



# This † Week

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## March 23<sup>rd</sup> 2014 – The Third Sunday of Lent

A very warm welcome to everyone joining in worship here today.

**Large print versions of the Order of Service are available at the back of church**

*A loop system is provided for the benefit of hearing aid users. Please switch it to 'T'. Please switch off mobile phones.*

*Parents with young children: don't worry if your child makes a noise during the service – we don't mind!*

*If it helps, there are some books, toys and 'busy bags' suitable for young children at the back of church.*

23 <sup>rd</sup> March The Third Sunday of Lent	8:00am	<b>Holy Communion.</b> Readings (p89) Ephesians 5:1-14; Luke 11:14-28 (AC)
	10:30am	<b>Family Communion</b> (Lord's Prayer: Hymn N <sup>o</sup> 264) <i>Prayers PH</i> Readings: Exodus 17:1-7 (PH); Romans 5:1-11 (CM); John 4:5-42
	12 noon	<b>Baptism of Philip, Flynn Brandon and Ethan Stanley McCarthy</b>
	2:00pm	<b>Messy Church</b> ( <i>In 'New Room', Church &amp; Community Hall</i> )
	6:30pm	<b>Service of Wholeness &amp; Healing</b> Readings: Ephesians 5:1-14; Luke 11:14-28 (DJ)
Tuesday The Annunciation	10:30am	<b>Lady Day Holy Communion</b>
	2:00pm	<b>Funeral of Alfred Hodson</b> at Radcliffe Crematorium.
	7:30pm	<b>Lent Devotional</b>
Wednesday	9:30am	<b>Holy Communion</b> at 2 Devon Drive, Ainsworth
	2:30pm	<b>Church open for personal prayer</b>
30 <sup>th</sup> March Mothering Sunday (The Fourth Sunday in Lent)	8:00am	<b>Holy Communion.</b> Readings (p91) Galatians 4:21-end; John 6:1-14 (BSh)
	10:30am	<b>Family Communion</b> (Lord's Prayer: Hymn N <sup>o</sup> 264) <i>Prayers Mothers' Union</i> Readings: Exodus 2:1-10; Colossians 3:12-17 (Mothers' Union); John 19 25b-27 <i>Followed by refreshments in church</i>
	12:30pm	<b>Baptism of Oliver David Koziol</b>
	6:30pm	<b>Evensong</b> Psalm 148 (pg 535) <i>Prayers JW</i> Readings: Galatians 4:21-end; John 6:1-14 (DH)

### FOR OUR PRAYERS this week we pray for:

**The Church:** Our Bishops, (David, Chris and Mark), Archdeacon David, Area Dean Alison, our ministry team, our PCC and our Churchwardens (Jean and Anne). Discernment and wisdom as the PCC considers possibilities for the future in the light of the projected decline in the number of stipendiary clergy. Giving thanks for our thriving Church, as we implement our Mission Strategy. We pray that we will grow numerically, in faith and in discipleship. That the Diocesan vocations strategy will bear fruit and some from within our fellowship will answer God's call to Ordained, ALM or Reader ministry. Our neighbours at St Andrew's, Radcliffe who are now in interregnum.

**Our finances:** The money to pay our way, especially for future building work and our obligation to the Diocese to cover the cost of ministry in this parish and to make a contribution to the wider Church.

**Our Mission:** That all of us might be good witnesses to the love of Christ in our day-to-day lives. That our footprint in the community might grow. Our uniformed organisations, ABC, Sunday School and Messy Church. Discernment as we explore additional possibilities for serving the young people of this parish.

**Our families, friends, and our local community:** Those facing financial or other difficulties. The children and staff of Christ Church School. Those who care for the frail and sick. Those living on Greenside.

**Our nation & the world:** The Queen, her Ministers, our MP (Ivan Lewis), the Mayor (Cllr Sharon Briggs) and our other councillors (Peter Bury & Jane Lewis). Those serving overseas in the armed forces. Those affected by the storms. Those affected by war and conflict. The persecuted Church, especially Christians in Pakistan, Kenya, Nigeria and Syria.

**Those in need:** Those being cared for in local hospitals, hospices and nursing homes. For all who are ill, especially for: Louise Singleton, Noah Barnes, Graham Cowland, Trevor Cowland, Mary Brooks, Mollie Barnes and Winnie Horrobin.

**The bereaved:** All who have lost loved ones, especially the family and friends of Alfred Hodson. Trusting in God, may they find healing, peace, strength and courage to face the future.

*"The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective." (James 5:16)*

## Christ Church Ainsworth

**'Celebrating, encouraging, proclaiming and supporting faith, hope and love  
in Jesus Christ our Lord...'**

## **PCC News**

The PCC met on 13<sup>th</sup> March. The main item on the agenda was a discussion about the possibility of this parish forming a team with our three Radcliffe neighbours: St Andrew's, St Thomas & St John's and St Mary's. With the continuing decline in the number of stipendiary clergy in the Church of England generally, the PCC has known for some time that, sooner or later, this parish will be required to share a vicar. This is not an unusual situation and parishes coming together to form a team is a common solution. Now that St Andrew's is without a vicar and St Thomas & St John's soon will be, the PCC agreed that there is a need to actively consider and pursue purposeful collaboration between the four parishes of Radcliffe and Ainsworth. Preliminary discussions at recent meetings of the Deanery Mission and Pastoral Committee and with representatives from the Radcliffe churches have been positive. Providing all four PCCs agree, a Steering Committee is being established to actively explore possibilities for the future. Our representatives on the Steering Committee will be Chris Haworth, Bill White and Revd Dave.

## **NOTICES –23<sup>rd</sup> March 2014**

- **Clock Change:** A reminder that the clocks go forward next Sunday (30<sup>th</sup> March)
- **Refreshments after services:** There will be refreshments after the service next Sunday (30<sup>th</sup>). If you can bake half a dozen small cakes, then that would be greatly appreciated.
- **Bishop David** is leading a deanery-wide service of worship & meditation 7.30pm, 8<sup>th</sup> April at St Thomas & St John, Radcliffe. You are all encouraged to attend. The service will include a Q&A session. Any questions should be submitted in advance to Chris Haworth (as Deanery Lay Chair).
- **Annual Church Meeting** will take place in the Church & Community Hall on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2014 at 7:30pm. This is your opportunity to have your say on the running of the Church. Please come along to support and elect your Church Council. Lists for nominations to PCC, Deanery Synod, and for Wardens are in the Church Porch. In May, the new PCC will appoint members of the sub-committees of the church (Worship, Church & Community Hall, Churchyard, Building, Social). All parishioners are able to serve on any of these and if you feel you are able to help in any way please contact the Vicar or church Wardens.
- **Top 10 Hymns:** following the success of the recent Ainsworth & Radcliffe Cluster Top 10 'hymnsfest', Revds Carol & Dave are planning another. But this time around, you get to vote! For the return match we will sing the Top 10 favourite hymns chosen by the congregations of Christ Church, St Andrew's, St Mary's, St Thomas & St John's and St Phillips. To vote simply follow this link to the survey (which will close on 13<sup>th</sup> April): <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/DNQSZ7M>. If the internet age has passed you by, ask a more digitally savvy friend (or young relative) to vote on your behalf. Watch this space for details of the next 'hymnsfest'!
- **Yellow Gift Aid Envelopes:** please note, these are provided for members of the congregation who want their offering to be subject to Gift Aid. Non-tax payers (e.g. children) and incomplete or blank envelopes cannot be processed and have to be thrown away. Currently around 30% of those used are being discarded. As we have to buy these envelopes, please will you use them only for their intended purpose. (*J.Brooks, Treasurer*)
- **Mothers' Union** - all members are encouraged to attend the Lady Day Holy Communion service this Tuesday
- **Ainsworth Church and Community Hall** - The Annual General Meeting of the Ainsworth Church and Community Hall will be held This Tuesday (25<sup>th</sup> March) at 7pm in the New Room of ACCH. Everyone is welcome. Anyone interested in joining the Committee please contact Derek Bamber on 0161-763-6921
- **A Historical Walk around Ainsworth** – as part of the Manchester Histories Festival, there will be a stroll around the village this Saturday (29<sup>th</sup> March) from 2pm – 3pm, meeting outside Ainsworth Library on Church Street
- **Barn Dance** this Saturday (29<sup>th</sup> March) featuring the Hole in the Wall Band & caller, 7.30pm -11.30pm in the Church and Community Hall. Tickets £8.00 (including supper) available from Sue Mellon (01204 371903), The Ainsworth Post Office and "The Garden Shed Tea Shop". Raising money for Thomas Maloney's Jamboree fund. No dancing experience needed, just come along and have some fun!
- **Mayor's Charity Event:** Forties Swing Night, Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April, 7.30pm -12.30am, Bury Town Hall Elizabethan Suite. Live music from Swing Commander's Band. Potato Pie Supper. (Forties Dress optional) Cost £20. Tickets available from Elizabethan Suite, Mayor's Office or Sharon Briggs 07966677924
- **Porch Boxes** The half-yearly appeal to help Porch Boxes replenish their shelves with goods for the crisis packs starts today and runs until the end of April. The charity is very short of tinned meals (please...no baked beans!) and tea bag (foil packed in 40s). Please can we help by donating these items? Thank you
- **Church Flowers:** Help needed. Please contact Marilyn Wilding (0161 764 6739) if you are interested in helping with Church Flowers.
- **Older Persons Social Gathering:** As part of our outreach, consideration is being given to organising a regular afternoon social gathering for older people in this area. Revd Dave is putting together a small working party to make this a reality. Contact him if you would like to join the working party.
- **Choir:** if you enjoy singing, why not join our choir. New members, including juniors, always welcome. No audition necessary. Further details from Jean Clifford or Beryl Sixsmith.

To receive the Pew Sheet by e-mail, send an e-mail to [vicar@ainsworthparish.org.uk](mailto:vicar@ainsworthparish.org.uk) with 'send pew sheet' in the subject. Otherwise download from <http://www.ainsworthparish.org.uk/pewsheets.html>

**Gift Aid** enables us to claim back the tax paid on offerings and in 2012 boosted our funds by £8289. If you pay tax, please Gift Aid your offering(s). Envelopes for occasional givers are in the pews and forms for regular givers in the porch. **No personal details need to be given**, just a 'tick' to declare that you pay tax to the value of the amount to be claimed along with your **full** name, address and post code. Bank Standing Order forms are also available in the Church porch. Completed forms can be put on the collection plate with your offering.