



Cheadle
PARISH

In Touch

April 2025

Easter In Cheadle Parish



Thursday 17th April

7:30pm - Maundy Thursday Service, St Cuthbert's Church
A Contemplative Communion Service with a soup supper

Friday 18th April

11am - Good Friday Meditation, St Cuthbert's Church
A stripped-back service of prayers and reflections

11am - An Hour at the Cross, St Mary's Church
A traditional reflective service with readings and hymns

2pm - Good Friday Celebration Service, St Mary's Church
*A family service celebrating the 'good' of Good Friday
With Juice Puppets*

Sunday 20th April

10am - All-Age Easter Celebration, St Mary's Church
*An informal all-age service, with Juice Puppets
Followed by a short Communion*

10:30am - Easter Communion Service, St Cuthbert's Church
An interactive celebration service for all ages

6:30pm - Easter Praise, St Mary's Church
A relaxed time of worship, thanking God for Easter



'Jonah - A BIG Tale'

Monday 14th - Thursday 17th April 2025
10.00am - 12.30pm

For primary school aged children, £3 per day



Bookings are now open!
Scan the QR code here for more details
and to be taken to the sign up page

Songs

Quizzes

Games

Craft

Puppets



**Holiday Bible
Club 2025**

APCM

Wednesday 30th April, 7.30pm, The Upper Room

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) is effectively the AGM for the parish. It's when we elect our church wardens and members of the church to the Parochial Church Council (PCC). If you don't know who these people are, ask one of the ministers or service leaders. They are the wonderful team of people who work to support our ministers and act as trustees for the parish as a registered charity. These are really important roles, please consider if God may be calling you to play a part in this process.

Please pray about those standing and come to the meeting to support them and vote for them. It is also a time when we reflect on what God has done for us over the past year and what we believe He is calling us to in the next one.

See you there!

Electoral Roll

The deadline to join the church electoral roll is **Monday 14th April**. This year is a full renewal of the roll so even if you were on it last year, you will need to complete a new form. You need to be on the roll in order to vote at the APCM or serve on PCC. It also shows you are a committed member of the parish. The electoral roll is the legal membership of the church and the numbers are important for the diocese.

You can join using the online form via the QR code or the link [here](#), or there are paper copies available in each church.



Sundays 5pm

@ St Cuthbert's
Join us as we look
through 'A Praying
Church' by
Paul Miller in
a relaxed,
discussion-based
service



Join us for Morning Prayers:

8:30-9am:

Online Mon/Wed/Fri
In St Cuthbert's Wed/Fri
Email minister@stcuthberts.org
for the link to join online

9:15-10am:

Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri
The Parish Office in
The Upper Room



Dig into the theme throughout the week:

Sun 10am & 6:30pm Services - St Mary's
Sun 10:30am Service - St Cuthbert's

Wed 8pm - Parish Prayer Meeting

Thurs 10am - Women's Prayer Meeting, Upper Room
Thurs 2:30pm - Book of Common Prayer Service, St Mary's

Pray

w/c 9th March: Delighting in Prayer - Why is it so wonderful?

Wednesday Prayer meeting: St Cuthbert's Church

w/c 16th March: Prioritising Prayer - Why is it so important?

Wednesday Half Night of Prayer: The Upper Room, 4-10pm

Rest

w/c 23rd March: Spiritually Resting in God - What does that mean?

Wednesday Prayer meeting: The Upper Room

w/c 30th March: Practically Resting & Sabbath - What does that look like?

Wednesday Prayer meeting: St Cuthbert's Church

Grow

w/c 6th April: Discovering our Calling - What am I here for?

Wednesday Prayer meeting: The Upper Room

w/c 13th April: Building Up the Body - What can I do?

Wednesday Prayer meeting: St Cuthbert's Church

Lent In Cheadle Parish

Pray



Rest



Grow



Lent Reflections

Throughout lent, we have been focusing on the theme of PRAY-REST-GROW, spending two weeks on each at our services and prayer meetings. We encourage you to reflect on what we have been learning together and praying through and to respond using these online surveys linked below. There are also some paper copies available in both churches.

We suggest you use the following process to reflect:

1. Meditate on scripture
2. Pray for guidance (on questions in response form, could pray with others about this too)
3. Discuss with others (church friends, one-to-ones, etc)
4. Pray for response (could pray with others)
5. Feedback to church leadership (by using the response form)

Pray



Rest



Grow



Cheadle Deanery Synod needs You

At the APCM - Annual Parochial Church Meeting which will be held on the 30th of this month a vacancy will occur for a new person to serve on the Deanery Synod for 3 years - what is the Deanery Synod you might ask?

Deanery is a group of parishes surrounding a particular area, in our case 10 parishes and 12 churches surrounding Cheadle

Synod - a meeting of members of all licensed ministers and elected lay members

What does it do? It meets around 3 three times a year with an additional social gathering where members can meet informally together

What does it discuss? Topical issues of the time - e.g. we will be looking at the Christians Against Poverty (CAP) at our next meeting, we have looked about the ECO situation of our world and how we as churches can consider how we can best support this issue. We will possibly be looking how we can best support the Church of England through this traumatic and anxious time

What do I like about being a member of the Deanery Synod? It helps me to discover how other parishes are operating through good times and bad, I have a part to play in that as a member I am one of those who vote for members of General Synod (the national body) which will be renewed over the next three years. As part of being a member of the synod I also am an Ex Officio member of the Cheadle PCC (Parochial Church Council) which helps to lead and support of the churches of St Mary's and St Cuthbert's

To find out more do contact Fiona Goode, Trish Wells or myself at St Mary's or John & Tricia Berry or Ruth Ormiston at St Cuthbert's who can all provide more information - Nomination forms can be obtained via the Parish Office and need to be completed, proposed and seconded and returned before the APCM

Graham Lowcock - Lay Chair Cheadle Deanery

Stories of Hope

We have now finished for Easter, almost 20 of us are now attending including some who have joined with a view to helping in leadership. Last term we looked at the Life and Ministry of Jesus from Baptism to Resurrection and Ascension. We will resume next term looking at how we can grow as disciples.

Here are some quotes from attendees about how they are enjoying the groups so far:

- *"It's been an easy to follow method that allows everyone to be involved whether they are totally new to Jesus or experienced followers"*
- *"It's a great way to learn about what Jesus did but also about His character and what it means for us and our lives today"*
- *"I can often relate what we discuss to daily events and people I meet in my life."*
- *"Stories of Hope is an amazing way to learn about God. It's simple but effective and is truly a blessing."*

Please continue to pray for us!

- Dave and Iris Challis

Serving in Ministries

Haven't our sermons and prayer meetings during Lent been excellent, very encouraging and challenging. Thank you to all who have contributed to these wonderful resources.

Please think about the following as we continue to study and learn together in the areas of our church vision;

- **Pray** – about areas in our church life where we need some members to be willing to get involved to enable the ministry to grow or continue
- **Rest** – consider whether God is calling you to rest from something you do already, possibly to give yourself more time to rest in Him or to allow someone else to take up the role. It may be God is calling you to take up a role you don't already do that will allow someone else the space to step back and rest.
- **Grow** – as more of us get involved in the regular activities of our church family life, we will grow as a body and in unity and fellowship with one another.

Areas where we need people to serve at present:

Mustard Seed – Wednesday mornings during school term time, 10am to 11.15am in the Upper Room

Trish Wells, one of the team says:

'This is St Mary's group for welcoming carers with young children to come together in a safe place to play and to interact with each other and connect with the church. Last week we were able to hand out information about the All Age service and to encourage people to come to church with their children or grandchildren. I joined the team when we restarted after covid and thoroughly enjoy getting alongside the carers - particularly some of the grandparents. Over time I have developed good relationships with a few people and even had the privilege of praying for one of the mums at a particularly hard time in her life. This is not working with children (although you could do that as well), but talking to adults - young and old; women and men. I can only speak to two or three people in a meaningful way, so more people to come along side us to interact with our guests would be brilliant. However, if you really don't like talking to people, you can help with set up the room from 9.30 to 10 am and then to clear up from 11am. If you really, really didn't want to be sociable, you could have a coffee in the cafe in between! If you would like to join the team in any way, please speak to Mel Navesey, Sarah Holmes, Trish Wells or contact the parish office, Thanks'



Refreshments in church after Sunday services at St Mary's - We have a faithful team of people who serve 13 times a year to



provide drinks and biscuits (and occasionally cake!) after our Sunday morning and evening services. We currently need another team for our evening service rota. This ministry is so important, it helps build fellowship, allowing people to spend time getting to know one another after our services, and before the service as well in the evenings. It's a great way of getting to know more people, you would normally be working alongside one or two other people, everything needed is provided, and training will be provided on how the process works.

Flower Team - If you are interested in serving on the flower team, please speak to Debbie Watkins, her contact details are on ChurchSuite. These are the wonderful people responsible for the beautiful displays we see, especially for the festivals in the church's year, and for weddings held in St Mary's.

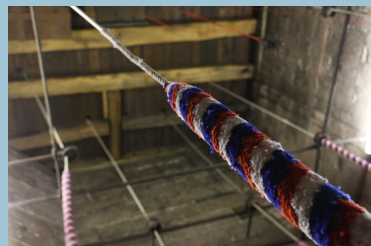


If you are interested in serving in any area of our ministry, please speak to me, one of the clergy or Maddy in the church office.

Jon Drayton (Operations Manager)

Bell Ringing

If you hear the bells at St Mary's ringing between 5 and 6:15pm on Saturday, April 26th, this is why...



The Chester Diocesan Guild of Church Bellringers, to which St Mary's and its ringers is affiliated, is holding an 'Open Day' on April 26th, with some 25 churches in east and south Cheshire welcoming visiting bellringers from around the UK.

An Open Day of this sort is a chance for experienced bellringers from around the country to ring on different rings of bells. Each ringer buys a ticket for the day in advance, and the money raised goes to the Chester Guild's Bell Restoration Fund, which helps churches in our Diocese to pay for bell maintenance, restoration and improvement. The ringers will follow the day's timetable to ring at some or all of the various towers, no doubt seeking out the ones they haven't rung on previously.

On April 26th visiting ringers will be able to experience widely different rings of bells, ranging from the light ring of 6 bells at St Mary's Bosley to the fine ring of 12 bells at St Michael's Macclesfield, where the biggest bell is twice the weight of our biggest bell. Our bells here at St Mary's are a pleasant, medium-weight ring of 8 bells, with the heaviest bell being just under three-quarters of a ton, and six of the bells dating from 1749.



Bellringers have visited different rings of bells for hundreds of years, and many have kept a record of the towers in which they have rung. From 1950, when the first edition of Dove's Guide for Church Bellringers was first published, many ringers underlined in Dove's Guide each ring of bells on which they rang. Dove's Guide is now on-line (naturally!) and if you want to explore the details of the 5,000-plus rings of bells which like St Mary's are hung for English-style change ringing, have a look at the link at the end of this not

We are happy to be able to support this event to raise money for the Chester Guild's Bell Restoration Fund.



Here at St Mary's we have benefited particularly from grants from this fund in the last 10 years. We have received help in the form of grants towards the cost of the complete refurbishment of all the clappers in our bells, and with the major project to install weather-proofing and variable sound control so that our bells may continue to ring out for another 275 years.

Trevor Marchbank (Tower Captain St Mary's Cheadle)

VACANCY - ASSISTANT MANAGER QUINTA CHRISTIAN CENTRE

We are looking for the person God is calling to join the Management Team at this large Christian Residential Conference Centre in NW Shropshire. This is a challenging & demanding post requiring teamwork, an eye for detail, finesse and skill. Are you the person God is calling?

This role will have specific responsibilities in the areas of:

- Administration & Finance
- Purchasing
- Communication
- IT

With the rest of the Management Team, you will also:

- Share in the midweek and weekend duty management of the Centre
- Be excited about working with resident groups to give them the best experience possible
- Contribute at a senior level to the life and ethos of the Centre

The right person will receive:

- A challenging but very rewarding job
- A salary, pension and on-site accommodation

Contact Andrew McKay for a detailed information pack

andrew@quinta.org or 01691 773696

Closing date: Wednesday 16th April 2025

Interviews: Wednesday 30th April 2025

There is a Genuine Occupational Requirement for the post holder to be a practising Christian.

*The Quinta is part of Centre Ministries.
The purpose of our charity is to advance the Christian faith
through conference centre ministry
www.quinta.org*



Quinta Christian Centre, Quinta Hall, Weston Rhyn, Oswestry, SY10 7LR

Podcast

The first episode of the lent series of the Upper Room Podcast is now available to listen to online [here](#) or watch on our Youtube channel. George discusses The Power of Prayer with Caroline Salisbury and Ellen Batten.

The next episode on the theme of Rest with Stan Tomalin and Ali Drayton will be released soon.



Cheadle
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**UPPER ROOM
PODCAST**

Dove's Guide for Church Bellringers

<https://dove.cccbr.org.uk/>

At the top right of the home page, either follow the 'Towers' link for an alphabetical list, or try typing "Cheadle" into the search box. One tiny bit of help. The 'tenor' is the heaviest bell, and bell weights are expressed in traditional units, shown in the format xx-y-zz, where:

xx = hundredweights (1 hundredweight = 112 pounds, i.e. 1/20th of a ton)

y = quarters (meaning a quarter of a hundredweight, i.e. 28 pounds)

zz = pounds

Check that with the Cheadle entry in Dove, where you will see the tenor is 13-2-19 (exactly three-quarters of a ton would be 15-0-00)

Dates for April

Saturday 5th - Hard of Hearing Support Group, 11am, in the Ashfield Room of The Upper Room

Saturday 5th - Wedding of George Mealand and Charlotte Wheatley, 1pm at St Mary's Church

Tuesday 8th - Mission Partners Prayer Meeting, 8pm, at the Parikh's house

Thursday 10th - Men's curry night, 7.30pm at Sangam, sign up [here](#)

Saturday 12th - Cheadle Board Room, with Exploding Kittens tournament, 9.30am in the Upper Room

Monday 14th to Thursday 17th - Holiday Bible Club, 10am-12.30pm, in the Upper Room, sign up [here](#)

Wednesday 16th - The Big Read, 7.45pm

Thursday 17th - Prayer for our country and the world, 7.30pm at the Southgate's house

Thursday 17th - Maundy Thursday Service, 7.30pm at St Cuthbert's

Friday 18th - Good Friday Services

Saturday 19th - In Stitches, 9am at St Cuthbert's

Sunday 20th - Easter Sunday

Tuesday 22nd - Open Doors Prayer meeting, 7.30pm at the Southgate's house

Saturday 26th - Men's Breakfast, 8am in the Upper Room Café

Wednesday 30th - APCM, 7.30pm in the Upper Room

Dates for May

Saturday 3rd - Hard of Hearing Support Group, 11am, in the Ashfield Room of The Upper Room

Thursday 8th - Men's Pub Night, 8pm

Saturday 10th - Cheadle Board Room, 9.30am in the Upper Room

Tuesday 13th - Mission Partners Prayer Meeting, 8pm at the Parikh's house

Thursday 15th - Prayer for our country and the world, 7.30pm at the Southgate's house

Saturday 17th - In Stitches, 9am at St Cuthbert's

Saturday 17th - Ladies Walk and Pub

Wednesday 21st - The Big Read, 7.45pm at St Cuthbert's

Thursday 22nd - Men's Breakfast, 6.45am in the Upper Room Café

Tuesday 27th - Open Doors Prayer meeting, 7.30pm at the Southgate's house



Cheadle Parish



Men's Curry Night

Thursday 10th April

7.30pm @ Sangam

202 Wilmslow Road, Heald Green, Cheadle SK8 3BH



...featuring guest speaker, former police officer and Christian, **John Carlow**, now manager of **Ivy Café at Ladybridge Connect**. A great opportunity to share good food and fellowship in a relaxed, informal atmosphere.

Why not bring a friend?

Sign up on Churchsuite or contact the Parish office on 0161 428 8050. **Spaces are limited** so book early to avoid disappointment.

Price - £27 per person for a 3 course Indian style banquet. Vegetarian options available. Please advise dietary requirements and food allergies at time of booking.



Mental Health Conference

On Saturday 10th May there is a conference being held at Fox Hill on the theme "Five Years On: reflecting on the impact of the pandemic on Mental Health". Book your place on Eventbrite using [this link](#).

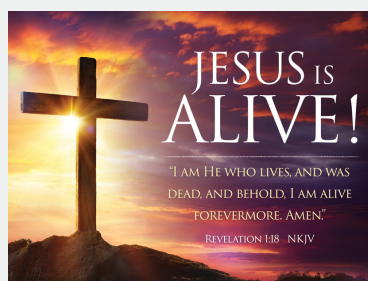
Details on the Diocesan website or from Tricia Berry, email doctorpmberry@gmail.com or call 0161 485 3250

Can you help?

One of our café volunteers has recently moved into a new flat and they don't have either a Hoover or any plates and bowls. Can anyone help please? If you think that you can, please contact the office. Thank you

Mission Partners

As Easter approaches do pray for our Mission partners wherever they are serving in the world as they reflect on the meaning behind Easter and how they can best share the Good News that Jesus is Alive and wants to be part of individual's lives today. Are we as members of Cheadle Parish wanting to and willing to share that Good News too?



From Lent to Life: Living the Easter Story

Over the past few weeks of Lent, we've been journeying together through our church vision: PRAY · REST · GROW. It's been a season of slowing down and paying attention to the core rhythms of the Christian life and the quiet work of God in our hearts.

We began with PRAY, reminding ourselves that prayer isn't a performance, but a posture. It's not about fancy words or ticking spiritual boxes — it's about drawing near to our heavenly Father. Like Jesus in the garden of Gethsemane, prayer becomes most real when it's most raw: "Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done" (Luke 22:42). In that moment, Jesus shows us what surrender looks like. Prayer is where we learn to trust.

Then we turned to REST — a word that feels almost foreign in our fast-paced world. We talked about Sabbath not as a rule to follow, but a gift to receive. To rest is to remember that we are not defined by our output. It's to say, "God is God, and I am not." And on the cross, when Jesus cries out, "It is finished" (John 19:30), he offers the deepest rest of all — not just a break from work, but freedom from the weight of sin, shame, and striving.

Finally, we're going to be exploring what it means to GROW. Growth is slow. It's often hidden. But when we walk with Jesus — when we abide in Him — change happens. Not by forcing it, but by staying connected to the vine (John 15:5). And here's the mystery and the beauty of Easter: the greatest growth the world has ever known came through death. Out of the tomb came life.

Which brings us to where we are now — preparing to stand in the shadow of the cross, and the light of the empty tomb once again.

Good Friday and Easter Sunday are not just events on a calendar — they are the heart of our faith. They are the ultimate expression of what it means to pray, rest, and grow.

On Good Friday, we see a Saviour who *prayed* through anguish, *rested* in surrender, and *grew* the seed of salvation by being planted in the ground. And on Easter Sunday, that seed broke through the soil. Christ is risen — and everything has changed. But what does that mean for us today?

It means we are not just invited to believe in Jesus — we are invited to live *in* Him. To shape our whole lives around the rhythm of death and resurrection. To lay down our pride, our plans, our pretence — and to rise with Him into newness of life.

So this Easter we are called to not just remember the story but to live it:

- to learn to pray with deeper trust — not to escape suffering, but to walk through it with God.
- to begin to rest more fully — not just in quiet moments, but in the finished work of Jesus.
- to grow — not by trying harder, but by letting the Easter hope take root in our everyday lives.

Because resurrection isn't just a doctrine. It's a promise. A power. A person.
And He calls us by name.

So as we approach the events of Easter once again, may we do so with hearts open — to the sorrow of the cross and the joy of the empty grave. May we see that *PRAY · REST · GROW* is not just a vision for Lent, but a vision for life.

And may we be people who live in the light of resurrection every single day.

Stan Tomalin <><
Associate Minister (St Mary's)



Contact Information

GENERAL ENQUIRIES: Church Office, The Upper Room, 11 Wilmslow Road, Cheadle, SK8 1DW
churchoffice@cheadle.org.uk 0161 428 8050 (Open weekdays 9am-3pm)

Rector	George Crowder	0161 428 8050	george.crowder@cheadle.org.uk
Associate Minister	Stan Tomalin	0161 491 6939	stan.tomalin@cheadle.org.uk
Associate (St Cuth's)	Ian Chidlow	07475 004360	minister@stcuthberts.org
C.O.W.	Mark Tomlinson	07940 567046	mark.tomlinson@cheadle.org.uk
Youth Worker	Amy Killingbeck	07375 709477	amy.killingbeck@cheadle.org.uk
Ministry Trainee	Beth Pugh	0161 428 8050	beth.pugh@cheadle.org.uk
Operations	Jon Drayton	07973 134815	operations@cheadle.org.uk
Finance	Jo Davids	0161 912 5355	jo.davids@cheadle.org.uk
Admin/Assist. to Rector	Maddy Prescott	0161 428 8050	maddy.prescott@cheadle.org.uk
Upper Room Cafe		0161 912 5352	upperroomcafe@cheadle.org.uk