

**PARISH CHURCH OF
ST MARY THE VIRGIN, DAVYHULME**

NEWSLETTER JULY 2025

**A GROWING, SERVING AND NURTURING CHURCH AT
THE HEART OF THE COMMUNITY**

REFLECTION

By the time you read this we'll be two weeks into Ordinary Time. Except for the odd festival the liturgical colour will be green. Ordinary Time occupies most of the liturgical year—33 to 34 weeks—yet often feels like the overlooked season. We transition from the anticipation of Advent to the triumph of Easter, only to enter this extended period marked by green vestments and numbered Sundays. The term itself is frequently misunderstood. Rather than implying mundanity, it derives from the Latin *ordo*, meaning ordered or time—a rhythm inviting us into deliberate spiritual growth.

Ordinary Time trains us to embrace our transience. In a culture obsessed with limitless achievement, this season anchors us in the truth that time itself is a divine gift. It has been said that our attempts to evade temporal constraints—through frenetic productivity or digital escapism—only deepen our alienation from God's design. Genesis reveals time as woven into creation's goodness: 'There was evening and morning, the first' (Gen 1:5).

Here, Ordinary Time becomes a classroom where we learn to receive each moment as sacred.

While Advent and Lent emphasize repentance and Easter celebrates resurrection, Ordinary Time focuses on integration. We journey through Jesus' public ministry—parables, healings, and teachings—allowing them to reshape our ordinary lives. The liturgical colour green signifies this call to maturation: just as creation flourishes through patient growth, so our souls expand when rooted in daily faithfulness.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer's concept of 'costly grace' finds its home here. In his resistance against Nazi oppression, he demonstrated that discipleship is not reserved for holy days but forged in Monday's meetings, Wednesday's chores, and Saturday's errands.

Consider Jesus' own life: only 8 of his 33 years are detailed in Scripture. The rest—years in Nazareth learning carpentry, sharing meals, and honouring rhythms of work and rest—were the fertile soil of his earthly obedience. This 'hiddenness' mirrors our own lives. Ordinary Time sanctifies the spaces between grand spiritual milestones: folding laundry becomes liturgy, office tasks transform into offerings, and quiet prayers in traffic echo the Psalms.

In an age of polarization and haste, Ordinary Time forms us as people of presence. It is a time of personal development and growth not through dramatic fasting but through steady immersion in Christ's story.

Ordinary Time is God's invitation to inhabit our limitations joyfully. For when we cease striving to be everywhere, we discover Christ is already here—in the laundry room, the commute, the quiet cup of coffee. This is where the Kingdom grows: not in the spectacular, but in the soil of the everyday.

We should remember and take hope in the fact that there is nothing ordinary about our ordinary lives in Christ.

WELCOME!

We are delighted to welcome Rev John Muyita and his family to our parish. Rev John was ordained Deacon in Manchester Cathedral on Sunday 29 June. He will serve his curacy in this parish and St Clement, Urmston. We very much look forward to having John and his family with us.

SERVICES IN JULY

We can ensure you of a warm welcome as you join us for worship at any of our regular services.

Sundays – 10.00am Eucharist and Children's church. Tea and coffee are served in the hall after the Sunday morning service.

Wednesdays – 10.00am Eucharist. Please note that on Wednesday 2 July the service will follow the BCP.

Thursdays – 9.15am Morning prayer in church, all welcome

Fridays – 9.15am Morning prayer in church, all welcome

<https://www.stmarysdavyhulme.org/>,

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/15890/>



[St Mary the Virgin C of E Church, Davyhulme](#)

PCC ROLES 2025-26

At the PCC meeting in June Church Officers were reappointed to their roles for 2025/6. All Sidespeople were also reappointed. Thanks were expressed to all concerned for all that they had offered in the past 12 months and for continuing to carry out these important roles. A full list of PCC appointments will be on the church notice board.

MORNING PRAYER

All are very welcome to join Rev Matthew and Rev John for morning prayer in church each Thursday and Friday morning at 9.15am.

ELECTORAL ROLL

The electoral roll is the list of names and addresses of a church's membership. The roll is renewed every six years and was fully renewed this year. Those over the age of 16 living in this parish and those with a worshipping connection with this church, are eligible to be included on the Electoral Roll. The list (names only) is displayed in church. Please see Sue McGrane for more information.

SOCIAL EVENTS

Two dates for your diary in July.

Sunday 13 July 11.30am – Parish Picnic with a BBQ. Food available to purchase. Please bring your own

cold drinks. All very welcome to join us. There will be games for the children. Tickets £1, refundable on food purchase.

Friday 18 July – An evening of 80s music with the Sweet Rhythm Band. Licensed bar. Doors open at 7.00pm, music from 7.30pm. Tickets £5 in advance or on the door.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Angela, Joanne, Chelle and Fiona are at church each Sunday DURING TERM TIME to welcome you. Please note that as from this July, when Children's Church will run term time only, following the primary school holiday dates. The last Sunday for this summer will be 27 July. We meet again in September. There are Bible stories, songs, games, crafts, word searches and more. We gather at 10 a.m. in church on a Sunday. When Children's church aren't meeting there will always be puzzle sheets, colouring books and other resources in the children's area in church as we worship together.

Contact us at childrenschurch@stmarysdavyhulme.org

MOTHERS' UNION

There are no meetings in July and August. We continue to meet up at Church for the Wednesday service and during and after the Sunday services.

CHURCH FLOWERS

If you would like to contribute towards the cost of the church flowers, perhaps to mark a special occasion or in memory of someone special, please could you add your name to the list in church. Gift Aid envelopes are available if you are able to gift aid your donation. A special thank you to Elsie who arranges and cares for the flowers week by week.

ECO CHURCH

As we shop day to day and /or enjoy holidays and days out it is interesting to look at buying Fairtrade – have a look at Fairtrade - Where to find Fairtrade products to see the range of products and the work of Fair Trade around the world.

As we enjoy our summer, we can all try and manage our own outdoor spaces to help nature in some way. Perhaps take refillable cups on days out, consider how we picnic and recycle what we use to help the environment.

CHURCH FINANCE

Thank you to all those who give regularly and generously to the upkeep of this church. It is only with the help of so many that we are able to pay all our regular utility bills, and the high costs related to maintaining this church.

You will be aware that we have had some major expenditure on the church sound system and will have further expenditure on repair / renewal of the flat roof over the gallery that has deteriorated significantly. The cost of both of these items is likely to be in the region of £30,000. Any donations towards these costs would be much appreciated.

If you do not already donate to the church on a regular basis, please consider the church giving scheme. Making a regular donation towards the costs involved in the mission and ministry of this church helps with the church's financial planning and enables the church to extend its mission.

The Gift Aid that we can claim on Gift Aided donations makes a significant contribution to church finances. If you are able to Gift Aid any donations and have not signed a Gift Aid form, please speak to Yvonne.

Please do pray about how you may be able to continue to help this church financially and in many other ways.

YOUNG PEOPLE at CHURCH

Some of our young people now come along and share in the whole Eucharist service. You are always welcome. There is always a chance after the service for a chat and catch-up time with your friends in the church hall. Our prayers and best wishes to all our young people as they plan for their summer activities and/or continue their studies.

NEVER FORGOTTEN BABY LOSS PEER SUPPORT

The next meetings are June 29 and 13 July 6.30pm – 8.30pm in the church hall.

For further information and future dates please contact Rachelle at neverforgotten1708@gmail.com

CHURCH GROUNDS

We continue to manage our church grounds for nature as well as visitors. As always, we would welcome extra help please. We would love to hear from you. One parishioner will be helping in their own time through their employer's volunteer time.

Maybe you could fill up the birds' water bath or prune the roses, or perhaps help with the occasional tidying around? We would also be grateful for low plants that can cope with dry weather as we all look to manage climate change.

FOOD BANK

Donations can be left at church every Wednesday and Sunday mornings. As well as usual donations of packet and tinned food, in date please, clean carrier bags are very useful. Empty half dozen egg boxes enable the food bank to give out eggs. Thank you to Peter and Sue who continue to take your donations to the Food Bank each week.

PRAYER FOR PEACE

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the Prince of Peace and loves to bless the peacemakers, at this time we particularly pray for peace in our communities, peace in our nation and peace across the world, We pray that people may live in safety, secure in your grace, Through Jesus Christ who died to bring us peace. Amen

QR CODE

This QR code will take you directly to the church contactless giving device. Using this via your phone, you are able to then make a donation directly to the church bank account. Thank you.

