



St Patrick's

# St Patrick's C of E Church Newsletter

## Spring 2019

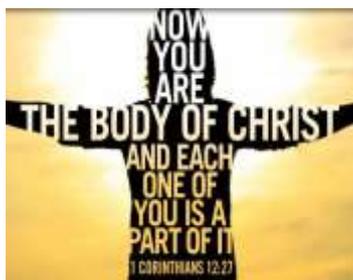
### In This Issue

## News & Thoughts from St Patrick's

By Revd Julie Humphries

One of the Sunday readings recently was 1 Corinthians 12 verses 12-31A. It is the reading where poor old St. Paul is obviously having a really hard time with the members of the church in Corinth with a bit of jockeying for position, power and status going on and Paul has to remind the Corinthian church that all are equal in the eyes of God and that no one person or one role or job is more important.

*If a foot were to say, 'Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear were to say, 'Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be?... The eye cannot say to the hand, I have no need of you', nor again the head to the feet, 'I have no need of you.' On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honourable we clothe with greater honour...*



These wise words from St. Paul are just as true for us today. Not just within the life of the church – but for our lives as Christians in the world. The church needs all sorts of people, different creeds, colours, genders, single, married, divorced, widowed and all sorts of different roles and jobs need to be carried out.

The people who clean the church are as important as those who lead worship and no one should think themselves inferior and definitely no one should think him/herself superior to anyone else or that any role or job is more important than another. Indeed St. Paul states it clearly that actually the weaker members are the most important and that they should receive the greater honour and respect.

So what about the wider world? Can washing your dirty socks be holy? Can mowing your lawn or going to a meeting be spiritual activities? At the end of every Sunday service we are sent out with a blessing. Week after week we are blessed and sent, blessed and sent. We are blessed with the awareness of God with us. We are blessed with the reminder of the Holy Spirit living in us.

We are blessed with the mission to live that presence of God in the world. And then we are sent out in to the world. But we don't often get sent in to those big dramatic moments that we imagine as embodying the presence of God. Instead we often find the humdrum existence of day to day living.



### Junior Church

Junior Church meets on the second, fourth and fifth Sunday mornings of the month, starting in the church and then moving to the Undercroft before returning to share communion



### Messy Church

Messy Church meets 5 times a year in St Patrick's School for craft activities, a story, song and refreshments, and a play area is available for babies and toddlers.



### Adult Craft Club

St Patrick's Adult Craft club meets in the Undercroft from 10.00am-12.00noon on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday and 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month, £4 per session.

## News & Thoughts from St Patrick's Cont..

By Revd Julie Humphries

We are sent back home to the laundry, the washing, and the housework. We are sent back to our jobs – which may be really exciting and rewarding, but more likely it's routine and one day is much like another with emails, meetings, and perhaps those difficult work colleagues, customers or clients to deal with. We are sent back to our everyday lives.

So, can washing your dirty socks be holy? Can we carry that blessing of God's presence back into our ordinary everyday lives? Well I recently came across a book written by Tish Harrison Warren who is an Anglican Priest, wife, mother and author and she states that:

*Many of us go through the day feeling like we don't have time for God. But God can become present to us in surprising ways through our everyday routines... I want to do the big work of the kingdom, but I have to learn to live it out in the small tasks before me – the work of God in the daily grind. Our identity as people who are blessed and sent into the world transforms how we live in the world, not just in the big moments but also even in our unremarkable days.*

The book is framed around one ordinary day, and explores daily life through the lens of liturgy, small practices and habits that form us.

Each chapter looks at something simple like making the bed, brushing her teeth, or losing her keys. Tish Harrison Warren opens up a practical theology of the everyday. Each activity is related to a spiritual practice as well as an aspect of our Sunday worship.

Warren writes that the Protestant Reformation 500 years ago was not just about the conflict in doctrine, but also about living vocation. She writes that the Reformation toppled a vocational hierarchy that had placed monks, nuns, and priests at the top and everyone else below. The reformers taught that a farmer may worship God by being a good farmer and that a parent changing nappies could be as near Jesus as the pope.

Well personally I think St. Paul tried to topple this way of thinking when he wrote his letter to the Corinthians – begging them to understand that no one is greater than anyone else and no role or job both within the church or outside of the church is greater or more superior than another, and that everything we do – even taking the rubbish out to the bin or cleaning the toilets is just as important, just as holy.

The problem is – us human beings – we don't seem to be able to help ourselves; we just love our hierarchy's.

We see some work as being holier and more glamorous than others, but if we are sent out every Sunday in to the world with the message that God's Spirit lives inside us, then ALL WORK that does good and not harm is equally holy, equally filled with God's presence. So back to my question – 'Can washing your dirty socks be holy?' Yes it can – if we see God in everything we do – and if we do everything as if we are doing it for God.

At the end of May this year I will not only be leaving St. Patrick's, but I will be leaving ministry – and the question I am asking myself is what next? Can I continue to serve God – but no longer as a priest – and the answer is YES. Whatever I do next will be offered to God, for God to use in whatever way he sees fit because as St. Paul said 'God arranged the members in the body, each one of them as he chose.'

May God bless each of us in the ordinariness of our lives. Amen.



## Adult Craft Club

By Marion Legge

The Adult Craft Club continues to meet from 10am-12noon on the first Wednesday of every month and the second Thursday of every month throughout the year. The group has been lucky to have a core group with a steady attendance on both days.

In December a guest, Anna, attended and the group spent time decorating wine glasses and also had a guest, Henrietta, showing us how to make handmade jewellery. 12 of us went out for a Christmas lunch at the Bluebell Pub in Earlswood, and everyone enjoyed this very much.

The group didn't meet in January but in February the group will be learning new card making skills and MDF painting, and will be using the die-cut machine for the first time so our cards should look great.

We are hoping to arrange and have a day out in the warmer weather, and we always look to welcoming new people to what is a lovely friendly and sociable group, where we all help each other and have tea/coffee and cake.

**Future Dates:**  
06 & 14 March 2019  
03 & 11 April 2019  
01 & 09 May 2019



### Adult Craft Club

St Patrick's Adult Craft club meets in the Undercroft from 10.00am-12.00noon on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday and 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month, £4 per session.

## Junior Church & Crib Service

By Margaret Young



The crib service held on Christmas Eve was very well attended as usual. All children were given the opportunity to dress up to form the Nativity tableau.

This year, children were invited to open Christmas cards depicting various Christmas scenes.

Cards showing the real meaning of Christmas were included with the relevant bible reading.

As we listened to the readings and sang the familiar carols the children gradually joined the tableau around the crib.



Everyone was given a Christmas gift tag on which to write or draw their own personal prayer and invited to hang it on their own Christmas trees at home.

The service ended with an enthusiastic rendition by the children of the carol 'See Him Lying in a Bed of Straw'.



Junior Church meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays during term time. We start at **10.00 AM** in the church and leave together shortly after the welcome.

Junior Church is held in the undercroft where we have a bible story, prayers, sing songs and take part in craft activities. All ages are welcome, and parents can feel free to accompany the younger children.



Some of our younger children are now old enough to attend Junior Church so our numbers have increased recently.

We are also keeping in touch with parents via social media and posting details of forthcoming sessions on Facebook.

We have also arranged to change some of the Messy Church dates this year so they do not all fall on the second weekend in the month.

We often find that attendance is low at Junior Church on the second Sunday if Messy Church has been held the day before. It also involves extra planning for the leaders if they have to do both.

We are currently in a good position with new parents and children and more leaders and helpers.



### Junior Church

10am – St Patrick's Church  
2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays of each month  
Starting in the church and then moving into the undercroft, returning into church to share communion

#### Dates for this Term:

03/03/2019 – All Age Worship  
10/03/2019 – Junior Church  
17/03/2019 – Family Communion  
24/03/2019 – Junior Church  
31/03/2019 – Mothering Sunday

07/04/2019 – All Age Worship  
14/04/2019 – Junior Church – Palm Sunday  
21/04/2019 – Family Communion – Easter  
28/04/2019 – Family Communion – No Junior Church

05/05/2019 – All Age Worship  
12/05/2019 – Junior Church  
19/05/2019 – Family Communion  
26/05/2019 – Junior Church





### St Patrick's Choir

10.00am – St Patrick's Church  
Barbara Philp, Choir Coordinator  
Tel: 07734-228500

## St Patrick's Choir & Church Music

By Barbara Philp

Our Christmas activities, as usual, began with our trip to Portershill to sing for the residents there. This year we introduced some modern technology alongside the more traditional. We would always welcome a volunteer pianist, but having no-one to hand we used the recorder to give us a lead in for some of the carols but used a music playlist on a mobile phone along with a Bluetooth speaker for others. The potential power of the phone was a source of discussion at the end of the evening, as was the unseen speaker on top of a cupboard.

The Red Lion on Lady Lane invited the choir to sing for them just before Christmas and the choir decided to make an evening of it and eat there first. We all enjoyed ourselves and give thanks to the other congregation members who joined us. Someone in the audience volunteered to take our collecting pot around for us which was much appreciated as it raised just over £60 for church funds.

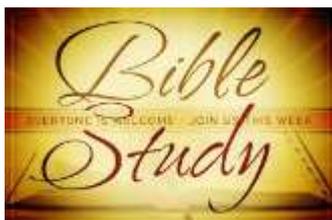
The Service of 9 Lessons & Carols was well attended and the choir sang 4 pieces. Thanks again to Andrew Burling our organist, his friend Pat Bennett and to all the choir for their efforts involved in putting in the hours of practice. It would be useful to have feedback as to whether we wasted paper by printing the words of our choir pieces in the service booklet or whether you found this either helpful or useful. Please let me know.

Choir membership remains stable on paper, but we have had a variety of health issues which may seem to have depleted our ranks on occasions.

We would love to strengthen our numbers (altos and basses in particular) and would ask anyone wishing to find out more about the choir, or our music, to contact me on 07734-228500.

## Bible Study Group

By Revd Julie Humphries



### Bible Study Group

#### Dates for this year

Commencing on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2019  
And running every Tuesday evening  
through Lent

The Bible Study Course will run every Tuesday evening throughout Lent in the Vicarage starting at 7.30pm beginning on 5<sup>th</sup> March.

MOVING ON is a seven week course which was designed to help people think through where they are going in their lives, discover the good news of Jesus and consider how they want to respond to it.

The sessions use a mix of DVD input, time to chat, simple discussion activities and space for reflection, all in a style which is down-to-earth and honest and which aims to be enjoyable too.

To get the most out of the course, you need to attend every week if possible as each week follows on:

**Session 1** – Stand up and be counted- learn the mission/disciple way of caring for others and sharing the Good News.

**Session 2** – Church – we are family – move in to the centre of your church

**Session 3** – Church – worship – get into the habit of regular and positive minded worship.

**Session 4** – Growing in God – Develop the practice of spending daily time with Jesus.

**Session 5** – Life in the Spirit – Open yourself to receive the Holy Spirit.

**Session 6** – Cheerful giving – time, talents and money - give some of your time, money, love and prayer away.

**Session 7** – New life, new lifestyle – establish Jesus at the centre of your life-style.

For more information give Revd Julie a call on 0121 733 6706.

## Messy Church

By Sarah Perry

Messy Church continues to be a great success and takes place five times a year. It is run jointly between St Patrick's Church and Revd Vicki Atkinson Cheswick Green Methodist Church, with attendance of young families from both churches.

The format for the session is the children take part in themed craft activities and followed by celebration time which includes a story and song, culminating with refreshments. It is open to all ages, boys and girls, up to the age of 11. Parents must remain with their children during the session.

Messy Church took place on 8<sup>th</sup> December with the theme of Christmas. A mixture of craft activities took place including three wise men fir cones, Christmas stars and angels biscuits, pop up nativity cards, nativity stable pictures, Christmas trees, star pencils, glittery stars and the Christmas frieze boards.

Our last Messy Church took place on 9<sup>th</sup> February with the theme of the Good Samaritan and craft activities included a Love thy Neighbour butterfly,

kindness caterpillar, good Samaritan cube, book marks, gift box, helping hands and heart biscuits, Samaritan purse and frieze boards for display in church..

Yet again we had an excellent attendance of young people and their parents and welcomed a number of new families.

We always end our Messy sessions with the 'Messy Church Grace' as follows:

**May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ** (*holding out our hands as if expecting a present*), **And the love of God** (*put our hands on our heart*), **And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit** (*holding hands*), **Be with us all now and forever. Amen!** (*raising our hands together on the word Amen*)

Our next Messy is scheduled for Saturday 23rd March and the theme will be 'Thank You Moms'.

New members are always welcome. Just pop along and see us.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact Revd Julie Humphries on 0121-733 6706 or email [juliehumphries27@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:juliehumphries27@yahoo.co.uk)



### Messy Church

10.00-12.00 noon – St Patrick's School  
Held five times a year, each session themed accordingly

#### Future Dates:

23 March 2019 – Thank You Moms  
08 June 2019 - Pentecost



Hello! My name is Sarah and I have taken on the role of Children's Society representative for St Patrick's. I have been coming to St Patrick's for almost 2 years now and you have probably seen me with my little boy, Jacob. As well as being a full time mum to Jacob I am also a part time newly qualified GP.

I was keen to take on a role within the church and as a large part of my job involves working with children and young people this seemed perfect. The motto of The Children's Society is "no child should feel alone" and I couldn't agree more.

## Children's Society

By Sarah Winnett

They work with disadvantaged children and young people in England whether that be those affected by poverty, abuse, substance misuse, immigration or mental health problems.

Some of their current local work includes working with children across Birmingham who have been identified as being at risk of child criminal exploitation and child sexual exploitation. They also work locally with child refugees and asylum seekers offering a befriending and meet and greet service.

One of their main areas of work is in supporting children and young people with mental health problems. The Children's Society run "Pause", a city centre drop-in service for 0-25 year olds. Pause offers support through workshops, quiet space, advice and counselling.

If you want to find out more about the Children's Society their website is: <https://www.childrenssociety.org.uk> and gives more information about what they do and how you can get involved. I am happy to try to answer any questions anyone may have, and if I can't answer them straight away I can always go away and find out the answer for you!

You have probably noticed the requests for collection boxes to be handed back to me over the last few weeks. I have spent several evenings counting coins and am delighted to say that St Patrick's raised £287.64!

I will be redistributing the boxes shortly. If you have previously had a box but would not like to continue or would like to become a box holder please do get in touch with me.

## Mercy Ships Update

By Mary Fearon

Many of you have heard me talk or read previous articles on Mercy Ships and the work it does helping the forgotten poor of West Africa.

How a mother's sight was restored enabling her to see her children. How a child who was unable to stand properly on his club feet is now wearing shoes and running around.

How a young teenager whose legs were so badly bent he was almost horizontal when he walked, now stands tall playing football with his friends.

How young girls suffer trauma from prolonged labour leaving them, often, with a still birth and incontinence, leading to ostracization, are now dry and have the chance of a new life. How adults with disfiguring facial tumours can now breathe properly, eat, talk and smile!

What happens though to the staff at the end of the working day and on days off? What is it like to live in a community on a ship?

When I was on the ship last year, there were crew from 36 nations, the majority from the US with the UK and Netherlands vying for second spot! This made living on the ship fascinating with different languages and cultures.

There is a crew lounge which houses a computer bay, sofas, tables and chairs and a couple of televisions.

There is a Starbucks café where people can gather in the evening. The dining room has tea, coffee, water and juice 24/7.



In the evening people put up a table in there and play table tennis. There is a, small, gym in the bowels of the ship. Exercise equipment can be found on deck 8, outside, in very hot and humid conditions!

There is also a seating area outside for anyone who wants to eat there. A swimming pool can be found on Deck 8, not your normal sort of pool, it has been transformed from a shipping container!



Most evenings there are activities, gatherings or education programmes you can attend. Sunday there is a church service.

Tuesday there is a sewing group that meet in the dining room and a group that walk out to the local ice-cream parlour.

Wednesday one of the surgeons present a talk on their speciality.

Thursday there is a community gathering with prayers and singing, and a presentation from one of the ships departments.

This is always followed by ice-cream in the café, with different departments serving each week. Whilst I was there, it was the OR's turn, after which I decided serving ice-cream was not my forte!



If you did not fancy any of the above, there was always a board game or four happening in the lounge.

I have learnt so many different games, some of which we now play at home. It did not matter that you did not know how to play, you just joined a table, or you would start a game and other people would join you. You knew the people you worked with, this was a great chance to get to know others.

There were lots of activities at weekends. Obviously, not everyone has weekends off. The ship is a working hospital, 24/7. However, for those not working, there are activities folders with a variety of choices that you can sign up for, ranging from visiting nearby islands, going inland to a waterfall, going hiking, visiting a local orphanage and, on Sundays, going to local church services.

There is also a wide choice of restaurants, bars and hotels you can visit. Alcohol is not allowed on the ship, obviously, as it is a hospital, however visiting local hostelry is fine, as long as you do not come back inebriated!

For some, living on the ship is exciting and interesting, for others it is challenging and so there is a chaplaincy and counselling team to help anyone struggling to adjust.

Every Sunday, one of the British families, who are on the ship long-term, has a Brits tea and biscuit evening, a lovely way of making us feel more at home!

Mary.

## Meet Your PCC – Mike Purcocks

Whilst reading earlier contributions, I pondered the different pathways we have taken to come together now on your PCC.

We all live our lives responding to personal circumstances and career choices, but these experiences make us unique and offer the opportunity to bring that experience to the development of our Christian Church life and direction.

I met Veronica, my future Wife, when we were children as we lived near each other and went to the same Primary school in Birmingham. We later went for a couple of years to a local Senior school before both moving to other schools more suited to our planned career progression.

Meanwhile, we both were active members of Uniformed organisations at Hall Green Methodist Church in Birmingham, so we grew up in the Methodist tradition, through helping with Sunday School and meeting at the Church Youth Club. We subsequently married in 1964 and purchased a property in Hollywood.

A funny story with this background; I lived at 87 Leominster Road (from 1948/9) & Veronica was born & lived across the road at 86. So we knew each other since then.

We became engaged & planned our wedding for October 1964 at Hall Green Methodist. Not surprising since we effectively grew up there!! In the free churches Banns are not called but are posted at the Register Office in then Broad Street opposite the Hall of Memory.

We made an appointment to see a Registrar & two fresh faced 22 year olds & nervous at the prospect went to see him. It was an odd arrangement with a big glassed round area with glass window slots around & registrars sitting inside. Odd but there it was.

We stood at the window and this elderly fellow with little hair looked at us. 'You want to get married? Name & address?' looking at me. I gave my name and address of 87 Leominster Road, then looking at Veronica 'name & address – she gave her name and then her address of Edge 86 Leominster Road.

He stopped, put his fountain pen down & looked at us over his half glasses. Raising his voice so all could hear, 'are you two aware of the trouble you will be in if you give me untruthful information?' We were stunned but in the end we managed to explain ourselves. Not the experience we had expected but worth telling 55 years on.

I had become an Engineering Apprentice in the motor industry accessories supply chain, of which there were many in those days, sadly less today. Veronica was working in Commercial Offices both in the City and latterly, the South East side of Birmingham. We moved to Stratford upon Avon, and in due course, were blessed with a Son and Daughter. Seven years later, wider family responsibilities meant we had to return nearer to Birmingham and we moved to Solihull.

Again we continued within our Methodist tradition and background. It will be clear now why I sing with gusto, hymns in our hymn book penned by John & Charles Wesley and the prolific hymn writer Isaac Watts; Watts himself was a Congregational Minister and composed over 750 hymn in his lifetime.

Career progression took me into manufacturing in the Industrial and Commercial Electrical Engineering sector. In time, management responsibility followed running a number of factories with some overseas involvement and continued until I took early retirement in the year 2000.

Around 1985, a chance occurrence led us to the Anglican Church at the newly planted church of 'Christ the King' that continues to meet at Widney Junior School. In those days, St James Shirley was the Mother Church with several daughter churches of which CTK was the last planned at that time.

My involvement took me on to St James PCC and at one time a Churchwarden, somewhat different responsibilities to those of our Churchwardens who have crucially a beautiful building and a churchyard to administer additionally.

The year 2000 saw the coming together of St James and daughters churches and St Patrick's Salter Street into a Team Ministry with Revd. Michael Caddy latterly becoming Rector of the newly combined Parish. Revd. Keith McMaster, who previously had other duties elsewhere, was asked to become Incumbent at St Patrick's.



Again a chance encounter, this time in Stratford Road Shirley shopping area with Father Keith resulted in an invitation to Veronica & I to a Sunday service at St Patrick's. We are still here!

I was asked to become a Parish Warden in the Team which I did for a number of years and alternately Chairing PCC. It was at this time clear, new Health & Safety legislation required the Team to respond to this pressing requirement. My business training assisted in rolling out a suitable H & S Policy for each of the Churches.

By 2005, St Patrick's and the other Churches had a working document in place. When handing on the Parish Warden brief, I continued to administer and modify the H & S systems & documentation through St Patrick's District Church Council (known then as DCC) to the last revision incorporating the new St Patrick's Parish structure and creation of our current PCC.

As many of you know in 2013, I became the Diocesan Appointed Governor of St Patrick's C of E Primary Academy and look to continue with the close relationship with our Church and the school. It is vital that youngsters are given a Christian Focus as they learn and form their own beliefs, ethos and morals. We hope to continue and further develop that objective in the years to come.

St Patrick's Church has a challenging future ahead, in our Christian Worship, financially, and our Community but I firmly believe our Church family can faithfully respond to these challenges together.



## Meet Your PCC – Phil Bowen Church Warden

My name is Philip Bowen, Church Warden of St. Patrick's. In March I will have completed two years in this role. I am married to Mary who is also quite involved in the church.

My journey of faith started out as a child of eight or nine years of age. I decided to go to a local Methodist church, to Sunday School, taking my brother too. It was quite a lively church. My parents were quite surprised. I also attended the local scout group, with a church parade once a month around the local roads to the nearby Anglican church, St Margaret's Church Ward End. I played the bugle.

Life went on through my teens and I married Mary in my mid-twenties. Life got increasingly busy. Most people who know me are aware that I am a Land Rover fanatic. I have worked for various companies for nearly forty years delivering Land Rover vehicles.

I went through a quiet period faith wise; the children were baptised between 1975 to 1979 then shortly, afterwards

we started attending St Patrick's with the children, in the time of Revd Ralph Degg.

He always remembered Graham, the youngest; he said "This is the one I nearly dropped." I helped do the first Summer Fayre in 1982, I was a car park attendant. This was also the year I was confirmed.

I was told by Revd Ralph Degg I was going to be a server and was subsequently trained by Roy Evans, the Head Server.

My faith broadened. Not long afterwards David Hinks of St Patrick's organised a trip to Villa Park where the Billy Graham Crusade took place. Thousands attended. It moved me forward in my faith.

In 1986 at the N.E.C there was another important event: Acts 86. It was attended by people of several worldwide Christian churches. It was a huge gathering and was over seven days. The Bishop of Aston was involved in the organisation and senior clerics from far and wide were involved.



A group of us from St Patrick's including our vicar Revd Christopher Race, also attended a big celebration to God at the NEC put on by Graham Kendrick.

I had been a server and PCC member for many years and thought that was it, but yet again a change came about when Revd Julie urged me to become Church Warden.

I was asked on several occasions and eventually agreed, and when we became a separate parish, I became the first Bishop's Warden in our new Parish of St Patrick's.



On Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> February we welcomed our guest speaker Sue Sharp from the Children's Society to talk about Christingle and the work that is done by the Children's Society.

It was extra special as this year is the 50th anniversary of the Christingle.

## Christingle Service – 3<sup>rd</sup> February

By Sarah Perry

*'We Listen, Support and Act*

*Our extensive network of frontline services and army of volunteers work to tackle child poverty and neglect. Together we help families trapped in debt, support young carers and runaways and stop sexual exploitation.*

*We fight for change based on the experiences of every child we help and the solid evidence we gather. Through our ambitious campaigns and determination, we expose injustice and address hard truths to change attitudes, challenge misconceptions and influence policy.*

*Today, as always, we are ambitious for all children. We are determined, through our campaigning, commitment and care, to give every child the greatest possible chance in life.'*

If you would like to learn more about the work of the Children's Society please visit their website at:

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

### **A Prayer for the Children's Society:**

O Lord Jesus who said to his disciples, 'You are the Light of the World', grant that The Children's Society may bring light, hope and happiness to children, young people and families who face particular darkness or need; help all staff members and volunteers to be inspired by your understanding and strengthened by your grace, that the care they give may be both a special support and a sign of your kingdom. Amen.

## St Patrick's Services & Events



You are welcome to join us on

**SUNDAY  
17TH MARCH  
AT 10AM**

For our  
**PATRONAL SERVICE**  
WITH THE  
**BISHOP OF BIRMINGHAM**

THE RIGHT REVEREND DAVID URQUHART

**Informal  
Family  
Eucharist  
Service**

[www.stpatricksschools.org.uk](http://www.stpatricksschools.org.uk)  
[www.facebook.com/StPatricksschools/](https://www.facebook.com/StPatricksschools/)

**Thank You to Mothers**

**MESSY CHURCH**

**Saturday 23rd March**  
10am - 12noon  
St Patrick's School

Share Thanks Learn  
Decorate Mum Enjoy  
Make Mum Help

Phone 0121 753 6706  
for more information,  
and to book, if possible

[www.stpatricksschools.org.uk](http://www.stpatricksschools.org.uk) [www.facebook.com/StPatricksschools/](https://www.facebook.com/StPatricksschools/)

St Patrick's Church, Salter Street

**Events for Lent 2019**

Lent Course	Lent Services
<b>ALL WELCOME</b>	
<p><b>'Moving On'</b></p> <p>For all those who have completed the Lent Course and are looking for a new challenge, this course is for you. It is a 7-week course, starting on the 1st of March, and ending on the 1st of April. It is a course for those who are looking for a new challenge and a new way of living their faith.</p> <p><b>Week 1 - 1st March - 7th March</b> <b>Week 2 - 8th March - 14th March</b> <b>Week 3 - 15th March - 21st March</b> <b>Week 4 - 22nd March - 28th March</b> <b>Week 5 - 29th March - 4th April</b> <b>Week 6 - 5th April - 11th April</b> <b>Week 7 - 12th April - 18th April</b></p> <p><b>Day:</b> Tuesdays <b>Time:</b> 7.30pm <b>Starts:</b> 1st March <b>Service:</b> Vespers <b>Runs:</b> 7 weeks <b>Contact:</b> Rev Julie 0121 753 6706</p>	<p><b>Ash Wednesday</b> <b>6th March</b> 7.30pm Eucharist with the imposition of Ashes</p> <p><b>Palm Sunday</b> <b>14th April</b> 10am more quiete weather permitting</p> <p><b>Maundy Thursday</b> <b>18th April</b> 7.30pm Eucharist with Foot washing</p> <p><b>Good Friday</b> <b>19th April</b> 12noon - 3pm 3 hours by mass (more at www.stpatricksschools.org.uk)</p>

You will be welcome at our

**MOTHERING SUNDAY**

Sung Eucharist

**SERVICE**  
With Junior Church

on  
**Sunday 31st March**  
10 a.m.

**Love**

[www.stpatricksschools.org.uk](http://www.stpatricksschools.org.uk) [www.facebook.com/StPatricksschools/](https://www.facebook.com/StPatricksschools/)

**PLANT SALE AND COFFEE MORNING**

WITH  
**CAKES BOOKS RAFFLE**

**CHESWICK GREEN VILLAGE HALL**  
8.30 - 4.30

**BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY**  
**27th MAY**  
**10AM - 1PM**

Proceeds to St Patrick's Church

[www.stpatricksschools.org.uk](http://www.stpatricksschools.org.uk) [www.facebook.com/StPatricksschools/](https://www.facebook.com/StPatricksschools/)

## Stories in Stained Glass 2

By Tony Philp

Many people who lived during the Middle Ages could not read. Stained glass windows in churches helped them to learn the stories of the Bible brought to life and enhanced by the beauty of light filtering through the coloured glass.

Stained glass continued to be a source of illustration until the Reformation of the Church in the 1540s when changes in religious outlook undermined the need for sacred art. It was not until the 19th century that the skills of the medieval glaziers were rediscovered and a Gothic Revival of stained glass began.

Today almost all parish churches and cathedrals contain Victorian stained glass windows. Their quality and craftsmanship are now widely recognised and, 'though many depict saints, kings and angels, stories from the Bible still feature in memorial windows in memory of individuals and their families.

Exploring more of the local parish churches another 'story' window came to light closer to home at St. Mary Magdalene, Tanworth-in-Arden.

Originally our parish church, it has strong connections with St. Patrick's through the Burman family who have been benefactors to both churches.



The window is situated at the east end of the north aisle and at first glance, appears to be typical of those found in many churches above the High Altar and depicting Christ in glory surrounded by figures of disciples and/or saints. The north aisle here may well have been the original nave of the church which would explain such an impressive window of 5 lights with curvilinear tracery.

On closer examination of the figures, however, it becomes apparent that this is a story window illustrating the Parable of the Wise and Foolish Virgins for there are 10 ladies holding oil lamps – 5 with their lamps alight, looking expectantly towards Jesus (the bridegroom) and 5 with their lamps extinguished, either sleeping or pleading for more oil.



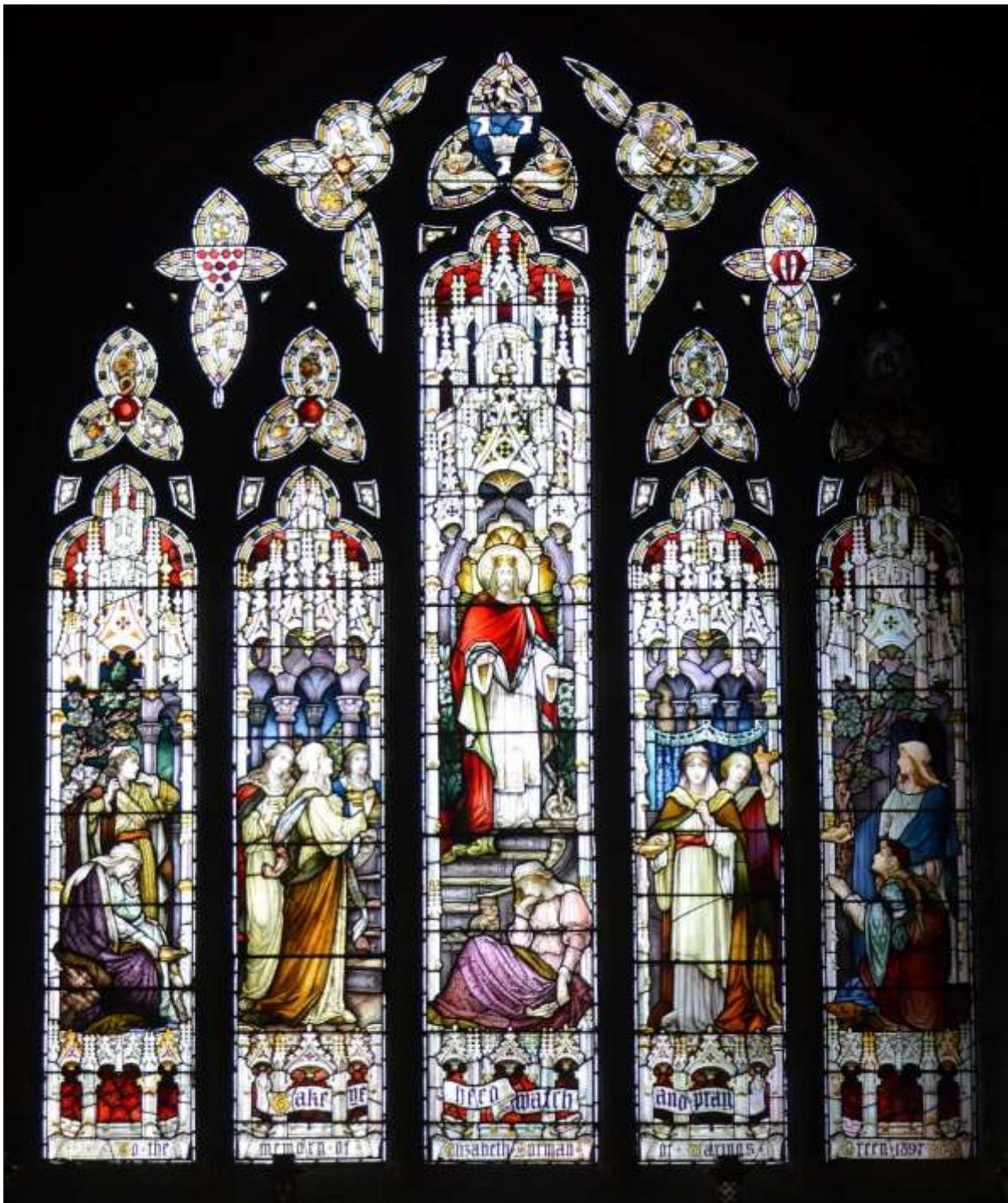
You can read the account of the story in Matthew 25 vv 1 – 13. In telling this story, Jesus is encouraging his followers to always be ready because his return will be unexpected.

## Stories in Stained Glass 2 Cont..

By Tony Philp

The window, dedicated 'to the memory of Elizabeth Burman of Warings Green 1897', was probably commissioned by the Burman family, as it includes their coat of arms in the topmost tracery panel. This coat of arms also appears as a boss in the vaulting of the inner porch at St. Patrick's where it marks the commissioning of the tower by Thomas Burman of Warings Green in memory of his parents.

In the coming weeks I hope to explore more local parish churches, to see if I can find any more 'story windows'. So, if you are aware of any that you've seen, please let me know, and I'll try and include them in a future article.



## St Patrick's Salter Street Parish Guide



### Clergy: Revd Julie Humphries

68 Tythebarn Lane, Dickens Heath, Solihull, B90 1RW

Tel: 0121-733 6706

Email: [juliehumphries27@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:juliehumphries27@yahoo.co.uk)

### St Patrick's Church

Salter Street  
Earlwood  
B94 6DE

<http://stpatrickscofe.org.uk/>

<https://www.facebook.com/StPatricksEarlwood>

### Services:

<b>Sunday:</b>	<b>08.00am</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Week: Said Eucharist, other weeks: Morning Prayer
	<b>10.00am</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Week: All Age Worship 2 <sup>nd</sup> Week: Sung Eucharist with Junior Church (term time) 3 <sup>rd</sup> Week: Family Communion 4 <sup>th</sup> Week: Sung Eucharist with Junior Church (term time) 5 <sup>th</sup> Week: Sung Eucharist with Junior Church (term time)
	<b>12.00pm</b>	Baptisms: by appointment
<b>Wednesday:</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	St Patrick's School Assembly in church (term time)

## Useful Parish Phone Numbers

Church of St Patrick, Salter Street



### St Patrick's Church

Salter Street  
Earlwood  
B94 6DE

<b>Church Warden:</b>	Mr Philip Bowen	0121-744 7782
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Mr Chasz Coulsting	07525-922306
<b>Stewardship Secretary:</b>	Mrs Jean Brown	01564-702367
<b>Assistant Treasurer &amp; Gift Aid Officer:</b>		
<b>Organist:</b>	Mr Andrew Burling	07890-631972
<b>Choir Coordinator</b>	Mrs Barbara Philp	07734-228500
<b>Tower Contact: (Bellringers)</b>	Mrs Barbara Philp	07734-228500
<b>Junior Church: (Sunday School)</b>	Mrs Margaret Young	0121-744 6772
<b>Prayer Ministry:</b>	Mr Philip Bowen	0121-744 7782
<b>PCC Secretary:</b>	Mrs Sarah Perry	0121-604 2161
<b>Safeguarding Officer:</b>	Mrs Sarah Perry	07719-942597
<b>Pastoral Team:</b>	Mr Philip Bowen	0121-744 7782
	Mrs Susan Knight	0121-744 6298
	Mrs Jean Holder	012-436 7112
	Mrs Dawn Rooke	01527-544496
	Mrs Marion Legge	0121-733 1196
<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	Mrs Sarah Perry	07719-942597 <a href="mailto:Sarld77@yahoo.co.uk">Sarld77@yahoo.co.uk</a>

**\*\*Please let the Editor know of any changes to the above \*\*\***

## Parish Registers

### Baptisms:

Tilly Ellen Elizabeth Degiorgio

George Thomas Kelsall

Harrison Ralph Denny

Talulla Brooke Dodd

Charlotte May Gale

Harry John Graham  
Goodman

Riley Mae Carter

Max Peter Denny

Johnny Mark Longden



### Marriages:

### Funerals:

Alisa Heather Daniels

George Edward Nicklin

James Johnathan

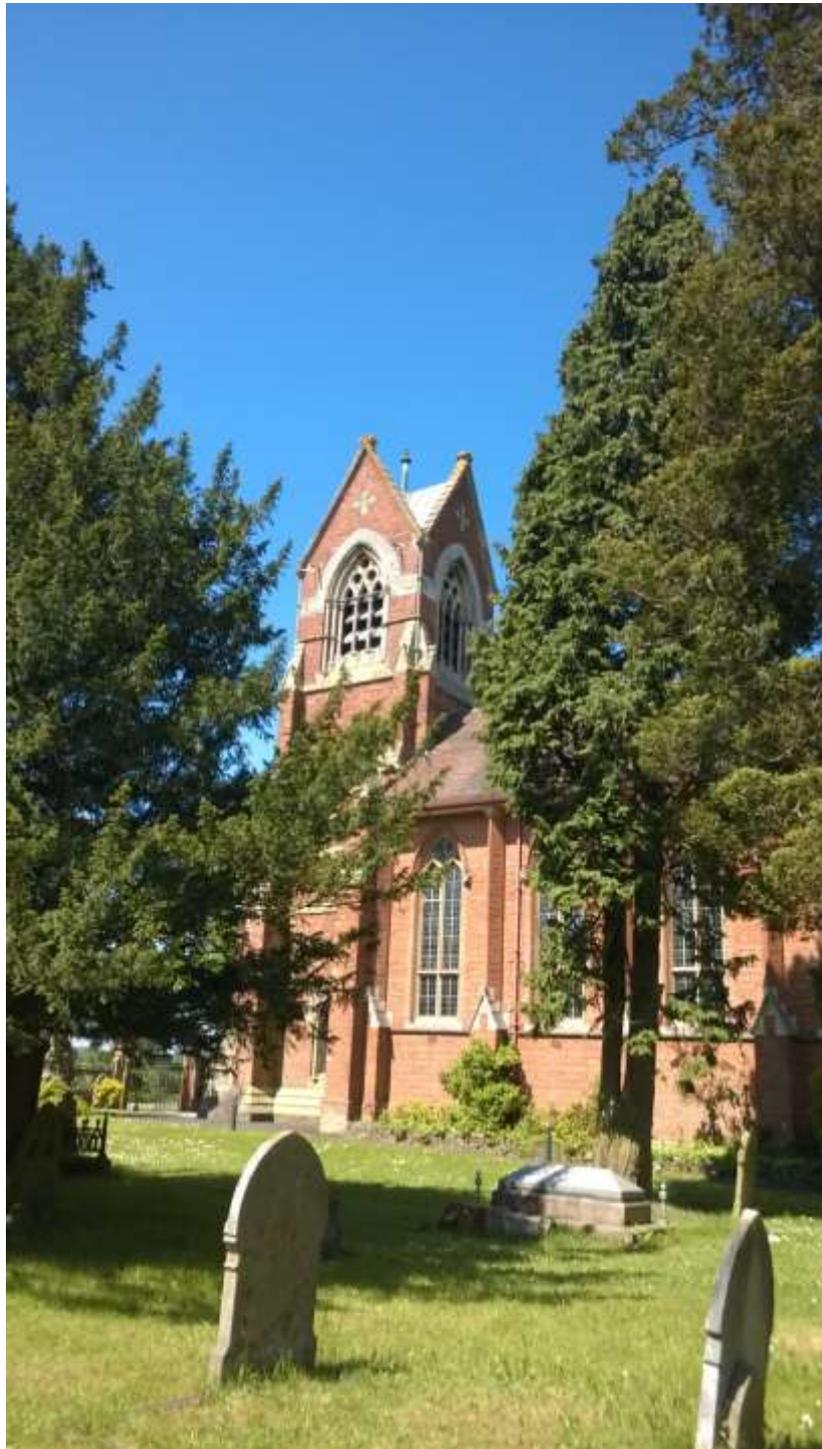
Stanley



## Dates for your Diary – March – May 2019

<b>5<sup>th</sup> Mar</b>	Lent Course	<b>9<sup>th</sup> Apr</b>	Lent Course
<b>6<sup>th</sup> Mar</b>	St Patrick's School Service	<b>10<sup>th</sup> Apr</b>	St Patrick's School Service
<b>6<sup>th</sup> Mar</b>	Adult Craft Club	<b>11<sup>th</sup> Apr</b>	Knit & Natter Club
<b>6<sup>th</sup> Mar</b>	Ash Wednesday Service	<b>14<sup>th</sup> Apr</b>	Palm Sunday Service at 10am
<b>7<sup>th</sup> Mar</b>	The Priory Service	<b>16<sup>th</sup> Apr</b>	Lent Course
<b>7<sup>th</sup> Mar</b>	Messy Church Planning Meeting	<b>18<sup>th</sup> Apr</b>	The Priory Service
<b>12<sup>th</sup> Mar</b>	Lent Course	<b>18<sup>th</sup> Apr</b>	Maundy Thursday Service
<b>13<sup>th</sup> Mar</b>	St Patrick's School Service	<b>19<sup>th</sup> Apr</b>	3hrs By The Cross Service
<b>14<sup>th</sup> Mar</b>	Knit & Natter Club	<b>20<sup>th</sup> Apr</b>	Confirmation in Birmingham Cathedral
<b>17<sup>th</sup> Mar</b>	Bishop David at 10am Service	<b>21<sup>st</sup> Apr</b>	Easter Day Service at 10am
<b>19<sup>th</sup> Mar</b>	Lent Course	<b>1<sup>st</sup> May</b>	St Patrick's School Service
<b>20<sup>th</sup> Mar</b>	St Patrick's School Service	<b>1<sup>st</sup> May</b>	Adult Craft Club
<b>21<sup>st</sup> Mar</b>	The Priory Service	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> May</b>	The Priory Service
<b>22<sup>nd</sup> Mar</b>	Pastoral Assistants Meeting	<b>8<sup>th</sup> May</b>	St Patrick's School Service
<b>23<sup>rd</sup> Mar</b>	Messy Church	<b>9<sup>th</sup> May</b>	Knit & Natter Club
<b>24<sup>th</sup> Mar</b>	AGM Meeting	<b>12<sup>th</sup> May</b>	Cycle Race
<b>26<sup>th</sup> Mar</b>	Lent Course	<b>13<sup>th</sup> May</b>	PCC Meeting
<b>27<sup>th</sup> Mar</b>	St Patrick's School Service	<b>15<sup>th</sup> May</b>	St Patrick's School Service
<b>27<sup>th</sup> Mar</b>	St Patrick's School Governor's Meeting	<b>16<sup>th</sup> May</b>	The Priory Service
<b>31<sup>st</sup> Mar</b>	Mothering Sunday	<b>22<sup>nd</sup> May</b>	St Patrick's School Service
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> April</b>	Lent Course	<b>23<sup>rd</sup> May</b>	Messy Church Planning Meeting
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> April</b>	St Patrick's School Service	<b>26<sup>th</sup> May</b>	Revd Julie's Last Service
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Apr</b>	Adult Craft Club	<b>30<sup>th</sup> May</b>	Ascension Day Service
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Apr</b>	The Priory Service		

## **Come & Join Us – All are Welcome**



**St Patrick's Church  
Salter Street  
Earlswood  
B94 6DE**