

Quote for Reflection

“Doubt is but another element of faith.”

St Augustine

Prayer list

Please remember the sick who have asked for our prayers:

Andrew	Roger	Jean
David	Michael	Delilah
Gary	Kathleen & Arthur	Peter
Freddie & Jasmine	Clare	Pam
Peter	Hillary	Georgie
Jude	Gordon	

Please pray:

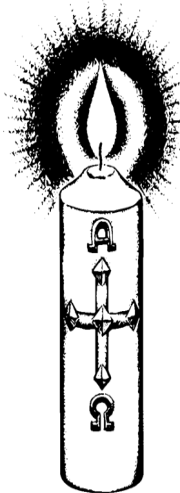
For Ada, Paul, Muriel, Beryl, Jean, and Anne, recently departed, and for all whose years mind falls at this time.

For Nicola and Paul, to be married at St Martin's next month.

For our new Rural Dean, Rev'd Andy Bull, and assistant rural dean, Rev'd Katie Wade.

For Thomas, preparing for confirmation.

For Rev'd Ashleigh, as we say goodbye as she completes her curacy, and for her and her family as they settle into their new house and ministries.



Notices

The next **art talk** arranged by the Heritage Trust, 'The Northern Art Workers' Guild' - an exploration of this guild, which was flourishing in Manchester around the time St Martin's was built, will be on Saturday 1st February. 2.30-4.00, in St.Martin's Church Hall. Refreshments available. Free entry but donations very welcome

Our next **crafternoon** will be on Sunday 2nd November, in St Paul's hall, from 2 pm. The theme was chosen by the last attendees at Messy Church at St Paul's, and will be *Noah's Ark*.

Looking ahead in the diary, 30th March will see Bishop Sam presiding and preaching at our parish mass. Really excitingly, this service will also be a **Confirmation** service. If you have never been confirmed, and would like to explore the idea of taking on your baptism promises, that your Godparents made for you, for yourself, and be confirmed along with Thomas at this service, please talk to Timothy.

The cleaning of the St Christopher relief will be completed by Candlemas! Please do marvel at the striking difference it has made - and, if you have and ideas you'd like to be considered as the PCC work to reorganise that corner of the church, not just to tidy it up but also to make the **Christopher chapel** a more peaceful area dedicated to prayer and encounter with God, please give them to Timothy or one of the wardens.

Dates for your diary

February

Saturday 1st - Heritage Trust Talk - *The Northern Art Workers' Guild*, and refreshments, 2:30 - 4 pm, St Martin's hall

Sunday 2nd - Fairtrade stall at St Martin's after the parish mass

Sunday 2nd - Crafternoon, Theme *Noah's Ark*, 2-4 pm, at St Paul's hall

Wednesday 5th - Board game coffee morning, 10-12, St Martin's hall

Wednesday 5th - Monthly Community Lunch at St Paul's (*please contact Timothy, or Rev'd Wendy at St Paul's, for more information*)

Saturday 8th - Monthly walk, 9:30 am, All Saints', talk to Sylvia for info

Sunday 9th - Rev'd Ashleigh's last Sunday - bring and share goodbye party after the parish mass

Wednesday 12th - Board game coffee morning, 10-12, St Martin's hall

Thursday 13th - Monthly prayer group, 1:30 pm, St Paul's Narthex

Wednesday 19th - Board game coffee morning, 10-12, St Martin's hall

Wednesday 19th - Mothers Union meeting, 2pm, *hall*. All welcome!

Thursday 20th - Midweek communion, 1:30 pm, at St Paul's

Wednesday 26th - Board game coffee morning, 10-12, *St Martin's hall*

Thursday 27th - Discussion group, 1:30 pm, at St Paul's

March

Sunday 30th - Bishop Sam will be with us for the parish mass.

The Friday Knit and Natter group is being reimagined—please watch this space for updates, and its return (possibly on a Thursday!)

The ministry we all share

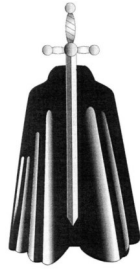
With Ashleigh's departure this month, there will be, naturally, a focus on all that we have experienced together over the last three years. As well as the opportunity to say thank you and to bless her on her way to pastures new, I wonder if this focus on what we've shared might help us in our work together in the weeks and months ahead.

Recently there has already been a shift in how we work together, sharing the work that God calls each one of us to, in his name and to his glory:

- The PCC and Heritage Trust are working much more in tandem, and the latest heritage project ties in wonderfully with the PCC's hopes to make the Christopher chapel a much more welcoming, prayerful space.
- The Crafternoons have been given new life through the Crafternoon team at St Martin's and Messy Church team at St Paul's coming together to plan and lead Crafternoons at both churches - the strength in numbers found in the new team has been a huge encouragement and source of excitement for the future.
- Work has begun to break apart some roles (such as hall manager) that have grown ever larger, with the aim that several people might be able to do a portion of the work rather than one person being asked to do ever more.

Perhaps our celebration of Ashleigh's ministry, and the excitement of the new start she is moving on to, might also inspire us to look at what we do, and encourage us into a new season of life, and of flourishing, here at St Martin's.

February services at



**St Martin's
Low Marple**

Sunday 2nd *Candlemas*

11:15 am - Parish Mass

6:30 pm - Choral Evensong

Sunday 9th *Ashleigh's Last Day*

11:15 am - Parish Mass

then bring & share goodbye party

Sunday 16th

11:15 am - Family Mass

Sunday 23rd

8 am - Holy Communion

11:15 am - Parish Mass

Some Sunday Evenings at 5:30 pm—zoom evening prayer

February services at



Sunday 2nd *Candlemas*

9:30 am - Holy Communion

Sunday 9th *Ashleigh's Last Day*

9:30 am - Holy Communion

12:45 - *bring & share goodbye party for Ashleigh, at St Martin's*

6:30 pm - Taize Communion

Sunday 16th

9:30 am - Family Communion

Sunday 23rd

9:30 am - Holy Communion

ask Timothy for the zoom link (on 16th and 23rd this month)