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St George's Parish Church Stalybridge



Diocese of Manchester

35p

 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND



June 2016

From the Registers

Baptisms

We welcome into the Lord's family

8 May

Holly Grace Peel, Arlies Close, Stalybridge
Jude James Oliver, Mottram Moor, Mottram, Hyde

22 May

Michelle Angela Walker, Bond Street, Stalybridge
Emily Jade Lavis, Bond Street, Stalybridge
Ruby-Elizabeth Kateley, Bond Street, Stalybridge
George Harry Kateley, Bond Street, Stalybridge
Alfie Stephen Lord-Bolton, Tame Street, Stalybridge

29 May

Elisabeth Mary Cotton McMullin, Huddersfield Road, Stalybridge
Kathryn Jane Hurst, Fieldsend Close, Stalybridge
Eva Grace Hurst, Fieldsend Close, Stalybridge

Weddings

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

1 May

Stuart George and Jade Kayley Barker
(*Wedding Blessing*)

Funerals

Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord

6 May

Maureen Bray (age 80 years) School Crescent, Stalybridge

10 May

Doreen Walker (age 77 years) Stephens road, Stalybridge

11 May

Noel Rigby Smith (age 92 years) Kings Park Nursing Home, Ashton-under-Lyne

12 May

Frederick Knowles (age 90 years) Blandford House, Stalybridge
(*Interment of ashes*)

Dear Friends,



For some time now, each parish in the Manchester Diocese has been encouraged to develop a Mission Action Plan. The hope is that by implementing a plan, it will introduce new ways of encouraging others to join us and to spread the good news of the Gospel. Church attendance, nationally, is decreasing and we need to try to reverse this trend and bring more people in to our congregations.

At the recent Rochdale Archdeaconry Roadshow, that was held on 16th April at Waterhead Academy in Lees, Oldham, there were a number of presentations given, including one on Mission Action Planning. Following on from this event, the issue was discussed at our last PCC meeting on 17th May. We are endeavouring to get someone to come to talk to the PCC at our October meeting and help set us off on a track that will take St George's further into the Community that it serves.

Throughout the Bible, there are many people who make journeys, sometimes very long ones, and sometimes they end up where they never expected to be. When we were baptised as Christians we were all invited to take the love of Jesus to those with whom we meet, rather than just come along to church to worship Him on Sundays. Jesus told his disciples:

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."
Matthew 28.19,20

Many of you, like me, will have been attending St George's for a good number of years, but we are no longer in the first flush of youth and we need to develop ways of encouraging the next generations to involve themselves more. We want them to feel that this is their church and for them to build on what has already been achieved.

But how do we do that? This is where Mission Action Plan (MAP) comes into focus. MAP is part of the Diocesan strategy of a vision for the future. It should be said that it isn't just Manchester Diocese

that are engaging in such plans, but all the Dioceses throughout the country.

We need to assess where we are at the moment, and what has been achieved, and then look to the future and decide what we would like to happen, e.g. a full church on Sunday, more children coming to our Junior Church, reaching out to the community, helping local people etc. When we know what we want, and where we want to be, then we have to prioritise our activities over the months and years ahead to try to achieve this vision.

Some time ago, when we were looking at how St George's could become an accredited parish with regard to the laity becoming more involved in church worship and planning etc, you may remember that we conducted a Parish Audit. This helped us to see where we were, what were our strengths and weaknesses and how we could build on these. MAP is not far removed from this. Basically, it boils down to four apparently simple questions:

- Where are we starting from? (Review)
- Where do we want to prioritise (Prioritise)
- What's the best way to get there (Plan)
- What do we need to do now (Do)

At the heart of Mission Action Planning should be prayer and passion – a desire to see God's Kingdom come, God's people set free, and God's church grow.

When we have heard from our Diocesan colleagues at the October PCC Meeting, it won't just be up to the PCC to make the plans, but it will be up to everyone to get involved and help to make it work.

Please pray for your PCC Members and for how you can be part of the Mission Action Planning process.

With my very best wishes to you all.

Philip

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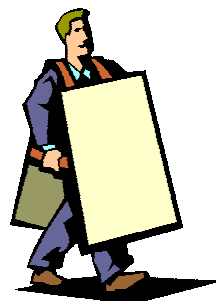
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**For more information see church wardens or
ring the editor on 0161 330 0518**

Readings and Psalms for June 2016

Sun 5 th	2nd Sunday after Trinity 8.30 1 Kings 17.17-end; Luke 7.11-17 10.30 1 Kings 17.17-end; Psalm 30; Galatians 1.11-end; Luke 7.11-17
Tues 7 th	10.30 1 Kings 17.7-16; Psalm 4; Matthew 5.13-16
Sun 12 th	3rd Sunday after Trinity 10.30 2 Samuel 11.26-12.10,13-15; Psalm 32; Galatians 2.15-end; Luke 7.36-8.3
Tues 14 th	10.30 1 kings 21.17-end; Psalm 51.1-9; Matthew 5.43-end
Sun 19 th	4th Sunday after Trinity 8.30 Isaiah 65.1-9; Luke 8.26-39 10.30 Isaiah 65.1-9; Psalm 22.1-2,8-end; Galatians 3.23-end; Luke 8.26-39
Tues 21 st	10.30 2 Kings 19.9b-11,14-21,31-36; Psalm 48.1-2,8-end; Matthew 7.6,12-14
Sun 26 th	5th Sunday after Trinity - Anniversary Sunday 10.30 1 Chronicles 29.6-19; John 2.13-22 Worship For All
Tues 28 th	10.30 Amos 3.1-8;4.11-12; Psalm 5.8-end; Matthew 8.23-27

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May Crossword Solution

ACROSS: 1, Debtor. 4, Shaken. 7, Ache. 8, Leavened. 9, Overcome. 13, Etc. 16, Troublemaking. 17, Par. 19, Ignatius. 24, Treasure. 25, Mene. 26, Astray. 27, Dinner. DOWN: 1, Deaf. 2, Behaviour. 3, Relic. 4, Swarm. 5, Aged. 6, Elect. 10, Rabbi. 11, Ocean. 12, Exalt. 13, Epicurean. 14, Cage. 15, Step. 18, Acres. 20, Gaudy. 21, An end. 22, Fair. 23, Fear.

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"...and then the vicar realised the bellringer-shortage and the problem of providing crèche facilities could be solved in one go!"

CHURCH FINANCES

April 2016 Weekly Giving

Date	Sunday	Open Plate	Envelopes	Total	Monthly Shortfall
1 May 2016	Easter 6	£23.20	£551.62	£575.12	
8 May 2016	Easter 7	£51.51	£329.37	£380.88	
15 May 2016	Pentecost	£49.60	£306.70	£356.30	
22 May 2016	Trinity Sunday	£54.64	£330.50	£385.14	
	Standing Orders etc		£864.00	£864.00	
	Monthly Total			£2,561.44	-£4,039.56

* Assuming £13 per adult per week needed for running the church this means we need £6,601.00 per month

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200 CLUB

The 200 Club winners for May 2016 are:

1st Prize	£25	70	Kathleen Gough
2nd Prize	£15	8	Verena Moore
3rd Prize	£10	113	Nicola McLeese

The cost is £12 per year per number and payment for 2016 is now due. There are still some spare numbers available and new members are always welcome.

If you would like to join please see Rose Hayward or ring 303 1731.

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Thank You from the Chicken Team!

Very many thanks from the Chicken team to everyone who knitted, bought or sold our Easter Chicks this year. We raised a magnificent £487.00 for the Church Roof Fund. The hens are now on holiday and the chicken hatchery is closed until next year!! Thank you so much for your support.

Anniversary Sunday 26 June 2016

At our 10.30am service on Anniversary Sunday we are delighted to welcome the GAP Puppets who will lead our worship. This will not be a service of Holy Communion. It will be of special interest to younger people and we encourage you to invite others along who, perhaps, are not regular worshippers. Here is an outline of what they do:

God's Amazing Puppets

"So in Christ Jesus, you are all children of God through faith." Gal 3:26

God's Amazing Puppets, or GAP, are a youth puppetry team from St Mary's Church, Haughton Green. They began in 2008 and they use puppets to spread the gospel. They are in high demand at church services, community events, church outreach, fund-raisers, parties and many more things across Manchester and beyond.

Smile Lines

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Life in the Circus

A couple who worked at the circus wanted to adopt a child. Social workers had doubts about their suitability, but the couple produced photos of their large motor-home, which was equipped with a beautiful nursery. As for education, not only was there a nanny, but also a full-time tutor to teach the child all the usual subjects along with French, Mandarin and computer skills. Finally, the social workers were satisfied, and had only one last question. "What age child are you hoping to adopt?"

"Oh, we don't mind at all," the couple assured them. "As long as he fits in the cannon."

Maths lesson

The only place where you can buy 64 watermelons without anyone wondering why.

Ladiestime to get your glad rags on again
St George's is holding
a

Ladies Day

with a
Traditional Afternoon Tea and 'bubbly'
on Saturday 6th August
2pm - 4pm

Ladies will be encouraged to wear hats or fascinators.

Last year's event was very successful so you won't want to miss this - keep the date free!

Booking is essential for catering purposes and the list will be put up in the church lounge in June.

Tickets will cost £10 and are available from Alicia Harris.

NEW!

NEW!

NEW!

NEW!



Now open Willow Wood's new Coffee Shop is situated at the PAD Department Store, 15 Shepley Street, Stalybridge.

Cappuccinos, lattes and even just a good old cup of tea are all available together with biscuits, home made cakes and scones.



Why not call in for a cuppa and a light snack and pick up a bargain at the same time?!



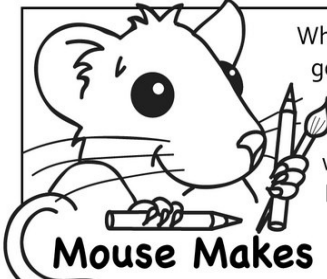
OUR SERVANT QUEEN

The whole country will this month be celebrating the Queen's 90th birthday. She has splendidly fulfilled the promise made on the day when her father, King George VI, died and she came to the throne at the age of 27. On that day she dedicated 'the rest of my life, whether it be long or short' to the service of the nation and the Commonwealth. She has certainly proved that she meant what she said. Hers is already the longest reign of any British monarch.

Those years have seen huge changes in the world: the end of apartheid in South Africa, the transition of scores of countries to independence within the Commonwealth, the advent of space exploration and men on the moon, the arrival of the computer and the internet, social media, Twitter and so on. Through it all she has remained a calm, reassuring figure, head of state to 12 different prime ministers and leader of a resilient and growing Commonwealth of Nations.

The Queen has quietly moved with the times. Her rather tortured 'royal' accent of the forties and fifties has broadened into a quietly spoken Received English. Uneasy about it at first, she has made herself an effective performer on television. And through it all she has openly acknowledged that her own Christian faith is the bedrock of all that she is and has done. In recent years she has been more willing to talk about that faith, notably in her Christmas messages.


To mark her 90th birthday, the Bible Society has published an attractive illustrated book *The Servant Queen*, setting out largely in her own words the essential heart of that faith. The Queen herself has written a Foreword. The aim of the publishers is that the book should be widely distributed, so that people up and down her kingdom can share her evident enjoyment of a committed Christian faith. It's subtitle is 'And the King she serves'. As advertisers say, 'every home should have one'. *The Servant Queen* is available from the Bible Society in packs of ten for £10, or singly. Go to: <https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/landing/servantqueen/>



Mouse Makes

When **Pharaoh**, the King of **Egypt**, let the **Israelites** go free, God led them across the desert to the **sea**. But Pharaoh changed his mind and came after them with his **army**. The **Israelites** were terrified and cried out to the **Lord** for help. **Moses** told them, "*Do not be afraid*". He held his hand out over the sea and the **water divided** to leave **dry land**.

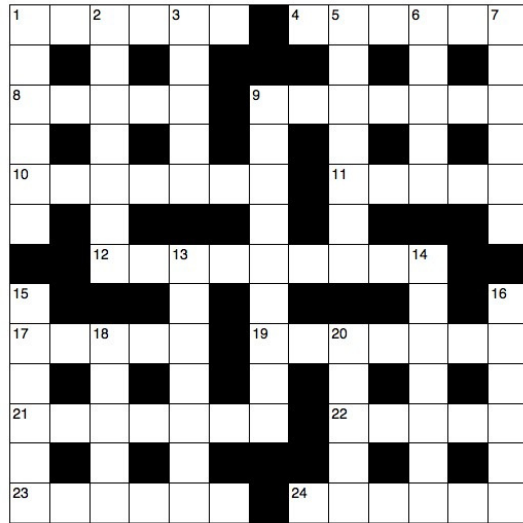
Read **Exodus** chapters 14-15



Unscramble the letters in the pebbles to find the words in **bold** from the story

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June Crossword



Across

- 1 Military tactic used
destroy the city of Ai (Joshua 8:2) (6)
- 4 Place of learning (6)
- 8 'When Moses' hands grew — , they took a stone and put it under him and he sat on it' (Exodus 17:12) (5)
- 9 Unpleasant auguries of the end of the age, as forecast by Jesus (Matthew 24:7) (7)
- 10 Stronghold to which girls in King Xerxes' harem (including Esther) were taken (Esther 2:8) (7)
- 11 Where Saul went to consult a medium before fighting the Philistines (1 Samuel 28:7) (5)
- 12 Propitiation (Hebrews 2:17) (9)
- 17 Turn away (Jeremiah 11:15) (5)
- 19 So clear (anag.) (7)
- 21 'I have just got — , so I can't come': one excuse to be absent from the great banquet (Luke 14:20) (7)
- 22 Long weapon with a pointed head used by horsemen (Job 39:23) (5)
- 23 Musical beat (6)
- 24 What the Israelites were told to use to daub blood on their door-frames at the first Passover (Exodus 12:22) (6)

by Joshua to attack and

Down

- 1 Fasten (Exodus 28:37) (6)
- 2 Art bite (anag.) (7)
- 3 'The people of the city were divided; some — with the Jews, others with the apostles' (Acts 14:4) (5)
- 5 Contend (Jeremiah 12:5) (7)
- 6 Possessed (Job 1:3) (5)
- 7 Sheen (Lamentations 4:1) (6)
- 9 'You love evil rather than good, — rather than speaking the truth' (Psalm 52:3) (9)
- 13 Large flightless bird (Job 39:13) (7)
- 14 They were worth several hundred pounds each (Matthew 25:15) (7)
- 15 'A — went out to sow his seed' (Matthew 13:3) (6)
- 16 How Jesus described Jairus's daughter when he went into the room where she lay (Mark 5:39) (6)
- 18 The part of the day when the women went to the tomb on the first Easter morning (John 20:1) (5)
- 20 Narrow passageway between buildings (Luke 14:21) (5)

Some dates for your diary - June 2016

- Thurs 2nd No Activities - School Holiday
- Sun 5th 2nd Sunday after Trinity**
10.30a.m. Parish Eucharist & Junior Church
- Thurs 9th No Activities - School Holiday
- Sat 11th 2.00pm to 4.00pm Fair Trade Afternoon Tea**
- Sun 12th 3rd Sunday after Trinity**
8.30a.m. Holy Communion
10.30a.m. Parish Eucharist with Holy Baptism
- Tues 14th 7.45p.m. Social and Fund Raising Meeting
- Thurs 16th 9.00a.m. Time 4 Fun (0 to 5yrs)
7.30p.m. Tameside Community Voices Practice
- Sat 18th 4.00p.m. Wedding
- Sun 19th 4th Sunday After Trinity**
10.30a.m. Parish Eucharist
12.30p.m. Holy Baptism x 2
- Tues 21st 7.45p.m. Parochial Church Council Meeting
- Thurs 23rd 7.00a.m to 10.00p.m EU Referendum
- Sat 25th 8.00p.m. Quiz
- Sun 26th Anniversary Sunday**
8.30a.m. Holy Communion
10.30a.m. GAP Puppets
6.00p.m. Holy Communion according to the BCP
- Wed 29th 7.30p.m. Deanery Mission & Pastoral Committee Meeting

For more information please go to our website www.stg.org.uk



**Saint of the Month
9 June**

Columba, Abbot of Iona, Missionary, 597

Columba, otherwise known as Colum Cille, which means 'Dove of the Church', was born at Gartan in Donegal in 521. He was a descendant of the pagan High King Niall, and a member of the prominent clan of Ui Neill. Columba was educated in Irish monasteries by some of the leading figures of his day, including Finian of Clonard and Finian of Moville, as would befit a member of the royal line. He was one of a group of privileged clergy who dominated the Irish Church.

Columba founded two monasteries in Ireland, at Derry (546) and Durrow (556), before he relocated to Iona, off the west coast of Scotland, with twelve companions. Iona was given to him for a monastery by the ruler of the Irish Dalriada. Columba reputedly went into exile on the island, as a result of his part in the battle of Culdrebene (about 563) – a monastic disagreement which turned violent. Columba lived the rest of his life in Scotland, returning to Ireland only for short periods of time, usually for an official occasion.

From Iona Columba visited Bridei, King of the Picts and according to Bede, converted him. In 574 Columba anointed Aeda'n mac Gabrian as King of the Scots of Dalriada, and a year later attended a convention of the kings at Druim Cett in Ireland. Columba obviously retained his influence in certain circles, despite his choice of the monastic life. At Druim Cett, Columba argued for the preservation of the Bards of Ireland, and sought clarification from the Irish king on the role of the Irish in Scotland.

From Iona, Columba was perfectly placed to evangelize both the Picts, and the kingdom of Da'l Riata in north-east Ireland. It has been traditional to see Columba as the Apostle of Scotland, and to credit him for the conversion of numerous Picts. In reality however, Columba was more of a figurehead for the Irish in Scotland, and others who came after him evangelized the Picts, no doubt building upon his foundations. Columba did establish at least two churches in Inverness, but spent much of his energy setting up the monastery at Iona and training its members. When the influence of Iona in Scotland and Northumbria is considered, Columba's efforts can be said

to have been a wise investment.'

Columba died on Iona and was buried in 597 by his monks in the abbey he created. That was also the year that Augustine was made the first Archbishop of Canterbury. In 794 the Vikings descended on Iona. Columba's relics were finally removed in 849 and divided between Scotland and Ireland. The parts of the relics which went to Ireland are reputed to be buried in Downpatrick, County Down with St Patrick and St Brigid, or at Saul Church, to the east of Downpatrick.

At once, when the stars were made, lights of the firmament,
the angels praised for His wonderful creating
the Lord of this immense mass,
the craftsman of the Heavens.
With a praiseworthy proclamation,
fitting and unchanging,
in excellent symphony they gave thanks to the Lord
not out of any endowment of nature,
but out of love and choice.

Altus prosator verse F, attrib. Columba

iced off with the

The wedding season
many brides will
decorated tiered wedding cake? In recent years, the sheer cost of one (which can reach £1000) has meant that many couples now opt for alternatives. These include cupcakes, cake pops, cheese cake, doughnut towers, croquembouche and even 'naked cake' (no frosting at all).

wedding cake?

is upon us, but how
choose the traditional
decorated tiered wedding cake? In recent years, the sheer cost of one (which can reach £1000) has meant that many couples now opt for alternatives. These include cupcakes, cake pops, cheese cake, doughnut towers, croquembouche and even 'naked cake' (no frosting at all).

The great traditional tiered wedding cake has been traced back to the 18th century, when a lovelorn baker's apprentice, William Rich of Ludgate, was desperate to catch the eye – and heart – of his master's daughter. He looked round for inspiration for a cake, saw the spire of St Bride's Church... and the rest is history.

Queen Victoria's wedding cake in 1840 was three yards in circumference, and weighed 300 pounds. Her daughter, who married in 1858, had something more modern: three tiers – though it was nearly seven feet high. In the 1940s, with rationing in force, people kept up the 'glamour' by displaying beautiful cardboard cakes, made or rented, hiding (for eating) a very modest cake near by.