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## St George's Parish Church Stalybridge



Diocese of Manchester

35p

THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND



September 2014

# St George's Church Stalybridge

## Clergy

**Priest-in-Charge** Revd Philip Brierley 0161 338 2368

**Assistant Priest** Revd Keith Stewart 0161 303 7483

**Associate Priest** Revd Doreen Broadbent 0161 330 9085

**Wardens** Mrs Gillian Cotton 0161 303 2787

Mr Derek Redeyoff 0161 338 4779

**Asst Warden** Mrs Rose Hayward 0161 303 1731

**P.C.C. Secretary** Mrs Chris Crabtree 0161 285 1775

**Treasurer** Mrs Juliana Stewart 0161 303 7483

**Magazine Editor** Mrs Linda Hurst 0161 330 0518

**Room Hire** Mr Norman Quest 0161 338 4691

## Worship Sunday

8.30 a.m. Holy Communion (2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays)

10.30 a.m. Sung Communion and Junior Church  
(4<sup>th</sup> Sunday – Family Service)

18.00 p.m. Occasional Special Services as  
announced

## Tuesday

10.30 a.m. Holy Communion

To receive Communion at home when you are sick or housebound, or to have the name of a departed friend or relation entered in the Book of Remembrance, please contact one of the clergy or Wardens.

**For Baptisms, Marriages or Funerals please phone Philip (Priest-in-Charge) on 0161 338 2368. Baptisms are usually conducted at 12.30 pm on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month.**

## From Our Book of Remembrance

1 Sep	Thomas Martin	1974	21 Sep	Joseph Wynne Bithell	2013
	Freda Butler	2010	23 Sep	Harold Barnfield	1992
2 Sep	Ida Mawdsley	1998		Mary Louise Harris	1975
	Mabel Ethel Shaw	1988		Edith Jubb	1992
4 Sep	Eric Clegg	1993		Peter Barratt	2011
5 Sep	Betty Denby	1963	24 Sep	Harry Mitchell Lister	1929
	Ruth Sutton	1997		George Ronald Scott	1979
7 Sep	George Sayce	1985	26 Sep	Mary Williams	2012
	Mary Sidebottom	1987	28 Sep	Alma Cuttle	1985
8 Sep	Harold Thwaites	1957		Mary Jane Higgins	2005
9 Sep	William Grimshaw	1974		Raymond Peter Redfern	2007
10 Sep	Boris Buckley	2006	29 Sep	Harry Rawsterne	2009
19 Sep	Joseph Alun Davies	2012	30 Sep	Reginald Aldred	1998

## BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

To have the name of a loved one entered into this special book, and remembered in our intercessions for their anniversary please have a word with one of the wardens or one of the clergy.

The cost for the special inscription is £10 per entry



If anyone would like to take up the bread and wine at the offertory—to celebrate a special occasion, in memory of a loved one or just to take part, please have a word with one of the wardens or clergy for any Sunday this year.

## From the Registers

### Baptisms

*We welcome into the Lord's family*

#### 3 August

Kaylan Newton, Kendal Court, Stalybridge  
Keevie Newton, Kendal Court, Stalybridge  
Zophia Shaw, Regina Avenue, Stalybridge

#### 17 August

Michael Buxton, Ridge Hill Lane, Stalybridge  
Alfie Logan, Cambridge Street, Stalybridge  
Amelia Hilton, Windermere Road, Stalybridge

### Weddings

*God is love, and those who live in love live in God, and God lives in them*

#### 2 August

Christopher Robert Bird and Emma Louise King

### Funerals

*Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord*

#### 27 July

Norman Council, Melbourne Court, Stalybridge  
*Interment of ashes*

#### 28 July

Judith Dalton, Kendal House, Stalybridge  
*Interment of ashes*

#### 29 July

Cyril Chadwick (age 83 years) Richmond House, Stalybridge

#### 1 August

William (Bill) Walker (age 84 years), Boundary Close, Mossley

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Dear Friends



September, for most people, marks an end to summer holidays and a return to the daily routine of school, work, and the daily grind. By the time you read this we will have just returned from spending a week at one of Italy's lovely lakes – Lake Como. It's the third largest lake in Italy, after Lake Garda and Lake Maggiore, and one of the deepest lakes in Europe. In fact, the bottom of the lake is more than two hundred metres (660 ft) below sea-level. Since Roman times, Lake Como has been a popular retreat for aristocrats and wealthy people, and a very popular tourist attraction with many artistic and cultural gems. Villas and palaces grace the shores and it is, indeed, a sight to behold.

After all that beauty and magnificence, though, it's good to be back home and into the daily round once again. September brings with it some new beginnings here at St George's. In July, Keith announced that he and Juliana were re-locating to the Crewe area and would be leaving us in the autumn. They have been here at our church for the best part of forty years and will both be greatly missed. More details of their move will be in next month's magazine but please keep them in your prayers as they prepare for this new chapter in their (and our) lives.

Keith's move will mean that for the first time in many a long year we will have neither a curate/assistant priest nor a Reader at the church. St. George's has a very long tradition of these roles and has gained greatly from the ministry of the various people who have undertaken them.

At the PCC Meeting in May of this year, after a vote taken by the members of our congregation, it was decided to change the time of the morning service to 10.30 a.m. This will begin on 7 September and we will quite understand those people who may arrive late for the first couple of weeks, because it marks the first change in the time of the morning service that St George's has witnessed certainly in the last sixty five years and probably longer.

That is not the only event that's happening here on that day, because we also take back, from St Peter's, the Baton of Prayer which has been doing the rounds in the churches in Stalybridge and



Millbrook. You may already have heard that Father Bernard Forshaw is leaving Stalybridge and taking up another appointment closer to Liverpool to be nearer his family. At the time of writing I do not have any further details, but we wish Father Bernard all the very best in his new appointment and wish all the congregation at St Peter's a fruitful time ahead.

On Sunday 21 September, there is a walk planned around Dove Stone Reservoir, led by Revd Roger Dixon. This replaces the walk originally planned for 18 June which had to be cancelled due to lack of support. I wrote more fully about this in the May magazine, but briefly the walk will mirror a pilgrimage around Lake Galilee with stops along the way for bible readings and reflection. It is a very worthwhile experience and is being opened up to anyone on a first come, first served basis. Please let me know if you would like to go, put your name down on the list in the lounge or give me a phone call and I will pass on your name to Roger.

The following week, on 28 September, the major festival of Harvest will be celebrated at 10.30 a.m. This will be followed by a Harvest Bring and Share Lunch. You are all invited to come along and enjoy the fellowship of each other's company and bring along some food to share. Please do not think that if you do not want to bring any food along you will be turned away! You might like to give a donation instead, but be assured you will be very welcome.

Also this month there are two opportunities to test your brains. The first is on Saturday 20 September at a 'Walking Treasure Hunt around Stalybridge' and the second is the following week – on 27 September – when we are holding the next of our quiz nights. Fuller details of these events can be found elsewhere in this magazine but please sign up on the lists in the lounge if you would like to come. They are good fun.

Looking ahead to next month, on Saturday 4 October we will be having a Table Top Sale. Refreshments will be available throughout the day. If you want to de-clutter your house, then just book a table for only £10 through our website enquiry form, but be quick, because the tables will sell out fast. If you do not want to book a table, then you can donate your bits and bobs to the Church

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table and any money from that will go to Church funds. Here is the link to the booking form: <http://stg.org.uk/miscpages/enquiry.php>.

*Philip*

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### Keith and Juliana's Farewell Lunch

It has now been announced that Keith and Juliana's last Sunday with us will be Sunday 28 September. Keith will preach his last sermon at St George's on that day and, as it is Harvest Sunday, we had already arranged for a **Bring and Share Lunch**. This will now take the form of a Leaving Party so we hope that as many of you as possible will be able to share with us on that day to bid a fond farewell.

If you are able, please bring along some food to share or, if you prefer, you could make a donation.

### Challenge Number 1

On Saturday 20th September there will be a Walking Treasure Hunt around Stalybridge - a sort of car rally but on foot. We meet in Armentieres Square at 12.45p.m. and the hunt should take around an hour to an hour and a half, finishing up at church with the Fair Trade Afternoon Tea, where the answer sheets will be marked. Should be good fun. Please sign your name on the list on the lounge notice board if you intend to come along.

### Challenge Number 2

The following week - on Saturday 27th September - there will be the next of our popular quizzes. It starts at 8.00p.m. at church and teams of up to six people are invited. Please bring your own alcoholic drink if you wish to imbibe.

### Harvest Fruit and Vegetable Competition

We are hoping that as many children as possible and any adults who wish to do so will make sculptures from fruit and / or vegetables and bring them along to our Harvest service.

A small prize awaits the winner in both classes.



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alternative to a basket of groceries..."

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## Himalayan Hike

Some of you may know me, my name is Kadie and I am an assistant guider with St Georges Guides. I am now also a volunteer fundraiser for Macmillan Cancer Support, I have joined up to hike the Himalayas to Tara Top (2800m), the biggest challenge I have done in my life so far and that was just the signing up!

I am fundraising £3500 and would like to invite you all to join me in supporting Macmillan. St Georges Guides will be holding a:

**Macmillan Coffee Evening**  
**24<sup>th</sup> September 2014**  
**19:00 – 21:00**

which you are all invited to, you will be served by the guides and there will be an array of coffee, tea and cake with all proceeds going to Macmillan.

For the more active among you I will also be hosting a:

**Zumbathon**  
**at St Peters Church**  
**18<sup>th</sup> October 2014**  
**12:30 – 3:30**

further details to be confirmed.

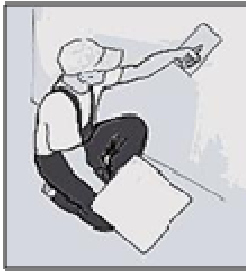
If you are interested in coming along please feel free and bring a friend (or two). For more information or if you have any fundraising ideas please contact me on [Kadieflaherty@gmail.com](mailto:Kadieflaherty@gmail.com) or visit <https://www.justgiving.com/kadie-flaherty/> to donate or learn more about the challenge I am undertaking.

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## August 200 Club Winners

The 200 Club winners for August are:

1st Prize	£30	Irene Agnew
2nd Prize	£15	Kath Parker
3rd Prize	£ 5	Nancy Neild



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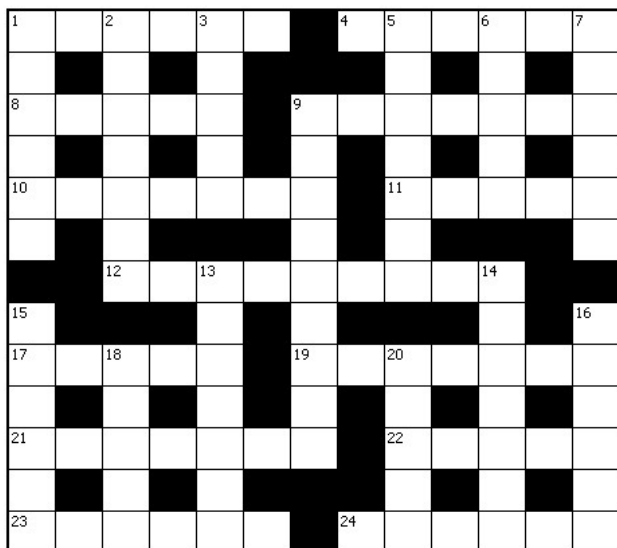
## Readings and Psalms for September 2014

Tues 2 <sup>nd</sup>	10.30	1 Corinthians 2.10b-end; Psalm 145.10-17; Luke 4.31-37
Sun 7 <sup>th</sup>	12th Sunday after Trinity	
	10.30	Ezekiel 33.7-11; Psalm 119.33-40; Romans 13.8-end; Matthew 18.15-20
Tues 9 <sup>th</sup>	10.30	1 Corinthians 6.1-11; Psalm 149.1-5; Luke 6.12-19
Sun 14 <sup>th</sup>	13th Sunday after Trinity - Holy Cross Day	
	8.30	Numbers 21.4-9; John 3.13-17;
	10.30	Numbers 21.4-9; Psalm 22.23-28; Philippians 2.6-11; John 3.13-17
Tues 16 <sup>th</sup>	10.30	1 Corinthians 12.12-14,27-end; Psalm 100; Luke 7.11-17
Sun 21 <sup>st</sup>	14th Sunday after Trinity - Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist	
	10.30	Proverbs 3.13-18; Psalm 119.65-72; 2 Corinthians 4.1-6; Matthew 9.9-13
Tues 23 <sup>rd</sup>	10.30	Proverbs 21.1-6,10-13; Psalm 119.1-8; Luke 8.19-21
Sun 28 <sup>th</sup>	15th Sunday after Trinity	
	Harvest and Back to Church Sunday	
	8.30	Deuteronomy 8.7-18; Luke 12.16-30
	10.30	Deuteronomy 8.7-18; Luke 12.16-30
	Worship For All	
Tues 30 <sup>th</sup>	10.30	Job 3.1-3,11-17,20-23; Psalm 88.14-19; Luke 9.51-56

### August Crossword Solution

ACROSS: 1 Mosaic, 4 Scales, 7 Cana, 8 Claudius, 9 Sadducee, 13 SLM, 16 Self-confident, 17 Sad, 19 Radiuses, 24 Shepherd, 25 Bind, 26 Astern, 27 Arthur  
DOWN: 1 Mock, 2 Sandalled, 3 CICCUC, 4 Share, 5 Aide, 6 Equal, 10 Decor, 11 Caned, 12 Elihu,

## September Crossword



### Across

1 'Through [Christ] we have gained — by faith into this grace' (Romans 5:2) (6), 4 Deprives of sight (Deuteronomy 16:19) (6), 8 The words of a hymn do this (mostly) (5), 9 Faithful allegiance (1 Chronicles 12:33) (7), 10 Belgium's chief port (7), 11 Where John was baptizing 'because there was plenty of water' (John 3:23) (5), 12 Imposing height (Psalm 48:2) (9), 17 Jesus' tempter in the wilderness (Mark 1:13) (5), 19 Comes between Amos and Jonah (7), 21 'Your will be done — — as it is in heaven' (Matthew 6:10) (2,5), 22 Gale (Matthew 8:24) (5), 23 Axle, eh? (anag.) (6)  
24 'Out of the — I cry to you, O Lord' (Psalm 130:1) (6)

### Down

1 Popular Christian author and humorist, — Plass (6), 2 Transparent ice-like mineral (Revelation 4:6) (7), 3 Method of compelling surrender by surrounding target of attack (2 Chronicles 32:1) (5), 5 Expose (Isaiah 52:10) (3,4), 6 Lonny (anag.) (5)  
7 Utterance (1 Timothy 1:15) (6), 9 Husband of Deborah, the prophetess (Judges 4:4) (9), 13 Burial service (Jeremiah 34:5) (7), 14 What Christ threatened to do to the lukewarm church in Laodicea (Revelation 3:16) (4,3), 15 'Simon Peter climbed aboard and dragged the net — ' (John 21:11) (6), 16 His response to Jesus' decision to return to Judea was 'Let us also go, that we may die with him' (John 11:16) (6), 18 'There will be weeping and gnashing of — ' (Matthew 8:12) (5), 20 Walkway between rows of pews in a church (5)

Church. The reach and extent of papal authority increased dramatically. As Europe entered the Middle Ages it was as a Christian civilisation, not only united by the Catholic Church, but to a great extent led by its supreme ruler — the Pope in Rome.

Despite the great changes that occurred during his life, Gregory is recorded as a man of humility and peace and his preferred title as Pope was the 'servant of the servants of God'. He was unafraid to stand for Christian truth in a changing and challenging world and challenged those in his charge to do so also.

If a preacher does not denounce the wicked, he himself will be reckoned guilty. For only one who is not afraid to say what they rightly feel and does not blush to do so ought to be a defender of the truth. The preacher is ...a physician, who does not blush to prescribe the medicines.

*Gregory the Great, Ezekiel I.xi.22; I.x.17*

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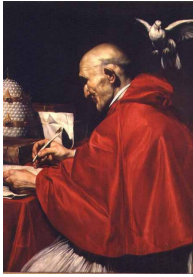
### Rihana Latif

Over the past few months the congregation of St George's has been praying for the health and well being of my friend's (Zad) mother, Rihana Latif. Zad as mentioned to me on many an occasion how the family have welcomed the love and support from strangers, this is something I believe it is only right and proper that you should know how your prayers for Rihana have been welcomed.

In recent times Rihana did have Chemotherapy followed by an operation; whilst it's still early days all the signs are good for Rihana and her family. So, on behalf of my chum, Zad, and indeed myself, please accept our warm and sincere thanks for your prayers for a total stranger.

Colin S.





## Saint of the Month

**3 September Gregory the Great,  
Bishop of Rome, Teacher of the Faith, 604**

Known as the Father of the medieval papacy, Gregory's list of achievements is lengthy. As well as being an accomplished law student, Gregory founded monasteries, contributed finance to many works, reformed the church leadership in Rome, set out liturgical reform and organised missionaries to the Anglo-Saxons.

Gregory was born in 540 to an aristocratic family of piety and scholarship that had already produced two popes. Brought up in the climate of cultural renewal, Gregory studied grammar, dialectic and rhetoric. He was made Prefect of Rome in 572 where he honed the administrative and political skills which would equip him for his later roles. He entered the monastic life in 574, establishing and endowing six monasteries on his family land, and one in Rome itself. In 579 he was sent to Constantinople where he stayed until 586. It was during this period that he wrote his best theological commentaries.

On his return to Rome, Gregory acted as adviser and secretary to Pelagius II, whom he succeeded as Pope in 590. Gregory discovered Rome in a miserable state devoid of real leadership, not only in the Church, but also in the wider city. In 592-3 the Italian peninsula was under threat from the Lombards, and rather than allow the invaders to deal with an inadequate state leadership Gregory took over the responsibility from state control, organising bread supplies and providing for the city's defence. Such was his administrative ability and leadership that by the end of the sixth century, and with the Lombards repelled, the whole peninsula came under papal rule.

One of Gregory's projects was the sending of missionaries to the Anglo-Saxons and he commissioned both Augustine (whose day is 26 May) and Mellitus (whose day is 24 April). The enormous numbers of letters that he wrote to these two missionaries meant that his influence was felt even after his death.

Gregory's period as Pope marks the transition from the ancient world of imperial Rome to a medieval Christendom united by the Roman Catholic

## Some dates for your diary - September 2014

Tues	2nd	10.30a.m.	Holy Communion
		7.30p.m.	Deanery Synod Meeting
Sat	6th	2.00p.m.	Wedding Renewal of Vows after Civil Ceremony
<b>Sun</b>	<b>7th</b>	<b>10.30a.m.</b>	<b>Parish Eucharist</b>
		<b>12.30p.m.</b>	<b>Holy Baptism x 2</b>
Tues	9th	10.30a.m.	Holy Communion
		1.00p.m.	Art Group
		7.45p.m.	Fairs Meeting
Thurs	11th	9.00a.m.	Time 4 Fun (0 to 5yrs)
Sat	13th	2.30p.m.	Wedding
<b>Sun</b>	<b>14th</b>	<b>8.30a.m.</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>
		<b>10.30a.m.</b>	<b>Parish Eucharist</b>
Tues	16th	10.30a.m.	Holy Communion
		1.00p.m.	Art Group
		8.00p.m.	Parochial Church Council Meeting
Thurs	18th	9.00a.m.	Time 4 Fun (0 to 5yrs)
Sat	20th	12.45pm to 2.00pm	Walk Rally (meet in Armentieres Square)
		2.00p.m. to 4.00p.m.	Fair Trade Afternoon Tea
<b>Sun</b>	<b>21st</b>	<b>10.30a.m.</b>	<b>Parish Eucharist</b>
		<b>12.30p.m.</b>	<b>Holy Baptism x 2</b>
Tues	23rd	10.30a.m.	Holy Communion
		1.00p.m.	Art Group
		7.45p.m.	Craft Group
Thurs	25th	9.00a.m.	Time 4 Fun (0 to 5yrs)
Sat	27th	3.00pm.	Wedding
		8.00pm	Quiz Night
<b>Sun</b>	<b>28th</b>	<b>8.30a.m.</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>
		<b>10.30a.m.</b>	<b>Harvest-Worship For All</b>
Tues	30th	10.30a.m.	Holy Communion
		1.00p.m.	Art Group

For more information please go to our website [www.stg.org.uk](http://www.stg.org.uk)

# Looking after our clergy

Archdeacon Cherry Vann writes:

At a time in the life of the Church of England when there are fewer stipendiary clergy to deploy to our parishes, it is vital that we take a serious look at their wellbeing and help them to strike a healthy work/life balance.

In addition to ensuring that they are supported through prayer and encouragement, it will require congregations and PCC's to have realistic expectations of their clergy. It will also require tasks and responsibilities to be shared.

The picture will be familiar to most PCC members: parishes are joining together into united benefices or teams and most stipendiary clergy are now being given the cure of souls of two or more parishes. This inevitably means change for both clergy and congregations. The parish priest has only so much time and energy. What could be done when looking after one church cannot be done when looking after two. Stipendiary (salaried) clergy and SSM's (self-supporting ministers) are having to prioritise more rigorously as they make decisions about what they do and, more importantly, what they don't do. Church members are being looked to take on roles and responsibilities within the church that may formally have been done by the vicar.

Many are coming to realise that, clergy numbers aside, these changes are long overdue. In past times, those who are baptised into membership of the church have not been encouraged to see themselves as having gifts and skills with which to serve that church, nor to being actively involved in terms of leadership and responsibility. Now that the vicar can't do everything (if she/he ever could) there is an opportunity for ministry to be properly shared and for clergy and people to work in partnership for the sake of both church and kingdom.

However, unrealistic expectations of clergy persist, particularly of incumbent -status clergy. There are some parishioners who still expect the vicar to be available 24 hours, 7 days a week, and others who are critical when their vicar does the school run, takes time off for a retreat or is away on 'yet another holiday'. This together with an ever increasing workload, places an extra and unnecessary burden on parish priests.

Wardens and PCC members in particular can make a big difference in terms of the wellbeing of their clergy, not only through their prayerful support and encouragement, but also taking on some of the tasks necessary for the smooth and effective running of a church.

Priests are primarily responsible for the worship and spiritual life of the church, for the building up of the body of Christ and for equipping the saints for mission and evangelism. There are many other tasks to be done, including an increasing amount of administration that tends to land on the vicars desk. As a church, we need to find ways of releasing clergy for the work that they were ordained to do.

So, some questions for you to reflect on:

1. How realistic are our expectations of our clergy and how ready are we to challenge any unrealistic expectations both in ourselves and in others?
2. Are we ensuring that our clergy are getting a full and uninterrupted 24 hours off each week, a proper retreat and their holiday entitlement?
3. Are there ways in which we can better support and encourage our clergy in their ministries?
4. Are there tasks that, as laity, we could take on, which would release our clergy for all that they are called to do?
5. Are there roles and responsibilities that we could actively encourage others to fulfil so that our clergy get proper support?

*Not another holiday, vicar! You had one last year...*

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## UNICEF

11 years ago and on behalf of our church I took on the job of looking after the collections for the Jar of Grace appeal. Sadly and reluctantly the time has come for me to call it a day! Due to health problems I need to ask for someone to take over this work in January of next year. I can say that the job is quite simple and not at all time consuming and gives pleasure knowing that we are all helping someone somewhere in the world. In those 11 years up to January 2014 since I became involved, together we have sent to UNICEF £5,520. With all the other financial challenges St George's people have had to face this contribution is no mean feat. I would like to thank everyone for their support for this worthy charity. If you feel you would like to take on this job please have a word with me either at church or contact me at home on 338-6918.

With love to all  
Gladys Spencer.