

MELLOR PARISH CHURCH

Vicar

Rev'd. Canon Dr. Sue Williams

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Church Wardens

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Deputies: Geoff Gill Graham Calvert

Organist

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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,

What troubled times the Anglican Church seems to be going through. And what a poor witness to the Gospel we are making to the world. It is with real sadness that I view the intransigence that has characterised the discussions of the Anglican Church and the damage that this has coursed to individual Anglican brothers and sisters; indeed how this has then put their lives in danger. Of course we could always say that that has been the way of the Church throughout our 2,000 year history as we can see so clearly from the writings of Luke in the Acts of the Apostles, and in Paul's letters to his early Christian communities. And a close reading of the Gospels and the other New Testament writings shows us how deeply divided were the early Christian Churches; while the history of the Christian church evidences persecutions of Christians by other Christians. Not to mention the Great Schism between Eastern

and Western Christianity, and the dividing of Christendom in the West during the Reformation. However, this does not make our current situation any less painful, unedifying or less damaging to the work and mission of the Anglican Church, which is after God's Church and God's mission.

Historically Anglicanism's foundation lies in the three concepts of "Scripture, tradition and reason" which has provided us with the ability to find a middle way between extremes of theology and church tradition. Sometimes this has led to a culture of "don't ask, don't tell" which can lead to a politeness bordering on negligence. Nevertheless, "Scripture, tradition and reason" in the "broad church" that is Anglicanism has nourished many generations and nationalities of Christians and has provided the world with some of the most spiritual, holy and learned men and women from right across the Anglican spectrum from the highest of Anglo-Catholics to the most conservative of Evangelicals. What has united us has been first and foremost the love of God, the respect for Scripture without resorting to literal or fundamentalist interpretation, and our belief that God's will for the world and for individuals can be discerned through reasoned discussion and debate. Sadly, there are those who would now seek to undermine this Anglican way with an insistence on fundamentalist and literalist interpretations of the Bible and the imposing of a dictatorial orthodoxy focused on a prurient and excessive interest into the relationships between two loving and consenting adults in the privacy of their relationship. This is a form of fundamentalism which is quite alien to the theology and historic nature of the Anglican Church and damages not only Anglicanism but more importantly the lives of individual women and men who become the focus of some less than Christian behaviour on the part of others.

The Anglican Church is nevertheless God's church and for all its faults and failings has been called into existence by God. And that gives me great hope for it is through the Holy Spirit that the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified not merely through the actions of men and women. So let us all refuse the temptation to bully and blackmail in order to get our own way and let us celebrate "Scripture, tradition and reason" not just in the institution of the Church but in our individual lives as well. And as the bishops return from their meeting in Lambeth let us pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, for them and for the furthering of God's mission in the Anglican Church across the world.

*May God give you every blessing.
Sister Sue*

Tree Planting in St Mary's Churchyard

During 2015 following a tree inspection in the churchyard it was found that one of the trees near St Mary's Gardens was diseased and needed to be removed.

Mr Paul Moses of Samlesbury Plant Centre very kindly gave a new oak tree to the church and on the front cover is a photograph of the tree after it had been planted in the churchyard by Tom Shaw.

Calendar for February

- February 7** Sunday next before Lent
10.30am Parish Communion
Day School Anniversary Service
(Rev'd Enid Briggs)
- 6.30pm Evensong
(Dr John Darch)
- February 9**
7.30pm Mothers' Union A G M
- February 12**
7.30pm Village Quiz
- February 14** First Sunday of Lent
10.30 am Parish Communion
(Canon John Hartley)
- 6.30 pm Evensong
(Canon Sue Williams)
- February 19**
7.30 - 9.00pm Vision
- February 21** Second Sunday of Lent
10.30 am Parish Communion
(Canon Sue Williams)
- 6.30pm Healing Service
(Canon Sue Williams & Rev'd Enid Briggs)
- February 23**
2.15pm 'Little Angels'
- February 28** Third Sunday of Lent
10.30 am Parish Communion
(Canon John Hartley)
- 6.30pm Holy Communion
(Dr John Darch)
-
-

Church Rotas February

Sidespersons

		<u>Morning</u>		<u>Evening</u>
February	7	S Nelson	F Thompson	J Saunders
February	14	J Saunders	S Saunders	S Nelson
February	21	A Smith	I Moss	N Hogg
February	28	G Tipper	C Davis	N Walsh

Assistant Wardens

February	7	Geoff Gill	Graham Tipper
February	14	Rita Gorman	Marilyn Watson
February	21	Debbie Chadwick	Karen Walsh
February	28	Linda Livesey	Sue Nelson

Chalice Servers

Intercessor

February	7	Eileen Peake & Rita Gorman	Day School
February	14	Graham Tipper & Linda Livesey	Geoff Gill
February	21	Geoff Gill & Eileen Peake	Debbie Chadwick
February	28	Rita Gorman & Geoff Gill	tba

Flowers

		Donated by	Arranged by
February	7	Mrs Irene Holt	Joan Moss
February	14	Lent 1	
February	21	Lent 2	
February	28	Lent 3	

Church Cleaning

Week Commencing

February	1	Pamela Jackson, Christine Redwood & Susan Cousins
February	8	Jean Freeman, Sheila Turner & Berenice McKeown
February	15	Rita Gorman, Betty Green & Peter Cowell
February	22	Linda Cawtherly, Margaret Eccleston & Frances Thompson
February	29	Sue Nelson & Amanda Calvert

From The Registers

		Communicants	Collections
November	22	60	576.75
	29	50	500.01
December	6	57	714.00
	13	60	680.70
	20	56	713.08
	24	52	159.21
	25	59	118.00
	27	43	273.10
January	3	67	736.10
	10	57	491.71

Church Cleaning

The church was cleaned thoroughly after Christmas –
except for the glass in the Narthex.

We are appealing for someone who is willing and able to carry out this necessary task.

Thank you – the Cleaning Team

Women's World Day of Prayer

Women's World Day of Prayer is on
Friday, 4th March 2016 and it is the turn of
Mellor St. Mary's Church to host the service.

This year's service, 'Receive Children, Receive Me', has been prepared by the
Christian women of Cuba

Mellor St. Mary C. E. Primary School News

As always in school, the basic skills of English, Maths and Computing are taught during the morning sessions followed by Science, R.E., History, Geography, Music, Design Technology, Art, P.S.H. E. and P.E. lessons in the afternoons. In addition to that, the pupils are given many opportunities after school and out of school to extend their interests and hobbies. We are a small village school and it is essential that our pupils see as much of the wider world as possible.

On the first day of the month, Mrs McPherson is taking the year 3 /4 Gymnastic team to St Augustine's High School to compete in the Ribble Valley Gymnastics competition. On Friday 5th February, the Year 2 and Year 6 children will receive a fire safety presentation from Lancashire fire officers followed by a FOSMS children's disco in the evening.

The school anniversary service takes place in church on Sunday 7th February and the theme is "Lord, I have time." In 2016, Education Sunday has been moved to September but our anniversary will remain in February for this year.

The EYFS (Early Years Foundation Stage) have been focussing on transport activities this half term. Their role play area is a garage and they have all the boiler suits, steering wheels and filters that are needed for a good garage. On 9th February, they are visiting Bury Transport Museum to see how older vehicles move along.

As part of their history curriculum, the Year One children are comparing old and new toys and they will be visiting Blackburn Museum on 11th February with Mrs Marshall. On 27th February, ten of our oldest pupils will be taking part in the Matchday Experience at Ewood Park when Rovers play against M K Dons. We hope both teams have a successful afternoon!

As some of you may know and after much thought, I have decided to retire in July 2016. Headship interviews will take place at Whalley Abbey on Tuesday 23rd February and we remember the school governors in our prayers as they work through the selection process supported by our School and Diocesan Advisers. School closes for half-term on Friday, 12th February and re-opens on Monday, 22nd February.

Chris Taylor

Headteacher

Extremism

Last November four of us from St Mary's went to a seminar at Blackburn

Cathedral investigating 'What Jesus and Mohammed would say about Extremism?'

The seminar had been planned months before but was held just after the terrible attacks in Paris, making it even more pertinent. The seminar began with a prayer for all people who had suffered from the effects of extremism and violence.

Those attending included a mix of Christians and Muslims, men and women plus a mix of age groups. There were four speakers - two Christian and two Muslim. All four spoke of peace and the need to appreciate others.

Reverend Doctor Anderson Jeremiah said that Jesus wanted to create a kingdom of love, where our actions are driven by love and all people have worth.

Doctor Shuruq said Mohammed wanted peace, mercy and compassion, a world where we live out compassion in our lives.

Mr Arif Fitsimon spoke of the triggers for extremism, frequently stemming from a lack of understanding of others.

Canon Andrew Pratt emphasised that it is up to each one of us to bring about the understanding of others.

The words of the four speakers may have given a different perspective but all were underlining the fundamental truths stressed by both Jesus and Mohammed that we are all God's people and need to work for peace and compassion.

In Jesus' words 'Love your neighbour as yourself'.

In our materialistic lives, peace, love and compassion may seem vague words but Canon Pratt was formerly a police inspector used to dealing with difficult situations most of us only see on TV dramas, yet it was he who used his faith and understanding to resolve very real problems.

This is a brief and inadequate summary of three hours of talk and discussion but for all who attended it was a testament of hope in a difficult world. It certainly gave the four of us food for thought.

Frances Thompson

Christingle

Thank you to everyone who came to this service.

Sam Taylor and Alannah Slater

won the colouring competition.

The total raised for the Childrens Society was a brilliant **£232**.

This money will help children here in the UK who are in need.

"A Very Happy February Birthday"

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

1st	Paige Varey	19th	Mason Robinson
2nd	Jay Venables	22nd	Amelia Dobson
3rd	Alfie Wallace	25th	Andrew Lucas
7th	Dylan Kay	26th	James Chadwick
17th	Megan Pilkington	26th	Elsbeth Ambler
19th	Zoe Summersgill		

Do you have a Special Birthday coming up?

Would you like us to mention it in the Church magazine?
Please let us know.

FAIRTRADE

The stall will be in position on
Sunday 7th February before and after the
Parish Communion Service.

Please don't forget to bring some money!

The Fairtrade Team

VISION

Dear Friends,

Could you be St Mary's Church Vision 2026 Champion?

The Church of England in Lancashire is working to live out 'Vision 2026' under the mission statement 'Healthy Churches Transforming Communities'. The Vision has the key aims of making disciples of, being witness to and growing leaders for Jesus Christ.

Underpinning Vision 2026 is prayerful activity in parishes across the Diocese. To support the implementation of the Vision, each parish is being invited by the Bishop of Blackburn to appoint a 'Vision Champion'.

Vision Champions will encourage the local church to play its part in developing a local response to our diocesan vision.

Our Vision Champions *will*:

- be excited by the opportunities presented by Vision 2016
- be a positive, encouraging voice in our parish, drawing attention to the resources and opportunities Vision 2026 offers
- be supportive in helping our church prepare its contribution for May 2016
- be prayerful: our Vision Champion will be praying for the blessing of God on our parish, our united benefice and across the Diocese.

Our Vision Champions *should*:

- be a member of, or co-opted onto the Parochial Church Council (PCC) to make sure that they are fully plugged into the life and leadership of our church. This will give them the opportunity to advocate for Vision 2026 within our church.
- be able to commit – circumstances permitting – for three years in the role.

Support for Vision Champions

Our Vision Champion *will*:

- receive regular updates
- participate in the network of Champions across the Diocese, sharing ideas and encouraging one another
- have access to the recently appointed Vision Co-ordinator to support them in their role.

Vision Champions will be commissioned by the Bishop on 10th May 2016 at the Guild Hall, Preston.

If this sounds like something you could be interested in, please contact Dave or Barbara (our church wardens) before the 1st March 2016 for an informal chat.

*Heavenly Father,
we embrace your call for us to make disciples,
to be witnesses and to grow leaders.
Give us the eyes to see your vision,
ears to hear the prompting of your Spirit
and courage to follow in the footsteps of your Son,
our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.*

???? The Village Quiz ????

The Quiz will be held on
Friday 12th February 2016

in the School, starting at 7.30 prompt.

Tickets are £6.50 each
and include a Meat-and-Potato Pie Supper
with a Vegetarian option

There will be a bar; soft drinks will also be available.

Quizmaster is Reverend Roland.

Tickets will have to be limited due to the space available, so start arranging your teams of 4 people, and come along and enjoy what promises to be a great evening.

All proceeds from the evening will go to Church.

Tickets are available from:-

Jean Freeman 01254 812366
Debbie Summersgill 01254 813559
Rita Gorman 01254 812566
Alan Smith 01254 672774

TAI CHI CLASSES

St Mary's Court Mellor

FRIDAY 10am -11:30am

Research has shown Tai Chi to have a positive effect on balance control, fitness and flexibility, increasing energy and building muscle strength. In addition we work with the breath to calm the mind, reducing stress and anxiety.

Suitable for all ages.

For further information contact Marion Burtonwood,
Tel: 01254 813567.

ART EXHIBITION

A fourth EXHIBITION OF PAINTINGS by local amateur artists will
be held in Mellor St. Mary's Parish Church on 12, 14 & 15th May 2016.

There will be a Cheese & Wine Evening on Friday Evening, 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.

More details will be available later from the
Social & Fundraising Committee.

Saturday Cafe at Mellor Village Hall

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

Sunday School News

Lessons

Feb 7th – in church, Day school anniversary
Feb 14th, 21st – no lesson half term
Feb 28th – lesson in school.

LITTLE ANGELS

We meet on the 23rd February when we shall be considering ways of communicating
with each other and with God – even tiny babies are good at communicating – they
soon let us know when they are hungry!

All are welcome - Rita Margaret Hilda and Gillian

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARIES

SATURDAY 19th NOVEMBER 2016

BAE CANBERRA CLUB

“BIG BAND 40’S NIGHT”

In aid of the United Benefice

Glenn Miller - Duke Ellington – Tommy Dorsey

Big Band music that many of us still remember and will have danced to in our
“Younger days”. Now we can relive those wonderful sounds at a special “40’s Night”
at the BAE Canberra club on Sat. Nov. 19th 2016. It may be a long way off, BUT the
Band and the venue have been booked since last November – this will be a wonderful
night where you can come and dance to the wonderful sound of a Big Band or just sit
and listen and reminisce with friends.

More details to follow – but make a note of the date – don’t be disappointed

MOTHERS' UNION

Our January speaker was PCSO Jules Ragen, a member of the Ribble Valley Neighbourhood Policing Team. She informed us of many ways to be 'safe and secure' for which we are very grateful.

We meet in February on Tuesday 9th, NOT the 19th. We will hold our Annual General Meeting, exchange £1 parcels and sell good-as-new books and bric-a-brac. I hope we can enjoy a 'Jacob's Join' supper, so please bring supper for one to share.

Margaret Ashton

VISION YOUTH GROUP

We will meet at church on Friday
19th February this month.
All welcome from year 6 upwards.
7-30 to 9pm.

F.O.S.M.S

FOSMS are to kick off this years fundraising with the children's disco to be held on Friday 5th February for year 1 to year 7 pupils. We would like to hear from year 1 parents who could volunteer for this event to help serve drinks, food and sweets. Please contact Emma Hilton or Vicki Dewhurst via the children's reading packs.

Our March event will be our Easter raffle, with amazing prizes for the children to win, more information with regard to prizes and the raffle tickets will be circulated in the reading packs. Please could you also save the date of 23rd April as we will be returning with our Food Festival. A brilliant event for everyone to try foods from all around the world, a great social evening for all the family and a great way for children to sample new foods. More details will follow.

Please look to our FOSMS newsletter distributed via the children's reading packs and our notice board near to the school entrance.

If you would like to join the FOSMS team please contact

Emma Hilton or Vicky Dewhurst.

Kind regards The FOSMS team.

"Lost Generation" (Jonathan Reed)

When you have read this and go 'tut tut', read
It again but from the line 'There is no hope' upwards,
Jonathon is not all he seems.

I am part of a lost generation.
And I refuse to believe that
I can change the world.
I realize this may be a shock, but
"Happiness comes from within"
Is a lie, and
"Money will make me happy"

So in thirty years, I will tell my children
They are not the most important thing in my life.
My employer will know that
I have my priorities straight because
Work
Is more important than
Family
I tell you this:
Once upon a time
Families stayed together
But this will not be true in my era.
This is a quick fix society
Experts tell me
Thirty years from now, I will be celebrating the tenth anniversary of my divorce.
I do not concede that
I will live in a country of my own making.
In the future,
Environmental destruction will be the norm.
No longer can it be said that
My peers and I care about this Earth.
It will be evident that
My generation is apathetic and lethargic.
It is foolish to presume that
There is hope.

And all of this will come true unless we reverse it.

Shrove Tuesday – 9th February 2016

Shrove Tuesday (known in some countries as Pancake Days) is the day preceding Ash Wednesday (the first day of Lent), which is celebrated in some countries by consuming pancakes.

The word shrove is a form of the English word shrive, which means to obtain absolution for one's sins by way of Confession and doing penance. Thus Shrove Tuesday gets its name from the custom for Christians to be "shriven" before the start of Lent.

It is probably impossible to know when the tradition of marking the start of Lent began. [Ælfric of Eynsham](#)'s "Ecclesiastical Institutes" of about A.D. 1000 includes: "In the week immediately before Lent everyone shall go to his confessor and confess his deeds and the confessor shall so shrive him as he then may hear by his deeds what he is to do [in the way of penance]".

Festivities associated with Shrove Tuesday

In [England](#), as part of community celebration, many towns held traditional Shrove Tuesday "[mob football](#)" games, some dating as far back as the 12th century. The practice mostly died out in the 19th century after the passing of the [Highway Act 1835](#) which banned playing football on public highways. A number of towns have maintained the tradition, including [Alnwick](#) in [Northumberland](#), [Ashbourne](#) in [Derbyshire](#) (called the [Royal Shrovetide Football](#)), [Atherstone](#) in [Warwickshire](#) (called simply the Atherstone Ball Game), [St Columb Major](#) in [Cornwall](#) (called [Hurling the Silver Ball](#)), and [Sedgefield](#) in [County Durham](#).

Shrove Tuesday was once known as a "half-holiday" in Britain. It started at 11:00am with the ringing of a church bell. On Pancake Day, "pancake races" are held in villages and towns across the United Kingdom. The tradition is said to have originated in 1445 when a housewife from [Olney](#), [Buckinghamshire](#), was so busy making pancakes that she forgot the time until she heard the [church bells](#) ringing for the service. She raced out of the house to church while still carrying her [frying pan](#) and pancake, tossing it to prevent it from burning.[[]The pancake race remains a relatively common festive tradition in the UK, especially [England](#), even today. Participants with frying pans race through the streets tossing pancakes into the air and

catching them in the pan while running.

In Mellor, some of us who grew up in the village during the 1950s may remember knocking on the back door of Elswick House, the home of Mr & Mrs Heyworth (owners of Elswick Mill) to ask for *a penny for a pancake, please*. Then we would race to the Café (now Albatross Villa) where we would buy a barm cake to eat – ummm, the aroma of fresh bread straight from the oven.

My dad told us of the time when he and his pals called at ‘the big house’ for a pancake penny during the time of the WW1, then, having exchanged caps, called again a little later. However, when they appeared for a third time, the housekeeper answered the door, looked down at them and said **“Herbert, I shall have a word with your mother!”**

Rita Gorman

Readers for February

February	7	Sunday next before Lent	
	Morning	Day School Day School Celebrant	Exodus 34: 29-35 2 Corinthians 3: 12- 4: 2 Luke 9: 28-43
	Evening	N Hogg G Tipper	2 Corinthians 3: 12- 4: 2 Luke 9: 28-43
February	14	First Sunday of Lent	
	Morning	D Summersgill R Jones Celebrant	Deuteronomy 26: 1-11 Romans 10: 8b-13 Luke 4: 1-13
	Evening	M Watson M Riley	Romans 10: 8b-13 Luke 4: 1-13
February	21	Second Sunday of Lent	
	Morning	S Gill F Ashton Celebrant	Genesis 15: 1-12. 17-18 Philippians 3: 17-4:1 Luke 13: 31-35
	Evening	N Hogg S Brindle	Philippians 3: 17-4:1 Luke 13: 31-35
February	28	Third Sunday of Lent	
	Morning	S Gill A Smith Celebrant	Isaiah 55: 1-9 1 Corinthians 10: 1-13 Luke 13: 1-9
	Evening	N Walsh S Dobson Celebrant	Isaiah 55: 1-9 1 Corinthians 10: 1-13 Luke 13: 1-9
March 6		Mothering Sunday	
	Morning	M Baldwin M Woodward Celebrant	Exodus 2: 1-10 2 Corinthians 1: 3-7 Luke 2: 33-35
	Evening	S Nelson S Brindle	Exodus 2: 1-10 Luke 2: 33-35

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.

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Advertising Rita Gorman 812566

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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
