

CONCORD

East Didsbury Methodist Church
Minister: Rev. Krystyna Kwarciak



Let the heavens rejoice; let the earth be glad; let
the sea resound and all that is in it. Let the fields
be jubilant and everything in them; let all the
trees of the forest sing for joy.

Psalm 96: 11-12

MARCH 2020

Rev. Krystyna Kwarciak
2 Wilderswood Close
M20 4XU

Dear Friends,

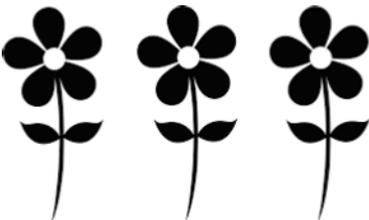
There was a man that had a garden. In his garden there were vegetables and flowers. Some years the vegetables produced wonderful food for his family, but other years the results were not good. Nonetheless, he continued to work the soil and each year he planted seeds and plants that he brought home from the nursery.

Then something happened to this man that changed his garden. No one knew what it was, but those that saw his garden noticed that the flowers were more intense in colour and there seemed to be more of them, with new varieties that they hadn't seen before. The vegetables also had a rich coloration and flavour.

This change did not happen overnight, or even in one year. The gardener noticed this. One day the gardener went to his garden and stood in amazement; it was as though he were seeing his garden for the first time. Tears came to his eyes, because he was so happy. What he saw was so beautiful that it seemed to him that someone else had been working in his garden.

Over the years, he worked faithfully to do what he could to produce flowers and vegetables. But one day he changed his attitude, and slowly his feelings began to change. *'I will continue to do what I am able to do'*, he said to himself, *'but I now see very clearly that it really is my heavenly Father that gives life and health to the plants*

that I tend'. From that day forward he began to talk to his plants tenderly and tell them how much he loved each of them. All the plants heard the words of the gardener and they responded.



At the opening of Lent we are looking towards our own growth in God's grace. Lent is an opportunity to step back from our daily life and see it from a different perspective, to find out where God is active in it and what steps we can take to make more room for him.

I pray that in the next 40 days we will all find the time to slow down; take in the view and embrace this little garden of our life with love and gratitude.

Wishing you every blessing,
Rev. Krystyna



LENT GROUPS

The Lent Groups take place at the *Baptist Church* starting Wednesday 4th March 7.30pm to 9.30pm and also at *Christ Church* from Thursday 5th March 1.30pm until 3.30pm and all are welcome. If you are interested in joining either of these groups or would like to follow the course, but are unable to make either, contact Anne on 07513 289225 or email annewilde2002@gmail.com



THE BOOK CLUB

The Book Club meets each month to review a well loved book - please check the notices for further info.



DIDSBURY METHODIST CHURCH

Wednesday 25th March at 1.45pm

‘The Light between Oceans’ (12)

Synopsis:

When lighthouse keeper Tom Sherbourne and his wife, Isabel, discover a baby adrift in a boat off the remote coast of Western Australia they assume the worst, that her parents are dead. They choose to raise the child as their own, but its not until years later that the shattering consequences of their decision will change their lives forever. Based on the best-selling novel by ML Stedman, the film is a beautiful and heart-breaking reminder of the infinite power of love, and the lengths we will go in order to protect it.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER on Friday 6th March at 7.30pm at Emmanuel Church, 6 Barlow Moor Road focusing on Zimbabwe The service will be led by Rev. Jane Whittell - this is an ecumenical event to which all are welcome.



COFFEE EXPERIENCE at East Didsbury

Why not pop in on Saturday 28th March

Open from 10am - 11.30am

for coffee and a chat - Room 3





LADIES CIRCLE 2.30pm

- 5th March Annual General Meeting
- 19th March Quiz with Mary Sneyd
- 9th April Maundy Thursday Communion [to which all are invited to join us - led by Krystyna]

Ladies - you are welcome to join us. We close at 4.00pm. following light refreshments. If you would like a programme, please take one from the table at the back of church



MONTHLY LUNCH of soup, sandwich and a dessert is on Thursday 12th March 12 for 12.30pm. No ticket required, but please let Jean Thickbroom now if you are going for catering purposes on or before *8th March*, thank you.



CRAFTS & CHAT Why not pop along on Mondays at 1pm meeting in the vestry All welcome to learn new skills, strengthen old ones, and of course, have a chat.



The House Group meets on Wednesdays 6.30pm For the venue please speak to Krystyna or text on 07776 121679 - all are welcome to pop along.



Talking of all the miracles Jesus performed John says that “if they were written one by one, that even the world itself could not contain the books that would be written”
John 21:25



Jesus Christ performed many miracles, demonstrating his power over nature and spirits, and thus confirming that the Kingdom of God is at hand. He also performed moral miracles, for example, the forgiveness of sins.

The blessing of Jesus purifies the soul

Please do look at the frieze at the back of church that the children have done of Jesus’ amazing miracles.

St. Joseph's Day is celebrated this year on 19th March

Joseph is a figure in the gospels who was married to Mary, Jesus' mother, and was Jesus' *legal father*.

St. Joseph truly is the silent figure of the New Testament. For instance, the Gospel does not record one spoken verse for St. Joseph. Nevertheless, what this great saint did in his life for God speaks volumes. To appreciate him and his role in salvation, we need to glean the Gospels.

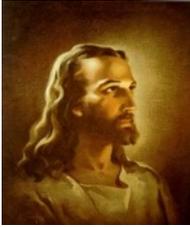
St. Joseph was “of the house and lineage of David” (Luke 2:4). Because of this ancestry, St. Joseph is the linkage between the old covenant made with Abraham and Moses, and the new, perfect, and everlasting covenant which will be made through the blood of Jesus. He brings to a close the notion of the Patriarch's promised land and King David's established kingdom, and prepares the way for Jesus, the Messiah, who will establish the new Kingdom of God and the new Promised Land—not a kingdom of land, castles, and armies, but one that is within oneself of shared life with the Lord, lived now and fulfilled in Heaven. St. Matthew identifies Joseph as “an upright man.” The original text uses the word just or righteous, which better reflects that he lived by God's standard, keeping the commandments and emulating God's love.

The Angel of the Lord appeared to St. Joseph in a dream, revealed to him that Mary had conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and commanded that he take Mary as his wife and Jesus as his own Son. Without question or hesitation, St. Joseph did as the angel commanded. Here again, we see the important role of Joseph: He is to take Jesus as

his own Son and to name him, thereby giving Him legal recognition and legal personhood.



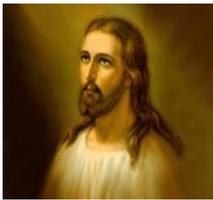
Beautiful paintings of Jesus from artists around the world



Warner Sallman - American



Henrich Hoffman - German



Charles Mackesy - British



John Campbell - African/American



Central Academy of Fine Art, Beijing - China
Painted by a University Student

BOOKS OF THE BIBLE - Anagrams

1. LAST AGAIN _____
2. A SHOE _____
3. ON MARS _____
4. LAINED _____
5. SOCIAL SONS _____
6. VISIT CLUE _____
7. SEE SIGN _____
8. USED OX _____
9. NOMINAL TASTE _____
10. VIOLENT ERA _____
11. HEM WATT _____
12. SHIP IN PIPAL _____
- ...

Enjoy!"

Answers on the back page ...

Dates for your Diary for the Easter period: -



Holy week

5th April 10.45 Worship: Peter Smith



9th April at 2.30pm. Holy Communion with Ladies Circle, to which all are invited, led by Krystyna



10th April
Check your
Notices for
the venue and time.

**GOOD
FRIDAY**



12th April

8.30am

Holy Communion

Followed by an Easter Breakfast

10.45am

Worship: Dr. Keith Paver



- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1. GALATIANS | 2. HOSEA |
| 3. ROMANS | 4. DANIEL |
| 5. COLOSSIANS | 6. LEVITICUS |
| 7. GENESIS | 8. EXODUS |
| 9. LAMENTATIONS | 10. REVELATION |
| 11. MATTHEW | 12. PHILIPPIANS |

LAST THOUGHT

How big is God?

A boy asked his Dad, “Dad, how big is God?” Looking up at the sky, his father saw a plane and asked his son, “How big is that plane?”. The boy responded, “It’s small, Dad, you can hardly see it” Then the father took his son to an airport hanger. Standing in front of one of the planes, the father asked, “And now, how big is the plane?”. The boy responded, “Oh Daddy, this plane is enormous”/ At this point, the father said to him, “That’s how it is with God. How big He is depends on the distance between you and Him. The closer you are to Him, the bigger He is in your life”.

*I am
a Child
of
God*

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