



We welcome the families and friends of
Millie-Mai PEARSON, Abigail Edith BROWN,
Lucy Janet Jenkyn-Jones and Benjamin John PYLE,
all being baptised this morning at St James'

An Adventure Begins!

As I pack my Tardis, ready to leave my job at St James and Emmanuel, today's sermon theme seems more appropriate than ever.

For a long time, I semi-joked about wanting a job where I could be paid for being me, and for the last six years, that has been the case. I have had such fun working first with the children and families in our parish, then taking on the youth (sounds a bit like a battle!). There aren't many places where I could turn up in the school playground at 3.10pm with a water pistol, soaking the kids as they come out and get away with it! Nor are there many churches where Moz Side, the Mancunian puppet, could get away with such cheek, or where the youth could run a service based on Shooting Stars. The mischief has been endless.

We have also lived together through times of sadness and loss within the church and school communities, and those have been times that have helped to form me, making me aware of what a privilege it is to try and live like Jesus and how crucial it is to come to Him with the honesty of children.

So, as I look at leaving my role here, I want to remind you that St James and Emmanuel is still my home church – its name is on all my documentation as the church that is sending me out to ordination (and beyond...). I shall be back whenever I can. When I come back, though, my perspective will have changed. Already, I travel back into south Manchester even more aware of what a privileged area Didsbury is. By the time you read this, I should know where my new church placements will be, but I can guarantee that there won't be as many youth and children, as many competent team members, as many rotas (!) and as much technology to grapple with.

For a few minutes, I'd love you to reflect on what a wonderful church we have here, how dedicated the paid staff are and how committed so many volunteers are to keeping things running smoothly and keeping the vision fresh. At the times you are tempted to moan about, say, the secondhand toys in the Toddler cupboards, think of the churches not that far away who don't even have a proper hall or enough people to run a Toddler group (we have 4 and a waiting list for each!). Think of how we can resource and reach out to other communities, and be grateful for the noise of the children as you realise that our church has an obvious future. Some don't.

Thank you, again, for letting me have such a giggle and make my mistakes so publicly. Please don't think that I have chosen to leave St James and Emmanuel, it has been a very clear calling (and don't be surprised if God calls more of our congregation out to other ministries).

"The one who blesses others is abundantly blessed;
those who help others are helped." (Proverbs 11:25, The Message)

Sian Gasson

DIDSBURY OPEN DOORS (formerly Heritage Weekend)

We would like to thank all the members of the congregation who have already volunteered to help over the Heritage weekend. If any others can help please do get in touch with Sue Good and Diana Leitch (0161 434 1975 or 0161 445 9461).

At the moment the URGENT need is for CAKES, etc to serve as refreshments at Emmanuel on the Saturday and Sunday afternoon as we are expecting visitors from far and wide. Please let us know if you can help. Margaret and Bryan Campbell Smith will be glad to receive your offers at 10.30am at St James today and Gill Newman will do the same at 10.30am at Emmanuel today. Details on where to take the cakes will be given to those who offer their help.

We hope you will all participate in the range of events which have been planned for the weekend and which are detailed on the handouts in church today.

Nick and Nick would like to thank the anonymous donor(s) who helped them enjoy their holidays!

Personal assistant required for a member of our church family - someone to help with domestic chores, shopping, meal preparation etc. For more info including hours and pay, please contact Christine in the Parish Office.

JAM SALES UPDATE and JARS, JARS AND MORE JARS

The jam sales takings for the St James' Kitchen Fund now stand at £2422. Thanks everyone for your purchases and support. On Saturday 11th and Sunday 12th September we will be selling preserves of all sorts at Emmanuel Church during the afternoon openings (14.00-17.00) there for 'Open Doors' Heritage days. All takings on those days to general St James' and Emmanuel funds. Please keep the glass jars coming. Since 1st October 2009 we have filled about 1900 jars with preserves so always need jars. Collection points at St James' Church, Parish Office and 11, Wingate Drive. Diana and David Leitch

StJ&Emm Men's Walking Weekend. Lake District, 18/19 September 2010. Contact: Jon Parkin (445 4350) for booking and/or more details. Newcomers are most welcome.

NEW CHURCH POSTCARDS AND GREETINGS CARDS

The new postcards and greetings cards depicting aspects of St James' and Emmanuel are now on sale to support church funds and publicise our churches. There are 5 postcard designs (2 of the exterior of St James, William Morris window, Mosley Memorial and St Ambrose's baptism entry from 1585) and 2 greetings cards designs (1 exterior of St James and William Morris window). Reasonably priced at 25p per postcard or 5 for £1.00 and 50p per greeting card or 5 for £2.00 we hope you will all support this new venture and tell your friends and neighbours. Do have a look at them. Cards will be on sale during 'Open Doors' weekend at St James', Emmanuel and the Church School. Diana and David Leitch

Bye Sian.....
She didn't even have time to 'doctor' the newssheet!

Alpha Course

There are invitations in your newsheets today for you to give to friends, neighbours, colleagues who might be interested.



Wednesdays, 7.30pm - 9.15 pm,
From Oct 6th to Dec 1st.
St James and Emmanuel Parish Centre,

Introduction to Alpha: Is there more to life than this?
With Comedy by Andy Kind, and Live Music by Alice Gasson.

8pm, Wed 29th Sept, Slug and Lettuce

Supported by St James & Emmanuel and Didsbury Community Church.

Commissioning Service for John Smith and Joy Wright

John and Joy will be commissioned for their ministry at

6.15pm on Sunday 12th September in Emmanuel church.

I'm delighted that the Bishop of Bolton, Chris Edmondson, will be joining us for this and he will also be preaching and presiding at Holy Communion that evening as well. Joy will begin formally on the 13th September, with John joining us, as I say, at the start of October.

Ivy Manchester have decided to cancel their evening service on the 12th so that they can say a fond farewell to Joy and Jan Wright as they move from there to St James and Emmanuel.

Please do come along on the 12th and support our new staff members.

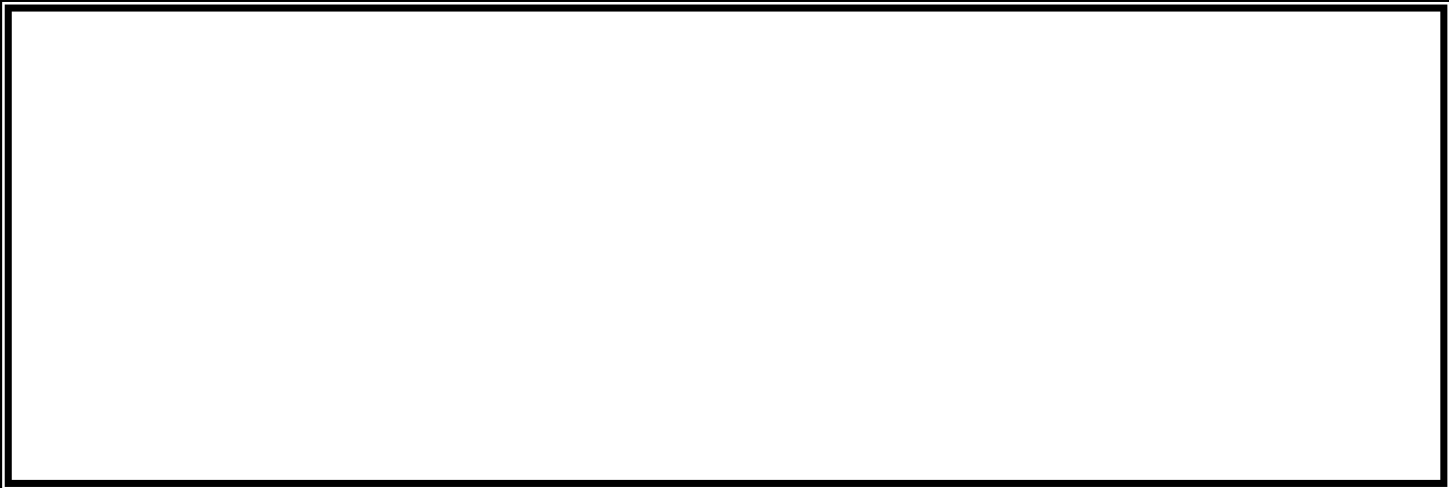


Harvest Celebration & Barn Dance – Friday 5th October

To celebrate the financial completion of the Parish Project.

Tickets will be available next week.

All are welcome.



Please Pray for:

- The New Wine Training Partnership. We now have 20 students.
- The Team Vicar and Curate appointments.
- Judith Rogers facing major surgery on 17th September
- The Smith family and friends following the death of John's mother, Doris.
- Julia Robertson's mother Pat receiving palliative treatment for cancer.
- The Lowe family.
- Beth Dickenson – for physical healing and spiritual strength.
- Cat and Mike Arundale.

• **Our Mission Links:**

• **This week we focus on those normally living and working in the UK**

- Howie and Sally Pickering with God Squad
- Ron Finlay with PROTEM
- Sandra van Zuylen & Mags Duggan with Navigators
- Simon Sullivan & Reflex Prison Ministry with The Message
- Debra Green with Redeeming our Communities

Please pray for Jo Riley who
is working in Kimilili for 3
months

Stamping your attendance cards (for Wedding, Baptism or School Admission)

The official stamps will be available at the end of the services.

We can only accept an official stamp on your attendance card as confirmation of your attendance.

Admission to Didsbury CE Primary School

The clergy in consultation with the school admissions committee would just like to remind parents/carers that separate stamp cards are required for both nursery and reception for those seeking entry under category 3 of the admissions policy. The same card cannot be used for both points of entry!

If you require an attendance card for any of the above please contact the Parish Office.