

DEANE CHURCH NEWS

FEBRUARY 1991

SUNDAY DIARY

3. EIGHTH BEFORE EASTER

Theme:
Christ the Healer

8.00am Communion

10.30am Family Communion

6.00pm Evensong

10. SEVENTH BEFORE EASTER

Theme:
Christ the Friend of Sinners

8.00am Communion

10.30am Morning Prayer

6.30pm Family Communion

17. FIRST IN LENT

Theme:
Temptation

8.00am Communion

10.30am Family Communion

6.30pm Evensong Service
led by a Home Group

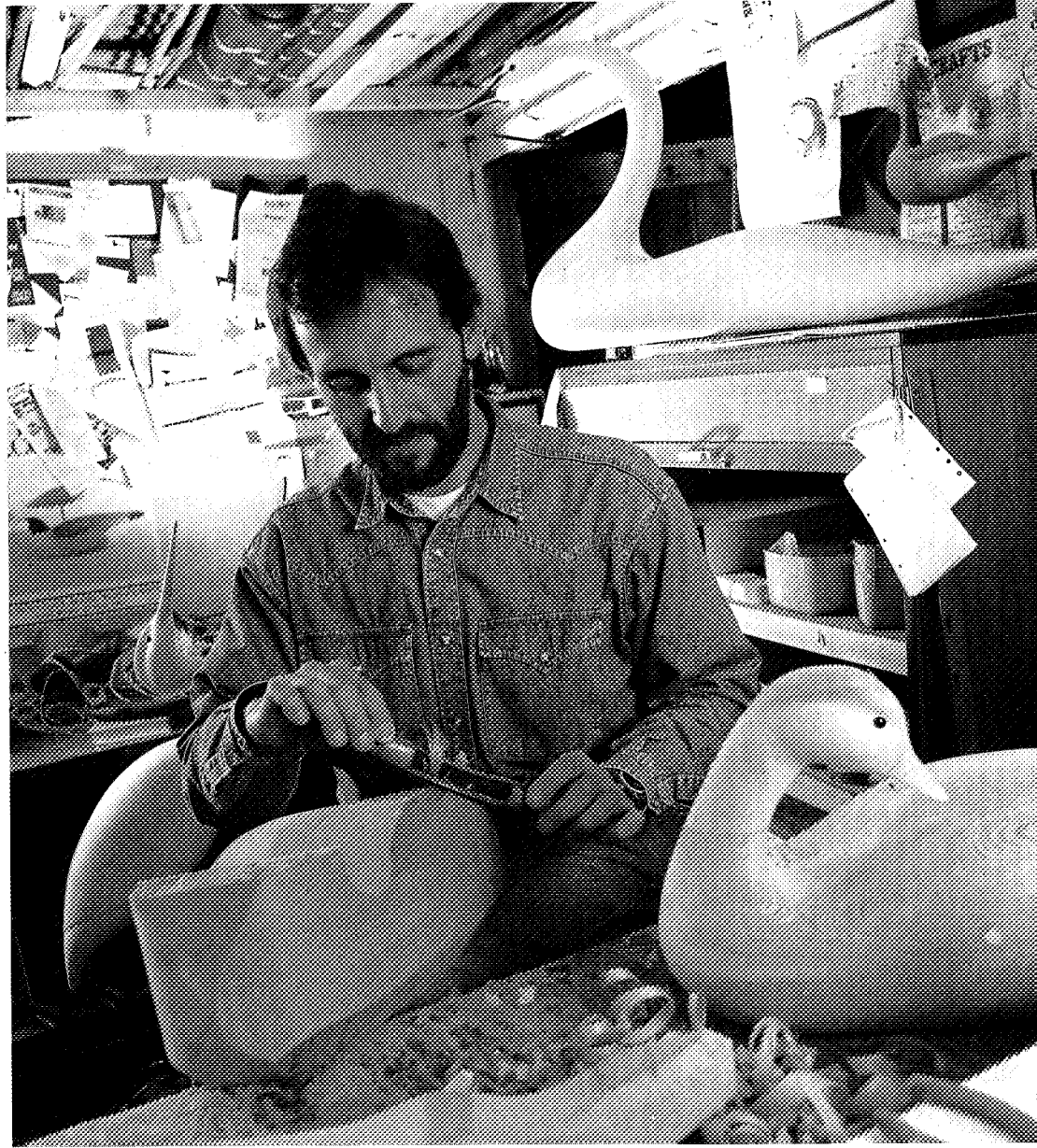
24. SECOND IN LENT

Theme:
Conflict

8.00am Communion

10.30am Family Service

6.30pm Family Communion



Wood Carving, Gloucestershire, by Paul Felix
(X series cover published by Chansitor Publications Ltd, St Mary's Works, St Mary's Plain,
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MID WEEK DIARY

Communion: Wednesday Feb 6th, 20th, 27th at 10.00am in the Church Lounge.

Home Groups: Tuesday February 5th at 1.30pm and 8.00pm.
Wednesday February 6th at 10.50am, 1.30pm and 8.00pm.

Ash Wednesday: February 13th, Communion at the Rectory at 10.00am.
Prayers Focus/Communion in the Church Lounge 8.00pm.

Saturday Night at Eight: February 16th - a chance to meet Bishop Alan and Vivienne Winstanley before they return to Peru.

Evening Outing to Borg Castel: Friday February 22nd at 6.30pm.

Lent Groups: As announced.

*26th March - Deane Church
30th March - Deane Church
Wedding*

Who's Who

Rector	Roger B. Jackson The Rectory 234 Wigan Road (61819)
Vicar	A. Robin Hazlehurst St Andrew's Vicarage Crescent Avenue (651851)
Curate	Michael W. Saunders 281 Deane Church Lane (64313)
Readers	Ken Allan 159 Newbrook Road (63231) Alison Saunders 281 Deane Church Lane (64313)
Wardens	Keith Acton 3 Mallowdale Close (42723) Terry Oakes 14 Salford Road (64362) Stan Wilson 11 Clough Meadow (492034)

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Lay Chairman	Harry Ridyard 918 Wigan Road (651157)
Hon. Secretary	Bob Barton 8 Birchfield Grove (657792)
Hon. Treasurer	Major Crook 6 Manningham Road (62463)

Chairmen of Working Groups

Mission & Unity	Pat Sewell
Pastoral	Roger Jackson
Worship	Stan Wilson
Buildings & Fabric	Harry Ridyard
Social	Brenda Dixon
Overseas Mission	Joyce Sutcliffe

OTHER OFFICIALS

Organist	Jim Needham 130 The Pewfist Westhoughton (922 812692)
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Flowers	Mary Jackson 234 Wigan Road (61819)
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MEMORIAL HALL

Bookings	Ron Morris 13 St Mary's Avenue (62548)
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Caretakers	David and Eunice McCormick 34 Junction Road (654503)
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What's On

Crèche	under 3 years
Scramblers	3 to 5 years
Climbers	5 to 7 years
<i>Meet in the Memorial Hall Lounge on Sundays at 10.30 a.m.</i>	
Pauline Ridyard (651157)	
Explorers	7 to 11 years
<i>Meet in Church at 10.30 a.m. before going to the Memorial Hall</i>	
Eric Downs (653049)	
Pathfinders	11 to 14 years
<i>Worship in Church on Sundays</i>	
<i>Club Night in the Memorial Hall on Fridays from 7.15 to 9.00 p.m.</i>	
David Dewhurst (651347)	
C.Y.F.A.	14 to 18 years
<i>Meet on Sundays at 7.45 p.m.</i>	
Alan Cheetham (61152)	

LADIES' GROUPS

Meet in the Memorial Hall

Ladies' Guild	<i>Alternate Tuesdays at 7.45 p.m.</i> Joyce Owen (61849)
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Mothers' Union	<i>Alternate Wednesdays at 2.15 p.m.</i> Janetta Makin (658270)
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UNIFORMED ORGANISATIONS

Meet in the Scout/Guide Hut

Brownies 1	<i>Mondays at 5.45 p.m.</i> Jean Hanley (654010)
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2	<i>Tuesdays at 6.30 p.m.</i> Lily Jarret (63511)
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Guides	<i>Mondays at 7.15 p.m.</i> Carol Baxendale (62106)
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Rangers	<i>Alternate Wednesdays at 7.30 p.m.</i> Judith Ashcroft (657430)
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Cubs A	<i>Thursdays at 6.30 p.m.</i> Wendy Gooding (653277)
B	<i>Wednesdays at 6.15 p.m.</i> Marjorie Oakes (64362) Pat Boydell (61450)

Rainbows	<i>Fridays at 6.30 p.m.</i> Margaret Latchford (657101)
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The Parish Office at the Rectory, 234 Wigan Road (61819) is open on Saturdays from 10.00 to 11.00 a.m. to deal with initial enquiries for Baptism and Banns of Marriage.

EDITORIAL

PEACE ON EARTH?

26th January, 1991

No sooner had we stopped singing our Christmas Carols about "Peace on Earth", than war broke out in the Middle East. It wasn't unexpected for we had had several months warning of the possibility. A great deal of prayer had been offered to God that we might be spared this possibility. I have good reason to believe that these prayers were by no means confined to practising Christians. I'm sure that devout Muslims as well as nominal believers of various religions who only resort to prayer in emergency situations will have echoed this desire for peace in their prayers. Are we to conclude that God has been deaf to our requests? Has it all been a waste of time and to no avail?

In spite of the loss of life (even relatively light casualties are costly to those involved) and the enormous and mind-boggling cost of ammunition alone (estimated at £250 million each day) it will not have been to no avail if at least these 3 things happen as a consequence:

1. The aggressor is removed from Kuwait and peace with justice can be guaranteed for the Gulf region.
2. The rest of the world has the motivation to solve the longer standing Jew/Arab conflict which guarantees Israel the security it needs, and the Palestinian Arabs a homeland to which they are entitled.
3. The richer countries of the world, which includes the U.K., are prepared to devote even a fraction of what they are at present spending in this Gulf War to those countries where famine and poverty are endemic. What the Christian and humanitarian relief agencies are able to do is but a drop in the ocean compared with what the richer countries of the world can and should be doing. It really is immoral and obscene that such colossal sums are spent on arms and so relatively little on relief work.

MIDWEEK LENT GROUPS



Our Lent programme begins with a Communion Service at 8.00 pm on Ash Wednesday in the Church Lounge. It will incorporate the newly launched "Prayer Focus". This is a monthly gathering when, as a Church, we meet together for thanksgiving, praise and prayer. For those who can't manage this there will be the usual Wednesday morning service at 10.am

In the following 5 weeks we shall be making use of some of the material prepared in connection with the Decade of Evangelism initially for the dioceses of Oxford and Southwell. Rightly or wrongly, I considered this be better for our particular use at this point in time than that prepared for our own diocese. Depending upon the numbers who 'sign-on' we are hoping to have groups meeting at different times on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. The details are contained on a pink-coloured sheet which is now available. I do hope that many of you will consider making a special effort in Lent this year to join one of these groups for the 5 week period.

There will be 2 other regular happenings in Lent, and a special one this year. The special event is one of our occasional "Saturday Nights at Eight". This is a social occasion when, after an initial drink whilst people are assembling, there is a chance to meet our special guests for the evening who on this occasion are Bishop Alan and Vivienne Winstanley, who will shortly be returning to Peru and Bolivia in South America. We then have an evening meal together. There is a catering list in Church on which you can indicate what you will provide for the common pool of food. The regular happenings include the Lent Appeal which I encourage you to support not so much by making extra donations, but by doing without a meal once a week or by having a smaller meal than usual and giving the money saved thereby. Then as Lent draws to a close we recall the institution of the service of Holy Communion by having a Fellowship Meal on Maundy Thursday

Roger B. Jackson.

The Samaritans

"When people hear that I ring the Samaritans for help - my husband had a heartrending death - they say 'Good Heavens, but why ever didn't you ring me?' and I have to say, 'Would you have spoken to me so kindly and patiently at 3 o'clock in the morning, not once but many times till I pulled through?'"

In 1989 more than 4,000 people in Britain took their own lives and nearly a quarter of a million people made a suicide attempt. That these figures aren't higher still is due in no small measure to the existence of the Samaritans. More than 22,000 Samaritan Volunteers in centres throughout the country, including one in Bolton, will listen, without judging, in total confidence. Last year they saw, or spoke on the telephone to over two and a half million people. They come from all walks of life, are of all ages and there are countless reasons for their despair. The death of a loved one, the stress of coping with jobs, inexplicable and crushing depression - these are just a few of the reasons. Last year their telephone bills came to more than £400,000. They often have to accept reversed charge calls because it may be the difference between life and death.

As a Church we send a contribution out of the Christian Giving Programme each year (£100). As individuals we can send a contribution too and/or volunteer to join a preparation course to become a Samaritan listener. These usually last about 7 weeks, with sessions held on Saturdays. After that, new volunteers work on a shift system attached to an experienced volunteer. You would never be put in at the deep end - the work is too serious for that. The person to contact is the Membership Secretary, 87 Oldham Street, Manchester M4 1Ln, asking for an application form.

A Tale told in Old Jerusalem.....

The old Rabbi was revered and loved by all the people of the town, and indeed men and women came from villages and hamlets throughout the region to hear him. They listened attentively when he explained the law in the synagogue: they brought their quarrels to him for just settlements which left both sides satisfied, and mothers brought their babies to him for blessing. So the fame of this kind and godly man grew, everyone agreeing how blessed they were to have the good Rabbi among them. Only one man disagreed - Aaron the tanner.

Aaron listened as carefully as anyone to the sermons in the synagogues, but he was alert to pick up any error or inconsistency. He dismissed the blessing of babies as vulgar popularity seeking. He criticised the Rabbi's decisions and found flaws in his reasoning. The anger of the Rabbi's admirers only provoked Aaron to look for more faults.

Then Aaron died suddenly. Most people said that it was God's judgement on him. As most of Aaron's own family had died or left home, there were few to mourn him. Only one person showed genuine grief and that was the Rabbi. "Why do you weep?" asked the Rabbi's bewildered followers. "He was your enemy, your chief critic, the one who always found fault with you". "He was my truest friend", replied the Rabbi. "He forced me to think clearly and reason carefully. Who is there now to show me my faults?"

This month's prayer for the Decade of Evangelism from the Church in South Africa - Lord Jesus Christ, in your great love for the world, you came to die that we may live and called us to follow you to carry the gospel to the lost and to extend your Kingdom of righteousness in this world of pain and suffering and fear.

Give to us and your whole Church grace to hear your call and to obey your word; and set our hearts on fire with love for you and all humankind so that we may engage in bold and adventurous evangelism to turn many from darkness to light; and grant that, attempting great things for you we may expect great things from you; who, with the Father and the Holy Spirit are one God, now and forever.

Amen.

BITS & PIECES

PRAISE HIM IN THE SUPERMARKET? - by JOHN PAXTON OUR INDUSTRIAL CHAPLAIN

Why did 250 smartly dressed, well paid, young retail managers sit for 45 minutes in the rather oppressive surroundings of an Oxford College chapel one Sunday morning last August?

Certainly there was an expectation that they would be present, because they were all attending a week-long training course, but nobody was forced to be there, particularly so early in the morning. Reasons for their presence might have included curiosity, peer pressure, "going for a laugh", or a willingness to try it and see.

The service was directed entirely at people involved in the retail trade, so that the prayers, responses, address and readings all related to the theme of the Christian attitude to the retail industry and the people affected by it. The service was designed to encourage the congregation to see that the Gospel does apply to their companies and their jobs, and that God is concerned about the world of shopping both now and in the future. The worship allowed the participants to express their fears and hopes about the significant changes taking place in their business.

Although the service was a special occasion, it tells us that all worship must relate directly to the current feelings, thoughts and experience of the worshippers, set in the wider context of God's love and his purpose for us. A sense of awe, and the almighty power of God must be balanced in our worship with the immediacy and concreteness of our daily lives.

Ron Morris takes a peep into the places of Christians in Iraq

Arab Christians in Iraq are a visible minority in what is a mostly Muslim Society. About half a million of the 18 Million Iraqis are Christian. On the whole, they are present in all segments of society. They have adequate access to jobs, social status, and political office. (The current foreign minister, Tarik Aziz, is of Christian background). With minor exceptions, Christians are not in conflict with the state, which is officially secular. Government restrictions on church activity are those which exist in Iraqi society generally and are not applied in particular to church people or institutions as such. About 60 percent of the Christian community are members of the Chaldean Catholic Church in communion with Rome. Other Christian traditions present in Iraq in small numbers are Eastern Orthodox (Greek), Reformed (Evangelical), Adventist, Western-rite Roman Catholics and Oriental Orthodox from Egypt (Copts).

Alice Hough has suggested that this prayer may be worth using if your New Year resolutions are faltering-

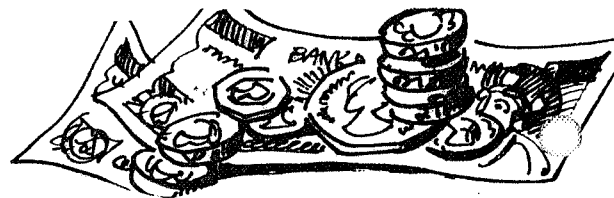
"O Lord God, when you give to your servants the will to do any great matter, grant us also to know that it is not the beginning but the continuing of it until it is thoroughly finished which yields the true glory, Through Jesus Christ, Amen."



Members of the Ladies Guild and Mothers Union held their fortnightly meetings on Tuesday evening February 5th and on Wednesday afternoon February 6th. Thereafter they are encouraged to join in the five mid week Lent groups meeting at the same time and place. The Missionary Support Group meets on Monday afternoons February 4th and 18th.

CHRISTIAN GIVING

Thank you to all who have contributed to God's work through their regular giving.



	<u>Planned Giving Envelopes</u>	<u>Loose Collections</u>	<u>Totals</u>
December 2	£ 579.80	£ 87.67	£ 667.47
9	542.55	78.55	621.10
16	657.16	89.02	746.18
23	421.15	179.01	600.16
25	-	330.12	330.12
30	535.03	115.08	650.11
Weekdays	-	221.42	221.42
	<u>£ 2735.69</u>	<u>£1100.87</u>	<u>£3836.56</u>

In the comparable period of the previous year the amount given was £3170, as the above figures represent an encouraging increase of 21% in the level of giving.

CHRISTMAS APPEAL

The amount given was the record sum of £841 which also represents a most encouraging increase over last year's record figure of 46%. The figure was made up as follows :

Donations from pensions at the meeting of the Crompton Charity	56.79
Part proceeds from the Rosemere Carol Concert	85.00
Church Carol Singing Parties	25.00
Ladies Guild	20.00
Contents of 94 envelopes	582.78
Loose donations	71.43

£841.40

A cheque for this amount has been sent to Tear Fund for their Relief Work amongst the victims of famine and civil war in Angola.

BOLTON HOSPICE APPEAL

A further £80, representing the part proceeds of the Rosemere Carol Concert has been given to Raymond Speakman, the Chairman of this worthy local appeal. The building is now in the process of erection, the bills are having to be paid to the contractor, and so the final push towards the target is required. On the notice board in Church there is a drawing of a section of the wall, and you are invited to contribute toward the building by paying for a brick(s) at £1 each. All you have to do is to write your name on a brick, or if you prefer, to write 'Anon' and place your donation in the container provided.

IN THE NEWS

On Sunday December 30th we welcomed into membership of God's family through baptism :-

Andrew Mark Aspen, 73 Everbrom Road

Lauren Michelle Shepherd, 57 Molyneux Road, Westhoughton

Jessica Florence Waite, 10 Kylemore Avenue.