

# CONCORD ~ November 2011

Prayer for the Month ...

Loving Father, as we remember with thanksgiving this month lives lost in conflicts over the past century and more in this country and elsewhere, we pray for the peace of your troubled world; though the dream of a *war* to end all wars was a pipedream and we are reminded so often of nations at war with themselves or with each other, may the hope you offer in the gospel of peace bring forgiveness and reconciliation, understanding and respect, restraint of evil and a desire to see conflicts resolved, and injustice redressed.

For your name and glory's sake;                      Amen.

Northenden Rectory, Ford Lane.  
0161 998 2615

Dear Friends,

In the prayer above I have spoken of nations finding peace in the gospel message. What should we be thinking of as we voice a prayer like that; how will it "unpack"? It is a deceptively simple wish, which will mean diplomats going the extra mile to understand and explain, and to look for acceptable compromises; it may mean turning the other cheek, rather than threatening instant retaliation for some perceived offence; it will mean being ready to see ourselves as others see us; it will mean respecting people with whom we disagree; it will mean recognising that what we see as our legitimate interests (economic, perhaps) can cause hurt and can damage others' interests. This is hard enough for us to do as individuals as we pray for those who despitefully use us (and we usually apply all the words of Jesus that I have quoted above on an individual basis) so it should not surprise us to find that Nations rarely behave this way. However, I believe that the Jesus who wept over Jerusalem because it did not take this message to heart, and then suffered for it, saw it as a message for his and any nation, not just individual followers.

Can I raise something which email subscribers to Concord have already heard about. I hope you won't be offended if I use church and parish connections to promote a project which I have been involved with for some years now, though the lead on it has been

taken up by members of Didsbury Civic Society in recent months ~ namely the prospect of a Hydroelectric scheme on Northenden Weir.

They are looking for grant funding to support the initial design, and to get the necessary permissions to do this work. One source is through an agency called Energyshare, and the grants are given on the basis of votes cast on line on the Didsbury page of their website. I attach here the latest email I have received about this from DCS.

Well, we appear to have made it through the first round; next we have, somehow, to get through the next one where the groups are whittled down to around 10 (I didn't realise how protracted the process would be, I think there is then another competition between those 10!)

They haven't told me what we need to do next but I do know that we still need to recruit support, so please let anyone interested know what we are trying to do.

Thanks for all the support so far, you've done amazingly well!

Chris

To follow up this message and vote, follow the link below:

<http://www.energyshare.com/greening-didsbury>

Some of you may already know about this and have taken part. If so, thank-you; if not, can I commend it to you: it is *Northenden Weir and Mill*, after all. This is in a small way something which we can do to care for the created world around us, and that is a very Christian thing to do. In the Genesis stories of creation, which in very simple yet graphic terms set a pattern for human life under God, we are told that Mankind was put in the garden to till the ground *and look after it*.

Once you access the website it involves signing on as a friend of the Didsbury scheme, and then clicking on a box to vote for it, if I remember rightly.

So, with best wishes for the month, read on; *Greg Forster*

## **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

# 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

Nov. 6<sup>th</sup> 11.00am Mr. John Ream  
6.30pm United Service @ N/den Methodist Ch.  
led by the Rev. Jeremy Tresise or Mrs. Lis Tresise

13<sup>th</sup> **10.45am Remembrance Parade Service.**  
Led by the Rev. Charles Nevin.

Followed by wreath laying at the War Memorial, 11.45 approx.

20<sup>th</sup> 11.00am The Rev. David Sanders ~ Holy Communion

27<sup>th</sup> 11.00am Mrs. Kathryn Price

Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> 9.00am MESSY CHURCH  
11.00am Morning Service (details later)  
6.30pm United Service @ N/den Methodist Ch.

Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> 11.00am Morning Service (details later)

## Community Lunch

**Wed. 9<sup>th</sup> November** 12 noon – 1.30pm

... and in December Wed. 14<sup>th</sup> ~ ticket only; details next issue.

## Fun Bingo

Last Saturday of the Month (26<sup>th</sup>), 12.00 noon - 2.00pm.  
(to be confirmed in weekly notices)

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## Palatine Wind Quintet

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November in St. Wilfrid's Church;  
A Concert in aid of the Booth Centre.**

**7.30pm. ~ Refreshments Retiring collection**

The Booth centre is the Cathedral's ministry among the City's street people

# 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;

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 between 10.30 and 11.30am Sundays ...

... except when there is a Family Service in church.

Nov. 6<sup>th</sup> 10.30am Family Communion & Parade Service  
*"One God, One Mediator"*

\*\* 6.30pm United Service at N/den Methodist Ch. \*\*

13<sup>th</sup> 10.30am Remembrance Sunday ~ Holy Communion  
*"The Powers that Be"*

6.30pm Evening Worship.

20<sup>th</sup> 10.30am Holy Communion  
*"Hope and Harmony"*

6.30pm Evening Worship

27<sup>th</sup> 10.30am Morning Worship (*Advent Sunday*)  
*"Old Testament, New Testament?"*

6.30pm Holy Communion

Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> 10.30am Family Communion & Parade Service  
*"God has Spoken" (Bible Sunday).*

\*\* 6.30pm United Service @ Northenden Methodist Ch.

11<sup>th</sup> 10.30am Holy Communion  
*"The Beginning of the Gospel"*

3.00pm Inaugural service for a Nigerian Congregation.

6.30pm Evening Worship.

\*\* Our united evening services are juggled so as to avoid clashing  
with Northenden Players' Productions at the Methodist Hall. Hence  
the two consecutive months there. Watch out for January's details.

**Remembrance Sunday** will be observed at St.Wilfrid's, but the main village parade service will be at the Methodist Church, at 10.45am, followed by wreath laying at the War Memorial at 11.45.

### **The label on the box?**

You will notice some tentative titles for our morning services listed above. They reflect the obvious theme in the main reading for the day, though that is not an absolute promise that the theme will be followed in sermon, hymns and prayers. A new Christian year begins on Nov. 27<sup>th</sup>., and the official line is to follow Mark's gospel through the year. More about that later, but let me flag up that after some discussions in the Bible Study and elsewhere I am planning to interweave Mark with services focusing on parts of the Old Testament, which can all too easily get overlooked in worship based on a Communion service which rarely includes Old Testament lessons. I also hope from time to time that we shall pick up on moral issues during the year ~ perhaps once a month or so (especially if a set reading from Mark highlights this.) So be here!

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

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

Dates for your Diary ~ it's all happening!

Weds. 2<sup>nd</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> **Nov.** Bible Studies, Rectory, 8.00pm.

**NB the Farmers' Market on 5<sup>th</sup> Nov.**

Thurs. 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov. Concert ~ Palatine Wind Quintet ~ see panel

Mon. 7<sup>th</sup> Nov. Women's Group. 7.45 for 8.00pm

Weds. 16<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>, but NOT 30<sup>th</sup>, Bible Studies, Rectory, 8.00pm.

Thur. **17<sup>th</sup>**. PCC meeting, Church Hall, 7.30pm

**(NB revised date, to avoid other commitments)**

Mon. 21<sup>st</sup> School Governors' Meeting

Sat. 26<sup>th</sup> 10.00 - 11.30am Coffee Morning, Church Hall.

Wed. 30<sup>th</sup> Evening Meeting for Communion Assistants @ Burnage.

**NB the "Christmas" Farmers' Market on Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>.**

Mon. 5<sup>th</sup> 7.00pm (?) Women's Group (Christmas Party ?) Rectory

Wed. 7<sup>th</sup> 8.00pm Bible Study, Rectory. (Christmas)

Sat. 10<sup>th</sup> 10am Coffee Morning & Cake Sale for St.Anne's Hospice

And looking well ahead, there will be a **Confirmation** here in St.Wilfrid's on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> June, 2012, at 6.30pm.

## The Parish Registers –

### In Memoriam ...

Jack Ingham (Howard Rd.) 80. Vera Boden (Chorlton) 80.

## Married in the Parish Church ...

... on Sept. 16<sup>th</sup>:

Rebecca Joanne Holland to Steven James Mansell

... on Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>:

Cherylyn Lorraine Rawlinson to Karl Andrew Kemp.

## Baptised ... on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> September ...

Ben David James Toland, Max Oliver Gabriel Toland,  
Lily May Toland.

David Andrew Peter Driver,

Mason Thomas William Driver, Zachary Driver,

## Women's Group.

Further meetings on Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> with Rose Mossie talking about being an Air Hostess, and Dec. 5<sup>th</sup>. (Probably a party!) SDF.

## Thank You ~ Children's Society Coffee Morning.

Joan Mycock has asked me to let everyone know that the coffee morning on 15<sup>th</sup> Oct. raised £114 for the society, and to thank everyone who came to support it, and especially Joan Tucker, Joan Robertson, Kit Wardle and Pauline Barber for sterling work in the kitchen (so sterling, in fact, that they blew the fuses twice) and Roni and Warren Armstrong and Gwyneth Lloyd for manning the sales tables. Thank you to them, and of course to Joan herself for setting everything up and managing it. GSF

# Church Road

# Chippy

78 Church Rd., Northenden

**Fish, chips, peas, sausages, pies, ...**



**Best quality food**

**tel. 0161 998-4630**

### A New Congregation ...

You will note, in the schedule of services for 11<sup>th</sup> Dec., the mention of an inaugural service for a Nigerian Congregation. It has been a pleasure over the past year or so to share in worship with the Ven. Gideon Ilechukwu, and other Nigerian friends, including Emeka Akobi, who was on a training course for the ministry in Nigeria before he came over here. There is a good number of Nigerians in Manchester, many of them Anglicans, though they find our English Anglicanism rather unenthusiastic, I'm afraid. We could do better (as the old school report said) but in parallel with that the bishop has agreed that a Nigerian Anglican congregation should be established, no doubt operating at least some of the time in Ibo, not English. Bishop Mark will be launching this, with Gideon, and other Nigerian clergy working in Liverpool and London, at a service at 3.00pm on 11<sup>th</sup> December. More news of that in later editions of Concord, as it develops.

### Magpie...

... have you sorted out what is special about the grid on our cover this month? It comes from the Spanish pilgrimage town of Santiago di Compostela, and is one of the tokens used by pilgrims to that place, linked with our Lord's half-brother, James. What is so special about the sequences of numbers in the grid, and once you have sorted that out, what might it signify as a pilgrim token? But now read on.

... takes a keen interest in the weather. Wouldn't you if you had to be out flying around in all weathers! So when people look at the wonderful crop of berries and other fruit that we have this year and say "it's going to be a hard winter," he takes notice. But should he? What the berries, and apples and all the rest are demonstrating is not what is coming, but what was. Specifically, what was in spring 2011, when, you remember, we had warm, still days in which the flowers could blossom without being blown to bits, and the fruit could set without being knocked off the trees. Whether there is a kind of built in compensation in creation he cannot say ~ Not a kind of pay-back (it was nice then, so we will suffer for it now) but a balance (one extreme swing leads to another.) Even past performance is no guarantee of future events, but it would be

interesting to see whether previous fine springs were followed by harsh winters.

... was looking at the river Goyt recently, in Stockport. There is a Hydro-electric scheme being put into the Otterspool Weir, near Romiley, which is well worth looking at (computer-users could try searching for Stockport Hydro). Twice as he was looking at the weir a fish ~ a Salmon ~ tried to leap the falls. A number of people had stopped there just to look for the fish, quite apart from the hydro-scheme. It is something you think would involve a long trek into the wilds of Canada, or Scotland, or perhaps only on TV introduced by some intrepid wildlife explorer, but here it is on our doorstep. There is a certain wow-factor in this! Wow! Have there been any sightings on our own weir, or its fish-pass?

... a couple of months ago Magpie noted that both Northenden, and Chretien Rd. appeared to be unique. The same seems to be true of Kenworthy, which was a cluster of houses, a hamlet, within Northenden at the end of Kenworthy Lane. An internet search has turned up a lot of entries, but it seems the only geographical one refers to our Kenworthy. All the rest are for individuals, or roads in Hackney or Brentwood named after people. A site which specialises in surnames refers back only to the one "place in Cheshire" as the origin of the name. This is what they say it meant; "It derives from the Old English pre-7th Century personal name Cyna, (a short form of compound names with the first element "cyne" meaning "Royal", or cena, meaning "Bold") plus the Old English "worthing" ~ "enclosure". Variations in the spelling include Kinworthy, Kenworthey etc." If you look at the earliest Ordnance Survey maps you will see it spelled as Kennedy, or Kennerdy, which is how it was pronounced around here in 1840. Once more we are unique. Incidentally, and probably coincidentally, there is a professor somewhere in America called Lane Kenworthy.

... was in a hospital recently and was looking at the chart in the chaplaincy office of all the religious festivals from all the main recognised religions found in the UK. July caught his eye. There was only one Christian festival listed ~ St.Swithun's day on 15<sup>th</sup>. What does that say about our English fixation on the weather?

... oh, and that numerical riddle. Did you get it? Whichever way you add up any line of four ~ horizontally, vertically or on the long diagonal ~ it comes to 33. Since that was the reputed age of Jesus at the crucifixion it is used as a Christian symbol at Compostela. But could you create a different grid with

some different total at the end? I can't immediately create one, but that doesn't mean there isn't. Could that be the new sudoku?

## **No. 1 Church Rd ?**

Greg Forster, 17/10/11

Well, what else do you call it? Seriously, anyone who can think of a good, sensible name should put it forward. (I know there have been a few wacky suggestions in Magpie's earlier comments on the place, but I understand that the developers are now actually looking for serious ideas. But not *Northenden Point*, please!)

Perhaps now is a time to take stock about the controversy. Back in 2004 people in Northenden were crying out for the derelict site to be improved. Many of us had a vision for a small park, or almost a village green. Others dreamed of proper car parking for the shopping area of the village. Neither were to be, given the value of the site for development. Planning permission was given then for fourteen flats with parking for only 8 cars. We were promised a four storey building with accommodation in the roof. It was to be an iconic building that would put Northenden on the map. Our councillors at the time were enthusiastic about that, and John (*2-Jags*) Prescott's Government policy was to discourage car use.

Whether we like it or not, that was what was accepted then through the proper legal channels. The Civic Society was more or less equally split over it, if I recall rightly. I think that in the end, with some uncertainty, I backed it then, so far as I understood it. I don't think that I envisaged that the "accommodation in the roof" was going to be as prominent as it has turned out. Given that this was what was accepted, through the proper channels, I do not believe that we can or should expect *that* plan to be reversed, even if some of us have been shocked by how it has turned out. Some of the recent opposition to the building has been an attempt to reverse *that* decision as much as a reaction to its recent modifications.

Over the next few years nothing happened, and many of us lobbied (or just grumbled) to see something done. Planning and Regeneration officers of the council rightly pressed the developers for action, but the economic situation had changed and, so I have been told, the building as planned was no longer viable. Some of the flats were of a design – a "duplex" (in effect two storey units) – that would not now sell. Here is where the controversy begins. The developers will tell you that under pressure from their bank they raised this matter with the council officers, and were encouraged to proceed with a building slightly higher at the rear creating two extra

single storey flats, and to apply for retrospective permission to do so, which they concluded would be granted easily.

Now, if they had gone public about this immediately ~ in other words in August or September 2010 or thereabouts ~ I might have objected, but not too strenuously. As it is, despite queries and challenges directed to the Planning authority by many people, not just the Civic Society, we were told that the building (that was by then reaching its full, new height) was as planned. Only in November or December was the paperwork submitted to the council, and public notice was given shortly before Christmas. And, from what we hear, it was only because of the local pressure that the revised scheme did not go through on the nod as an internal decision by planning officers, not even councillors.

All I can say is that something was done cack-handedly somewhere. The developers assure me that they did not intend to be underhand in all this. However, I find it difficult to believe that blue-prints were not available somewhere before steel was ordered and cut, and I am puzzled that these could not have been submitted hot off the press in late summer. It is hardly surprising that many people have smelled a rat, even if there is no rat there to smell.

So, in October 2011 we have seen the revised plans turned down by Manchester City Council, and the developers have decided, rather than going directly to an expensive appeal, to submit a new application for retrospective permission for what they have built. That application seems substantially the same as the last one, though it does offer a few more parking spaces.

Out of all this, I think that these developers ~ and one hopes all developers in the City ~ have learned that they do need to respect the planning process and the council properly. The Planning department have learned, one hopes, to consult more fully with local people as they consider applications. (And one hopes also that this will survive our present government's intentions to slim down planning controls drastically, and that their ideas will not give developers *carte blanche*, as some seem to think.) And out of this too the councillors have perhaps rediscovered that they have teeth.

But we are now faced with a standing building. It will not be to anyone's advantage, I believe, for it to remain empty and become derelict. While almost anything is possible technically, it would be difficult, dangerous and very expensive to remove the offending 2 or 3 metres, and move the lift motors. There are already problems of safety as the security barriers that surround it

have been blown over in recent gales. There is talk of "Section 106" compensation to the community, through which a developer pays towards projects in the neighbourhood by way of making up for damage caused. I should like to see this provision used to ensure that our developers do not benefit from sidestepping the rules, so that they gain no profit out of their extra flats. They are, I understand, looking for projects to support in this way. They clearly have funds to draw on. Making more public parking available in the village for shoppers would be the greatest contribution, I reckon. Other ideas are safety barriers near the traffic lights, funds for CCTV, and additions to the Riverside Park. Any other thoughts or suggestions?

### **On the Run ~ 201.2km Gold Challenge.**

Tyrone and Katy McIvor are parishioners of St. Wilfrid's Church in Northenden and are taking part in the 201.2km Gold Challenge ~ a sponsored run ~ in aid of Dementia UK. Katy writes:

"We are aiming to run this over a 6 week period.

I work as a Psychologist and spend a great deal of time with people with dementia and their carers. I see everyday how the right support can help people maintain their quality of life in the face of this very difficult illness. I also see how carers can only maintain their role if they also look after themselves, ~ however support is needed to achieve this.

Dementia UK is a very worthy charity which works to provide support for people whose lives are touched by this condition and the inspiration of their work helps me to maintain my focus on completing our Gold Challenge.

On a personal level, Tyrone and I got married in St. Wilfrid's earlier this year. We frequently went running before the wedding, with our beautiful sausage dog Bella, to shift a few of those last stubborn pounds!! Doing this challenge is an excellent way of keeping that motivation going, helps us to spend time together and work off the stress of the day. We are currently around 75% of the way through our challenge and are hoping to raise £500.00 (or more). Keep an eye out for us in the South Manchester area!!

If you would like to make a donation towards our challenge for Dementia UK please go to ...

[www.virginmoneygiving.com/team/McIvorGoldChallenge](http://www.virginmoneygiving.com/team/McIvorGoldChallenge) and a collection box should be found at the rear of St Wilfrid's Church."

They supplied a photo, but unfortunately the format won't convert to black and white for Concord. GSF.