



The Lion

A Monthly News Sheet for St. Mark's Church, Basford

www.stmarksbasford.co.uk

AUGUST 2018



Stained Glass

Our stained glass windows at aisle level in the nave often draw comment as to their vibrancy of colour and modernist design. They are strikingly beautiful and a distinctive feature of the church. They were produced by a company called Shrigley and Hunt (of Lancaster and London) which sadly no longer trades. Recently, we were approached by an organisation which had acquired the original small paintings produced by a Shrigley and Hunt artist (who I have subsequently read was also a director of the firm) named Joseph Fisher. As they were offered to us for £320.00, the PCC decided to buy them as they increase the both the interest of the windows and our knowledge of them for future generations.

Even without a trained eye, the modernist aspect of these windows can be appreciated if a comparison is made with the more traditional windows we have, for example those in the east wall and Finney Transept. Post-war, there was a demand for more angular representations of characters within window which reflected the move away from the traditional, gothic architecture and sat more comfortably with newer buildings. Joseph Fisher recognised the need to move with the times and employed the services of several freelance artists who took S&H's designs in this new direction. Though trained and experienced in the former styles he became a fan himself of the new forms. The demand for lighter interiors led to larger fields of clear glass or only slightly coloured around many of the subject characters and a more geometric use of the lead lines – both of these features can be seen in the examples St. Mark's demonstrates.

One of the techniques introduced by the younger, freelance artists were to create original 1 inch to 1 foot paintings from which full-size cartoons were made for production purposes. The five original paintings we have acquired are examples of these 1 inch scale works of art. So that we can display them, we have mounted them simply in a custom frame for which we now need to come up with a suitable location. To go along with the frames pictures the PCC also has a copy of a 2003 book by William Waters and published by the North

West Centre for regional Studies of Lancaster University. This book, now out of print, chronicles the fortunes of Shrigley and Hunt – it is informative and makes interesting reading. If you wish to borrow the book, have a word with a warden.

Terry



READING CIRCLE

Janet Pazio writes...

A few years ago members of St. Mark's congregation met in Mark's and Spencer's community room on the old Wolstanton colliery site to discuss our mission action plan so that we could discern together where we felt God was presently working in our community and where He was leading us. There was an overwhelming consensus that we would like to learn more about prayer but also forming some sort of reading group came a close second.

The formation of reading groups is very popular. Several of my friend's belong to different groups and even in East Enders a reading group was depicted. So it's not just for the intellectuals. I also belong to a reading group and find it very helpful (and social) thing to do, reading books I would otherwise not have read thus broadening my outlook. And the fact that we discuss the books when we meet means that I see far more in the book than I would have done reading it on my own. Now if this happens with secular reading, think how much we would get discussing a spiritual book. It is good to discuss things among ourselves. The success of the Pilgrim courses which have been initiated at St Mark's illustrates this. And I feel, as a community, we would benefit from the formation of a reading group and would also help us with our on going discipleship with the Lord.

In order to see if this is what members of St Mark's would like to pursue there will be an initial meeting in the Lady Chapel at 7:30pm on 29th August. The meeting will last no longer than 1½ hours.



Clergy: Prebendary Terry Bloor ☎ 01782 623668; Reverend Pat Dunn ☎ 01782 846417; Reverend Patrick Griffin ☎ 07792 467190

Churchwardens: Diane Downard ☎ 01782 621424; Nick Atkins ☎ 01782 632213.

Readers: Janet Pazio ☎ 01782 698359; Julie Atkins ☎ 01782 632213; Ed Smith ☎ 01782 614259

Safeguarding Coordinator: Joanne Locker ☎ 01782 619471 **Hall Bookings Manager:** Beryl Silvester ☎ 01782 613685

Worship Services during August

1 st	Wednesday	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
5 th	10 th after Trinity	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		10.00am	'First Sunday' with HC
8 th	S. Dominic	8.00am	Morning Prayer
		11.00am*	Holy Communion (BCP)
12 th	11 th after Trinity	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		10.00am	Holy Communion
14 th	Tuesday	11.30am	Funeral
15 th	The BVM	8.00am	Morning Prayer
		10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)
16 th	Thursday	12.30pm	Wedding
19 th	12 th after Trinity	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		10.00am	Family Worship with Baptisms
22 nd	Wednesday	8.00am	Morning Prayer
		10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)
25 th	Saturday	12.00pm	Wedding
26 th	13 th after Trinity	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		10.00am	Holy Communion
29 th	Beheading of John	8.00am	Morning Prayer
		10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)

* = Note time change!



Afternoon Tea

You are warmly invited to our fund-raising afternoon tea with beetle drive on Saturday 4th August at 2.30pm. Entry will cost £3.00 per ticket. A raffle will be available on the day.

Diary Dates for August

1 st	Wednesday	7.30pm	Licensing at Chesterton
4 th	Saturday	2.30pm	Afternoon Tea (Church Hall)
8 th	Wednesday	10.00am	DAC visit to Lady Chapel
23 rd	Thursday	7.30pm	Jerusalem Pilgrimage Meeting
29 th	Wednesday	7.30pm	Reading Circle

Early September

4 th	Tuesday	10.00am	Licensing at Bradwell
10 th	Monday	7.30pm	Men's Mass @ High Lane
13 th	Thursday	7.30pm	Deanery Synod

Jerusalem

For those having booked flights to Jerusalem at the end of October, Terry is suggesting a meeting at 7.30pm (in the Lady Chapel) on Thursday, 23rd August during which we can think about a potential programme and some of the other practical matters which need addressing.



PRAYER

At that same 'PCC Away Day' mentioned by Janet (overleaf), another activity thought of as requiring attention was the church's corporate prayer-life. We addressed this in part during Fr Graham's time by looking at different models and forms of prayer over a number of weeks. Having thought about prayer, we need

to actually do some praying! In the next edition of the LION, Ed Smith will write some words about an opportunity for meditative prayer which we intend to offer from the autumn.

A SAINT FOR THE MONTH

Bernard of Clairvaux

"You wish me to tell you why and how God should be loved. My answer is that God himself is the reason he is to be loved."

For some, Bernard of Clairvaux had two sides. On the one hand, he's referred to as the "honey-tongued doctor" because of his impressive writings on the love of God. On the other hand, he was involved in the rallying of soldiers for the Second Crusade against Muslims. What is clear is this: 400 years after his death, he was still widely quoted and considered a major witness to truth between the time of Gregory the Great and the 1500s. Today his writings still guide spiritual lives not only of the order he made famous, the Cistercians, but by men and women in all walks of life.

Bernard was born on the outskirts of Dijon in Burgundy to a family of lower nobility. He sought the counsel of the abbot of Citeaux, Stephen Harding, and decided to enter his struggling, small, new community called the Cistercians. Here he began practicing lifelong ascetic disciplines (strict fasting, sleep deprivation, etc.), which severely impaired his health—he was plagued by anemia, migraines, gastritis, hypertension, and an atrophied sense of taste his whole life. Within three years of joining the order, he was appointed abbot of the third Cistercian monastery, at Clairvaux. As the order grew, so did Bernard's influence and responsibilities; he wrote the Rule for the new order known as the Knights Templar, an order of men who took monastic vows and swore to defend the Holy Land militarily.

What Bernard is remembered for today, more than his reforming zeal and crusade preaching, is his mystical writings. His best known work is *On Loving God*, in which he states his purpose at the beginning: "You wish me to tell you why and how God should be loved. My answer is that God himself is the reason he is to be loved."

His other great literary legacy is *Sermons on the Song of Songs*, 86 sermons on the spiritual life. One passage in particular speaks aptly to Bernard's lifelong passion to know God: *There are some who long to know for the sole purpose of knowing, and that is shameful curiosity; others who long to know in order to become known, and that is shameful vanity. ... There are others still who long for knowledge in order to sell its fruits for money or honors, and this is shameful profiteering; others again who long to know in order to be of service, and this is charity. Finally, there are those who long to know in order to benefit themselves, and this is prudence.*

St. Bernard is celebrated on 20th August.