

THE PARISH OF DEANE

DEANE CHURCH NEWS

MAY 1994

SUNDAY DIARY

1. FOURTH AFTER EASTER

Theme:

The Way, the Truth and the Life

8.00am Communion
10.30am Family Communion
6.30pm Evensong

8. FIFTH AFTER EASTER

Theme:

Going to the Father

8.00am Communion
10.30am Morning Service
6.30pm Family Communion

15. SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION

Theme:

The Ascension

8.00am Communion
10.30am Family Communion
6.30pm Evensong

22. PENTECOST (Whitsun)

Theme:

The Holy Spirit

8.00am Communion
10.30am Family/Parade Service
6.30pm Family Communion

29. FIRST AFTER PENTECOST

Theme:

The Trinity

8.00am Communion
10.30am Family Communion
6.30pm Evensong



Meeting Point, by Ivan J Belcher

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MIDWEEK DIARY

Communion: Every Wednesday in the Church Lounge at 10.00am

Prayer Focus: Wednesday May 25th at 8.00pm in the Church Lounge

Home Groups: Tuesdays May 3rd, 31st, Wednesdays May 4th, June 1st

Archdeacon's Visitation: Wednesday May 11th at 7.30pm in Holy Trinity, Horwich

Ascension Day: Holy Communion at 10.00am in St Andrew's Church and 8.00pm in Deane Church on May 12th

Christian Aid Week: May 15th - 21st

WHO'S WHO

Rector: Roger B Jackson
The Rectory
234 Wigan Road (61819)

Vicar: A Robin Hazlehurst
St Andrew's Vicarage
Crescent Avenue (651851)

Curate: Charles D Moore
281 Deane Church Lane (64313)

Reader: Christine Kilsby
1386 Junction Rd West (492351)

Wardens: Craig Mochrie
4 Laxford Grove (652324)

Terry Oakes
14 Salford Road (64362)

Les Kilsby
1386 Junction Rd West (492351)

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Lay Stan Wilson

Chairman: 11 Clough Meadow (492034)

Honorary Keith Acton

Treasurer: 3 Mallowdale Close (842723)

Honorary Les Kilsby

Secretary: 1386 Junction Rd West (492351)

CHAIRMEN OF WORKING GROUPS

Pastoral:

Worship: Philip Gore

Buildings & Fabric: Mike Kirkby

Social: Brenda Dixon

OTHER OFFICIALS

Organist: Jim Needham
130 The Pewfist
Westhoughton (0942 812692)

Flowers: Mary Jackson
234 Wigan Road (61819)

Verger: Betty Calderbank
32 Junction Road (655375)

Archivist: Rodney Howard
42 Elswick Avenue (652417)

Covenant Sid Harris

Secretary: 11 Manningham Road (656355)

MEMORIAL HALL

Bookings: Keith Holden
3 Beaumont Drive (653075)

Caretakers: David and Eunice McCormick
34 Junction Road (654503)

WHAT'S ON

Creche: under 3 years

Scramblers: 3 to 5 years

Climbers: 5 to 7 years

Meet in the Memorial Hall Lounge on
Sundays at 10.30 a.m.

Pauline Ridyard (651157)

Explorers: 7 to 11 years

Meet in Church at 10.30 a.m. before
going to the Memorial Hall.

Eric Downs (653049)

Pathfinders: 11 to 14 years

Worship in Church on Sundays

Club Night in the Memorial Hall on
Fridays from 7.15 to 9.00 p.m.

David Dewhurst (651347)

C.Y.F.A.: 14 to 18 years

Meet on Sundays at 8.00 p.m.

Charlie & Sara Moore (64313)

CHURCH CHOIR

Rehearsals on Sundays at 11.45 a.m.

Jim Needham (0942 812692)

MUSIC GROUP

Rehearsals on Thursdays at 7.30 p.m.

Ray Howarth (652602)

LADIES GROUPS

Meet in the Memorial Hall

Ladies Alternate Tuesdays

Guild: at 7.45 p.m.

Pat Boydell (61450)

Mothers' Alternate Wednesdays

Union: at 2.00 p.m.

Janetta Makin (658270)

Parents & Thursdays at 1.30 p.m.

Toddlers: Julie Cooper (660946)

UNIFORMED ORGANISATIONS

Meet in the Scout/Guide Hut

Brownies: 1 Mondays at 5.45 p.m.

Janet Madden (665896)

2 Tuesdays at 6.30 p.m.

Lily Jarrett (63511)

Guides: Mondays at 7.15 p.m.

Carole Baxendale (62106)

Rangers: Alternate Wednesdays

at 7.30 p.m.

Judith Ashcroft (657430)

Cubs: A Thursdays at 6.45 p.m.

Wendy Gooding (653277)

B Wednesdays at 6.15 p.m.

Francis Barlow

Beavers: Thursdays at 5.30 p.m.

Jean Aspinall (63948)

Rainbows: Fridays at 6.30 p.m.

Margaret Latchford (657101)

The Parish Office at the Rectory, 234 Wigan Road (61819) is open on Saturdays from 10.00 to 11.00 a.m. to deal with initial enquiries for Baptism and Banns of Marriage.

The Rector writes

30th April, 1994.

Out of our Church Electoral Roll of 286 there were only about 40 members present at this year's Annual Parochial Church Meeting in Holy Week. Those who did attend requested that I shared the substance of my address on that occasion with the wider constituency of Church members. I have considered how best I might do this, and have concluded that, though the written word is rarely able to convey the feelings expressed in the spoken word, I should nevertheless use this month's letter in an extended form for this purpose.

I began by looking back over the past year, one which I described as my hardest and saddest during my time at Deane. Here is a list of some of those things which I personally found discouraging:-

1. First the haemorrhage of teenagers from our Sunday morning congregation. Whereas there were usually about 25 young people regularly in Church 5 years ago, nowadays there are sometimes as few as 10. There appear to be a number of reasons for this. Some are taking up weekend jobs or playing games on Sunday. Others find it difficult to be the only one in their form at school who admits to having any link with a Christian Church. And some are simply bored to bits and not one bit interested in what goes on in Church.

2. Another cause of sadness has been the diminishing numbers attending our Sunday Evening Service. In this Deane is by no means unique - its part of a national trend for there are not many Churches to-day which have a vibrant evening congregation. In our case, however, the situation has been made worse by the high incidence of car crime in the vicinity of the Church, especially in the evenings. This is a great pity because the nature of the evening service is in marked contrast with the morning service which tends to be more noisy and restless and when we are often all too conscious of time factors.

3. In his report, Keith Acton, our treasurer pointed to the reduction in the level of giving last year. This is something I have never before experienced in the whole of my ordained ministry. Deane Church is not on the verge of bankruptcy, but because giving is usually an accurate barometer of the spiritual health of an individual and of a congregation this reduction in the level of giving does concern me. Yes, there has been a severe recession. Yes, some of us have been made redundant, and more of us live under the threat of redundancy. Having said that, however, we still remain a relatively wealthy congregation. We are not like the Church in the Ardwick deanery where the Rector is the only wage earner in the congregation! Whilst it is perfectly understandable that we should desire to be financially secure, all too often we hold on dearly to our earthly treasures preventing us from giving in a truly Christian way. By this I mean we are often so reluctant to give in a way which reflects that we have thoughtfully worked out a definite proportion of our income to give to Christian and Charitable causes. I believe it is God's rebuke to affluent Christians that His power is more obviously demonstrated to-day amongst those who have little or nothing of this world's goods.

4. It was a disappointment to me that our Mission last September hardly made any 'inroads' at all into the relatively large fringe element in our congregation. Some of us were very obviously helped by the team who came from Holy Trinity Church in Rusholme, and for them the mission marked a significant milestone in their Christian pilgrimage. For the most part, however, many of us preferred to keep a respectable distance away from anything which might challenge us to respond to what God has done for us in Christ.

5. Whilst I had no desire to open up old wounds I could not fail to record my personal sadness over the division that occurred in the Church Council over the matter of lay leadership in worship. I am keen to promote and encourage lay people who have a gift of leading public worship to exercise their gift. What I personally found so hurtful was not that the brake was put on this scheme, but the personal criticism and innuendo which were flying around at the time.

I then passed on to some of the highlights and pleasanter moments of the past year and in chronological order these included.....

1. The Children's Mission led by Helen Franklin of the Scripture Union. The most encouraging features of this have been the number of our congregation who actually took

some part during the mission week in April, and then the "J Team" club which has continued to meet one afternoon each week during term time as a follow on from the mission.

2. There has been the most encouraging ministry of Chris Kilsby who was licensed as a Reader in the Cathedral last May. Both our congregations are grateful to God for the quality of her preaching and leadership of worship.

3. The ordination of Charlie Moore in our own Church was both a historic and a memorable occasion. Since then we have been treated to an extensive variety of Irish humour which has had us sitting on the edge of seats wondering what was going to happen next! A number of us have already benefited from the pastoral and counselling gift which he and Sara appear to have.

4. Charlie's ordination was immediately followed by the Flower Festival which once again proved that we can do things very well when we do them together. It was an excellent team effort under Stan Wilson's capable leadership.

5. There have been two most encouraging features in our home groups. There has been an increasing number of people who are willing and are becoming more proficient in leading them. Then the groups are providing us with the opportunities to share at a much deeper level than we are ever likely to want to do in the more formal occasions on Sundays. We all wear masks to hide our true feelings. Some of us never remove our masks so that others never really get to know us. It is a healthy thing when within the security of a fellowship group we are able to unburden ourselves by being open and honest with each other.

I finished by briefly looking ahead at three issues which we will have to face during the coming year.

1. We need to review our pattern of Sunday Worship. In order to address some of the difficulties we are experiencing at present it may be necessary to introduce some radical changes. The Worship Committee have been considering some options over a period of time and I anticipate that those will be presented to the congregation. I sought to assure the meeting that there would be the fullest consultation before any major changes were introduced.

2. We need to find successors to Eric Downs who retires from the leadership of Explorers in June, and for Keith Acton as our Church Treasurer. (Keith has subsequently agreed to continue to serve until the end of the year, and 2 volunteers have offered to, at least, consider what is involved in this important rôle.) Whilst we are sorry that Eric and Keith are stepping down, as has Stan Wilson from being a Churchwarden, at least this is demonstrating that those leadership rôles are not to be regarded as "life sentences".

3. On Palm Sunday some people noticed the absence of flowers from the Communion table. There was no theological significance about this, for it is not part of our tradition to exclude flowers from Church during Lent. The reason was simply that no one had volunteered to provide them. In the past the 'Flower Fund' has stepped in to cover up the absence of a volunteer. This time it was decided to let people see what does happen when there are no volunteers. Precisely the same could happen in relation to cleaning the Church. We do have a splendid group of voluntary cleaners who do a good job, but as they 'retire' they are not being replaced in sufficient numbers. Perhaps if we deliberately leave the Church uncleaned for a week more of us will discover what would happen when a service we so easily take for granted is not available. For many years my wife has organised both the flower and Church cleaning rotas, but the time is approaching when she believes it is right to step down and for others to take over.

In both the Children's Mission and the Flower Festival we have demonstrated that we can do things well when we pull together as a team and we can also enjoy the experience.

It is my hope and prayer that during the coming months a new treasurer and Explorer leader will emerge and that additional members will be forthcoming for the Church cleaning and flower arranging teams.

Roger B. Jackson.



IN THE NEWS

BAPTISM We welcome into membership of Christ's Church on April 10th -

Nicola Elysia Burke of 3 Beaumont Chase
Dominic Edward Gregory of 112 Hulton Lane
Jonathan James Roberts of 14 Clunton Avenue
Melissa Lea Washbrook of 352 Willows Lane

ATTENDANCE AWARDS have been given to these children in our Climbers section:

Stuart Halden for 25 attendances
Tim Atkinson and Adam Smith for 100 attendances.

ELECTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

At the annual meeting the following were elected to serve on the Parochial Church Council for 1994/5

Churchwardens: Les Kilsby, Craig Mochrie, Terry Oakes

Church Councillors; Nathan Biney, Pat Boulton, Pat Boydell, Dorothy Cox, Brenda Dixon, Ray Horridge, Lindsay Rutter and Pat Sewell.

Ex-Officio: Craig Mochrie, Pauline Ridyard and Stan Wilson (Deanery Synod Reps.), Chris Kilsby (Reader) and Philip Gore (General Synod)

At its first meeting the Church Council made the following appointments:

Lay Chairman : Stan Wilson
Secretary: Les Kilsby
Treasurer: Keith Acton

Wardens, Sidespersons and Church Councillors are reminded that they are expected to be present at the Archdeacon's Visitation service which this year will be held at Holy Trinity, Horwich on Wednesday May 11th at 7.30pm.



CONGRATULATIONS TO....

Joanne Owen and **Louise Settle**, members of our Guide Company on gaining the Baden Powell Trefoil Award.

Peter (Andy) and **Christine Davenport** who have recently celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary.

Elsie Pierpoint on reaching her 80th birthday

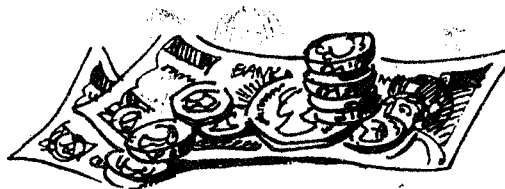
David Dewhurst who has been recommended and accepted for training as a Reader on the course that begins in September.

The Ladies Guild have arranged a busy programme this month. On Tuesday May 10th Mrs Melling will give a talk entitled "Pottery Wade" and on May 24th Mrs Smethurst will give a practical demonstration of flower arranging. This year's annual outing is to York on Saturday May 21st.



The Mothers Union have their outing on Wednesday May 11th and a branch meeting on May 25th.

MONEY MATTERS



Thank you to all who through their regular giving have contributed to God's work through our Church

	<u>Planned Giving</u>	<u>Loose Collections</u>	<u>Totals</u>
March 6	£611.35	£113.43	£ 724.78
13	592.41	118.40	710.81
20	695.40	87.77	783.17
27	501.08	92.20	593.28
Standing Orders	133.75	-	133.75
Weekdays	-	105.61	105.61
	£2533.99	£517.41	£3051.40

In the comparable period last year the amount given was £2819.

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK MAY 15-21

Our support for the relief work in the famine and disaster areas of the world is normally channeled through two agencies - Tear Fund and Christian Aid. What we give as a congregation through the appeals at Harvest and Christmas and through the Child Support programme all goes to Tear Fund. Last year this amounted to £2170. What we obtain from the door to door collection in Christian Aid Week goes to Christian Aid. Last year this amounted to £1673. As usual we will require about 70 volunteers in this major effort to cover that part of our parish for which we are responsible. Please sign up using the list in church or contact Phil Ray or Malcolm Hearsey. If you would prefer not to collect on your own they will try to arrange "pairings".

Finally, aware that very few people actually enjoy door-to-door collecting, please remember that a couple of hours discomfort for yourself can bring life rather than mere existence or even death to those trapped by circumstances beyond their control. Your help will make it work.

This year's LENT APPEAL has raised £444 as compared with £400 last year. We acknowledge with gratitude the 54 donations received from individuals and families who have contributed to this figure.

UPDATE



Last year we gave £200 from the Lent Appeal towards the cost of completing the accommodation in which Stephen and Stella Brooks and their 3 children have been living in Portugal. For the past 6 years they have been living in the terribly cramped conditions of a half completed house. For financial and planning reasons the ground floor has remained an empty shell with an earthen floor and bare brick walls. At long last the work began on Easter Monday and should be completed in 3 months at a cost of £23,000. Together with our St Andrew's we have contributed a £1,000 towards these figures, and the Lusitanian Church in Portugal (whose finances are in a way very fragile state even though this bishop 'doubles up' as bank manager!) is contributing £10,000.