

# MELLOR PARISH CHURCH

## Vicar

Rev'd Charles D Jefferson

## Church Warden

David Holroyd 07793 052143

## Organist

Mike Wilcock 01254 581816

## Parochial Church Council

[www.mellorparishchurch.org](http://www.mellorparishchurch.org)

### Chairperson

-- : --

### Clerk & Secretary

David Wain

### Treasurer

Lorna Shaw with David Adams

David Holroyd Barbara Lucas (2019)  
Debbie Chadwick (2019) Geoff Gill (2018)  
Rita Gorman (2018) Derek Haworth (2018)  
Lorna Shaw (2018) Mark Smith (2019)  
Debbie Summersgill (2018) Graham Tipper (2018)  
Dorothy Walsh (2018) Marilyn Watson (2017)

## Sidespersons

Sue Brown Graham Calvert Peter Cowell  
Nanette Hogg Paul Hughes Ian Moss  
Joan Moss Sue Nelson Alan Smith  
Frances Thompson Graham Tipper  
Noel Walsh Pat Webster Stewart Woodward

---

## Calendar for April

April 2nd **Fifth Sunday of Lent**  
9.30am Benefice United Service (The Vicar)

April 4th  
9.30am Holy Communion  
( Rev'd Terry/Gill Dyer)

April 9th **Palm Sunday**  
9.30am Parish Communion (The Vicar)  
6.30pm United Benefice Service  
'Passiontide Reflections'  
(Hymns, Readings and Music)

April 11th  
9.30am Holy Communion  
(The Vicar)  
7.30pm Mothers' Union

April 13th **Maundy Thursday**  
7.00pm The Last Supper & Washing of Feet

(Rev'd Dr John Darch)

April 14th                   **Good Friday**  
 2.00pm The Last Hour (Rev'd Roland Nicholson)

April 16th                   **Easter Day**  
 9.30am Parish Communion  
 (The Vicar)

April 18  
 9.30am Holy Communion  
 (Rev'd David Kennedy)

April 23rd                   Second Sunday of Easter  
 9.30am Parish Communion  
 (Rev'd Roland Nicholson)

April 25th  
 9.30am Holy Communion  
 (The Vicar)  
 2.15pm "Little Angels"

April 28th  
 7.30pm Vision

April 30th                   **Third Sunday of Easter**  
 9.30am Benefice United Service  
 (The Vicar)

---

### **Living with Doubt..**

..is uncomfortable isn't it, because we would far rather live with certainties. But life's not like that – not now or 2,000 years ago. And one man who had every reason to doubt was Thomas – absent when Jesus first appeared to his disciples and therefore sceptical when they claimed that Jesus had risen from the dead. And yet as Francis Bacon (1561-1626) the famous Elizabethan philosopher and statesman once said “ if man will begin with certainties he will end in doubt, but if he will be content to begin with doubt he shall end in certainties.”

So what transformed 'Doubting Thomas' into a fearless disciple of Christ – from someone who could say “unless I see the nails holes in his hands, put my finger in the nail holes and place my hand where the spear went into his side, I will not believe” – into someone who could exclaim “My Lord and my God !” (*John 20*)? The answer is – the physical resurrection of Jesus Christ.

It is this which distinguishes Christianity from being a merely another religion or simply a moral code or system of ethical behaviour; into a faith in a person who through the presence of God the Holy Spirit is alive in Christians today. Because 30 years before the dreadful events of Easter a baby was born who would be called 'Emmanuel' which means 'God with us' (*Matthew 1*). And the resurrection of Jesus is proof for Christians that this is true and therefore death, for those who die with a faith in Christ, has been defeated (*1 Corinthians 15*).

And that means that although the circumstances of life may often lead us to doubt ourselves, each other or even God, a Christian believes that behind and in control of this incredible universe is the God who has revealed His power and His love in the historical person of Jesus Christ – and because of that is someone on whom we can depend as Thomas himself discovered.

So this Easter whatever your fears or uncertainties, why not bring them to God in Christ? He knows and understands what we are going through (*Hebrews 4:14-16*) for with “little doubts come little understanding, but with great doubts come great understanding” (*Chinese proverb*) when we bring our fears and anxieties to Jesus. And in doing that we may find understanding and so be able to say with Thomas “My Lord and my God.”

With best wishes for a very happy and Christ centred Easter,

Charles Jefferson

---

## LENT 2017

The final Lenten discussion group meeting will be held on  
Thursday, April 6th. Start time 10.30a.m. ending about 12 noon.  
Gill Dyer 01254 813530

---

### A Morning Prayer

So far today God, I have done all right.  
I haven't gossiped. I haven't lost my temper, and haven't been greedy, grumpy,  
nasty, selfish, or over-indulgent.  
And I haven't told anyone to mind his own business and stay out of mine. I'm really  
glad about that.

-----

But in a few minutes, God, I'm going to get out of bed; and from then on I'm  
probably going to need a lot of help.

---

### From The Registers

		<b>Communicants</b>	<b>Collections</b>
Feb	19	64	£422.20
	26	62	£493.32
Mar	5	54	£467.47
	12	57	£383.37

### Funeral

*We commend to God's care*

**Jack Markham Tennant**

---

### Mothers' Union

My sincere thanks to Mrs Christine Taylor, former head teacher of our Day School, who spoke to us in March about her life in education. She created much interest and many memories.

We meet on Tuesday, 11th April and will welcome Mrs Vanessa Cameron who has done a lot of research on the 'Memorials in Mellor St. Mary's'.

We send our love to Sheila Turner and hope she recovers quickly from her recent fall.

All our ladies wish to offer a warm welcome to the Reverend Charles Jefferson and his wife, Cathryn and assure them of our prayers as they come to live and work with us.

Margaret Ashton

---

### Church Rotas April

#### Assistant Wardens

April	2	Mark Smith	Rita Gorman
	9	Marilyn Watson	Debbie Summersgill
	16	Barbara Lucas	Debbie Chadwick
	23	Derek Haworth	Dorothy Walsh
	30	Lorna Shaw	

#### Sidespersons

April	2	S Nelson	F Thompson
	9	A Smith	S Woodward
	16	N Walsh	I Moss
	23	S Brown	G Calvert
	30	t b a	

### Chalice Servers

April	2	Graham Tipper & Eileen Peake
	9	Linda Livesey & Geoff Gill
	16	Linda Livesey & Graham Tipper
	23	Eileen Peake & Rita Gorman
	30	Geoff Gill & Graham Tipper

### Intercessors

Geoff Gill
Linda Livesey
Debbie Chadwick
Graham Tipper
Frank Ashton

### Flower List

	<b>Given by:-</b>	<b>Arranged by:-</b>
April	2	Lent 4
	9	Palm Sunday
	16	Easter Sunday
	23	Karen Walsh
	30	Sheila Turner
		Ann Minoprio
		All Arrangers
		Di Ibbotson
		Joan Moss

### Church Cleaning

#### **Week Commencing**

April	3	Vicky Dewhurst ,Jane Greenough
	10	Di Ibbotson, Sue Ellison & Anne Kirkpatrick
	17	Pamela Jackson, Christine Redwood & Susan Cousins
	24	Berenice McKeown & Joan Venables

Please speak to Hilda or Rita if you would like to join a team or help in any way.

---

## Sunday School News

### Lessons

April	2	Holiday
	9	Holiday
	16	Holiday Easter Sunday
	23	In School
	28	Vision group meet
	30	In Church. United Benefice Service at Mellor

### Mothering Sunday

We hope you all enjoyed the service which was organised by Karen and Angela. A great big WELL DONE to the children who helped with the talk. It is lovely that so many of you are ready to step up and volunteer, you are fantastic.

### Easter

Unfortunately, due to the way the holidays fall we have no Sunday school meetings over Easter. Debbie and Barbara will be in church on Easter Sunday, and if you come and find us we may have a treat for you. We hope our families will try to come if you can, it is a joy to have you in church and extra special at Easter time. Here is a little prayer you might like to use at home.

*Lord Jesus thank you for the power of the resurrection,  
and for the courage you give to your people.*

*Help me to know I am never alone but that you are with me always  
As my friend and Saviour. Amen*

Have a lovely Eastertime from all the Teachers and Youth Team x

---

## **St. Leonard the Less**

"The Church of St. Leonard the Less, Samlesbury,  
will be open to visitors on  
Easter Day, Sunday 16th April from 2pm - 3.30pm.  
All are welcome."

---

### **\*Thank you to Amber from us all.\***

A big thank you to former Rose Queen and apprentice painter and decorator Amber Chadwick. Not many 19 year olds would give up their weekend to paint a church loo, and you have done an amazing job. The PCC and all here at St. Marys appreciate all your hard work. It might be the smallest room but wasn't a small job. Good luck for the last few months of your apprenticeship.

---

### **Pam's Paper Blog:**

Well now we are no longer in interregnum I thought I'd put my mind to a new theme rather than a parish letter. Recently I've been reading a book by John Stott called The Incomparable Christ. In this book he talks of how we, each one of us in the international church, are the body of Christ at work in the world today. Obviously none of us has every aspect of Jesus' character but when we look at our work in the world collectively we do. It's an interesting thought and worthy of a theme for the next few months.

#### **Jesus' humble act of washing the apostles' feet.**

Now there's an appropriate characteristic of Jesus' for Easter! We cannot think of Jesus apart from his humbleness in life. His action of washing the apostles' feet at the last supper was really the act of a slave. As he was washing their feet he was bringing their attention to the fact that he didn't laud it over them like an authoritarian master but came to serve them and he expected them to do likewise.

Over the centuries since Jesus' action the ceremonial washing of feet has been used to represent the humility of people in office, either of the state or church. In 1213 King John washed the feet of thirteen men and gave each a penny. This started the practise of giving Maundy money, which is still kept up today. More recently Pope John 23<sup>rd</sup> reinstated the practise of foot washing in Rome at Passiontide. Actually this literal idea of washing other people's feet isn't always useful especially if it's purely ceremonial. It's easy to put on an act for an hour when Jesus expects us to take humility seriously, all the time.

Samuel Logan Brengle was a Methodist minister with great ambition. He was a gifted preacher and quietly hoped that one day he would make it to be a Bishop but then he met William Booth. In 1887 Brengle joined the Salvation Army and Booth thought him far too conceited and so decided to give him a low status job to start with. He was sent to polish the boots of all the other army cadets.

At first Brengle inwardly grumbled about this task. Then he thought of Jesus washing the apostles' feet and his heart was brought low. If Jesus could wash the feet of dirty fishermen then Brengle could black boots. It was a lesson that coloured his ministry from there on. He never forgot the humbling of his pride and in his ministry with the Salvation Army he is still remembered in awe for his humility.

So we need to ask ourselves are we only humble in season or all year round?

Pam Daunton.

---

## **Mellor St. Mary C. E. Primary School News**

**Year 3,4 and 5 children went to Ribchester for a history visit. We looked at Roman ruins of a bath house and then went to the museum. The children really enjoyed trying on the Roman Armour and marching around with swords and shields.**

Our school also celebrated World Book day by bringing in our favourite books and reading and recommending them to others. Year 4 designed persuasive posters to advertise their favourite stories and these can be seen in the Year 4 classroom.

The smell of pancakes drifted deliciously through school on Shrove Tuesday (Pancake Tuesday or Fat Tuesday!) cooked by reception and KS1 classes.

We were also involved in Ash Wednesday preparations, helping Reverend Roland burn last year's palm crosses. The whole school then went to church on Ash Wednesday to receive a cross of ash on our foreheads.

Kate Brindle Year 4 Teacher

---

## Vision Youth Group

17 children met in March on a very rainy evening. They had a great night of fellowship and creativity. Daleen came and told them all about '40 Acts of Kindness' to think about in Lent. The idea is that you do something kind for somebody everyday, that you look for a way to demonstrate care for someone. She took home a sheet with ideas for kind things, such as 'smile at 10 people today'. Everyone then made a gift for the special ladies in their lives. They also made a gift to give away to a lady who might have no family, or who doesn't see her family. So hopefully they will all have managed at least one of their 40 acts of kindness!!

**Happy Easter Visioners, don't eat too much chocolate and remember to be kind!**

The next meeting will be on 28th April 7.30 – 9pm in church.

All children welcome from year 6 upwards. £1 entry.

---

## Women's World Day of Prayer 2017

(International and Interdenominational)

“Am I being unfair to you?”

A beautiful and thought provoking service was held for Women's World Day of Prayer at St Mary's RC Church Osbaldeston. Many ladies from our four local churches were made welcome for this service led by Sheila Parker.

The service was written by the Christian women of the Philippines. On the same day an estimated 3 million people will have prayed with and for the people of the Philippines.

A poignant part of the service was when every member of the congregation formed a circle and held hands to sing the song 'Come and join the circle, come and be my friend'. The service was followed by a lovely lunch hosted by ladies from St Mary's RC.

After lunch a shortened version of the service was held at Longworth House, led by Rita Gorman. It was lovely to involve the residents who otherwise wouldn't have been able to participate. We finished off with a very lively 'sing song' of some old favourites accompanied by Margaret Baldwin.

Thank you to the ladies of the local committee, to all involved in the organisation of this day of Prayer, it was a privilege to take part in it and special thanks to the staff and school children of St Mary's Osbaldeston.

Dot and Sandra

---

St Mary's Church, Mellor

## Passiontide Reflections

A devotional service of readings, hymns and music

for congregation and choir.  
Sunday 9th April 2017 6.30 p.m.

If you would like to sing with the choir, please talk to the  
Choirmaster, Mike Wilcock.

---

## **Mellor Open Gardens**

17th/18th June.

Would you be willing to open your garden  
for this village event?

All types of gardens are required to make  
the weekend varied and interesting.

Please contact  
Carolyne Hymas on  
813282 for more information.

---

## **Would You Like to be Confirmed this Year?**

### Information for Children

Confirmation Preparation consists of a six week course from (see dates below) and the Confirmation Service will take place on Sunday 18th June 2017. We can't confirm which church, this may depend on the number of candidates to be confirmed. As we have to inform the Bishop that all the candidates have been adequately prepared it is important that you attend all the Confirmation Preparation sessions; it will also be expected that you attend a Sunday service in one of the churches each week as well.

Session dates are: Meeting 1 – 25th April (please can parents stay for the first 20mins to check forms and for any questions

Meeting 2 – 2nd May

Meeting 3 – 9th May

Meeting 4 – 16th May

Meeting 5 – 23rd May

Meeting 6 – 6th June

ALL 3-30- 5pm

A service rehearsal will also take place – week beginning

12th June - date t.b.c.

All sessions take place at St. Mary's school and will be led by Debbie Chadwick, Youth/Sunday School leader and the Youth team from Mellor.

Contact Debbie Chadwick. Tel/text 07935 659004

E-mail – [deborah.chadwick@aol.co.uk](mailto:deborah.chadwick@aol.co.uk)

### For Adults.

If you would like to be confirmed this year please contact Rev'd Jefferson. The perfect opportunity to get to know God and Christ a little better and to affirm the promises made by your parents at baptism.

---

## **FOSMS (Friends of St Mary's School) NEWS**

The spring term is now well underway and we have some very exciting fundraising events to look forward to, but first, the final Christmas Concert Magazine advertisement payments were received last month which totalled a fantastic £430. We would like to thank the many local

businesses who very kindly agreed to place advertisements in our magazine, many who do so year after year, and for their continued support.

Those with children at the school will have noticed raffle tickets for sale in the reading packs. Ticket books are sent home at the start of the half term, one per family and all we ask is that you try and sell a few tickets to help raise money for FOSMS and the school. Once again, we have some fantastic prizes. A family ticket including a night away and entrance to the amazing Gulliver's Theme Park in Warrington. A stunt scooter, suitable for all ages, £30 voucher for the Chill Factor in Manchester and the much loved chocolate hamper. The raffle will be drawn on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March at the Easter Parade in school.

Sadly, the fundraising event in Mellor Village Hall on Saturday 4th March was cancelled due to poor ticket sales. FOSMS thank those who did purchase tickets and apologise for the last minute change of plan.

On a more cheerful note, The FOSMS masquerade ball is going ahead and thank you to all of you who have already purchased tickets and expressed an interest in joining us. The venue, The Samlesbury Hotel has been booked for Saturday 21st October and the ticket price £30, includes a 3 course meal and drinks on arrival. There is a disco, a few table games and a reasonably priced bar and wine menu. We will be selling tickets in the summer term, so please keep an eye on your child's reading pack for ticket slips. This event is open to all parents, families and their friends, so why not get a table together? The Samlesbury Hotel is also offering a reduced room rate, for those wishing to stay over or travelling from further afield. Further information can be **obtained** from the ball committee, [naomi\\_goode@sky.com](mailto:naomi_goode@sky.com), [Lisa.venables15@googlemail.com](mailto:Lisa.venables15@googlemail.com) , [zoeff28@googlemail.com](mailto:zoeff28@googlemail.com) or via school for ticket sales.

And finally, we thought it would be nice to share a short list of some of the donations FOSMS has made to the school over the past couple of months, from all funds raised.

- 1, The Life Education Bus back in November 2016 was funded by FOSMS.
- 2, Purchases for the school include new Geography books, Maths and Science equipment.
- 3, The repair of the outdoor cargo net and the new outdoor play equipment, including the climbing wall and path around the playing field.
- 4, All coach trips in 2016 and early 2017 including Blackburn Cathedral, the Mosque and school trips to Fulwood Barracks.
- 5, We have helped the school fund the new mosaic.
- 6, A new stage carpet for all school performances and finally,
- 7, Mr Venables has a new Henry Hoover.

All of the above would not be possible without the kind donations from the friends and family of the school and the time and effort (all voluntary) from our hardworking FOSMS team.

Thank you

Zoe Metcalf Treasurer

---

### **Recycled Cards**

Easter Cards are now available on the stall in the Narthex – some at 3 for £1 and beautiful hand crafted ones made by Jean at 50p each –  
(far too cheap, really!)

*The Card Ladies*

---

**The 'Little Angel' Group**



Would you believe it? It is 19 years since we first began our monthly meetings for little ones and those who love and care for them so we shall be celebrating at our next meeting on Tuesday, 25<sup>th</sup> April.

Hilda will be baking another lovely birthday cake for us to share and we will enjoy all the usual activities – remember all are welcome.

We were pleased that Caroline, Clare, Doritta and Sandra represented us at the Women's World Day of Prayer Service this year - thank you.

Margaret, Rita, Hilda and Gillian . . . and our new recruit, Sandra

Remember – all are welcome.

---

## Readers for April

April	2	<b>Fifth Sunday of Lent</b>	
	9.30am	“An Honest Ministry”	
		M Ashton	2 Corinthians 4:1-6
		M Eccleston	2 Corinthians 4:7-15
April	9	<b>Palm Sunday</b>	
	9.30am	S Gill	Psalm 118: 1-2, 19-29
		N Walsh	Matthew 21: 1-11
April	16	<b>“The Lord is Risen” - Easter Day</b>	
		W Shaw	Acts 10: 34 - 43
		R Jones	John 20: 1-18.
April	23	<b>Second Sunday of Easter</b>	
		A Smith	Acts 2: 14a. 22-32
		D Summersgill	1 Peter 1: 3-9
		Celebrant	John 20: 19-31
April	30	<b>Third Sunday of Easter</b>	
		“A Reconciling Ministry”	
Balderstone		John Mather	2 Corinthians 5:11- 15
Samlesbury		Caroline Coughlyn	2 Corinthians 5:16 - 21

---

## FAIR TRADE

We'll be 'up and running' on Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> April – which promises to be a busy morning as we welcome our friends from Balderstone and Samlesbury for Reverend Charles' first Parish Communion service in the United Benefice.

A good time for buying chocolate treats for Easter –

The FairTrade Team