



Newsletter

(01) Sunday 8 to Saturday 21 Jan 2017

A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OUR READERS!



Happy New Year?

Is it really only 12 months since we were last wishing each other 'Happy New Year'? And did we get what we wished for, I wonder?

'Being happy' would probably come right at the top of our goals for life. For some, happiness would be to live care-free, having plenty of money. Holidays, family, friends, nice possessions, sunshine, laughter and relaxation- everyone has their own blue-print of what happiness means to them. But happiness is so difficult to find, easily broken and impossible to hold on to. Why? It has been said that happiness depends on happenings. Something needs to happen to us to make us happy. That's why happiness is so hard to find or keep- we can't create or control happenings. We've just celebrated a great happening- Christmas. We were reminded of the presence of God among us, in the physical birth of Jesus. His birth was announced by angels as 'Good News of Great Joy', with promises of 'Peace on Earth'. God is with us in the gift of Jesus, and this gift brings joy and peace. A gift can be rejected, accepted, ignored or opened and used. We don't give presents we have chosen for our loved ones in the hope that the gift remains in the packaging! We want the gift to be appreciated, used and valued. God's generous gift of Jesus is precious, increasing in value the more he is known by us.

One of the facets of the gift of Jesus to us is joy. Not happiness, but joy. Joy because God is with us, giving us his love and peace. Joy because God forgives and loves us. Joy which is strong in the face of

troubles. Joy which survives all the happenings around us. Joy which lasts.

Anne Rockley

REGULAR SERVICES

Sundays:	St Paul's	10am
	St Andrew's	11am
Wednesdays:	St Paul's HC	10am
	St Andrew's	2pm
Mon. & Wed:	Prayers, St Paul's,	9.05am
St. Andrews	15 Jan 11am HC	
	29 Jan 11am HC	

Bible Readings

- 11 Jan:** Psalm 124 & Matthew 1:29-39
15 Jan: Psalm 11 Heb.1: 32-38 & John 15:10-25
18 Jan: Heb.7:1-3,15,17 & Mark 3:1-16.
22 Jan: Exe.25:31-40 Acts 9:1-9.
25 Jan: Psalm 67 & Mark 3:1-16.

DIARY DATES

Sun. 8 Jan. 4.30-6.15pm. A new course of conversational Hebrew classes is being made possible by a business sponsor. The class is open to new participants – contact Lisa for details.

Sun. 8 Jan. 7.30 to 8.30pm, then every week onwards. Christian Meditation at Jean's, 15 Moorside Road, Kersal, Salford M7 3PJ.

Mon. 9 Jan. 7.30 to 9pm Friends of Kersal Moor are holding an open meeting on 'Bill and Bees' in St. Paul's Social Area. Chair Bronwen Bevin.

Tues. 10 Jan. 7.30 **am.** City Centre Prayer Meeting and breakfast at the 'Moon Under Water', Deansgate.

Tues. 10 Jan. 7.30pm SPACE meeting, Parish Office.

Tues. 17 Jan. 7.00-9.00pm at Menorah Synagogue, Wythenshawe. 'Our Urgent Duty' – a Bible Study session on how we read the passages of scripture that refer to Jews. This is open to everyone, not only preachers. If you need a lift let Lisa know.

Wed. 18 Jan. 7.30pm GROW group, 5 Moorside Road

Wed. 18 Jan. 7.30 to 9pm Planning meeting at Prestwich Methodist Church for next 'Flourish' Gathering at St. Pauls on 12/13 May 2017.

Fri. 20 to Sat. 22 Jan. 2017 'First Friday' Men's Weekend away at Abbott Hall. For information contact Len Mills on 792-3877 or lenmills1@hotmail.co.uk.

Mon. 23 Jan. Edna Shedlock is 100 today

Wed. 25 Jan. Daniel Shedlock is 18

Thurs. 26 Jan. Holocaust Memorial Day event The Longfield Suite, 6.30 for 7pm

~~**Sun. 29 Jan.** 3 to 4pm. Memorial Service at St. Paul's for those recently departed.~~

FUTURE DATES AND NOTICES

Mon 6 Feb. from 6.45pm Expresso Church at Costa Coffee in Prestwich (upstairs).

Fridays 3,10,17,24 Feb. from 10.30am to 12.30pm (coffee from 10am)
Introduction to Christian Meditation at Katherine House, 26 Singleton Rd. Salford M7 4WL with Barry Whitehead and Raylia

CONTACT INFORMATION

Rector: Revd Lisa Battye, 1 Moorside Rd, M7 3PJ (0161 792 5362) Mob: 07539775483
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Curate: Revd Mike Dyson, 15 Moorside Road Kersal, Salford M7 3PJ (0161 792 1098)
Email: beardandsandals@hotmail.com

Chadwick. To book telephone 0161-708-9744 or e-mail khousefcj@hotmail.com. Suggested donation £5 per session.

Night Shelter

Please bring donations of warm clothes for men to Jean before 18th January so that she can take them in when she goes on duty.

Advent Challenge

Well done to all who read the daily Gospel readings through Advent. Feedback would be welcomed with a view to providing a Lent Challenge if people are interested.

Thanks, Eileen

“OPEN DOORS”

www.opendoorsuk.org

On 15th January we welcome Trevor Green of 'OPEN DOORS' Charity is coming to St Paul's. He will be staying around after the service to meet people and introduce us, if possible, to the exciting opportunity of becoming a 'Secret Church', in solidarity with those who are persecuted for their faith in some of the most closed societies in the world. N.b. *He has apologised that on this occasion he will not be able to go to St Andrew's, but asked to be invited back so as to set out his stall there as well.*

If you are interested in this important ministry please ask Lisa for a copy of 'The Secret Church Leader's Guide' and become an advisor to PCC on this matter.

Stefanie of Tunbridge Wells wrote "*Our 'Secret Church' was the single most impactful thing we have done... far better than any talk could ever be.*"

Hall Bookings: St Paul's and St. Andrew's 792 3877;

Emergency prayer chain: ring Maureen 792 4873 or email rober382@sky.com

All notices to sub-editor Norma MacKinnon at mackinnon860@hotmail.co.uk

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