

St Matthew's News

The Parish of Edgeley and Cheadle Heath



June 2014
Issue 27

Llwybr glas. Mymryn yn hirach
ond llawer mwy dymunol.
Blue trail. Slightly longer
but much more pleasant.

Sunday Service Times

Sunday 1st June

10:30^{am} Whole Parish Worship
Signed Service

All Other Sundays

9:30^{am} Formal Service
11:15^{am} Less Formal Service
(with children's groups)

Facebook: www.facebook.com/ParishEdgeleyCheadleHeath

Twitter: twitter.com/ParishEdgeleyCH

Website: www.edgeleyandcheadleheath.org.uk

What If...?

Anfield was beautifully sunlit, the Kop roared generously, and Steven Gerrard stood before them to applaud. And yet... his expression, his body language was monochrome, where it had been red-radiant. He must have been asking himself, *What if...?* Gerrard's slip in the Chelsea match that led to Demba Ba's goal will be known as the moment Liverpool lost the League title. How do you go on after that kind of mistake?

We've all made mistakes. We've all done, said, thought things we deeply regret. Even those closest to Jesus when he was on earth. Peter must have asked himself, *What if...?* What if he hadn't denied knowing Jesus? What if he hadn't run away and left him alone? He must have regretted his cowardice; have felt that there was no chance ever of making up for his mistake.

But then the risen Jesus walked with him lakeside, forgave him, invited him to lead his church! Peter must have been SO relieved that Jesus gave him a second chance to show his love.

The Christian life doesn't guarantee that we don't make mistakes - I know that from personal experience! But



Rev Sue Mayo

it does guarantee that, because of what Jesus did on the cross; because he's alive and reigning today, we can experience God's forgiveness, his release into a new life, his blessing. No more *What ifs*....

The forgiven, restored Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit at that first Pentecost, preached his socks off - and 3000 people became Christians in one day! Trapped in his regret, could he have imagined such a thing?

Don't let regret about past mistakes paralyse you and stop you moving on. Ask forgiveness, from God and from the ones you've hurt, turn back to God and walk free. Jesus came so we can have life and have it to the max and his Holy Spirit is in us and with us to help and guide us every step of the way. With God we don't need to cling to the 'what ifs'..!

Sue Mayo

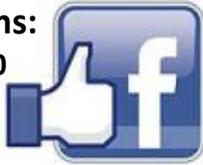
Team Talk

News from the ministries

Communications:

Our Facebook:500

initiative, aiming to have 500



people following St Matthew's on Facebook by the end of the year, has garnered just six followers this month. We would like to remind people to pray that God will send us two followers *a day*. You do not need to be on Facebook (or even to know what it is!) to pray for it. Copies of the prayers are available on the leaflet stand or from Pam and Linda. If you can't remember to pray every day, we ask that you pray every day you remember.

Pastoral: We are currently trying to find an opportunity to get the team members together with David to discuss and assess the newly drawn up discussion document within the ongoing Parish Risk Assessment schedules. It's a very new way of thinking within this particular area of ministry.

Referral Fitness

Due to a low turnout, Joanne will not be continuing the fitness class. She has been unable to promote the class as much as she would have liked and thanks us for all our support and help.

Church Lads' and Girls' Brigade

We are now recruiting members for the Martins, Y/team and JTC sections and also New Leaders to help in running the Company. We meet on Monday nights in term time from 6:30 to 8^{pm}. For more information contact Dave Wood M.B.E. Mobile: 07925531300. email: bowerfield24@hotmail.com More information about the Brigade can be found at www.clcgb.org.uk

We will be booking for **Spring Harvest** (7th - 10th April 2015) on **Wed 25th June**. Sign up at the back and ask those who've been before for more information.

Tiny Things

Reduce water As lovely as it is to relax in a big bubble bath, you can save a lot of water by taking a refreshing shower instead!

Play Away!

The children and young people's leaders and helpers took some time out on Saturday 10th May to reflect on our current work for our young people in church. A lot of dedicated work goes on behind the scenes on a Sunday, so we decided to take a relaxed approach to the day. The plan was to walk between cafés around Chadkirk Chapel grounds, enjoying each other's fellowship and discussing various issues pertaining to our children in church. We started by asking ourselves **WHY?** Why do we do what we do? We considered Proverbs 22:6 - *Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it.*

Then Jon fed back on a session he had attended at the Liverpool Toolkit about 'planning an outstanding session' - we learned that it's all in the preparation, knowing your message and knowing your children... oh! and playing silly games! At lunch we discussed how we develop spirituality in our under-fives - and again, ideas from a Toolkit session have led us to think about providing a space for our little

ones to explore their wonderment. We finished off our day in the gardens of Chadkirk Chapel, taking time to pray and enjoy the beautiful creation around us. We all feel that God is preparing us and our church for bigger things, and that we need to pray between ourselves and with our children for the future: *Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will direct your paths.* Proverbs 3:5-6



A big thank you to all those who lead and help nurture our children's faith. If you feel that this could be for you, please speak to Karen and we will definitely use your talents.

Karen Bailey

Treasure in Heaven

According to church resources, the role of the treasurer is to free the PCC from worries over church finances by monitoring them and preparing a statement for the annual report. I start this on a Sunday afternoon when I double check the cash from the services, and the week's income from church activities such as lettings, coffee and fund raising. I record this and bank it in the week. Some regular income and most regular bills are paid by direct debit so they only need recording,



however I am often seen on a Sunday morning looking for someone to countersign cheques.

The treasurer also reclaims the tax from gift aided donations, and deals with insurance and assigned fees. These jobs I willingly delegate to Mike, the wonderful assistant treasurer.

I enjoy the challenge of making everything balance. I am encouraged by the generosity of our congregation. But one thing always amazes me - and that's the price of candles!

Sylvia Parker

need or love to do, to focus on God.

So I now give up my computer between breakfast and dinner on Sundays - around nine hours. It was difficult at first but now I look forward to it. The computing fast also helps me honour God another way - by resting on the Sabbath.

If you'd like to us about a way you honour God, speak to Linda.

Honouring God

How do you honour God?

In the second of what we hope will become a regular feature, we asked another parishioner that question. She wished to remain anonymous but told us:

I have always wanted to fast but never managed it; I just get too hungry! Then I read an article which said the point of fasting is to give up something which you

Sing to the Lord!

As far as I know there has been a Choir at St. Matthew's since the Church began.

In my time here I have seen it flourish - both sides of the Choir pews, front and back rows full, with Choristers waiting on the front row of the Nave to be admitted. And I have also seen it down to one person.

At the moment the Choir is stable. We are a small group: what we lack in numbers we make up for in passion. We meet every Friday to practise the hymns and then we practise for an event or just sing for fun.

Whilst we do have a lot of fun we take the role of the Choir very seriously and expect reverence and professionalism from all members. We do not just lead the singing; the role of the Choir is to lead the Congregation in responses, Prayers, and standing and sitting, too.

We would like to increase our numbers, especially the Tenors



and Basses. To be a Chorister you do not need to be able to read music. You do need to be able to sing, but most of all you need dedication and a desire to *Sing the Praises of God* to the best of your ability.

If you are interested, please ask a member of the Choir about joining us. **Di Bebb**

Psalm 150 Piku

Bursting forth
in
exultation

Exploding
sound
without restraint

Heaven and
Earth
Overflowing

Praising the
Lord
Unceasingly

Pam Robinson

What's on this month

Sunday, 1st

10:30^{am} Whole Parish Worship

Lead & Preach: Julie

Holy Communion
with Prayer for Healing

6:30^{pm} Taize Service led by Sue

Monday, 2nd

**1^{pm} Stockport Sling Meet
& Library**

Tuesday, 3rd

1:30^{pm} Socially Yours in church

Wednesday, 4th

10^{am} Holy Communion

Thursday, 5th

**7:30^{pm} Bringing Home
the Prodigals**
at the Lighthouse, Manchester

Friday, 6th

7^{pm} Choir Practice

Saturday, 7th

8:30^{am} Prayer Breakfast
10^{am} Saturday Café
incl. Police Surgery

Sunday, 8th

9:30^{am} Holy Communion
Lead: David ~ Preach: Sue
11:15^{am} Baptism Service
Lead: David ~ Preach: Sue
1 & 1:45^{pm} Baptism Services

Monday, 9th

6:30^{pm} Brigade

Tuesday, 10th

8:30^{am} Home Group
1:30^{pm} Socially Yours
7:30^{pm} PCC at the vicarage

Wednesday, 11th

Magazine Articles Due
10^{am} Holy Communion
7:45^{pm} Home Group

Thursday, 12th

7:30^{pm} Mothers' Union
Tonight: Prayer Partners
7:30^{pm} Deanery Synod
@ St. Mary's

Friday, 13th

9:30^{am} Toddle Time
7^{pm} Choir Practice

Saturday, 14th

10^{am} Saturday Café incl.
signpostforcarers@satcafe

Sunday, 15th

9:30^{am} Holy Communion
Lead: Julie ~ Preach: David
11:15^{am} Holy Communion
Lead: Julie ~ Preach: David
200 Club – Subs Due

Monday, 16th

6:30^{pm} Brigade

Tuesday, 17th

8:30^{am} Home Group
1:30^{pm} Socially Yours

Wednesday, 18th

10^{am} Holy Communion
7:45^{pm} Home Group

Friday, 20th

9:30^{am} Toddle Time
7^{pm} Choir Practice

Saturday, 21st

10^{am} Saturday Café

Sunday, 22nd

9:30^{am} Holy Communion
Lead: Peter ~ Preach: David
11:15^{am} Morning Worship
Lead: Heather ~ Preach: David
2^{pm} Wedding

Monday, 23rd

6:30^{pm} Brigade

Tuesday, 24th

8:30^{am} Home Group
1:30^{pm} Socially Yours in church

Wednesday, 25th

Spring Harvest Booking ☺
10^{am} Holy Communion
7:45^{pm} Home Group

Friday, 27th

9:30^{am} Toddle Time
7^{pm} Choir Practice

Saturday, 28th

10^{am} Saturday Café

Sunday, 29th

9:30^{am} Teen Breakfast
in the Vicarage
9:30^{am} Holy Communion
Lead: David ~ Preach: Lucy
11:15^{am} All Age Signed Service
Lead: David ~ Preach: Mike

Monday, 30th

6:30^{pm} Brigade

Looking ahead

Sunday, 6th July

10:30^{am} Whole Parish Worship
Lead: David/Lucy & Preach: David
Holy Communion
with Prayer for Healing

Sunday, 20th July

6:30^{pm} Taize Service led by Sue

All times and dates correct
at time of going to press.
Please check the notice sheet,
website, Facebook or Twitter
for any changes.

May Baptisms

Ava Grandison, Jacob Dawsett,
Izabella Perndergast

May Wedding

Leon Ryder and Natalie Bull