

# Deane St Mary's

## July 2009

Dan writes to us for the last time as our Curate and we've a summary of Ian's last sermon to us as Rector to consider. If you've know of the belief (superstition?) about St Swithun's Day read about it here and about St James. The Mission Focus this month is Crosslinks.

By kind permission of the Bolton News we've reproduced their article about Philip Gore who died recently. We find out about the involvement of church in various church camps and activities during the summer and Josie Crompton is the subject of the month's profile. There's a book recommendation and a local walk to consider. There are some devotional bits and pieces and a few other bits and pieces to (hopefully) make you smile.



## CROSSLINKS

Please consider contributing to this magazine. The team has worked hard for the last twelve months but we're sure there's lots more talent/news/ideas... out there. Ideas or copy to the Editor or one of the team (names inside) for the August edition by July 17th, please.

**Do you now know that in a race the runners all compete, but only one receives the prize?**

**Run in such a way that you may win it!**

# St Mary's Info: July 2009

	9.00	10.30	6.00
July 05	Holy Communion	Family Parade	Holy Communion
	Ezekiel 2:1 – 10; Mark 6:1 – 13 Rejection goes with the job		
July 12	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Evening Service
	Amos 7:7 – 15; Mark 6:14 – 29 Even kings don't listen!		
July 19	Holy Communion	Family Baptism	Evening Service
	Jer 23:1-6; Mk 6:30-34, 53-56 The Lord our Salvation		
July 26	Holy Communion	Svce of the Word	Evening Service
	2 Kings 4:42–44; Jn 6:1-15, 32-35 Real Bread from Heaven		

## July Sunday mornings—Prophets Aloud!

As Christians we have a long history going back many years before Christ. That history includes prophets, men and women called by God to speak and live his word in the world. Under God's guidance they often used illustrations from everyday life to express what he wanted to say. Jesus followed in this tradition. Because what God wanted to say was often a serious rebuke and warning of impending punishment the Old Testament prophets had a hard time. So it's no surprise that when John the Baptist and Jesus showed themselves to be in the prophetic tradition in this way too, they fared no better. So, what about us? Do the words of Jesus, the Prophet, fall on deaf ears or do we hear, believe and obey?

# The Curate Writes

Go on, switch them all off. The oven, the central heating, the lounge fire. The stereo, the video, and the wireless (which, these days, is a computer system and not a radio). Leave your car in the garage and buy your vegetables from Partington's or Bolton Market instead of from South America. Why? Two reasons: it's quite possible that all the energy we've been using has ended up warming the planet too much. And, even more sinister and inevitable, is the fact that we're running out of energy. Specifically, oil has had its day.

Here's the real irony: it seems that, without global warming, we wouldn't have had oil in the first place. Many millions of years ago, during times when planet earth warmed up a lot, strange things happened with algae in the oceans... and the end product was oil. Lots of it. But, perhaps, not quite enough: since 1981, we humans have been increasing our usage of oil faster than we've been increasing our discovery. And some time soon, experts think that the total world oil production will pass its peak.

I know what you're thinking. Yes, we can actually keep the lights on, because there are new ways of generating electricity. But here are some other things we'll have to re-invent if we burn all our oil: waxes, lubrication, plastics, asphalt, and sulphur products (vital in chemical engineering). Hmmm, what would your house look like if you removed everything that was made with plastic?

All this pessimism just serves to increase our joy and wonder in the Gospel. Have you ever stopped to think about the power that is needed to make the Gospel work? We learn from physicists that every time something changes in the world, there is an energy transfer. It's the same with the Gospel - it's all about God changing people. And that takes a lot of energy and power.

Perhaps you're not convinced. Okay, think back to the last time you "turned over a new leaf" as they say. Was it easy? Did you keep going with your new resolution, or give up after a while? Let's

face it, life is not always easy. For some people, it's never easy. And you can go through a time of life when it's a great effort simply getting through the day. It starts to feel like your own personal "oil reserves" have passed their peak; you're having to start switching things off, so to speak.

So, personal change needs energy. Well here's the crunch question, the *Gospel* question: have you ever managed to change something about yourself, which generated a new relationship with God? Just think about that in terms of energy. If you put unleaded into a diesel engine, it doesn't work. So what kind of energy could we use to restore your relationship with God? And, how much of it is needed?

I believe that one of the biggest problems in the world, is that people don't realise how far they are from God, and they haven't thought about what kind of change, what kind of energy, is needed to put things right. This problem is, quite frankly, a bigger disaster than so-called global warming (I mean, it's not exactly a Saharan summer we're having?!).

Let us cheer ourselves up, in the face of our impending oil crisis, with some reassuring facts about God. First, God has unlimited resources. He has no beginning, and no end. Psalm 90:2 "Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God."

Second, God has been unbelievably generous with His resources. Psalm 115:16 "The heavens are the LORD's heavens, but the earth he has given to the children of man."

Finally, and most importantly, God is using His unlimited energy to do more than sustain the universe. He is changing humans from being a race of thankless, self-centred idol worshippers (which is what we naturally are) into a new community of spiritually alive, righteous Christ-worshippers. And He is doing this with the *Gospel*: Romans 1:16 "For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes." May you know God's power at work in you. Now, I think I'll go and switch the kettle on...

## St Swithun (or Swithin) (15th July)

is apparently the saint you can blame for rainy summers. It is said that if it rains on his special day, 15 July, it will then rain for forty days after that.

It began when he was made Bishop of Winchester in 852 by King Ethelwulf of Wessex. During the 10 years Swithun was there, Wessex became the most important kingdom of England.

During his life Swithun seems to have done a lot of good. He was famous for his charitable gifts and for his energy in getting churches built. He be buried in the cemetery of the Old Minster, just outside the west door. In the 960s, Winchester had become the first monastic cathedral chapter in England, and the newly installed monks wanted Swithun in the cathedral with them. So on 15 July 971, his bones were dug up and Swithun was translated into the cathedral.

That same day everyone got wet, for the heavens opened. The unusually heavy rain that day, and on the days following, was attributed to the power of St Swithun.

## 25th St James the Apostle

James and his brother John were sons of Zebedee and fishermen from Galilee - the 'sons of thunder', as the gospel writers describe their impetuous characters and fiery tempers.

James stands out on three accounts: he was one of the three disciples who witnessed the Transfiguration of Christ. Jesus took him, along with Peter and John, to 'watch' with him in the garden of Gethsemane. Finally, he went on to be the first apostle to die for the Christian faith, when in AD 44 King Herod Agrippa put him to the sword in Jerusalem at Passover time.

In the centuries following his death, James became associated with the evangelising of Spain, and as a powerful defender of Christianity against the Moors. The heyday of the cult of Santiago de Compostela was from the 12th to the 15th century, and the pilgrimage to Compostela became one of the most important of medieval Christendom. This in time transformed the iconography of James, and his emblems became the pilgrim's hat and the scallop-shell of Compostela. Over 400 English churches have been dedicated to James.

# July Mission Focus

## Crosslinks

### *God's Word to God's World*

At Crosslinks we're committed to meeting Jesus' challenge to take the Gospel, the good news about Jesus, to all people. Smile is our short term programme for 18-30 year olds. It combines travel and the experience of a totally different culture with serving God and having a taste of overseas mission work.

We send out groups, pairs and individuals to serve the Lord, by serving local churches and people around the world. We offer a variety of different placements in a variety of different countries. We believe there are three key areas to mission, and therefore, to every Smile placement.

### **Opportunities in 2010**

#### **Serbia**

We want to send a small team of graduates to Serbia to share their lives and the gospel with the people of Serbia. Many studies have shown that Europe is the most neglected continent in the world in terms of mission, and Serbia is certainly no exception.

#### **Tanzania and others**

"The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field"  
Matthew 9 37-38

There are often opportunities for individuals to spend a few months abroad serving God, often alongside some of our mission partners. These placements are generally quite flexible in time scale and location, so we would welcome a speculative enquiry.

New destinations are frequently being considered, and recently we've sent short-termers to Togo and east Asia for the first time. Placements often involve teaching in some capacity though this could vary from teaching in a primary to TEFL teaching in a language centre

perhaps. Outside of this the possibilities for service are endless, ranging from working with disabled children, to evangelism, drama and sport!

### **Summer trip to Rwanda**

We're currently planning to send a small team of students to Rwanda for 2/3 weeks over the summer holidays. The idea is that this team will provide a taste of mission, give team members a realisation of the needs of Rwanda and the chance to start to establish a link with the faithful gospel ministry currently going on there.

Like our other placements there will be elements of practical serving the local community (probably in disadvantaged rural areas), sharing the good news of Jesus (within schools and churches) and discipleship during your time away.

Dates are not yet finalized, but will be for two-three weeks between mid-June to end-Aug.

Not all of Crosslinks work is overseas. Here's an example of work in England:-

### ***"Bringing the great news of Jesus to Wanstead"***

**The Vision:** "Our Vision is to glorify God by being a Bible centred, welcoming church family seeking to reach out with the gospel of Jesus in the Wanstead area." Wanstead is in East London. Although relatively affluent financially it is a spiritually needy area of 25,000 people where less than 1% go to Bible centred churches in the area.

We are a group of Christians seeking to bring the good news of Jesus to Wanstead and the surrounding area.

The church has a web site at: [www.gracechurchwanstead.org](http://www.gracechurchwanstead.org)

Find out more about Crosslinks on [www.crosslinks.org](http://www.crosslinks.org)

### **Magazine team**

**Anne Roberts, Margaret Howard, Elizabeth Plant,  
Barbara Winder, Charles Winder.**

# Church Stalwart was 'a man of principle'

Tributes have been paid to a well-known church figure in Bolton who has died after a long illness.

Philip Gore, who died on (June 1<sup>st</sup>), aged 51, has been described as a man of 'deep conviction and principle'.

As lay chairman of Deane Deanery, Mr Gore was renowned in the Manchester Diocese for his outspoken and controversial views.

He was an active member of the General Synod of the Church of England for nearly 25 years and a member of numerous church bodies, including the Bishop's Council, the Diocesan Synod and the Board of Finance.

He also served as a magistrate from 1995 and became chairman of Bolton bench in 2000.

Geoffrey Tattersall, Chancellor of Manchester Diocese, praised Mr Gore's 'outstanding contribution' to the church.

He said, 'He as a man of deep conviction and principle a who was unafraid to say what he believed, however unpopular that might be, and who was devoted in his service to the Church of England.'

Mr Gore was known as a controversial and outspoken Synod member, who once said a Church of England report embracing homosexual partnerships and single parent families was 'an obituary on the traditional family'.

He had lived in Ellesmere Road, Morris Green, Bolton, until September last year, when he was taken ill at the Royal Bolton Hospital.

He was later transferred to Meadowbank in Green Lane, Bolton, but died in hospital on (June 1<sup>st</sup>) following a heart attack.

Mr Gore, a single man who had a degree in theology from Hull University, was self-employed as a private tutor to GCSE students and was a director of two small companies.

He was also a prominent Conservative and held various positions in local party organisations.

A friend, Tewkesbury MP Laurence Robertson, said, 'Philip was

as good a friend as anyone could ever wish for. He would do anything for anyone, at any time of night or day.

'He had an unshakeable religious belief and his work touched the lives of very many people. He was one of life's great, unforgettable characters and will be very sadly missed by all those who knew him.'

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## **Philip Gore JP**

### **November 15<sup>th</sup> 1957-June 1<sup>st</sup> 2009**

Deane Church was full on the afternoon of Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> June with people coming from all parts of the town, diocese and country for the funeral of Philip Gore. The Bishop of Middleton was present representing the diocese. Also present was the Archdeacon of Bolton.

The service was as Philip himself had wanted it to be. It was led by the Revd David Phillips who had known Philip for many years through the Church Society. The Area Dean, Revd Roger Cooper, read a message from the Bishop of Bolton. Laurence Robertson, MP for Tewkesbury, a friend of Philip since 1983, gave a moving eulogy. There were two readings, John 14 v1-6 read by Malcolm Bristow JP and 2 Corinthians 5 v1-5 read by Councillor Michael Winstanley.

Ruth Smith, who no one present could believe was over 90 years young, played the organ magnificently. The three hymns were *Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us, At the name of Jesus*, (to the tune of Land of Hope and Glory) and *Abide with me*.

The committal was at Overdale.

#### **What it says on the sign**

At a towing company: We don't want an arm and a leg. We want tows!

On a taxidermist's window: We really know our stuff!

On a house fence: Salespeople welcome—dog food is expensive!

# Youth and Children involved with Summer Christian Activities

This summer there are a number of Christian activities both here in Deane Parish and across the country, in which adults and children from our churches are involved. Please pray for the children involved in these activities, that they will get to know Jesus better, stay safe and have a great time. Also pray for leaders; that they teach the Bible faithfully, have energy to do this work, build up good relationships with the children and teenagers and enjoy serving God through this valuable work.

## **St Mary's Holiday Club: Mornings of the 27<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup> July incl.**

Holiday Club runs every morning for this week, for any children in Primary School. Karen Greenhalgh is organising this week, helped by a good number of adults and some of the teenagers.

## **Explorer Venture Wensleydale 2: 28<sup>th</sup> July - 1<sup>st</sup> Aug**

Matthew Dearden (St Mary's)

Abigail Howard (St Mary's)

Bethany Jackson (St Mary's)

Zoe Myers (St Andrew's)

Emma Partington (St Mary's)

Joseph Partington (St Mary's)

Ellie Sharples (St Andrew's)

Seana Sheridan (St Mary's)

## **CYFA Venture Sedbergh: 8<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> August**

Elizabeth Tidmarsh (St Mary's)

## **CYFA Venture Ripon 2: 12<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> August**

Dave Armstrong (St Andrew's)

Mark Armstrong (St Andrew's)

Abbie Tomlinson (St Andrew's)

## **Pathfinder Venture Blaitwaite 3: 15<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> August**

Naomi Armstrong (St Andrew's)

**St Andrew's Holiday Club: Mornings of the 17<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> August incl.**

This year St Andrew's Holiday Club is 'Xpedition Force' and will be running every morning for this week, for any children in Primary School.

**Soul Survivor: 17th -22nd August**

Karen Greenhalgh (St Mary's)

Sean Cornforth (St Mary's)

Beccy Rutter (St Mary's)

Dave Armstrong (St Andrew's)

Liv Brown (St Mary's)

Margaret Tana (St Mary's)

Nicola Penrose (St Mary's)

Liam Atkinson (St Mary's)

James Caffrey (St Mary's)

Tom Caffrey (St Mary's)

Hannah Kos (St Mary's)

Ben Roscoe (St Mary's)

Dan Bartrupe (St Mary's)

Tom Ingram (St Mary's)

Andrew Simpson (St Mary's)

### **More from Church Mags and Notices**

Staying in bed shouting, 'Oh God!' does not constitute going to church.

Don't be so open minded that your brains fall out!

Forgive your enemies. It messes with their heads!

Artificial intelligence is no match for natural stupidity.

Read the Bible—it will scare the hell out of you!

# This month's profile

## Josie Crompton

I was a War baby, born and brought up in the Deane area. Although I lived at Hunger Hill with my mum, I spent a lot of time at my grandma's house. She lived in Deane Church Lane, so I have not moved away from my roots. Incidentally, my most treasured possession is my "Grandma's Box" which holds family birth and marriage certificates.



My education began at St Ethelbert's Roman Catholic Primary School and from there I went to St Peter's and St Paul's Roman Catholic Secondary School. Having left school at fifteen years of age, my first job was at Boots the Chemist in Deansgate and from there I moved to the Accounts Department of Barlow and Jones. Subsequently I have worked at Wadsworth Lifts Co., British Telecom and Bolton Education Department. I am proud to say that I am still working! In January 2006 I applied for, and was offered, the position of Verger and Churchyard Administrator at Deane Church. It is a job that I enjoy and it brings me into contact with a lot of people, which suits me, as I am a "people person"

I met my husband Fred at Bolton Palais. We had wonderful times exploring the Lake District on his Norton motorbike. Yes, I was a biker complete with the outfit and helmet. Our favourite lake was Ullswater, which we visited many times.

We were married at St Mary's Deane in 1961 by Canon Bishop and went to live first in Hulton Lane and from 1977 in Brampton Road. We raised two sons, Duncan and Glynn, now both in their forties. Both were baptised at St Mary's Deane.

Sadly Fred died very suddenly in October 2006, the day after our forty- fifth wedding anniversary. I am lucky, however, in that I

have a supportive family in my sons, daughter-in-law Debbie and my two granddaughters who are eighteen years old and who were born within hours of each other. Rebecca was born on the 1<sup>st</sup> January and Carolyn was born on the 3<sup>rd</sup> January 1991, it was a very busy time for the family!

In addition to my own family, I have been supported by the Deane church family within which I have some very good friends. I am a member of the flower arranging team and the Deane Church Book Club - the best book that I have read so far is "A Thousand Splendid Suns" by Khaled Hussein. I am also a member of the Ladies' Guild and have recently taken on the position of leader of the Guild.

Although I am very much involved in church activities, I also find time to enjoy going to the theatre and socialising with friends and sharing Italian or Indian meals with them. I have had many good holidays with my family in Anglesey but I went further a field to New York on one occasion, and last year went on a very special pilgrimage to Israel.

I try to lead my life according to the maxims passed on to me by my mother. "Always tell the truth" and "If you begin any thing you must finish it" My hopes for St Mary's Deane are that the church will continue to grow and that the plans for the new hall will come to fruition.

### **'Use compass of Christ' urges new bishop**

The Church of England's newest diocesan bishop, has issued a call for churches to refocus on Jesus as the compass to navigate the changing terrain of the world in a new book just published. Taking his cue from Jesus' teaching about assessing the 'fruits' of endeavours (Matthew 7.20), Steven Croft argues that "the source and secret of lasting fruitfulness for any Christian community is not technique, good planning or the latest ideas. It does not rest primarily in great leadership or wealth or natural human ability. The source and secret of lasting fruitfulness is whether or not we are connected to and abiding in the vine: it depends on our connection to Jesus."

## From the Rector

# Ian's last sermon as Rector of Deane

Jesus presents his disciples with a new perspective on the Old Testament - Love one another. They are to love one another IN THE SAME WAY AS HE HAS LOVED THEM. (John 13:34, 35)

His kind of love does not expect anything in return—it is unconditional. If we love in this way it will demonstrate to others that we are his disciples. In wanting to discover the source of this love they will discover Jesus.

So, what will be the marks of this love?

**Fellowship**—a new relationship similar to the one Jesus has with the Father—close, loving, based on truth and honesty, trust and respect.

**Forgiveness**—forgiving as God in Christ has forgiven us, something which is all too frequently absent in churches. We often hurt one another and hurt inflicted by another Christian is especially hard to cope with. One way forward is to remember that we have hurt others and to seek the power of God's Spirit to help us to forgive and to deal with any root of bitterness in our lives.

**Acceptance**—of one another as Christ has accepted us. God's plan is to bring different people together.

**Sacrifice**—Jesus laid down his life for us and so showed us what love is and we can do this in many small ways. We can make time for one another, show hospitality, attend a meeting rather than watch TV.

When Jesus gave this teaching he was sitting next to the one who wrote these words, who had been known as one of the two sons of thunder, with his brother James. Of the nine New Testament exhortations to love one another, eight are in John's writings—Jesus' love transformed him and he became the apostle of love.

'Love one another' is the message John caught from Jesus and it's the message we all need to catch and I cannot leave you with a better message than that!

# Books 4U

I saw *A Voice in the Wind* by Francine Rivers in Wesley Owens Easter collection and immediately wanted to read it. It is the story of three people, Hadassah, a Christian Jew, sold into slavery in 70AD after the sack of Jerusalem; Atretes, a German chieftain, captured and brought to Rome to fight as a gladiator; and Marcus, a young Roman, whose sister becomes Hadassah's mistress. Rivers traces the effect that Hadassah has on all who come into contact with her. Even the hardened Atretes knows that there is something different about her. We see the troubles Hadassah has as she tries to live out her faith in a pagan world. We see too the battle she has within herself as she struggles to reconcile her love for Marcus with her love of God. Rivers captures the heart-breaking- life which almost every Christian will have been forced to live in those days.

Many readers will find this an excellent book which gives a moving insight into the early church. However Rivers makes far too many grave mistakes when she is talking about Roman life to satisfy me. Rivers fills her work with copious detailed references and often uses original Latin terms. This gives the impression that her book is thoroughly and scholarly researched. But this is not the case. Rather like Eric Morecambe, Rivers may use the right words, but not necessarily in the right order! For example, she dresses women in togas, a strictly male only item of clothing! She sets weddings in a temple; they always took place in the home! She has people swimming in the baths, which were for washing and relaxing, not for swimming.

I could go on..... *A Voice in the Wind* (ISBN-10: 0-8423-7750-6), available on Amazon for £8.09 including P&P, is the first of the Mark of the Lion trilogy. You will enjoy it, but beware of lending it to any student who may be inclined to trust its historical facts!

Elizabeth Plant

# GETTING STARTED IN FAMILY HISTORY

## POOR LAWS, WORKHOUSES

### and the POOR

Unless your family was very lucky or had aristocratic connections, it is likely that at some point it would have been poor and had dealings with the Poor Laws and its commissioners. Those who asked the authorities for help were a mixed bag; the elderly, the unemployed, the sick or injured, widows, orphans, and the mentally ill. Before 1834, the parish was responsible for giving poor relief, and parishes varied in their generosity. After that date, the responsibility passed to Poor Law Unions, who ran the workhouse system. These grouped parishes together, run by a Board of Guardians. There were around 600 such unions in England. Correspondence between the unions and the Commission, which includes some details of staff and inmates, is available to search at the National Archives.

State aid for the poor began in 1601 with the Poor Relief Act. Money was raised from the slightly better off in a community with the use of poor rates. The poor might receive cash handouts or help in the form of food, clothes, rent payments or firewood. In 1662, the government passed legislation to ensure each parish faced its responsibility for those legally entitled. Parishes used a variety of methods to get rid of people who were claiming illegally in the wrong parish.

Records still exist in some parishes of settlement certificates (for those in a family legally entitled to claim from a parish) and removal orders (for those in the incorrect parish. They were usually signed by local magistrates and the `offenders` removed by the parish constable. I have amongst the OSBISTONS of rural Derbyshire both a settlement certificate for one family in a parish of Derby, and a removal order for a direct ancestor, his wife and five young children in 1758. This gave me the children's names and ages, which occur in no other records. Needless to say, within a few years they appear to have crept back over the parish boundary. More wide-

spread removal of the rural poor was also done on a national scale. Thus another ancestor, his wife and child was sent by Norfolk Poor Law Commissioners to work in the Bury Paper Mills with several others in the 1860s. Similar rural poor were encouraged to move northwards by advertisements promising a better life in Liverpool docks and Manchester mills in the nineteenth century. If you are very lucky you may find details of a settlement examination of an ancestor. These can be very revealing about your ancestor's circumstances and family at the time, and are usually kept at county record offices.

To end your life in a workhouse, was very often seen as a sign of disgrace by our ancestors. Yet many had little option but to enter. Life there was deliberately meant to be grim, couples divided as men and women were housed separately, there were myriad rules, and transgression was severely punished. Most records of local workhouses are kept in libraries, as at Bolton. Don't assume if an ancestor left a workhouse they had gone for good, as many moved in and out of workhouses according to circumstances. The records should give you some idea of when and why they came, their appearance and health on entry, their last address and any family connections outside the workhouse, how long they stayed and why they left. There is an excellent website with a comprehensive guide to the Victorian workhouse and many individual workhouses, called [workhouses.org.uk](http://workhouses.org.uk). Interestingly, many workhouses also provided the first hospitals for the poor, and for that reason the site of old workhouses may be the core of modern hospitals, as is the case in Bolton.

Next month I will talk about schools and their records.

## **Half a million to be invited 'Back to Church'**

Churchgoers across the Church of England are set personally to invite up to half a million people to services on Back to Church Sunday, 27 September 2009, making the event one of the largest coordinated evangelism events shared across the Church in recent history.

(continued inside back cover)

Have you ever tried <http://sacredspace.ie/>

It's a very helpful site if you want to spend ten minutes in quiet, meditating on the scripture for the day and with some helps as to how to meditate on it.

Here is how it went on Sunday 21st June — it's very gentle.

Page 1 Dear Lord as I come to you today  
Fill my heart and my whole being  
with the wonder of your presence

Page 2 Lord, you created me to live in freedom.  
Mostly I take this gift for granted. Inspire me to live in  
the freedom you intended, with a heart untroubled and  
with complete trust in you.

Page 3 At this moment Lord I turn my thoughts to You. I will  
leave aside my chores and preoccupations. I will take rest  
and refreshment in your presence Lord.

Page 4 The reading for the day is onscreen, Mark 4:35-41

Link to They were asking a question which they would ask again,  
'Who is this man?' Being obeyed by wind and sea is a  
statement about being more than human. Our involvement  
with Jesus and our engagement with him in our lives will  
often bring that question to the fore. In prayer we grow  
in heart-knowledge of Jesus, not always being able to put  
words on our faith in him. Like the apostles, we know that  
he is a mystery - at once Son of God and son of the  
earth.

Page 6 How has God's Word moved me? Has it left me cold? Has  
it consoled me or moved me to act in a new way?  
I imagine Jesus standing or sitting beside me, I turn and  
share my feelings with him.

Page 7 Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,  
world without end.

## **Quiet Peace**

O Lord, my heart is all a prayer,  
But it is silent unto thee;  
I am too tired to look for words,  
I rest upon thy sympathy  
To understand when I am dumb;  
And well I know thou hearest me.  
I know thou hearest me because  
A quiet peace comes down to me,  
And fills the places where before  
Weak thoughts were wandering wearily;  
And deep within me it is calm,  
Though waves are tossing outwardly.

*Amy Carmichael 1867 - 1951*

## **Move towards God**

Should we feel at times disheartened and discouraged, a simple movement of heart towards God will renew our powers.... he will give us at that moment the strength and courage that we need.

*Francois de la Mothe Fenelon*

(continued) The Church's 44 dioceses are taking part in the initiative this year, by encouraging churchgoers to invite someone they know who used to attend church to come back on a particular Sunday. Churches will focus on extending an even warmer welcome than usual on the day, supported by 'Back to Church Sunday' resources such as special red 'welcome' T-shirts and subsidised 'party packs' of fairly-traded catering products, produced in partnership with Traidcraft.

# HIGH RID

## a hidden gem

### a brisk 35 minute walk

I'd lived about half a mile from Old Hall Lane for about 25 years before I discovered it. I'd looked down on High Rid reservoir from Chorley Old Road on numerous occasions and it never occurred to me to find out if I could walk round it! The things we miss in life!



If you're starting in Deane and feeling energetic, take as rural route as you can find to where Old Kiln Lane crosses the ring road and go along it with the moors ahead of you. There are houses along the left hand side and soon after they end you come to Old Hall lane. If you've come by car, park here and this is where the 35 minute walk starts. Turn down Old Hall Lane and you are now on a genuine country lane, hedgerows and all! Follow it round to the right. Old Hall is still there on your left and there are fields and hills on your right and a tree surrounded lodge on the left.

Carry on along after the road becomes a dirt track with a narrow belt of woodland to the left and hedgerow to the right. When you come to a gate on the right, go through the stile and follow the track to the corner of the reservoir. Walk round the reservoir in an anticlockwise direction, enjoying the views over a large tract of country. If you've brought binoculars (and even if not) watch out for coot, mallard, little grebe, tufted duck, goldeneye, cormorant, black headed gull, tern. There was even a long tailed duck a couple of winters ago which brought out many twitchers! That's as well as all the usual hedgerow and field birds you can spot along the way.

Go over the kissing gate slightly uphill from the corner of the reservoir and turn left. Follow the lane back to Old Kiln Lane, enjoying the view on to the very pretty golf course to the right.