



The Radcliffe Team Ministry

Parish of St Mary

and

Parish of St Thomas and St John with St Philip's
Community Centre



NOTICES THIS WEEK

Sunday 15 March 2026
Mothering Sunday

Sunday and the week ahead

Sun 15 th Mothering Sunday <i>Healing at each Eucharist</i>	9:30am	Eucharist at St Mary's	Lessons for today: Exodus 2:1-10; Colossians 3:12-17; John 19:25b-27 Light refreshments after each service. The Church Electoral Rolls are now being revised
	11:00am	Eucharist at St Thomas and St John's <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ingathering of Easter eggs for needy children and families. Today will be the last day to bring Easter eggs to church. They will then be distributed by Porch Boxes Deadline to notify non-availability for April rota duties to Kathleen There is a box in church for gifts of money towards Easter flowers in church 	
Mon 16 th	1:00pm	Baptism at St Mary's of Harriet Ivy Powell	Until 1:00pm Duration 2 hours, with refreshments
	10:00am	Warm Spaces at St Philip's Community Centre	
	11:30am	Funeral at St Thomas and St John's of John Pym	
	7:00pm	Team Lent Discussions at St Thomas' vicarage	
Tue 17 th	1:00pm	Team Lent Discussions at St Thomas' vicarage	With refreshments
Wed 18 th	10:00am	Team mid-week Communion at St Mary's	Refreshments first with a start at 7:15pm
Thu 19 th	6:45pm	The Archbishop of York's Lord's Prayer Tour comes to the cathedral. See poster.	
	7:00pm	Building Sub-committee meets in the vicarage	
Fri 20 th	noon	Team Intercessions at St Thomas and St John's, followed by bring-your-own-lunch and drinks if you wish	No Friday Friends Bible Study during Lent
Sat 21 st	10:30am	Saturday Café at St Thomas and St John's, including Vestry Hour (10:30-11:30am) for baptism and wedding enquirers.	Until 12:30pm.
Sun 22 nd Fifth Sunday of Lent <i>Passiontide begins</i>	9:30am	Eucharist at St Mary's	Lessons for today: Ezekiel 37:1-14; Romans 8:6-11; John 11:1-45 Light refreshments after each service
	11:00am	Eucharist at St Thomas and St John's <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We welcome Jim playing the organ 	

Points for Prayer

Baptism	Harriet Ivy Powell being baptised today and her parents, godparents and family
For healing	St Mary's: Catherine, Berenice Carey, Anna Cowsill, David Duckworth, Colin Embrey, Margaret Embrey, Christine Firth, William Firth, Peter Gorman, John Heuze, Chris Hollis, Pauline Holt, Priscilla Holme, Terry Houlgrave, Harry Melling, Margaret Ratcliffe, Ray Vernon, Ian Williams, Denis Wright, Janice Wright St TJ and elsewhere: Marilyn Alldred, Joyce Baker, Lawson Bant, Revd Dougie Bird, Carol Cain, Reg Dee, Jacob Dewar, Zohreh Galati, Lyn Hill, Claire Jones, Louise Peart
Bereaved	Family and friends of Rose Poulton, John Pym and Peter Savage
Books of Remembrance	St Mary's: Ian Berry (21 st) St Thomas and St John's: Adam Smethurst (15 th); Mary Battersby, Alice Manders, Jean Hamer (16 th); Alice Nicholson (17 th); Haydn Standing, Nathan Riley, Margery Cooper (19 th); Gertrude Sharrock, Doris Bowen, Josephine Ogden (20 th)

Looking ahead

March		
Mon 23 rd	7:00pm	Final Lent Discussions at the vicarage
Tue 24 th	1:00pm	Final Lent Discussions at the vicarage
Wed 25 th		FEAST OF THE ANNUNCIATION Bishop Sarah Mullally will be installed as Archbishop of Canterbury
	10:00am	Mid-week Team Communion at St Thomas and St John's
Sun 29 th	10:00am	Joint Team service for Palm Sunday at St Mary's
Mon 30 th	9:30am	Church party assembles at Radcliffe Metrolink station to travel to 10:30 am service in the cathedral for service of Blessing of Oils and Renewal of Vows – all welcome
	7:00pm	Team Holy Communion at St Thomas and St John's (Holy Week)
Tue 31 st	7:00pm	Team Candlelit Taizé Service at St Mary's (Holy Week)
April		
Wed 1 st	10:00am	Team mid-week Communion at St Mary's (Holy Week)
	7:00pm	Team Stations of the Cross at St TJ's (Holy Week)
Thu 2 nd Maundy Thursday	10:00am	Team Holy Communion at St Thomas and St John's
	7:00pm	Team Holy Communion with Vigil at St Mary's
Fri 3 rd Good Friday	2:00pm	Team Liturgy around the Cross at St Thomas and St John's
Sun 5 th Easter Sunday	6:30am	Team Sunrise Service at St Mary's followed by breakfast
	9:30am	Easter Holy Communion at St Mary's
	11:00am	Easter Holy Communion at St Thomas and St John's
Fri 10 th	10:15am	Team Friday Friends Study Group resumes at St TJ
Sat 11 th	12:30pm	Easter Lunch at St Thomas and St John's
Wed 15 th	6:45pm	Deanery Celebration event at St Peter's church, St Peter's Road, Bury BL9 9QZ
Mon 20 th	7:30pm	BEE Joyful. Mission Community Songs of Praise at Christ Church, Ainsworth BL2 5RU (see poster)
Sun 26 th	noon	St Thomas and St John's Annual Parochial Church Meeting
May		
Sun 3 rd	10:45	St Mary's Annual Parochial Church Meeting
Thu 7 th	7:00pm	St Mary's Parochial Church Council
10 th – 16 th		Christian Aid Week. Christian Aid is the relief and development agency of the British Churches. This Week is the major opportunity for fund-raising. As well as envelopes in church to support our own giving, we seek to involve others by house-to-house collecting and by in-supermarket collecting. Can you volunteer a few hours please? See Philip Gooderson (0161 761 6136)
Sat 16 th	7:00pm	Quiz at St Philip's Community Centre: fund-raiser for Christian Aid

Annual Parochial Church Meetings

The "AGMs" of our Churches are set for late April/early May (see table above). Before that we have to update the Electoral Rolls, membership of which determines who may speak and vote at them – and who may serve in some of the positions within the Church. If you are a regular worshipper, ask to join, or check if you're not sure you are on already. At St Thomas and St John's – see Carol Smith. Jean Robinson at St Mary's.

Annual Reports

.. covering calendar year 2025 are being produced. Would group/activity leaders and usual contributors please submit material to Revd Adele (for St Thomas and St John's) and to Vicky Bridge (for St Mary's).

Situation in Iran

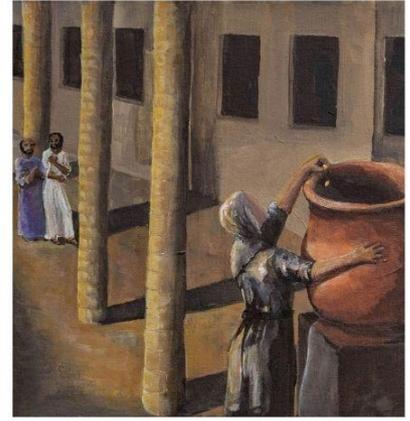
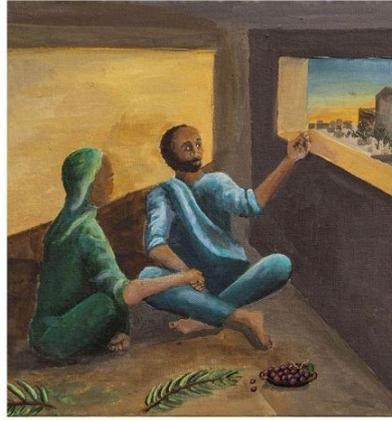
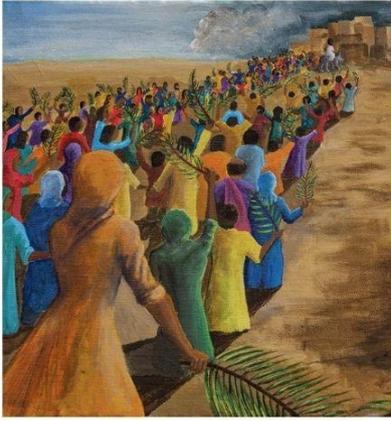
Our friends, Mohsen Sabouri, his wife Sima and daughter Darya have worshipped as part of the St Thomas and St John's church community for many years. They are refugees having fled persecution in Iran. Mohsen takes a place on the rota of readers in church. He has written to explain the present position of his family and others in the same position.

"We are going through very difficult days. On Saturdays and Sundays we hold gatherings in support of the people of Iran, and we are worried about our families there. We hope that soon we will get through this criminal clerical regime of the Islamic Republic and have a free Iran. Thank you very much for your prayers and support for the people of Iran. I hope to see you soon."

To be in touch with the clergy, please contact Revd Marie Pattison, Team Rector (0161 989 5785 or 07795 805767), Revd Irene Thirkell, Curate (07435 657865) or Revd Adele McKie, Associate Priest (07946 383024).

To discuss baptisms or weddings, please go to Vestry Hour from 10:30 on Saturdays at St Thomas and St John's, or from 10:45 on Sundays at St Mary's.

Please supply future information to lesandkathleen@btinternet.com or to 0161 724 5696.



LENT DISCUSSIONS

based on the book

Women of Holy Week

by Paula Gooder

Monday Evenings or Tuesday Afternoons

at St Thomas Vicarage, M26 2TR

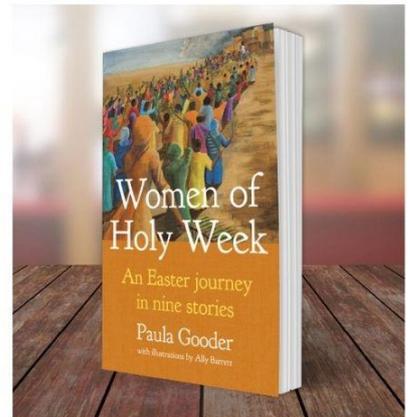
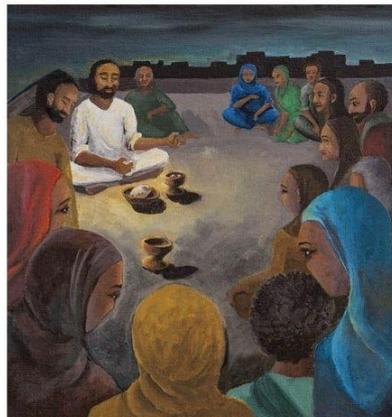
Mondays 7-9pm | 23rd Feb, 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd March

Tuesdays 1-3pm | 24th Feb, 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th March

Sign up by emailing revmariepattison@gmail.com

or texting or calling 07795 805767

or speaking to Rev Marie



Holy Week & Easter



30 March, Monday, 7pm

Holy Communion | St Thomas & St John



31 March, Tuesday, 7pm

A Candlelit Taize Service | St Mary



1 April, Wednesday

10am Mid-week Communion | St Mary



7pm Stations of the Cross

St Thomas & St John



2 April, Maundy Thursday

Holy Communion

10am St Thomas & St John

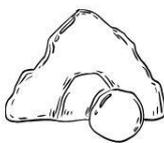
Holy Communion with Vigil **7 pm** St Mary



3 April, Good Friday, 2pm

Liturgy around the Cross

St Thomas & St John



5 April, Easter Sunday

6:30am Sunrise service at St Mary with breakfast

9:30am Easter Holy Communion | St Mary

11:00am Easter Holy Communion

St Thomas & St John

*Everyone
Welcome*



11 April, Saturday 12.30

Easter Lunch | St Thomas & St John, £8

Please see below a prayer list from our Mission Community covering first the coming week, then the month.

In the coming week the Churches of our Mission Community will be:

- Giving thanks for the changing seasons & God’s wonderful world.
- Praying for all the Churches within our Mission Community that have already begun their EcoChurch journey and giving thanks for the progress they have made.
- Praying for inspiration from the Holy Spirit as we seek new ways to use our green spaces in the coming months, to grow, nurture, and serve our congregations, and engage with different sections of our local communities.
- Praying that we would be good guardians of our green spaces, so that future generations will be able to enjoy them as we do.

Radcliffe & Whitefield Mission Community Prayer Diary



March 2026

1 st	We pray for mission & ministry at All Saints Stand.
2 nd	We pray for those who will be leading & attending the Lent courses at St. Thomas & St. John this evening & tomorrow afternoon, that they might find inspiration & guidance.
3 rd	We pray for those who will be attending the Anna Chaplaincy drop-in at St. Andrew's, Hillock this afternoon; giving thanks also for the work that this team do & praying for those they support.
4 th	We pray for those who will join together for the Lent Service being held at Christ Church Ainsworth this afternoon; praying that those present will be nurtured & uplifted by the Holy Spirit.
5 th	We pray for members of All Saints, Stand PCC who will be meeting with Archdeacon Rachel today to plan for the future. We pray also for those who will be attending our 'Exploring Unconscious Bias' session this evening, that this may help individuals & Church communities to recognise prejudices & become more inclusive.
6 th	We pray for mission & ministry at St. George's, Unsworth.
7 th	We give thanks for & pray for all Clergy members within our Mission Community.
8 th	We pray for 'The Wedding Team' at All Saints, Stand, & for all of the couples who are preparing for weddings there this year.
9 th	We pray for those who will be leading & attending the Lent course at St. Andrew's, Hillock each Monday evening throughout Lent, that they might find inspiration & guidance.
10 th	We pray for those who will be representing their Churches at the Prayer & Spirituality Group meeting this evening; praying that others would feel called to be part of this group.
11 th	We pray for those who will be part of the Bible study group at St. Andrew's, Hillock today, that they may grow in understanding & in faith.
12 th	We pray for mission & ministry at Christ Church Ainsworth.
13 th	We give thanks for & pray for our Church Officers, Lay Leaders & Volunteers.
14 th	We pray for the Radcliffe Team, their volunteers & helpers, and give thanks for all that they do.
15 th	We pray for all who will be leading or attending Mothering Sunday Services today; praying also for those who find this a difficult or upsetting time of year.
16 th	We pray for mission & ministry at Emmanuel Community Church, Radcliffe.
17 th	We pray for & give thanks for the work of the Food Pantry Team at St. Andrew's, Hillock; praying also for all of the individuals & families who access this service.
18 th	On Global Recycling Day, we pray that the importance recycling plays in preserving our precious primary resources and securing the future of our planet, will be recognised & celebrated..
19 th	We pray for mission & ministry at St. Andrew's, Hillock.
20 th	On National Red Nose Day, we give thanks for all who will be raising funds for good causes. Praying also for those who will benefit from this generosity.
21 st	On National Single Parent Day, we pray for all those who are raising children on their own.
22 nd	We pray for mission & ministry at St. Andrew's, Radcliffe.
23 rd	We give thanks for 200 years of faith and worship at All Saints, Stand and ask for God's blessing for the celebratory events taking place throughout the year, and on those involved in organising them. We pray that the year may be a time for building closer relationships with the local community.
24 th	We pray for those who will join together for Jesus Prayer on Zoom this evening; praying also that others might feel called to be part of this time of prayer.
25 th	We pray for mission & ministry at St. Thomas & St. John, Radcliffe.
26 th	We give thanks for all who are involved with funeral ministry, praying also for the families they serve
27 th	We pray for all who will be part of the Spring Community Day at St. Andrew's, Hillock tomorrow.
28 th	We pray for & give thanks for all who will be taking part in the Big Spring Clean at Christ Church Ainsworth today. Giving thanks also for our regular team of 'Pew Polishers' & for all that they do.
29 th	We pray for all who will leading or attending Palm Sunday Services today; praying especially that the donkeys at Christ Church Ainsworth will be on their best behaviour!
30 th	We pray for mission & ministry at Christ Church Walshaw.
31 st	We pray for mission & ministry at St. Mary, Radcliffe.

"What wings are to a bird, & sails are to a ship; so prayer is to the soul."

Please join us in prayer for the people of Iran

— for peace, for protection, for comfort for grieving families, and for hope to shine in the midst of great darkness. We also **hold in prayer those members of our community from Iran**, who are deeply concerned for their loved ones back home.

We share [this prayer written by the Rt Revd Dr Guli Francis-Dehqani, Bishop of Chelmsford](#) and unite together in praying:

Ever-loving God,
who hears us in our anguish and distress,
and longs for us to be free.
We pray for the people of Iran and the wider Middle East,
at this time of fear and uncertainty.
Be near to those who are anxious;
bring comfort to all who are suffering.
Guide those with the power to make decisions,
and lead them in the ways of wisdom, compassion and moderation:
that people of goodwill would seek harmony and reconciliation.
Join us with our Christian brothers and sisters in all places,
in praying for peace with justice,
through him who is the prince of peace,
Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Giving to church

Our Churches depend on income from fees paid for some of our services, from fund-raising, from activities at St Philip's Community Centre and – *most particularly* – from monetary gifts from worshippers and other supporters. In each of our churches, donations can be made via digital giving machines using credit or debit cards. You can use the QR codes below to give. Please speak to us for advice on gift aiding your offering, so that each £1 you give becomes £1.25 – at no extra cost to you.



Left: St Thomas and St John
Right: St Mary



Saturday Cafe

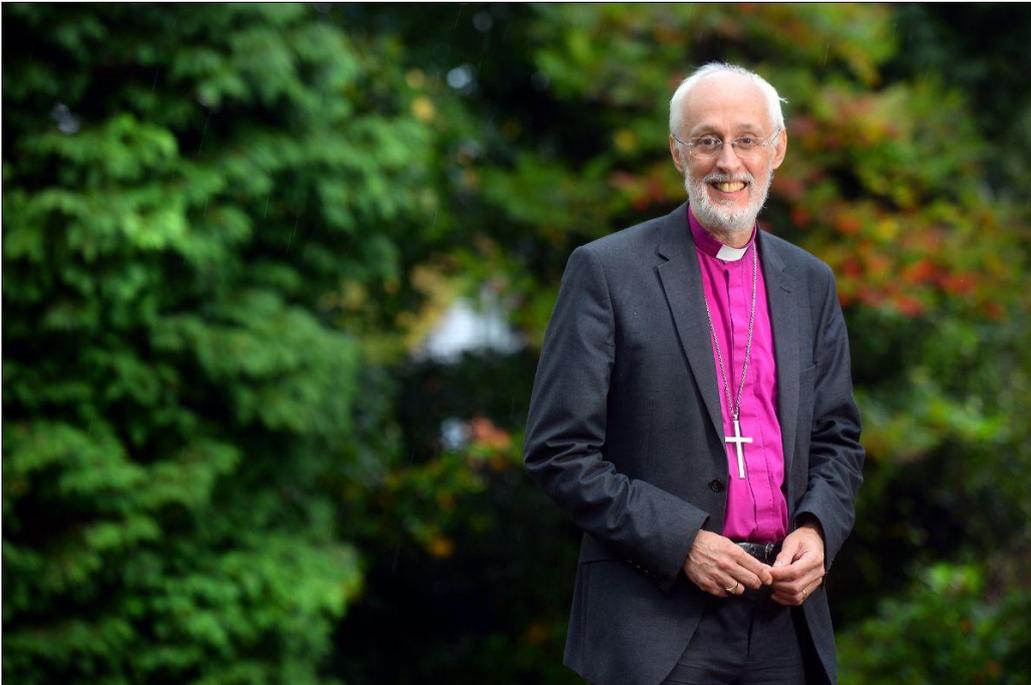


Every Saturday
10:30am - 12:30pm

Everyone Welcome

ST THOMAS & ST JOHN CHURCH
NEW CHURCH STREET, RADCLIFFE





Bishop of Manchester to retire in Summer 2027

The Bishop of Manchester, the Rt Revd Dr David Walker, has announced that he will retire in the summer of 2027. Bishop David shared the news this week in this pastoral letter to clergy, lay leaders, and congregations across the Diocese of Manchester:

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

Many of you will be aware that in 2027 I reach my 70th birthday. To avoid speculation, and to minimise the gap between my retirement and the arrival of the next Bishop of Manchester, I wish to set out my intentions as early as possible. I am pleased to be able to tell you that I have now heard that His Majesty the King has agreed to my retirement. Further to this, last week I received a signed Declaration from the Archbishop of York declaring that the See of Manchester will become vacant as from 31st July 2027. In making this Declaration, the Archbishop has confirmed that I can continue for what will be two months beyond my actual birthday. This is to allow me, amongst other things, to preside at the Petertide Ordinations, and to relinquish my responsibilities at a point when things calm down for the summer holidays.

Until then, I intend to remain fully engaged in the service of Manchester Diocese as your bishop. There will be a time for formal farewells to be made, but it is not yet for a while!

Please continue to hold Sue and me in your prayers, as I hold you all in mine.

Yours ever,

David



**Radcliffe and Whitefield
Mission Community invites
you and your friends to:**

BEE JOYFUL

An evening of Songs of Praise style worship
with speaker

Rev Phil Cansdale

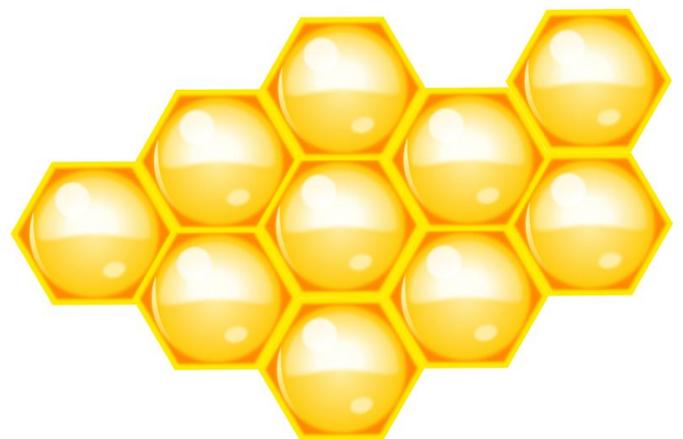
Monday 20th April

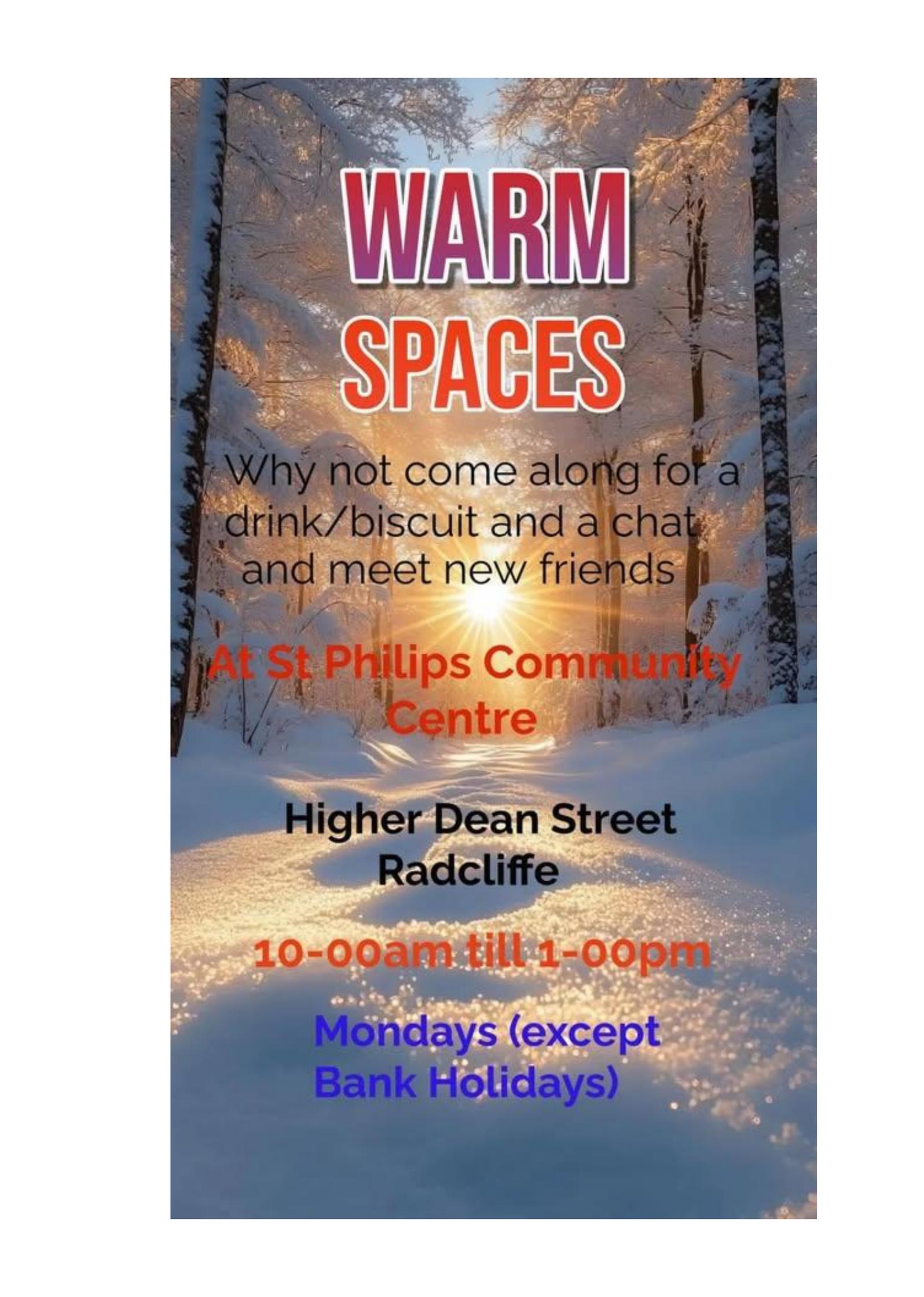
7.30pm

Christ Church, Ainsworth BL2 5RU



Refreshments available





WARM SPACES

Why not come along for a
drink/biscuit and a chat
and meet new friends

**At St Philips Community
Centre**

**Higher Dean Street
Radcliffe**

10-00am till 1-00pm

**Mondays (except
Bank Holidays)**

Being stewards of God's creation and doing our bit as Christians for the planet, if you have any of the following lying around your home then please bring them to be recycled 🌍♻️😊



RECYCLE FOR CHARITY

Did you know, many of your unwanted items could be recycled?

Do you have any of these items stuck in a drawer or cupboard ?

Please bring along your glasses, hearing aids, foreign currency, stamps, keys, ink & toner cartridges (branded only) & bra's & place them into the boxes provided in church.

All items will be collected at the monthly Mission Community Task Group meetings where they will be sorted and sent to where they are needed most.

Thank you



RADCLIFFE & WHITEFIELD MISSION COMMUNITY

Eagle's Wing is a mutual support group of friends made up of local people, asylum seekers and refugees living in this area. It meets at the United reformed Church, Parsons Lane, Bury BL9 0LY, Monday, Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 10am to noon (term time only). "Come as strangers, stay as friends" – they say.

*The Churches Of Radcliffe & Whitefield
Mission Community Are Working With
'KitAid'*

KitAid is a charity that recycles your once loved football kit and distributes to underprivileged children and adults in some of the world's poorest countries.

106,081 unwanted kits were sent in 2025 alone!

Donated kit doesn't have to be from a premier league club; it doesn't matter if there is a shirt sponsor or if it's from a grass roots club, it doesn't even have to be a full strip - if it's clean & it's usable we'll take it.

Items we can take:

- ↳ Full team kits
- ↳ Individual items
- ↳ Boots
- ↳ Shin pads
- ↳ Training bibs
- ↳ Rain Jackets

To donate your unwanted kit just place it in the bin marked 'KitAid' which you will find

And we'll do the rest!

Sharing the passion for football across the world



Radcliffe & Whitefield Mission Community

*Are working with 'The Recycled Wax
Company' to keep candles out of landfill.*

We can take:

- ↳ Church candles
- ↳ Tea lights
- ↳ Tapers
- ↳ Domestic / scented candles (including those in glass jars)
- ↳ Wax melts

Simply bring your unwanted candles & melts to Church & we'll do the rest.



RECYCLE FOR CHARITY

As part of our recycling mission, we are collecting tools for the charity **Tools With A Mission**.

TTWAM is a Christian charity that collects unwanted usable tools, refurbishes them, and then sells them to local job seekers. They are the developing world for toolhead creation. We have five local groups across the country formed by volunteers, and are supported by seven independent contractors, including Men's Sheds.

Locally, we provide volunteering opportunities to older workers who struggle with loneliness and isolation after retirement, as well as opportunities for people with physical and learning disabilities and support for community groups and refugees. We work with organisations offering skills training and experience to young people with additional needs and preparing them for employment. We have also provided tools to local community groups in the UK who use them in projects for people with special needs.

If you would like to donate your unwanted, but still useful tools, please check the list on the information leaflet for the types of tools that are accepted and those that aren't.

At Men's, Radcliffe will be the collection centre and hand tools and smaller items can be brought to the Tool Group meetings along with other recycling, but we kindly request that any larger items are brought to the church on the first Sunday of the month between 11am and 12.30pm.

Thank you



<http://www.twam.uk>



Agricultural tools - forks, spades, hoes, garden rakes, hand forks and trowels, loppers, secateurs, hand shears, cultivators, sickles, shovels, axes, bow saws

Builders' tools - levels, sledgehammers, bolsters, chisels, all types of hammers and trowels, pin and lines, tape measures, hacksaws and blades, utility knife blades

Carpenters' tools - sliding bevels, braces, clamps, hand drills and bits, rasps, all types of hammers, utility knives, all types of planes and saws, rules, screwdrivers, squares, vices, sharpening stones, screws, nails, bolts, Workmate benches (in good condition)

Electricians' tools - hand drills and bits, all types of pliers and hacksaws, screwdrivers, spanners, soldering irons, volt meters and multimeters, wire strippers

Mechanics' tools - allen keys, cold chisels, files, vices, gauges, all types of hammers and pliers, punches, metric socket sets, spanners, adjustable spanners, cantilever toolboxes, oil cans

Plumbers' tools - basin or tap wrenches, wire brushes, breast drills and bits, various grips, hacksaws, screwdrivers

Garage workshop - hydraulic jacks, axle stands, battery chargers, large engineering vices, crowbars

Power tools - hand and bench drills, sanders, planers, jigsaws, circular saws, bandsaws, chop saws, lathes, rotovators, welding machines, generators, bench grinders, angle grinders, routers

Sewing machines - manual, electric, treadle, and industrial Knitting machines - machine and hand wool, needles, patterns

Haberdashery - needles, cottons, large material pieces/rolls (minimum one metre), buttons, zips, tapes

Children Are Welcome

At St Thomas & St John with St Philips

We have 3 ways to help your child to feel welcome in church
Just speak to someone at the back of church

For young children we have some

Baby Bags

Containing some soft toys and picture books



For toddler children we have

Play Packs

With story books and colouring sheets



In the Children's Corner at the back of church

There are some small quiet toys, some colouring pages and reading books.

You and your child are more than welcome
to enjoy using these resources during the service

PLEASE STAY WITH YOUR CHILD AT ALL TIMES



Our churchyard is maintained by a group of volunteers on a monthly basis, who try to keep on top of the cutting, trimming, weeding and tidying. We try to ensure that our grounds are a calm and welcoming environment for visiting families. We rely on the regular giving of our parishioners and one-off donations from visitors in order to find the funds to maintain our beautiful church building and grounds. If you would like to make a donation please see the information given below. Thank you

Supporting our ministry
Radcliffe Parish Church of St Mary
Thank you for your generosity

Please scan the QR code or go to our website at

www.radcliffeparishchurch.com

and find the link to our Give a Little campaign to make a donation.

Thank you



Thank you for your kind donation!



Charity/charitable purpose verified by Give A Little
CDPR, PCI & PCI-DSS Compliant Point of Donation

HOSTED BY
NEW LIFE CHURCH

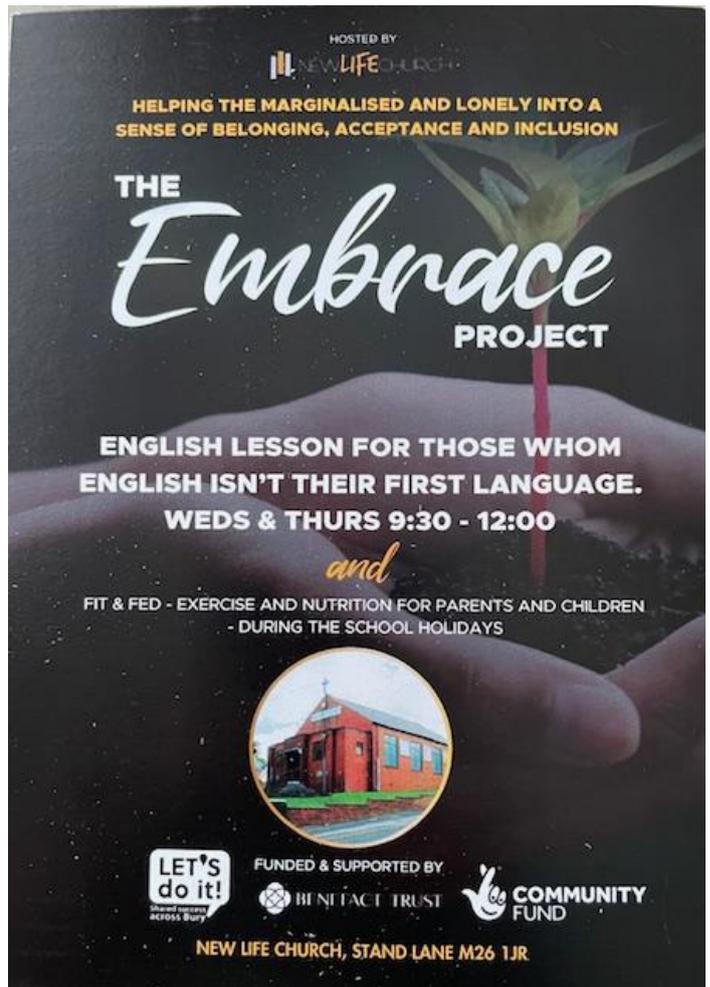
HELPING THE MARGINALISED AND LONELY INTO A
SENSE OF BELONGING, ACCEPTANCE AND INCLUSION

THE Embrace PROJECT

ENGLISH LESSON FOR THOSE WHOM
ENGLISH ISN'T THEIR FIRST LANGUAGE.
WEDS & THURS 9:30 - 12:00

and

FIT & FED - EXERCISE AND NUTRITION FOR PARENTS AND CHILDREN
- DURING THE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS



LET'S do it!
Small groups across the city

FUNDED & SUPPORTED BY
BENEFACT TRUST

COMMUNITY FUND

NEW LIFE CHURCH, STAND LANE M26 1JR

Vicky at St Mary's writes: "Our St Mary's WAG's are once again taking part in the Race for Life at Heaton Park this year. This year's event is on Sunday 5th July and anyone wanting to join us can use the link below. There is a St Mary's team which you can also join once you have entered. Please speak to Vicky (07533 894392) if you need further details.

<https://raceforlife.cancerresearchuk.org/>



Lord's Prayer Evening with Archbishop of York

March 19 @ 6:45 pm – 9:00 pm

Come along for a special evening of prayer and reflection at Manchester Cathedral on Thursday 19th March, led by the Archbishop of York. This inspiring gathering will focus on the Lord's Prayer, bringing together people from across our diocese to explore its meaning in our lives today. Whether you're part of a church, school, chaplaincy or simply curious to learn more, this evening is for everyone.

Doors open for refreshments at 6.45pm and the event starts at 7.15pm.

Please add the date to your diary and join us for what promises to be an affirming and uplifting event.

Book tickets at <https://www.manchester.anglican.org/event/lords-prayer-evening-with-archbishop-of-york/>

or ask for help to book

CHRISTIAN LIFE & WITNESS COURSE

You are invited to come deepen your faith in Jesus Christ and discover practical ways to point others to Him during this free, engaging three-hour session.

Saturday 30th May 2026

10:00am - 1:00pm

Bridge Community Church

Milltown Street / Regan Street

Radcliffe

M26 1WD

A MINISTRY OF
**Billy
GRAHAM**
Evangelistic Association UK
Always Good News.

GODLOVESYOUTOUR.ORG.UK/COURSES



Radcliffe & Whitefield Mission Community News

February – March 2026

Roving Reporter – Advent

Window On Advent

This was our first Mission Community Advent event; each of our Churches created a prayer station on an Advent theme, to allow people to come together in prayer & fellowship in readiness for the season of Advent. Whilst very few people took advantage of this wonderful event, those who did come along really appreciated the opportunity to spend time in quiet prayer & reflection, at what can become a really busy time of year. A big thank you must go to all who created such thoughtful and thought-provoking prayer stations.

Advent Zoom Prayers

It was great to see all of our Churches represented on Advent Zoom prayers & also good to welcome some new attenders to this online prayer initiative; thank you to everyone who took part.

Other News

Candle Recycling

Our Mission Community has signed up to the 'Recycled Wax Candle Recycling Scheme'; if you have Church candles, tapers, tealights or even domestic scented candles or melts which could be recycled, simply bring them along to 1 of our Mission Community meetings.

Coming Soon ...

Bee Joyful

Monday 20th April 7.30pm @ Christ Church Ainsworth. BL2 5RU.

Why not join us for our very first Mission Community Songs of Praise! Hymns, prayer & worship led by Revd Phil Cansdale, plus a delicious selection of cakes & bakes. No need to book, just turn up.

Exploring Unconscious Bias

Thursday 5th March 7.15 for 7.30pm @ Christ Church Walshaw. BL8 3SF

Join us for an evening with Diane Gray-Stephenson (Racial Justice Lead) as we unpack unconscious bias, the impact it can have & how we might be more inclusive.

Eco Tips

February – Make sure that bird feeders are clean & topped up regularly during these colder months; bird baths can be kept ice free by placing a tennis ball in them.

March – Earth Hour takes place on March 28th this year; from 8.30 – 9.30pm people all across the country will be turning off lights & other electrical appliances to save energy; why not try filling that hour with prayer or an 'eco-positive' activity.

FOCUS ON ... ALL SAINTS, STAND ... 1826 - 2026

Throughout 2026, we will be celebrating 200 years of faith and worship at our wonderful Grade 1 listed church designed by Charles Barry. Special events are arranged from March to December beginning with a show in March by Nikki Fox and company, and in April our Heritage Exhibition spanning 2 Weeks. The rest of the year sees a variety of musical performances including jazz, brass band, organ recitals - with one by the internationally acclaimed Jonathan Scott, and culminating in December with Handel's Messiah. We also look forward to our primary school putting on events for us in the church. In September the Bishop of Manchester will attend our celebration service to mark the consecration of the church in that month in 1826.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Service Of Reflection For Those Involved With Safeguarding

Mon 16th Feb
7.00pm
Manchester Cathedral

[Service of Reflection for Those Involved in Safeguarding](#)

Vocations Day

Sat 7th Feb
10 – 2.30pm
St. Bride's, Old Trafford
[Eventbrite - Vocations Day 2026](#)

Lord's Prayer Evening

A special evening of prayer & reflection led by the Archbishop of York.
Manchester Cathedral.
Thurs 19th March
7 - 9pm

[Lord's Prayer Evening with Archbishop of York - Diocese of Manchester](#)

Around The Steeples, Spires, Towers & Turrets Of Our Mission Community



All Saints, Stand standchurch.com

News – Our weekly Lent Course runs from Tuesday 24th Feb – Tues 17th March, including soup for lunch. Holy Week & Easter Services can be found on our website.

Special Services – Ash Wednesday; Holy Communion & Imposition of ashes @ 10.15am
St. Andrew's, Hillock www.standrews-hillock.org.uk



News – 4th March - Onward Housing are having a Winter Wellbeing Warm & Skills Event at St Andrew's 11-2pm. There will be information about job opportunities in the area, and providers will be on hand to talk about adult learning, training and volunteering. There will also be the opportunity for people to speak to services about needs, and access support on money advice, housing, mental health, food and wellbeing.

Saturday 28th March - Spring Community Day, where we will be bringing the community together for information within the community and a fun family time together.

Our weekly Bible study group started on 28th January & will be held weekly for the next 8 weeks.

Regular Events – Anna Chaplaincy drop in for over 50's, every Tuesday 1 – 3pm at St Andrews, all welcome.



St. George's, Unsworth achurchnearyou.com/church/16088

News – We are now holding a short Prayer Service in Church at 11am each Monday morning. We are also holding our JAM Sunday School on the third Sunday of each month.

Regular Events - Community Litter Picking – 1st Saturday of each month; 9 – 10.30am.

Our Cornerstone Café is open on a Wednesday & a Friday.

Christ Church Ainsworth www.ainsworthparish.org.uk



News – Weds 18th Feb, 1.30-3.30pm – 'Prayers & Promises', a family event exploring Lent through games, crafts and activities, followed by family friendly Ash Wednesday worship.

Regular Events – Coffee & Conversation – 2nd Tuesday of each month, 10.30 – 12 noon in Ainsworth Church & Community Hall; a drop in social event for over 50's.

Special Services – Lent Reflections will be held each Tuesday evenings during Lent at 7.15pm in Church.

St. Thomas & St. John, Radcliffe <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/16096/>



News – We'll be running a Lent course again this year; times & dates to be confirmed – please check our website for further details.

Special Services – Ash Wednesday Service, 10am @ St. Mary's & 7pm @ St. Thomas & St. John.

Regular Events – Saturday Café – every Saturday 10.30am – 12.30pm.



Radcliffe Parish Church of St. Mary [Radcliffe Parish Church of St. Mary](http://RadcliffeParishChurchofStMary)

News – 14th Feb - 2pm - Eden Singers concert 'Hits of the Decades' all your favourites from the 1920s through to 2000's. Tickets are £7 and include refreshments.

14th March - Two Crows Art event - an all age day of interactive arts and heritage themed activities based in the church, starting at 1pm, with refreshments. Drop in drawing workshop, quickfire portraits by children's book illustrator Andy Rowland, 'Horrible history' style talk at Radcliffe tower by Bury Art Museum, little book making workshop inspired by talk with artist Pru Clarke, sketchbook tour around church and tower with Lee Crocker, rounding up with a musical performance by Ruby Tingle, award winning multimedia artist & musician.

Special Services - 1st Feb - 9.30am – Christingle / Candlemas service

3rd Feb - 11am - Radcliffe Hall School Christingle service in church

Regular Events - Saturday Café – 2nd Saturday of each month, 10am – 12noon.



St. Andrew's, Radcliffe StAndrewsRadcliffe

Regular Events - Oasis Craft Group meet each Tuesday afternoon from 1 – 3pm, all welcome.

Baby & toddlers 'Wiggle Tots' is held on Thursdays from 9 – 10.30am.

Family Service – Thursdays 3.45pm

Christ Church Walshaw www.christchurch-walshaw.co.uk



News - We are holding a Valentine's Day Community Event on Saturday 14th Feb – all welcome.

Regular Events – Our super popular baby & toddler group meets in Church on Wednesdays from 10 – 11.15am (term time only).

Walshaw Community Choir - Wednesdays 7.15pm

'Cake & Chat' - 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month.

If your Church has any news or dates to include in our April / May newsletter, email alisonharleyhorse@gmail.com