## **Bollington Church News**

The magazine of Bollington Parish Church, St Oswald's



June 2022 Price 50p



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## The Parochial Church Council April 2022-2023

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Deanery Synod: Anthea Wilkinson & Chris Ward

Diocesan Synod: Richard Raymond

## Letter from Nancy

Dear All

In June this year on the same weekend we celebrate Her Majesty The Queen's Platinum Jubilee, we celebrate Pentecost, the gift of the Holy Spirit to the church.



At the beginning of her reign, The Queen prayed to be given the ability to carry out her duty. That is a prayer that has been answered. The Queen's faith has shaped her life and she has followed the example of servant leadership given us by Christ.

The Queen's faith has been part of her public service and is a reminder to us that our faith is never a private matter. It is very personal, but never private. To be Christian is to be part of a Christian community, to share in community, in communion, in church. In recent years the Queen has become ever more public and open about her personal faith.

There is a challenge for us all, could we speak about our personal faith, about what Christ means to us? Could we speak with confidence about our everyday faith? Most people struggle.

This Pentecost, pray for the Holy Spirit to give you a voice to speak the words of the good news of Christ, with confidence and with joy.

God bless. Nancy



### Our visit to Buckingham Palace

Canon Roy Arnold comments on the front cover

A number of years ago, Hylda and I got back from a holiday to find a letter waiting for us behind the front door. It was a rather special letter, inviting us to Buckingham Palace for one of the Queen's summer garden parties.



Roy Arnold

Of course, we accepted the invitation! And it was a memorable occasion – despite the fact that I had a terrible cough at the time, and Hylda had a terrible (though very expensive!) hair-do.



But we remember that rather special day with great fondness, as this month we will be joining in the celebrations of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Throughout her reign, the Queen has stuck to her Christian faith, through thick and thin. She (unlike other world leaders and unlike some of her family members) has stuck to her faith and been an example of someone who always does her best – and her duty. So, we give thanks to God for the long reign of Flizabeth the Second

#### Observations on life:

~The most effective way to remember your wife's birthday is to forget it once.

~Exercise daily - walk with the Lord.

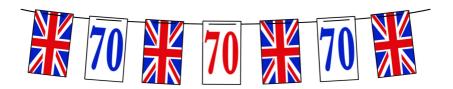
~People treat the Ten Commandments like a history test - they attempt only three.

~Everybody talks about the weather, but nobody does anything about it.

~As long as there are exams, there will be prayer in schools.

#### Notice outside a church:

Worn out? Come in for a Service! This church is not just four weddings and a funeral.





Queen Elizabeth II – photo: Jacob King/PA Wire/PA Images.

## The Queen's Platinum Jubilee – June 2022

A special extended bank holiday weekend this month will give communities across the UK a chance to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. In February this year, HM the Queen became the first British monarch to celebrate 70 years of service.

The weekend, from Thursday June 2<sup>nd</sup> to Sunday June 5<sup>th</sup> will include a birthday parade, beacons across the country, a 'platinum party' at Buckingham Palace, a pageant and thousands of street parties and lunches. Many churches will be holding special services and events.

A centrepiece of the celebrations will be a Service of Thanksgiving at St Paul's Cathedral, London, on Friday June 3<sup>rd</sup>. It's fitting that the service will form a key part of the Jubilee, as the Queen has been vocal in speaking about her Christian faith in a series of high-profile broadcasts.

In her Christmas Day broadcast in 2016, she said: "Jesus Christ lived obscurely for most of His life, and never travelled far. He was maligned and rejected by many, though He had done no wrong. And yet billions of people now follow His teaching and find in Him the guiding light for their lives.



"I am one of them, because Christ's example helps me see the value of doing small things with great love, whoever does them and whatever they themselves believe."

Journalist Catherine Butcher, who has written 'Our Faithful Queen – 70 years of faith and service' to mark the Platinum Jubilee, recalls: "The Queen Mother subscribed to daily devotional Bible reading notes. She regularly read Bible stories to the young princesses, Elizabeth and Margaret

and taught them to pray. Both girls started their weekly school lessons with half an hour of Bible reading, under the guidance of their governess, and weekly church attendance has been a lifelong pattern for the Queen, who is said to keep a well-read Bible by her bedside."

Catherine Butcher tells how evangelist Billy Graham wrote in this autobiography, 'Just as I am' about meeting the Queen on several occasions. He said: "I always found her very interested in the Bible and its message."

The Queen is Supreme Governor of the Church of England but her interest in faith goes well beyond this title. She holds a strong Christian faith and has exemplified this in her lifetime of dedicated service.

**Park:** A journey of a thousand miles begins with trying to find a place to park your car near the church.

6



The 'Numbers Crunch'

Finance report from our Treasurer Richard Raymond



At our Annual Parish Church Meeting, the 2021 accounts were accepted by the meeting, and I was able to highlight a few figures to those who attended that meeting.

We recorded another large deficit over the year and I highlighted one or two figures so that we could all ponder prayerfully on them. The Diocesan share that we pay and our own ministry costs add up to 86% of our outgoings and we have no option not to pay these. On the other side of the accounts, our income from people who give regularly with a Standing Order or as a Friend covers just 56% of all our outgoings. So we have some financial challenges ahead!

Please do not think that the church is immune from the cost of living rises that we are all facing. Our electricity and gas bills will be £1200 higher this coming year, despite our best efforts to negotiate a better deal.

If you feel you can help with a one-off gift or an increase in your giving, please do talk to me. Or if you would like to hear more information about these figures, again please contact me.

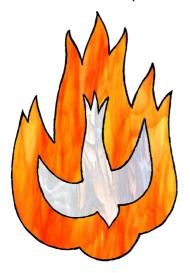
As always, any size of gift will be gratefully received. For cheques, our bank account name is 'The Anglican Parish of Bollington PCC'. For online purposes, our details are on the Standing Order forms at the back of church so please do take one of these. Or just see me!! Thank you.

#### Donation:

In memory of Gaynor Barton, from the Revd Canon Roy and Hylda Arnold.

## What Does the Holy Spirit Do?

As we celebrate Pentecost this month, it's appropriate to ask the question: what does the Holy Spirit do in our lives? Everybody who has committed their life to Christ possesses the Holy Spirit, 'if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ.' (Romans 8:9). It is the Spirit who brings us new birth into the family of God.



The Sirit assures us of God's love and acceptance, despite our fears, doubts or failures. As adopted children we can addrss God as our father: "God sent the Spiri of His Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, 'Abba, Father.'" (Galatians 4: 6). By using the same word used by Jesus, we can grow in intimacy with our Father and pray to Him, especially when we struggle to find the right words.

The Holy Spirit is committed to producing a family likeness in those who follow Christ. This Jesus likeness enables us to live

as Jesus would in our place, ie: work, family, time, interests etc. Paul describes this as the fruit of the Spirit: 'love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.' (Galatians 5:22,23). He talks about fruit not fruits! We can't pick and choose, as they come as a total package to be developed over a lifetime!

The Spirit is committed to producing new desires for God: reading the Bible and praying, forgiving others, meeting with other Christians and sharing our faith. He will also give us the motivation to overcome wrong habits, attitudes or lifestyle in our lives.

'Let the church return to Pentecost, and Pentecost will return to her. The Spirit of God cannot take possession of believers beyond their capacity of receiving Him' (Andrew Murray).

## Ukrainian church leaders urge people to pray

A senior church leader in Ukraine has told the citizens that Russia's war on Ukraine "did not begin with missiles and bombs – it began with deception, untruth and lies." So says the head of Ukraine's independent Orthodox Church, Metropolitan Epiphany (Dumenko).

"The Lord is now showing us how we must resist with the testimony of truth. Evil is evil, not just an alternative viewpoint, and war is war, not just some conflict. Rapists, looters and murderers are criminals, and what they are perpetuating is a genocide of the Ukrainian people."

The Metropolitan also said that Ukrainians knew that Russia had long had "evil plans to restore the tyranny of a rotten, overthrown empire." But, he said "The Lord is with us in this struggle, because we are fighting for truth and goodness against demonic tyranny and resentment.... We believe that our people will overcome all new challenges – that Ukraine will win its victory."



Meanwhile, the Primate of Ukraine's Greek Catholic Church, Major Archbishop Sviatoslav Shevchuk of Kyiv-Halych, said that this Spring and Summer may well be the last for many, including himself. He went on: "As the war escalates, and the enemy intensifies its offensive against Ukraine, I call on everyone to pray vigorously and tirelessly for the Ukrainian army, because the fate of Ukraine and the world is now being decided."

Donations for Ukraine The Hope Centre in Macclesfield (16-18 Park Green) is a dropping-off point for the humanitarian charity Hope and Aid Direct. They need tinned and dried foods. You can contact the Hope Centre on 01625 404384.

## A (Royal) Dog's Life



We dogs, who live with royal folk, who feel Her Maj's royal stroke; We like to hear <u>important</u> talk of dinner time, and our next walk.

But lately there's been so much rushing - people bowing, people fussing. Trumpets blare and soldiers shout - what *is* all the noise about?

No-one thinks of corgis' needs, like, where's our bone, & where's our leads? We're not allowed a doggy romp, 'midst all the pageantry and pomp!

Adding to our canine woes, they all wear their finest clothes, So we're all stuck behind closed doors, lest we might smudge them with our paws.

But things will come to settle down.It's life, when Mistress wears a crown; Yes, it will pass, you all will see, this business of the Jubilee.

So, we shall wag our doggy tails! Be happy, like the Prince of Wales! We think the Boss has done just fine, being Queen for all this time!

By Nigel Beeton

## Father's Day and Jesus

Many times, Jesus surprised His hearers with parables that had unexpected twists and turns. No doubt He astonished the disciples when He first called God 'Father' and went on to instruct them to pray saying "Our Father in heaven...". No one had called God 'Father' before!



Shortly before His arrest, trial and crucifixion, Jesus talked to His disciples about God the Father. He said: "In my Father's house are many rooms." This prompted Philip to ask: "Show us the Father, that is all we need." Jesus replied: "Whoever has seen Me has seen the Father."

Jesus knew this concept would be hard to grasp and so had to frequently speak about God as His Father. As His ministry drew to a close, He wanted them to understand the special relationship that God had with Jesus.

On 19<sup>th</sup> June it will be Father's Day. This is an occasion to remember the role our dads are playing now or have played in our lives. Hopefully, we have good memories and recall times of loving care they showed to us.

Unfortunately, some people do not know their fathers, or they have been absent for long periods or may be neglectful, deceitful, or abusive. Sadly, some children and adults would rather not remember their fathers, having suffered some trauma or family breakdown.

It is good to know that God is not like this. Jesus came to reveal God as our Heavenly Father, who is loving, compassionate, merciful, forgiving, and caring. God is the model father who knows what is good for us and wants the best for us.

So, Father's Day can be a reminder that we are God's children, and that we can possess the blessings He has kept for us. In the story of our lives God has revealed Himself in a surprising way. He says to each one of us 'I am your Father'. Now that is something to celebrate!

### All in the month of ... June

#### It was:

250 years ago, on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 1772 that the Court of King's Bench ruled that slavery was illegal in England and Wales. But it remained legal in British Overseas Territories and colonies until 1833.

100 years ago, on 10<sup>th</sup> June 1922 that Judy Garland, American actress and singer, was born. Best known for her films*The Wizard of Oz.* Died 1969.

80 years ago, from  $4^{th}$ –  $7^{th}$  June 1942 that the Battle of Midway took place. The USA defeated Japan in most important naval battle of Pacific Campaign.

75 years ago, on 5<sup>th</sup> June 1947 that the Marshall Plan was proposed. US Secretary of State George C Marshall offered a self-help programme to Europe to help countries to rebuild and resist communism after WWII.

65 years ago, on 27<sup>th</sup> June 1957 that Britain's Medical Research Council reported a cause-and-effect relationship between smoking and lung cancer.

50 years ago, on 17<sup>th</sup> June 1972 that the Watergate Scandal began when five men were arrested for breaking into the Democratic National Committee headquarters at the Watergate complex in Washington DC.

40 years ago, on 14<sup>th</sup> June 1982 that the Falklands War ended. Argentine forces surrendered to the British in Port Stanley and a ceasefire was agreed.

25 years ago, on 26<sup>th</sup> June 1997 that J K Rowling's first Harry Potter novel, *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone* was published in the UK.

15 years ago, on 29<sup>th</sup> June 2007, that Apple released the first iPhone.

10 years ago, on 19<sup>th</sup> June 2012 that the founder of Wikileaks, Julian Assange, sought political asylum in the Ecuadorian Embassy in London, to avoid extradition to the USA after publishing classified documents.

### **Book of Remembrance for JUNE**

2<sup>nd</sup> June - Jeffrey Newcombe

4th June - Sue Bennett

6th June - Joe Fisher

6th June - Annie Fisher

6th June - Rachel Mary Arnold

6th June - Ian Hough

7<sup>th</sup> June - Fred Walton

7<sup>th</sup> June - Ethel Fidler

7<sup>th</sup> June - Bertha Jackson

7<sup>th</sup> June - Albert Clayton

8<sup>th</sup> June - Mary H Sutton

8<sup>th</sup> June - Jimmy Bennett

9<sup>th</sup> June - William Alexander Robb

10<sup>th</sup> June - Donald Ainsworth

10<sup>th</sup> June - James Blower

10<sup>th</sup> June - Graham Hough

11th June - Edith (Cissie) Hough

12th June - Eva Martin

12th June - William (Billy) Ainsworth

13<sup>th</sup> June - Jason P Whitworth

13<sup>th</sup> June - Peggy Wakefield

14th June - Ethel Arnold

17<sup>th</sup> June - Ethel Cantrell

17<sup>th</sup> June - Edmund Heathcote

19<sup>th</sup> June - John T Bowyer

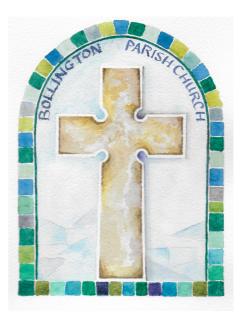
22<sup>nd</sup> June - Mary Ashton

22<sup>nd</sup> June - Reginald Isherwood Stearn

24th June - John Keith Arnold

26<sup>th</sup> June - Ruth Robinson

30th June - Ida Mary Robinson



Would you like to include the name of a departed loved one? An entry costs £10. Please contact Ann Stringer on 01625 574325

### From the Registers

Funerals: 11<sup>th</sup> May Joyce Rothwell

13<sup>th</sup> May Muriel Whitmore

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## Worship at St Oswald's in JUNE

#### Sunday 5th

9.15am –
Parish Communion

10.30am - **Queen's Platinum Jubilee** 

Special Service of Thanksgiving for the 70-year reign of Queen Elizabeth II



**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup>** 10.30am Parish Communion

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup>** 10.30am – Family/All Age Communion

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> 10.30am Parish Communion

**Sunday July 3<sup>rd</sup>** 9.15am - Parish Communion

10.30am - Family/All Age Worship

Every Tuesday during term time, 9.30-11.30am: Praise and Play Every Wednesday at 2:00pm: Faith Hour Meeting in the Vestry

Every Thursday at 10.30am: Holy Communion