

15th March & 22nd March 2020

# In Touch

3rd & 4th Sunday of Lent

with Cheadle Parish Church



## Annual Revision of the Electoral Roll

In readiness for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting which will be held on Wednesday 29th April 2020 in the Upper Room, we are required to update our electoral roll. A full revision was carried out last year, so if your name is already on the roll from last year you do not need to fill in a form this year.

However, if you have joined the church since April last year and would like to be added to the roll, please complete the form on ChurchSuite or the paper copy at the back of church. The forms need to be completed and returned to the church office by Sunday 12th April so that the full list of names on the roll can be available for inspection at the back of church from Wednesday 15th April.

## Thanksgiving Update

Following the letter about our finances to all members from Rob our Rector a few weeks ago, the response has been amazing.

Through the generosity of your pledges, God has promised to bless us with sufficient money for this year. We have received pledges which will give us an increase this year of £77186 in regular and one off gifts, praise God!

In light of this, Rob has written again to everyone detailing the situation. If you have an email address registered on ChurchSuite, please look out for this in your inbox. If you do not receive it, please check your spam folder, or contact the office and we will send you a copy. If you do not have an email on ChurchSuite you will receive a copy by post.

Please continue to pray about the situation and if you have not yet returned a pledge form, please do so, whatever your intention is.

## FOCUS ON... Church Cleaning

Historically we have been blessed by the faithful work of the Holy Dusters, who week in, week out kept the church in its tip top beautiful shape. Sadly many of this wonderful group are now unable to do this vital role.

We are asking again if you could volunteer some of your time, it could be in an evening, on a Saturday or during the week. We would also love to have a team of people who could come in and specifically help to prepare the church prior to weddings—mostly on Saturdays. If you could offer some time to help please contact the office.

If we don't get enough people to help we will have to look into employing somebody to do this.

Please prayerfully consider if this is something you could help with, even if only once a month. We can arrange access at a time to suit you. All equipment and materials is provided.



## The Marriage Course— 16th April 2020

### What is the Marriage Course?

It's a series of 7 sessions designed to help couples invest in their relationship. It also includes: Food, Talk & Private discussion.

Each session features leading experts, teaching content, and stories from around the globe. Topics include: The art of communication, Resolving conflict, The power of forgiveness, The impact of family, past & present.

Around 1.7 million people have attended The Marriage Course in over 100 countries and 45 languages. 99% of guests said it had a positive impact on their relationship. 73% of guests experienced significant improvement in their relationship from the course.

**Why attend The Marriage Course** Whether married for six months or 40 years, whether in a good place or struggling, the course helps couples navigate the modern challenges of marriage. Based on Christian principles, but designed to help couples of all faiths strengthen their relationship

**"There's no counselling, no airing of dirty linen in public, no group therapy – and it seems to work."** -The Guardian

**Details:** 7 sessions from 16<sup>th</sup> April in The Upper Room Café it costs £6 per couple per week. his includes study materials and coffee & cake! Sign up on ChurchSuite (or via [www.cheadle.org.uk/events](http://www.cheadle.org.uk/events)) or call the office

## Lent Lunches

The lent lunch on 11th March was hosted by **St Mary's in the Church**. A huge thank you to the café staff for preparing the lunch, there was a choice of three soups and they were all delicious!

The donations given during Lent Lunches at all the churches will go to CSW—Christian Solidarity Worldwide. CSW's team of specialist advocates work on over 20 countries across Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East, to ensure that the right to freedom of religion or belief is upheld and protected. Our vision is a world free from religious persecution, where everyone can practise a religion or belief of their choice. For more information go to their website: [www.csw.org.uk/home.htm](http://www.csw.org.uk/home.htm)



## First time?

**Welcome!** Make yourself at home.

**Need anything?** Ask one of our welcome team who'd love to help.

**Stay for a chat!** There are refreshments after the main services, served at the back

**Toilets?** Can be found on the right at the back of church

**Giving?** There's no collection during services. Please place any gifts in the box near the main door. Standing order and gift-aid forms are available.

**Young children?** Use our sound-proofed Tower Room if they get restless, or join in 9.30 Sunday clubs at Upper Room

**Deaf?** An induction loop is available.

**Mobiles?** Turn OFF, unless on call

**Prayer?** There is prayer support after 9.30 & 6.30 services, and during communion, at the front of the church

# Announcements and Church News

## Diocesan guidance for parishes on Coronavirus



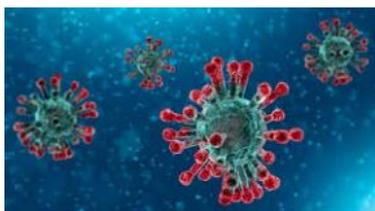
'It is our view, in light of the continued increase of COVID-19 cases in the United Kingdom, that it is now necessary to **suspend the administration of the chalice**'.

Following a decision by St Mary's leadership we will be offering the wine at communion in individual, disposable mini cups. If people wish they can just have the bread, please indicate your wish to those administering Communion. If you have any queries please speak to a member of clergy.

**Rev Rob Munro**

## Coronavirus

With all the current media cover on the Coronavirus it is important that we act sensibly and look out for each other. Please follow the Government guidelines—<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public>



## The Pastoral Lending Library

Jesus Christ is Lord over the whole of our lives, not just our Sundays. This means we quite rightly want to know what the Bible says on a whole range of different issues that come our way. This notice is just to remind you that many of these issues are addressed in the little mini series of books in our pastoral lending library (on the left, in the chapel with the dead guys). There are short booklets there on all sorts of relevant, often difficult, topics. Please do make use of this fantastic resource!

## PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Please note that the Parish office will be open 9am–3pm **Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday**. Messages and emails outside office hours will be answered the next working day.

## Update from Peter & Julie



Many thanks to all who have prayed for Peter during recent weeks - he had further surgery during February, which went very well.

Please continue to pray for his recuperation at home.

Thanks too for all your support and messages of encouragement, they are much appreciated!

With our love and thanks, **Peter and Julie**

## FESTIVAL CHOIR



Advance notice of rehearsals

These will all take place in St Mary's Church @ 7.30pm.

**Monday 23rd March, Monday 30 March, Monday 6th April**

Please be there if you can, many thanks. If you have any queries please speak to Vera or contact the office.

## Tuesday @ 2 In Moseley Hall, The Upper Room



**17th March**—is the day which celebrates the life of St Patrick. Come along a find out more about him.

**25th March**—Merilyn Haslam will be speaking on Easter Flowers

*Please come along and bring a friend.*

## Sunday services & readings

### Sunday 15th March

9.30am - Morning Worship  
11.15am - HC with healing  
6.30pm—Evening Worship

#### Bible Readings:

**9.30am** :Acts 10:23b-48  
**11.15am** : Deuteronomy 10:12-22 & Acts 10:1-48  
**6.30pm** : Psalm 2

### Sunday 22nd March

9.30am - Morning Worship  
11.15am - Morning Prayer  
6.30pm - Evening Worship

#### Bible Readings:

**9.30am** : Acts 11:1-18  
**11.15am** : Micah 4:1-5 & Acts 11:1-18  
**6.30pm** : Psalm 22

## EPIC Explorers Holiday Bible Club 2020

**Monday 6th April— Thursday 9th April**

**@ 10am—12.30pm**

**Are you ready for Epic Explorers?**

**Are your children booked on?**

**Have you committed to getting involved in the Adventure?**

There are **ONLY 4 weeks** to go until we head off to 'Adventure Island' to explore all about Jesus – Who He is and What He has done!

Our week together promises to be **SO MUCH FUN!**

You can now book your children on for the week via ChurchSuite or the church's events page at

[www.cheadle.org.uk/events](http://www.cheadle.org.uk/events)

**It is still NOT too late to get involved too.**

We need all kinds of help, such as set builders beforehand, helpers and leaders during the week both with the children and behind the scenes.

Please speak with Mark Tomlinson or Sarah Holmes, if you would like to help in any way, or email [holidaybibleclub@cheadle.org.uk](mailto:holidaybibleclub@cheadle.org.uk)

**Thank you**



# PRAYER

## Please Pray for ...

Please pray for **Rob** and others on the **Crown Nominations Committee** as they meet this week to make final recommendations for the appointment of the next **Bishop of Chester**. Praying that the person selected will be blessed, guided, and strengthened in the service of God and here in the Diocese of Chester.

Continue to pray for **Rick and Alanna Creighton** as they continue to think about their future work in **Nigeria** and the possibility of changing location to a different Bible College in Jos.

Pray for all those who are who are on the frontline dealing with **Covid 19** – for all involved in the medical world, for scientists and laboratory experts as they try and find a solution, for those in Government both national and local, for those heading up organisations both in the educational and commercial world as they make decisions about the best methods for protecting those in their care. Pray for our churches and the all congregations that we will trust in God and know that he is in control dispelling our fears for **“you did not give us a spirit of timidity but a spirit of power, of love and self discipline”**

## The Collects

### The Third Sunday of Lent

15th March

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

### The Fourth Sunday of Lent

22nd March

Merciful Lord, absolve your people from their offences, that through your bountiful goodness we may be delivered from the chains of those sins which by our frailty we have committed; grant this, heavenly Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our blessed Lord and Saviour, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

### Mothering Sunday

22nd March

God of compassion, whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary, shared the life of a home in Nazareth, and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself: strengthen us in our daily living that in joy and in sorrow we may know the power of your presence to bind together and to heal; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

## For your prayers ...

Rose Betts  
Sean Clegg  
Nick Drayton  
Peter Fraser – ongoing treatment  
Tom Harper  
Norman Jones  
Aileen & Tom Latham - ongoing health issues  
Sean McCausland - ongoing care  
Alma Mealand—ongoing care  
Peggy Mountford - ongoing care  
Mary Robertson  
Andrew Smith - ongoing care  
Sylvia Tomlinson—ongoing health issues

**If you are aware of any member of our church family who is ill or struggling with illness please contact the Pastoral Visiting team via the office.**

## For The Bereaved

Please pray for everyone who is mourning the loss of a loved one

## Prayer Chain

Please send any requests for prayer to [prayer@cheadle.org.uk](mailto:prayer@cheadle.org.uk) or ring the Church Office on 428 8050. If you would like to join the Prayer Chain please also contact the office. All prayer requests are treated with utmost confidence.

## PERSECUTED CHURCH: SOMALIA

Open Doors estimates that there are only a few hundred Christians in Somalia – it is difficult to give a true figure, as believers must keep their faith an absolute secret. Islam is an important part of Somali identity, and for a Somali person to decide to leave Islam and follow Jesus is seen as a huge betrayal. Where the Middle East has the self-proclaimed Islamic State, the Horn of Africa has the militant Islamist group al-Shabaab. This group has stated publicly that it **'wants Somalia free of all Christians'** When Aaden chose to follow Jesus, he was brutally attacked with a machete – he still bears the scars today. When Hassan also decided to become a Christian, while he did not face the brutal persecution his father did, he was rejected by his community and insulted, leaving him feeling lonely and isolated. Radical Islam is growing across the region, and if the secret faith of our brothers and sisters is discovered, they can face attack and exile from their friends and neighbours, and even their own families. Open Doors has been partnering with others to produce radio programmes in the Somali language, and our partners have been broadcasting Somali songs, poetry and preaching in the Horn of Africa for the past 19 years! These programmes are also bringing the gospel to those who may never have heard it before, even in parts of the Horn of Africa where evangelism should be completely impossible.



## BriDGe Drama Group presents 'The Last Days'

30th March—3rd April 2020 @ 7.30pm

At the Bridge Church in Bolton, 109 Bradford Street, Bolton BL2 1JX

Ian & Lesley Ashworth will be going on the 3rd so if you would like to speak to them regarding lifts etc. please do.

You can book via their website [www.bridgebolton.co](http://www.bridgebolton.co), tickets cost £4.00

## Vacancy : Admissions Coordinator and Academic Administrator (Full Time Preferred)

Nazarene Theological College is looking for a new team member to join our team to help support the academic administration of the College. This role includes coordination of student applications and admissions, and provision of general academic administrative support, working closely with the Academic Office Team. We encourage applicants with excellent communication skills, experience using data (eg. databases, spreadsheets), great organisation and time-management, and high attention to detail. For more information, please contact Pauline McKendrick [pmckendrick@nazarene.ac.uk](mailto:pmckendrick@nazarene.ac.uk)

## George Belfield

Next year I'll be doing a ministry trainee scheme at Christchurch Durham, an Anglican Evangelical church in the heart of Durham centred around God's word and reaching, building up and equipping students and locals. I'll be seeking to be trained up in ministry by the staff team there and serving in student and kids work there. I'm currently looking for people who would be interested in praying for and perhaps also funding me for next year so that I can do the scheme.

[george.d.j.belfield@gmail.com](mailto:george.d.j.belfield@gmail.com)



## Lent Lunch

The Lent Lunch on **18th March** will be at Gatley URC. Everybody is welcome .

On **25th March** it will be in St Chad's Church, Cheadle. All lunches start at 12noon. Call the office if you have any queries.



# Ian Chidlow, Curate, gives his thoughts on the 39 Articles:

## Article 19: Of the Church

### Original Wording

The visible Church of Christ is a congregation of faithful men, in which the pure Word of God is preached, and the sacraments be duly ministered according to Christ's ordinance in all those things that of necessity are requisite to the same.

As the Church of Jerusalem, Alexandria and Antioch have erred; so also the Church of Rome hath erred, not only in their living and manner of Ceremonies, but also in matters of Faith.

### Contemporary Version

The visible Church of Christ is a congregation of believers in which the Word of God is preached and the sacraments (baptism and communion) are done according to the way Christ told us to do them.

Just as the Churches of Jerusalem, Alexandria and Antioch have gone astray, so the Church of Rome has gone astray, not only in practice and forms of worship, but also in matters of faith.

### Bible Verse

Acts 2:42-47; Ephesians 2:19-22; Revelation 2-3

### Devotion

Before the Reformation, although there had been splits in the Church (like the Great Schism of 1054), it widely acknowledged in the West that there was one Church, and its head was the Bishop of Rome (the Pope). The Protestant Reformers developed, or rediscovered, a doctrine of the Church which would counter the claims of the Roman Church. However, the Roman Church had been around since New Testament times, where the new Protestant Churches were just that - new. So it was important to be clear as to what Church was and therefore who was genuine and who was in error.

The Reformers recognised that they were not splitting from the One True Church, as the Roman Catholics accused them of doing, but rather they were 'reforming' the church to what it always should have been, and what it used to be before corruption took hold. The Protestant Reformers were not pioneers, or "schismatics."

As Richard Hooker (a great Anglican writer) put it: "That which the Papists call schism, we know to be our reasonable service unto God..." In other words, the Reformers weren't splitting the Church, they were actually being obedient to God - it was the Roman Catholic Church which had split from orthodoxy and ceased to be a Church in which the Word of God was preached the sacraments correctly administered.

It is important to take both parts of this Article together. The first half brings us down to the level of the local congregation of believers, but the second part reminds us that local churches do not operate in an independent vacuum. Rather, they are part of something much bigger. The structure of the Anglican Church helps to make this unity visible, whilst still giving churches the freedom to work out their own ministry at a Diocesan or Parish level.

What makes a genuine church then? A congregation of believers gathered around the Word of God, and nothing else, who are baptising and sharing bread and wine as Jesus commanded. Article 24 will expand on what this might look like, for Anglicans.

### Prayer

Almighty God,  
 Who built your Church upon the  
 Foundation of the apostles  
 And prophets,  
 With Jesus Christ himself  
 As the chief cornerstone  
 So join us together in unity of spirit  
 By their doctrine,  
 That we may be made a holy temple  
 Acceptable to you; through Jesus Christ  
 Your Son our Lord  
 Who is alive and reigns with you  
 In the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
 One God, now and for ever. Amen



### Further Reading

E.P. Clowney, *The Church* (Leicester: IVP, 1995).  
 Church Society Lent Blog 2018  
 Sermon Series on the Articles at St John's Hartford (on their website)



## Women's Ministry



The idea of Women's Ministry is often talked about, but what do we actually understand by this? Is it ministry for women, but not necessarily by women? Is it ministry by women, but not necessarily exclusively for women? It could be both or either of these, but more often than not, what we consider to be "women's ministry" is ministry provided by women to and for other women.

Looking back over the past few years, we were amazed to discover that the group which has been involved in "Inspiring Women" has been working at St Mary's for ten years. We started running events, including a chocolate evening at The Waterside which was our biggest and most ambitious event. Since then, we have tried a number of different ideas with varying success, but have mostly settled for termly breakfasts at The Vinery and one or two other events more specifically aimed at inviting friends to find out what we are about.

One of the ideas which we have is to attract the widest possible age range across both churches which is why the breakfast has been successful, as we have women aged 13 to 80 something able to attend these. We are passionate about encouraging women to support one another, both in peer groups, but also for older women to teach younger women and younger women to encourage older women to keep going.

But after ten years, we think it is time for a review: is what we are doing actually what the women of St Mary's and St Cuthbert's want? Should we be carrying on as we are; doing more of the same; or doing something completely different? To help us decide on the way forward and in light of the new parish vision to be launched in April, we are looking to see how the women's ministry can help transform lives, family and community by sharing Jesus. To help us do that, we need the input of as many women as possible.

We have designed a questionnaire to ask a few straight forward questions and would love every woman to complete it and return it to us, so we can mull over and pray through the responses. The questionnaire will be available at the services on 22<sup>nd</sup> March when time will be given to complete it. However, if you want to take more time to think and pray about your response, please take the survey away with you and return it to the parish office or one of the team by Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April. If you are not at church on 22<sup>nd</sup> March, but would still like to take part, please contact Liz in the office who will be able to send you a copy.

As you think and pray about your response, I leave you with the words from Colossians Chapter 3 verses 15 & 16:

***<sup>15</sup> Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. <sup>16</sup> Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts.***

Trish Wells

## The Bible Project

The Bible Project are offering an amazing resource at the moment: a course in theology, online, that will cost you absolutely nothing! It's self-paced, so you won't feel like you're working under pressure. And the goal is to help you and help the church you serve in to love Jesus more and understand how the Scriptures fit together. Many of us would love to know more about God and his Word - here's an opportunity to do just that, for free.

Why not give it a go? Have a look at the link, check out the video and see if it's for you. <https://bibleproject.com/classroom/>

If you want someone to do the course with you, speak to Ian.



**BibleProject**

## Restored Lives

**The next Restored Lives course will start in October.**

Relationship breakdown has a huge impact on our society today. In the UK 250,000 people get divorced each year and this impacts not only them, but also their children, family and friends.

The effect on an individual is huge as this can be the most stressful event ever in a person's life. The change can be difficult to handle, especially as there is little help on hand. We are not taught how to make relationships work, let alone what to do when one breaks down. As a result people often feel lonely, isolated and lost without a clear path to recovery.

**The Course Aims:**

Restored Lives has been created to meet this need and help people to recover fully from relationship breakdown. It has been running for over twenty years at Holy Trinity Brompton and across many locations in the UK and the rest of the world.

It has been developed over those years by a group of divorcees and professionals with different expertise: a judge, solicitors, communication professionals, counsellors, family therapists, parenting trainers, mediators and, most importantly, many guests who have shared their practical experience of the journey of relationship breakdown.

For more information please speak to Mark & Helen Tomlinson.



## Foxhill Retreat

There is a new 2020 programme out for events at Foxhill this year. Please go to their website at [www.foxhillchester.co.uk](http://www.foxhillchester.co.uk) for more information and to book.



Some highlights include 'The Spiritual Journey of the Pilgrimage', Walking in the Footsteps of Giants' and 'At Sea with God'.

There are also a number of residential courses throughout the year.

## Alf and Hilary Cooper – Chile

Alf and Hilary Cooper have been church planting in Chile since 1975 with more than 23 missions and churches planted.

Alf is currently auxiliary bishop and rector of Trinity Parish Church, Las Condes Santiago. He has been chaplain to presidents of Chile and travelled to the UK with one of the 33 miners trapped in the accident in Northern Chile 2010, a rescue attributed by many to God. As well as being a church planter Alf is also a gifted evangelist

Both will be in Cheadle on Sunday 19 April. The intention is that they will be able to visit both St Mary's and St Cuthbert's. Further details to follow.



## The Priscilla Programme

"Helping Women to handle the word of God more accurately"

The Priscilla Programme (named after Priscilla of Acts 18 fame) is a course aimed at getting women into the Bible and helping them teach, care for and serve others better. It's an online course where women study various topics together, ranging from the Old + New Testaments, through evangelism, to ethics and pastoral care.

You don't need any previous qualifications or training to get involved with this, and the modules can be taken consecutively or as stand-alone courses so you can dip in and out as much as you like.

One woman on the course says this: "Finding a place where you can grow in your knowledge and understanding of God can be challenging when you have young children. Priscilla has allowed me to spend a bit of time each week going deeper in my understanding of the Bible, and pushing me to think about how I can best share my faith with others."

The ministry of women is absolutely essential in the life of a healthy church, and St Mary's is privileged to have women already serving in different ways. If you'd like to gain a deeper knowledge and love of Scripture, Jesus and his church, we'd definitely recommend this course.

If you'd like to know more about the Priscilla Programme, you can visit [www.ust.ac.uk/learning/course/Priscilla](http://www.ust.ac.uk/learning/course/Priscilla) or speak to Ian and Stan.

## \*\*\*\*Do you shop at the Co-Op?\*\*\*\*

Did you know you could be helping the Church everytime you spend in the Co-Op?

If you have a membership card (if not, you can sign up here – <https://www.coop.co.uk/membership>) then you may know that 1% of everything that you spend goes to charity. However you can nominate which charity that is – and you can nominate The Upper Room.



When you log into your membership account you will only see causes within a 15 mile radius of their post code. However, you can choose your cause by clicking on the unique link <https://membership.coop.co.uk/causes/41901> which takes you to your cause profile page.

If you could find the time to make this change to your Co-Op membership we would be very grateful, the monies are currently going towards repairing the roof of the building but this can change to other specific areas over time.

If you have any queries please speak to Jon in the office.

## Pray40Cheadle

Following the pastoral letter the leadership and PCC sent out last week, and our urgent need to seek God's will and wisdom for our church for the future, there will be a weekly prayer time for 40 minutes before the Lent courses. The meeting will be from 7pm-7.40pm in the Ashfield Room, every Wednesday running up to Easter. If you would like to join us as we focus our prayer on the life and witness of our church, please do! You may even like to take the title 'Pray40' as an opportunity to fast from tea that night to allow that extra time for prayer. Join us if you can.

Rob



## EASTER IN ART

The greatest story ever written, the greatest story ever painted

In cinemas nationwide from 7th April 2020



Christ Crucified, Velázquez, c.1632

EXHIBITION ON SCREEN brings you a beautifully crafted film exploring the Passion of Christ as depicted in art, from the time of the early Christians to the present day. Featuring artists such as Caravaggio, Raphael, Michelangelo, Leonardo, El Greco, Dali, Rubens, Titian and many more, *EASTER IN ART* offers a fascinating exploration into the pain, the suffering and the glory of Christ.

Shot on location in Israel, the United States and throughout Europe, this moving film narrates not only the greatest story ever told, but arguably the greatest story ever painted - a story that reveals much about the history of civilisation and, therefore, the history of us.

The film offers a cinematic immersion into the world's best loved art, accompanied by insights from the world's leading historians and art critics.

For more information and to find a screening near you, visit:  
[exhibitiononscreen.com](http://exhibitiononscreen.com)

E X H I B I T I O N O N S C R E E N

**April 7th—SAVOY HEATON MOOR, 105 Heaton Moor Road STOCKPORT, SK4 4HY United Kingdom**

## Church Family Weekend Away Swanwick 26th - 28th June 2020

This weekend is a wonderful way to share time with our church family members. It's also a fabulous opportunity for newcomers to Church to meet people in an informal setting, time to get to know people better and form real friendships.

The accommodation ranges from single rooms to family rooms. Every year people make memories to treasure.



## Saturday Open Church

You may already know that St Mary's is open to the public on a Monday and Friday lunchtime, and we get loads of visitors through the doors for chats and prayer with the team that serves there. That's brilliant. So brilliant, in fact, that we're going to start opening up on Saturdays as well, in the hope of connecting with more people who can't visit us during the working week.

**Beginning on the 21st March, we'll open every other Saturday morning from 10-12.**

So here's where you come in. Ian needs some volunteers to help him chat to visitors / pray / welcome people into the building. The more volunteers there are, the less time commitment there will be. This is a great chance to invite more of the community into the building and tell them about who we are and who we worship.

**Special bonus:** If you're really keen you can turn up at 9am, join the prayer meeting for an hour and then stay on for Open Church! Wow! What better way to start your weekend?



If you want to help out, get in touch with Ian or speak to the Office. If you think you could help but aren't sure what to expect, find someone who already does Open Church during the week and ask them. Whether you can volunteer or not, please pray for this.

**Ian Chidlow, Curate**

Please sign up on ChurchSuite. — via [www.theadle.org/events](http://www.theadle.org/events)

The prices shown are what it is actually costing the church. It includes all meals, and accommodation if you stay overnight. As our budget is currently very tight, we will not be able to offer a blanket subsidy for the weekend. However, we do not want anyone to miss it purely for financial reasons. If you would need help with the cost, please speak to one of the clergy. If you feel you could pay more, or make a donation towards the cost for others wishing to attend, please register that as well. If you haven't been before or you would like more details of the venue please visit <https://www.cct.org.uk/the-hayes/the-hayes-conference-centre>

The pricing structure will be as follows:

Adult weekend (en-suite) Over 17yrs	£175.00
Child weekend (en-suite)	£87.50
Adult weekend	£125.00
Infant (under 5)	FREE
Adult Day - Saturday visitor (including 3 meals)	£60.00
Child Day - Saturday visitor (including 3 meals)	£30.00

**Please do not hesitate to contact the office if you have any queries.**

# Restored Lives



It's now a few weeks since Helen and I finished leading our third 'Restored Lives Course', at St. Mary's. Thank you so much to all those of you who were praying for us and our team. We certainly felt God's hand and blessing on us, our team and our guests throughout the 7 weeks. It is an amazing privilege to be used by God in this way and as many of you know, our own personal journey through separation and divorce has been one where we know the goodness of God and the words of Romans 8v28 – **'And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.'**

For those who have battled with the intense feelings and emotions of separation and divorce, having the opportunity to reflect on everything that has happened, isn't easy. We have already seen that the Restored Lives Course is a wonderful opportunity to be helped practically, through the process, in order to see a hope for the future, and begin to move forward in their lives.

We have been so encouraged to read of the ways in which all our guests, so far, have benefitted from the input from ourselves and our team. Please would you continue to pray for all those who have been through the course and also pray for our next course planned for October/November this year. You will see details already on the St. Mary's events page on the website. But if you have questions, or want more information or know of someone who would benefit from attending, please talk to either Helen or myself.

But it's not just those who have gone through relationship breakdown who need to be restored! Whoever we are and whatever our circumstances, we all need spiritual restoration, even as God's children.

*If my people, which are called by my name, shall **humble themselves**, and **pray**, and **seek my face**, and **turn from their wicked ways**; then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.*  
**2 Chronicles 7:14**

In 2 Chronicles we can read of Solomon, at the dedication of the newly built Temple, praying to God asking Him to restore His people. God's reply was for them to complete four steps – 'Humble themselves'; 'Pray', specifically that God would guide them in obeying His will; 'Seek His face' – to deepen their relationship with Him and serve Him in their daily lives; and 'Turn from our wicked ways' – that is to repent as believers, which is to be transformed and have a different mind-set.

This Lent, let's grasp the opportunity to evaluate or re-evaluate our lives and relationship with God. And let's look at restoring our relationship with our loving Heavenly Father. Let's focus on 'humbling ourselves, praying for God's help in obeying Him daily, seeking His face and having a deeper fellowship with Him, and turning away from our sin.'  
**Mark Tomlinson, C.O.W**

# Groups & Events

## Sunday 15th March – Saturday 28th March

<b>15th</b>	Rooted	5:00pm - 6:15pm	The Upper Room
	Focus	8:00pm - 9:30pm	The Upper Room
<b>16th</b>	Open Church	12:00pm - 2:00pm	St Mary's church
	PCC F&S	8:00pm - 10:00pm	Ashfield Room
<b>17th</b>	Tuesday @ Two	2:00pm - 3:30pm	Moseley hall
	Dynamos - KS1	3:45pm - 5:00pm	The Upper Room
	Juice Puppets	5:45pm - 6:45pm	Bulkeley Room
	Lent courses	6:30pm - 10:30pm	St Cuthbert's church
	Bell Ringing	7:30pm - 9:00pm	St Mary's church
<b>18th</b>	Lent Courses	6:30pm - 10:30pm	The Upper Room
	Mental Health Awareness	2:30pm - 4:30pm	Ashfield Room
	Mustard Seed	10:00am - 12:00pm	Moseley hall
<b>19th</b>	Bright Start creche	9:30am - 12:00pm	Moseley Hall
	Focus small groups	7:00pm - 9:30pm	Upper Room
	Ladies Bible Study	9:45am - 11:00am	Bulkeley Room
<b>20th</b>	CANCELLED - Open	12:00pm - 2:00pm	St Mary's church
	Funeral In Church	1.00pm-2.00pm	St Mary's church
	The Forge	7:30pm - 9:00pm	The Upper Room
<b>21st</b>	Men's Breakfast	8:30am - 9:30am	The Vinery, Cheadle
	Church Prayer Meeting	9:00am - 10:00am	St Mary's church
	Saturday Open Church	10:00am - 12:00pm	St Mary's church
<b>22nd</b>	Rooted	5:00pm - 6:15pm	The Upper Room
	Focus	8:00pm - 9:30pm	The Upper Room
<b>23rd</b>	Festival Choir Rehearsal	7:30pm - 9:00pm	St Mary's church
	Open Church	12:00pm - 2:00pm	St Mary's church
<b>24th</b>	Tuesday @ Two	2:00pm - 3:30pm	Moseley hall
	Dynamos - KS2	3:45pm - 5:00pm	The Upper Room
	Juice Puppets	5:45pm - 6:45pm	Bulkeley Room
	Lent courses	6:30pm - 10:30pm	St Cuthbert's Church
	Bell Ringing	7:30pm - 9:00pm	St Mary's church
	Open Doors Prayer Meet-	7:30pm - 9:00pm	Southgate's home
<b>25th</b>	Lent Courses	6:30pm - 10:30pm	The Upper Room
	Mental Health Awareness	2:30pm - 4:30pm	Ashfield Room
	Mustard Seed	10:00am - 12:00pm	Moseley hall
<b>26th</b>	Bright Start creche	9:30am - 12:00pm	Moseley Hall
	Ladies Bible Study	9:45am - 11:00am	Bulkeley Room
	Focus small groups	7:00pm - 9:30pm	Upper Room
<b>27th</b>	Open Church	12:00pm - 2:00pm	St Mary's church
	The Forge	7:30pm - 9:00pm	The Upper Room
<b>28th</b>	Church Prayer Meeting	9:00am - 10:00am	St Mary's church

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