



**Our verse of the year:**

**The light shines in the darkness, and  
the darkness did not overcome it.**

**John 1:5**

**What's On**  
**March 2017**



## **A message from our new Rector:**

I am very much looking forward to moving to the Potteries to join you. I have happy memories of Lichfield Diocese as I was ordained in the Cathedral and was a curate in Stafford. Then I moved to Worcestershire working in a number of parishes and as a chaplain to people at work in factories, offices and shops.

It's an exciting time to join the Hanley Team Ministry with so many opportunities and possibilities. I hope my previous experience and the skills I've learned will fit with at least some of them. I believe strongly in doing 'traditional church' well enjoying good worship that gives God glory, as well as sharing God's love in the fellowship of being part of a regular congregation. I also believe, from my present parish and my work as a chaplain with many people who don't come to church, that we need to find ways of attracting people to faith that fit with modern life.

More widely, I've been asked to work with the business community in Hanley and with the new team rector of Stoke (who is also coming from Worcester Diocese) and the area dean to raise the profile of the Church in the city. Clearly, this must be balanced with being the priest and pastor of the local churches I'm responsible for, which I want to sustain and build up, as well as my wider responsibility as team rector in leading and supporting the hugely diverse and talented staff team and sharing in the ministry to the other churches in the team parish. Pray for me!

It's important to say I don't come with fixed ideas about what I might do and please don't read into what I've said to mean that I will favour any particular area of work over another. I come to listen and learn and to respond and discern to what it seems to God and to me to be the right way forward. My guide will be to respond to people's needs in God's love and to make a difference to individuals and the wider community by sharing the transforming power of that love shown in Christ's death on the cross and rising again to new life. We will be celebrating that in Holy week and Easter very soon after I arrive.

I hope to move to the vicarage in Birches Head at the end of March. My son, Alasdair, is in his final year at school so will be staying in Worcestershire with his mum. I hope he will visit me as often as he can, but then he hopes to gain his independence and go to university, so maybe then he will appear only rarely! I hope to see you at my licensing service with the Bishop of Lichfield at St. Matthew's on Saturday 8 April and at the services and activities for Holy Week and Easter that follow immediately after. It's going to be a busy but, I hope, uplifting time.

Phillip Jones.



# Christ Church

Church Terrace, Cobridge

## Worship Times:

Sunday	9.30 am	Sunday Service
Ash Wednesday 1st March Ashing with Eucharist 7.30pm		
Thursday	10 am	Eucharist

- Ash Wednesday 1st March there will be an Ashing with Eucharist service at 7.30pm
- Luncheon club takes place every Tuesday from 12.30 to 2pm.
- The Church is open for prayer, companionship, and craft on Wednesdays from 11am until 1pm
- Thursdays after the Eucharist, the community of St. Chad prayer group meets from 11am until 12.30pm led by Gloria
- Every Friday 9am until 12.30pm. Open Door group. Everyone is welcome to drop in for a chat and a cuppa.



## **Songs of Praise at Camoys Court**

Songs of Praise takes place at Camoys Court on the last Sunday of every month at 3pm. The next service is March 26th. Everyone welcome.

A date for your diary: **The City of Stoke on Trent Male Voice Choir and soloist Jane Johnson** will perform at Christ Church on Saturday 17th June to raise funds for the Bubble Foundation UK in memory of Cody Collas.

### **First contact minister:**

Revd. Darren McIndoe    01782 818673 or 07886 502307 rev.Darren.mcindoe@gmail.com

Church Warden:    Les Davis    01782 281371



# St Luke's

Wellington Street, Hanley

## Worship times:

Sunday 11 am Sunday Service.

Ash Wednesday 1st March Ashing with Eucharist 11am

Saturday 9 am Morning Prayer (check with minister)

- Ash Wednesday 1st March—There will be a service of Ashing with Eucharist in the Lady Chapel at 11am. Everyone is welcome.
- Spring Fayre—St Luke's Spring Fair is taking place on Saturday 4th March starting at 10am. There are plenty of things to try and buy: Tombola, Raffles, Coffee and Cakes, Stalls galore including Books, Games, Bric-a-Brac, Gifts and Toys. All welcome. Admission free.
- St Luke's ADCM - Change of date—will be taking place on Sunday 12th March immediately after the 11am service. Please make a note of this date and make every effort to attend.
- **Prayer Gathering.** Please join us for prayer before the Sunday service at 10.45 a.m. Contact Mary (271262) with prayer requests.



CHESS CLUB—Children's Chess Club each Wednesday 3.30pm—5pm  
See separate page for more details.

Coming soon! Parent Toddler group every Monday 9.15am—11.30am—start date to be announced..

Contact ministers

Rev. Sally Smith 01782 266066

Church Wardens

Norman and June Tatton

01782 657060



# St Matthew's

Birches Head Road, Birches Head

Worship times:

Sunday 11 am Sunday Service with Sunday School

Thursday 5.45 pm Evening Prayer

- Every Thursday at 5.45pm. Evening prayer.



**BETA Bible Study** group meets on the 2nd and 4th Mondays each month from 7.30-9.00pm at St Matthew's. Its open for anyone from across the team and beyond.



**COFFEE MORNING Saturday 25th March.**

**\*WANTED: Clean bric-a-brac and jewellery please.\***

First contact minister

Revd Sally Smith 01782 266066

Church Wardens

Brenda Hughes 01782 212198

Les Cooke 01782 851184

## **MY FAIR LADY**

**After the success of their last production MAME, S&J Productions are presenting MY FAIR LADY for one night only**

**At The Victoria Hall in Hanley**

**On Saturday 27th May 2017**

**Flyers will be available shortly but tickets can be pre-ordered from Jenny Otter of Christ Church, Cobridge who will be part of the chorus in the show.**

**The tickets will be numbered and will cost in the region of £16.50 You can contact Jenny on 01782 850538 (please leave your name and number) or 07837341511**

**The company will be donated a sum of money to a chosen charity after the show.**

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**CONTACT:  
ANDY 07906 883810  
SUE 07757 934219**

**In conjunction with  
St. Matthew's, Birches Head  
and Holy Trinity, Northwood**

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2017**

**Cheltenham**



**Approx 2½ hours in Cheltenham**

**Gloucester  
Quays**



**Depart**

**St. Matthew's 8am**

**Co-op 8.10am**

**Janet Place 8.15am**

**Return**

**Approx 8pm**

**Adults £16.00**

**Under 16s £11.00**

**£5 deposit required.**

**Full payment required a  
week before departure.**

**Details from Kath on**

**01782 219147**



**Check Mates** is a new **FREE Chess Club**  
to be held at **St Luke's Church Hall**.

For ages 7-11 especially for beginners,  
accompanied by parent or carer. It will run over  
8 weeks starting with a taster Session  
on Wednesday 8th February from 3.30 - 5.00pm.

Session 2 will be Wednesday 15th Feb.  
Sessions 3-8 will start after half - term on Wednesdays  
March 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th, and finally 5th April  
It will be at the same time each week 3.30 - 5.00pm.

# Check Mates

There will be refreshments and opportunity in some sessions  
to bake Chess Piece biscuits! Places may be limited.  
To register your interest in attending the taster session or to  
book places please call Frank at the Church Hall 07952318685  
or call into the School Office.



**Check  
Mates**

**Instruction by Derrick Wallace - Chess 24 Blitz Master**

# *Your Shoebox Went To...*



**Belarus** — Les Cooke has received an email saying that the shoeboxes from St Matthew's went to Belarus and we've heard of others in the area that went to the same destination. The message said:

Thank you for bringing Good News and Great Joy to a child in Belarus. Your kindness means that one more special child experienced the joy of opening a very special gift and the hope that comes from knowing that someone, somewhere, cared enough to pack it especially for them. Thanks to the generosity of individuals like you, all over the United Kingdom, 882,647 children, in 17 countries, received a gift to remember!

To find out more visit the Samaritans Purse website. As Les says, " I found the excitement and joy on their faces shows how really worthwhile the hard work of the shoe box appeal is".

[Samaritans-purse.org.uk/belarus](http://Samaritans-purse.org.uk/belarus)



# Holy Trinity

Lower Mayer Street, Northwood

## Worship times:

Sunday 9.30 am

Thursday 9 am

Sunday Service

Morning Prayer

Etruria Locks—there will be a midweek service at 10am on Wednesday March 8th.

Monday 20th March 11am Northwood Daycare Centre service. Next service will be 10th April

AGM—21st March 7.30pm in church

BCP Evensong on Sunday 26th March at 6pm with cheese and wine.

## **NORTHWOOD PARISH HALL**

- Little Ducks mother & toddler group meet every Monday in school term time 9.15am - 10.45am
- Cash Bingo Mondays 6th and 20th March —eyes down at 7.30pm
- Race Night with fish and chip supper Saturday 11th March at 7.30pm Adults £5 Children £2.
- General Knowledge Quiz on Saturday 25th March at 7.30pm. £3 per person including buffet.

Every Thursday evening Games Club (board games). Contact Martin O'Reilly on 07789 915008

Table top sale at the Parish Hall on Saturday 1st April 2-4pm . £5 per table. With pork baps, tea/coffee. Please contact Bee Lindfield on 07734577395 or 01782 850832

**First contact minister** Revd. Sally Smith 01782 266066

**Church Wardens** Paul Sherratt 01782 868157  
Glenys Paterson 07790 842430



# St Mark's

Snow Hill, Shelton

## Worship times:

Sunday 10 am  
Wednesday 9 am

Sunday Service with Sunday School  
Morning Prayer

Wednesday 8th

Midweek service at Etruria Locks

- Every Monday **Open Door** 9.00am until 12.30pm. Community Breakfast for all
- Midweek Service Wednesday 8th at Etruria Locks



**Bible Study** at St. Mark's every Tuesday 5pm—7pm is an engaging and lively evening, as we share worship, testimony and look at the Bible together. Everyone Welcome!

Every Wednesday 10.30am until 12.30pm **Sanctus Drop In, supporting asylum seekers and refugees.**



**Saturday March 11th**

**12.00 - 2.00pm**

**Come and join us in our cross cultural worship and share a meal cooked by our friends from around the world at St Mark's Church Shelton**

### Church Wardens

Mark Sherratt  
Lynne Ball

07968 300484  
07954372391

### First Contact Minister

Rev'd Sally Smith

01782 266066 [sally.smith@lichfield.anglican.org](mailto:sally.smith@lichfield.anglican.org)

## SUNDAY READINGS FOR MARCH 2017

DATE	FIRST	SECOND	THIRD
5th	Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7	Romans 5:12-19	Matthew 4:1-11
12th	Genesis 12:1-4a	Romans 4:1-5. 13-17	John 3:1-17
19th	Exodus 17:1-7	Romans 5:1-11	John 4:5-42
26th			

### Reduced Services during the Interregnum.

Unfortunately it has not been possible to maintain all of the midweek services during this period and some changes have also had to be made to Sunday services.

There may be further changes over the coming months but we will ensure there is always a Sunday and midweek Eucharist within the team although it may not be in the church you usually attend.

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we continue to pray for the vacancy to be filled.

WHAT'S ON— content is always needed for this magazine. Please keep me updated with any changes or events etc. Thank you *Linda* lindacollas@hotmail.com 07598320786

### CLERGY CONTACT DETAILS

Team Vicar Revd. Sally Smith (Diocesan Advisor for vulnerable adults) Day Off Friday  
35, Harding Road, Hanley ST1 3BQ Phone 01782 266066 email sally.smith@lichfield.anglican.org

Team Vicar Rev'd Darren McIndoe 16 Heyburn Crescent ST6 4DL Day Off Saturday  
Phone 01782 818673 mobile 07886502307 email rev.darren.mcindoe@gmail.com

Parish Creative Missioner Frank McGregor Phone 07952 318685 email frankmcg@ntlworld.com

Assistant Curate Revd. Karen Petherick 80, Birches Head Road, ST1 6LQ Phone 01782 865240  
Day off Saturday

Assistant Curate Revd. Shelley Billington Phone 07411 992565 e mail shelly\_india@yahoo.co.uk  
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