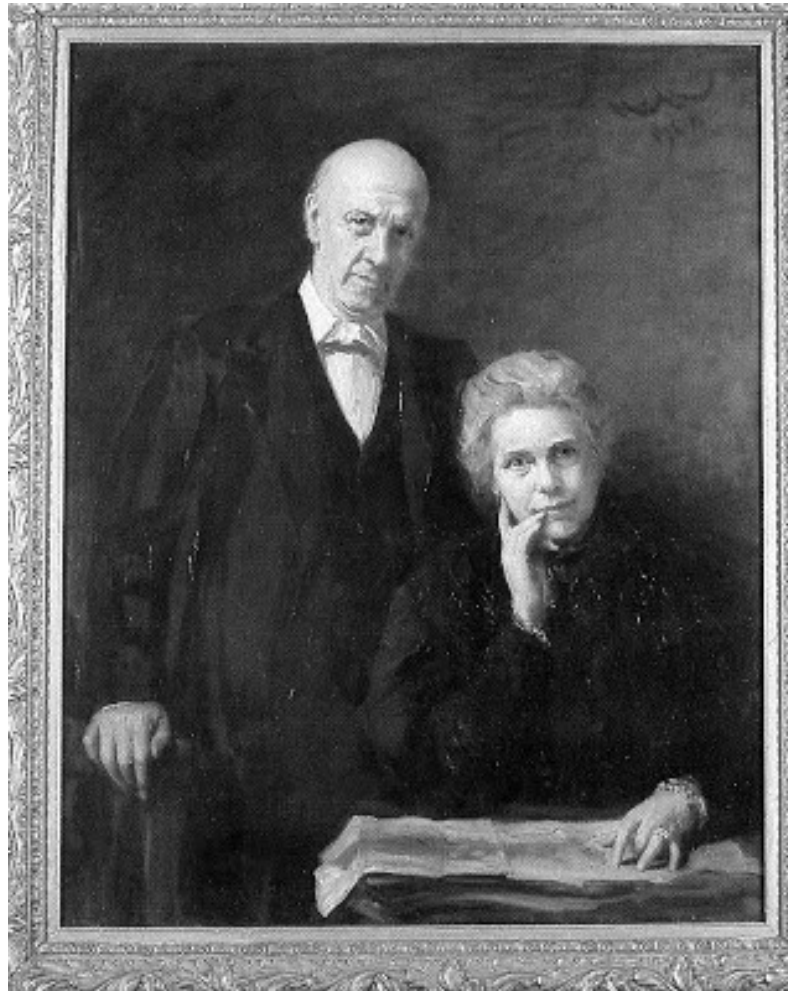


THE PARISH MAGAZINE

June 2019



**17th June—Samuel and Henrietta Barnett,
social reformers, 1913 and 1936**

**The United Benefice of
St Michael Lichfield, with St John, Wall**

80p

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Reflection for June

In just a few weeks time, in St Michael's Church, I will (God willing) be ordained Priest. It will be an incredibly special moment for me, and one that I've looked with hope towards through years of discernment and training, through this past Diaconal year, perhaps even since I was a child watching the Priest from the choir stalls in my local church.

"But aren't you already ordained?" I hear the voices of incredulous relatives and friends ask.

"What was that ordination we came to at the Cathedral last year for?"

"I thought you were an ordained minister now. Why do you need to be ordained again?"

For those unfamiliar with the oftentimes mysterious ways of the Church of England, it can seem odd that we have two ordinations; an ordination to become a Deacon, and then a year later, an ordination to become a Priest. But the two ordinations mark an important distinction for the Church. It doesn't mark the end of one kind of ministry and the beginning of another, but rather a transformation and continuation along a journey, which forms another layer to our ministry. It in no way devalues the important role of Deacon – one which some choose to remain in and inhabit as a distinctive ministry - but brings opportunities to serve God in ways that I have always felt called to. I will always be a Deacon, but after my ordination I will be a Priest too.

When I reflect on this past year of ministry, and my Diaconal year, my overwhelming sense is one of privilege. The Deacon's role allows for some emphasis on study, reflecting and learning, and in my interview with Bishop Michael before my ordination, he advised me to make the most of this opportunity to step back from always 'doing' and observe, watch and learn during my first year as curate. As well as lots of 'doing' and learning, I have certainly valued opportunities to watch, reflect

and learn. Another privilege has been the opportunity to walk alongside all those people I have ministered to. The Ordinal, which is read out at our ordination, calls the Deacon to 'serve the community in which they are set, bringing to the Church the needs and hopes of all people', and I have felt a deep sense of fulfilment in being able to take time to get to know my community here in our two churches, and in the wider parish. This sense of being privileged to minister as Deacon will, I feel, only deepen when I become a Priest.

In just a few weeks time, in St Michael's Church, I will hear Bishop Clive speak the words of the Ordinal and call me and my fellow Deacons into a new kind of ministry. There is a definite sense of continuity and change in becoming a Priest. The Ordinal calls Priests to be 'servants and shepherds', taking on new responsibilities of leadership to guide and nurture God's people. Whilst the Ordinal calls a Deacon to study the scriptures, it calls the Priest to 'unfold the Scriptures' to teach and proclaim it. Priests are also called to bless in God's name, baptize, proclaim absolution for the forgiveness of sins, lead, set an example, and even admonish. One of the most distinctive parts of the role of the Priest, compared to that of the Deacon, is presiding at the Eucharist.

So, as the Ordinal highlights, there are a variety of new elements that are associated with what it means to be Priest. These are interpreted and inhabited in different ways by Priests, depending on their gifts, calling and tradition. If I asked all the Priests in our Ministry Team what being a Priest means to them, I imagine they would all give me a different response. Indeed, there are probably as many answers to that question as there are Priests! Although I will only really know the answer to this question for myself once I become a Priest, I have reflected on what I think it will mean to me personally, and for me it all comes back to the Eucharist. I have always had a powerful connection with the sacrament of Holy Communion. Ever since I was confirmed and first received the bread and wine of Communion, it has been for me the most powerful encounter with God that I experience during

worship. My tradition, as an Anglo-Catholic, reflects this focus too. It is natural then, that the opportunity to preside over the Eucharist is what I imagine will be the most fundamental and transformative part of being a Priest for me. Even during my Diaconal year, many of the most meaningful moments have been associated with the Eucharist: taking Home Communion to those who can't get to church, preparing the altar as the Lord's Table, the sense of profound encounter when I assist a communicant to drink from the chalice, the way that it has sustained me when I have asked for God's grace: all of these and more. The Eucharist also brings together so many threads of what ministry means to me. Jesus commanded us to do it in remembrance of Him, and by doing so our participation in the Eucharist brings our focus back to the cross and to our salvation. As well as pointing back to the cross, it also points to the future and the promise of the heavenly banquet God offers us in His kingdom. It offers hospitality and fellowship, making us all part of the Body of Christ together. It is pastoral, bringing comfort, solace and sustenance. The historian Margaret Spufford, who suffered great physical and emotional pain during her life, once wrote powerfully of the Eucharist as a place where her own experiences, alongside the bread and wine, could be offered up before God 'in the hope that it too, can be redeemed and transformed'.

If I think about the Priests that have moved me the most in how they have presided, it is not the ones that were the most efficient or showed the most dexterity in the Eucharistic Prayer, it is the ones that inhabited the role with the most authenticity – a true and humble outpouring of themselves as servants of Christ to the preparation of His table. I hope and pray that I find this in myself also.

Mel Clarke

¹ M. Spufford, *Celebration: A Story of Suffering and Joy*, pp. 20-21.

Chad Blog

What do you expect when you pray?

When we pray, do we expect it to be a way of persuading God to give us what we want? Or is prayer an activity in which we engage with God, to achieve what he wants?

To be able to engage with God, we need faith, trust in God, in every part of life. Prayer helps us to grow in trust (Proverbs 3:5-6). But faith filled prayer is not a device to ensure an easy life – see Hebrews 11:32-39 to see what trust in God achieves in real people's lives. Prayer is the way we have been given to see God's power at work in every situation, to help us cope, to overcome evil, to witness change.



Thy Kingdom Come, is an opportunity, between Ascension Day and Pentecost (30th May-9th June), for all of us, 'to deepen our friendship with Jesus, bring others to know Jesus or know him better and to come to know that every aspect of your life is the stuff of prayer'.

<https://www.thykingdomcome.global/>

As we have recently celebrated at Easter, and do so every day, Jesus Christ is RISEN, He is ALIVE. When we pray we pray to God our Father, through our living Lord and Saviour, in the power of the Holy Spirit.

In times of great pain and suffering, in times of joy and celebration, we pray with the focus that Jesus himself taught us in the Lord's Prayer. 'Thy Kingdom Come', is followed by the words 'Thy will be done'. We pray for the coming of God's kingdom in our lives, the lives of those around us, the life of our churches, communities and beyond. We do so based on God's agenda, not ours; we do so expecting God to work. 'Your will be done'.

So let's all pray. If you don't know what to say, start with the words Jesus taught us – the Lord's Prayer (Matt 6:9-14). Pause between each line, be ready to be challenged, encouraged and comforted. Listen, watch and see God at work. And GIVE THANKS.

The Ven Sue Weller Archdeacon of Walsall



St Michael on Greenhill

**Thy
Kingdom
Come
2019**

***An International time of prayer from
Ascension Day until Pentecost***

After the first Ascension Day the disciples gathered together, constantly devoting themselves to prayer while they waited for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.

During the 11 days of Thy Kingdom Come we will:

- Pray for a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ
- Pray for God's Spirit to work in the world and the church
- Acknowledge that every aspect of our lives is the stuff of prayer.

From Thursday 30th May until Saturday 8th June

**Morning Prayer at 9.00am on Weekdays and Saturdays
Wednesday 5th June Holy Communion at 9.00am**

Followed by coffee and refreshments

Coffee Mornings on Saturdays 1st and 8th June from 9.30 until 11.30am

From Monday 3rd June—Friday 7th June, classes from St Michael's School will be in church each morning taking part in 5 prayer stations:

Say Sorry, Give Thanks, Prayer for Others, Prayer for Me, Sing Praise.

Prayer For Samuel and Henrietta Barnett,

social reformers, 1913 and 1936—17th June

Almighty God,

By whose grace Samuel and Henrietta , kindled by the fire of your love,

Became a burning and a shining light in the Church:

Inflame us with the same spirit of discipline and love,

That we may ever walk before you as children of light;

Through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,

Who is alive and reigns with you,

In th unity of the Holy Spirit,

One God, now and for ever. Amen

Parish Surgery

For Baptisms, Banns and Weddings, staff are available at the Parish Office in St Michael's Church, Church Street on the **1st and 3rd Saturday mornings** in the month by appointment only.

Please telephone 01543 262211 or email office@stmichaelmaryjohn.org.uk to make an appointment.

Deadlines!

For **JULY** 2019 Magazine:

Deadline is

MONDAY 17th June

Contact David Bull

Pew Sheet:

7:30am

every Thursday Morning.

Contact Parish Office

CHILDREN'S SERVICES & ACTIVITIES

First Steps



Monday 10th June
10am St Michael's

Pentecost

Family
Praise



Sunday 9th June
10am St Michael's

Come and join us at our ...

MESSY CHURCH

for craft, story, song and food on



NO MESSY CHURCH IN JUNE/JULY/AUGUST

Sunday 15th September

4.30 – 5.45pm

in St Michael's Church
Ages 0-11 yrs. welcome



*Samuel and Henrietta Barnett
portrait by Hubert von Herkomer in
Toynbee Hall*

**Canon Samuel Barnett
(1844 – 1913)**

English Clergyman, Social Reformer and
Founder of Toynbee Hall

**Dame Henrietta Barnett, DBE
(1851 – 1936)**

Social reformer, educationist, and author.
Established the model Hampstead Garden
Suburb in the early 20th century.

Sermon preached by Father Michael Bowie in 2015

<https://www.allsaintsmargaretstreet.org.uk/worship/sermons/266>

The first three days of this liturgical week give us three English commemorations. Evelyn Underhill and St Richard (tomorrow and Tuesday) are represented in the prayers at Benediction; on Wednesday we celebrate a recent addition to our liturgical calendar, Samuel and Henrietta Barnett. Toynbee Hall in Whitechapel is probably their best-known legacy. But their contribution to Church and society was much wider than that. The Barnetts are an example of genuinely self-sacrificial missionary work within this country and Church which has endured and, arguably, displays the special charism of married priestly ministry, sometimes the subject of caricature but quietly effective in many places, not least in our missionary societies. The Barnetts represent a characteristically English Anglican story of privilege and education put to the service of the poor and deprived by the conscientious and mutual living out of practical faith.

Samuel and Henrietta lived not far from here when they first married in 1873: he was curate of St Mary's Bryanston Square and Henrietta was already working with the housing reformer Octavia Hill. At the

time of their marriage Samuel was offered a parish near Oxford, but instead opted to become Vicar of St Jude's Whitechapel, then having the distinction of being known as 'the worst parish in London'. They went there with the intention and mutual dream of working to improve social conditions in one of London's worst slums.

Samuel's innovative attempts to encourage his parishioners into church were mostly not a success. Like his Anglo-Catholic contemporaries he grasped the problem: the BCP liturgy was simply alien to them. His solution (interestingly for our contemporary context), of providing simple services without robed clergy or prayerbooks and using the building less formally, did not meet with much success. But his keen interest in the causes of deprivation around him soon led him to address practical, and also what we might consider spiritual, issues much more effectively.

With friends and contemporaries he began promoting 'University Settlements' - places where richer students could live alongside, learn about and contribute to the welfare of much poorer people - in Barnett's words: 'to learn as much as to teach; to receive as much to give'. Their radical vision was to create a place for future leaders to live and work as volunteers in London's East End, bringing them face to face with poverty, and giving them the opportunity to develop practical solutions that they could take with them into national life. This resulted in the formation of the University Settlements Association. Toynbee Hall was built shortly afterwards, and Barnett became its first Warden, relinquishing his living after ten years in the parish.

Historians have suggested that, in describing Toynbee Hall as a 'settlement', Barnett was trying to emphasise its local roots and the commitment of its residents to serving the local community. This sense of local connection is still central to Toynbee Hall's work today. The majority of its clients are still residents of Tower Hamlets and the charity prioritises its connections with the local community in East London.

Barnett was opposed to indiscriminate charitable giving, which, in his view, encouraged people to rely on hand-outs and discouraged them from developing the skills they needed to support themselves and their families: this did not make him popular with some of his erstwhile parishioners, but he was also one of the first in England to propose universal pension provision. He worked hard at Toynbee and elsewhere to develop a strikingly modern approach to social work, giving people what we would call transferrable skills and the opportunity to live independent dignified lives.

The Anglo-Catholic priests of his day, as well as catechising their people, were committed to offering order, beauty and dignity to the worship of the church. Barnett was equally committed, with a different emphasis, to providing education and the access to art and beauty: this led him, with Henrietta's help, to found among other institutions the Whitechapel Gallery, free to all, and the Workers' Educational Association.

Barnett's refusal to align Toynbee Hall narrowly to the established Church (while insisting on the Christian commitment of all who worked there) led to its denunciation as 'a nest of dissenters' by other more sectarian projects (all of which have disappeared). But his priorities, to offer people access to justice, independent living, supportive social networks and community organisations, were all based on his apprehension of the Gospel. Bringing young university students to live and work in the settlement ultimately informed and influenced both left and right in British politics and beyond: the settlements were replicated in Chicago and elsewhere.

Henrietta worked alongside him but also on many projects of her own, continuing what had been her parish visiting activities with a focus on women and children, including the more than 2000 prostitutes then active in Whitechapel alone. She also initiated successful projects to resource women teachers and to help women to leave workhouses with gainful employment; there was also an experiment of sending slum children for country holidays which grew into the Children's Country Holiday Fund.

Their legacy does not end with these and numerous other effective projects in Whitechapel. To get some rest from the inner city the couple acquired a weekend home at Spaniard's End in the Hampstead area. Immediately they began organising a project to protect part of nearby Hampstead Heath from development by Eton College, setting up trusts which bought 243 acres of land along the newly opened Northern line extension to Golders Green which became Hampstead Garden Suburb, a development which achieved worldwide acclaim, and included the magnificent Lutyens Parish Church (St Jude's – presumably named for the Whitechapel parish), as well as a nursery school and special housing for the old and disabled; later there followed the now-famous Grammar School for girls which bears Henrietta's name, as well as an adult education institute.

Hampstead Garden Suburb is not the classless utopia that Henrietta imagined, but it has left an indelible mark on English urban development for the better, as well as one of the finest modern church buildings in London. Toynbee Hall has morphed and changed with its environment since they lived and worked there, but it represents a lasting monument to Christian engagement with the city that continues to provide significant benefits to poor and marginalized people. Both of these, and many of their other projects, too many to mention now, have inspired mission and social improvement in tandem well beyond these shores.

Like me you may not be a natural activist (just reading about all the Barnetts' activities feels quite exhausting to me), but I hope you share my respect for those who are inspired to live out their faith in these ways. There is much in this story of the Church of England at its parochially-rooted best. Toynbee Hall is one project we might think of supporting corporately at some stage; perhaps you might like to look online yourself at the work done there today and consider supporting this legacy of two modern-day Anglican saints.

<https://www.allsaintsmargaretstreet.org.uk/>

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Regular Services and Worship in the Benefice

Regular Services at St Michael's Sundays

8:00am Holy Communion
10:00am Holy Communion

2nd Sunday

10:00am Family Praise

Regular Services at St John's Sundays

10am Holy Communion

Baptism @ 11.30am

4th Sunday

Other Services at St Michael's Sundays

1st Sunday 12:30pm

Holy Baptism

2nd Sunday 6:00pm

Holy Communion

3rd Sunday 4:30pm

Messy Church

4th Sunday 6:00pm

Choral Evensong

Tuesday

School Service

Wednesday

9:30am Holy Communion

Music in the Benefice

St Michael's Church

Wednesdays

6.30pm Girls Choir

7.15pm Other parts &
St Michael's Singers

Monday before 2nd Sunday

7:30pm Music Group

Bells Practice

Every Thurs 7:30pm, St Michael's

Prayer Group, St Michael's.

For information contact
June Frayn (264920) or
Brenda Liptrot (251863)



Baptism

Preparation First Tuesday at
8:00pm at St Michael's

St. Michael's Film Club

1. Bohemian Rhapsody

(134 min. Cert PG 2018.)

The story of the legendary rock band Queen and lead singer Freddie Mercury, leading up to their famous performance at Live Aid (1985).

Monday 10th June.

1.30pm start

Refreshments £3.00 from 1.00pm.

St. Michael's Church

All welcome.

Contact: Parish Office 01543 262211

2. Stan and Ollie

(98 min. Cert PG 2018.) Biography, Comedy, Drama

Laurel and Hardy, the world's most famous comedy duo, attempt to reignite their film careers as they embark on what becomes their swan song - a grueling theatre tour of post-war Britain.

Monday 1st July

1.30pm start



The original film *Mary Poppins* was made in 1964 and set a standard which has hardly been beaten. Michael Banks (Ben Whishaw) is now an adult with three children of his own, whose wife has died. They are in mourning. Michael is paralysed with grief and is unable to manage his household and finances, jobs his wife had always undertaken. He has a job in a bank but yearns to be an artist. They urgently need help...

....Lo and behold, a new *Mary Poppins* appears whose first job is to help the family understand the sadness they feel and enable them to feel hopeful again.

The Banks family includes Michael's grown-up sister, Jane, who has become a feminine activist. The family is also threatened with being made homeless due to Michael's ineptitude with money.

Mary Poppins (Emily Blunt) appears as if by magic as the new *Mary Poppins*. She is more stern, perhaps, than *Julie Andrews* was, and perhaps conforms more to the original character drawn by the author P.L.Travers who envisioned her creation as "part of a rich tradition of female wisdom, living outside time and somehow beyond the reach of human perspective".

The foggy and sooty London settings are visually very beautiful and contrast with the colourful and musical numbers. The original film was notable for the introduction of some ingenious animated computer graphics (remember the dancing penguins?).

Advances in screen technology have enabled even more ingenuity to be introduced in this new version. We witness the three children

jump into the pattern of a Royal Doulton china bowl which their mother had told them was "priceless", and which they try to sell to help the family's finances to prevent it being possessed by the bank. Bankers do not get a good press and are represented as being thoroughly heartless and money-grabbing.

For me the most delightful surprise was the performance of Lin-Manuel Miranda in the role of Jack, the lamp-lighter. He is the actor who created the musical "Hamilton", now running in the West End and many other world venues. Miranda, an American has a believable everyday London accent and sings, dances and acts admirably, (unlike Dick Van Dyke who played the chimney sweep in the original whose cockney was somewhat doubtful.)

The lyrics are excellent, and it was very helpful to be able to read them on the screen subtitles. There is also a cast of cameo roles performed by familiar screen faces. Julie Walters plays the housekeeper, Angela Lansbury appears briefly as a seller of balloons, Meryl Streep is Topsy who runs a fixer shop and can turn turtle as her name suggests, Colin Firth is the unfeeling banker threatening to make the Banks family homeless.

Dick Van Dyke, now into his nineties, also returns as two characters, a chimney sweep and an elderly benevolent banker. It is said that he was so keen to appear in this film that he actually paid Disney for the privilege.

This was a film that not only entertained but also contained not a few hidden philosophical messages, as did its predecessor. Each member of the audience at St. Michael's Church on this sunny spring day May would have left with their own ideas. Although the sun shone through the high windows of the nave it failed to spoil the picture on the screen. An uplifting film.

Margaret Freaan



THE CLEWER INITIATIVE



Both Mothers' Union and the Clewer Initiative believe that the tools to end modern slavery already exist within the local community and that the Church, which is present in all communities and at the heart of many, has a primary responsibility in leading these efforts.

The Clewer Initiative is a project that enables the Church of England and its wider networks to develop strategies to detect modern slavery in their communities and help provide victim support and care. It involves working with the Church locally, identifying resources that can be utilised, developing partnerships with others, and creating a wider network of advocates seeking to end modern slavery. Nationally, it involves developing a network of practitioners committed to sharing models of best practice and providing evidenced based data to resource the Church's national engagement with statutory and non-statutory bodies.

The initiative is funded by the Clewer Sisters, an Anglican order of Augustinian nuns founded in 1852 to help marginalised, mainly young women, who found themselves homeless and drawn into the sex trade, by providing them shelter and teaching them a trade.

The work of the Clewer Sisters mirrors the work that our members are doing in thousands of communities worldwide and this has led to our natural partnership to end modern slavery. We also both value the importance of building the resilience of those most at risk. We shall be working in equal partnership to set up a body of work to address and raise awareness of the subject.

MODERN SLAVERY HIDDEN IN PLAIN SIGHT IN OUR COMMUNITIES

More than 200 years after the abolition of slavery there are still an estimated **40.3 million** men, women and children trapped in modern slavery, with at least **136,000** victims in the UK alone.



WE SEE YOU.

WHO TO CONTACT IF YOU SPOT THE SIGNS

If someone is in immediate danger then call the police.

999

Ask for advice by calling:

The Modern Slavery Helpline **08000 121 700**

Report non-emergency suspicious activity to your local police on:

101

The Salvation Army **0300 303 8151**

Safeguarding Officer



WWW.THECLEWERINITIATIVE.ORG

SPOT THE SIGNS OF MODERN SLAVERY

APPEARANCE

Show signs of physical or psychological abuse and untreated injuries.
Look malnourished or unkempt, or appear withdrawn and neglected.
Seem under the control or influence of others.
Wear the same clothes every day.
Wear no safety equipment even if their work requires it.

TRAVEL

Rarely allowed to travel on their own.
Collected and dropped off on a regular basis early in the morning or late at night.
In a crowded minibus with other workers.
Have no control of their identification documents such as their passport.

ACCOMMODATION

Living in dirty, cramped or overcrowded accommodation.
Living and working at the same address.
Appear unfamiliar with their neighbourhood or where they work.

SEEKING HELP

Reluctant to seek help and avoid eye contact.
Appear frightened or hesitant to talk to strangers.
Fear of police, don't know who to trust or where to get help.
Afraid of deportation, and of the risk of violence to themselves or their family.

WHO TO CONTACT

If someone is in immediate danger then call the police.

999

Report non-emergency suspicious activity to your local police on:

101

Ask for advice by calling:

The Modern Slavery Helpline **08000 121 700**

The Salvation Army **0300 303 8151**

NSPCC CTAC (in cases of children) **0808 800 5000**

Mothers' Union Report for June 2019 Magazine

We recently joined other Deanery members for a Festival service at St. Chad's church, Lichfield. The celebrant was Val Hicks and the address was given by Rod Clark, both of St. Chad's ministry team.

The theme was that the Mothers' Union "listens, observes and acts with compassion". Readings from Mark and Matthew described Jesus acting with compassion, healing and listening to the crowds whom he said were harassed and helpless, in need of a leader.

We prayed for open ears, eyes and hearts that we may act with insight and integrity. The theme continued with the hymns "Listen let your heart keep seeking", "Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?" and "We are marching in the light of God".

One of St. Chad's members demonstrated the use of sign language and we all made a valiant effort to use it while singing "Open our eyes, We want to see Jesus, Open our ears, Lord and help us to hear"

It was harder than you think.

Following the service we enjoyed refreshments (delicious cakes) and conversation. Wherever you go, M.U. members show welcome and friendship.

Our next meeting will be on June 10th in church and will take the form of discussion and forward planning for the summer months.

Betty Lyne



**Staffordshire
Wildlife Trust**



**NATIONAL
LOTTERY FUNDED**

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCHYARD

Here is a photograph of our **new Churchyard meadow** shortly after it had been sown on April 6th. We were helped and guided by **Shaun Rimmer from Staffordshire Wildlife Trust**. Many of the seeds have now germinated and we look forward to a colourful wild flower meadow in the weeks to come.



3RD. CHURCHYARD WILDFLOWER SURVEY DAY

We invite you to join us for the **3rd. wild flower survey** in the Churchyard on **Wednesday June 12th., from 10.30 a.m. to 3.30 p.m.** The Survey will again be led by ecologist Mark Duffell. **Refreshments (Tea/Coffee/Cake) will be provided.** Please bring a packed lunch if you are staying for the whole day.

The next meeting of **St. Michael's Working Party** is on **Saturday June 29th., from 10.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.**

CHURCHYARD SUMMER BIOBLITZ.

A few months ago I was asked by the Charity **Caring For God's Acre**, if we would host a **Bioblitz** in our Churchyard during **National Burial Grounds Week**. I was pleased to say yes to the request and preparations are now well under way for the event on **Friday June 14th., 9.30-10.30 p.m.** and **Saturday June 15th., from 8.00 a.m. to 9.00 p.m.** Do please come along to **The Bat Walk on the Friday night** and to any of the **wildlife walks** that have been arranged for the **Saturday**. Lots of experts will be coming and helping us to identify trees, wildflowers and lots of creatures who make the Churchyard their home.

If you could help for just 1 hour or even 30 minutes during the day by **servicing free refreshments** (Donation requested) please let me know.

Do please come to the Bioblitz if you can. Let's make this a great day to remember in the life of our beautiful Churchyard.

Please see the Poster, overleaf, for the full programme for the day.

Alternatively you can visit

<https://www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk/bioblitz-st-michaels-church-lichfield-15th-june-2019/>



Charity no. 1155536

Ray Allen
01543 251654



COME AND JOIN US AT OUR
SUMMER BIOBLITZ

at St. Michael's Churchyard, Lichfield

SATURDAY JUNE 15TH.

8.00A.M.-9.00 P.M.

Wildlife Walks led by Experts.



PROGRAMME

8-9 am & 8-9 pm: Bird Walks

9-11 am: Looking at Moths

10-11 am: Mammals, Amphibians & Reptiles

11 am-12 noon & 2-3 pm: Tree Walks

11 am-12 noon & 6-7 pm: Wildflower Walks

12 noon-1 pm & 3-4pm: Bumblebee Walks

1-3 pm: Hunting for Bugs & Fungi

4-6 pm: Digital Session:
 Bioblitz Results



Bat Walk: Friday June 14th., 9.30-10.30 pm

Free Refreshments in Church. Donations Welcome

More Information: Phone Ray Allen: 01543 251654

ST MICHAEL'S ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

58 people were present at the Annual Meeting held after the 10.00 am service on 28th April.

A summary of the proceedings is as follows:

ELECTORAL ROLL

A new electoral roll has been prepared this year and the total is 154, about 17 down on last year.

STREETHAY

The mission work in the new development continues to be successful and a request has been made for another BBQ possibly incorporating a summer fete.

THE RECTOR

Simon announced that Bishop Michael has made him a Prebendary and that he will receive his title at a special service of Evensong in the Cathedral on Friday 21st June.

CHURCH HALL

The sale of the site is close to being concluded for £625,000 which is considerably more than the original valuation.

The initial outline plans for a replacement hall have been displayed at the back of Church for some weeks and many questions have been asked. The Rector explained that it is likely that the PCC will draw up a specification for the new build and invite an architectural competition. This is common for projects of this size.

CHURCHYARD

Work carried out by our own volunteers continues to be excellent and very noticeable. However the community payback team are no longer

in evidence. This will be investigated.

The Bioblitz Day is confirmed for Saturday 15th June with a bat walk the previous evening.

GRAVEYARD RESERVATIONS

It was explained that the PCC had examined the policy in the light of comments made by the Chancellor of the Diocese who has the final decision on these matters. As the space in the churchyard for burials will only last about another 7 years, the PCC had voted not to support applications for reservations in future.

MUSIC

A question was raised about why this had not been covered in the Annual Report and another comment made about the difficulty in recruiting young people to our choirs.

FINANCE

The general fund was overspent by about £8500 last year for a number of reasons including the income received from weddings and funerals being down and repairs to the Church roof which were not covered by insurance.

Simon emphasised the need to move into a slight surplus and a small increase in giving would help us back into that situation.

Simon thanked those who serve as members of the PCC and a special presentation was made to David Athersmith who is not seeking re-election after having served for over 40 years.

The Meeting ended after votes of thanks had been recorded to all those who contribute to the life of the Church including the Treasurer, the Churchwardens and the many people who work in the background to make worship and all our other activities possible.



UNITED BENEFICE WALKING GROUP

We had an enjoyable, though rather wet and cold, walk in Ashbourne at the end of April. After walking through the Tissington Trail Tunnel we had coffee at the Trail Kiosk and the cycle shop very kindly let us drink our coffee inside the shop itself. The walk around the town was interesting and everybody was impressed with the large and historical St. Oswald's Parish Church. The walk ended with a pleasing and well-earned lunch at Fairways Garden Centre.

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We invite you to join us on **Saturday 22nd June at 10am.**

Please note the time is back to our normal 10am meeting at St Michael's Church.

We meet at St Michaels Church and drive to The Hazelslade Pub, Rugeley Rd, Hazelslade, Cannock WS12 0PQ , where we will park. If you wish to meet us there please let Angie know in advance. The walk will begin at 10.30 am.

The first walk will be around the lake at the Hazelslade Nature Reserve (Cannock Wood St, Hazelslade, Cannock WS12 0PQ) The walk will be approximately 1 1/2 miles long and no stiles. We will return to the pub for our coffee.

The second part of our walk will be around the woodland area of the reserve and is along rougher footpaths. Walking boots are advised as the land can be wet if there has been poor weather conditions. We then return to the pub for lunch.

The pub has asked that we pre-order our food, so there will be a menu being distributed nearer the time.

Contact details: angieking000@gmail.com or Tel 07785988716

Angie

Ray Allen 01543 251654



WALL NEWS

Ramblings from Wall

June is the month when some people start to go on holiday in order to avoid the peak holiday times during the school holidays. I began to think about journeys. I have been very fortunate in that I have travelled a lot through my life, both with family, or to family in Canada, or on various school trips to Greece and Italy. Probably the most memorable of these was taking a large school party on a Mediterranean Cruise. I came to the decision that a sheepdog would have been very useful to keep them all in sight when going round the various museums... Riding on a camel was a never to be forgotten or repeated experience as well!

Whether we like travelling or not, we are all on a journey... a journey through life. Mine started rather a long time ago and I am beginning to find that quite a few of my fellow travellers have gone home before me. I miss them. I thank God for them, for all the contribution which they have made to my life, for their companionship on the way and for all that I have learnt from them. My journey continues into the unknown future. I want to make the most of it but the future is unknown and that is sometimes a scary thought. I thank God that in Him and in His love, death is not the end but a new beginning. I thank God that whatever part of our journey we are travelling along we are in His hands, 'Put your hand into the hand of God – that shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way.'

Happy travelling....!

Christine Higgs

WALL VILLAGE HALL

The will be a BBQ in **Saturday 22nd June at 6.30pm**. BYO drinks. It is free entry, just buy your burgers or hot dogs when you're there. Everyone welcome!

WALL W.I. REPORT FOR MARCH/APRIL 2019

March was a busy month with our monthly speaker in the form of an ex Policewoman.

Her humorous talk gave us the insight of her years with West Midlands Police Force, 32 years in fact. Training at Ryton on Dunsmore, and then onto Walsall, where she was the only woman with 24 lads! As she called them. They gave her many daunting tasks, which we envisaged, that without her sense of humour, would have been very tough. She had a very pronounced lisp which she proceeded to portray to us, and of which there was a following story to accompany it. Her talk was entitled "If you can't stand the Heat", and was very well titled, as her life with the Police Force was shown to us as very hot at times.

The Quiz and Puds night was very well attended, as usual, a good selection of questions, and to accompany them many delicious "Puds".

The Group Meeting was held at Wall, with Hammerwich, Boney Hay, and Burntwood attending. We supplied the refreshments and organized the entertainment in the form of a Guitar Group called "Don't Fret". About 12 of them performed for us, playing many familiar tunes, of which we sang along.

A thoroughly enjoyable evening.

Everyone was very busy organizing the April Show, with the making of

crafts, flower arrangements, cakes and chutneys etc. The new form of the Show, which will be the first to be in the Spring.

April 6th the day of the Show, the room was looking lovely with a delightful array of bunting and spring flowers in abundance. Many delicious cakes for the tea and cake refreshments and the produce and crafts, all laid out to be judged.

Our Handicraft stall, which had been well stocked, also had items to be sold off.

We had a good turn-out and everyone said how lovely the feel of the Show was, and they commented on the overall simplicity and relaxed and friendly atmosphere.

Well done to all who worked hard to put this Show forward, and to allow the public to see what the W.I. has to offer.

Our April speakers were actually “Singers” a female Barber Shop Quartet.

After only being together for 6 years, their varied renditions gave us Swing and other familiar tunes.

We have had a very musical couple of months, which was very special.

Other items on the Agenda are the evening outing to Wintertons, a Murder Mystery evening at Great Haywood in June and a High Tea at Tutbury Castle.

Come and visit us sometime, meetings every second Tuesday of the Month.

Margaret Wilcox

Vice President

St Michael's Rota – June 2019

Sunday 8.00 am	2 June	9 June	16 June	23 June	30 June
Sides person	Sandy Baker	David Bull	Sandy Baker	Brian Smith	Martin Dewes

Sunday 10.00 am	2 June	9 June Family Praise	16 June	23 June	30 June
Welcomers	Maureen Brand	Mary & Robert McAllester Jones	Maureen Brand	Angela Burgess	Alison Anketell
Sidespersons	Pat Toplis David Bull	Viv and Stephen Oliver	Brenda Liptrot Richard Keay	Judy and Mike Godfrey	Barbara Homewood David Bull
Reader	David Easton		Elizabeth Salt	Mike Godfrey	Alison Staines
Servers	Maggie Easton Kay Martin		Kay Martin David Shiel	Maggie Easton Elizabeth Allen	Kay Martin Phil Clayton
Communion Assistant	Maggie Easton		Sheila Vaughan	Elizabeth Allen	Kay Martin
Intercessor	David Bull		Brenda Liptrot	Ted Green	Phil Clayton
Coffee	Alison Anketell Judy Godfrey	Elizabeth Allen Trish Jones	Anne Lingwood Shirley Trelfa	Caroline Green Brenda Eley	Angela Burgess Pam Towle
Healing				Chris and John Polhill	
Transport	Betty Bradbury	Brenda Liptrot	Elizabeth Allen	Martin Dewes	Ray Allen
Flowers	Kay Martin	Chris Polhill	Chris Polhill	Enid Barry	Enid Barry

Sunday 12.30 pm	2 June Baptism	Reader	Intercessor	Server
		Kay Martin	Lynn Edge	Kay Martin

Sunday 6.00 pm	2 June	9 June Communion	16 June	23 June Evensong	30 June
Sidesperson		David Shiel		Margaret Frean	
Reader		Lyn Shiel		Margaret Frean	
Communion Assistant		Ray Allen			

Bible Readings

Sunday 2nd June
7th Sunday of Easter
[White]

Acts 16.16-34
John 17.20-end

Sunday 9th June
Pentecost
[Red]

Acts 2.1-21
John 14.8-17 [25-27]

Sunday 16th June
Trinity Sunday
[Gold or White]

Romans 5.1-5
John 16.12-15

Sunday 23rd June
1st Sunday after Trinity
[Green]

Galatians 3.23– end
Luke 8.26-39

Birth of John the Baptist
[White]

Galatians 3.23– end
Luke 1.57-66,80

Sunday 30th June
2nd Sunday after Trinity
[Green]

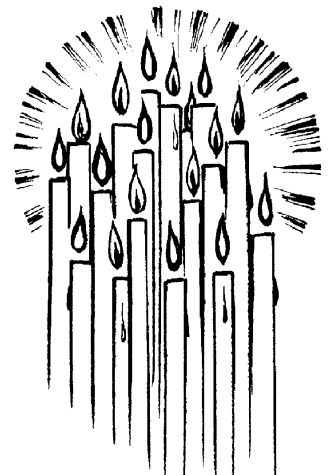
Galatians 5.1,13-25
Luke 9.51-end

Sunday 7th July
3rd Sunday after Trinity
[Green]

Galatians 6.1-10
Luke 10.1-11, 16-20

Sunday 14th July
4th Sunday after Trinity
[Green]

Colossians 1.1-14
Luke 10.25-37



From the Registers



Baptism

St John	18th May	Gilbert Thomas Standing	8 mths
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Wedding

St Michael	18th May	Joseph David Bailey & Charlotte Louise Wynne Edwards	
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At Rest

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<p style="text-align: center;">St Michaels PCC</p> <p>Churchwardens: <i>Lyn Shiel 320437</i> <i>Sue Jones 415242</i></p> <p>Assistant Wardens: <i>June Frayn 264920</i> <i>Caroline Green 262342</i> <i>David Easton 255308</i></p> <p>Treasurer: <i>Viv Oliver 258054</i></p> <p>PCC Secretary: <i>Phil Clayton 308331</i></p> <p>Stewardship Recorder: <i>Sandy Baker 256320</i></p> <p>Electoral Roll Officer: <i>Mike Godfrey 264255</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">St John's PCC</p> <p>Churchwardens: Christine Higgs 410351 John Alsop 480240</p> <p>Assistant Churchwarden: Linda Rubisch 481294</p> <p>Treasurer: Sheila Irvine 252982</p> <p>PCC Secretary: Christine Higgs 410351</p> <p>Assistant Treasurer & Electoral Roll: Linda Rubisch 481294</p> <p>PCC Lay Vice Chair: Christine Higgs 410351</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">St Michael's Church</p> <p>Verger: <i>Lynn Rock 252634 or 07765 312411</i></p> <p>Sacristan and Head Server: <i>Maggie Easton 255308</i></p> <p>Organist and Choirmaster: <i>Peter Hawks-worth 251938 or 07771 986538</i></p> <p>Music Group: <i>Richard Brooks 07918 906 350</i></p> <p>Transport Rota: <i>Brenda Liptrot 251863</i></p> <p>Pastoral Care: <i>Peter Salt 250723</i></p> <p>Flowers: <i>Diana Baker 01543 416232</i></p> <p>Safeguarding: <i>Maureen Brand 264880</i></p> <p>Junior Praise: <i>Viv Oliver 258054</i></p> <p>Bell ringers: <i>Gillian Eastwood 480017,</i> Thursdays, 7:30pm to 8:55pm. gillieastwood@gmail.com</p> <p>Mothers Union: <i>Elizabeth Allen 304938</i></p> <p>Social Team: <i>Contact via the office 262211</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">St John's Church, Wall</p> <p>Verger: Hilary Barker 01543 482027</p> <p>Pastoral Care: Christine Gilbert 07821 987999</p> <p>Safeguarding: Maureen Brand 264880</p> <p>Magazine Distributer: Eileen Carson 254107</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">Other Useful Numbers</p> <p>St Michael's School: 227425</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">Parish Magazine</p> <p>Magazine Distributor: <i>Barbara Homewood 255909</i> E-mail brian@britcave.co.uk Magazine Editor: <i>David Bull 07525 012272</i> or email: dkbull053@hotmail.co.uk</p>
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