



## The Halewood-Hunts Cross Team



### Welcome to worship!

Almighty God,  
give us reverence for all creation  
and respect for every person,  
that we may mirror your likeness  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

### Services today – Sunday 26 February 2017 Sunday before Lent

St Hilda's		St Nicholas'		St Mary's	
9:00 AM	Holy Communion	9:00 AM	No Service	10.30 AM	GMJC
11:00 AM	P1:MW P2:AAW	11:00 AM 12.45 PM	Holy Communion Baptisms		

### Services next Sunday 5 March 2017 Lent

St Hilda's		St Nicholas'		St Mary's	
9:00 AM	Holy Communion	9:00 AM	Holy Communion	10.30 AM	Morning Worship
11:00 AM	P1:MW P2:AAW HC	11:00 AM	Morning Worship		

### Duties in Church for next Sunday (5 March 2017)

	St Hilda's	St Nicholas'	St Mary's
<b>Ministry Team</b>		Graham Milford	RG
<b>Duty Warden/Steward</b>		ST/LW	PB
<b>Sidespeople</b>		D Kenwell/T Mason	S Chandler
<b>Readings</b>		<b>Room 5:12-19</b> K Allen	<b>Room 5:12-19</b> T Murrall
		<b>Matt 4:1-11</b> J Bullen	<b>Matt 4:1-11</b> N Chandler
<b>Prayers</b>		G Bullen	G Dover
<b>Tea Rota</b>		L Green/S Jones	N Chandler/M Cox
<b>Crèche</b>		K Griffin/J Wells <i>P Hatchard</i>	
<b>Communion Stewards</b>			
<b>Communion Servers</b>			

# NOTICES

## Midweek Worship and Forthcoming Services

### *St Mary's Care Centre Service*

The next St Mary's Care Centre Service will take place on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2017, starting at 11:30AM. A three-course lunch will be available after the service at a cost of £5.00. This will need to be booked in advance. Tel: 486 4873 before 9:30AM on the day of the service.

### *Morning Prayers*

Most Monday's at St Nicholas at 9:15AM – please check with a member of the Team, particularly across holiday periods!

### *Thursday Holy Communion*

Each Thursday morning we meet at St Nicholas' for an informal Communion service, starting at 9:15AM. This is followed by Coffee Shop at the St Nicholas' Centre

## Children and Young People

**100% BOSS** Alternate Tuesday's at St. Mary's from 5:30-7:00pm. For children in school years 4-7. We are Children's University registered.

**"NEXT LEVEL"** Alternate Tuesday's at St. Mary's from 5:30pm-7:00pm. For 7 - 11 year olds.

**JAM Club** Wednesday at St. Mary's, after school club 3:00pm - 5:00pm. For children in reception to school year 6. We are Children's University registered.

### *Vineyard Youth Club*

Meet Fridays 7.30pm to 9.30pm in term time in St Nicholas Centre. Waiting list for new members. Contact [hilary.mason24@gmail.com](mailto:hilary.mason24@gmail.com)

## Other notices

### What does it mean to have a relationship with God?

We are going to run some courses to enable anyone to find out!

There are three different options so pick the one that you like the sound of the most, and sign up at the back of church (to express your interest). There will be a number throughout the year, starting mid-March onwards and you'll be in small groups of up to 10 people.

Probably the most important part of any course is the chance to share thoughts and ideas on the topic, and simply discuss it in a small group. There's no obligation to say anything and there's nothing you can't say (seriously). It's an opportunity to hear from others and contribute your own perspective in an honest, friendly and open environment

#### **Option 1: Start! (6 weeks – one session per week)**

Start! introduces Christianity through six DVD based interactive, small-group sessions. The Start! course makes no assumptions about participants' background or experience or knowledge of Christianity or the church. It really does start from scratch.

Each session lasts about 90 minutes and is based around short, lively DVD programmes - two per session. Down-to-earth 'vox pop' interviews and settings including Blackpool beach, a fun fair, shopping centre and a junk yard prompt lively discussion. There's time to chat, interactive exercises and space for reflection - all in a style that aims to be honest and enjoyable.

The six weeks look at:

- Is there a meaning to life?
- Does God exist?
- If he does how can we experience him?
- Why is our life often such a mess?
- Who was Jesus?
- How does this affect us?

## **Option 2: Pilgrim (6 weeks – one session per week)**

A course for anyone who wants to know more about the Christian journey. It uses bible passages, DVD clips, a written reflection and discussion to help anyone who wants to find out more about the Christian faith. This is a more traditional and reflective course for those who are new to Christianity or who want to re-ignite their faith.

Six 90 minute sessions, based on the Baptism service, cover:

- Do you turn to Christ?
- Do you believe and trust in God the Father?
- Do you believe in his Son Jesus Christ?
- Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?
- Do you repent of your sins?
- Do you renounce evil?

## **Option 3: Alpha (10 weeks – one session per week)**

Alpha is a series of 10 sessions exploring the Christian faith. Each talk looks at a different question around faith and is designed to create conversation. Alpha is run all around the globe (29 million people have been on it), and everyone's welcome. No two Alphas look the same, but generally they have three key things in common: food (maybe), a talk and good conversation.

The DVD talks are designed to engage and inspire conversation. They explore the big issues around faith and unpack the basics of Christianity, addressing the questions:

- Who Is Jesus?
- Why Did Jesus Die?
- How Can I Be Sure of My Faith?
- Why and How Should I Read the Bible?
- Why and How Do I Pray?
- How Does God Guide Us?
- Who Is the Holy Spirit?
- What Does the Holy Spirit Do?
- How Can I Be Filled With the Spirit?
- How Can I Resist Evil?
- Does God Heal Today?

- Why and How Should We Tell Others?
- How Can I Make the Most of the Rest of My Life?

## **Healing, History and Vision meetings**

Thanks to all who attended the recent Q & A meetings about Frank's resignation, and also the Healing & History meetings last week. They were helpful times to explore our shared past. We have one further pair of meetings arranged to look at our identity and the future:

**Vision:** Monday 27th February 7.30pm at St Mary's, and Thursday 2nd March 11am St Nic's Centre

The two meetings on each subject will be identical so you should only need to come to the evening or daytime session.

Richard

## **Communion before Confirmation**

The Diocese of Liverpool introduced measures in 2006 to allow children to take communion before confirmation. The Halewood Church Council has agreed that we should follow the Diocesan process of discernment within our LEP. We do this with the blessing of the Methodist Superintendent.

On 2<sup>nd</sup> March 7.30pm for 7.45pm at the St Nics Centre, we will hold an open meeting to begin the process of looking at this issue afresh. Rev Clive Doran, the Bishop's advisor, will lead the meeting. All are welcome and we look forward to having a full and open discussion on the subject with members of both churches.

## **Sidespersons' meeting**

There will be a sidespersons' meeting on Sunday 5 March at the St Nicholas' Centre starting after morning worship at just after 12 and lasting for about 30 minutes. This meeting is for existing sidespersons and anyone who might be interested in joining these teams of people at both St Nicholas' and St Mary's. Please do your best to make this meeting where we will be talking particularly about enhancing the welcome we give to all.

**The 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the opening of St Mary's** will be celebrated on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> March, 3pm at St Mary's. The Bishop of Liverpool will be there with the Chair of the Methodist District. There will be no morning service at St Mary's that day nor at St Nicholas. The parade service will take place on Mothering Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> March.

### **St Mary's 50th Anniversary**

We need to do a bit of tidying up for the service on 12th March. I realise there will be a walk that day, but if you're not walking can you spare a bit of time to do a bit of hoovering or a bit of dusting or clean a window or two or a bit of weeding - or anything! 10 til 12 on the Saturday morning. Refreshments provided (?birthday cake). It would be much appreciated.

### **ST. MARY'S ELECTORAL ROLL/MEMBERSHIP ROLL**

The Church Electoral Roll is being revised. If your name is not on the Roll displayed in the Foyer and you wish your name to be entered, please complete an enrolment form, which you will find at the back of Church, and hand to Ray Connor by **Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2017 (amendment to last weeks notice)**. Would you also let Ray Connor know if you have changed your address during the last 12 months.

**April Fools' Trivia Quiz Saturday 1st April** in St Nicholas Centre. Bring own refreshments. All proceeds to St Nicholas Building Fund. Ticket price £5 now available from Gill Muir or Pat Hatchard.

### **Easter Egg Hunt - Sunday 2nd April**

2pm St Nicholas Centre

Tickets £2.50 to include hunt and Easter egg!

Arts & Crafts

Tea & homemade cake

Please see Kat Griffin, Debbie Kenwell, Vanessa Bevan, Liz Simon, Claire Madelosa, Jayne Ryland for tickets

### **THE REAL EASTER EGG!!**

We are again taking orders for "The Real Easter Egg" there are order forms at the back of St Mary's and in the porch at St Nicholas.

This year there are 4 types of egg available - The Original Real Easter Egg,

the Special Edition and the Dark Chocolate one. All of these have a chocolate bar and an Easter story leaflet. There is also a Divine Milk Chocolate Gourmet Popcorn Egg available.

If you would like to order any of these please fill in the form and give it to one of the Fairtrade team or contact Penni on 0151 498 4240 or 07990953334.

### **Knowsley Foodbank @ St Mary's**

Thank you to everyone who donates to the Knowsley Foodbank. In the three months before Christmas 558.39kg of food were donated. These donations included both food and toiletries and everything was sent to the main warehouse of the Knowsley Foodbank in Kirkby.

However, the system is changing slightly and we are being asked to keep any donated toiletries in Halewood which our volunteers will then make up into small parcels. Each one will include a note to say that it is a gift from the churches in Halewood. We still need food, but please consider including one toiletry item with your donation which can be placed in the box in either church or handed in at St Mary's on a Saturday morning. We do not need toilet rolls as these are provided from Kirkby. Items required for both men and women are:

**Shampoo Shower gel Soap Toothpaste Deodorant**

**Halewood Theatre Club** presents.....'**Listen**' a comedy ghost story with mild offensive language on **Friday 7th and Saturday 8th April** in the WI Hall Baileys Lane. Ticket price £4.50 now available from Gill Muir or any member of Halewood Theatre Club.

### **Would anyone like to be an assistant verger?**

I am the verger for St Nicholas' and St Mary's and the assistant is currently Flo Owens, who was previously verger. We are looking for someone who would like to be trained as a further assistant, to help especially at large weddings and funerals and who could act as verger on their own once trained if I am not available (or by agreement). You would need to agree to a DBS (criminal records) check for safeguarding purposes.

The verger's duties are concerned with weddings and funerals at St Nicholas' and St Mary's and an assistant verger therefore needs to be reasonably available during the day on weekdays and weekends. Most

weddings are on Saturdays, but funerals are usually on weekdays and burials of ashes are often on Sundays after services.

The role involves liaising with the church office or churchwardens about dates and arrangements, attending any wedding rehearsal, opening and setting up the church beforehand, meeting the families and assisting during the service (eg playing CDs, taking the collection), and clearing up afterwards and locking up. The vergers also complete the burial and service records and counts the collection (and may be asked to complete marriage records). The assistant would only have to complete records once they were confident enough to do a service on their own. I would provide on the job training and written guidance, and nobody would be asked to “go solo” before they were ready! The vergers are paid a fee for each service, and once fully trained, the assistant vergers would either share the fee with me or receive the whole fee if they were doing a service by themselves.

As St Mary’s does not have many weddings or funerals, the role would mainly involve work at St Nicholas’ – but that doesn’t mean someone at St Mary’s can’t apply! I have found the vergers’ role really rewarding – it is a chance to give something back to the church, meet people and serve God by making a difference to people’s lives at an important time, helping either a sad or happy event run as smoothly as possible.

Please do have a think about whether this appeals to you, and contact me at church, on 425 3517 or 07759 007299, or via email on

[nandkcooper@gmail.com](mailto:nandkcooper@gmail.com).

Kate Cooper

### **Future fundraising events at St Nicholas’ Centre**

Afternoon Tea - 7<sup>th</sup> May

Quiz - 14<sup>th</sup> October

Murder Night - 18<sup>th</sup> November

Mulled Wine & Mince Pie

Film Night 21<sup>st</sup> December