

## View From the Vicarage

“Sticks and stones . . .

May break my bones but words will never hurt me”. Well whoever wrote that had never come across the web or twitter because although sticks and stones can leave bruises, words which are particularly unkind can sometimes leave far more lasting and permanent damage.

And words feature prominently in the Bible because God knows the power they have – to heal or to hurt. So why should Christians be especially careful about the words they use? Well the message of scripture is very clear.

**Paul** for instance writes, “You must get rid of all these things: anger, passion, and hateful feelings. No insults or obscene talk must ever come from your lips. Do not lie to one another, for you have taken off the old self with its habits and have put on the new self” (*Colossians 3:8-10*). “Do not use harmful words, but only helpful words. Get rid of all bitterness, passion and anger. No more shouting or insults, no more hateful feelings of any sort” (*Ephesians 4*). Do not be “slanderers, gossips and busy bodies, talking of things you should not” (*1 Timothy 5:11-13, Titus 2:3*).

**James** speaks of the tongue as “a fire spreading evil through our whole being. It is evil and uncontrollable, full of deadly poison” (*3:6-12*) and advises “be quick to listen but slow to speak” (*1:19*). Indeed he adds “do not criticize one another and do not complain against one another” (*4:11*).

While **Peter** writes, “No more lying or hypocrisy or jealousy or insulting language” (*1 Peter 2:1*). And if we needed any more encouragement to watch what we say, **Jesus** himself warns, “Do not judge others” for “you can be sure that on Judgement Day everyone will have to give an account of every useless word he has ever spoken. Your words will be used to judge you – to declare you either innocent or guilty” (*Matthew 7:1-5, 12:36-37*).

Now of course it’s often only when we are tired or upset that we may say things we later regret (although English speakers swear on average at least one obscenity once in every 140 words, so that over the course of a day 0.7% of our language consists of swear words), but what we often forget is the damage hateful words do to us as well as to others. The Jewish rabbis call malicious slander the third tongue because it slays 3 persons – the speaker, the spoken to and the spoken of.

So what should our approach be? Well someone once said that ‘great minds discuss ideas, average minds discuss events but small minds discuss people’ for ‘the tongue is where the mind comes out into the open.’

But a Christian is called to follow Christ, of whom Peter wrote, “No one ever heard a lie come from his lips. When he was insulted, he did not answer back with an insult; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but placed his hopes in God the righteous Judge” (*1 Peter 2:22*).

So when we consider that latest email, Facebook or twitter, or meet over coffee or chat together at an event what will our words say about us? Will they point others to Christ, because God’s Holy Spirit is at work in us (*Galatians 5:16-24*) or will they instead reveal what is in our hearts (*Luke 6:45*)?

We all know how easy it is to be ‘hung by your tongue’ and that is why the prayer of the Psalmist is so important when he prays, “**May my words and my thoughts be acceptable to you, O Lord, my refuge and my redeemer**” (*Psalms 19:14*).

Charles

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## Lest we Forget

There are beautiful felt poppies (made by Jean) on the Card Stall in church.

There is a box for your contributions - with ALL proceeds going to the Royal British Legion.

Thank you

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### **Church Rotas October**

#### Assistant Wardens

Oct	1	Mark Smith	Rita Gorman
Oct	8	Marilyn Watson	Debbie Summersgill
Oct	15	Barbara Lucas	Debbie Chadwick
Oct	22	Derek Haworth	Dorothy Walsh

#### Sidespersons

Oct	1	Mark Smith	Rita Gorman
Oct	8	Marilyn Watson	Debbie Summersgill
Oct	15	Barbara Lucas	Debbie Chadwick
Oct	22	Derek Haworth	Dorothy Walsh

#### Chalice Servers

Oct	1	Geoff Gill	Rita Gorman
Oct	8	Eileen Peake	Linda Livesey
Oct	15		
Oct	22	Graham Tipper	Rita Gorman

#### Intercessors

Geoff Gill
Linda Livesey
Graham Tipper

#### Flower List

		<b>Given by:-</b>	<b>Arranged by:-</b>
Oct	1	The McTighe Family	Debbie
Oct	8	Mr & Mrs L Jessop	Di
Oct	15	Harvest Donations	All arrangers
Oct	22	Mr W Thompson	Joan

Donations towards the cost of flowers for Harvest will be gratefully accepted by Joan Moss 813581.

Help would be appreciated on Monday morning to deliver gifts around the village

#### Church Cleaning

##### **Week Commencing**

Oct	2	Pamela Jackson, Christine Redwood & Susan Cousins
Oct	9	Berenice McKeown & Joan Venables
Oct	16	Rita Gorman, Betty Green & Peter Cowell
Oct	23	Linda Cawtherly, Margaret Eccleston & Frances Thompson
Oct	30	Sue Nelson & Amanda Calvert

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## Readers for October

Oct	1	<b>16<sup>th</sup> after Trinity</b> Mothers Union Celebrant	Philippians 2:1-13 Matthew 21:23-32
Oct	8	<b>17<sup>th</sup> after Trinity</b> Debbie Summersgill } Noel Walsh }	Please contact Charles for readings
Oct	15	<b>18<sup>th</sup> after Trinity</b> All Age Harvest	
Oct	22	<b>19<sup>th</sup> after Trinity</b> W Shaw & R Jones Celebrant	1 Thessalonians 1:1-10 Matthew 22:15-22
Nov	5	<b>All Saints Day</b> Mothers' Union Celebrant	1 John 3:1-3 Matthew 5:1-12

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### **All Souls' Day Service on 2nd November at 7.00pm in St Mary's Church, Mellor**

The congregations of our 3 Churches are invited to share in this act of worship, to remember loved ones departed. If you wish to have the name(s) of your loved one(s) read out during the service please write them on the list at the back of church. During the service there is an invitation to light a candle in their memory.

The worship will be lead by Roland and John, at the request of the Vicar.

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### **Loose Change for Missions**

This month £50 has been given to Dr George in support of his charity 'Northern Cleft Foundation'

And

£50 sent to the charity called 'ORBIS' recommended by Lorna  
which helps blind children in Africa  
Thank you for your support. Hilda

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## **MESSY CHURCH**

Come and join the fun.

St. Mary's school, Mellor

Sunday October 22<sup>nd</sup> 4pm.

Everyone welcome For

**Stories Songs Games**

## Crafts and more Crafts

As this goes to press the Junior team are learning about how to start a Messy Church. We hope that it will give the families who can't get there on Sunday mornings a chance to do some form of church, and that it will be good way to bring people of all ages together.

It begins with a theme/bible story and then crafts and a meal. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

We need lots of help to make this a success, we just don't know what will happen!

If you can help in any way, crafts, welcoming, washing up, cooking, tidying or just being here we will be so grateful. Please let Debbie know. This could be the start of a great adventure together!

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Debbie Chadwick

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

The news is full of disasters as I settle to think about what this month's article should contain. This morning the world waits to find out about the earthquake in Mexico and my heart is burdened by the children trapped in a collapsed school, as I'm sure yours is too. There has been one natural disaster after another over this summer and so many lives changed by the force of nature.

When we hear about these things we want to stop them from happening; to wave our magic wands and make it all go away. That is why the superhero images of the Marvel comics are so appealing. We could do with a cape crusader to fly in and save the day; to lift up the concrete and release the children unharmed. Alas these are just the thoughts of wishes and dreams.

Instead real trained men and women will be travelling from other countries to help rescue as many people as they can. They will carry the best equipment that can be afforded to locate as many survivors as possible. It will be a slow but certain procedure and not everyone will be saved. This is the reality of heroes.

'Cometh the hour cometh the man' is a common expression but its origin is linked with John 4:23 where Jesus explains to the Samaritan woman that his hour is coming.

<sup>23</sup> *Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshippers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshippers the Father seeks.* <sup>24</sup> *God is spirit, and his worshippers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.* <sup>25</sup> *The woman said, 'I know that Messiah' (called Christ) 'is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us.'* <sup>26</sup> *Then Jesus declared, 'I, the one speaking to you – I am he.'* (John 4:23-26)

Jesus gives up all that is great in this world to lay down his life for our salvation. To follow him in this is true worship; not great singing or services as important as these things are. To be a Christian we have to give up something, take up our cross, to follow him. That is why this expression is used commonly for people who have in some way saved the day.

Not only do these heroes travel to disasters, they will do so voluntarily and often taking on some of the cost. I'm reluctant to name one person who illustrates this in his life and work because so many people get on with this quietly and nobly, asking for no reward. But it is illustrated beautifully by the David Nott foundation. A website that is well worth taking a moment to ponder on. <https://davidnottfoundation.com/>

David Nott has taken his own surgical skills to counties that cannot afford such procedures. He does so in his own unpaid time and it has shaped the skills of surgery he has acquired in his working life. His speciality is helping those who have been injured by war. What a privileged way to worship.

Pam Daunton.

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You are warmly invited to an informal evening of

## ♪ *Praise and Worship* ♪

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of every month at 4 pm

St Mary's Church, Mellor

*Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!*

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### **CHURCH OPEN EVERY WEDNESDAY MORNING**

St Mary's will be open every Wednesday morning  
from 9.30 to 10.30.

Between 9.30 and 10 there will be an opportunity to pray specifically for the mission and ministry of the benefice, our country and the wider world. Anyone is warmly welcome to join us during this time.

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**Thank you** to all our friends at St Mary's who helped make our wedding day so truly special. The church looked stunning and we would like to say a personal thank you to Helen Holroyd and Helen Cooper for all their hard work flower arranging. We would also like to thank Rita and Margaret for being a part of our day and helping the service run smoothly.

Thank you to Roland for a wonderful service and making our day so perfect. We had a magical day.

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**Peter and Ruth Metcalfe**

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

Wow, I cannot believe a full year has gone by since I wrote my first school entry for this magazine.

For those who have already been into school this term, you will have noticed a few changes within our building. Over the summer holiday, we had a remodelling of the entrance area of school and although there are still a few 'snags' to pick up on, it does look rather wonderful. Mrs Skupski is ecstatic that she now has her own office and a 'meet and greet' window. We are hoping it will be fully completed in the next few weeks although this may be a little optimistic.

Working alongside us this year, is our new acting Deputy Head and Year 6 – Mrs Pickup, who already has thrown herself into life at Mellor St Mary with great gusto. She is a very experienced classroom practitioner and senior leader who has worked with a range of children in different educational establishments in Lancashire.

Educationally, this term, we have a range of activities taking place for all classes including a visit from The 'Betty Bus' and The Life Education Bus. These are PHSCE based learning pods which specialise in teaching upper key stage 2 children about puberty and how to

maintain a healthy life style. Our Year 5 children will also be developing their scientific and technology skills during a visit to BAE STEM research centre which Mrs Rigby has kindly organised following a successful visit there last year with Year 3. On the 4th October, we will be taking part in the National No Pen's Day run by the Communication Trust. The travelling book fair is planned to visit us again from the 11th to the 18th October where the books will be on sale after school each day. Please feel free to come on in and have a look. In terms of collective worship, the theme for this half term is Thankfulness and the children have been exploring the meaning of Ephesians 5.20 'always give thanks for everything to God the Father'. We have been finding out how God loves and cares for us in so many different ways and how we can show Him appreciation and thankfulness for his never ending Love.

This year's school harvest theme is based on the Bishop's Harvest Appeal 2017 'A Fairer Share' which includes the children learning about 'Tree Aid', a charity that operates in Ghana that helps families to grow trees like the baobab, mango and moringa which can provide nutritious food all year round. We will be asking each child to bring one vegetable or one piece of fruit which will be displayed and then used to decorate the Church. On Sunday, 15th October, the whole school will attend the Harvest Festival in Church when the children will bring their harvest offerings to the altar. As with last year, our school children will be responsible for providing the monthly school news report. Each class has been allocated a month to write about and the children are responsible for preparing, drafting and editing their own entry as well as keeping readers informed of the wonderful teaching and learning activities that will be taking place in school each month.

Finally for this month I would just like to say thank you to all families and friends who came to Education Sunday. The children did a marvellous job welcoming people, reading a Bible passage and sharing their own class prayers, especially after just one week in school.

School closes for half-term at 3.15 p.m. on Thursday 26th October and reopens on Monday 6th November at 8:45am followed with the FOSMS bonfire in the evening.

That's all for this month

**Mrs J.Embley-Peers (Headteacher)**

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### **Mothers' Union**

We had a very good night for our September meeting. Thirty five of us enjoyed 'good company' and a meal at the Millstone.

On October 10th we shall welcome Melanie Latham demonstrating 'Jams & Preserves'.

On Wednesday 4th October the Whalley Deanery Quiet Evening will be held at St Leonard's Church, Balderstone.

We offer our love and support to Margaret and Maggie whose husbands are both ill in hospital (at the time of writing).

Margaret Ashton

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### **Recycled Cards**

We are happy to donate on your behalf £50 to McMillan Cancer Care - £25 to the World's Biggest Coffee Morning at Mellor Village Hall and £25 to the one held at Mellor Brook Community Centre on 29<sup>th</sup> September.

*Thank you, the Card Ladies*

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## **Exhibition of Arts and Crafts with a Harvest theme**

**AT**  
**Westbury Gardens United Reformed Church,**  
**Blackburn, BB1 1XF**

**Open From 2nd - 7th October**  
**1pm - 3pm**

**Activities:**

**Arts and Crafts workshop -**  
**Come and have a go**

**Cafe serving light refreshments**  
**Arts and Crafts shop open**

**Contact Gordon on 07960733598**

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**From The Registers**

		<b>Communicants</b>	<b>Collections</b>
Aug	20	52	£542.32
Sept	3	66	£674.39
Sept	10	--	£208.96
Sept	17	--	£190.00
Sept	24	58	£511.83

**Funeral**

*We commend to God's care*

**Frank Whelan**

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**FOSMS (Friends of St Mary's School)**  
**Working Together**

**FOSMS Masquerade Ball – Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2017 7PM till late**

Fancy a glamorous night out? Well join us at the fund raising FOSMS masquerade ball at The Samlesbury Hotel, drinks on arrival and three course meal for just £30 per person. There will be a disco, table games and a great opportunity to get to know other parents and the wider Mellor community. Event is open to everyone!

Tickets are now available from the school office (term time only). Please buy tickets early to avoid disappointment.

Thank you for all the kind donations made by friends and family and the effort and hard work given by the FOSMS team without whom these fund raising events wouldn't be possible.

Thank you,

Seema Chudasama  
FOSMS Secretary

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## **Little Angels**

We meet on Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> October at 2.15pm in the Narthex for an hour of fun and friendship with our little ones and their carers.

Please come and join us  
Margaret, Rita, Hilda & Gillian

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## **Vision Youth Group**

‘where there is no vision the people perish’

Proverbs 29:18.

Meet in church

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October 7.30pm – 9pm

All are welcome from school year 6 upwards.

£1 entry

This month – thinking about the autumn term.

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## **JUNIOR CHURCH**

### **Meetings**

- 1st October – 4pm – Praise and Worship in church
- 8th October – Family Communion in church + Junior church
- 15th October – Harvest/ All Age Worship
- 22nd October – 4pm Messy Church in school
- 29th October – United Benefice service 9.30am Balderstone

### **New Timings**

As you can see, the team and Rev. Charles have come up with a new direction to re-invigorate Junior church, and with God’s help, encourage new families and give all our families more opportunity to worship together. There are new Junior Church leaflets in the back of church which give all the information, our school families have all been given them and you can e-mail Debbie on [Deborah.chadwick@aol.co.uk](mailto:Deborah.chadwick@aol.co.uk) and she can send it to you. We welcome children who come alone to our sessions in church, as we always have, we love to see them. Messy church is for all the family, whatever age, and for this children must be accompanied. See separate article for details.

Please pray for all these new ventures, that they will lead more families to St. Mary’s.

### **Autumn Fair**

Can you believe it’s that time again? Save the date 11<sup>th</sup> November. We will as usual be having our teddy tombola and children’s games. Donations of cuddly/children’s toys and books can be given to the Junior church team or left at church and received with thanks.

### **Light of Christ – jars**

Please save your jars for the children to decorate for our Advent service

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## **Fairtrade**

After the summer break we hope to be back in action on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October before and following the Parish Communion Service.

The Fairtrade Team

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### **Social Committee News**

Dates for your diary:-

**BIG BAND NIGHT** – Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> October at the Canberra Club.

With the theme – Saturday Night at the Movies – which leaves lots of scope for those who like to dress up – just come as your favourite character from any film!

Dancing to Nostalgia Swing Band. Tickets including hot supper only £10 – tickets available for this popular night out from the Social Committee now.

### **AUTUMN FAYRE**

Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> November in school from 11.00am – 1.00pm

Bearing in mind the date and time, there will be a very short Act of Remembrance and a period of silence at 11.00am before the Autumn Fayre is officially opened.

We are delighted that Mrs Embley-Peers has accepted our invitation to perform the opening ceremony.

There will be the usual array of stalls and attractions with Hot Pot Lunches available.

Father Christmas has let us know that he is looking forward to visiting the Fayre and meeting the children.

Your support and attendance at the Fayre will be greatly appreciated.

### **??? THE VILLAGE QUIZ ???**

Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> February 2018 in school

St Mary's Social & Fund Raising Committee

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### **From Alannah**

Thank you so much to everybody who sponsored me for the Starlight walk. I had a lovely evening cutting the ribbon & then walking 4.2 miles with my mummy & Mrs Gorman. We all enjoyed our sausage sandwiches at the end! Thanks to everyone's most generous sponsorship I raised over **£800**. During the summer holidays I presented a cheque to Tom Kennedy at the Hospice.

I would also like to thank everybody who has kindly donated material. I will be having a stall at the Hospice Christmas Fayre where I will be selling things I have made. All the money will be going to the Hospice. As soon as I have more details I will let you know, just in case you wish to buy some Christmas presents.

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## Diary for October

Oct	1	16 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity
9.30		Parish Communion (Canon John Hartley)
4.00		Praise & Worship
Oct	3	
9.30		Holy Communion
Oct	8	17 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity
9.30		Family Communion (The Vicar)
Oct	10	
9.30		Holy Communion
Oct	10	
7.30		Mothers' Union
Oct	15	18 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity
9.30		All Age Harvest Praise (The Vicar)
Oct	17	
9.30		Holy Communion
Oct	21	BIG BAND NIGHT at Canberra Club
Oct	22	19 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity
9.30		Parish Communion (Rev'd Roland Nicholson)
Oct	24	
9.30		Holy Communion
2.15		'Little Angels'
Oct	27	
7.30		'Vision'
Oct	29	Bible Sunday
9.30		<b>Benefice Service at Balderstone</b> (Rev'd David Kennedy)
Oct	31	
9.30		Holy Communion
Nov	2	All Souls' Day
7.00pm		United Benefice Service (Rev'd Roland Nicholson & Canon John Hartley)

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Alan Smith's name has now been removed from the Social Committee on the back page.