

Notices continued:

Dementia Aware Deanery: To mark this Deanery being a Dementia Aware Deanery, there will be a service to celebrate this part of our journey together at a Service of Celebration on **Sunday 14th May** at St Mary the Virgin, Davyhulme. The service will start at **2:30pm** and be followed by light refreshments. The Mayor of Trafford and Archdeacon Cherry Vann will be present at this service to support us in our celebration. This will allow plenty of time for those who wish to attend the cathedral later that afternoon for the **Collation of our new Archdeacon Karen Lund at the service starting at 5:30pm.**

Plant and Ploughman's - Saturday 20th May: As spring is just round the corner a gentle reminder to start planting seeds etc. ready for our plant sale and ploughman's lunch in May. Any spare cuttings, annuals, perennial plants, trees, plant pots, garden tools, bags of spare compost, plant food etc. will be very welcome. A good time to clear out the garden shed and greenhouse!

Craft Project: if anyone has any odd, mismatched wine/brandy/similar stemmed glasses that they no longer use/want, please can you give them to Isobel who is collecting them for another craft project.

This year we are **celebrating 175 years** of the consecration of the present St. Matthews Church building. On **Sunday 17th September** we are having a Celebration Service at 10am, led by the Bishop of Manchester, followed by a buffet lunch. We would love to invite all those who have a connection to St. Matthews to our service and lunch. If you know of anybody who would like an invitation please can put contact details on the list at the back of church, or speak to Jeannette.

Dates for your diary:



- April 2nd - **Marathon day breakfast**
- May 20th - **Plant sale and Ploughman's Lunch**
- June 3rd - **Quiz night**
- July 8th - **Garden Party**
- August 13th - **Parish B.B.Q.**
- September 16th - **Gift Day and Lunch**
- September 17th - **175th Celebration service followed by lunch**
- October 7th - **Quiz Night**
- November 11th - **Charities Fair**

Welcome to St Matthew's Sunday 26th March 2017 Mothering Sunday / The Fourth Sunday of Lent

Today's Hymns:

- 137 For the beauty of the Earth
- 269 Jesus good above all other
- 468 Thank you, Lord for this new day
- 206 He's got the whole world in his hand

This week's services and events:

Today:

- 8am Holy Communion
- 10am Mothering Sunday Eucharist

Tuesday 28th March:

- 9:45am Ecumenical Prayers at Sevenways
- 2pm School Easter Play

Wednesday 29th March:

- 10am Midweek Eucharist
- followed by coffee in Hall

Thursday 30th March:

- 11:30am Funeral of Rodney Soldiew
- 7:30pm Ecumenical Lent course in Hall

Friday 31st March:

- 9am Morning Prayer

Saturday 1st April:

- 10:30am Coffee morning in Choir Vestry

Sunday 2nd April -

The Fifth Sunday of Lent:

- 8am Holy Communion
- 9:15am Informal worship in Hall
- and bacon butties for Marathon runners

No 10am service

- 6:30pm Evening Eucharist

Sunday 9th April – Palm Sunday -

Holy Week Begins:

- 8am Holy Communion
- 10am Parish Eucharist

For prayer:

- David and Amy Roche working with CMS in the Lebanon
- Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe - illegally held in Iran
- Those to be baptized:
 - 28th May - Ellie Lois and Lola Joyce (parents Steven and Hayley)
 - 20th August - Michael Warren, Alfie George and Lola Dawn (parents Becky and Alex)
 - 27th August - Isla Rose (parents Ashley and Amy)
 - 27th August - Isabella-Grace (parents Andrew and Joanne)

Today's Collect:

God of love, passionate and strong,
tender and careful:
watch over us and hold us all the days of our lives;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Today's Reading:

John 19: 25b-27

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, 'Woman, here is your son.' Then he said to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.' And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

Post Communion Prayer

Lord, we have broken your bread
and received your life.
By the power of your Spirit
keep us always in your love;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Readings for Sunday 9th April:

Matthew 21: 1-11
Philippians 2: 5-11
Matthew 26: 14-end of 27

Notices:

Thank you to those that supported the recent **auction** through donations and bidding. Although small in number we managed to raise just short of £400.

Lent Course: This will be an ecumenical course held at and led by different churches in Stretford on the theme of reconciliation based around the passage from 2 Corinthians 5: 14-20:

Date and Time	Venue	Course Title
Thursday 30th March 7:30pm	St Matthew's	"We regard no one from a human point of view"
Thursday 6th April 7:30pm	All Saints	"Reconciled to God"

Fundraising for the Foodbank: there will be a Race Night held at The Robin Hood Pub, Friday 31st March. Doors open 7.30 for 8.00 p.m. start. Entrance fee £3.00. Tickets from June or any Foodbank Volunteer or pay on the door.

Notices continued:

Manchester Passion: Saturday 8th April: This is the year Manchester retells the Greatest Story Ever Told. Please take your place in Manchester Cathedral Gardens from noon, and witness some exciting items in the run up to the 2pm start.

Plans for the Passion are going well but they are still looking for volunteers to be involved on the day as stewards, backstage hands, person in the crowd or minor acting role.

Visit <https://manchesterpassion.org>

J-club meets again on 9th April.

Agape Meal: Please sign the list if you will be attending this moving and important event on Maundy Thursday (13th April). It starts at 7:30pm in the Hall. For more information please speak to Kate or Simon.

Easter Flowers: Jeannette and Marjorie would be grateful for any money towards Easter flowers so we can once again decorate our Church beautifully for this important festival. Thank you.

East Africa Appeal: The Disasters Emergency Committee is asking for donations to help the 16 million people facing famine in East Africa. There is a collection box at the back of Church for your donations. This will be sent via Christian Aid.

St George's Day Charity Dinner: will be on Sunday 23rd April at 7pm - cost £10 for a 3-course dinner and entertainment from Shakespeare's 'As you like it'. All proceeds will go to the Foodbank and The Clock Fund as well as a couple of other local charities. Please purchase your tickets from Hazel or Justine.

Annual Parochial Church Council (APCM): will be on 30th April. In preparation for this please would you:

- check your details in the **Electoral Roll** which is in the black folder at the back of Church.
- consider who you would like to **represent you on PCC**. We have one PCC vacancy and 3 Deanery Synod vacancies. Nomination forms are at the back of Church.
- Sidespeople: you will need to sign on the form at the back of Church to agree to continue in this role before being admitted to the role by those attending the APCM.
- if you normally submit a **report to the APCM** then please be aware that reports need to be with the Secretary by Easter Day.