

THE PARISH OF DEANE

DEANE CHURCH NEWS

DECEMBER 1995

SUNDAY DIARY

3. ADVENT SUNDAY

Theme:
The Advent Hope

8.00am Communion
10.30am Family Communion
6.30pm Evensong

10. 2nd IN ADVENT

Theme:
The Holy Scripture

8.00am Communion
10.30am Bible Sunday Service
6.30pm Family Communion

17. 3rd IN ADVENT

Theme:
The Forerunner

8.00am Communion
10.30am Family Communion
6.30pm Festival of Lessons
& Carols

24. 4th IN ADVENT

Theme:
The Annunciation

8.00am Communion
10.30am Family Carol Service
11.30pm Midnight Communion

31. 1st AFTER CHRISTMAS

Theme:
The Presentation

8.00 am Communion
10.30am Family Communion
6.30pm New Year's Eve
United Service



*Potter at work near Stroud, by Paul Felix
(BB series cover published by Chansitor Publications Ltd, 18 Blyburgate, Beccles,
Suffolk, NR34 9TB; printed in Great Britain by Stott Brothers Ltd, Halifax)*

MIDWEEK DIARY

Communion: Every Wednesday at 10.00am in the Church Lounge

Dinner/Dance: Saturday December 2nd at 7.30pm in Deane Golf Club

Church Council: Thursday December 7th at 7.45pm

Christmas Day: Holy Communion at 8.00am and 10.30am

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)

Pat Boydell
21 New York (61450)

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: Stan Wilson

Worship: Philip Gore

Buildings & Fabric: Mike Kirkby

Social: Brenda Dixon

OTHER OFFICIALS

Organist: Jim Needham
130 The Pewfist
Westhoughton (01942 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
Elizabeth Gardiner (660460)

Scramblers: 3 to 5 years

Climbers: 5 to 7 years
Denise Cox (653326)

Explorers: 7 to 11 years
Jane Hampson (848433)

All meet in the Memorial Hall on Sundays at 10.30 a.m.

Pathfinders: 11 to 14 years
Chris Kilsby (492351)

The Memorial Hall, Fridays 7.15 - 9.00 p.m.

C.Y.F.A.: 14 to 18 years
Charlie Moore (64313)

The Memorial Hall, Sundays 8.00 - 9.30 p.m.

CHURCH CHOIR

Rehearsals on Sundays at 11.45 a.m.
Jim Needham (01942 812692)

MUSIC GROUP

Rehearsals on Thursdays at 7.30 p.m.
Ray Howarth (652602)

LADIES GROUPS

Meet in the Memorial Hall

Ladies Alternate Tuesdays
at 7.45 p.m.
Pat Boydell (61450)

Mothers' Union: Alternate Wednesdays
at 2.00 p.m.
Janetta Makin (658270)

Parents & Toddlers: Thursdays at 1.30 p.m.
Julie Cooper (660946)

UNIFORMED ORGANISATIONS

Meet in the Scout/Guide Hut

Brownies: 1 Mondays at 5.45 p.m.
Janet Barnsley (665896)
2 Tuesdays at 6.30 p.m.
Lily Jarrett (63511)

Guides: Mondays at 7.15 p.m.
Carole Baxendale (419167)

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

25th November, 1995.

At the risk of being accused of wanting to jump on a bandwagon we are planning to involve as many church members as possible in an **ALPHA** course from January to March next year. Already 2,000 Churches, both large and small, in this country and abroad, are now following this 11 week course of Christian teaching. Up to now we have held 2 pioneer courses to which people have received a personal invitation. Because it has proved to be so helpful and enjoyable, yes enjoyable, we have decided to extend an open invitation to the whole congregation to join us, and I mean the whole congregation because I firmly believe there is something here from which we can all benefit, myself included. We shall be introducing the course with a publicity drive between now and Christmas, and on December 3rd we have invited a few members who have found the pioneer courses helpful to share their experience with us at each of our 3 services on that day. Full details are contained in a special brochure which we have produced and this will be available from December 3rd. The leaflet explains who the Alpha course is for, and I am fairly sure that everyone of us will fall into at least one of the categories for whom it is designed. Because the first sessions which begin on Tuesday and Wednesday January 9th and 10th start with a buffet meal it is important that we can give the outside caterer a good idea of how many to cater for and so I am asking you to complete the reply slip and return it by Christmas Day at the latest.



At Christmas we celebrate the **INCARNATION** - Latin word meaning "taking flesh". God "took flesh" and became the human Jesus. Therefore, He who was great became small; He who was powerful became weak; He who was rich became poor. It would be inconceivable for a cruise liner to fit into a bath tub or for a skyscraper to fit into a doll's house, yet something like this happened when Almighty God the creator of the Universe became a human baby. God could not make Himself greater to impress us; so He made Himself smaller to attract us. In all history there is nothing quite like this. Stroll through the public squares and parks of the world's great cities and you will come across imposing monuments to outstanding men and women. But have you ever seen a statue of a famous person as an infant? So, for example, when you look up at Admiral Lord Nelson on the top of his column in Trafalgar Square you don't see him in a pram! Jesus, however, was honoured the day He was born. There is a big difference between the first chapter of the Old Testament and the first chapter of the New Testament. In the Garden of Eden human kind was made in the image and likeness of God, but at Bethlehem God was made in the likeness of humankind. This is what we are meant to celebrate at Christmas.

DEANE CHURCH NEWS

Once again I wish to express our gratitude to the team who are involved month by month in the production of this newsletter and the Parish Prayer Diary. They are Craig and Una Mochrie, Mary Jackson and Eric Morgan. We are especially grateful to Christine Dean, head of the Reprographics Department of the Deane School who is always most helpful with her professional advice, expertise and time which she gives freely in so many ways throughout the year.

Finally, my colleagues and our wives join me in sending you our best wishes for the forthcoming Christian festival of Christmas. And Mary wishes to thank the many of you who have sent her greetings and assured her of your prayers during her time in Wroughtington Hospital where she underwent surgery for a hip replacement on the same morning as Her Majesty the Queen Mother. She is making good progress.

Roger B. Jackson.

REPORT FROM Chris Kilsby.....

Firstly, I should like to take the opportunity to say an enormous thankyou to the ten people who have come forward to offer to help in Climbers and Pathfinders. Both these areas of our children and young people's work have been greatly enriched by having new leaders and my heartfelt thanks go to all of you. When I preached 'the sermon' on 17 September, asking all of us to examine our Christian commitment and outlining the problems that our young people's organisations were facing, I did so with great trepidation and after much thought and prayer. Those prayers were certainly answered; nobody shot me down in flames and ten people offered to help! I also want to thank all of you who so regularly remember our children and young people in your prayers and I hope to be able to give you an update of what's happening in the sections you support before Christmas.

But, secondly, you may remember that I also mentioned the J Team as an area of our children's work that is desperately in need and, to date, no-one has come forward offering to help in this area. As you know, the J Team is the club which was formed as a result of our Children's Mission nearly three years ago, in April 1993. It meets during term time after school finishes on Fridays and the children walk down to the Memorial Hall, with some of their leaders, leaving school at about 3.40 pm. That walk down to the Hall is one of the main problems because young children need a lot of supervision while walking along busy main roads. There just aren't enough adults to be able to supervise them properly and some of the parents, quite rightly, have expressed concern. This problem could be overcome by having a rota of volunteers who could arrive at school at about 3.30 pm and quite simply accompany the children to the Memorial Hall. I know that the time is quite awkward but the task itself isn't time consuming and, with a rota in place, it could perhaps be a something like once in five or six weeks commitment. If you can help in this way, please see either Eric Downs or me and we will, as they say, snatch your hand off!

The J Team also needs more leaders and I would ask you again to think prayerfully about whether this is a role you could take on. I see the J Team as one of the most important things our church does in terms of outreach to the community; it could even be said to be *the* most important. With another Children's Mission planned for April 1996, we need to consider seriously our commitment to this work. These children are sometimes quite a handful but they are both lovable and loving and any of the J Team leaders will tell you how rewarding and enjoyable this work is. After nearly three years the J Team is still flourishing and I think that is a testimony both to the commitment and care of the leaders and to the needs these children have to be involved in this kind of activity. Please think very seriously about whether you could join in this work. Again, even if you couldn't make a commitment to be there every week, any offers would be gratefully received!

Brenda Dixon passed on to me a copy of Westhoughton's Parish magazine recently because of an article written by the Rector, Simon Tatton-Brown. She gave it to me because the article reminded her of some of the things I had said

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BITS & PIECES



THANKSGIVING

On October 29th we gave thanks to God with Carl and Sharon Robinson of 12 Design Street for the birth of their son Craig Joseph.

CONGRATULATIONS to Sarah Valentine and Erica Smith who follow in the long succession of girls in our Guide Company who have gained their Baden Powell Trefoil Award. What was special in their case was that Sarah and Erica received their awards from the Bolton Wanderers footballers Sasa Curcie and Stuart Whittaker.

"A LIFE'S JOURNEY" is the title of Tom Stokes book published last year. He plans to be in Church on Sunday mornings this month to sell copies at the reduced price of £4, all of which he will donate to Church funds. At no extra cost he will be willing to autograph books purchased in this way.



THE PASTORAL COMMITTEE is very encouraged by the way in which people are making use of the "Prayer Board" in Church. However, they wish to remind us that there is a supply of "Get Well" cards which we are encouraged to take to those for whom prayer has been requested.

SMOKE ALARMS The Greater Manchester Fire Brigade are offering to donate a smoke alarm free of charge to elderly people providing they can get someone to fix it for them. If there are members of the congregation who wish to avail themselves of this offer then please put your name on the list in Church and we will arrange for it to be fixed for you. We presume that "elderly" means pensioners.

THE LADIES GUILD have their Christmas Dinner this year at Smithills Coaching House on December 5th and a week later on December 12th they have a series of Christmas Readings and Carols.

THE MOTHERS' UNION have planned a Coffee Morning on Saturday December 2nd from 10am to 12 noon. They have their Christmas party on December 6th and read Lessons and sing Carols on December 20th.



"NEW CREATION" is the title of a new devotional musical which comes to Bolton on Sunday December 3rd from 2.30 - 4.00 pm at the Victoria Hall, Knowsley Street. This presentation by a choir of 160 adult and children's voices is part of a national launch tour. Admission is free, but a collection will be taken to defray expenses.

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in my sermon. I should like to quote two short paragraphs from that article because I think they are very appropriate to this situation; they also show us that our church is not unique in its problems! Commitment involves sacrifice. "Sacrifice is giving up something that is good and worthwhile. The sacrifices of the ancient world were costly sacrifices; the animal brought to the temple would have fed a family. Notoriously, Abraham was asked to sacrifice his only son, Isaac. Our faith is built on the premise that God so loved the world that he gave his only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ. When we are asked to commit ourselves to something, it might help to think of the options that we are giving up as an offering to God, just as much as the act of service that the sacrifice makes possible... We all fear sacrifice. It's human nature. Can I afford it? Will it hurt?... The experience of people who do it is that they are invariably better for it. The rewards of giving are always greater than the rewards of receiving".

MONEY MATTERS



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

		Planned Giving	Loose	Totals
		Envelopes	Collections	
October	1	£ 540.42	£111.99	£ 652.41
	8	632.44	138.26	770.70
	15	521.91	100.29	622.20
	22	379.44	110.21	489.65
	29	646.16	88.45	734.61
Standing Orders		133.75		133.75
Weekdays			62.59	62.59
		<u>£2,854.12</u>	<u>£611.79</u>	<u>£3,465.91</u>

In the corresponding period last year the amount given was £3,370.

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A late contribution to our Harvest Appeal of £50 from the Ladies Guild brought a final total of £700 which has been sent to Tear Fund.

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Keith Acton, our Treasurer reports.....

When I wrote to those of you who take Christian Giving Envelopes in early November I said that I expected our ordinary expenditure (ie excluding the new church boiler) would exceed ordinary income by £1,500 to £2,000 in 1995. I also informed you that our monthly outgoings to the Diocese for Quota and insurance is currently £3,200 per month.

What I did not know then was that our Quota alone will increase next year from £2,891 per month to approximately £3470 per month, an increase in 1996 of £6,948.

This increase has occurred following a change in the basis of calculating the Quota or Parish Share. The increase has actually been capped at a maximum of 20% for three years, after that on current rates our Parish Share will increase by approximately a further £5,500 per year.

In my view as things stand these increases can only be met by substantial cuts in other expenditure which would put at risk our Christian Commitment to Missions and Charities, who as Roger reported last month, are pleading with us to increase our support, or to our local mission within our own church family including our young people, or to the fabric of our old Church building and the Memorial Hall.

However, if all of us in the family of the Church of Deane positively and prayerfully review our regular giving, and those of us who are tax payers use the covenant scheme, then the additional Quota may be met without detriment to our other commitments.

A Final Word from Ron Morris

Yes, you've nearly done it! You have almost reached £2,000 over the past 18 years, by collecting coins in the tablet bottles. Early on the most popular coin was half-pennies (do you remember them? I do - I had to count them), but more recently they have been one pence, two pence and five pence pieces. Thank you so much for your efforts and please continue. Empty bottles are still available on the table near the Newsletters.