



We celebrate Mothering Sunday on 30 March

St Anne's,
Sale with
St Francis,
Sale Moor

e-Spire

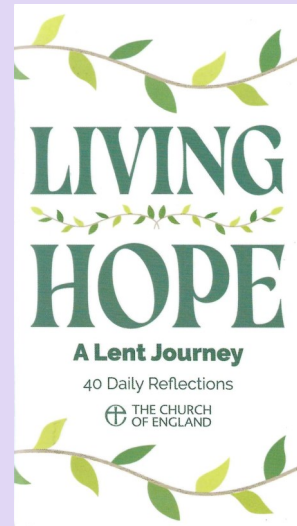
March
2025

Lent 2025 at St Anne's

We start Lent on Ash Wednesday, 5 March with Services of Imposition of Ashes with Holy Communion at 10 am and 7 pm in church.



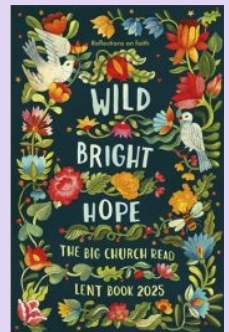
And we offer a range of opportunities for study and reflection:



1. Living Hope - A Lent Journey booklet or app of 40 Daily Reflections from the Church of England. Copies are available at the back of church, cost £2.50 and there's more information on the Church of England website [here](#).

2. Lent study on Mondays at 10 am In 2025 the Church celebrates 1700 years since the ground breaking Council of Nicaea. We are using this year's USPG study which invites us to explore the Nicene Creed and what we believe in. For more information, please speak to Margaret Ward or Janice Mason.

3. Lent book - 'Wild, Bright Hope' the Big Church Read Lent group 2025. Buy your copy from church at £9.99 and join in the discussion with videos on **Wednesdays at 11 am** starting 12 March. We will also be following the videos and its themes on Sundays during Lent. So get your copy of the book; it's an easy read and full of hope!



4. Faith Matters: we are offering a five week beginner's course on the basics of Christianity with videos and time to talk; speak to Alison for details or email her [here](#).

Mothering Sunday

On 30 March most churches in the UK will celebrate their 'mothers'. Millions will be spent on Mother's Day gifts and cards, and children will give flowers to women in church. It's a joy to honour mothers for their love and caring, but our blessings are lessened when we forget the Day's original purpose.

The Mother's Day we know today began on 12 May, 1907, in America, when a woman called Anna Jarvis held a service in her late mother's church to honour her work of organising women's groups to promote friendship and health. The idea spread, and in 1914 Mother's Day was declared an official celebration.

But the European Mothering Sunday goes back to the 16th century,

and was altogether more faith-based. On the fourth Sunday of Lent people went 'a-mothering', going to their 'mother' church, the main church in the area, for a special service. In those days domestic servants rarely had free days, but they were given a day off during Lent, so they could go along with their mothers and families. Times changed, and by the 1900s Mothering Sunday had largely changed into Mother's Day – a celebration of mothers more than mother churches.

Many Scriptures describe the mothering

qualities of God, for example Isaiah 66:13 – 'As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you.' We also see it in women without children. I remember a spinster head teacher in a poor district in Wales mothering and bringing the best out of 'her' children. We see it in our housing and care homes, in older women who have never been mothers as well as those who have, as they comfort a carer who has had a miscarriage, or who needs encouragement. We see it in pastors, and in men who nurture others.

Parish Pump



Time for a new Church Electoral Roll

2025 is the year when EVERYONE gets dumped off the Electoral Roll – and needs to make a definite decision to come back on again.

It happens in the Church of England every six years. Whereas for five years, the Electoral Roll is revised annually by the Electoral Roll Officer, in this sixth year, the roll is dissolved, and we must all re-apply and re-commit ourselves.

That's the quick way of explaining it. If you want a detailed and clear legal break down of how exactly it works, you can find it [here](#). If you manage to wade through all the details of the process, and understand them, it will leave you with admiration for the person who has been brave enough to organise it in your own church!

So, yes, this means you...

Please reaffirm (or affirm for the first time) your commitment to St Anne's by filling in the form so you appear on our new electoral roll. Forms are available at the back of church, on line [here](#), and through our website. Please get your forms in soon, at the very latest by the deadline of Saturday 22 March.

A rule for Lent

Fast from criticism, and feast on praise;
Fast from self-pity, and feast on joy;
Fast from ill temper, and feast on peace;
Fast from resentment, and feast on contentment;
Fast from jealousy, and feast on contentment;
Fast from pride, and feast on love;
Fast from selfishness, and feast on service;
Fast from fear, and feast on faith.

St Patrick's Day - 17 March

St Patrick's Day parades may be flamboyant and full of Irish razzmatazz but it's all a far cry from the hard life of this humble 5th century Christian who became in time both bishop and apostle of Ireland. Patrick was born the son of a town councillor in the west of England but as a young man he was captured by Irish pirates, shipped to Ireland, and reduced to slavery, made to tend his master's herds.

Desolate and despairing, Patrick turned to prayer. He found God was there for him, even in such desperate circumstances. He spent much time in prayer, and his faith grew and deepened, in contrast to his earlier years, when he "knew not the true God".

Then, after six gruelling, lonely years he was told in a dream he would soon go to his own country. He either escaped or was freed, made his way to a port 200 miles away and eventually persuaded some sailors to take him away from Ireland.

After various adventures in other lands, including near-starvation, Patrick landed on English soil at last, and returned to his family. But he was much changed. He had

enjoyed his life of plenty before; now he wanted to devote the rest of his life to Christ. Patrick received some form of training for the priesthood, but not the higher education he really wanted.

By 435, well-educated or not, Patrick was badly needed. Palladius' mission to the Irish had failed, and so the Pope sent Patrick back to the land of his slavery. He set up his see at Armagh and worked principally in the north. He urged the Irish to greater spirituality, set up a school, and made several missionary journeys.

Patrick's writings are the first literature certainly identified from the British Church. They reveal sincere simplicity and a deep pastoral care. He wanted to abolish paganism, idolatry, and was ready for imprisonment or death in the following of Christ.

Patrick remains the most popular of the Irish saints. The Anglican cathedral of Dublin is dedicated to him, as, of course, is the principal cathedral of New York. A small number of Anglican churches in England are dedicated to St Patrick too.

"Looking out of the window"

On 18 February I looked out of the window at 6.45 am and was delighted to see the glow of a red sunrise for the first time in 2025 after weeks of long nights, cold winds and heavy grey skies. Then, to add to the joy, the yellow bulb of our first daffodil of the year was gleaming - ten day later than last year. There is a saying that we should be careful what we wish for. Well, having wished for the first daffodil to arrive, three days later a strong wind blew it down, laying its head on the soil. I have propped it up with a small restraining garden stake and twine!

The snowdrops are in their full magnificence, and have spread, as if by magic, self dividing themselves. Bright yellow and purple crocus are looking very cheerful along with polyanthus plants of various colours, and part of the back lawn is covered in the delicate pale purple crocus, which are presumably all spread by birds. On close inspection, when I was out in the garden in the sunshine one day with a hoe, tulip shoots, mini daffodils and hyacinths could be seen. Spring really is beginning to show its face.



During one of the recent gales many of the extremely tall stalks of the pampas grass gave up the battle to stay upright and had broken and bent over at about sixty degree angles, which made me think of railway signals which click down when advising trains to stop at a junction.

Winter pansies in pots have been struggling in the weather conditions but some are still managing to show cheerful yellow faces. Rose bushes are beginning to show signs of new shoots and one floribunda has a complete new set of leaves already which is very encouraging.

The bird feeders are still very popular with the little birds dashing in and out, and the parakeet gang continue their noisy activities. The one which feeds itself with one "foot" whilst standing on the other is easily recognisable because of some darker feathers on its tail.

The garden is full of colourful growth potential and no doubt will provide more entertainment as we look out of the window as the world wakes up.

Bridget

Mothers' Union

It's my turn this month, good job as my partner in crime, Jackie, is off enjoying the sunshine in New Zealand! Bit extreme to go that far don't you think?! Still I hope she has a fabulous time and if she can bring back some of that stuff called sunshine it'd be good. I don't know about you but I'm getting slightly fed up of grey cloudy skies now!

So on to this month's article. In February we held our AGM followed by our Christmas Party which has been cancelled in January due to the snow and icy conditions. The AGM went smoothly and we all enjoyed the food and time to chat at our party. Thanks to Jackie for putting together the quiz for us, it certainly tested the old grey matter that's for sure. At our meeting we exchanged our prayer partner presents, I got some bulbs for my garden, thank you Jan! I'm looking forward to putting them in my garden very soon.

This month at our meeting on **Monday 10th March**,

our "Overseas" evening, we will be welcoming **Revd Becky Matthews from St. Pauls**. Becky is coming to speak to us about her trip to Sri Lanka. It should be a really interesting and informative evening, I hope you'll be able to come and listen to Becky. I'm looking forward to learning about a country I know very little about. Remember our meetings are open to everyone, you don't have to be a member. We meet in the **church hall at 8pm**, we'll even give you a brew and a biscuit! Hope to see you there.

Later this month we will be putting together the **posies of daffodils for Mothering Sunday**. We will be doing this on **Saturday 29th March in church at 2.30pm**. Anyone can come and help put these together, it would be lovely to see you. If you are planning on coming to help and you have greenery in your garden that you think could help please could you bring it with you or let me know and I'll come and pick it up, thanks.

I recently called round to see Sylvia Webb, many of you will remember Sylvia. Sadly Sylvia can't make it to our meetings at the moment but she is still a member and I was pleased to take round to her a certificate saying she's been a member of the Mothers Union for 50 years! As Sylvia said to me, where has the time gone? But we both agreed age is but a number. Sylvia sent her love to all our members, it was good to see her and have a little chat.

Well I'll be off now and get back to my

World Day of Prayer 2025 Cook Islands

'I made you wonderful'



Date and Time: 11am Friday 7th March

Location: St Paul's, Springfield Road, Sale, M33 7YA

Contact person: Joan Tanner 07875 564 502

jigsaw, one of a photo David took of Wastwater, challenging but I'm getting there!

Don't forget the World Day of Prayer and the Moira Garnett Prize - see the adverts alongside.

Love to you all and here's hoping for some warmer, dry weather soon.

Carol & Jackie

MOIRA GARNETT PRIZE 2025

You are invited by the children of Year 5 St Anne's School
To our Presentation on 12th March 2025
At 10am in Church



Supported by Mothers' Union Branch St Anne's Sale

Lent lunch - Sunday 23 March at 12 noon



OVER 1.9 MILLION PEOPLE IN GAZA ARE DISPLACED, WITH LIMITED ACCESS TO LIFE-SAVING HEALTHCARE.

This Lent, we are launching an emergency appeal to support families in Gaza and the West Bank who are enduring unimaginable suffering. Hospitals like Al Ahli in Gaza and St. Luke's in the West Bank, supported by the Diocese of Jerusalem in partnership with USPG, are working tirelessly to provide critical care despite overwhelming challenges. With resources running out, your urgent action can help sustain these lifelines, delivering medical aid, dignity, and hope to those who need it most.

Find out more today at lent.uspg.org.uk



Your urgent action today saves lives tomorrow. Thank you for standing with us in this emergency.

Registered Charity No - 234518

We are having just one Lunch this Lent. There will be no lunch on 16 March.

Why Lent Lunches?

We share a simple meal as part of our Lenten discipline to remember those who hunger in our world. Soup and bread will be served and cheese, butter and fruit.

Who is the lunch for?

Everyone! A time of fellowship for all. Do join us.

We will raise funds for the **USPG Lenten Appeal** 'Bring care in crisis' for the Diocese of Jerusalem and its work at the Al Ahil hospital in Gaza. Thank you for your support.

On 16 February we enjoyed meeting Matthew Pryor and colleagues from Trafford Youth For Christ (TYFC) and hearing about their current work. The following Sunday we held another cake sale and the proceeds of over £140 will be sent to TYFC. Many thanks to both bakers and buyers.

LENT

APPEAL 2025

BRING CARE IN CRISIS TO FAMILIES IN GAZA AND THE WEST BANK

Support the critical work of the Diocese of Jerusalem in partnership with USPG, delivering essential medical aid and hope to those in urgent need.

Find out more today at lent.uspg.org.uk

DONATE



USPG PARTNERS IN GLOBAL MISSION

 @USPG GLOBAL

Registered Charity No - 234518

Christingle Update

Hi everyone. Just an update to let you know how much we all raised for the Children's Society this year through our Christingle services.



I'm really proud to tell you that we raised a total of £476.05. Thank you so much for your donations. Every penny you gave helps and will go to help a young person in need. The Children's Society really appreciates every penny they receive.

I hope you all have the 2025 you want and need, that you find things to smile at each day and you know and feel love in your life. Thank you

Carol Thomas
Children's Society Rep for St Annes

Christians Against Poverty (CAP)

St Anne's is one of six Sale churches working in partnership to provide the Sale Debt Centre in conjunction with the national charity Christians Against Poverty (CAP). After six years our Debt Centre Manager Debbie Walters is moving on to a new job and the Debt Centre is looking to appoint a replacement.

Could that be you? Or do you know someone who would fit the bill? Click [here](#) to see the advert. But be quick; the closing date is 7 March.

Many of you will have met Debbie, she's come to talk to us at our Sunday service on a number of occasions. We will miss her, her cheerful personality, her care and commitment, her heart for people struggling with debt and we thank her for her time in this post.



St Anne's School

📣 Join Our Governing Team! 📣



St. Anne's CE Primary School is looking for a **Foundation Governor** to help shape the future of our school.

- ◇ Support our Christian ethos and school's vision
- ◇ Guide school development
- ◇ Make a real difference

No prior experience needed—just a passion for education and our community!

📍 **Interested?** Contact our chair of governors Bev Hobson – bhobson@st-annes.trafford.sch.uk or call the school office on 0161 973 7181

Join us in making a positive impact! ✨

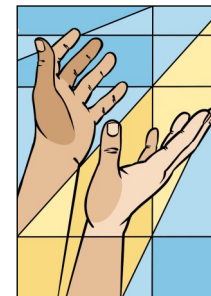
The Lord's Prayer Tour

Stephen Cottrell, Archbishop of York will embark on a tour across the North of England, sharing the meaning and significance of the Lord's Prayer. He will speak about the ongoing relevance of the Lord's Prayer in today's world, encouraging everyone to live by its powerful, transformative words. This tour is part of a broader effort to renew faith and mission across the North of England.

See last month's issue of this magazine (online) for more information about the tour and Faith in the North. And you can learn more about Faith in the North at www.faithinthenorth.org

Dates of the Lord's Prayer Tour include

Monday 10 March - Chester Cathedral
Monday 17 March - Liverpool Cathedral
Tuesday 1 April - Manchester Cathedral



'The Glory in the Grey'

Has the dreary weather been getting you down? Here's an excerpt from a poem by George MacLeod (1895 - 1991), founder of the Iona Community:

Almighty God, Redeemer...
Sunshine and storm, mist and greyness
Eddy round our inner lives.
But as we trace the pattern, looking back,
We know that both darkness and light have been of
thine ordaining,
For our own soul's health.
Thy constant care in all, and everywhere,
Is manifest.

St Anne's Eco group recycling

Thanks for the stamps that have been given in during January, we send them off to USPG to help them raise funds. If you still have some please leave them in the green box in the porch.

Please note we re no longer collecting empty tablet blister packs. Please take them to Superdrug in Manchester or Stockport if you are able. We simply could not cope with the volume you all produced as Superdrug only accept a limited amount.

We have started collecting candle stubs, this is not a fundraiser but it means they're reused rather than just thrown away. Please put any candle stubs, used tea lights (the aluminium cup is recycled), wax melts and any unwanted candles in the green box in the porch.

Louise Pickford

Our AGM

We will hold our Annual Parochial Church Meeting, AGM for short, on **Sunday 6 April** after the morning service and refreshments.

More details nearer the time, but Ann Hunt would appreciate annual reports from all our activities and organisations as soon as possible and by mid-March at the latest. You can email them to her at hunt289@icloud.com

This is our monthly/bimonthly magazine, the **e-Spire**. We no longer offer a hard-copy parish magazine, an online version offers much better flexibility and attractiveness for much less cost! It is to supplement what appears on our website and in the weekly pastoral letter and newsheets from our clergy. If you don't receive these by email, please send your email address to Alison: alisoncox19@hotmail.com

For comments on e-Spire and to contribute to a future issue, mail the **editors**, Howard & Janice Mason at howard.mason1@btopenworld.com

Parish Directory

St Anne's, Church Road, off Northenden Road, M33 3GD

Website:	www.salestanne.org	
Vicar:	Rev Canon Alison Cox, The Vicarage Church Road West, Sale M33 3GD	0161 973 4145
	E-mail: alisoncox19@hotmail.com	
Hon Assistant Priest:	Rev Olwyn Marlow, 28 Arcadia Avenue	0161 962 9292
Families & Children's Worker:	Shauna Hancock - shauna.stannefamchild@gmail.com	
Churchwardens:	Andrew Egarr e-mail: andrew.egarrcw@gmail.com	07808 466 371
PCC Secretary:	Ann Hunt: hunt289@icloud.com	
PCC Treasurer:	Chris Jones - chrisjonessat@gmail.com	07484 834 513
Hall Bookings:	Please contact the vicar at alisoncox19@hotmail.com	
Events Committee:	Please contact Ann Hunt: hunt289@icloud.com	
Sacristan/Head Server:	Sue Heath, 7 The Cloisters	0161 969 3167
Organist & Choir Leader:	Vacant	
Choir:	Tuesdays 6.45pm. Contact: matt.roughley.uk@gmail.com	
St Anne's School:	Headteacher – Polly Knight	0161 973 7181
Overseas Group:	Chair - Janice Mason	0161 969 8570
Church Fellowship:	Monthly coffee mornings, Church Hall	0161 962 8946
Mothers' Union:	2nd Monday, 8pm, St Anne's Church Hall	0161 283 0563
Mums & Tots:	Fridays 9.15 - 11am, contact Janet Plumb	0161 905 3895

Guiding

Rainbows

- 1st Sale Moor : Mondays 5 - 6 pm in the Church Hall
email 1stsalemoorrainbows@gmail.com
- 2nd Sale Moor : Mondays 6.15 - 7.15 pm in the Church Hall
email 2ndsalemoorrainbows@gmail.com

Brownies

- 1st Sale Moor: Weds 6.30 - 8 pm, Clarendon Rd Scout Hut 973 3894
- 2nd Sale Moor: Weds 6.30 - 8 pm in the Church Hall 0161 976 5972
- 3rd Sale Moor: Tues 6 pm at Moorlands School
- 7th Sale Moor: Tues 6 pm in the Church Hall 0161 973 2108

Guides

- 2nd Sale Moor: Mondays 7.30 - 9pm in the Church Hall 0161 286 1623
- 7th Sale Moor: Tuesdays 7 pm at Sale Moor Methodist Church

Rangers

- Sale Moor Unit: Thursday evenings at Trinity Methodist Church