



Newsletter

(04) Sunday 21 Feb to Saturday 5 March 2016

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



'Litter-Free Lent' - and being humbled

As I write, my 'Litter-Free Lent' is not turning out normally at all! On Ash Wednesday I led my first ever assembly for Jewish sixth-formers, then on Street Pastor duty I had my first encounter with human trafficking, then for the first time in my life I travelled First Class (if you book early it's cheaper than 2nd class, honest!), then yesterday my heart pounded *so badly* in a General Synod debate that I *very nearly* made my maiden speech. I have rarely felt such terror! However, I'd indicated my request to speak on the wrong electronic form. God is kind.

In each new thing I felt ignorant, naïve, clumsy, 'small' and inadequate, and I made silly mistakes. So for me, addressing the 'Litter' in my heart has started with reflection on being humbled. If you have ever felt likewise you might enjoy the following passage from the apocryphal book of **Ecclesiasticus (or 'Sirach') ch 2:1-6**. The whole of the book is well worth reading, by the way - Jesus and the apostles frequently quoted from it.

Revd Lisa

"My child, when you come to serve the Lord, prepare yourself for testing. ²Set your heart right and be steadfast, and do not be impetuous in time of calamity.³ Cling to him and do not depart, so that your last days may be prosperous.⁴ Accept whatever befalls you, and in times of humiliation be patient.⁵ For gold is tested in the fire, and those found acceptable [are tested] in the furnace of humiliation. ⁶Trust in him, and he will help you; make your ways straight, and hope in him."

REGULAR SERVICES

Sundays:	St Paul's	10am
	St Andrew's	11am
Wednesdays:	St Paul's	10am
	St Andrew's	2pm
Mondays:	Prayers, St Paul's, 9.05am	

Bible Readings

28 February

Is 55:1-9 or Deut 6: 4-9

6 March

Ex 2:1-10 & Luke 2:33-35

DIARY DATES

Sunday, 21 February 11am to 12.30pm
Thinking Day Service at St Andrew's.

Litter-free Lent group at 7.30 pm on Tuesdays at St Paul's Church: **23 February and 1, 8, 15 March**. Join us for a **Litter-free Lent** as we try to clean up our lives prayerfully and our environment practically during the next 40 days.

Litter-free Lent sermon series on Wednesday 24, Sunday 28 February and Sunday 20 March (joint Palm Sunday service at St Paul's followed by APCM).

Tuesday, 23 February 1.30-3.30pm
TIME OUT, Moorside Rd. Details 792-9960.

Tuesday, 23 February 2.30-3.30pm
Christian Meditation, Katherine's Retreat House, Singleton Rd.

Saturday, 27 February 10 to 5pm.
'Living Stones Day' to discern vocations at Church of the Resurrection, 1a Albert Street M11 3AS. To book ring 708-9366.

FUTURE DATES AND NOTICES

Monday, 29 February 7.30pm SHOW group, meeting with Publicity Committee, in the Rectory.

Wed. 2 March 7.30pm GROW group

Thursday, 3 March 10 to 11.30am. Dementia Friendly Drop In Cafe at The Salvation Army Holt House, Headlands Drive, Prestwich. All family and friends welcome.

Friday, 4 March at 1.30pm It is the Women's World Day of Prayer and was prepared by the Christina Women of Cuba. The title is 'Receive Children, Receive Me', This will take place at the chapel at Nazareth House, Scholes Lane. Noel Proctor is doing the talk.

Saturday, 5 March from 10am to 3pm Clearing the beech copse, St Paul's Churchyard with Friends of Kersal Moor. *Project at St Andrew's - on the way!*

Saturday, 5 March 2.30pm-4.30pm Messy Church at St Andrew's. Do come!

On **Saturday, 5 March** 5.30-6.30pm in St Paul's, Vera and Stan Mackenzie celebrate their **60th Wedding Anniversary** with a Service of Thanksgiving. Stan & Vera have said no presents please, but if you wish, a donation can be given which will be split between St. Paul's Church and the Leprosy Mission.

The next Clean-up in Salford is also on **Saturday, 5 March at 10am**, meeting at McDonalds, Cross Lane, Salford. It is called '**Clean for the Queen**'. We need as much help as we can possibly get. All cleaning materials are provided, and possibly transport expenses. More info - joemalley60@gmail.com 07867634954.

Sunday, 6 March Mothering Sunday.

Monday, 7 March 6.45 to 8pm Espresso Church at Costa Coffee Prestwich.

Wednesday, 9 March: *Would you like a soothing hand massage?* Revd Lisa is sponsoring Karen Andrew, a qualified masseuse, to offer free 10 minute hand massages for people over coffee at the Coffee morning in St Paul's.

Parish Retreat led by Rev Lisa
Friday to Sunday, 16-18 SEPTEMBER
Join us in the lovely Thornleigh Christian Hotel, Grange-over-Sands, for some 'Resonate' teaching, good food and fellowship, in pleasant surroundings. Full board from Friday dinner to Sunday lunch £140.00. All rooms en suite. Lift to all floors. Weekly part payments accepted and some subsidies on request. Contact Maureen 792 4873 rober382@talktalk.net

Sunday, 20 March 10.30am, St Paul's Joint Annual Parochial Church Meeting APCM. Let's make this a real celebration! If any adult or child has received any award, trophy, badge or certificate this past year then please bring it to the meeting... for any achievement: sport, dance, drama, music, school, employment, voluntary work, etc. etc. Please let your church family share in your successes.

Thursday, 7 April 7.30pm, in the rectory. NEW ALPHA COURSE. Please plan to come, and to bring a friend with you.

PLEASE NOTE: this is the last Newsletter until 4 April. To publish any events please contact Kathryn as soon as possible for the Easter Magazine kathryndis@yahoo.co.uk 773 2301

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