

Being a Christian across the Miles *Allison Whiteley*

Did you watch the coverage of the



Olympics? Perhaps you did not have time, but it cannot have escaped your notice that this is the year of

the postponed 2020 Olympic Games. By the time that you read this article the Paralympic Games will have taken place too.

The Olympic motto is *Faster, Higher, Stronger*. However on 20th July this year the International Olympic Committee (IOC) changed this motto to *Faster, Higher, Stronger - Together*.

IOC President Thomas Bach explained the link between the change and the original motto: "Solidarity fuels our mission to make the world a better place through sport. We can only go faster, we can only aim higher, we can only become stronger by standing together — in solidarity."

Since January this year I have been the Acting Associate Director of

Technology for the International Olympic Committee located in Lausanne in Switzerland. It has been hard work but also an honour and a privilege. I like watching sport but I would not describe myself as a sports person! I do, however, describe myself as a Christian. I believe that the world is a better place because of the love, common belief, and welcome of Christians.

It can be daunting walking into a church full of people that you don't know. All you know is that the people have gathered in that place to worship God. I have been blessed with finding an English-speaking church that is warm and welcoming where the hymns, prayers and lectionary are familiar. The congregation has been friendly and keen to get to know me. I have even been invited to lead the prayers! However, I have equally been supported in prayer, Zoom calls and online worship with the St Cross congregation. So whether in Lausanne or Knutsford, being together, physically or virtually, I have felt the solidarity of being a Christian and that truly we can become stronger by standing together.

Allison

St Cross Newsletter September 2021

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The Vicar writes...

September is always a busy time as schools return and it seems as if the relative quietness of the summer suddenly gives way to darker nights and activities resuming in many walks of life. It is also a time when many of us who are less affected by school holidays may decide to take a holiday.

In Church life we start to think about and plan for Harvest Thanksgiving and that always seems to be a marker that we need to start thinking about the other appealing aspects of the coming months. At St. Cross, September always means 'Patronal Festival' for Holy Cross Day. In recent years we have had notable visitors but due to the pandemic this has not been possible this year. We will also host the Civic Service of our new Town Mayor, Cllr. Stewart Gardiner, so September will be busy.

Although our church services are returning to some degree of normality, the social life (and fund-raising) of our church has diminished, though I am pleased the Mothers' Union was able to meet recently and set a programme for the year. We also have a Coffee Morning event to look forward to at Mary and Owen's which will raise funds for 'Mary's Meals' and 'St. Cross Challenge 50'. I hope and pray this will be a fine autumnal day and act as a catalyst for more events to follow. I am sure in the next few weeks we will all be further enlightened about Mary's Meals but in supporting this we will be supporting their goal of aiming to make sure every child gets a nutritious meal in a place of education, throughout the

world.

Finally, we can also expect the Bishop of Stockport, Rt. Revd. Sam Corley, to visit our parish on Tuesday October 12th, but more about that next month.

Yours, in Christ

Paul

A prayer for the month

Our Father, give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us for the times when we take more than our share of the bread that belongs to all. Let us help you to fill the starving with good things, not with scraps from our table.

Teach us how to share what is not ours to keep.

Clothe us with your love that we may complete each good work you create for us to do.

Place in our hearts your compassion for each starving child and use our little acts of love so that they starve no more. Amen.

Occasional Offices

Funerals

16 August Betty Annyone Kaszubski

Baptisms

1 August Jasper Ryan Colin Ketley

15 August Maison Ronnie Graham-Perks
and Lillie Mae Poppie Perks



**SATURDAY 25 SEPTEMBER 10am-12pm at 1 Maltkiln Road,
Plumley
COFFEE MORNING & BRING AND BUY
In aid of MARY'S MEALS CHARITY and ST CROSS CHURCH**

	MP = Morning Prayer (Audio) E= Eucharist (church 10am & 8.45am on 5th & 19th)	6.30pm
1 September Wednesday	Psalm 34.11-18 Colossians 1.1-8 Luke 4.38-end	
Sunday 5 September Trinity 14	MP/E Isaiah 35.4-7a James 2.1-10 [11-13] 14-17 Mark 7.24-end	Celtic Evening Prayer Psalm 119.41-56 Matthew 6.1-18
8 September Wednesday	E Psalm 15 Colossians 3.1-11 Luke 6.20-26	
Sunday 12 September HOLY CROSS DAY	MP/E Numbers 21.4-9 Philippians 2.6-11 John 3.13-17	
15 September Wednesday (Cyprian)	E Ezekiel 34.11-16 1 Peter 4.12-end Matthew 18.18-22	
Sunday 19 September Trinity 16	MP/E Jeremiah 11.18-20 James 3.13 - 4.3, 7-8a Mark 9.30-37	
22 September Wednesday	E Ezra 9.5-9 or Psalm 103. 1-6 Luke 9.1-6	
Sunday 26 September Trinity 17	MP/E Numbers 11.4-6,10-16, 24-29 James 5.13-end Mark 9.38-end	
29 September Wednesday MICHAEL and ALL ANGELS	E Revelation 12.7-12 John 1.47-end	

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<http://www.stcrossknutsford.org.uk/media/>