

# CONCORD ~ July 2012

## Prayer for the Month and for Confirmation

Defend, O Lord, us your servants with your heavenly grace,  
that we may continue yours for ever,  
and daily increase in your Holy Spirit more and more,  
until we come to your everlasting kingdom. Amen.

Northenden Rectory, Ford Lane.  
0161 998 2615

Dear Friends,

We are bombarded with news about impending recessions and crises in the Eurozone, till it becomes monotonous. We are told that the best way out of it is stringency, or growth, or trade, or ..... I wrote last year, I think, that to talk of economic growth (which was on people's lips before the crisis, too) is mis-placed ~ at least growth which depends on using more and more resources from the finite pot that is our planet. We should take this crisis as a warning.

If growth is an answer, then it has to be growth in those industries and activities which drain no resources from God's world, and we need to develop a new measure of economic success which only measures that kind of growth, and the degree to which resources are shared sustainably. We need to say "enough is enough", or even perhaps, "less is enough." That may take some learning. Dare the church talk more about the sinfulness of sin? If so, it has to let gluttony and greed take their rightful places alongside lust, centre stage, in that catalogue. Not an easy message for a preacher; probably an even harder one for a politician.

But now read on. *Greg Forster*

## Northenden Methodist Church

Minister: The Revd. David Bown,  
5 Kenworthy Lane, Northenden, M 22  
0161 - 998-2158

### **Sunday Services.**

***1st Sunday every month***

Family worship ~ Sunday breakfast club ~ MESSY CHURCH  
All start off with breakfast\*\* together at 9.00am, then do activities with your child(ren) followed by a story, songs, and prayer based on the

activities ~ finishes about 10.30am.

\*\*Currently £1 per person.

For details contact Amy Carline, 07816 888 704

|      |                  |         |   |
|------|------------------|---------|---|
| July | 1 <sup>st</sup>  | 9.00am  | Messy Church                              |
|      |                  | 11.00am | Mrs. Kathryn Price                        |
|      |                  | 6.30pm  | United evening service; The Rev. D. Bown. |
|      | 8 <sup>th</sup>  | 11.00am | The Rev. David Bown                       |
|      | 15 <sup>th</sup> | 11.00am | Northenden Team                           |
|      | 22 <sup>nd</sup> | 11.00am | The Rev. Margaret Hall (Communion)        |
|      | 29 <sup>th</sup> | 11.00am | Mr. Duncan Rutter                         |
| Aug. | 5 <sup>th</sup>  | 9.00am  | Messy Church                              |
|      |                  | 11.00am | The Rev. J. Tresise                       |
|      |                  | 6.30pm  | United Service @ St. Wilfrid's            |
|      | 12 <sup>th</sup> | 11.00am | Miss J. Burgess                           |

### **Community Lunch**

Wed. 11<sup>th</sup> July, 12 noon - 1.30pm ~

Next lunch ~ Wed. Aug. 8<sup>th</sup>. (**to be confirmed**)

## **The Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)** South Manchester Meeting

**There is a meeting for worship**

**at the Friends' Meeting House, Wythenshawe Rd.,  
at 10.30am every Sunday.**

Children welcome. \*Details from Roger Hensman, 980-5158.

The main hall and smaller rooms are available for hire;  
~ contact Peter Todhunter (Meeting House Warden) 834-5797

## **St. Wilfrid's Church, Northenden.**

Ford Lane, M22 4WE

Rector ~ the Revd. Greg Forster,  
Northenden Rectory, Ford La., M 22 4NQ  
Tel. 0161 998 - 2615

Email; gsf @ stwilfridsnorthenden . org . uk

### **Services:**

On Sundays there will be a communion service at 8.00am,  
except as noted below;

On Thursdays at 10am there will also be a communion service.  
 We run "Scramblers" ~ which I mustn't call a Sunday School ~  
 for children from 3½ to 7 ~ in the Church Hall, ...  
 ... and "Sunday Club" ~ for children from 7 upwards ~ in the  
 Rectory, both between 10.30 and 11.30am Sundays ...  
 ... except when there is a Family Service in church ~  
 i.e. July 1<sup>st</sup>., &c. ~ and during main school holidays.

|      |                  |         |  |                      |
|------|------------------|---------|--|----------------------|
| July | 1 <sup>st</sup>  | 10.30am | Family Communion & Parade Service          |                      |
|      |                  | 3.00pm  | <i>Nigerian Congregation</i>               |                      |
|      |                  | 6.30pm  | United Service at Northenden Methodist Ch. |                      |
|      | 8 <sup>th</sup>  | 10.30am | Holy Communion                             |                      |
|      |                  | 6.30pm  | Evening Worship                            |                      |
|      | 15 <sup>th</sup> | 10.30am | Holy Communion                             | <b>NB, no 8.00am</b> |
|      |                  | 6.30pm  | Evening Worship                            |                      |
|      | 22 <sup>nd</sup> | 10.30am | Holy Communion                             |                      |
|      |                  | 6.30pm  | Evening Worship                            |                      |
|      | 29 <sup>th</sup> | 10.30am | Morning Prayer                             |                      |
|      |                  | 6.30pm  | Holy Communion                             |                      |
| Aug. | 5 <sup>th</sup>  | 10.30am | Family Communion                           |                      |
|      |                  | 3.00pm  | <i>Nigerian Congregation</i>               |                      |
|      |                  | 6.30pm  | United Service at St. Wilfrid's            |                      |
|      | 12 <sup>th</sup> | 10.30am | Holy Communion                             |                      |
|      |                  | 6.30pm  | Evening Worship.                           |                      |

### Drop in on St. Wilfrid's ...

**On most Sundays from 2.00 till 5.00pm the church is open,  
 for private prayer, for enquiries, or just to look around.**

On July 1<sup>st</sup> and Aug. 5<sup>th</sup> the church will be open from 2 till about  
 2.45pm in this way, and then will be in use for a service.  
 Arrangements for 15<sup>th</sup> July will be announced in church.  
 The church will also be open on the last Saturday of each month,  
 from 10am till noon (in parallel with the Coffee Mornings). To visit  
 at other times, please contact the Rector.

**The next open week-end (with tower climbs and displays, &c.)  
 is Sept. 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>,  
 to coincide with the national "Heritage Open Days".**

Dates for your Diary ~ it's all happening!



Wed. 4<sup>th</sup> **July** 8.00pm Rectory; Bible Study.  
 Thu. 5<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm **PCC meeting in Church Hall.**  
 Mon. 16<sup>th</sup> School Governors' Meeting, **4.30pm**  
 Wed. 18<sup>th</sup> Bible Study, Rectory, 8.00pm  
 Thu. 19<sup>th</sup> ca. 9.15am School Leavers' service  
 Sat. 28<sup>th</sup> **Cream Tea** *Details to be announced.*  
*Church Open, 10.00am till 12.00 noon.*

Please note the normally routine events **not** listed!

The date of the PCC meeting for August has yet to be fixed ~ we are considering a less frequent pattern of meeting than monthly.

But do note the two **Farmers' Markets** on July 7<sup>th</sup> & Aug. 4<sup>th</sup>

**Women's Group.** There will be nothing in July, but mark **Aug. 6<sup>th</sup>** in your diaries. John Kendal, a friend of ours, will be talking about life as a Vet and then as a Teacher. SDF.

The Parish Registers –

In Memoriam ...



Alexander Parker-Brown (Parkbrook Ave.) 60  
 Sydney Boustead (Woodhouse Park) 83,  
 Margaret O'Brien (ex Moor End) 88.

Married, in the Parish Church on ...

... May 26<sup>th</sup> Kate Georgina Brereton to Daniel James Higgins

... June 2<sup>nd</sup> Rachel Sian Ward to Craig Anthony Paton  
*and* Michelle Forrest to David Graham Kenneth Harrison.

... on June 9<sup>th</sup> Helen Marie Bennett to Paul Bradbury

Baptised, on 20<sup>th</sup> May ...

Lottie Rose Palk

... on 27<sup>th</sup> May ...

Oliver Michael Harrop

... on 17<sup>th</sup> June ...

Joel James Johnson and Jensen Kole Johnson

Confirmed by Mark Davies, Bishop of Middleton

On Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> June at St. Wilfrid's Church ...

Elizabeth Gibson, Fiona Marshall-Holmes,  
Elizabeth Howells, Dominic Johnson,

*And from the Nigerian Congregation ~*  
James Anjolaoluwa Onasanya.

## Parish Fees.

You may be aware that in 2012 there was no increase over 2011 in the fees charges by the church for weddings and funerals. Such fees are fixed centrally and in 2011 there was a revolt in the Church's parliament ~ General Synod ~ when a massive increase was proposed. This was voted down, and so no increase, even a modest one, could be made at all. The reason for the proposed massive increase was that some churches were charging excessively for "extras" which were really part of the basic package ~ apparently some were charging to put the lights on, or to take down the details of the couple to be married! They argued, apparently, that they could not afford the costs of doing a wedding or a funeral unless they charged these "extras." In order to prevent such abuses the central church's response was to increase the basic fees allowed to every church, and to make it clear that extras were not allowed. I am not sure that I understand the logic of that, but it is probably true that the church as a whole is charging a lot less for weddings or some features of a funeral than a comparable "venue", be it a plush hotel or a municipal cemetery.

The upshot of all this is that a new set of fees, and a new structure is proposed taking effect from January 2013. The structure will only affect the clergy, or whoever else has to administer it. But for parishioners the new fees work out as a major increase on 2012 ~ partly because we have "lost" a year's inflation-based increase, and partly because the steep rises which were proposed in 2011 have now been accepted by General Synod, and will probably get through Parliament on the nod.

So, if you are planning to get married in church in 2013, the fees will now be £34 for having your banns read in a church other than where you plan to marry (no change);

£381 for the service in the church (currently £262)

Local fees (for organist, virger and bellringers) are in addition to this. Here we do not undertake flower arranging, choir, or other extras which some churches do offer. We have now been told formally that we can charge "heating" as an extra; I have never done this at St. Wilfrid's, and would not expect to. Firstly, most people would expect a "heated" church to be as uncomfortably warm as a hotel venue; we cannot manage that. And secondly, most wedding guests seem to leave church doors wide open, even in midwinter when there is a howling gale, so we cannot promise that it will be warm. The heat is turned on, however, when it seems necessary. The same is true at funerals.

Fees for funerals can get rather complicated. A basic service in church, before cremation elsewhere, will now be £160 (currently £102), but there is now to be an extra charge of £26 for the minister conducting the church service to go on to the crematorium for the committal there. (Currently not charged at all.) This does make some sense, I suppose, especially in districts where the crematorium is far further away from the parish than is the case here. Once again, the local fees for organist and virger are in addition to this, but if I am able to toll the bell there is no charge (but neither can I guarantee that it will happen, because I may be tied up with other arrangements for the service.)

Charges for full burials and the burial of ashes are also to be increased, as are the fees for installing most kinds of gravestone ~ though a new inscription on an existing stone is to be *reduced* by about 40%. I think that I shall have to prepare a poster/flysheet explaining all this nearer the time ~ if I can get my head round it all!

No charge is made for baptisms, which are at the heart of the Christian message, though a formal certificate does attract fees. Jubilee.

You may remember that in February, on the real 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Queen's accession, a team of bell-ringers tried unsuccessfully to ring a quarter peal in her honour. They tried again on the Saturday of the Jubilee celebration week-end, and this time they got it. The details were:

**1260 Plain Bob Minor**

1 Samuel L. Haste

2 Michael F. Leese

3 Malcolm Murphy

4 Andrew Tyler

5 Richard A. Wolfgang

6 K. George Lee (C)

Rung to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in 44mins (14cwt)

George Lee, who coordinated this effort, tells me that over the week-end he rang six quarter-peals, and one full peal, in various churches around Greater Manchester, and that he reckons he has now done his bit for the jubilee! Well done, all of them!

Anthem ?

G.S.F

We heard the National Anthem rather often over the Jubilee ~ or at least its first verse. The second verse is rather quaint, and perhaps not "politically correct". Should we ask God to scatter our enemies and make them fall, to confound their politicks, and frustrate their knavish tricks? OK for the 18<sup>th</sup> century, but haven't we grown out of that jingoistic nationalism? And those rhymes! They are worthy of Edward Lear or Ogden Nash! We did use the verse at the Nigerian service on 3<sup>rd</sup> June. Gideon reminded me how for his country, and less publicly our own, there *are* forces which would undermine the peace and wellbeing of our civil society, with their guns and bombs. Yes, we should pray for peace, and the frustration of evil. (If only someone would write it in better poetry!)

### **NORTHENDEN CIVIC SOCIETY.**

**GSF**

This meets regularly on the Second Tuesday each month (except August) in St.Wilfrid's Church Hall. This is an open meeting, starting at 7.30pm, for anyone concerned about the Village.

Its discussions continue about a Neighbourhood Forum ~ what area it might cover, do its advantages outweigh the limitations and the amount of work (not apparently funded!) that it would take on. Personally I reckon it is worth pursuing, though I should like to know more about it before finally going ahead.

Benny ... just visiting, and standing in for Magpie

... as of 18<sup>th</sup> June "our" heron still flies incognito. There have been some lovely suggestions; if it was a matter of counting votes, Harry would win, but there are some clever puns on how he (she) is made and what she (he) represents. We shall see.

... has been asked what is happening with "that thing" at the end of Church Rd. As mentioned in June, the developers' appeal against the council's refusal to allow their extra three metres is

scheduled for 3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> July, at the Mechanics' Institute in Town, and soon after that we should know. Benny was told that to remove the offending bit could cost about £100,000 ~ which roughly represents the value of one of the two extra flats gained by the infringement.

... heard that the Police Station in Northenden is to close. It was obviously a state secret. There was no public announcement. In June the Police reps. did not turn up for the Civic Society. It only came out when someone told the Chip Shop that they wouldn't be coming in much longer. Oh, dear! What was the slogan? Careless talk costs lives. In this case, not lives, but a snub to the community from a service which we respect and trust. It is blamed on restructuring ~ which probably should be spelled c-o-s-t - c-u-t-t-i-n-g.