



# Newsletter

(02) Sunday 20 Jan to Saturday 2 Feb 2019

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



## SNOWDROPS

Last Sunday morning, when I arrived at St Andrew's, I noticed some snowdrops growing by the side of the steps, green shoots with just one white flower bravely nodding in the wind and rain. Before last week I did not know they were there. All last summer and autumn, there was no sign of them and even though the leaves must have been pushing through, I've been too busy to notice them. The snowdrops have been there all the time, just waiting for the right moment to flower. An early promise of the spring to come, a brightness in the darkest days, a fragile hope that survives despite all the weather can throw at them. Rooted in its place and growing now the conditions are right.

After three years of study and my ordination I was finally back full-time in the parish, in the home soil I am rooted in. But I did not know what God was calling me to do here. So, I set out to walk around the parish, where God is working, and ask God to guide me. Over the summer and autumn, I walked and prayed around the streets, talking to people I met. At first nothing seemed to be happening, but I kept on walking and talking and praying - sure that eventually there would be signs of God's work.

And now, like the buds of the snowdrops, I can feel the first signs of what God is doing here, very small and delicate but also strong and deep rooted. How God is working to use St Andrew's to bring life in all its fullness to the community of Carr Clough.

I will be continuing my prayer walks; please will you also pray as you travel around the parish? So we can look out for more signs of God's work in Kersal, Carr Clough and Rainsough.

With every Blessing

**Rev Hilary**

P.S. If you want to know more about prayer walking or join me on a walk you are welcome to get in touch for a chat.

Rev Hilary would welcome company on her prayer walks, just get in touch for the next date or to find out more about prayer walking."

## REGULAR SERVICES

Sundays: St Paul's 10am (HC 27 Jan) St Andrew's 11am (HC 20 Jan)

Christian Meditation: 7.30-8.30pm (details 792-1098)

Morning Prayers: Mon; Tues (9am); Weds (9.15am)

Night Prayers Tues: 8.45pm (details from 798 6917)

Wednesdays: St Paul's 10am Holy Communion  
St Andrew's 2pm Prayers

### Service Leaders and Readings

**Sun 20 Jan St. P's** AT/LPL

Isaiah 62: 1-5 & John 2: 1-11

**St. A's** LPL/KD

Psalms 36:5-10.

**Wed 23 Jan St. P's** LPL or NP

Hebrews 7:1-3, 15-17, & Mark 3: 1-6.

**Sun 27 Jan St. P's** BP/NP

Nehemiah 8:1-3,5-6,8-10. & Luke 4:14-21.

**St A's** MD/AR/HM

Psalms 19:1-6

**Wed 30 Jan St P's** LPL or NP

Psalms 110:1-4 & Mark 4:1-20

## DIARY DATES

**18 to 20 Jan** The First Friday Men's Group will be away for the week-end at Thornleigh Christian Hotel, Grange over sands

**Mon 21 Jan** at 7.30pm SHOW Group meeting in the Social Area at St Paul's.

**Tue 22 Jan** from 10.30am to 3.30pm Holocaust Memorial Day at Katherine House. Looking at the life of diarist Etty Hillesum who died in Auschwitz. Booking recommended. See poster on church notice board for more details.

**Mon 28 Jan** 7 to 8.30pm KNOW Group meeting at St. Pauls in the Parish Office.

**Tues 29 Jan** from 1.30pm TIME OUT at 5 Moorside Road.

## FUTURE DATES AND NOTICES

**Mon 4 Feb** 6.45 to 8pm. Espresso Church at Costa Coffee Prestwich.

**Sat 9 Feb** Ladies Day at Heaton Park Methodist church (in the social area). Theme 'You've got more' by speaker Alice Belton from Ivy Church. Refreshments from 9am, worship and teaching starts at 9.30am and the day ends at 4.30pm. Hot lunch costs £6.00 plus an offering for Alice. Please see the flyers at church for booking details which must be made by the end of January. Jean Dyson

**Flourish 2019:** 'Rhythms of Life' Friday & Saturday 24/25 May 2019 at St Paul's. Excellent teaching, fellowship and contemporary worship. More details to follow, but a date for your new diaries!

Jill Baker an Ex-Vice President of the Methodist Conference and local preacher has accepted the invitation to be the speaker. Please put these dates in your diary. More information can be found on [www.burycircuit.org.uk](http://www.burycircuit.org.uk) and follow the links for Flourish 2019.

Please pray for the people of North Korea; many are suffering from malnutrition and are boiling grass and salt together ( grass stew ) to help them stay alive.

Pray for protection for Open Doors secret workers who smuggle in food and medicine to help keep believers alive.

Give thanks that Christian students from the Ninevah Plains, in Iraq , have been able to return to Mosul University to continue their studies. Pray for their safety - the security situation in Mosul remains unpredictable.

Pray for Open Doors ministry among North Korean refugees in China. The work is really dangerous as many North Korean spies are actively looking for them as well as for North Korean believers. Pray for the Lord's provision and protection. Thanks Everyone God Bless You ----Maureen Roberts.

## THANKS FROM PERSONA CARE AND SUPPORT SERVICES BURY

After an appeal for board games to keep customers entertained during the winter months, Clair MacKinnon (Performance & Projects Manager) sourced some games from the charity shops in Bury town centre and also asked her mum, Norma, to put an appeal out to her Church congregation (St. Paul's Church, Moor Lane, Kersal). The Church kindly donated some board games, which will now be distributed around LD Day Services. On behalf of Persona Care and Support customers I would like to thank you all for the wonderful donation of games from the congregation. I can assure you that they will be well used and enjoyed for years to come. God Bless



## HUGS DAY – DID YOU KNOW THIS FACT?

Always celebrated on 21 January and originated in 1986 by Revd. Kevin Zaborney of Michigan USA and is copyrighted!! What a great day! This is an opportunity to give and to receive. Give a hug, and you automatically receive one in return. Someone might not hug you back but how often does that happen!?! Hugs are loving. Hugs are therapeutic. Hugs are caring. Hugs are celebratory. Hugs make you feel good inside. A hug is a way to say everything is, or will be okay. Have you ever received a hug from someone who didn't care? I didn't think so. That's proof positive that you're loved and cared about. Celebrate today by giving hugs to family, friends and loved ones. You'll love the warm feeling you get.

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