

CHANTRY NEWS



The
**United
Reformed
Church**

“St Columba Church, Chantry Road, Moseley”
Sunday Service: 10.00 a.m. (*unless otherwise stated*)

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August / September 2017

Dear Friends

The Summer is moving fast and as I write this it is probably the hottest day so far this year. This may be a wonderful holiday season for many but for others the past months have been harrowing. In this country alone we have had several terrorist attacks and an horrendous fire in a block of flats. Many people are mourning loved ones or praying for the recovery of loved ones. Let us keep all these people in our ongoing prayers.

We must also pray for this persecution to cease — Jesus died to save us all from sin. What has gone wrong? We can question and be cross with God — after all did Jesus not say “Father why have you deserted me?” when he was on the cross. Jesus has not deserted us but it is so hard when our loved ones are suffering.

We need to pray for the people causing this so that God will touch them and guide them in a peaceful way. Atrocities have always happened but we hear of them immediately due to our social media. Let us pray for peace.

Let us also pray for our own community here in Moseley where there are immense problems with “rough sleepers”. Apart from these people we also have other people who come to Moseley to join them in begging. As one of them told a Police Constable upon being banned from Kings Heath — “No worries, I shall go to Moseley — they are very generous!”

Please do NOT give to these people because they are harming themselves — it is not food they want the money for — it is drugs for themselves. There are Hostels

for them but some will refuse as they are not allowed to “do” drugs there.

We have been at many meetings with the other Churches, Chantry Road residents, Church Avenue Residents, King Edward Road Residents, Moseley Society, Moseley in Bloom and the Police and Council.

Please be aware that discarded needles are being found — St Anne’s, St Columba, outside certain shop doorways, the car park (where some sleep) and mainly in St Mary’s churchyard. If you are on Face Book you will have seen some photos of this but a toddler picked one up at St Mary’s the other day — we must clear the problem before it seriously escalates.

The first thing for us to do is to NOT give them money — we can buy them food, coffee/tea and pay their fare when they are on a bus. This may seem hard but it is the only way to resolve the problem.

We pray for our own congregation and for all whom we know are ill. We keep Joan and Archie in our prayers.

We pray for the bereaved and keep the Revd Peter Little in our prayers at this sad time.

Let us go out and spread God’s word in all that we do.

Blessings

Fiona



Montessori Graduation

On Thursday July 28th Ivor and I were “honoured” guests at the Montessori Graduation. The Lord Mayor of Birmingham, Councillor Anne Underwood, was also in attendance. She is an excellent ambassador for Birmingham and marvellous with children.



Twenty young students graduated and we wish them well as they start primary education — many will be attending schools in Kings Heath and Moseley with some going to Moseley C of E.

On Tuesday of this past week I attended Moseley C of E Leavers Service at St

Mary’s. Year 6 put on an excellent display of dance, singing, musical recitals — and a few prayers. All pupils of the school attended with the parents of Year 6. I met a gentleman whose daughter will be starting in September — we chatted for a while and, what a co-incidence, I met him at the Montessori Graduation! His daughter leaves us to attend the Mosley C of E School. Small world.

This is the Montessori’s 9th year and we intend to celebrate next year on their 10th anniversary. Just think — 180 pupils are now out in the big school world having started their education here at St Columba URC.

Another “small world” thing that happened was that I met a Mum there whose second child graduated on Thursday — the Mum was one of Joan MacDougall’s Brownies — whilst I was Tawny owl! We recognised each other!!



Saint Columba Rolling Duty List

Date	Preacher	Elder	Steward	Reader	Tea and Coffee	Organist	Service
August 6th	Fiona Elvins	Ivor Elvins	Jean Mackie	Jean Mackie	No Coffee or Tea	Peter Howard	
August 13th	Richard Alford	Peter Gregory	Mary Martin	Mary Martin	No Coffee or Tea	Andrew Bland	
August 20th	Richard Gillett	Alex Mackie	Jean Mackie	Jean Mackie	No Coffee or Tea	Peter Howard	
August 27th	Peter Mackie	Elisabeth Chapman	Mabel Fray	Elisabeth Chapman	No Coffee or Tea	Andrew Bland	
September 3rd	Fiona Elvins	Ivor Elvins	Mabel Fray	Gillian Briggs	Mabel Fray	Peter Howard	
September 10th	No Service						
September 17th	Joe Blackburn	Peter Gregory	Mary Martin	Mary Martin	Elisabeth Chapman	Peter Howard	
September 24th	Richard Gillett	Alex Mackie	Joan McLellan	Joan McLellan	Joan McLellan	Andrew Bland	
October 1st	Fiona Elvins	Ivor Elvins	Jean Mackie	Gillian Briggs	Jean Mackie	Peter Howard	
October 8th	Mark Tubby	Elisabeth Chapman	Andrea and Mabel	Elisabeth Chapman	Andrea and Mabel	Andrew Bland	

Duty Rota: If you cannot manage your Sunday, please arrange a substitute from the above people. Please inform Elisabeth of any mutual exchanges that take place. Thank you.


Please Note: Articles for the October / November Chantry News by September 20th, please.

Fiona's Journey


The following is in St Mary's and St Anne's weekly programme. It states:

Minister on Placement
Many of you will know Fiona Elvins, who is the Lay Minister at St Columba United Reformed Church in the village. She has been accepted to train for ordination within the URC, and as part of her training is spending six months in the benefice exploring what it means to be Anglican. Please do make Fiona welcome and if she asks any questions she's not being nosy — it is to help with her training!



I am so very proud of her.
Ivor





ABRSM



As you all know we host the music exams for this Board three times a year. We have just finished a run of 19 days spaced over five weeks.

Grateful thanks go to my team:
 Angela, Andrea, Darryl, Mabel and Ivor.
 We could not do this without you.

Saint Chad Pilgrimage Saturday September 23rd 2017

To mark the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation, midlands Church leaders will take part in a walk of friendship on Saturday September 23rd 2017. The walk will begin at the midlands hub of the Roman Catholic Church — the Metropolitan Cathedral Church and Basilica of Saint Chad, Birmingham — and end at the historic mother-church of Mercia, the Anglican Cathedral of Saint Mary and Saint Chad, Lichfield.

Timings

Bearing in mind that timings in such a pilgrimage can only be approximate, the plan is as follows:

8.15 a.m. — Saint Chad's Cathedral, Birmingham, will open its doors to welcome pilgrims. Drinks and toilets will be available.

9.00 a.m. — A short gathering and

blessing will herald the start of the pilgrimage. Groups of walkers will leave at five-minute intervals.

1.30 p.m. — Short lunch stop at Saint Peter's Church, Little Aston, where drinks and toilet facilities will be available.

2.15 p.m. — Depart from Saint Peter's Church

4.45 p.m. — Arrive at the Cathedral of Saint Mary and Saint Chad, Lichfield

5.00 p.m. — Short official welcome ceremony outside the West Door of the Cathedral.

Application forms, whether from individuals, couples, small or large groups of pilgrims, can be obtained from County Ecumenical Mission Officer Robert Mountford by e-mailing st.chad.pilgrimage@gmail.com, or by leaving a message on 07514 035452.



Have you seen this parrot?

Look hard — it is IN St Columba buildings somewhere!!



Institution of Revd Paul Lecky

On Tuesday July 4th I represented St Columba at the service of welcome to Revd Paul Lecky as Vicar/Minister of St Mary and St Ambrose and Balsall Heath Church Centre — St Paul.

The service was led at St Ambrose and St Mary by the Bishop of Aston, Revd Anne. We had a half hour service there and then paraded up to the Church Centre where Revd Steve Faber led most of that

service.

It was a very pleasant evening and there was a very good attendance. The Area Minister, Revd Graham Sweeney assisted in the service at Balsall heath.

It was lovely to meet up with friends including Revd Irene Bound, Revd Peter Bound, Anne Laughrne and many more.

We wish Paul well in his new position.

Moseley At The Movies



On the third Wednesday of the month St Mary's hosts a film evening.

This past week we watched the seventh Commandment. It was 52 minutes long and was set in Warsaw. We concluded the evening with our thoughts upon the film content and what issues we felt the film raised. A good evening.

There will be no film in August but there will be one in September — please check with St Mary's where the film will be hosted.

St Anne's Patronal Festival

On the weekend of July 21st – 23rd St Anne's hosted an Art Festival and Flower festival in aid of its Patronal day. As Churches Together in Moseley (CTIM) we were asked to participate. The flowers shown are from St Columba and from the Ss John and Martin R.C. Church in George Street.

It was well supported with art — including photographs by Revd Duncan Strathie.

We had a wonderful reception and were treated to excellent hot/cold drinks and delicious chocolate biscuits.

Thank you St Anne's.



Swanwick Ministers' Conference

I was delighted to be able to attend a four day conference at Swanwick Conference Centre in Derbyshire. This was for the West Midlands Synod for their Ministers and Ordinands.

These pictures show you what the place is like — wonderful surroundings and wonderful fellowship.

Fiona



Now if you were successful with the parrot — what about finding these bears — I found four in Birmingham and Solihull!

Fiona

