

John Coleridge Patteson, Bishop of Melanesia

1 April 1827—20 September 1871

Born in London in 1827, John Coleridge Patteson came under the influence of George Augustus Selwyn while John was still a scholar at Eton. Patteson went on to be ordained and, in 1855 at the age of twenty-eight, left Britain to begin his life's work among the Islanders of the South Pacific, founding the Melanesian Mission and becoming the first bishop of those Islands. His system of evangelisation was to train indigenous clergy and so to equip local people to share the gospel in a way that was within their own culture. This novel educative approach quickly bore fruit and Christianity spread rapidly. Also working in Melanesia were 'blackbirders', essentially



European slave-traders, who carried off Islanders to work in British and other colonies in Australasia. When Patteson and his fellow-workers landed on the island of Nukapu, they were mistaken for such men. They were attacked and brutally put to death by the inhabitants. John Coleridge Patteson gave his life for the gospel on this day in the year 1871.

Chester Diocese has strong links with the Melanesian Brothers.

St Cross Newsletter

September 2025



**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



Our Vicar writes.....

As reported locally and notified by the service sheets we were successful in receiving a grant of £1500 from Knutsford Town Council as a contribution towards the cost of replacing the roof on the Parish Hall. The total cost of the project prior to claiming VAT relief is approximately £33000. If our claim for a VAT reclaim is successful, the project cost will reduce to around £27500. This represents a huge investment from us, made possible by generous giving including specific donations and legacies from parishioners of around £12000 for this project. I would like to thank everyone concerned in every aspect of this project, and in the successful grant application. The award of the grant is a recognition from the Town Council of the efforts we are making here to support the local community, and especially through the work of Hope Central.

Pictured with Revd Paul and Hil receiving the cheque are: Kay Baker and Ian Robertson from Hope Central, and the Mayor of Knutsford, Cllr. Bryan Hartley



There is significant engagement between us (primarily the ministry team) and the Hope Centre, and in the forthcoming weeks we will be exploring how we can forge greater links with the local community to grow the Kingdom of God in Knutsford. Simultaneously, we must continue to do the things we do well in order to continue attracting Christians - moving into or visiting Knutsford - to our Church.

September is a time when, with the return of students to schools, many in our parish take their holidays. It is also the time when once again we can come together as a Church family to celebrate Holy Cross Day. We are honoured this year to welcome the Bishop of Birkenhead, Rt. Rev'd Julie Conalty, who will preside and preach at the 10am Sung Eucharist. I hope to see a strong attendance for her visit.

Yours, in Christ

Paul

Bishop Julie



Diary for September

Mondays

2-4pm Monday Together in the Parish Room

Fellowship, refreshments and activities supporting the work of the church.

Tuesday 9 September

7.30pm Lectio Divina (on Teams)

Thursday 18 September

2pm Mothers' Union

Accessing Sermons

Most sermons at St Cross are either recorded as a Sound or Video Recording. These are available via our website.

If you go directly to YouTube for our Video Recordings (search on St Cross Knutsford), that helps to raise our online profile. If you SUBSCRIBE to the Channel (which costs nothing) or give a LIKE to a sermon, or give a COMMENT, that increases our online presence still further.

If someone asks you about the preaching here you can SHARE a link.

It is Mission and Evangelism easily put into action.

Occasional Offices in August

Baptism

August 24

Mckenzie Kayden Lee Stirrup

Funeral

August 28

Helen Pickford

