

The churches of St Modwen, St Aidan and St Paul Burton upon Trent



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**OCTOBER 2020
NEWSLETTER**

<u>ST MODWEN'S</u>	WEDNESDAY SATURDAY SUNDAY	10.45am 10.00am – 12 noon 11.00am	Holy Communion Church open for personal prayer Service
<u>ST PAUL'S</u>	WEDNESDAY SUNDAY	11.00am – 1.30pm 12 noon 9.30am	Church open for personal prayer Holy Communion Holy Communion Followed by social distancing coffee meet
<u>ST AIDAN'S</u>	SUNDAY	11.00am	Service

At the time of going to print both St Aidan's & St Paul's unfortunately remain closed

St Modwen's are allowed to open as they are not in the restricted area.

Details will be on the notice sheet of when the churches can re-open

Dear friends, time ticks by but with little prospect it seems of major changes in how we are allowed to live out our faith by way of public worship. There is perhaps some hope in the latest pronouncement of the County Council which advises that the four wards in Burton having extra restrictions are seeing a diminishing COVID infection rate. We can but monitor the situation and take any opportunity for pressing for a relaxation when the time is right; however, the national picture suggests such opportunities will be rare.

There are several noteworthy developments within the Diocese just now. One is the nomination of Archdeacon Matthew as our new Area Bishop. Matthew will be consecrated on 28th January and installed on 7th February 2021. Although Bishop Michael's plans on interim arrangements for the Archdeacon role are still under wraps, I can realistically expect my role as Associate Archdeacon to ramp up somewhat from the middle of October until a new Archdeacon is appointed. Another development is the rallying of Rural Deans to shortly to be held 'cluster' meetings. These gatherings led by Bishop Michael and Julie Jones (CEO) will launch a necessary initiative to look at the missional structure of deaneries and clergy deployment within them. The projected £6m shortfall in diocesan income over the next two years, attributable to the COVID situation, will need careful management and much innovative thinking. I feel this will not simply be a rearrangement of the deckchairs – for the CofE to be present, engaged and structured sustainably at parish level it will require the dreaded 'C' word.... Change!

The way forward for vacant parishes just now is being looked at centrally against the deanery backdrop and each treated according to their financial position, numerical and missional strength together with their strategic positioning with respect to known and potential mission opportunities. The inclusion of Rural Deans and the special working groups which they will form is to ensure that the 'central' view is well-informed by local knowledge and aspirations. Our future election of representatives to both Deanery and Diocesan Synods should take into account the gravity of the decisions with which they will have to wrestle during the coming term.

It will be important to hold all this work in prayer. I hear of a diocesan-wide, 24-hour prayer initiative place on Friday, 23rd October. As far as I can make out, the intention is to provide an opportunity for individuals and groups within the Diocese to pray for our shared mission particularly as expressed in the Diocesan Vision... "As we follow Christ in the footsteps of St Chad, we pray that the two million people in our diocese encounter a church that is confident in the gospel, knows and loves its communities, and is excited to find God already at work in the world. We pray for a church that reflects the richness and variety of those communities. We pray for a church that partners with others in seeking the common good, working for justice as a people of hope."

I remain very frustrated that my main task in joining you for this defined period is still beyond what can be achieved due to the impossibility of getting people together. Nonetheless, a solution for the B3 will be forthcoming against the backdrop of what I've described above. In the meantime, remember that we are offering the 'Spiritual MOT', six-session course on discipleship from Tuesday, 6th October. Each session will be available for you to join on Zoom with the meeting ID: **962 5782 5331** and Passcode: **134074**. These details will remain the same for each session which begin at 2.00pm and last for 90 minutes. I will have a supply of booklets at St Modwen's on the first Sunday of October but the pages can also be sent by email if you want to join in but can't collect one. Just ask!

Best wishes to you all.
Fr Terry

Parish Notes

It has been announced that Matthew Parker (Archdeacon of Stoke) has been appointed the new Bishop of Stafford.



Fr Terry will continue his position of Associate Archdeacon and that role will become a little more intense for a while.



Congratulations to Paige and Tom Spence on the birth of Olive Anastasia, sister to Edie and grandchild of Sue Ganley. Mum and baby doing well.



ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING – ST AIDAN & ST PAUL

The PCC met by “Zoom” on 8th September. It was decided that our Annual Parochial Church Council meeting would be held at St Modwen’s Church on Wednesday, 21st October at 7.00pm. We will be electing Churchwardens, Deanery Synod Representatives (3 from St Paul, 1 from St Aidan) and three members from each church for the Parochial Church Council.

The nominations for churchwardens are available from Sue Ganley (hard copy) or email forms from Maureen.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING – ST MODWEN

The meeting will take place on Sunday 25th October after the 11.00am service. Please contact the churchwardens for forms to elect Churchwardens, Deanery Synod Representatives and PCC members.



REMEMBERING MARGARET McKERNAN



Margaret was a very special lady of deep faith, loved by everyone, especially by her extensive family but also by the family of St Paul’s and everyone else who associated with her. She was a St. Paul’s person through and through, always present at the Sunday Mass and the social gatherings of the Church – annual fairs, coffee mornings and so on. She was for a period, Electoral Roll Officer for the Parish.

Unfortunately, she did not have good health although very few knew about it. For this reason, about 4/5 years ago, she found it difficult, under her own steam, to get to the Sunday service. However, help was at hand and Valerie would pick her up then take her home again so allowing her to continue to be part of our Parish family. Ultimately, about 2 years ago, even that arrangement became a little too much and it was then my pleasure and privilege to take the Holy Sacrament to her at home once a fortnight on a Monday afternoon. We would use the form of service set out in Common Worship of the Church of England for the Holy Eucharist at home or in hospital and often we would then follow that by some discussion on a particular point in the Gospel message for the day or on the Lord’s Prayer of which she was particularly fond. She maintained that it said all that the Christian faith was about. Then possibly for an hour or so after, the three of us would have a happy general discussion, full of laughter.

Obviously, because of the Covid virus, we had not seen her for 6 months or so but kept in regular communication by telephone. Indeed though obviously weak, she rang Valerie from hospital just a few days before she died.

We both miss her greatly and are sure so will many others, but we know by faith, she will have joy in the Eternal Kingdom. Peter Cammack

Several people from St Paul's attended Margaret's funeral and some gathered outside to wave "goodbye".



HOLIDAY TIME ...

I will be quarantining until Oct 7th which is a pain. In Benidorm they are certainly more Covid aware than in Burton. All wear masks in streets. Shopkeepers, bar people, waiters etc all wear masks. Spacing on the main beaches is marked out in 4 mtr squares. We go to a small cove beach so not many people there. We went to the main Levante beach and in a section where they had 50 sunbeds laid out. Only 4 people using them so definitely easy to keep apart!

The hotel was very good (we had stayed there last year) and all staff wearing masks. You had to wear a mask when walking about the hotel. In the large dining room, which was buffet style, you wore masks and gloves to get your food. You were told not to put gloves on tables but to dispose of them in the bins and get a new pair when you went up for more food. After your first 2 or 3 visits it became natural. The food was very good and such a wide variety. We were half board but could choose between having lunch or dinner with the breakfast and could choose each day.

The weather was glorious. Some days the outside thermometer read 30 degrees. We had some cloudy mornings but the sun broke through. Two days we had some showers but it was always very warm. The sea was warm to swim in, much warmer than the hotels swimming pools.

We don't go to bars and clubs so early closures didn't affect us at all.



We had asked for a room high up so we had a good view.

We were on the 22nd floor.



Flying out there were only 35 on the plane and about 60 people returning. Being near anyone was not a problem.

On the day we arrived I lost my mobile phone. We think it was in the taxi going to the hotel. We reported it to the Head Taxi office and they said a phone had been found but the driver was off for a few days as regulations for Covid meant they could only work a few days a week. We eventually asked another a taxi to radio the driver when he was back at work but when reached he said he knew nothing about a phone. We telephoned the office again. Different woman this time and she said they had one phone handed in but it was a different make to mine. We contacted the local police they had nothing handed in. Fortunately Adrian had his laptop so I was able to look at some of my emails. I cancelled the phones sim card etc. Now I am in the process of claiming insurance and will be getting a new phone when I am allowed out.

We are certainly noticing the change in temperature here.

Whilst away I was asked via email to do some filming work from my agent, but unfortunately I was wanted for a costume fitting whilst in quarantine and filming the day my quarantine ends. The agent said he would see what he could do. I was surprised, as the filming was to be in Wolverhampton which I understand to be one of the places under special measures. Oh well will see.

Mike Mear

'Christmas Shoebox Appeal 2020



For a number of years now , the good people of Burton upon Trent and district have very generously supported Christmas appeals to provide shoe boxes full of very basic but much appreciated small items to brighten up the lives of some of the poorest children in Eastern Europe and throughout the Third World.

This year we are working with **Teams 4U (registered charity no: 1114131)** to organise the distribution of these decorated shoeboxes and we are appealing to members of St Aidan's, St Modwen's and St Paul's to support this very exciting annual event.

Donors can select a boy or girl, 3 -5 yrs, 6 - 11yrs ,12+ yrs or opt for a 'family box' of small items.

Examples:-

- Boy or girl: Toothbrush/toothpaste, hair accessories/brush, soap and face cloth, stationery/paper, gloves/hat/scarf, new socks/underwear
Also include soft toy, game, puzzle, small musical instruments, toy vehicles, small rubber ball,/inflatable ball, sweets (use by date from March 2020 and a photo of yourself or a Christmas card
- Home box: Candles, cooking utensils, (no knives), plastic containers, t-towels, (preferably decorative), hairbrush, small toiletries, plastic utensils, bowls, and cups, small Christmas decoration, small decorative item, soap, washing up cloths, clothes pegs, headscarves, new socks/underwear, jewellery/make-up.

Please **do not** include: food, (except sweets), medicines, military themed items (such as soldiers, tanks, guns)aerosols, or anything highly inflammable, sharp items, novels.

If you would like to participate then please contact me on:-

01283 543550 or 0778 498 4583 or by email: tomymca@live.co.uk

A limited number of decorated boxes will be available on request and explanatory leaflets will be distributed soon.

Boxes will be collected by 15th November.

Let's bring some festive cheer to some impoverished families and children this Christmas ! '

Kind regards
Tom Foster



From Stanley – October newsletter

I qualified as a doctor in June 1975. Although, as explained in a previous magazine piece, since autumn 1972 I'd attended King's College Hospital in south London, I was not regarded as a London University student, but remained a student of Cambridge, albeit one who was "using" King's for the clinical course – like a cuckoo – for at that time Cambridge didn't have enough resources to look after all its own students (similarly for Oxford, but that's a dump so we don't mention that car factory on the upper Thames). It was, therefore, to the city on the edge of the fens that I repaired for all the exams – written, face-to-face, and with patients. In those days that meant taking the 36 minutes past alternate hours from London Liverpool Street calling at Harlow, Bishop's Stortford, Audley End and Cambridge, then on to Ely and King's Lynn.

I have two abiding exam memories from summer 1975.

The first is the Obstetrics and Gynaecology clinical exam. I was instructed to take a history from (jargon for find out all you can by asking questions of) the patient. So I did. After about 10 minutes, the examiner hove into view to give me the third degree in front of the lady in the bed. The examiner – coincidence or what? – was one of the King's consultants, Michael Brudenell, a descendant of the Charge of the Light Brigade Brudenells. If he recognized me, he didn't let on. Surprisingly, his first words to me were "why would Mrs X know more about her pregnancy than most people in the ward?" A strange question, you might think. In those days I was a very quick thinker and I said without hesitation "because she is a librarian". Think about that – he wanted to know if I'd been thorough enough to discover her occupation. I certainly had – such detail was drummed into us from the beginning.

The next question was "what advice would you give her about feeding the baby?" Without hesitation I said "breast is best." "Come, come" said Mr Brudenell, "explain yourself". "Because" says I "cow's milk is for cows, and human's milk is for humans". Then I thought "you fool, Monkhouse, this is not the time for being a clever dick". Mr Brudenell looked at me for about three seconds – which is a very long time when your underpants are at risk from being soiled. "Haw, haw haw! Very good, Monkhouse. Off you go." And that was that. He didn't want to know if I'd read the latest research (I hadn't), or knew the likely cause of a very rare disease found only in Papua New Guinea (I didn't). All he wanted to know was that I was safe and thorough. He evidently thought so. By the way, I am right about cow's milk. It's more poisonous to humans than is generally acknowledged. Think snot, allergies, bellyache, belching, colonic dysfunction, farting, lactose intolerance, and more. As a child of the 1950s in a Cumberland village I had milk from an uncle's cows poured down my throat. I speak from sad experience and numerous unnecessary hospitalizations. It was another hospital consultant at King's – can't remember the name – who said that 'cows milk should come in bottles labelled "poison"'.

The other 1975 exam memory is being grilled by three eminent surgeons, all professors or Knights of the Realm. It went something like this.

Examiner: Good morning. Take a seat. Name?

Me: Monkhouse (no such thing as Christian names then).

Examiner: College?

Me: Queens'.

Examiner: And which medical school?

Me: King's, London.

Examiner: Haw, haw, haw, a royal flush, eh? Haw, haw!

After I'd picked myself up from rolling around on the floor in appreciative laughter, I was shown a radiograph (x-ray) of a wrist. There was a fracture of the bone at the base of the thumb where it meets the wrist. I recognized it.

Me: Ah, a Bennett's fracture.

Examiner: Good, Monkhouse, very good. *Pause.* Tell me, who was Bennett?

Me, confidently, looking smug: a nineteenth century Dublin surgeon.

Examiner, surprised: Oh. *Long pause. Quizzical look.* Was he really?

Me: I've no idea. I was just guessing. There were so many eminent nineteenth century Dublin surgeons, so I thought the chances were good that he was one of them.

Examiner: Haw, haw. Very good.

Then followed a brief discussion of fractures that can result from falling on the outstretched hand, before I was dismissed.

The irony is that Bennett was indeed a 19th century Dublin surgeon – in fact (how spooky is this?) he was one of my predecessors at the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland. There must be a God after all. The commonest wrist fracture, by the way, is named after Abraham Colles, another of my Dublin predecessors – perhaps the most famous of all. See what I mean.

It was very entertaining. Comedy really.



The Rules they keep on changing

Tune: Wir pflugen (We plough the fields and scatter)

The rules they keep on changing, do we know what is what?
Things we have to all remember – of which there seems a lot!
It looks like panic buying is starting up again,
And Christmas being cancelled – it really is a strain.

*Do the things requested, you know it all makes sense;
It should be second nature, to stop us getting tense.*

We go about our business, clad in our PPE;
It's not a choice or option, but quite mandatory.
We have the rules to follow, a mask to cover face;
And wash your hands for longer, and give each other space.

*Do the things requested, you know it all makes sense;
It should be second nature, to stop us getting tense.*

Perhaps we should fast forward, to Easter and to spring;
And hope for something better, it's not such a bad thing.
We hope this will be over, return to normal life;
Until this day is happening, put up with Covid strife!

*Do the things requested, you know it all makes sense;
It should be second nature, to stop us getting tense.*

Pat & Colin Dawson

Update from the Woolley household – it is just unfortunate that lockdown is happening again. We were starting to relax our isolation by going on walks and trips to Byrkley Park and Stapenhill gardens, having barbecues at Ali’s house which has been lovely and now it seems that we are nearly back to “Square One”.

I am still working from home. Still doing jigsaws and puzzles. (I haven’t beaten Mike Mear’s record of having done 35 jigsaws during lockdown.)



John has decided to start again his stained glass hobby after someone asked him to repair a glass picture of a cat. He is quite happy in his workroom cutting glass (although sometimes I hear the sound of tapping on the glass followed by a “blast” which means he has broken the piece!) He has made a glass “hare” ornament for Ali for which she is very pleased with.

I am pleased that Richard Osman’s House of Games is on the tv even though they are repeats, and Only Connect has started again – brilliant. Doc Martin is also a favourite programme. It is the French Open Tennis at the moment – great!

Chris Hill and John have done work on the front garden at the vicarage. I must add that John came home sweaty and exhausted! He is not used to physical work. There is still the back garden to do – any volunteers?



SAINTS AND THEIR EMBLEMS

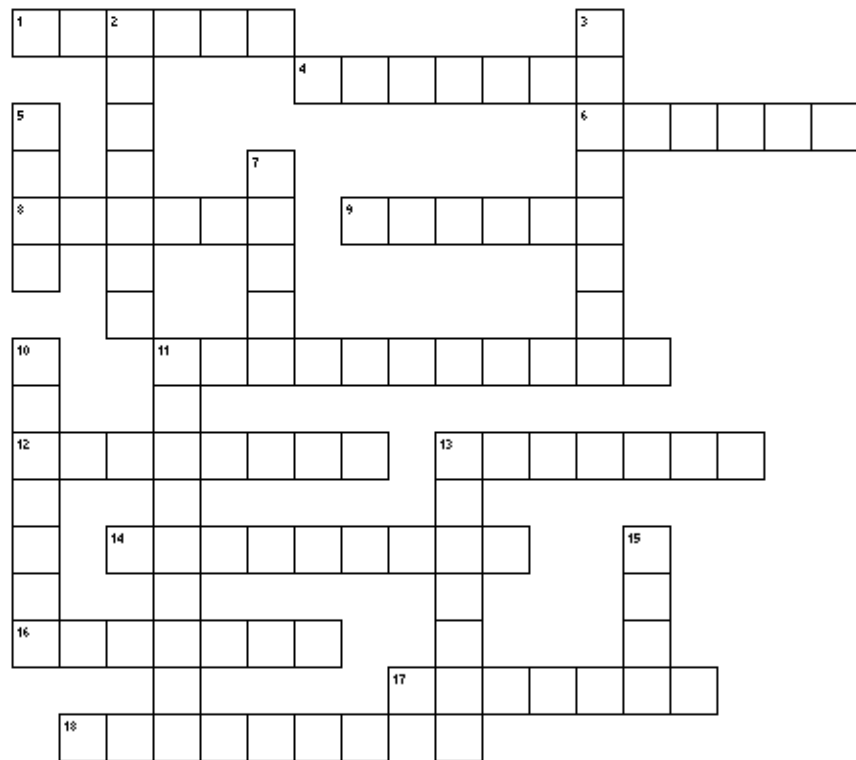
The clues are emblems of saints, can you complete the crossword? Answers next month

Clues across

- 1 chafing dish
- 4 unicorn
- 6 archer
- 8 dragon
- 9 scales
- 11 child
- 12 axe
- 13 dog
- 14 arrows
- 16 organ
- 17 jug
- 18 anchor

Clues down

- 2 beehive
- 3 grid iron
- 5 swan
- 15 keys
- 10 sparrow
- 11 wheel
- 13 candle
- 15 eagle



BIBLE STORIES ANSWERS

Across

- 1. The Queen of Sheba visits Solomon= Kings
- 3. Samson and Delilah =Judges
- 4. The visit of the Magi= Matthew
- 6. The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want= Psalms
- 10. Belshazzar's feast and the writing on the wall= Daniel
- 11. The crossing of the Red Sea= Exodus

Down

- 2. Noah's Ark= Genesis
- 3. Jesus turns water into wine= John
- 5. Peter's escape from prison= Acts
- 7. Parable of the Good Samaritan= Luke
- 8. David and Goliath= Samuel
- 9. The death of Moses= Deuteronomy

ANSWERS TO THE PHOTOGRAPHS OF CHURCHES IN TUTBURY DEANERY

1. St John's, Horninglow	2. St Mary's, Stretton	3. Holy Trinity, Anslow
4. St Chad's, Burton	5. All Saints, Burton	6. St Saviour, Branston
7. St Mary's, Rolleston	8. St Michael & All Angels, Tatenhill	9. All Saints, Rangemore

HARVEST –

Early in October we would normally be holding our Harvest Festival. It is appropriate that Colin and Pat have chosen the tune “We plough the fields and scatter” as their base for the poem.

We would normally be taking the donated produce to Reconnect. Reconnect are extremely grateful for donations of non-perishable food to fill their food parcels for needy people.

For more details contact Tom Foster.

Don't forget to tune in to 'Spiritual MOT', six-session course on discipleship from Tuesday, 6th October. Each session will be available for you to join on Zoom with the meeting ID: **962 5782 5331** and Passcode: **134074** at **2.00pm**

A PRAYER FOR ST LUKE'S DAY – 18TH OCTOBER

Almighty God,
 Who inspired Luke the physician to proclaim the love and healing power
 of your Son: give your Church, by the grace of the Spirit and through
 the medicine of the Gospel, the same love and power to heal; through
 Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THANKS TO ALL WHO HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THIS NEWSLETTER

