

NEWS FROM THE PEWS

St John's: A place of worship where all are welcome

In Memory

The funeral of Janet Warrie was held on 25th June followed by burial in the churchyard. Janet was a friend to many and our thoughts are with her husband, David, her family and all who mourn.

Services in July

7th July:

- 9.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
- 10.30am All-age Service (CW)
- 6.30pm Evensong (BCP)

14th July:

- 9.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
- 10.30am Morning Worship (CW) & Sunday Club

21st July:

- 9.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
- 10.30am Morning Worship (CW) & Sunday Club
- 4.00pm Village Praise

28th July:

- 9.00am Matins (BCP)
- 10.30am Holy Communion (CW) & Sunday Club

BCP - Book of Common Prayer
CW - Common Worship (Modern Language)

A View from the Vicarage

Getting to grips with the Vicarage garden has been quite a challenge. Over the past 9 months we've had to wrestle with weeds, fight our way through thick undergrowth and undertake some serious tree surgery. Without close care and attention, any garden can quickly get out of control.

Good gardening requires some careful decision-making and wise judgement. We've had to decide what trees need to be trimmed and which shrubs should be saved. We've tried to discern which plants are worth preserving and which ones are weeds.

In the Bible, numerous passages rejoice at the prospect of God's coming judgement day. For example, Psalm 96 says: "Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad! Let all creation rejoice before the Lord, for he comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world in righteousness and the peoples in his faithfulness."

That enthusiasm sounds strange to us, because we tend to associate judgement day with "fire and brimstone", and rather gruesome medieval paintings. But for Christians at least, the real judgement day is something to look forward to. Because it will be the day when Christ returns to renew his creation. The day when he will preserve what is good and remove what is wrong with the world. It will be the global equivalent of a garden clear-up!

The Bible promises that one day the Lord will weed out sin, sadness, suffering and death, and throw them into the compost bin of history. He will preserve everything that is beautiful and worthwhile for his renewed creation (Rev 21:1-5). By putting our faith in Jesus and following him, we make sure that we are personally renewed and ready to enjoy this recycled creation for ourselves. It will be like a beautiful new garden for his people to enjoy - far, far better than our own!



God bless,
Phil Weston

News

- **Rose Queen Sunday** — On Sunday 14th July there will be a guest service at 10.30am in St John's Church to welcome our Rose Queen, Rosebud and their retinue. All of the children can then join in with the Sunday Club activities and drinks and cakes will be served after the service. Everybody is welcome.
- **Christian Aid** — The donations made to Christian Aid have now been counted and the total raised from members of our parish was £987.53: Gift Aid will add a further £159.69 to that amount. We would like to express our thanks to everyone who delivered envelopes or made donations to this worthy cause.
- **Encountering Elisha** — During July our adult sermons and children's Sunday Club sessions will be looking at the amazing life of Elisha. Elisha was an Old Testament prophet sent to help God's people facing hardship.

Through his words and miracles Elisha shows us God's love, power, goodness and capacity to save. Elisha's life also points us to Jesus Christ, the most miraculous man of all. So do join us this July!

Contacts

Vicar:
Phil Weston 01829 752272

Readers:
Alan Downen 01829 751174
Philip Goodall 01829 752130

Churchwardens:
Hilary Clegg 01829 458453
Alan Goodall 01829 752130

Saying Goodbye

When a baby is lost, whether during pregnancy, at birth or in infancy, it is a devastating experience for the parents, extended family and friends. "Saying Goodbye" services provide a time and a place to acknowledge and remember the loss whilst collectively saying "goodbye". The Manchester service is open to all who still grieve or need support.

SAYING GOODBYE SERVICE 2019 | MANCHESTER

Manchester Cathedral : 13th July 2019: 2.30pm

A service for anyone who has lost a baby in pregnancy, at birth or in early years. Whether the loss was today or 80 years ago.

Those who grieve a pregnancy never even taking place are also welcome.

Forever Loved, Always Missed

sayinggoodbye.org

Mariposa Trust  Saying Goodbye 



100 Club

The winning numbers in May's draw were
9 14 38 45

Pause for Thought by Alan Downen



**Christ, whose glory fills the skies
Christ, the true, the only Light,
Sun of Righteousness, arise,
Triumph o'er the shades of night;
Dayspring from on high, be near,
Daystar, in my heart appear.** *Charles Wesley*

Charles Wesley was a great hymn-writer who managed to capture the emotions of many who stand in awe of the landscape which surrounds us.

I've just returned from a holiday in Devon, the above picture is one of my holiday snaps. The scale of the landscape (look closely and you will see a man standing on the top of those rocks!), the power of the waves, the heat of the sun (yes, we did see the sun on several occasions!) are all beyond our imagination.

The early Church Leaders were equally in awe of what surrounded them, so much so that they decided that they would study nature to look for proof of the existence of God. That 'absolute proof' was of course never found, and never will be (that is where faith becomes important), but their studies introduced a discipline to our world which we now call Science.

Holidays are times for relaxation and refreshment but they are also a time in which we can take stock of our world and the part that we play in it. Be in awe and 'feel' the presence of God, even though you may not be able to see him. Take time to be still, take in the sights and sounds, sit and pray and listen out for that 'still, small voice'. And wherever you go to relax in the coming months, be safe, and may God be with you.

Rose Queen 2019



Our Rose Queen, Emily, relaxing.

On Saturday July 13th 2019 Emily Meara will be crowned Rose Queen and Harriet Walker will be crowned Rosebud at the Picnic in the Park. Emily will then open the Picnic in the Park Celebrations. Look out for the Rose Queen Procession as they pass through the village at 12:15 pm and follow us to the Recreation Field. There will be fun activities for the children in the St John's area, a Children's Tombola and Plant Stall too. The St John's Grand Raffle will be drawn at 3 o'clock and lots of activities and refreshments will be available during the afternoon. Please come and join the fun.

If you have surplus plants or produce and would like to donate them for sale on the Plant Stall at the Rose Queen and Picnic in the Park we would love to receive them. Please contact Diana Riley, leave a message on 01829 751655 or deliver them to 15 Peel Crescent.

The Children's Tombola is also inviting donations of new items for their stall. Please contact Ruth Mason, leave a message on 01829 751249 or deliver them to 48 Peel Crescent. Even better all donations can be delivered to the Recreation Field on the day.

Cheshire Wildlife Trust
People taking action for wildlife

Ashton Grange Garden will be open on

**Sunday 7th July
2.00 – 5.00 pm**

in support of the Cheshire Wildlife Trust.

**£6 entry (to CWT)
(children free)**

Come and see the new wildflower meadow (created with the CWT), large pond with moorhens, woodland walks, tree carvings and the wildlife friendly garden

Teas in aid of Macmillan

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