



BRAMHALL ST MICHAELS  
PARISH CHURCH OF BRAMHALL

COMMUNITY INCLUSION DISCIPLESHIP

OCTOBER 2019 | EDITION 3

# Bramhall Parish News



**“We are called to be people of hope. We are called to be ambassadors of hope in our families, in our neighborhoods, in our communities. The hope is that all is not lost, all is not divided, and Jesus is still king - heaven is still open and God is not dead.”**

These were some of my words during my sermon on the Feast Day of St. Michael and All Angels.

I am currently reading a book about leadership in modern Prime Ministers and the lessons we can learn. What has been strikingly obvious is that as technology has advanced, politicians have faced increased scrutiny from the media.

We live in a world where we are inundated with news reports and advertising, all shaped to get our attention and to keep us looking. Sadly, it appears that the most successful news is the bad, the critical and the controversial news.

It's no wonder so many people live in fear and with a state of depression, and have become afraid to be themselves and for some even to leave the house.

In the letter of 1 John it states:

*“There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.” (1 John 4:17)*

If perfect love casts out fear—it is hatred, bitterness and unforgiveness that cause fear. All over the media, whether print or online, you can see these themes at work, causing divisions in families, neighbourhoods and wider communities.

1 John goes to say this:

*“And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister.” (1 John 4:21)*

We can be ambassadors of hope through simply sharing a message of love through our relationships with others.

That means stopping to say hello to our neighbours. It means when we disagree, choosing conversation over walking away or shouting. It means seeking out those we have offended or those who have offended us and choosing to forgive

and making amends—even if that means using the difficult word sorry.

Love is not about looking past wrong, and it is not about pretending we didn't see the evil and injustice. Love is about choosing to be better, and choosing to overpower those actions with actions of love and charity.

That comes down ultimately to how we see each other. Where we have opinions of us and them, where we choose to observe the divisions as opposed to looking at those things we have in common, we have to change.

The kingdom of heaven is not about division, it's not about us and them, but it is about good overcoming evil, light banishing dark, justice supplanting injustice.

If we can model it in our every day relationships, in our neighbourhoods and within this community, surely there is still hope for our politicians too.

*Calum (Vicar)*



## Wonderland 2020 4<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> February 2020

Planning is well underway for this major parish event next year with excitement building. Some key dates for your diaries where we will need as much help as possible are below. We will be grateful for us much time as you can give.

**Set up (Clearing Church Furniture)**  
Thursday 30th January, 7.30pm

**Set Up**  
Friday 31st Jan 12.45pm—Monday 3rd, 3.30pm  
Each day is 9.30am—5pm

### Parish Development Group (Finance)

We are forming a new group to look at raising finance for the church going forward including identifying and applying for any grants that are available as well as organising fundraising and hopefully fun events. This group will initially be led by Louise Richardson. The first meeting is taking place at 7pm on Monday 14th October 2019 in Reception. We are looking for people who have a interest in finance as well as event planning. If you are interested in getting involved please drop Louise an e-mail on: [louise.richardson@bramhall.church](mailto:louise.richardson@bramhall.church).

### Safeguarding

Pauline D'Souza who has been the Safeguarding Officer for St. Michael's for a number of years indicated earlier this year that she would like to step down from the role. The Church of England has stepped up requirements for parishes when it comes to safeguarding policies and so this role has grown considerably. Thanks go to Pauline for all the, often unseen, work she has done to help make our church a safe place for all.

Cathy Hedley has very kindly offered to take over as Safeguarding Officer and Susan Joyce has taken on the role of Children's Advocate with a wider safeguarding role too. In the coming months they will be familiarising themselves further with our safeguarding policies, getting to grips with the DBS checking system and also seeking to role out some safeguarding training within the parish.

If you have any safeguarding concerns whether related to adult or child do not hesitate to contact them. You can find their contact details below.



**Cathy Hedley**  
Safeguarding Officer  
0161 439 9230  
[cathyhedley@gmail.com](mailto:cathyhedley@gmail.com)



**Susan Joyce**  
Children's Advocate  
0161 440 8742  
[susanjoyce846@btinternet.com](mailto:susanjoyce846@btinternet.com)



Samantha Sweeting and Jon Wood who married on 31st August.



Mirrabelle Rose who was baptized on 25th August



George who was baptised on 25th August



# Newala News

*The diocese of Newala celebrated the 10th Anniversary of its formation in September. The Archbishop of the Province presided at a special service of Holy Communion at which all the Bishops of the Province were present. Also present were Bishops from the wider Anglican Communion including representatives of the Church of England. Pictured is The Archbishop of Tanzania, the Right Reverend Dr William Maimbo Mndolwa, and the Bishop on the right is the Right Reverend Jackson Sostheness, Bishop of Dar Es Salaam . Bishop Oscar of Newala is on the left.*



Newala Quiz Night

## FUNDRAISING NEWS

When we made a first visit to Newala in 2010, we learnt that St Michael's Mtwara, the strongest congregation in the Diocese, raised funds in ways very like our own in Bramhall. Three times a year - Easter, Christmas, and Michaelmas - they would hold an auction of gifts from congregation members; some families could only contribute a single egg to auction. Other congregation members, say with government jobs or in business would pay large sums for that same egg as well as making more expensive gifts. Each auction might make as much as £200, a lot of money in Tanzania.

Back home in Autumn 2010, members of our Mothers Union agreed to organise cake sales three times a year in emulation of our Fellow Christians in Newala in the hope of raising about £600 annually. While we haven't usually quite made £600 each



10 Year Celebration in Newala

year, our cake sales have been the largest single source of funds for projects in Newala over the last ten years- and many of us have eaten a lot of delicious cakes.

Many thanks to all those who have made cakes, all those who have bought them, and even to those who have just enjoyed eating them

Georgie Elston organised a quiz night at St. Michaels in September which raised a total of £882 Thank you to everyone that joined in and to Georgie for organizing a superb evening.



## NEW VENTURES FOR THE MILL

As we come to the end of Summer, we thought it would be a great time to bring you up to date on all the recent goings-on here at The Mill. You may be aware that we have moved location to 42A Bramhall Lane South and there has been plenty to do since our move in June. We are fully in the swing of things now and looking forward to the new term and who it will bring through our doors. We have managed to stay open for the young people for the majority of this time and have got those interested involved in creating new art for the walls as well as listening to their input on how they would arrange our facilities....

Outside of the session hours we have spent a lot of time creating signs, installing a computer suite, hanging tvs and shelves on the walls and all the other practical jobs that need sorting. There are still jobs yet to be ticked off on the to-do list. We are currently fundraising for the installation of a stair lift to improve accessibility. If you would like to contribute towards this goal please visit '[www.givey.com/themill](http://www.givey.com/themill)' online to donate as it would be greatly appreciated.

# CHURCH

NOT AS YOU KNOW IT

FAMILY FOOD FAITH

Who do you Say Jesus is?

SUNDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER, 4PM  
**THE GOOD SHEPHERD**

SUNDAY 13TH OCTOBER, 4PM  
**THE VINE**

SUNDAY 10TH NOVEMBER, 4PM  
**THE WAY**

SUNDAY 8TH DECEMBER, 4PM  
**THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD**



REIMAGINING COMMUNITY  
BUILDING FAMILY  
HAVING FUN

## UPCOMING DATES

Sunday 13th October  
Newala Sunday

Sunday 20th October  
Harvest Thanksgiving

Tuesday 29th October  
7.30pm—Incense Service  
for feast of Saints Simon and Jude

Sunday 3rd November  
6.30pm—Service of Light and Commemoration

Sunday 10th November  
9.15am—Holy Communion (Early Start)

Sunday 24th November  
10am—Service of Confirmation

Sunday 1st December—Advent Sunday  
6.30pm—Advent Carols

Sunday 15th December  
10am—All In Nativity

Thursday 19th December  
6.30pm—Campfire Carols

Sunday 22nd November  
6.30pm—Carol Service

Tuesday 24th December  
3pm / 5pm—Christingle Services  
11.30pm—Midnight Communion

Wednesday 25 December  
10am—Christmas Communion

4th—9th February 2020  
Wonderland Festival 2020

Sunday 12th April 2020  
Easter Sunday 2020

### ADVANCED WARNING

We have decided that it is time to update some of our IT systems. This will happen during the week beginning Monday 11th November and we expect there to be some disruption predominantly with the church email addresses.

If you need to contact the Parish Office or someone with a bramhall.church email address please contact them via phone that week, or drop in to the Parish Centre.

Following this work, it is hoped that our email systems will be even more reliable and our diary system slightly more accessible. Watch this space.

St Michael and All Angels Parish Church  
St Michaels Avenue, Bramhall, SK7 2PG

[www.bramhall.church](http://www.bramhall.church)

