



Newsletter



For 2 weeks from Sunday 2nd October 2011

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

"THE JOY OF GIVING"

Christian leader Steve Chalke tells this story:

One day, while wandering through the forest, a teacher stumbled upon a precious stone. He picked it up, dusted it off, and put it into his bag. Some days later he met a traveller and, in conversation with him, opened his bag and showed him the stone. When the traveller saw the jewel he demanded that the teacher hand it over to him. The teacher smiled and did so readily.

The traveller departed in a hurry, overjoyed with the unexpected gift of the precious stone that was enough to give him wealth and security for the rest of his life. However, a few days later he returned in search of the teacher, and, finding him, gave him back the stone. *"Now I want you to give me something much more precious than this stone. Give me whatever it was that enabled you to give me the stone in the first place."*

It's a story that gets to the essence of what it means to become a joyful giver. The apostle Paul was one who was changed by understanding that *"it is more blessed to give than to receive"* and much of his ministry was taken up with organising and overseeing collections amongst all the churches for the poor of Jerusalem.

Something profound takes place in us when we make the journey from being a reluctant or begrudging giver to a cheerful one. The above story, and many passages of scripture, speaks of a freedom and a joy – something akin to an internal revolution - that we experience as we share what we have with others. We also have more opportunity to encounter the God of provision too, who gives to us *"abundantly, exceedingly beyond anything we could ever dare ask or imagine."*

James Emmerson
Diocesan Stewardship Officer

REGULAR SERVICES

Sundays: St Paul's 10am: St Andrew's 11am

St Paul's, 7–8pm: 'Still Hour' of quiet prayer, and Parish Prayers, 7–7.30pm, last Sun in Nov.

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

Weekday Morning Prayers: St Paul's 9.05 - 9.25am. Come & join us - all welcome.

PARISH NOTES

Sundays: School of Prayer, 7-7.30pm, St Paul's

Wednesday Macmillan Coffee Morning at St Paul's raised £290. Many thanks to all who supported it.

If anyone has any of the animals from the **beautiful toy ark** at the back of the worship area in St Paul's, please will you return them!

Ladies of all ages! If you enjoy singing and would like to try singing with the Ladies' choir, please see Bronwen or come along after service in St Paul's and join in with a practice. We are a very friendly group of ladies and we would welcome some new members, especially as Christmas is approaching. Any Vicar of Dibley fans? Well – we're learning the theme 'The Lord is my Shepherd' by Howard Goodall.

Lisa will shortly be preparing the rotas for lesson reading, assisting at communion and leading prayers for 2012. Please will you let her know if you would like to come off rota(s) or would like to offer service on them, ASAP?

Thank you to every member who has already completed their Stewardship Campaign responses and put their jigsaw pieces in place. Please will others bring in their response and jigsaw piece before our thanksgiving services on 16th Oct (St Andrew's) & 23rd Oct (St Paul's).

DIARY DATES October

Today: Sun 2nd, Harvest Festival 'Bring & share' lunch, 12.15pm in St Paul's. All welcome.

Sun 2nd, Healing Service, 7pm, St Paul's.

Mon 3rd, Come & worship and welcome the gov't to M'cr, 6.30 – 7.15pm at The Great Hall, M'cr Town Hall. Details from Alan S - 792 4130.

Thu 6th, St Andrew's Ladies' Circle – Quiz 8pm in St Andrew's. (fortnightly meeting)

Fri 7th, Ada Jones' funeral, 12.20pm, Agecroft Crem.

Sun 9th, Children's Leaders' meeting, 2pm at 5 Moorside Rd.

Mon 10th, Jamboree evening, 7 – 9pm at Rainsough Community Centre. Raffle, refreshments & film by Tom Torrance. Free.

Wed 12th, Flourish meeting, 8pm in Prestwich Methodist Church (For lift see Revd Lisa)

Thu 13th, Espresso Church, 6.30 – 8pm in Costa Coffee, Longfield Precinct, (2nd Thu in month) interesting speaker, coffee & chat. After 'Bitter Church' at Church Inn near St Mary's.

Sat 15th, 'Living Stones' day to explore all kinds of vocation, 9.45-3.45pm at St James' Woolfold.

Sat 15th, Annual PCC Day Away, 10 - 3pm with Chick Yuill, lunch provided, 5 Moorside Rd.

Sun 16th, Holy Communion with Healing Prayers, 10am at St Paul's. & **Parade Service**, 11am, St Andrew's.

Sun 16th, Confirmation Service, 3pm, St Paul's.

Sun 23rd, Holy Communion with Healing Prayers, 11am in St Andrew's.

Thu 27th, Salford-Lünen Partnership Prayer Labyrinth launch, 2 - 4.30pm at Holy Angels.

Sat/Sun 29th/30th, Clocks go back one hour.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Remember, remember the 5th of November
St Andrew's are having a bonfire again
Calling, calling to all happy gardeners
To build up the woodpile. Amen

Sat 5th Nov, Bonfire Party at St Andrew's from 6.30pm – fire, food and fun...

Wood collecting and prep: Saturday 22nd Oct 10am to 1pm - meet at St Andrew's with any saws, transport etc you can bring. For more details call Revd Catherine 07711 611201.

Ugandan Youth Choir

Sat 29th Oct 7.30pm

in St Paul's Church Kersal

Invite friends and family

More details from Alan Saunders 792 4130

Tickets from St Paul's /St Andrew's Church

Adult £5 / Child £3

www.destinyafrica.org

All profits go to support

Kampala Children's Centre in Uganda

Sat 12th Nov, Christmas Fair, 11 - 2pm, St Andrew's

Sat 19th Nov, Prison Fellowship Rally, 6.45pm for 7pm, St Paul's

Sat 26th Nov, St Paul's Christmas Fair, 11 – 2pm

ADVANCE NOTICES

Sun 27th Nov, St Paul's - Advent Sunday and Special service to celebrate the work of SPACE and the special ministry of the Churchyard.

Sun 27th Nov, St Andrew's - Lunch after Church for anyone who can stay on for it.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Rector: Revd Lisa Battye, 1 Moorside Rd, M7 3PJ
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Curate: Revd Dr Catherine Shelley, 94 Woodward Rd,
M25 9TZ (0161 773 9859) Mob: 07711611201
Email: revdr cath@gmail.com

Hall Bookings: St Paul's 792 5362; St Andrew's 798 6917

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

Newsletter items to Rick by Tue 11th for Sun 16th Oct
Mob: 0753 927 5834 Email rick51thompson@yahoo.co.uk

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