February 1st Prize: 23 (Christine Brown)

February 2nd Prize: 68 (Jackie Walker)

March 1st Prize: 49 (Jacob Scott)

March 2nd Prize: 2 (Susan Morris)

Church Duty Rota

Date	Warden 8.30am	Warden 10.30am	Altar Server	Lay Assistants	Sides- people
May					
5 th	Fred Murphy	Louise Hollings- worth	Brenda Maclese	Brenda M Cliff S	Giles E Julie B
12 th	Fred Murphy	Julie Crossley	Louise Hollings- worth	Louise H Jill L	Margaret V Michael V
19 th	Fred Murphy	Jane Cawley	Nikki Naylor	Nikki N Claire C	Lyn R Ann A
26 th	Fred Murphy	Alison Mills	Steven Nightingale -Holt	Steven N-H Lyn R	Brenda M Freda E
June					
2 nd	Fred Murphy	Jill Lomas	Jane Cawley	Jane C Julie C	Giles E Julie B
9 th	Fred Murphy	Grace Manley	Brenda Maclese	Brenda M Cliff S	Margaret V Michael V
16 th	Fred Murphy	Julie Crossley	Louise Hollings- worth	Louise H Alison M	Brenda M Freda E
23 rd	Fred Murphy	Jane Cawley	Nikki Naylor	Nikki N Margaret V	Lyn R Ann A
30 th	Fred Murphy	Alison Mills	Steven Nightingale -Holt	Steven N-H Lyn R	Assistant Wardens

Solutions to Crossword

ACROSS: 1, Baby. 3, Stimulus. 8, Liar. 9, Forsaken. 11, Episcopacy. 14, Eagles. 15, Clergy. 17, Strengthen. 20, Holiness. 21, Obed. 22, Bethesda. 23, Stay.

DOWN: 1, Believer. 2, Beatings. 4, Troops. 5, Musicology. 6, Like. 7, Sent. 10, Acceptance. 12, Prohibit. 13, Dying day. 16, Sensed. 18, Ahab. 19, Blot.

Organisations

Women's Fellowship

Chairman: Mrs Ann Holmes (0161 434 2245)
Second and Fourth Wednesdays at 2.30 pm

Confirmation Classes

For young people and adults by arrangement with the Minister.

Rainbows

For girls aged 5 to 7 years.
Wednesday evening, 6 pm to 7 pm, in the church hall

Church Hall Bookings

Church Hall and Glass Room are available for hire.

Details are on our website:
www.st-nicholas-church.org.uk

For bookings please contact:

Alison Mills (0793 207 1977)
alison@glensidemills.co.uk

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 Canon Rachel Mann 0161 432 7009		
Curate	Rev'd Alan Simpson		
Churchwardens	Mrs Alison Mills (07932071977)	Organists	Mr Oliver Mills (07786 337087)
	Ms Jane Cawley (07745 392 374)		Ms Elizabeth Bray
Assistant Wardens	Mr Fred Murphy	Hon. Treasurer	Mr Andrew Mills (07802403991)
	Mrs Grace Manley	Minutes Secretary	Mrs Ann Ackerman
	Ms Jill Lomas	Deanery Synod	Mrs Grace Manley
	Mrs Julie Crossley		Mrs Christine Price
	Mrs Louise Hollingsworth		
Elected on PCC	Mrs Lyn Rimmer, (electoral Roll Officer)	Magazine Distribution	Mrs Brenda Maclese
	Mrs Margaret Witty	Missionary Secretary	Mrs Margaret Vessey
	Mr Tony Witty		
	Mrs Alison Cullen		
	Ms Michaila Roberts		
	Mrs Julie Bodgers		
	Ms Nicola Naylor		
	Mr Giles Elliott		

www.st-nicholas-church.org.uk
St Nicholas Church, Kingsway, Manchester, M19 1PL