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29 Grosvenor Street, Stalybridge SK15 2JN

St George's Parish Church Stalybridge



Diocese of Manchester

35p

 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND



May 2017

St George's Church Stalybridge



Clergy

Vicar Revd Philip Brierley 0161 338 2368

Wardens Mr Derek Redeyoff 0161 338 4779

Mrs Janet Vidler 0161 303 7689

Deputy Wardens Mrs Rose Hayward 0161 303 1731

Mrs Gillian Cotton 0161 303 2787

P.C.C. Secretary Mrs Lynn Moon 0161 338 5773

Treasurer Mr Michael Davies 0161 338 5998

Magazine Editor Mrs Linda Hurst 0161 330 0518

Room Hire Mrs Janet Vidler 0161 303 7689

email: stgwarden@hotmail.co.uk

Worship

Sunday

8.30 a.m. Holy Communion (2nd & 4th Sundays)

10.30 a.m. Sung Communion and Junior Church (4th 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 Philip or one of the Wardens.

For Baptisms, Marriages or Funerals please phone Philip (Vicar) 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

May 1	Stephen Mark Young	2009	May 17	William Henry Priestley	1950
	Kenneth Doggett	2013		Bessie Travis	1991
May 2	Annie Selby	1975		Richard Barratt	2006
	Derek Kay	2009	May 18	Abel Ollerenshaw	1967
May 4	Harry Wright	1981	May 19	Clarice Barber	1976
	Martha Keatting	1996		William Dale	1967
May 6	Evelyn Parkinson	1902	May 21	Gladys Lowe	1996
	William Cooper	1970	May 22	James Geoffrey Brayshaw	1970
	Martha Kinder	1987		George Henry Cope	1970
May 8	Agnes Winifred Barker	1979	May 23	John William Wadsworth	1987
May 9	Alice Day	1966		Agnes Waddington	2007
May 11	Catherine Ann Nowel	1988	May 24	William Grimshaw	1998
	Redeyoff			Albert Hopwood	2012
	Mary Miller (nee Higgins)	2010	May 25	Tibor Volcsey	2008
May 13	Florence Wilson	1986	May 26	Ian Peter Blake	2009
	Wendy Rosemary Miles	2016	May 29	Martha Cooper	1987
May 15	May Blease	1999	May 30	Pamela Chorley	1973
	Joyce Honan Jakeman	2004		Raymond Herbert Russell	2013
	Mary Woolley	2008	May 31	Harry Williamson	2010
	Charles Swainson	2012			
May 16	Eileen Buckley	1979			
	William Hamnett Tonge	2006			

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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 Philip.

The cost for the special inscription is £10 per entry

From the Registers

Baptisms

We welcome into the Lord's family

2 April

Isla Renee Kerr, Mary Street, Dukinfield

30 April

Henry Charles Loughlin, Springs Lane, Stalybridge
Ava Jayne Lester, Ridge Hill Lane, Stalybridge

Weddings

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

15 April

Carl Raymond Windsor to Suzanne Kerr

Funerals

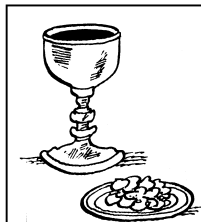
Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord

3 April

Albert Marcel Hough (aged 86 years) Stephens Road, Stalybridge
Interment of cremated remains

11 April

Moira Caine (aged 88 years) The Ladysmith, Ashton-under-Lyne



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 for any Sunday this year.

Dear All,

The Annual Parochial Church meeting was held on 21 March. For those who were unable to attend, here is an abridged version of the report I gave to that meeting



We were delighted to welcome back, in January, our new Director of Music, Dr. Chris Anderson who had served us excellently in that capacity for many years previously and we look forward to more good music throughout the year and in years to come.

We have been encouraged by the number of Junior Church members who continue to attend regularly. Their number is slowly increasing and if we can continue to build on this, then St George's will have a healthy future. Thank you then, to all the Junior Church Leaders who give their time and talents Sunday by Sunday.

We were pleased to present three adults for Confirmation by Bishop Mark at the service in St. Peter's Church in Ashton in July. Last year we were also pleased to celebrate with a number of families – 54 of whom brought their children for baptism, and 5 couples who got married. We wish them all a happy future.

We have continued to feature one or two events each month to increase our social life and fellowship, and with it, a little fund raising. Quizzes have been held in the Lounge and they appear to be very well received by those who attend.

On a rather infamous date in September - 9/11 - I was licensed as the 16th Vicar of St George's and am very pleased and humbled to be part of the history of this church – my church, your church.

For the third year in a row, we were hosts, in December, for a Memorial Service organised by Elizabeth Way Funeral Services. This annual event, for the bereaved families of those whose funerals they have recently conducted, is very much appreciated by the grieving families.

We continue to attend Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adult meetings, usually at St John's Church, Hurst. These are an important part of the workings of the Church. It is important that we keep all children and vulnerable adults at the forefront of our church activities, and continue to welcome them into a safe church.

A five-yearly visit to the parish on behalf of the Archdeacon took place in October. This involved the examination of the building, the service books and registers and other items. I'm pleased to say we passed with flying colours.

In 2016, the long awaited repair work on the south parapet and guttering finally started. We were given a substantial grant from the Listed Places of Worship Roof Repair Fund and only hope that the next phase for the north parapet and complete re-roof will be accepted by the Heritage Lottery

Fund, so that we will have a building which will last St George's for another 176 years. This will mean, however, that we will need to raise around a quarter of the funds ourselves, something in the region of £26,000, if we are to succeed in getting a grant.

Throughout the first part of the year, we consistently had problems with the heating pipes in the lounge area, due to a major leak in the pressurised systems. This has now been rectified. However, one of the two church boilers failed, and we were forced to renew it.

The clergy in Stalybridge continue to meet on a regular basis to share hopes and problems. The Unity Service in 2016 was held in January at Holy Trinity with the theme of Hope. While all the churches were represented in this service, it was sad to see that not many from our own congregation attended. The annual Women's World Day of Prayer was held at St George's in March, but the service was badly affected by heavy snowfall on this day, and hence not as many ladies came to the service as would normally attend. The Whit Sunday joint service in the town centre last year was well received and thankfully, the weather held out for us on this occasion.

The PCC have still to set up a Mission Action Plan. Where do you want St George's to be in five, ten, fifteen years from now? Hopefully to be a serving, transforming, worshipping community, but it needs your help, and not just those on the PCC but all members. Please don't leave it to other people. You all have some gift to share. This will be a major part of this year's PCC and church agenda and beyond.

We have been so very grateful for quite a number of very sizeable monetary donations throughout the year. My thanks go to all our benefactors for their extreme generosity, and, once again, for the fourth year in succession, we were able to achieve payment in full of our Parish Share.

I conclude, as always, by offering grateful thanks to our loyal and hardworking wardens, Janet and Derek, and to all our PCC members in their continuing support not just of me, but also of the whole of St George's. My grateful thanks also go to our faithful band of volunteer helpers to whom we all owe so much and without whom we could not carry on. Thank you all very, very much.

Most of all, we thank Almighty God for his continuing grace and blessings on us all here at St George's.

Philip

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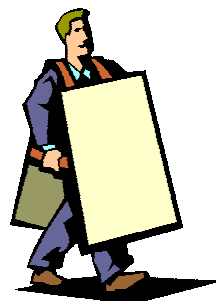
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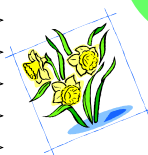
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1/2 page £25, 1/4 page £15

Help yourself, help your business and help St George's.

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

Come and join us

Spring Fair

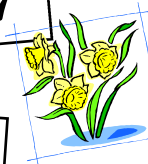


Café - Plants - Tombola -
Home Bake - Bottle Stall

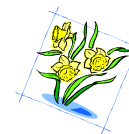


Saturday 20th May 2017

11.00 am—2.00 pm



Books
DVD's



St George's Church
Church Walk
Stalybridge

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CHURCH FINANCES

April 2017 Weekly Giving

Date	Sunday	Open Plate	Envelopes	Total	Monthly Shortfall
02 Apr 2017	Lent 5	£72.13	£346.00	£418.13	
09 Apr 2017	Palm Sunday	£61.40	£320.00	£381.40	
16 Apr 2017	EASTER DAY	£106.15	£997.10	£1,103.25	
23 Apr 2017	Easter 2	£62.38	£245.10	£307.48	
30 Apr 2017	Easter 3	£	£	£	
	Standing Orders etc		£864.00	£864.00	
	Monthly Total	£302.06	£2,772.20	£3,074.26	-£391.74

* Assuming £10 per adult per week needed for running the church this means we need £3,466 per month

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200 CLUB

The 200 Club winners for April 2017 are:

1st Prize	£25	95	Margaret Castle Brooker
2nd Prize	£15	100	Dorothy Davenport
3rd Prize	£10	24	Janice Roberts

The cost is £12 per year per number and 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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My Feet

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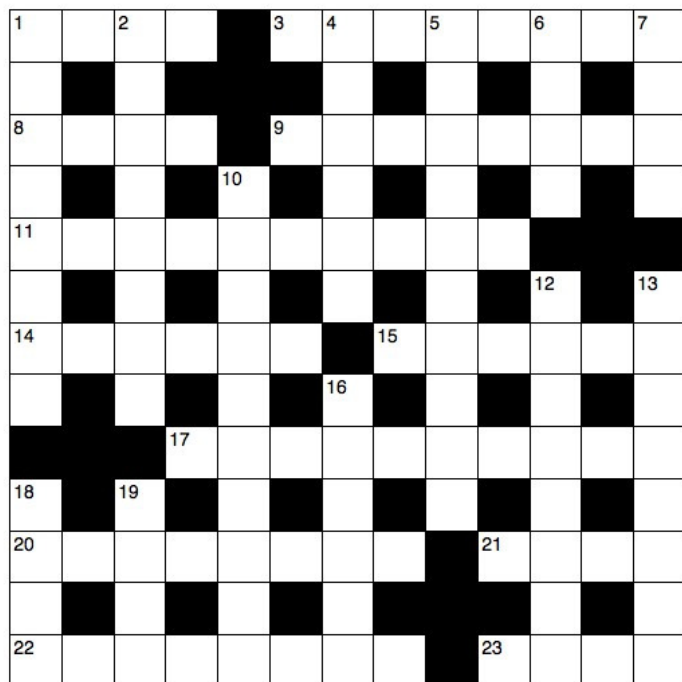


HPC registered Podiatrist



...and the theme of this morning's service is... 'Preaching a Gospel of Simplicity'..

May Crossword



Across

1 Infant (Luke 2:12) (4), 3 Luis must (anag.) (8), 8 What Jesus called the devil (John 8:44) (4),
 9 'My God, my God, why have you — me?' (Matthew 27:46) (8), 11 Anglican form of church government (10), 14 'Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like — ' (Isaiah 40:31) (6), 15 Ministers of religion (6), 17 Make stronger (1 Thessalonians 3:13) (10), 20 Devoutness (1 Timothy 2:2) (8), 21 The father of Jesse (Ruth 4:22) (4), 22 Pool where Jesus healed a man who had been an invalid for 38 years (John 5:2) (8), 23 '[Jesus] said to them, " — here and keep watch"' (Mark 14:34) (4).

Down

1 Follower of Christ (Acts 16:1) (8), 2 One of the punishments endured by Paul (2 Corinthians 6:5) (8), 4 Soldiers (Exodus 14:9) (6), 5 Scholarly study of melody, harmony and rhythm (10), 6 'I am God, and there is none — me' (Isaiah 46:9) (4), 7 'And how can they preach unless they are — ?' (Romans 10:15) (4), 10 Favourable reception (1 Timothy 1:15) (10), 12 Hip orbit (anag.) (8), 13 End of life (Isaiah 22:14) (5,3), 16 'About midnight the sailors — they were approaching land' (Acts 27:27) (6),
 18 He married Jezebel (1 Kings 16:30–31) (4), 19 'According to your great compassion — out my transgressions' (Psalm 51:1) (4).

Readings and Psalms for May 2017

- Tues 2nd 10.30 Acts 7.51-8.1a; Psalm 31.1-5,16; John 6.30-35
- Sun 7th **4th Sunday of Easter**
 10.30 Acts 2.42-end; Psalm 23; 1 Peter 2.19-end; John 10.1-10
- Tues 9th 10.30 Acts 11.19-26; Psalm 87; John 10.22-30
- Sun 14th **5th Sunday of Easter**
 8.30 Acts 7.55-end; John 14.1-14
 10.30 Acts 7.55-end; Psalm 31.1-5,15-16; 1 Peter 2.2-10; John 14.1-14
- Tues 16th 10.30 Acts 14.19-end; Psalm 145.10-end; John 14.27-end
- Sun 21st **6th Sunday of Easter**
 10.30 Acts 17.22-31; Psalm 66.7-end; 1 Peter 3.13-end; John 14.15-21
- Thurs 25th **Ascension Day**
 20.00 Daniel 7.9-14; Psalm 47; Acts 1.1-11; Luke 24.44-end
- Sun 28th **7th Sunday of Easter - Sunday after Ascension Day**
 8.30 Acts 1.6-14; John 17.1-11
 10.30 Acts 1.6-14; John 17.1-11 **Worship For All**
- Tues 30th 10.30 Acts 20.17-27; Psalm 68.9-10,18-19; John 17.1-11

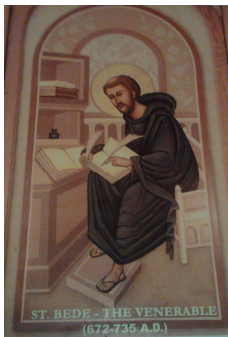
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April Crossword Solution

ACROSS: 1, Priesthood. 7, Replica. 8, Get up. 10, Calf. 11, Governor. 13, See you. 15, Not see. 17, Incident. 18, Sake. 21, NSPCC. 22, Trample. 23, Perishable.

DOWN: 1, Papal. 2, In it. 3, Shalom. 4, Huguenot. 5, Outings. 6, Procession. 9, Perseveres. 12, Mordecai. 14, Escapee. 16, Snatch. 19, Apple. 20, Lamb

Saint of the Month
25 May
The Venerable Bede,
Monk at Jarrow,
Scholar, Historian, 735



Born around 673, Bede was sent as a seven-year-old to Wearmouth monastery and later transferred to the new foundation at Jarrow, where he spent the remainder of his life, probably never travelling further than Lindisfarne to the north and York to the south. In about 692 he was ordained deacon at a relatively early age and priested when he was about 30.

His own words are often quoted: 'I have devoted my energies to a study of the Scriptures, observing monastic discipline, and singing the daily services in church; study, teaching, and writing have always been my delight.' In many ways his was a quiet and uneventful life but he spent it fruitfully as a scholar. He was the first person to write scholarly works in the English language, although unfortunately only fragments of his English writings have survived. He translated the Gospel of John into Old English, completing the work on the very day of his death. He also wrote extensively in Latin. He wrote commentaries on the Pentateuch and other portions of Holy Scripture.

But it is not as a theologian but as a historian that Bede is best remembered. His magisterial *Ecclesiastical History of the English People* was completed in 731 and remains in print today. It is one of the most important sources for early English history. Fortunately for later historians, Bede was scrupulous in use of sources, which are clearly identified, as well as showing an attitude well in advance of his time in distinguishing clearly between fact, hearsay and legend. In a credulous age Bede showed a healthy caution in not believing all that he was told was true. The book is a history of Britain up to 729. Beginning with the Celtic peoples who were converted to Christianity during the first three centuries of the Christian era, Bede moves on to the invasion by the Anglo-Saxon pagans in the fifth and sixth centuries, and their subsequent conversion by Celtic missionaries from the north and west, and Roman missionaries from the south and east. He is believed to have been the first historian to date events from the birth of Christ and the earliest known writer to cast doubt on the accuracy of the Julian calendar.

Bede was a shrewd observer of the life of the Anglo-Saxon Church and suggested (to the Bishop of York) that episcopal visitation, confirmation and more frequent communion were appropriate remedies for the Church's ills.

After seeing St George's so full on Easter Sunday it seemed the perfect time to include this

Sunday Morning

Our records show the congregation
has a lot of members.
But the only time our pews are full
are Easter and December.

They may be filled for weddings,
or a funeral, or baptism.
But other Sundays through the year
there is nobody in 'em.

Our lives are now so hectic.
It affects us one and all.
We need Sundays to do yard work,
do our shopping, watch football.

We seem to have forgotten
about Jesus Christ our Lord.
Sundays used to be for worship
and studying God's word.

We would sing of God's *Amazing Grace*
and learn about His power.
Jesus gave his life for us,
now we can't spare an hour.

We need to take a look at how
our lives have gone astray.
We need to think of Jesus
more than just on holidays.

So bring your families and your friends
and join the congregation.
And maybe Sundays once again
can be a celebration.

John R. Sill
February 14, 2004

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Lord Bourne who, though a Minister of State with the Faith and Integration portfolio, had clearly come as himself and was walking along with everyone else. It was very powerful.

The rich symbolism of faith means that those who seek to justify their actions no matter how nefarious and destructive will be able to quarry it for meaning. But faith's real power is in building a positive view of human society. It provides the resources to enable us to develop a new understanding of responsible human freedom and of inclusive equality. Where for all of us our hopes and aspirations are at least possible, where we get to develop strong and resilient identities able to overcome life's challenges, where all of us prosper and have a proper place in our economic life, and where we learn to live together with mutual respect.

The Archbishop of Canterbury in his speech in the House of Lords on UK values puts it well:

"Our response to those who seek to threaten and undermine our values cannot simply be grounded in a defensive or preventative mind-set. To draw back into ourselves. To look after our own...we need a more beautiful and better common narrative that shapes and inspires us with common purpose; a vaulting national ambition, not a sense of division and antagonism both domestically and internationally".

"We need a narrative that speaks to the world of bright hope and not mere optimism – let alone simple self-interest. That will enable us to play a powerful, hopeful and confident role in the world, resisting the turn inward that will leave us alone in the darkness, despairing and vulnerable".

If we are looking for answers and solutions, this is not a bad place to start.

With every blessing,
Canon Paul Hackwood
 Executive Director
 Church Urban Fund



Some dates for your diary - May 2017

Tues	2nd	10.30a.m.	Holy Communion	
Thurs	4th	7.00a.m. to 10.00p.m.	Polling Day	
Sat	6th		Grand Draw Ticket Selling in Tesco	
		2.00p.m.	Wedding of Steven Edmund Thomas & Ion Jane Newton	Fal-
Sun	7th	10.30a.m.	Parish Eucharist with Holy Baptism & Junior Church	
		12.30p.m.	Holy Baptism x 2	
Tues	9th	10.30a.m.	Holy Communion	
Wed	10th	7.30p.m.	Deanery Safeguarding Group at St. John's, Hurst.	
Thurs	11th	9.00a.m.	Time 4 Fun (0 to 5yrs)	
		7.30p.m.	Tameside Community Voices Practice	
Sat	13th	3.00p.m.	Wedding Blessing of Glen & Khrystina Keyworth Jubb	
Sun	14th	8.30a.m.	Holy Communion	
		10.30a.m.	Parish Eucharist & Junior Church	
		12.30p.m.	Interment of ashes of Dorothy Allsopp	
Tues	16th	10.30a.m.	Holy Communion	
		7.45p.m.	Parochial Church Council	
Wed	17th	7.30p.m.	Deanery Synod Meeting at St. John's, Roughtown	
Thurs	18th	9.00a.m.	Time 4 Fun (0 to 5yrs)	
		7.30p.m.	Tameside Community Voices Practice	
Sat	20th	11.00a.m. to 2.00p.m.	Spring Fair	
Sun	21st	10.30a.m.	Parish Eucharist & Junior Church	
		12.30p.m.	Holy Baptism	
Tues	23rd	10.30a.m.	Holy Communion	
Wed	24th	7.30p.m.	Archdeacon's Visitation at St. Michael's, A-u-Lyne	
Thurs	25th		Ascension Day	
		8.00p.m.	Holy Communion Service with Hymns for The Ascension of Our Lord	
Sat	27th	3.00p.m.	Wedding of Daniel John Graham & Deborah Ann Slack	
		8.00p.m.	Quiz in the Lounge	
Sun	28th	8.30a.m	Holy Communion	
		10.30a.m.	Worship For All	
Tues	30th	10.30a.m.	Holy Communion	

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

Letter received from Canon Paul Hackwood:

Dear Philip,

Bridges are symbolic places. In our day, they are very much taken for granted yet in antiquity they were great marvels which symbolised the connection of one place to another – they brought people together.

The northern town of Tadcaster has been without its bridge since December 2015 when it was washed away by floods. When the bridge was recently reopened, the general view was that the town had now come back together. It is particularly poignant then that the terrible atrocity committed by Khalid Masood in Westminster last week was done, or at least began, on a bridge.

It is always problematic to try and work out cause in these matters. Terrorists aim to leave us wondering, perplexed and puzzled; they deliberately promote insecurity and fear. If we cannot understand why, we are left with the tacit impression these are purely arbitrary acts that can hit us anywhere at any time. This increases their impact. It's important therefore that we at least try to understand what is happening.

The events in Westminster were truly shocking: Khalid Masood killed three people on Westminster Bridge, injured fifty, fatally stabbed a police officer at the Houses of Parliament, and was himself shot and killed, all in the space of 82 seconds. It is difficult to see how this sort of atrocity could be prevented except by the most draconian levels of security.

Whilst bridges are important symbols of unity and connection, it is likely that a different symbol will at present be looming large in the minds and of those engaged in and under the influence of ISIL's campaign. That symbol is the Great Mosque of Al-Nuri with its leaning minaret in Mosul. This is where in June 2014 the apparent leader of Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) Abu Bakr al Baghdadi, declared a caliphate asserting the leadership of Muslims everywhere. This Mosque was built in the 12th Century to celebrate Al Nuri who mobilised and brought Muslims together during the second crusade. It is a place soaked in symbolism.

At great cost in human life the next few weeks or months will likely see this so-called caliphate come to an end, at least in its present shape. The forces arrayed against ISIL number more than ten to one and include members of almost every Muslim community including Sunnis and Shias, as well as different ethnic groups, Arabs, Turks and Kurds. The Great Mosque will fall to Iraqi Government forces which will be a real threat to the symbolism of this so-called caliphate.

Even in the midst of fake news and conspiracy theories, there can be few people outside its own number who believe that ISIL has been on balance a good thing. Well evidenced reports by respected independent bodies tell of

the cold-blooded murder of children, widespread rape, and genocide. Sunnis whom ISIL was set up to defend have borne the brunt of its violence and dislocation, though Shias and ethnic Kurds as well as Christians and Yazidis have suffered too.

There is, though, more at work here than this one symbol, rich as it is. It is too simple to jump immediately to Islamic radicalisation and leave it there. Masood's actions may well be as much a result of western selfie society as they are of Islamic extremism. A society built on intense competition, vanity and desire is bound to have its casualties. Maybe we should be looking for causes in the extreme individualism that has come to characterise our lives in the west, where increasing competition on uneven playing fields has, through a powerful cocktail of envy, powerlessness and humiliation, created a colossal sense of resentment.

I'm struck by the similarities between Masood and Thomas Mair, the murderer of Jo Cox. Both were loners, unable to keep down a relationship, unstable early years, a sense of persecution and an anger that for Mair turned inward and became depression, and for Masood turned outward and was demonstrated in an aggressive personality. For Mair, the outlet for this resentment was the racism, anti-Semitism and anti-Muslim sentiment of the right; for Masood, it was the distorted Islam of the extremists.

The role of faith in this is symbolic. It looks like, whilst in prison, Masood came across a group of extremists whose interpretation of Islam, fed by their own sense of victimhood and resentment, allowed him to give vent to his rage. The constant feed of imagery and propaganda readily available through social media drip-fed his sense of rage. It is a simple displacement to shift the missed opportunities, disappointments and regrets of one's own life onto a situation you have been persuaded is your own.

I am coming to recognise that this resentment is much more about wanting to be included, to be taken seriously, and to be valued than it is about theological or cultural differences.

As I walked over Westminster Bridge a week after the attack the symbolism was clear. We can live together and we will not let this sort of violence drive us apart. Met Police Officers (one of them carrying his toddler daughter), Rabbis, Muslims, Christians, Hindus, Sikhs, women, men, children, black people, white people, Asian people along with