

Readings for Services - Sundays and Wednesdays		
	MP = Morning Prayer (Audio) E= Eucharist (church 10am & 8.45am on 1st & 15th)	6.30pm
Sunday 1 August Trinity 9	MP/E Exodus 16.2-4, 9-15 or Ephesians 4.1-16 John 6.24-35	Psalm 88 Luke 12.13-21
4 August Wednesday	E Numbers 13.1-2, 25 – 14.1,26-35 or Psalm 106.14-24 Matthew 15.21-28	
Sunday 8 August Trinity 10	MP/E 2 Samuel 18.2-9,15,31- 33 Ephesians 4.25 – 5.2 John 6.35, 41-51	
11 August Wednesday (Clare of Assisi)	E Song of Songs 8.6-7 or 2 Corinthians 4.6-10 John 15.4-10	
Sunday 15 August Trinity 11	MP/E Isaiah 61.10-end Galatians 4.4-7 Luke 1.46-55	
18 August Wednesday	E Judges 9.6-15 or Psalm 21.1-6 Matthew 20.1-16	
Sunday 22 August Trinity 12	MP/E Joshua 24.1-2a, 14-18 Ephesians 6.10-20 John 6.56-69	
25 August Wednesday	E 1 Thessalonians 2.9-13 or Psalm 126 Matthew 23.27-32	
Sunday 29 August Trinity 13	MP/E Deuteronomy 4.1-2, 6-9 James 1.17-end Mark 7.1-8, 14-15, 21-23	

To access the Audio Online Services from St Cross
<http://www.stcrossknutsford.org.uk/media/>

St Cross Newsletter August 2021



Vicar: Revd Paul Deakin,
 St Cross Vicarage, Mobberley Road, Knutsford
 WA16 8EL

Tel. No. 01565 640702

email: revdpauldeakin@gmail.com

Web address: www.stcrossknutsford.org.uk

Email address: stcross.knutsford@gmail.com



The Vicar writes...

I wonder how many of you remember the blockbuster hit from 1977 'Thank you for the music' by the Swedish group Abba? A catchy melodic tune with simple but meaningful lyrics where the chorus goes:

Thank you for the music, the songs I'm singing. Thanks for all the joy they're bringing

Who can live without it? I ask in all honesty, what would life be?

Without a song or a dance, what are we? So, I say thank you for the music,

For giving it to me.

As I write this article, I am looking ahead to the first Sunday in August when we will once again be able to sing in our worship of God in our church services. We have of course been fortunate to have Hilary Skinner lead us every fortnight as we engage prayerfully with the text in our hymn book, but now, once again, we will be able to sing ourselves, albeit in a more measured manner.

Of all the measures that we can relax I felt that this was the first and most significant to adopt. Hymns have always been part of the Christian faith and singing in our faith has its roots in Judaism through the singing of the Psalms. The last action of Jesus at the Last Supper was to sing a hymn with his friends before going to the Mount of Olives and his ultimate arrest in the Garden of Gethsemane. (Mark 14.26)

I am sure that, after the resurrection of Jesus and the outpouring of the

Holy Spirit on the Church, the words of the songs or hymns were expanded. After all, there was some good news to sing about! Many Psalms are about Israel's good news over their freedom from Egypt and now we have freedom in Christ to celebrate! The apostle Paul wrote that Christians should with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs to God. (Colossians 3.16)

The word 'hymn' comes from the Greek word 'hymnos' meaning 'song of praise'. I do believe that one of the gifts of the Church is music, and we are blessed to have so many hymn and music writers, predominantly from the mid-16th century when the invention of the printing press brought new possibilities to the Church. It was the great writers of this time like Isaac Watts and John Wesley, whose hymns we still sing, who inspire us to sing from the heart with faith and understanding.

The Abba song speaks of someone who has a gift in singing but it's also a song that reminds us that we can all sing with joy, irrespective of what our perceived musical ability is. In singing hymns we can express our love for God in and through Jesus in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Yours, in Christ

Paul

Welcome to Malyn



After becoming a "Christian" in Feb. 1969 whilst teaching in Harrogate, I immediately wanted to

leave teaching and go out to a foreign mission-field. God led me to Vienna and the European Christian Mission (ECM) and over the next 3 years I travelled into Eastern European Countries with hidden bibles for churches who requested copies of the written Word.

In 1972 I went to live in the former Yugoslavia, and working alongside many Baptist churches - mostly in small villages in the hills - my

activities included teaching children's bible groups, choirs and music groups, playing the national "TAMBURA instruments" (similar to Greek and Russian stringed instruments), ladies' groups, taking food to the sick, lifts to doctors and hospitals, putting the first youth songbook into print using 'Notaset' (every note placed on the paper by hand) and Christian radio broadcasting with TWR/Monte Carlo and Wetzlar/Germany.

I married in 1976 into a Serbian family in a village in Croatia; we had 2 daughters, Julija and Debbie, and life was very busy - building our own house, growing all the vegetables, wheat, maize etc.

I reared chickens, ducks and turkeys, and my in-laws on the family farmstead kept the cows, pigs, hens, sheep and even a horse, until we acquired an old tractor.

In 1990 we came to England with my parents to place the girls in school, but the Balkans war stopped Čane and me returning home as he would have been taken into the army immediately.

Ethnic cleansing came to our village in 1995 when the rest of our family walked with thousands of others for 15 days across Bosnia into Serbia.

Another 3 years passed before just

older people were allowed to return home (1998), but when my husband died of a brain tumour in 2004 in Macclesfield, I went back alone to help again in our churches. I returned to Julija and Paul's home in 2012 as I needed a place to settle in my "old age" !! and since then have travelled back to family and church family in Croatia as often as possible.

I am so grateful for the warm welcome that I have received at St. Cross Church and look forward to getting to know you all even better in the months ahead.

Malyn Stekovic

Occasional Offices

Baptism

25 July Jake Frederick Spencer

Wedding

30 July Samantha Rose Way and Scott Gordon Marshall

