



Monthly News—October 2019

Free

Welcome

Welcome to this, the October edition of Monthly news in which we look at topics of interest and explore God's purpose in Growing—Giving—Serving.

St. Francis of Assisi

St Francis is commemorated on 4 October. Francis wrote a 'Canticle of the Creatures', celebrating all living things, translated in the hymn All creatures of our God and King. Traditionally this is a time of the year to give thanks for the companionship of animals:

**Blessed are you, Lord God, maker of all living creatures. You called forth fish in the sea, birds in the air and animals on the land. You inspired St. Francis to call all of them his brothers and sisters. We give thanks and praise you for all your beauty in creation. Blessed are you, Lord our God, in all your creatures!**

Harvest

We will mark Sunday 6 October with a Harvest Festival Eucharist at St Mary's at 1030, with donations for Porch Boxes.

In some churches and in our Primary School this year we are reflecting the season kept as **Creationtide**, the time of the year when we focus on the gifts of the earth and our responsibility for the planet. This seems to make sense when Harvest Festivals are being celebrated.

ECO Church

Environmental issues are near



the top of the agenda in many countries and are of huge significance. Many churches are making strides towards reducing their carbon footprint and being better stewards of the resources God has gifted them. From meditation to insulation, from location to invocation; loving God and his creation should impact everything



in our church lives.

That's why A Rocha UK has developed Eco Church – a brand new award scheme for churches in England and Wales who want to demonstrate that the gospel is good news for God's earth.

Eco Church is the successor to Eco-Congregation (in England and Wales only) and we'd love your church to take part in this exciting initiative, which will challenge and equip you to care for God's world in all areas of your life together

At St. Mary's the Churchyard Action Group have worked hard to create an environment of beauty in our grounds and week by week maintain our large graveyard for the benefit of us all. Our heating system is new and energy efficient, our lighting throughout the church has been replaced with energy efficient LED units and lamps and our energy consumption is eagerly monitored by our treasurer with monthly meter readings taken by the Church Wardens. It is a mission imperative that we make our building warm and welcoming to all who use it but we also have a duty inherent in our faith to use less fossil fuel. These are the practical dilemmas that we all face in our own lives as well as in church. If we really care about living responsibly and faithfully we need to look as ways of using less, living more gently and having greater regard for future generations.

In this month of October make creation the focus of your prayers, thanking God for the earth and asking for wisdom on how to live more responsibly and with greater awareness of the fragility of the earth.



THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND  
Diocese of Manchester

CHURCH FOR A DIFFERENT WORLD

This month we see the long awaited start of the £150,000



restoration and renewal programme which will last through to February 2020.

The scope of the work will see the replacement of the Wilton Memorial Chapel roofing, new rainwater goods throughout the building to cope better at removing rainwater from all the roofs and deposited efficiently on the ground and through the drains. Eroded and damaged stonework will be replaced and repointing of stonework around the church will be carried out.

In addition work to improve the poor condition of the North and South Porches will also feature in the scheme.

Internally, replastering and re-decoration of the Birch and Lever Chapels, where historical

water penetration has occurred, will be in evidence. All the work undertaken within the scheme has been highlighted as urgent or necessary in the most recent Quinquennial Inspections.

The PCC and congregational commitment to the scheme is in the region of £45,000.

We would like to thank the Church Wardens and the building group along with the Architects, Buttress, for putting together an imaginative scheme and the work necessary to receive grant aid from the Heritage Fund and the Diocese of Manchester, totalling £115,000. without who's generosity the extensive work would not have been possible.



### Pre School Praise

PreSchool Praise is back in action and opens its doors to all toddlers and carers on Thursday most weeks during school term times. 10-00am for ages 0-4yrs and their carers.

For further details look up the website:

<https://stmarysprestwich.org/church-groups/pre-school-praise/>

twitter @stmaryprestwich and Prestwich Mum's for news and updates.

### WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY - 10 OCTOBER

World Mental Health Day, on 10 October, is a day for us to unite in our efforts to improve the mental health of people around the world. The theme selected for this year's Day is suicide prevention. We will



begin our efforts to raise awareness of the scale of suicide around the world and the role that each of us can play to help prevent it on 10 September, World Suicide Prevention Day (#WorldSuicidePreventionDay), which has been observed for more than 15 years. Our efforts will continue throughout the following month, until 10 October. Every 40 seconds someone loses their life to suicide.

### Celebrating the 80th birthday of Howard Blake

SOME of the most celebrated names in the organ world have passed through the St Albans International Organ Festival. Many have hailed from far afield. This year's entrants, including three from Korea and one each from Russia and Lithuania, spanned 11 countries.

### Breathing Space

“A time for you with God”

2nd Wednesday of each month

Next 9 September

8-00pm to 8-45pm in church



(1859-1907). Of this, more below. The concert was enhanced by variety, with the interspersal of two solo pieces. One he calls a “bravura work” for organ, reimagining Edgar Allan Poe’s story *The Fall of the House of Usher*, rechristening it “The Rise”, and envisioning the tale emerging from suicidal gloom to optimism and normality.

Much else remained: a dark, brassy dance for solo and animated chorus (for a fragment of St Benedict’s Rule); a thunderous, Benedicite-like section based on Psalm 103, ushering in tenderness and forgiveness; and solo horn adding its commentary (the warm textures in an idiom reminiscent of Szymanowski’s *Stabat Mater*).



Mike Leigh’s film, Peterloo, brought back memories of my school history lessons. We were taught about its significance in leading to the prominence of Manchester and surrounding towns in the Industrial Revolution.

The massacre of men and women in the city centre by a drunken rampaging militia, supported by prominent clergy magistrates, changed everything. A society obsessed by fears (or hopes) of a French-style revolution engulfing Britain, began to realise that violent suppression was no more the answer than violent uprising. Instead, reform and renewal in democracy and religion proved the way forward. Within a generation Manchester had both its own Members of Parliament and diocese. Soon it was at the leading edge of the Trades Union movement and the campaign for women’s rights.

We commemorate the 200th anniversary of Peterloo with a service at the Cathedral at 2pm on Sunday 7 July. Join us if you can, or support the memory of Peterloo through prayers in your own church.

The anniversary is a chance to look back at a key date in our heritage, and an opportunity to pledge ourselves to sustain a society in which all are given the rights and dignity for which the speakers in St Peter’s field were calling that day in 1819.

The competition from which the festival grew was founded in 1963 by Peter Hurford, a superlative teacher and one of the most brilliant virtuosi of his day, who died, aged 86, this year. This is the festival’s 30th anniversary. So there was sadness, but also a celebration.

Headed by the St Albans Bach Choir, an entire evening at St Albans Abbey was devoted to the music of Howard Blake. Blake turned 80 last autumn, and remains determinedly active as a composer in all genres, especially film music: his exquisitely sympathetic score for *A Month in the Country* remains a classic. His opus numbers – they include *The Passion of Mary* – exceed 700. His music for *The Snowman* has charmed audiences for decades.

Central to this programme was Blake’s wonderfully conceived *Benedictus*, which draws on the Rule of St Benedict, several Psalms, and a wonderfully Psalm-like swathe of mystical poetry by Francis Thompson



Bells, and again those pensive cellos and double bass, helped nurture the work to its close. The finishing touch of the viola solo was one of genius.

**All Saints & All Souls**

**to Praise the Saints and Commemorate the faithful departed**

10-30am

**EUCCHARIST**

**3 November**

## Regular worship at St Mary's



### Sunday

8.00am Eucharist  
10.30am Sung Eucharist

### Tuesday

7.30am Morning Prayer  
8-15am Eucharist

### Wednesday

7.30am Morning Prayer  
8-15am Eucharist

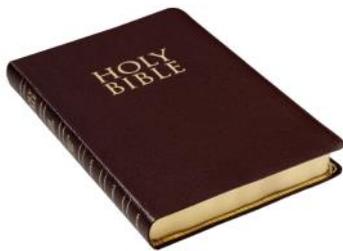
### Thursday

7.30am Morning Prayer  
9.00am Eucharist in St Mary's School

10.00am Pre-School Praise

### Friday

7.30am Morning Prayer  
8-15am Eucharist



## Readings from the Lectionary for October

6 - John 6:23-35

13 - Luke 17:11-19

20 - Luke 18:1-8

*Prestwich Hospital*

27 - Luke 18:9-14

### Website:

[www.stmarysprestwich.org](http://www.stmarysprestwich.org)

Twitter: [@stmarysprestwich](https://twitter.com/stmarysprestwich)

### Post:

St Mary the Virgin, Church Lane, Prestwich, M25 1AN

### Assistant Curates:

Rev. Carole Barnet  
tel. 0161 766 2774

Rev. Adele McKie  
tel. 07946 383024

## Contact us



### Church Wardens:

Stewart Barnet  
tel. 07950 354445  
Susie Mapledoram  
tel. 07710 557833

### What's on



1 Oct PCC meeting  
7 Oct Restoration work  
9 Oct Breathing Space  
3,10,17,24 PreSchool Praise  
20 Oct Prestwich Hosp. Mem.  
3 Nov All Saints & All Souls

## church for everyone

## Church for Everyone conference: Saturday 26 October

*A day that will inspire and equip fellowships exploring Inclusive Church*

Saturday 26 October

9am to 5pm

£25, concessions £10

Emmanuel Church, Didsbury, Manchester M20 6TR

There are now many, many churches up and down the country, of all denominations, who would like to learn how to become more inclusive. If your church is somewhere on that journey, either thinking about inclusion for the first time, taking those early decisions, or looking to learn from or share experiences with churches like yours, then the 'Church for Everyone' conference is designed to help you take that next step.

*Harvest*

St Mary's parish prayer  
Loving Father,  
we pray your blessing on  
our parish. Help us to  
have hearts open to your  
Holy Spirit.

Give us the courage to  
follow the way of Christ.  
Strengthen us to be faith-  
ful in prayer and loving  
service.

Help us to play our part in  
building up your Kingdom  
here and now. Amen.



Please support this cause with  
your Harvest gifts of tins and  
toiletries located in the Wilton  
chapel.

## Join the Dots for Harvest

