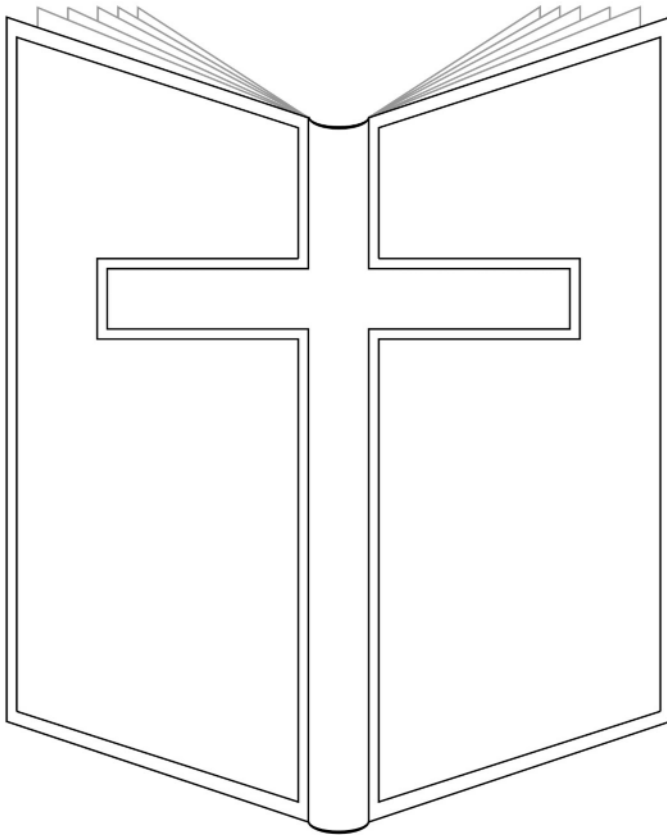


# St. Oswald's Church Walkergate



Parish Magazine  
November 2016

Dear Friends,

# Christmas ahead of time!

It may seem a little strange to be focusing upon Christmas Day in a magazine that you are reading at the beginning of November, but the shops in the city centre and the Metro Centre tell us it's not that far away. How are your preparations going? Turkey ordered? Cards ready to go? Presents in mind (if not yet purchased!)? In the frenzy of planning, procurement, posting deadlines and partying it is all too easy for the real meaning of our festivities to be buried without trace - the birth of a baby to an apparently insignificant woman, in an insignificant stable, in an insignificant backwater of the world!

Yet this birth could not be more significant! The Bible writers tell us that this baby, the Lord Jesus Christ, is God, in a shape which we could recognize - God with us - though it is hard to see this in the grubbiness and poverty of His arrival into the world. Our sentimental religious Christmas cards of the Nativity scene, with Mary and Joseph in the antiseptic stable, not a straw out of place bear little relationship to the squalor which surrounded the arrival of the Creator and Ruler of the universe into His world.

*continued on next page ...*

Then, as the life of Jesus unfolded, it didn't get any easier. For this child grew up to face opposition and rejection from his own people and to die in shame upon a criminal's cross, to make possible an eternal relationship with the God of heaven and earth. In the light of this great gift the trivial nature of so much of our Christmas preparation is in sharp contrast.

Jesus, the Son of God, lived amongst us for a while in humble circumstances and after a relatively short life, at great cost, gave his life on a cross to bear the punishment which we deserve because of our neglect of the God who made us.

This is the great and wonderful truth which should be at the heart of our Christmas festivities. Jesus - the best gift that the world will ever receive. Why not plan to celebrate His coming with us at St. Oswald's this year.

Yours sincerely *Ken.*

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## **Enquiries** *BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS & BANNS*

Those with enquiries are invited to come to the Vicar's Vestry in St.Oswald's Church, **MONDAY EVENING's between 6.30 and 7.30pm.** **KEN** is always glad to see anyone needing spiritual help and advice. He may at times appear busy, but this should never deter any enquiries.

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## **Funerals**

We extend our sympathies to the friends and family of :

**Eleanor Hailley**

**David Patterson**

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# Remembrance Sunday

Important change to our Sunday pattern of meetings for **Remembrance Sunday - 13<sup>th</sup> November**

In order that we may share together as a church family in our Act of Remembrance on this day there will be no 9:30 a.m. service and we shall meet jointly at 11:00 a.m..

Please aim to arrive in good time on that day so that we may proceed at 11:00 a.m. sharp.



Thanks *Ken.*

People and Events



## SHOEBOX APPEAL

The last day to bring your filled boxes will be Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November.



**P.C.C.** Monday 21<sup>st</sup> November at 7.30pm

## Wives Club

21<sup>st</sup> Nov Quilt Demonstration - Eileen Cuthbertson  
Dec Christmas Lunch

## Flower Rota

November 6 Vera  
13 Ann  
20 Marion  
27 Alison  
December 4 Mavis

## Dust Busters

*Alternate Saturdays*

November 5 Team 3  
19 Team 4  
December 3 Team 1

# Christmas Programme

## **SATURDAY 3RD DECEMBER**

10.00 - 12.00 Children's Christmas Crafts

## **SUNDAY 4TH DECEMBER**

10.00 a.m. Family Service with Short Communion & YPG's

6.30 p.m. Bible Study at the vicarage

## **WEDNESDAY 7TH DECEMBER**

9.30 a.m. Lord's Supper

## **SUNDAY 11TH DECEMBER**

No Communion Service

10.00 a.m. Family Service and Children's Special

6.30 p.m. Bible Study at the vicarage

## **WEDNESDAY 14TH DECEMBER**

9.30 a.m. Lord's Supper

## **THURSDAY 15TH DECEMBER**

7.00 p.m. Carols and Mince Pies

## **SUNDAY 18TH DECEMBER**

9.30 a.m. Lord's Supper

11.00 a.m. Family Service & YPG's

6.30 p.m. Carols and Lessons by Candlelight

## **WEDNESDAY 21ST DECEMBER**

9.30 a.m. Lord's Supper

## **CHRISTMAS DAY**

10.00 a.m. Family Service

## **SUNDAY 27TH DECEMBER**

10.00 a.m. Family Service

No Bible Study

## **WEDNESDAY 28TH DECEMBER**

No Service

# Christmas Crafts Morning

For children

**Saturday 3rd December 10.00 a.m.- 12.00 p.m.**  
**St Oswald's Church, Woodhead Road**

We are running another Christmas Crafts Morning for children.

This event is always very popular and includes plenty of time to make lovely Advent and Christmas decorations.

Just before the end of the morning there will be a short children's talk about Christmas.



Drinks and biscuits will be provided during the morning.

Any child of primary school age is very welcome to come along, but you'll need to "book in", so that we have an idea of numbers.

Pre-school age children are also very welcome, but we ask that an adult stays with them for the morning.

There is no charge for the day

To give us an idea of numbers, please book a free place, either by completing an online booking form at ([www.walkergatechurch.org/events/christmas](http://www.walkergatechurch.org/events/christmas)) (Available from early-November), or by contacting Julia Sanders (0191-266-8155 or email [christmascrafts@walkergatechurch.org](mailto:christmascrafts@walkergatechurch.org))

It is possible for children to register on the day itself, but please note that an adult will need to be with them so that we can collect relevant contact and medical details.



# LERT SA WAT Child Development Project

Giving Thai children the chance to escape poverty

Lert Sa Wat U.K. has been helping children and young people for over 15 years.

Sponsorship continues for over 120 children, enabling them to attend school or further education, and receive medical care and food when needed.

Project leader Deeo's vision was to help local families break the cycle of poverty caused by lack of education. Child sponsorship began in 2000.



Laddawan, pictured left with Deeo, was one of the first children sponsored. She now has a Master's degree, and is working for the Thai government.

Our website - [lertsawat.com](http://lertsawat.com) - contains more details of our work.

Our Christmas Gift Catalogue is out, showing how you can help to raise funds for this much needed work. Whichever gift you choose from this catalogue, 100% of all proceeds will go directly to the Lert Sa Wat project in Thailand and will make a real difference to the life of a child.

You can email [maureenwallhead@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:maureenwallhead@yahoo.co.uk) for information.

**THAI-m**  
to give in

**2016**



## Simon & Radia Alchin

Marseille St Louis  
[eglise.pr.st.louis@sfr.fr](mailto:eglise.pr.st.louis@sfr.fr)

† In St Louis life has started up again after the holidays. Following our week of evangelism in

July, we are now looking for better ways to be active in our local community. In France churches have to separate what the authorities call strictly 'religious' activities from more social ones and, for this reason, many churches have separate social associations. We have had one of these associations

since 2008 and we would value your prayers as we start to think about better ways of using it. There are numerous options - a children's club, sporting activities, an after-school homework club, etc.

† All of this does not replace our fundamental task of preaching the Gospel, but it is a way of building bridges between the Church and the many people in this area who know very little about the Christian faith. We need to keep in mind the fact that our Christian faith has social implications and cannot be separated from the needs of everyday life, especially in big cities where the social structure is very unstable, both in terms of human relationships and employment.



**Cristóbal and Alejandra Cerón**

Victoria Subercaseaux 41.  
Of. 301. Santiago, Chile



Dear Friends, I hope this newsletter finds you well in the Lord. We have to tell you that God has been faithful with us as a family and as a church.

**FIRST SEMESTER: Family and School**

Our three girls are growing fast! Amazing! The three of them go to a public school near our home. The environment is not Christian and so they sometimes struggle with relationships and trying to understand their friends' world views. I think our home has become a place for rest and fun in the midst of this difficult context. At one stage we had to have important conversations with the Principal of the school regarding some content that teachers were giving the children that we thought was inappropriate for their age. But it has been good to get to know non-Christian parents and to see how we can love them with the gospel.

**Ale and Lael Conference for Women**

Ale organises a yearly women's conference called LAEL and, as you may know, the organising of an event for 300 people can become very exhausting in different ways. Nonetheless, God is faithful to His church and he spoke powerfully to all those women.



**SECOND SEMESTER: Sermon on the Mount and Growth**

Throughout the year at church I have been preaching the Sermon on the Mount. Just getting to know the gospel and its character from the mouth of Jesus is amazing. The church has increased in numbers and we have an average attendance of about 80/85 people. God's word is doing the work and we feel we are a stronger and more solid gospel community. We are also very happy because God has allowed us to be active in serving the poor among us. The church's mercy ministries are serving immigrants, the homeless and people with mental illnesses. Through this, the community as a whole is learning how to love them as Jesus loved us.

**GOSPEL TRUST - "FOR THE RENEWAL OF THE PASSION"**

A second generation of students has graduated from our non-denominational training scheme called "Semillero" (Seedbed). This program aims to give essential evangelistic and discipleship tools to young people so that they become effective gospel workers in their campuses. About 60 people underwent the program. We are so looking forward to seeing what GOD will do through these graduates, for the sake of his kingdom in Chile.

**PRAYER POINTS:**

1. That we, as a family, may finish the year with the joy of the Lord in our hearts, trusting God and growing in godliness and faithfulness.
2. That our pastoral team may know how to lead this "growth time" with wisdom and boldness, knowing how to create new structures that will help the growth instead of inhibiting.
3. That we may know how to keep serving those that are vulnerable among us. Pray that we may be effective in serving their physical as well as spiritual needs.
4. That all the dreams we have for next year regarding adding people to our pastoral team as apprentices may come true and that the finances will not hinder this.

## **St. Oswald's & St. Mark's Officials**

**MINISTER**            **Ken Moulder**                            263 6249

**WARDENS**            **Bob Winter**  
225 Fossway                                    265 0162

**Steve Hogarth**  
30 Greenlee Drive                            259 9773

**PCC SEC'**            **Julie Jude**  
1 Laburnum Ave                            263 0865

**TREASURER**        **Bob Winter**  
225 Fossway                                    265 0162

**MAGAZINE**        **Len Fallick**  
43 Julian Avenue

*For details of daily events, please see the inside back cover.*

# St. Oswald's & St. Mark's Daily Events

## SUNDAY

- 9.30am Holy Communion  
11.00am Family Service &  
Young People's Groups  
*Except 1st Sunday of each month*  
10.00am *Family Service & Short Communion*  
*(NO 9.30 or 11.00am services)*  
6.30pm Bible Study at St.Oswald's

## MONDAY

- 6.30pm Enquiry Hour (Vicar's Vestry)  
7.30pm P.C.C. Meeting (2nd Monday)  
1.45pm Wives Club (3rd Monday)

## TUESDAY

- 9.30-11.00am Toddlers Group  
7.30pm Youth Club at St.Oswald's (years 6+)

## WEDNESDAY

- 9.30am Holy Communion  
1.30pm Women on Wednesday  
7.30pm Bible Study at 1039 Shields Road  
7.45pm Bible Study at 225 Fossway

## THURSDAY

- 3.30pm J.A.M. at Walkergate School  
7.30pm Bible Study at 4 Firtree Avenue

*Please ask for details of :*

- |                |        |                         |
|----------------|--------|-------------------------|
| <b>Monday</b>  | 5.00pm | Beavers                 |
|                | 6.00pm | Rainbows                |
|                | 6.15pm | Cub Scouts              |
| <b>Tuesday</b> | 6.00pm | Brownies                |
| <b>Friday</b>  | 7.00pm | Scouts & Venture Scouts |



**St.Oswald's Church  
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Walkergate  
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**0191 263 6249**

**[www.walkergatechurch.org](http://www.walkergatechurch.org)**