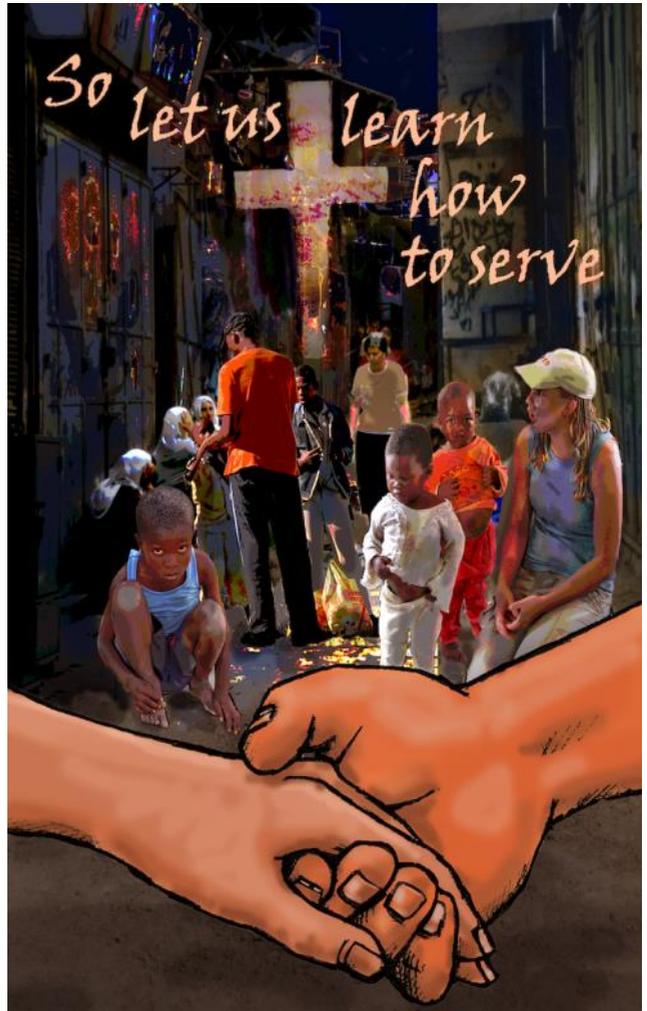




# *St. Nicholas News*



Price 50p

September 2013

## Church Diary September 2013

Date	Time	Event
Sunday 1st	8.30 am 10.30 am.	<b>Trinity 14</b> Holy Communion (BCP) Parish Communion & Young People's Church
Monday 2nd	8.00pm	Christians Together in Burnage Executive meeting in the choir vestry.
Tuesday 3rd	7.30pm	Taize Evening Prayer
Wednesday 4th	10.00am 7.30pm	Eucharist Stewardship Group and Fundraising Committee joint meeting.
Sunday 8th	8.30 am 10.30 am.	<b>Trinity 15</b> Holy Communion (BCP) Parish Communion & Young People's Church
Tuesday 10th	7.30pm	Worship Committee, rectory.
Wednesday 11th	10.00am	Eucharist
Saturday 14th	10.30am 7.30pm	Heritage Weekend church open with coffee morning BURNAGE COMMUNITY CHOIR CONCERT
Sunday 15th	8.30 am. 10.30 am.	<b>SONGS of PRAISE</b> Holy Communion (BCP) Songs of Praise Service ( no Eucharist)
Monday 16th	7.30pm	PCC Meeting, vestry
Wednesday 18th	10.00am	Eucharist
Sunday 22nd	8.30 am. 10.30 am.	<b>Trinity 17</b> Holy Communion (BCP) Parish Communion & Young People's Church
Monday 23rd	4.00 to 6.00pm	'MESSY CHURCH'
Wednesday 25th	10.00am	Eucharist
Sunday 29th	8.30 am. 10.30 am.	<b>Trinity 17 : HARVEST FESTIVAL</b> Holy Communion (BCP) Parish Communion & Young People's Church

## Rector's Letter

**S**eptember often feels like one of those important step changes in the year. It signals the start of autumn and of the new academic year. It signals the end of summer holidays and indicates it's time to get our skates back on! (And, yes, for those lucky folk who can take advantage of it, it signals the start of cheaper holidays and breaks!)

Since last December, St Nick's has been celebrating eighty years since we started using the current building. The PCC and I wanted this eightieth year not simply to be a looking back – which I hope we did last Birthday Sunday – but an opportunity to explore our vocation and stewardship as a church. This has led – I sense – to an increased commitment on the part of many in the congregation to be more involved in ministry, to the running of a very successful holiday club and also to a special 'marquee event', Jesus Christ Superstar.

This September continues our celebrations in a number of

ways. Firstly, we are taking part in the National Heritage Weekend (14-15<sup>th</sup> September). This includes us being part of the Didsbury Heritage Trail for the first time, a concert by Burnage Community Choir and a special Songs of Praise service at 10.30am on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup>. Also, during September we shall be holding our first ever Messy Church service on 23<sup>rd</sup> September at 4pm. Messy Church is a way for people of all ages to be church in a different way. So while there will be a song or two, a story from the Bible, everyone also gets a chance to explore the Bible and encounter God through a wide range of other activities, including arts and crafts. It's all topped off with a simple shared meal. It is open to all and I do hope you'll pop in to see what the fuss is about.

As we celebrate our eightieth year in this magnificent and striking building, people may be wondering about how we shall be trying to take care of it in the future. It has been clear that since 2008 – and a large number of lead thefts – that the building has suffered structurally. We have lacked the finance to carry out all of the work we should like, but

have also faced a situation where insurance payments have been capped. However, the PCC, church wardens and I have sought to be proactive this year. We have now lodged a Heritage Lottery Fund bid for a substantial amount of money to investigate underlying issues and then carry out the remedial work. There is no guarantee that we shall secure this money, but given we are a Grade 2\* listed building our application will be taken seriously. Please pray for all those involved in making decisions about the structural and financial future of our church building. We are stewards of an unusual and complex building. Let us hope the nation recognizes that we need help to sustain it.

I know people can get anxious about the future, both here at St Nick's and in the wider world, but God also invites us to trust him. I know only too well how difficult that can be. I am one of this world's natural 'Doubting Thomas's' and struggle as much as anyone to live on the promises of God. However, our challenge is to be attentive to the work God is already accomplishing in our communities and our lives. I have sensed genuinely growth in both old things and new things in recent years. We know that, as Ecclesiastes has it, to everything there is a season. We cannot know what will grow and what will fade. All we can seek to do is be attentive to God and try to go where he is leading. For where he leads, lies hope and truth and resurrection.

Rachel x



**BARNABUS**  
Bringing hope to the homeless and vulnerable

## News from Barnabus Homeless Charity.....

We have nominated Barnabus Charity for the Homeless based in Manchester City Centre again this year as the focus for our Harvest appeal.

We have a great opportunity now to do our bit, by collecting useful items such as – hats, gloves, underwear, scarves, toiletries, disposable razors, tea, coffee, sugar, jam, long life milk + tins of beans.

Here is the latest news from the charity

Over the last 12 months the Beacon has totalled 19,032 visits. With the help of volunteers over the past few months considerable support has been provided to the folk 'dropping in'.

A Benefits café has been established to support people worried about changes to the benefit system; how to budget and sort out any existing debt or money mismanagement. Fund raising events:

August 1st to 31st—Go Bonkers for Barnabus

September 20th Barnabus Dinner Dance

October Big Barnabus Beard Fundraiser

12th October—Zipslide, Imperial War Museum.

Visit to St. James Palace

On May 29th 2013, Beryl and Peter Green were invited to attend a reception for an audience with the Queen and Prince Philip. They were able to engage in conversation with their Royal Highnesses and share the wonderful work the Barnabus team are involved in here in Manchester.

You can find out more on: [www.barnabus-manchester.org.uk](http://www.barnabus-manchester.org.uk)

*Susan Morris*

### **St. Nicholas Club 2013/14**

September is renewal month for St. Nicholas Club membership. A renewal form is enclosed with your magazine. Please invite family, friends, neighbours to become members. One payment of £12.50 gives you a chance to win one of two monthly prizes to the value of £25 & £15. Please sign and return completed form to the wardens. This club raises money for church funds to maintain our building. Thank You.

Fred Murphy

## Seaside Rocks On !

Everything was finally ready, the Hall was decked with flags as though it was the end of the pier show, the altar resembled a scene from Robinson Crusoe. All the Leaders waited with baited breath in their bright yellow tee shirts and badges looking like extras from the series Benidorm! The clock ticked round to 9.30 am in trepidation we opened the door, would there be any children there? We need not have worried all the prayers came to fruition as we were welcomed by a sea of children and parents. There were thirty two actually registered but in the end there were only twenty two turned up. But that was a good number for our first venture into Holiday Club land. Each morning the children went into their 'Rock Pools' in other words the four corners of the hall! We had named them Starfish, Seahorses (Ages 5 to 7years) , Dolphins and Sharks (Ages 8 to 10years). Their Leaders Claire Cawley, Emily Manley , Jill Lomas and Brenda Maclese did a sterling job of guidance and reassurance which soon made the children feel at home. Each day they completed their passports which was an idea adopted from the Brownies, many thanks to Louise Hollingsworth for sharing this idea. Tony Witty and I were busy with the games in the Hall whilst Elaine Johnson came to help on Tuesday and amongst other things put the leaflets about our church organisations into the bags that the children took home with them. Thanks to Lyn Rimmer for providing them. We were very dependent on our wonderful back up team of Susan Morris and Val Hagan who assisted wherever and with whatever was needed.

Rachel and Oliver made a wonderful double act and wrote a brilliant Holiday Club song which both the children and adults loved. Everyday we danced and did the actions, it was really difficult to get the song out of your head and was repeatedly sneaking up on you in a quiet



moment!! An unforgettable incident was when the gorilla appeared to the strains of 'I'm the King of the Jungle ' and caused a furore amongst the children. Rumour was rife that it was Oliver, but the gorilla returned and Oliver was playing the piano at the front, this caused some consternation. Unfortunately (for the gorilla) by this time the children were more confident and wanted to high five the gorilla and attempted to find out his true identity.

A vital component to any club is always the refreshments and Irene Smith kindly donated a box of biscuits which were thoroughly enjoyed by all. Our grateful thanks go to Ann Holmes, Ann Tudor and Caroline Abiodon who came and prepared the refreshments and to Colin Maclese who kindly provided transport.

The rest of our mornings were spent doing handicrafts, playing games, baking and an audience participation Bible story from Rachel, which the children loved. The week culminated in the parents being invited to see the hats, masks and instruments that the children had made finishing with a rousing 'My God is a great big God' which the children had asked to sing. The sound reverberated round the church, it was heart warming to see the children enjoying themselves and bringing the church to life. This was followed by eating the cakes the children had made and decorated, augmented by kind donations from Grace Manley, Alison Mills and some of the parents. What a feast of goodies!!



I think it is safe to say that we were all surprised that it was so much fun! Embarking on the Holiday Club journey became a total church family event with all the congregation getting involved by bringing in all types of boxes, yoghurt pots, newspapers which were later transformed into a wonderful array of fishes, boats and musical instruments. A contributory

factor to our success must be down to all the planning that started way back in March. Alison Mills has worked tirelessly on the website and all the publicity which resulted in the wonderful response. Jill Lomas was very experienced in teaching this age group and we drew considerably on her skills and expertise. We are aware that both Alison and Jill have other duties to perform in their roles as Church Wardens so we were very grateful for their input.

The final accolades must go the Holiday Club team for their commitment and time so generously given to make our first Holiday Club the huge success that the children declared it was.

*Margaret Witty*

*P.S. A huge thank you on behalf of the children, staff volunteers, Rector and Churchwardens to Margaret Witty for leading the Holiday Club and for ensuring that all procedures were correctly implemented and followed !*



## National Heritage Weekend 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> September



We are proud to be participating in the heritage weekend 2013 and open our church building to visitors.

What's happening .....

### Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September

Church Open ALL day, refreshments available.

10.30 to 12.00 Coffee Morning with stalls.

### **7.30pm Burnage Community Choir in Concert**



### Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> September

Church Open until 4.00pm

Refreshments available in church café.

8.30am Holy Communion BCP

### **10.30am 'Songs of Praise' Service**

(no Eucharist)

Please choose your favourite hymns and write them down on the form available in church or email [rector@st-nicholas-church.org.uk](mailto:rector@st-nicholas-church.org.uk) .

The most popular hymns will be sung during the service!

## Church Duty Rota (September 2013)

Date	Warden 8.30 a.m.	Warden 10.30 a.m.	Alter Server	Lay Assistants	SidesPeople
1	Fred Murphy	Jane Cawley	Emily Crossley	Grace Manley Margaret Vessey	Brenda Maclese Grace Manley Lucy Males
8	Fred Murphy	Alison Mills	Claire Lancaster	Jill Lomas Lyn Rimmer	Julie Crossley Cass Williamson Sue Morris
15	Fred Murphy	Jill Lomas	Louise Hollingsworth	Louise Hollingsworth <i>*Julie Crossley</i>	Anne Tudor Anne Holmes Elaine Johnson
22	Fred Murphy	Jane Cawley	<i>*Brenda Maclese</i>	Anne Tudor Anne Holmes	Sybil Gawkrodger Caroline Abiodon
29	Fred Murphy	Alison Mills	Jane Cawley	Jane Cawley Grace Manley	Margaret Vessey Michael Vessey Muriel Clark

*\*Please note names highlighted in red are substitutions. Thank you.*

## Parish Registers (July 2013)

Week Ending	Communicants	Cash	Envelopes
7th	38	6.30	348.50
14th	36	30.15	274.00
21st	57	27.90	420.50
28th	37	4.00	334.00
		Total	1377..00

## Organisations

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

For all children aged 3 years upwards in the Vestry at 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.

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

## Church Prize Draws

St Nicholas Club Draw—drawn Sunday 7th July

1st Prize: 69 Peggy Salt 2nd Prize No: 2 Derek Carr

### Smile Lines.....

#### How to get to heaven

"If sold my house and my car, had a big car boot sale and gave all my money to the church, would I get into Heaven?" the teacher asked her Sunday School class. "No!" the children all answered.

"If I cleaned the church every day, mowed the grass, and kept everything neat and tidy, would I get into Heaven?" Again, the answer was "No!"

"Well", she continued, "then how can I get into Heaven?"

A five-year-old boy shouted out, "You gotta be dead first!"

#### Hearing is not believing

A wise schoolteacher sent this note to all parents on the first day of school: 'If you promise not to believe everything your child says happens at school, I'll promise not to believe everything he or she says happens at home.'

# 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 take 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 : 07932 071977

## Assistant Wardens

Mr. Fred Murphy

Ms Jane Cawley

## Hon. Treasurer.

Mrs. Elaine Jess

## Minutes Secretary

Mrs. Ann Ackerman

## Electoral Roll Officer

Mrs Lyn Rimmer

## Deanery Synod

Mrs. Grace Manley

Ms. Jane Cawley

## Elected on PC

Mr. Fred Murphy,

Mrs. Ann Ackerman,

Mrs. Julie Crossley,

Mrs. Sue Morris,

Mrs. Lyn Rimmer,

Mr. Michael Vessey,

Mr. Tony Witty.

Ms. Jane Cawley,

Mrs. Elaine Jess,

Mrs. Alison Cullen,

Mrs. Christine Price,

Mrs. Margaret Witty,

## Magazine Distribution

Mrs. Brenda Maclese

## Missionary Secretary

Mrs. Margaret Vessey

## St. Nicholas Church Website

[www.st-nicholas-church.org.uk](http://www.st-nicholas-church.org.uk)