



**saint paul's**  
stalybridge

**The Magazine** \* October 2011

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# Mission Statement

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at Saint Paul's we seek to

*Develop our faith through worship, prayer and learning*

*Grow together in love and service*

*Share God's love with the wider community*

*Welcome others into the church family*

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find us on the internet at: <http://www.stpaulstaley.co.uk/>

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## Sunday Services at Saint Paul's

*Each Sunday at 8 am: Holy Communion (Common Worship Order 2)*

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>10:30 am</b>	<b>6:30 pm</b>
October 2	Harvest Parade Service	Holy Communion and Healing Service
October 9	Holy Communion : HCl	No service
October 16	Morning Prayer: MP:CW	No service
October 23	Holy Communion: HCl	No service
October 30	Morning Prayer: MP:CW	No service

HCl Holy Communion: *Common Worship* Order 1 (Contemporary)

HC2 Holy Communion: *Common Worship* Order 2 (Traditional)

MP:CW Morning Prayer: *Common Worship*

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10:30 **Sunday School (begins in church)**

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# from the vicarage

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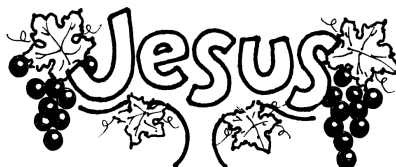
I have just returned from St. Michael's, Mottram-in-Longdendale where four of our congregation have been displaying pictures in an art exhibition. Congratulations to *Harry Giblin, Jacintha Manchester, David Stockwell* and *Doreen Williams* for their impressive efforts. I have always wanted to be able to produce art. Apart from my necessity to be able to draw outcrops of rock in my years as a geologist (does that really count?), I've never quite been blessed as an artist. Nevertheless, this exhibition was a reminder of the gifts that God blesses us all with. I know I have been preaching recently on the fact that God send us all spiritual gifts to serve him as a church, but he also send us all other gifts to enjoy life, whether they be artistic, sporting or whatever!

And this is a reminder that the creativity that God endows us with is only a poor imitation of the ultimate creator - God himself! This is a time of year when that creation is so apparent in the changing seasons as we move from summer to autumn. If we are not careful, however, we can so busy with our lives that we fail to see the beauty of the changing landscape that we are blessed with in this part of the country. Someone once told me the sad story about a man who was

dying in a hospice, but only claimed to recognise the beauty of creation, for the first time, as he looked out of his bedroom window in the final weeks of his life.

We will be reminded of that creation, which also provides for our food needs, in our special **Harvest Service** on 2<sup>nd</sup>. October. This will also be an opportunity to be reminded of God's creation of human life as we baptise *Sophie Ann Lillie* and welcome her into our church family here in St. Paul's.

*I leave you with the words of the psalmist – Psalm 8 'O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!...When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers...what is man that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him?'*



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# M a g a z i n e

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From time to time you will see something like this at the end of an article:

**MAGAZINE+** use the links on our website to read the full article.  
<http://www.stpaulstaley.co.uk/>

We are adding a section to the website where you will find links to websites which give more information on topics covered by articles in the **Magazine**. Just visit the website and look for the link to the **Magazine** page in the menu on the left.

*As well as links to other resources we will be putting back copies of the **Magazine** on the site in .pdf format at the end of each month.*

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## Christmas Greetings

As in previous years, you will be able to send Christmas Greetings to your friends at St Paul's through a "card" in the **December** edition of *The Magazine*.

Put your message, along with £5 in a sealed envelope marked "**Christmas Greetings**" and give it to George Maddock or one of the Wardens. Deadline is **13 November**. All contributions go to Church Funds.

## Service and Concert to celebrate completion of the Church Restoration project

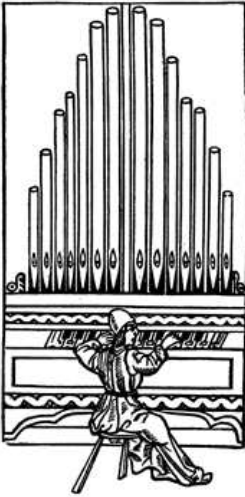
Sunday 16 October  
2 pm

Special guest:  
**Ven. Richard Gillings**,  
the former  
Archdeacon of Macclesfield

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Film show: **Fiji, Hawaii & Toronto**  
**Tuesday October 25th at 7.30 pm**  
in the Church Lounge.  
**Tickets £4** including Tea & Biscuits - there will be a raffle. Proceeds in aid of St Paul'  
Please bring Family & Friends



Introducing **Dr. Steven Robinson**  
St Paul's new organist and choirmaster

**I** grew up in Clitheroe, Lancashire where I had piano lessons from the age of 11 and organ lessons from the age of 15 (I was organ scholar at the Parish Church there). My late grandfather was very musical: a trained singer, he sang the solo parts in many oratorios, and he encouraged me to go on to study music at university. When I came to Manchester in 1988, I quickly became organist and choirmaster at *St. Paul's, Higher Blackley* and have held several other positions since, including *St. Mary's, Cheadle*, *St. Mary's, Davyhulme*, and *St. Mary's, Prestwich*.

Besides my work as a church organist and choirmaster, I am a private piano teacher (I currently have 14 students of all ages and abilities whom I teach at home), and I also work for the company *HF Holidays* giving music appreciation courses on different composers.

Between 1996 and 2003 I researched the music of *Beethoven's* pupil, *Ferdinand Ries*, for my Ph.D, and spent the last 10 years as a part-time lecturer at Liverpool University from which I have recently 'retired' to go fully self-employed.

Having decided to move on from *St. Mary's, Prestwich* before Christmas last year, I noticed that there were several churches advertising for a director of music. I soon realised, however, that very few of them had a choir, and of those that did, the choir consisted of only five or six people. In this respect, it was particularly refreshing to find a committed choir of about 20

people here at *St. Paul's*; and from the choir practice I took as part of my 'interview', there is clearly great potential for musical development and growth. In my opinion, it is much more fun to be an organist with a choir than without, and the scope for introducing new music is greater, as a properly-rehearsed choir can lead and inspire the congregational singing.

I have now chosen the hymns and special choir items from September up until Christmas and have tried to get a good balance of old and new hymns, some of which may be literally new to you. I hope you will appreciate the variety of music and enjoy hearing the wonderfully-restored organ, which is such a joy to play.

I look forward to meeting you all for a cup of coffee after the service, or if I happen to miss my train back to Manchester, in the bar on Stalybridge station!

## How would you explain God?

*This was written by an 8 year old, Danny Dutton for a homework assignment. The assignment was to explain God.*

One of God's main jobs is making people. He makes them to replace the ones that die, so there will be enough people to take care of things on earth. He doesn't make grown-ups, just babies. I think because they are smaller and easier to make. That way he doesn't have to take up his valuable time teaching them to talk and walk. He can just leave that to mothers and fathers.

# Wanted

**Photographs and memorabilia  
of the**

## **Restoration Project**

- pictures of both the building and the churchyards at different stages in the 20 year story of this project
- pictures of fundraising events.

*Items will be used in an exhibition to mark the successful completion of the project.*

Contact **David Stockwell**,  
if you can help

God's second most important job is listening to prayers. An awful lot of this goes on, since some people, like preachers and things, pray at times beside bedtime. God doesn't have time to listen to the radio or TV because of this. Because he hears everything, there must be a terrible lot of noise in his ears, unless he has thought of a way to turn it off.

God sees everything and hears everything and is everywhere, which keeps him pretty busy. So you shouldn't go wasting his time by going over your Mom and Dad's head asking him for something they said you couldn't have.

Atheists are people who don't believe in God. I don't think there are any in my town. At least there aren't any who come to our church.

Jesus is God's Son. He used to do all the hard work like walking on water and performing miracles and trying to teach the people who didn't want to learn about God. They finally got tired of him preaching to them and they crucified him. But he was good and kind, like his Father and he told his Father that they didn't know what they were doing and to forgive them and God said O.K.

His Dad (God) appreciated everything that he had done and all his hard work on earth so he told him he didn't have to go out on the road anymore. He could stay in heaven. So he did. And now he helps his Dad out by listening to

prayers and seeing things which are important for God to take care of and which ones he can take care of himself without having to bother God. Like a secretary, only more important.

You can pray anytime you want and they are sure to help you because they got it worked out so one of them is on duty all the time.

You should always go to church on Sunday because it makes God happy, and if there's anybody you want to make happy, it's God. Don't skip church or do something you think will be more fun like going to the beach. This is wrong. And besides the sun doesn't come out at the beach until noon anyway.

If you don't believe in God, besides being an atheist, you will be very lonely, because your parents can't go everywhere with you, like to camp or to school, but God can. It is good to know he's around you when you're scared in the dark or when you can't swim and you get thrown into real deep water by big kids."

But...you shouldn't just always think of what God can do for you. I figure God put me here and he can take me back anytime he pleases. And...that's why I believe in God."

# S h a m p o o

I don't know why I didn't realise this sooner. It's the shampoo we use in the shower. When I wash my hair, the shampoo runs down my whole body, and printed very clearly on the shampoo label is this warning , **"FOR EXTRA VOLUME AND BODY."** No wonder I have been gaining weight.

I am getting rid of the shampoo and am going to use dishwashing liquid instead. It's label reads, **"DISSOLVES FAT THAT IS OTHERWISE DIFFICULT TO REMOVE."**

Problem solved.

# From Droylsden to New Jersey - James Ellor

and “All hail the power of Jesus’ name”

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That fine hymn “All hail the power of Jesus’ name” dates from 1780, when the first version appeared in the *Gospel Magazine*. It has been called the Coronation hymn and much of its imagery celebrates the kingship of Christ. It was written by Edward Perronet. One writer suggests that its wide appeal is due to Perronet’s passing through no fewer than four



James Ellor

denominations before ending up as an Independent.

Like many hymns it has been added to and edited by a number of hands,

and has been sung to at least three different tunes. One of the best known of these is **Diadem** which we have used at St Paul’s in the recent past.

**Diadem** was written by James Ellor who was born in Droylsden. He was a hatter by trade and, although only 18, was also the leader

of the choir at the local Wesleyan Methodist Chapel. In 1838 he brought his choir a new tune he had composed for “All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name” which he had written for the Sunday School anniversary. The tune, called **Diadem**, was enthusiastically received, and it has been used with the hymn ever since.

Later Ellor would work on the construction of the railway line between Manchester and Godley Junction. In 1843, he went to the United States where he returned to his trade of hat-making. Nearly blind for several years in later life, he died at the home of his son in Newburg, New York, on Sept. 27, 1899. He is buried in Bloomfield, New Jersey.

Before about 1840 – says **Ian Bradley** - there were either “psalm tunes” or Methodist hymns - what **Dermot MacCulloch** calls “fuguing tunes”. (A well-known example of a “fuguing tune” is *Cranbrook* written by Methodists in Kent, but now sung to a popular verse: “On Ilkla Moor Baht ‘at” with words said to have been made up by a Yorkshire chapel choir on an outing.) **Diadem** – written in Droylsden by an 18 year old hatter – is “*perhaps the last great tune in this tradition*”.

# Mark 4 - The Vine and the Mustard Seed

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*Jesus* compared the kingdom of heaven to a mustard seed – one of the smallest seeds that grows into “*the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches*”(v.32) The image is ironic, and possibly even satirical. One has every right to expect the kingdom of God to be compared to the tallest and strongest of trees. But Jesus likens the Church to something that sprouts up quite quickly from almost nothing, and then develops into an ungainly sprawling shrub that barely holds up a bird’s nest.

Churches, then, can take some comfort from the lips of Jesus. Like the mustard seed, a church can be an untidy sprawling shrub. Like a vine, it can be knotted and

gnarled. Neither plant is much to look at. But Jesus was saying something quite profound about the nature of the Church: it will be rambling, extensive and just a tad jumbled. And that’s the point. Jesus seems to understand that it isn’t easy to find your place in neat and tidy systems. And maybe you’ll feel alienated and displaced for a while. But, in a messy and slightly disorderly Church, and in an unordered and rather ruffled institution, all may find a home.

Martyn Percy, *Principal of Ripon College Cuddesdon*, in **Reflections for Daily Prayer: 2010-2011**.

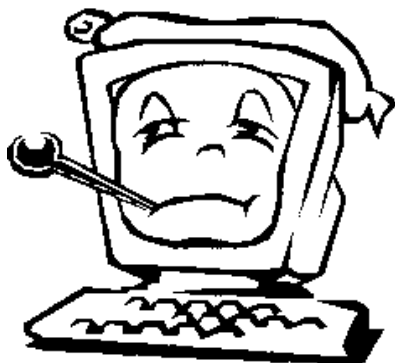
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## Others

If it’s true that we are here to help others, then what exactly are the others here for?

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**The Cow and the Bible**  
A religious farmer lost his Bible out in the field. A few days later he went to answer a noise at his door. Standing there was a cow, with his Bible in its mouth. The farmer raised his eyes to heaven and thanked the Lord for this miracle. "Not really," said the cow. "Your name was written inside."



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## Next month's Magazine

Items for the next edition of **The Magazine** should be received by

*16 October 2011*

Please post them in the box in the church  
entrance or give them  
to George Maddock.

You can also email items to:

**[stpaulsweb@gmaddock.plus.com](mailto:stpaulsweb@gmaddock.plus.com)**

Contributions to **The Magazine** are always  
welcome. Their use in whole or in part is at  
the discretion of the Editor.

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# *UK church membership – going down*

*Church consultant Peter Brierley looks at some recent statistics...*

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The recently published volume *UK Church Statistics 2005-2015* gives some up-to-date information about the church in this country. In 2005 there were 5.8 million church members in the UK, some 12.3% of the adult population. By 2010 this had dropped to 5.5 million or 11.2% of the adult population. If present trends continue, this will most likely be 5.2 million in 2015 or 10.3% of the adult population.

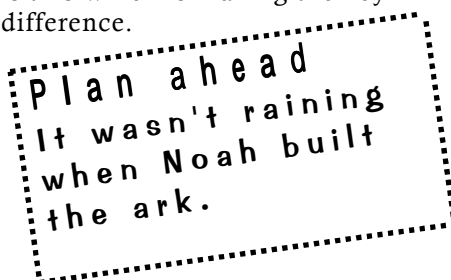
So - while the English church membership drops a projected -2% in the ten years 2005 to 2015, Welsh membership drops -23%, Scottish membership -32% and N Ireland membership drops -24%, all massively greater than the predicted decline in England. Why the difference?

One possible answer is that in England, the largest two denominations, the Church of England and the Roman Catholic Church, are declining much more slowly now than they used to. This is partly because of the numbers of Fresh Expressions being started in the Church of England, and the influx of over half a million Roman

Catholic Polish immigrants into the UK in the last few years.

In addition, there are some growing denominations in England, which compensate for the serious decline in Methodist and United Reformed Church numbers. As well as rapid growth in the black Pentecostal churches, the New (or House) Churches are growing, as is the Orthodox Church. Collectively these three denominational groups are predicted to grow by a third (+32%) between 2005 and 2015 against the overall decline of -11% for the others, making the overall decline -2%, as noted above.

So what does this mean? The growing denominations in England are starting new churches which are not just a replication of the old, but an adventure into re-expression and relevance in this new century. The average congregation may be getting smaller, but more units, or church plants, are being started. It is this which is making the key difference.



Plan ahead  
It wasn't raining  
when Noah built  
the ark.

# The Anglican Church in **Zimbabwe**

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## *Archbishop Rowan Williams*

The worldwide head of the Anglican church, will visit Zimbabwe this month where he will find an Anglican Church split between a mainstream group and one with close ties to the country's president. The leader of this breakaway church is said to be stepping up a campaign to seize church properties that include missions, schools and priests' homes. Bishop Chad Gandiya, leader of the mainstream Anglican group, said a new wave of evictions has even targeted an orphanage.

Bishop Nolbert Kunonga who claims to lead Zimbabwe's Anglicans and has already refused to hand back the Harare Cathedral, offices, buildings, church bank accounts and vehicles he seized with the protection of police loyal to President Robert Mugabe. In 2007, Kunonga was excommunicated by the main Anglican Province of Central Africa and the worldwide head of the church after he was accused of inciting violence in sermons supporting Mugabe's party.

The split in the Zimbabwe's Anglican community has left mainstream Anglicans without places of worship and they live under a constant threat of intimidation and violence. Police recently arrested an Anglican priest loyal to the mainstream group in Harare for alleged theft of church property. He was held in police cells

for 48 hours then released without charge because of lack of evidence. Court officials have served eviction orders to St. John's mission and the Shearly Cripps orphanage in Murewa, 60 miles away from the capital, Harare, and home to more than 100. Attempts were also being made to order priests and staff to leave another mission and school near Masvingo in southern Zimbabwe and there were fears the breakaway faction would not provide qualified replacements.

The breakaway group claim they broke away from the mainstream Anglicans after the church in Britain recognised gay marriage and the rights of same sex partners. President Robert Mugabe is a bitter critic of homosexuality.

An Anglican priest who was evicted from his rectory, travels back from a village outside the city to meet congregants on Sundays. Other Anglicans use public halls and some Roman Catholic buildings for their activities. Other members of the mainstream church hold services in private homes and gardens. *"This is what we are dealing with every day. Our congregations get discouraged but we must remain resolute. As always, Kunonga's people can do what they want without restraint,"* Gandiya said.

***Based on a report in The Guardian  
10 September 2011***

Strangely enough last month's notes were focused on begonias and to quote from paragraph three:

*'The tuberous begonia is a spectacular flowering plant especially in the hands of a specialist who will have plants carrying flowers as big as a saucer or tea plate and often bigger'.*

## in the **garden**

with *Frank Ashton*

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**S**o if any of you visited the **Tameside Show** in early September, you cannot have failed to notice three classes where such flowers were exhibited. These classes ask for 1 cut bloom, 3 cut blooms and 6 cut blooms respectively. They are displayed in a specially made black box with holes in the top to allow the flower stems to sit in small containers of water underneath. One of *Mottram Road Allotment Association's* associate members, *Les Smith* from *Middleton*, specializes in these plants and staged a brilliant entry of named cultivars in each class, inevitably being awarded the trophy for the **Best flower exhibit in the Show** for the box of 6 cut blooms. Obviously these are grown in a greenhouse, but it has to be very well shaded from the summer sun to suit these plants. Once you buy any of these spectacular named cultivars, you would be well advised

to look after them as the tubers will cost anything from £10 to £30 each!

*(M.R.A.A. managed to win the Allotment Association Class for the third time running, and yours truly won the trophy awarded for the best exhibit of Gladioli with three spikes of 'Lowland Queen'.)* If you are fond of Michaelmas daisies, (which obviously flower in autumn - 'as it says on the tin') but would like something which has a similar range of colours but flowering in summer, look no further than Erigerons. This genus of plants rejoice in the common name 'Fleabane' so presumably you should be safe from fleas if you grow them. We have a *Doronicum* or leopard's bane on the allotment and I can assure you that we have never seen any leopards on the plot, so it must work! Also if wolves (the mammals not the football team) are giving you problems, try wolfsbane - *Aconitum lycoctonum* - which should stop them keeping you awake at night while baying at the moon!

Back to Erigerons and in particular the herbaceous perennial species and cultivars. Most of these originate in North America and their basic needs are those which suit most herbaceous plants, i.e., fertile (plenty of compost or manure) well-drained soil and if possible shaded from the midday and early afternoon sun. Cut them back to ground level each autumn and divide them every two or three years.

The late Alan Bloom of Bressingham Gardens, Diss in Norfolk bred quite

a number of good Erigerons all ending in -ity.

- 'Charity' has semi-double lilac-pink flowers and grows to about 50cm high.
- 'Dignity' is slightly shorter at 50cm tall and produces violet-mauve flowers.
- 'Dimity' is quite dwarf (25cm) and has fine-petalled bright pink blooms. This one is best divided every other year.
- 'Felicity' grows to around 60cm with pink flowers.
- 'Gaiety' (A.G.M.) has bright pink flowers and again is about 69cm tall.
- 'Prosperity' is mid-height at 45cm with mauve-blue flowers.
- 'Serenity' is the tallest of this group at 75cm with violet mauve flowers.

Other notable ones which have the R.H.S Award of Garden merit include:

- 'Darkest of All', 60cm tall with dark violet flowers.
- 'Foersters Liebling' has deep reddish-pink flowerheads at 60cm.

Once again we have had a typically British summer which fell well below hopes if not expectations, following a great March and April. The Met Office reported it as the coolest summer since 1993 which possibly helps to explain why our normal sized tomatoes were so terribly slow in ripening. Normally we start picking these in early August, (some three to four weeks after the small tomatoes

have started to ripen), but this year it was nearly the end of August before any were ready. Normally for the M.R.A.A. Show I have a large tray with 30 or 40 to choose from, to get matching sets of five and two lots of sixes. This time I just managed to pick six to get five from!

Other failures occurred which to some extent are less explicable. Two different varieties of broad beans which flowered profusely but failed to set the pods, provided us with just enough for one meal! Sweet corn which is normally past knee height by the end of June hadn't achieved this by the end of July so like the broad beans before them, they were consigned to the compost heap.

Just to add insult to injury, the early September weather has degenerated into rain and wind to make things as difficult as possible in getting essential early autumn jobs done, and this first full week of September has been virtually a write-off with more bad weather forecast!

Enjoy your October garden if the weather allows.

## Frank

# from the registers

## **F u n e r a l s**

Joyce Holden, 88

8 September

## **W e d d i n g s**

Robert Hodson and Alexandra Mackie

11 September

Steven Delaney and Samantha Collier

17 September

Michael Noble and Anne Wilson

24 September

## **B a p t i s m s**

Aliya Hodson

11 September

Dylan Catlow

25 September

Lucas Cocker

25 September

Charlotte Lawton

25 September

### *The coffee (and tea) makers' prayer*

**L**ord **Jesus**, you loved to share a meal with your friends and provided wine at a wedding to make the party whole. Thank you for giving me the privilege of serving your family today, and may the hospitality that we offer after church reflect the hospitality of your table where we have gathered to eat and drink in fellowship with you.  
*Amen.*



# through the week at **St Paul's**

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<b>Weekdays</b>	<i>Funtasia Kids' Group</i>	
<b>Monday, Wednesday, Friday</b>	<i>Teddies' Playgroup 9:00-11:30</i>	<u>TTO</u>
<b>Monday</b>	<i>Choir</i>	<i>19:30</i>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<i>No. 2 Brownies</i>	<i>18:30-20:00</i> <u>TTO</u>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<i>Prayer Group</i>	<i>See Newsletter for details</i>
<b>Thursday</b>	<i>Mums and Tots</i>	<i>13:00-15:00</i> <u>TTO</u>
	<i>Rainbows</i>	<i>18:15-19:15</i> <u>TTO</u>
	<i>Brownies</i>	<i>18:30-20:00</i> <u>TTO</u>
	<i>Guides</i>	<i>19:30-21:00</i> <u>TTO</u>
	<i>Bell Ringers</i>	<i>19:30-21:00</i>
<b>Friday</b>	<i>Flower Team</i>	<i>11:30-14:30</i>
	<i>Church cleaning</i>	<i>18:00-18:45</i>
	<i>Youth Club - alternate weeks</i>	<i>19:00-21:00</i> <u>TTO</u>
<b>Saturday</b>	<i>Prayer Group</i>	<i>09:30-10:00</i>

TTO= Term time only

## flowers in **October**

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<b>October 2</b>	<i>Choir; E. Easton; Keith &amp; Viv Dawson</i>
<b>October 9</b>	<i>D. Corless; Kathryn &amp; Frank Jones</i>
<b>October 16</b>	<i>Lena Kilshaw</i>
<b>October 23</b>	<i>E. Lawton</i>
<b>October 30</b>	<i>W. Nelson</i>

# diary for **October**

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1	Church Stall at Hyde Market	09:00 - 16:00
	Private Party	11:00 - 14:00
<b>2</b>	<b>Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity : Harvest</b>	
	Harvest Lunch	12:00
	Private Party	15:00 - 18:00
4	Weight Watchers	17:30 - 19:30
5	Kairos	19:30 - 21:00
6	Holy Communion	10:00
8	Bag packing at <b>Morrison's</b> and sale of Raffle Tickets	
	Wedding	14:00
<b>9</b>	<b>Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity</b>	
	Private Party	14:00 - 17:00
11	Weight Watchers	17:30 - 19:30
13	Holy Communion	10:00
	Lunch Club	12:30
15	Mothers' Union Afternoon Tea	14:00 - 16:00
	Concert: <b>Saddleworth Male Voice Choir</b>	19:30
<b>16</b>	<b>Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity</b>	
	Service and Concert to celebrate completion of the <b>Church Restoration</b> project.	14:00
18	Weight Watchers	17:30 - 19:30
20	Holy Communion	10:00
22	Wedding	12:00
<b>23</b>	<b>Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity</b>	
	Private Party	15:00 - 17:00
25	Weight Watchers	17:30 - 19:30
	Film Show - <i>Fiji, Hawaii and Toronto</i> - Mavis Grant	19:30 - 21:00
27	Holy Communion	10:00
	Lunch Club	12:30
<b>30</b>	<b>Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity</b>	