

Newsletter

For 2 weeks from Sunday 1st May 2011

Seeking to become a whole-life disciple-making parish*

Mission & Discipleship

We tend to see Mission & Discipleship as separate but **they're actually the same thing**, writes Anna Thompson

When we ask the question who is God and what is he up to in the world, parables like the Lost Sheep and the Lost Son (Luke 15:1-10) give it to us in a nutshell:

God is 'missio dei' – God on a mission. He's breathing out 'I love you.'

Our calling is to know God's love. Some people have never received this love and struggle with communicating it to others. When we experience that love, we discover he is 'missio dei' – the God who is up all night looking for us.

In 2 Corinthians 3:18 Paul says '*as we reflect, we... are being transformed into his glory.*' If you genuinely experience God's love for you it has to change you. Your brokenness gets gradually restored and your character beings to re-form around the reality of that love.

Love becomes your core. It has to change us from the inside out. We discover a new purpose for our being. Mission is God's rush of love towards this world transformed by the love you have received, you rush with love towards the world as well.

Experiencing Christ's love for us, emulating him, being transformed into his likeness means there's no other option – you're on a mission with him! And mission is discipleship. Growing closer to Jesus, becoming more like him in his hunger for the redemption of this world. Love becomes your drive and love becomes your method. The only and inevitable result of an encounter with God is John 21:20 – '*as the Father sent me, I am sending you.*' Our daily prayer must be, '*Lord, who are you and how can I be more like you?*'

SERVICES

Sundays: St Paul's 10am: St Andrew's 11am
St Paul's, 7–8pm: 'Still Hour' of quiet prayer, but **Parish Prayers, 7 – 7.30pm,** last Sunday in the month in May, July & Sept.

Wednesdays: St Paul's 10am: St Andrew's 2pm

Weekday Morning Prayers: St Paul's 9.05am
Come & join us - all welcome.

NOTES

Donations of cakes, jewellery, toiletries etc are needed for the Fair at St Paul's. Please bring on Wednesday morning or Sunday before the fair.

Alf Garrod would like to thank all the people who gave him cards & gifts for his 80th birthday.

Opportunity for Christian service: Can you help by going on a rota for cleaning St Paul's Social Area? Please contact Anthea 792 1780

Stuart Lester has moved into his new flat but needs furniture, especially soft furnishings, dining table & chairs. Can U Help? (07780858619)

Mellor Country House, M'cr Cathedral Country Home, provides low-cost, subsidised holidays for families, groups and individuals who are living in the inner cities of M'cr, Salford and Stockport. It is at 299 Longhurst Lane, Mellor, Stockport Sk6 5PP. This property is deliberately set aside to give church members who can't afford much, a great holiday at extremely good value – if interested let Lisa know.

DIARY DATES (May)

Archdeacons' visitations in May for sidespersons and churchwardens see Anthea D. (St Paul's), Judith W. (St Andrew's).

Sundays, 7 – 7.30pm, School of Prayer, in St Paul's Youth Room, to enrich and broaden your prayer life.

BH Mon 2nd, Ramble planned from Burrs Park to Summerseat then a train journey to Ramsbottom and back. Meet at Rainsough Community Centre at 10am. See Hilary S (St Andrew's) or Rick (St Paul's) for more details.

Tue 3rd, 1.30pm, 'Time Out', (fortnightly craft & social group), 5 Moorside Rd. All welcome.

Tue 3rd, 7.30pm, St Paul's Committee meeting

Sat 7th, Sponsored Walk from Rainsough Community Centre to Radcliffe and back – meet at RCC 10.30am. Please sponsor the young people or join in the walk to raise funds to send some young people from our parish to camps this Summer. Interested? Please speak to Siân (07710 796 023) or Tracy (07974 927 911).

Sat 7th, 9.30 – 2.30pm, 'Living Stones', Salford Archdeaconry Vocation Day at St Stephen's Astley. Life calling for anyone interested in OLM, licensed or ordained ministry. Book places by calling 708 9366 or email dosec@bishops court.manchester.anglican.org



Wed 11th, 8pm, Flourish planning meeting in Prestwich Methodist Church – all interested welcome.

Thu 12th, 6.30pm – 8pm, Espresso Church in Costa Coffee, Longfield Precinct. (2nd Thu in the month) Interesting speaker, coffee & conversation in a relaxed environment.

Thu 12th, 7.30pm, 'Churches Together' meeting, St Gabriel's, Bishops Rd, Sedgley Pk.

Thu 12th, 8pm, St Andrew's Ladies' Circle in St Andrew's – Plant stall.

Sat 14th, Please note date of **Salford Deanery Walk** has been changed to June 11th.

Sun 15th, If you wish to visit Bishops court with Confirmation class (meet at rectory 2.15pm) please let Lisa know. (792 5362 or email lisabattye@stpaulsparish.org.uk)

Sun 15th, St Paul's Gift day

Sun 15th – 21st Christian Aid Week

Mon 16th, 7.30pm, St Andrew's Committee meeting

Wed 18th, Everyone is invited to a Public Meeting at Butterstile school to learn more about Credit Unions and how they could benefit this area. Details from Revd Catherine: 773 9859, mob. 07711611201, email cjts08@email.com

Sun 22nd, 6pm, Deanery Confirmation is at St Luke's, Weaste - corner of Liverpool St / Derby Rd Salford M6 5YD.

Tue 24th, 7pm prayers for 7.30pm, PCC meeting

Wed 25th, 11.30am, Luncheon club, St Paul's Social Area.

Sun 29th, 7pm, Parish prayers, St Paul's

ADVANCE NOTICES

Barry Woodward evening in St Paul's, Sat 17th Sept. For more details visit www.salfordstories.com

Newsletter items to Rick by Tue 10th, for Sun 15th May
Mob: 0753 927 5834 rick51thompson@yahoo.co.uk

Emergency prayer chain: ring Maureen (792 4873)
Email requests – rober382@talktalk.net

For more information and past newsletters visit our website: www.stpaulsparish.org.uk

Clergy contact details:

Revd Lisa Battye, 1 Moorside Rd, M7 3PJ (0161 792 5362) Mob: 07539775483

Revd Catherine Shelley, 94 Woodward Rd, M25 9TZ (0161 773 9859) Mob: 07711611201

Our aim is to *KNOW* God through Jesus, to *GROW* in faith, and to *SHOW* God's love in our community

*...N.B. the **110:10** challenge for 2011 is to be **whole-life disciples** in the 110 waking hours in each week that we are not in church, as well as the 10 or less that we are.