

MELLOR PARISH CHURCH

During the Interregnum

until further notice please contact Rev'd Roland Nicholson 07715 793282

Church Warden

David Holroyd 07793 052143

Organist

Mike Wilcock 01254 581816

Parochial Church Council

www.mellorparishchurch.org

Chairperson

- - : - -

Clerk & Secretary David Wain

Treasurer Lorna Shaw with David Adams

David Holroyd Barbara Lucas (2019)
Debbie Chadwick (2019) Jean Freeman (2018)
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 Stuart Woodward

Calendar for January

January 1 The Naming and Circumcision of Jesus
10.30 Parish Communion
(Canon John Hartley)

January 3
9.30 Holy Communion
(Rev'd Gary Hunt)

January 8 Epiphany
10.30 Parish Communion
(Rev'd Enid Briggs)
6.30 Evensong
(Rev'd Dr John Darch)

January 10
9.30 Holy Communion
(Rev'd Roland Nicholson)

	7.30	Mothers' Union
January 15		Second Sunday of Epiphany
	10.30	Parish Communion - All Age Worship (Rev'd Roland Nicholson)
	6.30	Healing Service (Rev'd Enid Briggs & Rev'd Gill Dyer)
January 17		
	9.30	Holy Communion (Canon John Hartley)
January 22		Third Sunday of Epiphany
	10.30	Parish Communion (Rev'd Dr John Darch)
	6.30	Holy Communion (Rev'd Roland Nicholson)
January 24		
	9.30	Holy Communion (Rev'd Gill Dyer)
January 29		Presentation of Christ in the Temple
	10.30	United Benefice Service at Balderstone St Leonard (Rev'd David Kennedy)
January 31		
	9.30	Holy Communion (Rev'd David Kennedy)
	2.15	'Little Angels'

Pam's Paper Blog:

Dear friends,

The underfunding and crises of care for the elderly is very much in the news at the moment. People by and large are living longer. It is a mixture of medical treatments being so good that people don't succumb to illnesses that would once have shortened their lives and our ability to stay fitter and healthier earlier whilst we are younger. But surely living longer is a good thing as long as it is a life of quality and not quantity?

But with this longer fitter existence has come a strange taboo about talking of death. There is this social unease about when it is polite to ask if someone is dying or not. In the press coverage of the crises of care for the elderly there is little discussion about the right to die. It usually centres on the inability of the NHS to fund us all right to the bitter end or the eye watering costs of care homes or the sad cases of neglect that occur.

As Christians we need to keep in tension two important truths. The first is that we are God's temple. In I Corinthians Paul asks us this question. "Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body." *1 Cor 6: 19,20*. Each of our lives, long or short, is precious to God and he wants us to use it for his service. We should live knowing that God lives in a relationship with us that is special and important. That's equally true when we are young as well as when we're very old.

The other truth is that death is not the end. As Christians we know that Jesus shows us the way to his separate kingdom; the one we call heaven. That when we die we leave this world and move fully into the kingdom of God. Paul was so sure of this that he says in his letter to the Philippians: "For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain." ²² If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me; and I do not know which I prefer. ²³ I am hard pressed

between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better;" *Phil 1: 21-23*.

During these winter months many elderly people are cut off from others because we all tend to stay indoors at home more. As Christians we need to let that Holy Spirit within us prompt us to phone or visit elderly friends sharing with them and caring for them. But also we should be ready to talk about that hope we have of heaven. Not in some bombastic thoughtless way but in the way Paul does. That we know that death is gain rather than an embarrassment.

Pam Daunton

Church Rotas January

Assistant Wardens

January 1	Graham Calvert	Marilyn Watson
8	Graham Tipper	Lorna Shaw
15	Debbie Chadwick	Barbara Lucas
22	Dorothy Walsh	Derek Haworth

Sidespersons

Morning

Evening

January 1	J Moss	P Webster	N Walsh
8	G Tipper	S Woodward	S Nelson
15	G Calvert	S Brown	P Webster
22	A Smith	P Cowell	N Hogg

Chalice Servers

Intercessors

January 1	Geoff Gill	Rita Gorman	Linda Livesey
8	Graham Tipper	Eileen Peake	Frank Ashton
15	Linda Livesey	Geoff Gill	Debbie Chadwick
22	Rita Gorman	Graham Tipper	Geoff Gill

Flower List

Given by:-

Arranged by:-

January 8	15	Mrs M Lomax	Joan Moss
	22	Mrs H Hilton	Debbie Summersgill

There are some dates available throughout the year – please see Joan Moss if you would like to donate flowers for a special Sunday or to make a contribution towards the Flower Fund.

On behalf of the congregation – Thank you to all who helped to decorate the church at Christmas . . . and throughout the year.

Church Cleaning

Week Commencing

January 2	General Cleaning Week
9	Vicky Dewhurst & Jane Greenough
16	Di Ibbotson, Sue Ellison & Anne Kirkpatrick
23	Pamela Jackson, Christine Redwood & Susan Cousins
30	Berenice McKeown & Joan Venables

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

"A Very Happy January Birthday"

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

5th	Mia Thornton	16th	Ebony Varey
5th	Thomas Cleasby	16th	Scarlett Wakes
7th	Grace Hilton	26th	Ellie Mayor
8th	William Joyce	26th	George Rolston
8th	Emily Sheldon	28th	Penelope Burtonwood
12th	Rose Best	29th	Elizabeth Venn-Mills
14th	Brooke Wilson		

Do you have a Special Birthday coming up?

Would you like us to mention it in the Church magazine?

Karen Walsh (karenwalsh739@brinternet.com).

The 'Little Angel' Group

Thank you, Mrs McPherson, for bringing the children from school to sing to us at our meeting in December.

On Tuesday, 31st January we hope to welcome Sarah, the diocesan advisor for Under 5s, to our meeting – wonder what delights she will have in store for us?

Wishing everyone health and happiness in 2017

Remember – all are welcome.

Margaret, Rita, Hilda and Gillian

From The Registers

	Communicants	Collections
Nov 20	65	434.99
27	52	448.74
Dec 4	43	505.15
11	56	431.30

Baptism

We welcome into the Lord's family

Joey Scott Hall

Funeral

We commend to God's care

Elsie Yates

New Bible Study

Starting - Thursday, January 12th 2017

A Bible study will be led by the Reverend Enid Briggs on 'exploring the bible', giving a background to what we hear on a Sunday. This series of 9 sessions will bring the bible alive, making it much more interesting & exciting.

The course will be held each Thursday from January 12th - March 9th at 7.30pm with the first venue at 79, Warrenside Close, (off Parsonage Road), Blackburn, BB1 9PE.

We look forward to seeing you & exploring the bible together.

Please do not hesitate to contact Enid on 01772 879264
or enid_briggs@hotmail.com for more information.

Mellor St. Mary C. E. Primary School News

As I sit here to write this month's extract, I am listening to the wonderful sounds of Christmas music and children singing. As you sit there reading this, our annual Christmas events will have already taken place and hopefully those who came to support us both in the Cathedral and in school thoroughly enjoyed the festive celebrations. The school tree looked beautiful decked with decorations from home. Each child was asked to donate a decoration and say a little prayer of thanks when hanging it on the tree. I would like to say a huge thank you to all the children, dedicated staff and parents, as well as Parish friends, who supported all our events and made Christmas so special for all our pupils in school.

The new term has now got underway and all the children have settled down to 'normal' work. Walking around school is a real pleasure watching all the children engaged in their lessons and developing their enquiry skills both inside and outside the classroom. Our School Council have been busy generating ideas for this term, which includes charitable giving as well as some fun events for children of all ages including a new idea; a 'valentines post box!'

This term our collective worship theme is '*Creation*' from the Christian perspective that all life is a gift, entrusted by a loving creator God to humankind for a purpose. The children will be encouraged to glimpse the creative spirit within each person and learn to value, explore, celebrate and enjoy this world in all its mystery and diversity. With this gift comes a mutual responsibility to ensure that creation is not spoiled, but rather sustained and shared by all.

Finally for this month, I have already had the pleasure of meeting a lot of members of the community and church and I am now beginning to match more names to faces so please bear with me, I am getting there!

School closes for half-term at 3.15 p.m. on Friday 10th February and re-opens on Monday 20th February.

Mrs Jo Embley-Peers
Headteacher

Sunday School News

Happy New Year!

Lessons

We return on Sunday 8th Jan in school.

15th Jan – All Age Worship

22nd Jan – In school

29th Jan – In school

Prizegiving

We will have prizegiving later in the spring. AAW in Jan is the 15th and it is a little too early after Christmas to get it properly organised. Watch this space.

Christmas Party

We hope you all enjoyed the Christmas party. Thank you to everyone who helped with this, and for a brilliant All Age Worship before it, you all did a super job sharing the candy cane story.

Nativity and Christingle Service

A massive thank you to all our families for their hard work for this service. It has been lovely to have us all working together and we hope everyone enjoyed how we retold this special story. I am writing this before we have even reached the service so I can't inform you how much we raised at Christingle – will announce it at January AAW.

**Happy New Year and best wishes for 2017.
From us all**

Church Magazine

Please could the annual subscription of £5
be given to your distributor in January?
Thank You.

Mothers' Union

We held our Christmas Party on 13th December and welcomed friends and, also, members from Balderstone Mothers' Union.

The Day School entertained us with excerpts from their concert 'Christmas Around the World' – we thank Mrs Embley-Peers, the staff and the children.

We then served more than 60 suppers, had a quiz and were entertained by our own ladies who invited us to join them on 'A Caribbean Cruise'. The evening closed with carol singing before Canon John Hartley gave us a blessing.

We meet in school on Tuesday, 10 January 2017 at 7.30pm.
With every good wish for 2017

Margaret Ashton

VISION YOUTH GROUP

Happy New Year Everyone.

This month we will have a 'NEW YEAR, NEW GROWTH' Party, celebrating all the interesting things we might be doing this year. Please think about what your 2017 resolution is, it will be part of our party!

Meet in church at **7pm – note earlier start time** and finish normal time of 9pm.

Usual £1 admission but we will have party games, supper and drinks. Tuck shop as usual.

Everyone year 6 and above welcome.

The date –**FRIDAY 20TH JANUARY.**

Recycled Cards

Thank you to Ann for painting the picture used this year for the church cards. As before, they were very popular – we had to have a second print.

Also, thank you to all who bought cards from the stall.

Your 'very special' Christmas cards will be welcome for us to use next year – but please, only really beautiful ones we do get inundated with Christmas Cards!

On your behalf, we have recently made a donation of £50 to Melanoma UK.

Thank you from The Card Ladies

Social Committee

DATE FOR YOUR DIARIES

THE VILLAGE QUIZ

Friday, 10th February 7.30pm in School

Tickets £7.50 – Meat & Potato Pie Supper

There will be a Bar; with soft drinks also available.

Reverend Roland will again be Quiz Master.

Tickets have to be limited due to space available – so start arranging your teams of 4 people and order your tickets from members of the Social Committee.

All Proceeds for Church Funds

Due to popular demand another **BIG BAND NIGHT** is booked to take place at the Canberra Club on **Saturday, 21st October 2017**

The FREE PROJECT

- providing support for the homeless in Blackburn -

Used plastic containers (eg margarine tubs) are very useful at the Sunday Night Feeding Hub for the guests to take away with any extra food - please could you bring any clean used boxes and lids to church and leave them in the Narthex.

Thank You, Rita

PS Thank you to those who already do this

- please carry on x

Readers for January

January	1	The Naming and Circumcision of Jesus	
10.30		M Baldwin	Numbers 6: 22-27
		M Woodward	Galations 4: 4-7
		Celebrant	Luke 2: 15-21
January	8	Epiphany	
10.30		W Shaw	Isaiah 60: 1-6
		S Gill	Ephesians 3: 1-12
		Celebrant	Matthew 2: 1-12

	6.30	G Tipper S Dobson	Joshua: Hebrews	1-8, 14-end 1: 1-12
January	15	Second Sunday of Epiphany		
	10.30	Sunday School	Isaiah	49: 1-7
		Sunday School	1 Corinthians	1: 1-9
		Celebrant	John	1: 29-42
	6.30	S Nelson M Riley	Ezekiel Galatians	2: 1 - 3: 4 1: 1-end
January	22	Third Sunday of Epiphany		
	10.30	D Summersgill	Isaiah	9: 1-4
		R Jones	1 Corinthians	1: 10-18
		Celebrant	Matthew	4: 12-23
	6.30	S Brindle M Watson	1 Corinthians Matthew	1: 10-18 4: 12-23
January	29	Presentation of Christ in the Temple		
	10.30	<i>United Benefice Service at Balderstone St Leonard</i> (Rev'd David Kennedy)		

(Transport available from outside St Mary's at 10.10am)

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

Rita Gorman, Debbie Summersgill, Jessica Hayes
John Hartley, Roland Nicholson, 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 Joanne Embley-Peers 812581

Clerk to the Governors Mrs Pat Cooper

Site Supervisor M. Venables

Friends of St Mary's School (FOSMS)

Vicky Dewhurst and Emma Hilton

Mothers' Union

Altar Flowers

Margaret Ashton 812616

Joan Moss 813581

Rainbows

Lynn Fish (Wren)

Guides

Hilary Wensley

Police

PCSO Caroline Pemberton

Tel 01200 458766 (Voicemail)

Churchyard

Chris Wilson Rob Cooper Tom Shaw

Stewart Woodward Bernard Whalley Gordon Hayes

Volunteers still required
