# ST CHAD'S CHURCH, BAGNALL —NEWSLETTER 24.09.23

## Congratulations and Well done...

Just sending you this in case Florence's 'fan club' might be interested.

She is proudly wearing her Christian Council badge, as representative of her class.

The teacher wrote. "She did an excellent speech and delivered a strong manifesto. The class voted and she was the rightful elected member."

She is so pleased as you can tell by the photo.

Judith

## A Thank you to our Church wardens:

"A churchwarden is a lay official in a parish or congregation of the Anglican Communion, usually working as a part-time volunteer."

We have 2 church wardens, Julia and Kathryn

I did look up some of the duties of a church warden and it did come as a bit of an eye opener; Churchwardens are generally responsible for the day-to-day functioning of the parish, including various aspects of administration, plant operations, and personnel. Their work is not just the maintenance of the church building, but helping the smooth running of the church. In this capacity, wardens are considered the leading lay member of the congregation.

Many of the Churchwarden's responsibilities are connected with building maintenance, such as temperature control, roof repair, seating, lighting, etc. Churchwardens are also responsible for carrying out (or at least organizing) an annual inspection of the church building. They hold a key to the church and are entitled to access at any time. The grounds of the church also come under the purview of the Churchwardens.

Churchwardens are required to respond to 'official' questions about the parish, and have to make various reports each year to the annual parochial meeting and to the Archdeacon. They may be trustees of some charitable trust connected with the church and are required to keep detailed records of all property, professional inspections, alterations and repairs. They are expected to attend all the meetings of the parish council and the standing committees, and should meet and pray regularly with the parish priest.

There are also responsibilities in connection with the Sunday services and for keeping order in the church. Churchwardens have a duty to make sure that the clergy can conduct their services and other meetings without hindrance. This requires that any visitors or newcomers are welcomed and assisted, that there is adequate seating, proper lighting and heating, and that all other facilities required are in place, including safety requirements. Churchwardens should be on hand to welcome guest preachers, the Archdeacon or Bishop when they visit, and offer any help as needed. On the rare occasion of a major disturbance within (or immediately outside) the church, the Churchwardens take primary responsibility in dealing with the matter and have the power to arrest anyone or escort them off the premises if necessary.

I particularly like this last bit!!!!!! (visions of Julia and Kath quelling a riot!)

Anyway, let's give a big thank you to them both for their hard work.

## **Prayer Corner:**

Ever generous God,

In whose vineyard we are all valued;

When we feel the heat of a long day's work,

Give us rest and comfort.

• When we arrive late and yet are welcomed equally,

Give us grateful hearts;

For your kingdom disrupts the order of our sinful world,

So that the last becomes first and the first becomes last.

In Jesus' name.

Amen

Based on Matthew 20:1-16, the Reading for today.

Muriel

# Cotober Services:

☆ 1st - \*HARVEST\*

★ Family Service - KH and Team

🛣 8th - Praise and Prayer - KH/MF

★ 15th - Holy Communion - Rev Barry

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29th - Memorial Service KH/MF

#### **Leek Food Bank:**

Don't Forget the Food Bank!!!!!!!

## I Got Some Hot Sauce in My Eye

I got some hot sauce in my eye. It caused a painful tear.

I showed it to my mom and she said,

"That's a bad eye, dear."

Ken Nesbitt



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First of all, an apology for the lack of substance in this week's newsletter. I've had a very busy week. It's now Friday and I'm at last sitting down to put something together. I'm missing my Esther input. She's now looking after little Theo as Laura has returned to work and all you grand-parents out there know that looking after a one year old can be quite exhausting!!!!!

I was looking back at some old newsletters and I realised that the first one that I produced was in 26.04.16—over seven years ago! Where has the time gone!

Pre covid I used to provide hard copies to the people that turned up at church each week. The issues were limited to 2 pages because of the cost of printing. Post covid it all went to emails, saving Brian (who used to buy the ink) a fortune and enabling me to reach a greater audience. I know email 39 people each week and they in turn provide hard copies for at least 3 or 4 more.

So turn to page 3 for a trip down memory lane and enjoy that first newsletter.......

#### **Smiles:**

Two Cheshire farmers, one very rich and one very poor, had a very bad crop and both got into financial difficulties at the bank. The following Sunday, they hurried to church and prayed earnestly. The poor farmer beat his breast and cried aloud, "Lord, be merciful to me for I am a poor farmer." Whereupon the rich farmer asked him how much he owed. "£500 would get me out of my immediate difficulties," he replied. So, without hesitation, the rich farmer wrote him a cheque for £500 and turning, he prayed, "Now, Lord, do you think I could have your undivided attention?"

A farmer turns up to evensong and discovers that he and the vicar are the only people there. "What shall we do?" asks the vicar. "Well," replies the farmer, "If I goes to feed my sheep and only one turns up, I feed her." So after four hymns, two sung canticles, one sung psalm, two lessons, prayers for everything under the sun and a twenty minute sermon the service ends. "If I goes to feed my sheep and only one turns up, I feed her." says the farmer on the way out, "but I don't give her the whole bag full!"

## ST CHAD'S CHURCH, BAGNALL-26.04.16

As Pat is now on holiday with her family in Scotland and so not providing a newsletter this week, I thought it a good opportunity to update everyone about St Chad's pastoral care team.

There are a few, very dedicated team members who give support and care to around a dozen people on a regular basis and to others when and if needed. This can be in the form of personal visits, transport to church or to appointments, telephone conversations, cards and letters, etc. These contacts are so very important, not only to the persons themselves, but also to their family and friends.

It can also help other members of the Church to be aware of their circumstances and to lend their support by prayer and thought.

If you know of anyone in our church or community that you think would benefit from the pastoral care team please let me know. Equally, if you would like to help in any way just contact me using the details below.

## **Tuesday group:**

On a personal note, I've found the Tuesday meetings a real bonus. I was a bit apprehensive at first, wondering if it was going to be very serious and, as my knowledge of the Bible and all things theological is a bit sketchy to say the least, I was going to feel a bit out of my depth. No such worries—it's light hearted and friendly and the gaps in my spiritual education are either filled or ignored. We have a chat and a coffee, a quiz (not too difficult!) and a good chance to discuss and air our opinions.

Come and give it a go—it's well worth the effort.

At the recent AGM it was found that not everyone fully understood the terminology of the Church. So here's a little help....

Sides person: Someone who tells you which side of the Church to sit on.

Church warden: Someone who locks the door so you can't get out during the sermon.

Pastoral care: Cutting the grass in the Church yard.

Verger: Someone who tidily trims the edges of the grass.

Lay Reader: Someone who tells you a story to make you go to sleep.

## Monday craft club:

We meet every other Monday at 1pm in the Stafford Arms.

It's a good opportunity to learn new skills, share your passion with other people or just have a coffee and a chat. Anyone is welcome, not just crafters.

The next meeting is on Monday 9th May between 1pm and 3pm.

Contact Barbara Millard for more details.

#### Smiles:

- O. Did Eve ever have a date with Adam?
- A. No, just an apple
- Q. Where was Solomon's temple located?
- A. On the side of his head.
- Q. Who was the greatest financier in the Bible?
- A. Noah; he was floating his stock while everyone was in liquidation.

## Last but not least......

Don't forget items for the food bank — always needed.

Pat's cards for sale in the porch.

My knitted toys—always available for that last minute gift.

All proceeds go to St Chad's

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