

MELLOR PARISH CHURCH

Vicar

Rev'd. Canon Dr. Sue Williams

01254 812154

Church Wardens

David Holroyd 01254 814391

Barbara Lucas 01254 580658

Deputies: Geoff Gill Graham Calvert

Organist

Mike Wilcock 01254 581816

Parochial Church Council

www.mellorparishchurch.org

Chairperson Rev'd Canon Dr Sue Williams
Clerk & Secretary Jim Saunders
Treasurer Lorna Shaw with David Adams

David Holroyd Barbara Lucas
Debbie Chadwick (2016) (Youth Coordinator)
Jean Freeman (2018) Geoff Gill (2018)
Rita Gorman (2018) Derek Haworth (2018)
Linda Livesey (2018) Sue Nelson (2016)
Sue Saunders (2017) Lorna Shaw (2018)
Debbie Summersgill (2018) Graham Tipper (2018)
Dorothy Walsh (2018) Karen Walsh (2016)
Marilyn Watson (2017)

Sidespersons

Alan Bibby Graham Calvert Peter Cowell Chris Davis
Mark Hodson Nanette Hogg Paul Hughes Ian Moss
Joan Moss Sue Nelson Jim Saunders Sue Saunders
Alan Smith Frances Thompson Graham Tipper
Noel Walsh Pat Webster

Dear Friends

We know why the tomb was empty. Mary Magdalene, Peter and John did not. They were still living with awful memories of Good Friday. It was on that day that their world came to a stop – the end of life as they had known it. They must have been confused when they looked into the tomb and found it empty. In a short space of time Peter and John made some sense of their discovery and, as we read in the Gospel, ‘they saw – and believed’.

For her part Mary Magdalene was too wrapped up in her grief to think clearly. ‘They have taken away my Lord’. To her Jesus was dead. The bottom had fallen out of her world. She was trying to adjust to the death of her Lord and Master. With her eyes swollen from so much crying she failed to recognise the person standing beside her. It was his voice that gave him away.

Jesus was here, after all, alive, speaking to her. She was desperate to resume their earlier relationship. What she wanted to do was to look back and return to the good old

days – the joy and the closeness. However, Jesus had to redirect her devotion, deep and loving as it was. It had to be turned, to be pointed the right way. Mary had to look forward, not back.

Easter is about looking forward, not back, forward to a new relationship with the risen Jesus. We are not to spend time looking at repeated action-replays, but to take part in a fresh game altogether. Mary had to relax her grip, to let go. She had to learn that the Resurrection meant that Jesus was alive in her, that his Spirit was present in all she said and did. Never again would she be alone, he was always by her, encouraging her, giving support and comfort to her.

From despair to victory, from sadness to joy ! This is the message for us at all times. When we feel overcome by the strains and stresses of life, when we allow the sorrows and losses of our human condition to get the better of us, this is the message to hold on to. A degree of faith in the Risen Lord is able to lift us above the levels of doubt, darkness and dread.

The story of Mary Magdalene (St John 20.1-18) is one of a personal encounter with the Risen Lord. Like her, we may not realise he is by our side (especially in the most sorrowful moments of life) but he is there, and when we recognise him (as he 'speaks' to us) he urges us to let go of the past and move on, in his presence and with his love and his guidance.

I wish you a Happy and Blessed Easter.

John Hartley

MAY DEVOTIONS AND CELEBRATION

Where? Whalley Abbey

When? Monday 2nd May 2016

12.00 Sung Eucharist in a Marquee in the Abbey Grounds

4.00 Evensong in the Parish Church

Celebrant - The Bishop of Burnley Preacher - Fr Gareth Powell

The Burnley Alliance Silver Band

*Other activities include 'Wet and Wild' - for the young and not so young
book your inter church team beforehand.*

Teas in the Abbey Grounds, Tours of the House, Bring a Picnic

From The Registers

		Communicants	Collections
Feb	14	68	554.08
Feb	21	62	464.40
Feb	28	80	675.20
Mar	6	95	538.36
Mar	13	60	541.50

Baptism

We welcome into the Lord's family

Tom Patrick McKay

Funeral

We commend to God's care

Susan Perkins

Calendar for April

April	3	Second Sunday of Easter
	10.30	Parish Communion (Rev'd Enid Briggs)
	6.30	Evensong (Rev'd Roland Nicholson)
April	4	
	9.30	Mothers' Union Service
April	10	Third Sunday of Easter
	10.30	Parish Communion (Rev'd Dr John Darch)
	6.30	Evensong (Rev'd Dr John Darch)
April	12	
	7.30	Mothers' Union
April	16	Wedding
April	17	Fourth Sunday of Easter
	10.30	Parish Communion All Age Worship (tba)
	6.30	Evensong Mrs Christine Ritson
April	22	7.30 – 9.00pm VISION
April	24	Fifth Sunday of Easter
	10.30	Parish Communion (Rev'd Enid Briggs)
	6.30	Holy Communion (tba)
April	26	
	2.15	'Little Angels'
April	29	
	9.45am	Day School Assembly in Church

Church Rotas March

Sidespersons

		<u>Morning</u>		<u>Evening</u>
April	3	S Nelson	F Thompson	N Walsh
April	10	J Saunders	S Saunders	G Tipper
April	17	A Smith	I Moss	S Nelson
April	24	G Tipper	C Davis	M Hodson

Assistant Wardens

April	3	Debbie Summersgill	Marilyn Watson
April	10	Linda Livesey	Sue Nelson
April	17	Rita Gorman	Karen Walsh
April	24	Geoff Gill	Graham Tipper

Chalice Servers

April	3	Eileen Peake & Rita Gorman	Geoff Gill
April	10	Graham Tipper & Geoff Gill	Linda Livesey
April	17	Linda Livesey & Rita Gorman	Debbie Chadwick
April	24	Geoff Gill & Eileen Peake	Graham Tipper

Intercessor

Flowers

		<u>Given by</u>	<u>Arranged by</u>
April	3	Bill Thompson	Helen Holroyd & Helen Cooper
April	10	Ann Minoprio	Ann Minoprio
April	17	Marion Hunt	Debbie Summersgill & Lorna Bowes
April	24	Karen Walsh	Di Ibbotson

Thank you to all who gave donations towards the cost of flowers
and those who arranged them at Easter.

Church Cleaning

Week Commencing

April	4	Maureen Forrest, Hilda Hilton & Marilyn Watson
April	11	Vicky Dewhurst, Jane Greenough & Katie Rolston
April	18	Di Ibbotson, Sue Ellison & Anne Kirkpatrick
April	25	Pamela Jackson, Christine Redwood & Susan Cousins

Mothering Sunday

As a member of St. Mary's Church, Mellor I would like to say how enjoyable the Mothering Sunday service was.

From the moment we entered the church there was a warm welcome and it was lovely to see so many families there, especially young ones.

The hymns were enjoyable and well known and the sermon time was both light hearted and suitable for the occasion with both children and adults joining in the fun.

We ladies also appreciated the lovely daffodils presented to us and also the Mothering Sunday Card which must have taken much time and effort to prepare. The vicar finishing off the morning with a Happy Birthday song – what could have been better?

Thanking you once again.

Barbara Smith

WOMENS WORLD DAY OF PRAYER (UPDATE)

I was so disappointed we had to cancel the Women's World Day of Prayer Service on 4th March because of the snow. A great deal of preparation had gone into this year's service so the decision to cancel was not taken lightly. In addition, it was disappointing from my perspective as this year's Women's World Day of Prayer was my last one as Chair of the local WWDP committee, a position I have held for the past 20 years. It has been a privilege to serve for all these years, and it was only been possible because of the very loyal support that I have received from everyone. I have made many good friends from the four churches as we have met each year to prepare the service and we have travelled together in prayer across the world as each service has taken us around the globe. Last year it was The Bahamas, this year it was Cuba and next year it will be The Philippines!

I would like to thank everyone from the four churches involved in WWDP over the past 20 years for their love, friendship, support and encouragement – without their help my task would have been impossible.

God Bless.

Sheila Parker

Mellor St. Mary C. E. Primary School News

On Tuesday 23 February, the governors interviewed three very able candidates for the post of Head Teacher at our school in Mellor. I am delighted to inform you that, as a result of the interview process, the governors have appointed Joanne Embley-Peers to the post of Head Teacher. Joanne is currently Deputy Head Teacher at St Francis CE Voluntary Aided Primary School in Blackburn. Joanne will begin her new role at St. Mary's on 1 September 2016. Clearly though, over the next few weeks, she will be working with Christine and other members of the Senior Leadership Team to ensure that the transition is made as smooth as possible.

Geoffrey G Gill

Chair of Governors

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Mellor School Reunion Weekend Friday 1st to Sunday 3rd July 2016

All Welcome!

Calling all past and present pupils, families, staff, governors, friends and **all musicians!** You are warmly invited to attend The Grand Reunion at the school on the first week end in July. The fun will begin with a Sports Day on Friday 1st July at 1.30pm - 5pm, with individual races followed by Parents v. Children games on the field.

Afternoon tea will be served and the school will be open to view photographs, DVDs and memorabilia of the school throughout the decades.

As the school has a strong musical tradition, Saturday 2nd July will be dedicated to music and dancing and celebrations will begin in the afternoon. **Members of our school orchestra invite any instrumentalists of all ages from the community to play along with them and a local jazz community orchestra who will also carry out a separate performance.** Other musical items will involve the choir and small school ensembles. We would also like to attract past pupils who have set up their own musical ensembles. Anyone wishing to join rehearsals for this, please ring the school on 01254 812581 or jm@mellor.lancs.sch.uk for further details.

The Friends of St Mary's school (FOSMS) will serve a barbecue and drinks. Please bring your

own chairs/picnic rug. Again, the school will be open all afternoon and evening for families to view the memorabilia in every classroom.

To close the weekend, there will be a service in St Mary's Church at 10:30am on Sunday 3rd July and all are warmly invited to attend.

Julie McGurty

Music Co-ordinator

The Social & Fundraising Committee. Annual Report for 2015

The first event of 2015 was the Annual Village Quiz in February. We owe our thanks to Rev Roland who first had the idea for a village quiz in 2012, and which, due to its popularity, has now become an annual event. Again Roland devised the quiz, with the help of Reverend Jane Bury, and challenged our general knowledge although it was all in a good cause. The event this year raised £1127.80 for Church funds.

We held the Eighth Annual Barbeque in July again in the lovely garden of Alan and Maureen Bell. We managed to find a warm, dry gap in the weather and raised £2310.80. Here we have to say "thank you" to all the local trades people without whom this event would not be such a success – The Millstone for supplying beer and lager, as well as salads, vegetarian options, a waitress and of course Anson himself. Also we need to mention Littlers' Butchers, Jim Milligan, Bill Thompson and Oddies Confectioners, all of whom, by their generosity, helped to make the evening a success.

On 29th September we celebrated Rev Roland's 40th Anniversary of his Ordination. This was a United Benefice occasion, when we worked with the Social Committees of Samlesbury and Balderstone. The number of people who joined Roland in his celebration was amazing – we had originally anticipated catering for about 100, but in the event well over 200 came along – it was quite a squash in the school hall, but a most memorable evening.

We held the Autumn Fayre on Saturday 14th November. As ever this was well supported, and the take was bolstered by the proceeds from our annual Prize Draw. We had a new team of volunteers in the kitchen who produced a lovely meat-and-potato pie lunch as well as some delicious cakes. And of course Father Christmas graced us with his presence (or should that be presents). The event raised £2741.22 for Church funds.

As ever, the success of all these events depends to a great extent on the help and support of many; whether it be help with the planning, with the physical effort involved in setting up, with helping on the day, buying tickets or being there to create a friendly atmosphere. Without this support we could not have managed to raise, during 2015, a total of

£6179.82

During the year we welcomed Rev John Hartley to our Committee, and we must also thank Graham Tipper who is co-opted onto the Committee for appropriate events.

Social & Fundraising Committee

"A Very Happy April Birthday"

April birthdays from the Baptism, Sunday School and Youth Fellowship registers are:

2nd	Molly Baron	3rd	Lucy Taylor
5th	Olivia Hussey	5th	Leo Brown
7th	Isla Patterson	9th	Matthew Cooper
10th	Oliver Rolston	11th	Hannah Pickering
11th	Emma Hilton	12th	Joshua Jarrold
15th	Albert Moss Evans	17th	Jacob Waddicor

20th Alexander Bedford
29th Ethan Broomes

21st Jessica Smith
30th Ruby King

Do you have a Special Birthday coming up? Would you like us to
Mention it in the Church magazine? **Please let us know.**

We have been invited to take this slow dance by Christine Hobkirk

Have you ever watched kids
on a merry-go-round?
Or listened to the rain
slapping on the ground?
Ever followed a butterfly's
erratic flight?
Or gazed at the sun into
the fading night?
You'd better slow down,
don't dance so fast.
Time is short,
the music won't last.
Do you run through each day
on the fly?
When you ask "How are you?"
do you hear the reply?
When the day is done
do you lie in your bed,
with the next hundred chores
running through your head?
You'd better slow down.
don't dance so fast.
Time is short,
the music won't last.
Ever told your child,
we'll do it tomorrow?
And in your haste,
not see his sorrow?
Ever lost touch,
let a good friendship die,
'cause you never had time
to call and say "Hi"?
You'd better slow down
don't dance so fast.
Time is short
the music won't last.
When you run so fast
to get somewhere,
you miss half the fun
of getting there.
When you worry and hurry
through your day
it is like an unopened gift
thrown away.
Life isn't a race,
so do take it slower.
Hear the music,
before the song is over.

David L. Weafherford

Oooops!

When preparing the notice I was only thinking about
– *before Easter* –
*forgetting that as the clocks had not been
moved forward,
it would be dark just after 6.00pm! SORRY!!!*

THE ANNUAL CHURCHYARD SPRING CLEAN

Monday 4TH APRIL starting at 6.00pm.

Once again it is time for the annual churchyard spring clean to remove the dead leaves, broken branches and the general litter that has accumulated over the winter months.

If you are able to spare an hour or two that evening it would be really appreciated as the more helpers there are, the easier is the task.

Please bring **garden rakes and wheel barrows** if you have them.

Once the clean up has been done the mowers can start their summer grass cutting which makes the churchyard look so much neater.

**HELP WITH MOWING THE GRASS THROUGHOUT THE SUMMER
WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED.**

THANK YOU

Vestry Meeting and Annual Parochial Church Meeting

The above meetings will take place in church on Sunday 17th April after morning service. The Vestry Meeting will elect the Churchwardens for the forthcoming year. This will be followed by the Annual Parish Meeting at which elections to the PCC are held. Nomination forms for Churchwardens, PCC members and sides persons are on the notice board. All parishioners on the Electoral Roll are entitled to attend and vote at the meeting while anyone not on the Electoral Roll is welcome to attend.

Jim Saunders, PCC Secretary

COLOUR FASHION SHOW at MELLOR VILLAGE HALL

M and S, Wallis, New Look, Oasis, Top Shop, Next at 50% off or less
Saturday 30th April 2016, Doors open 2pm, show starts 2.30 pm

Tickets £5. Prizes include a £50
Refreshments available clothing voucher to spend at the show

Tickets and more information contact,

Janine Foster - 07561 538314, John Hymas - 01254 813282,
Mavis Williams - 01254 812545, 6 Hob Green, Mellor.

Mothers' Union

I was grateful to Ginnie Aughton for sharing an insight into the 1939-45 War memories through letters exchanged by her mother and father.

We meet in April:-

Monday, 4th April at 9.30am in church for a short service to celebrate the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Tuesday, 12th April at school when we welcome Kath Monks who is a Samaritan

We were shocked to learn of the sudden death of Susan Perkins, a regular member of our branch for 43 years. I was pleased that so many of our members were able to attend her funeral on such a snowy morning.

We offer our sympathy to Margaret and David, her sister and brother.

Margaret Ashton

ART EXHIBITION

A fourth EXHIBITION OF PAINTINGS by local amateur artists will be held in Mellor St. Mary's Parish Church on 13, 14 & 15th May 2016.

We are delighted that Mrs Heather Henderson (wife of the Bishop of Blackburn) has kindly agreed to open the Exhibition at the Cheese & Wine Evening on Friday.

Refreshments will be available during the weekend with light lunches served on Saturday and the event will close with a Songs of Praise Service on Sunday afternoon.

The church will be open for public viewing on Friday, 1-4pm, Saturday 10am – 4pm & Sunday 1-4pm. There will be the opportunity to purchase some of the paintings during the weekend.

*Please note, this year, as well as paintings,
we hope to include other forms of art eg Pottery,
Sculpture and Glass Making.*

FAIRTRADE

Thank you to Jim and Sue Saunders who have been collecting and returning the boxes to Fairground in Blackburn and now to David Holroyd who has taken over from them.

We are hoping that the stall will be in position on **Sunday, 10th April.**

Rita & Lorna

RECYCLED CARDS

Also, thank you to all who bought Easter Cards – and, as always, everyone who supports us

by giving us their special greetings cards for us to recycle.

We have made a donation to the Montgomery Heights Christian care Centre of £50.

The Card Ladies

Sunday School News

Lessons

17th April – AAW

24th April – in school

1st May – in school.

Friday 29th April, Assembly in school with Breakfast for those who can stay after the service. All parishioners are invited, and it would be lovely to see you.

Save the Date -Walking Day 2016 and Queen Elizabeth 90th Birthday Bash

I know everyone is sorting diaries and holidays and a few folk have asked about this date.

As usual we are on the 2nd Saturday in June, which is this year the morning of 11th June.

As this is also a special birthday for our queen we will be organising a children's street party and events for the whole family. If you want to be involved in helping please let Barbara or Debbie know.

Save the Date!!!!!!!!!!

We'd love to see any new children, come and join us on any Sunday morning.
From all the teachers. X

Day School Assembly in Church

All parishioners are welcome to join in the Day School Assembly held in church on Friday, 29th April at 9.45am.

This is a wonderful opportunity to share worship together with all the children and staff from St Mary's Primary School.

Friday morning assembly has always been a special occasion when achievements are celebrated - from both inside in classroom and awards won from activities in the wider community.

Tea/Coffee and Toast served after the service –
thanks to Debbie C and Barbara.

Vision Youth Group

Next meetings

22nd April, 20th May 7.30-9pm. St Mary's Court.

Year 6 and up welcome, £1 entrance.

A Letter to The Youth from Emma – come and join us!

I would like to give you a brief explanation about what we do at Vision. For example, last week, all the children played a game of hide and seek in the dark, then we played an amusing

round of charades and made some key rings for Mothering Sunday. We then had a chat about how our friends, family and God mould us in our lives. Not forgetting the tuck shop! I think Vision is a great way of bringing our youth group together for fun, games and worship. We do different activities every time we go, such as; board games, DIYs and crafts, gifts for people or just fun physical activities. Anyone from Year 6 - Year 11 is welcome to come and join the club!

Feel free to bring some of your friends to come and play.

P.S. We are hoping to have a sponsored dance-athon in June. Come and show off your moves.

Emma, Vision member

Next meetings 22nd April + 20th May 7.30 – 9pm in St Mary's Court.

BALDERSTONE MOTHERS' UNION

INVITE YOU TO AN EVENING AT
MELLOR BROOK COMMUNITY CENTRE
ON SATURDAY 2ND APRIL 7.30PM

THE SPEAKER IS MAUREEN BAXTER AND HER TOPIC IS

"FROM GALLEY TO COCKPIT"

EVERYONE IS WELCOME TICKETS £5.00 AND INCLUDE GLASS OF WINE
AND NIBBLES.

FOR TICKETS PLEASE RING SUSAN 01254 814019

OR ALISON 01254 812439

OR YOU CAN PAY ON THE DOOR

News from Zimbabwe

*The latest newsletter has arrived from Fiona who is
the nurse at the Children's Home in Zimbabwe.*

Dear Friends,

Well, as we expected 2016 is proving to be a challenging year in Zimbabwe, or at least the start has proved to be so! The economic situation is not good with even the banks short of cash, businesses closing, and many struggling to manage on what they have. There is a spiritual oppression that has returned to the country which we have not experienced since 2008. This makes life hard as it feels like it is difficult to make any head way as you are just struggling to keep going.

I am sure many of you have heard of the drought in the country which has devastated crops in many areas, but amazingly, in our area we have not done too badly for rain and the crops here are looking good. We are very grateful for this. Please pray for Zimbabwe as a nation that in these difficult days the Lord will make a way for provision for the most vulnerable.

We have also continued to have more changes to our family. In February Amai Kuda our toddlers house mum left. We knew last year that she was tired and wanted to move on but she was happy to wait till we found a replacement. So in February, Amai Chingwaru came. She is a lovely widowed lady with a heart for the children. Amai Kuda and the new house mum had one week overlap when they were both in the house with the children. This worked well and the children have stayed very settled

through the change.

A longstanding problem that we have been able to solve recently is how to accommodate our over 18 year olds who continue to make Montgomery their home while pursuing further education courses. Over the last two months Len Gooch* has worked with our maintenance team to re-organise and renovate 2 small houses which are now ready for the students to move into when they return for the holiday next week.

Please continue to pray for the children through all these changes that they will find a real stability in Jesus and learn to feel safe in change which is after all so much a part of life.

Thank you for all your support and interest in the work here

Fiona

*Len Gooch is a gentleman from London, in his eighties, who has for many years spent valuable time helping to train the young men to do maintenance jobs around the home and generally making himself useful. He visits Zimbabwe for a few months every year on his way to visit his daughter who lives in Australia!
All the newsletters from Zimbabwe are kept in a blue folder in the Narthex – please feel free to read through them.*

The 'Little Angel' Group

We are planning to hold our 18th birthday party on Tuesday, 26th April at 2.15pm in the Narthex. All are welcome to join in the fun.

please read the review of 2015 on display on the notice board in church with the reports from all the other church organizations

Saturday Cafe at Mellor Village Hall

Every first Saturday in the month from 10am to 2pm
Hot and cold drinks, bacon sandwiches, soup,
homemade cakes to eat in or take out.

Readers for April

April 3			Second Sunday of Easter		
Morning	10:30	M Baldwin	Acts	5:27-32	
		M Woodward	Revelation	1: 4-8	
		Celebrant	John	20: 19-31	
Evening	6.30	M Watson	Genesis 3: 8-15		
		N Walsh	John	20: 19-31	
April 10			Third Sunday of Easter		
Morning	10.30	R Jones	Acts	9: 1-6	
		D Summersgill	Revelation	5: 11-14	

			Celebrant	John	21: 1-19
	Evening	6.30	S Brindle G Tipper	Isaiah John	38: 9-20 11: 27-44
April	17		Fourth Sunday of Easter		
	Morning	10.30	Sunday School Sunday School Celebrant	Acts Revelation John	9: 36-43 7: 9-17 10: 22-30
	Evening	6.30	R Gorman S Nelson	Isaiah Luke	63: 7-14 24: 36-49
April	24		Fifth Sunday of Easter		
	Morning	10.30	S Gill A Smith Celebrant	Acts Revelation John	11: 1-18 21: 1-6 13: 31-35
	Evening	6.30	N Hogg S Dobson	Daniel Mark	6: 6-23 15: 46 to 16: 8

Christian Stewardship

Recorder/Gift Aid Secretary Eileen Peake

Electoral Roll Officer

Graham Tipper

Deanery Synod

Sue Gill Debbie Chadwick

Sunday School

Debbie Chadwick 812091

Vision (Formally Youth Fellowship)

Debbie Chadwick

Little Angels

Margaret Baldwin 812360 Rita Gorman 812566

Children's Society

Debbie Chadwick 812091

Social & Fund Raising Committee

Jean Freeman, Rita Gorman, Debbie Summersgill,
Janet & John Hartley, Alan Smith.

Magazine

ritagorman@tiscali.co.uk

Editors Rita Gorman Ron Hak

Advertising Rita Gorman 812566

Distribution Alan & Barbara Smith

St Mary's C.E. Primary School

Headteacher Mrs Christine L Taylor 812581

Clerk to the Governors Brian Topham

Site Supervisor M. Venables

Friends of St Mary's School (FOSMS)

Vicky Dewhurst and Emma Hilton

Mothers' Union

Margaret Ashton 812616

Altar Flowers

Joan Moss 813581

Rainbows

Lynn Fish (Wren)

Guides

Hilary Wensley

Police

PC Lee Forshaw
Tel# 01200 458766

Churchyard

Chris Wilson Rob Cooper Tom Shaw Stewart Woodward
Bernard Whalley Gordon Hayes
Volunteers still required
