

# Consider

Christ Church Aughton Parish Newsletter

No 524 ~ June 2017



Curate's reflection . . .

## 'Community Spirit'

*"We have all known the long loneliness and we have learned that the only solution is love and that love comes with community"* Dorothy Day

**T**HIS month marks my two-year anniversary at Christ Church. During my short time here I have been aware of the amazing community spirit that is evident in the people who come to volunteer in Café Vista, who work in our school, Nursing homes, support the work of U3A to name just a few.

A recent article in a teaching magazine spoke about the tremendous positive effects that a good community spirit can have on our well-being. All of us live in a pressurised society, and so it is easy to focus on our own lives and forget about the community we live in.

This community spirit has been very evident in the city of Manchester.

Community is the heartbeat of the Christian gospel, it is the very nature of God to reach out to others in love. God created us to be in community to journey with each other. In his letter to the Corinthians, the apostle Paul speaks of being one body when he says



*"The body is a unit, though it is comprised of many parts. And although its parts are many, they all form one body. So it is with Christ." (1 Corinthians 12:12)*

And so a constant theme that runs

through our community life at Christ Church, is loving others and caring for them. Our aim is to share Jesus in our community by increasingly becoming a community hallmarked by love; by kindness, compassion, and hospitality. Jesus himself showed his love for everyone when he died on the cross.

It is an immense privilege serving at Christ Church and meeting some remarkable people. I am always truly amazed at people's generosity not only with their money, but with their time and talents. This sentiment is beautifully summed up by, Jean Vanier, founder of the L'Arche community:

"One of the marvellous things about community is that it enables us to welcome and help people in a way we couldn't as individuals. When we pool our strength and share the work and responsibility, we can welcome many people, even those in deep distress, and perhaps help them find self-confidence and inner healing."

And so as we read the good news stories in this month's Consider may we all reflect on the importance of community spirit and of how each of us can play our part in making a difference in our community.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to be 'D. Day'.

## Awards for Christ Church

WE are pleased to announce that we have been awarded the Diocesan Child Friendly award which is valid for three years. This award recognises that as a church community we have:

- A comprehensive and shared vision for Children's and Youth Work.
- Provide opportunities for children and young people to be involved in child friendly church services, including parade service.
- Make suitable provision for under 5s in church.
- Provide groups and organisations to help nurture children and young people
- Take Safeguarding, Health & Safety and First Aid seriously

Our thanks go to all our children and young people's leaders who have worked hard to gain this award and to Barbara Stevens for collating all the evidence necessary for the inspection which took place on Thursday 20 April.

## Dementia Friends Award

LAST month members of Christ Church pastoral team and volunteers of Café Vista were awarded a certificate of achievement as they work to help Dementia friends reach the target of 4 million Dementia friends by 2020. As a church we are working to become Dementia friendly in our welcome and hospitality at Café Vista.

## News from Girlie Night In

LAST month we watched the thought provoking 2016 film 'I Daniel Blake'. The event was well attended and together we raised £250 for the Skelmersdale food bank. Next month's Girlie Night In . . . is a pamper night. We will be joined by **Lyn Cooper 'Body Shop at Home'**. Come and join us on Friday 16th June 7:45-10pm and bring your friends.

## Church Summer Camp

FOR one weekend next month Christ Church is going under canvas!

From **Friday evening 7 July to Sunday**

## June 2017

### **Pentecost Sunday, 4 June**

8.15am: Holy Communion  
10.45am: Holy Communion  
6.30pm: Songs of Praise

### **Wednesday, 7 June**

2.00pm: Holy Communion in the  
Ministry Centre

### **Sunday, 11 June**

8.15am: Holy Communion  
*Breakfast will be served in Café Vista*  
10.45am: Parade Service  
6.30pm: Evening Worship

### **Sunday, 18 June**

8.15am: Holy Communion  
10.45am: Family service  
6.30pm: Evening Worship

### **Sunday, 25 June**

8.15am: Holy Communion  
10.45am: Family Service  
6.30pm: Holy Communion

### **Wednesday, 5 July**

2.00pm: Holy Communion in the  
Ministry Centre

**afternoon, 9 July**, we will be camping at the Scarisbrick Guide camp, food will be provided, please bring your own tent. We also welcome day visitors.

Along with singing around the camp fire, activities for children and various seminars for adults on God's vision there will be opportunity to have time to relax and make new friends.

We will be joined by Rev'd Peter Partington who has devoted his life to supporting people in Uganda. Building hospitals and schools, Peter will be speaking of God's amazing vision for Africa. Olly Elliott, a member of Christ Church in his youth will be returning to us for the weekend to run our youth sessions and Emily Stanford (Mark Stanford's daughter) from Y Kids Bottle will be providing activities for our primary school age children.

For more information and booking details from the church office.

## Can you help in Café Vista?

DO you enjoy meeting people and have a few hours to spare?

Café Vista is a key part of our ministry at Christ Church and is run by a wonderful team of volunteers. With the summer fast approaching we are looking for extra help to cover the summer months (June-August) while our regular volunteers have their well earned holidays.

We are looking for friendly, reliable people who will be welcoming to customers. You should be able to carry out instructions as well as being able to use your own initiative. You won't be required to do any cooking. Hours are flexible between 10.00am and 4.00pm.

This role would be particularly suitable for a school/college student (minimum age 16) who is looking to gain some work experience or for someone who has a few hours spare

## From the registers

### Baptism

**30 April: Rachel Amalia Dennison**,  
daughter of Dennis and Sarah

### Funeral

**22 May: Vivienne Patterson**, of  
Standhouse Lane

**30 May: Brenda Jackson**, of Silverbirch  
Lodge

## News from Christ Church School

*Headteacher, Mr David Kennedy writes:*

IT LOOKS like the summer weather has finally arrived! Our last half term has been unbelievably busy in school but has been a very exciting one for everyone involved. All the children in year 2 and 6 have been taking their end of key stage assessments and have worked extremely hard towards them. Everyone has been very proud of their hard work and dedication. We have been involved in some exciting sporting events as well as our year 5



and 6 football team finished 3rd in the football league and a year 5 cricket team got all the way to the semi-finals in the West Lancashire competition.

We were also very proud of some children in years 1-6 who represented the school at an athletics event at St Bedes High School. The children competed really well and we picked up individual medals for some fantastic performances. In particular, the girls did extremely well as they finished 3rd overall. We have also had the pleasure of watching the Year 5 children present their class assembly this last half term. We were joined by friends and family of year 5 as they led our worship and told us about all the exciting things they have been doing.

Year 1 have enjoyed a visit to Church to learn about baptism and year 3 visited Tatton Park to support their learning across the curriculum. In particular, everyone in school has been working very hard this last week of term during our enterprise week as they have all made products to sell at our school garden market. It is always an exciting day in school and there is a real buzz as the children design and make fantastic items to run a really exciting market. All the funds raised will support our new garden which is really starting to flourish.

As we move forward into the last half term, we will be changing our value to 'Respect'. However, the value of 'friendship' will remain in our thoughts as we approach the summer holidays in our final term and continue to prepare our year 6 children to leave our school and take the next step of their journey.

**Monday 5 June:** Return to school  
Year 6 residential to Tower Wood in the Lake District

**Monday 12 June:** Year 6 leavers Service at  
Liverpool Cathedral

**Tuesday 13 June:** Year 4 to visit Church  
Year 6 Cricket Competition

**Wednesday 14 June:** Quad Kids athletics at  
Edgehill

**Thursday 15 June:** Year 5 Kayaking week 1

**Tuesday 21 June:** Year 3 Ukulele Concert

**Thursday 22 June:** Year 4 Class Assembly  
Year 5 Space Camp

**Saturday 24 June:** Christ Church C of E  
Primary School Summer Fair.

**Thursday 29 June:** Year 5 Kayaking week 2

## News from West Lancashire Debt Advice

WEST Lancashire Debt Advice (WLDA) is provided by volunteers from local churches through Ormskirk Churches Together. We work under the umbrella and guidance of the national debt advice charity Community Money Advice. We offer free face-to-face advice for anyone with financial problems. We have 9 fully trained and FCA registered advisors all of whom are volunteers.

We see clients by appointment on Tuesday evenings and Thursday afternoons (with drop-ins from 2.00 to 4.00pm on Thursday) at Emmanuel Methodist Church in Derby Street Ormskirk. WLDA makes no charge to clients for their services. After an initial assessment we work with the client to help them prepare their budget, which is an understanding of their income and expenditure and to list the money they owe. From this we can determine the best route to follow to help them become debt free.

Over the last five years we have seen over 70 clients with a combined debt approaching £600,000. Many of these clients are now completely free of debt and others are well on the way to being so. We recently celebrated with a client who has had over £6,000 of debt written off and now has an income in excess of expenditure.

We make no judgement about a clients situation. Many find themselves in debt due to life circumstances such as low income, redundancy, relationship breakdown, poor health, etc. Financial problems are often the end of a chain of personal issues but we find that those clients who engage with us early and are open and honest with us are the ones who recover most quickly.

We are grateful to all those who support us: the local churches (funding), the council (training grants), individuals (chocolate, their time, postage stamps, etc).

## Almshouse Bungalow vacancy

AN Almshouse bungalow (off St Michael's Park Aughton) has become vacant and is available for a single person of pensionable age. This is available through Vanbrugh and Tempest Almshouse Registered Charity No 227244

Details and an application form are available from **Mr A Southern (Tel 01695 422 513)** or from a St Michael's Church Warden.

Please note that the latest date for submitting the application forms is: Friday 14 July.

## Church Office

THIS is open Monday to Friday 9.00am - 1.00pm in the Ministry Centre

For any information, including requests for baptism and thanksgiving services, weddings, funerals and room bookings, call in or phone **424 530**, or email **ChristChurchAughton@gmail.com**.

### *Café Vista*

**is open Tuesday to Friday, 10.30am–3.30pm with cooked breakfast being served Saturday mornings, 10.00–12 noon. A great place to meet up with friends and of course, open to everyone and not just church members!**

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Vicar: **Canon Ross Moughtin**, 22 Long Lane, Aughton ☎ 422 175

Curate: **Rev Sarah O'Donoghue** ☎ 07847 931323