



Rochdale Parish Church of St Chad



NEWS

(Please take one and pass it on)

Pentecost
2025

Welcome to
Rochdale Parish Church of St Chad



Be With Us Today



Father in heaven,
you have given us a mind to know you,
a will to serve you,
and a heart to love you.

Be with us today in all that we do,
so that your light may shine out in our lives.

Through Christ our Lord.

Amen

St Thomas More (1478-1535)

A polite reminder...

PLEASE ENSURE YOUR PHONE IS

OFF

DURING THE SERVICE

Thank You





*Thank you for joining us for worship today.
You are welcome to stay
for refreshments after the service.*



Please pray for
Louise Njeri Waithaka
and
Miroslav Frankovic

to be married at
Rochdale Parish Church of St Chad
on Saturday 21 June 2025



**Please continue to pray for UKRAINE
and THE HOLY LAND
and also for all affected
by conflict and/or disaster**



If you would like us to pray for someone who is ill or who has died,
please add their name to the list located on the desk
or speak to one of the clergy.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY IN JUNE

Sunday 8

PENTECOST

- Holy Communion
at St Mary in the Baum 9.15 am
- Choral Eucharist at St Chad's 11.15 am



Monday 9

ARCHDEACON'S VISITATION

- St Mary in the Baum at 7.30 pm

Wednesday 11

Friends Together

Bereavement Support Group

at St Chad's 10 am - 12 noon

Everyone Welcome

Refreshments provided



Thursday 12

- Said Eucharist at St Chad's 10.00 am

Sunday 15

TRINITY SUNDAY

- Holy Communion
at St Mary in the Baum 9.15 am
- Choral Eucharist at St Chad's 11.15 am



Sunday 22

1st SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

- Holy Communion
at St Mary in the Baum 9.15 am
- Choral Eucharist at St Chad's 11.15 am



Sunday 29

2nd SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

- Holy Communion
at St Mary in the Baum 9.15 am
- Choral Eucharist at St Chad's 11.15 am

Monday 29

CONFIRMATION SERVICE

at St Mary in the Baum 6.00 pm
led by The Rt Revd Mark Davies,
Bishop of Middleton





Gaynor and Paul Bollington would like to say a big "Thank You" to everyone who attended, supported or helped in any way on the occasion of their recent Marriage at St Chad's.

"We had a beautiful Wedding and a wonderful day and would to thank everyone for the gifts and good wishes."

Gaynor and Paul.



MUSIC ON SATURDAYS AT ST CHAD'S

Saturday 14 June at 12 noon

EIRA LYNN JONES (Harpist)

Welsh harpist Eira Lynn Jones presents
a varied programme of musical mosaics
to showcase this magical instrument.



Admission £6 - pay on the door

including refreshments available from 11.30 pm

(Concert lasts until 12.50pm)

Saturday 19 July at 3.00pm

Greater Manchester Police Windband

in concert



Admission **£8.00** per person
pay on the door



**Saturday
23 August 2025**

3.00 pm

Tickets £10

pay on the door

(includes light refreshments)



CHURCH OPEN DAYS at ST CHAD'S 2025

Our historic Grade 2* listed church
will be open from 2 - 4 pm
on Wednesdays and Thursdays from

4 JUNE

and continuing through to the

HERITAGE WEEKEND

FRIDAY 12 SEPTEMBER : 2 - 4 pm

SATURDAY 13 SEPTEMBER : 11.30 am - 4 pm

SUNDAY 14 SEPTEMBER : 12.30 - 4 pm

➤ Our Sunday and Thursday Services of Worship will be at their usual times <

We rely on your support
to enable this event
to take place each year.

If you are able to give
2 hours of your time
on any of the days
mentioned then please see

Graham Knox

to help him plan the rota.

Thank you.

Summer Solstice 2025

SATURDAY 21 JUNE AT 03:42 BST

Following on from the Spring Equinox in March, our journey around the Sun has continued and we'll soon be arriving at the Summer Solstice on 21 June.

It's the first day of astronomical Summer and this transitional point is a key stage between the seasons of Spring and Summer.

As our Earth travels around the Sun its elliptical orbit has brought us to the furthestmost point north of the equator, to Midsummer, to the day we receive our largest dose of daylight and so giving us the 'longest day' and 'shortest night' of our year.

Enjoy the day... as whilst we look forward to the warmer weather that summer can bring we're also now on our way to the Autumnal Equinox on 22 September at 18:20 GMT, losing approx 2 minutes of daylight each day in the process, and then from there steadily travelling on to the Winter Solstice on 21 December at 15:03 GMT and the shortest day of the year.



Our website has now moved to its new home,
with a slight change of address.

<https://rochdaleparishchurches.co.uk>
(was org.uk)

Please update your bookmarks/favourites
in your web browser.



ST CHAD'S

GARDENING

Wednesdays at 1.00 pm



CHURCH CLEANING

Thursdays at 10.30 am



Please come along
and help maintain our beautiful church



<https://crimestoppers-uk.org>

Always 100% Anonymous

Gemini and Cancer
are the month's Zodiac signs



21 May - 20 June



21 June - 22 July

June's birthstone is **Pearl**



symbolising purity,
honesty and loyalty.

Sarah Coleridge - The Months

*June brings tulips, lilies, roses,
Fills the children's hand with posies.*



Sarah Coleridge's poem mentions **tulips**, **lilies** and **roses** for the month of June, but other flowers are also associated with this month, including **honeysuckle**.

Tulips represent perfect and deep love.

White lilies embody purity, virtue and reverence.

Red roses signify love and passion, Pink roses joy and appreciation,

Yellow roses warmth and friendship.

Honeysuckle signifies happiness and devotion.

There are 30 days in June, the sixth month in our calendar year,

and it brings us the Strawberry Moon, this year on 11 June.

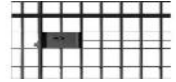
June was originally the fourth month in the ancient Roman calendar of ten months before King Numa Pompilius added January and February c700BC.

This month also sees the start of summer in the northern hemisphere, also the summer solstice and the longest day.

And, if you're thirsting for more facts ...

- The month is named after June, the Roman goddess of marriage and childbirth, and the wife of Jupiter
- The Anglo-Saxons called June "Sera monath", meaning "dry month"
- The ancient Egyptians represented June with a reed plant in their hieroglyphic calendar, to symbolise growth and renewal during this fertile month of their year
- The Arctic Circle experiences 24 hours of daylight around the time of the summer solstice in June.

A VIEW BEHIND BARS - STRENGTH



'You must live on a hill' said Chris as we approached Charlie Wing - the furthest point of our uphill prison settlement - from different directions. He went on: 'You can tell it's no trouble'. I told him about the various ways in which hills have indeed played a part in my life and agreed that it wasn't really something I notice much when I'm walking up there, in contrast to some of my colleagues and less able prisoners.

Strength comes in different ways. For some it's about walking up a hill without noticing the gradient. For Jim it was resilience and belief that he could cope that would be needed as he tackled the outside world after thirty – yes *thirty* years of incarceration. After a few weeks in a rehab unit, he will be back in his homeland of Wales and propelled into a practically unknown world to do his best, in his seventh decade of life.

During a session in our six week course on the foundations of Christian faith with Martin, I asked what kind of characteristics of Jesus stood out for him. He is thoughtful and I never hear the answers I expect (which gives me great joy, as they are then so obviously genuine!) After a pause, his first response was '*Jesus was strong*'.

It's a great answer. To be someone who stood up against wrong, forgave those doing wrong, loved whatever was happening, ignored taunts, talked about loving enemies, lived in communion with people who hadn't really got a clue what was going on half the time and who never wavered from those principles even when condemned to death, is pretty much the clearest example you could find of strength in character and living, to my mind.

The creases that are deep in Martin's cheeks and forehead belie the fact that he's not yet forty years old. They are marks, perhaps, of stone-set expressions learnt in his youth from yet another upbringing that was less than happy.

Martin has continued his sessions and on Easter Day he was baptised. Before the big moment I asked if he wanted to say anything about what had brought him to this point. Another thoughtful pause. '*I spent all my life doing bad things. I don't want to do that any more. I never had a reason, a purpose in my life. This is my purpose now.*'

When we met earlier this week he was deliberating as to whether he would be able to continue, when he's released, to train as a boxer and in the martial art form that he took up years ago. If this was 'fighting' was it allowed as a Christian? I told him about the many examples of Christian sportsmen and - women who have given their best in the strengths they possess, for the glory of God, of those who've set up clubs and schools for kids to help teach them about teamwork and disciplines of training, about playing by the rules and respecting opponents, and most importantly, about not finding their whole identity in their successes or failures but in their character and in their life with Jesus Christ.

So Martin was relieved and purposeful. *'More often now, when I get in a difficult situation, I start to try to think about how Jesus would want me to handle this. I want him to be my example'*. Immense strength will be needed but he's made a start by standing in front of others and showing what he now believes. His parents think it's a really good thing that he's started going back to church.

It was also good to see Callum after a long absence. I admit that I shook his hand and welcomed him, alongside two friends, asking their names as newcomers I hadn't met. He pushed his hood off and asked me if I didn't recognise him. With a face massively swollen, a jaw sticking out to one side, lips that could barely part to speak and stitches over his eyes, I had not realised who he was. A little altercation now and then is part of life here. This was a seriously broken jaw but he'd come with other big things having taken place in his life besides that inconvenience. A baby had been born the previous day. He was glad but in another complexity of prison life, certain restrictions meant he would not be allowed to see the child on any visit in the near future.

The physical strength which allowed him to fight was of no use when it came to wanting to see his baby girl. Loss of freedom is rarely seen for what it will mean when the men commit their offences.

So the Bank Holiday weekend wore on for them all. No work and endless TV or games of snooker. And in the midst of this strange community life they become good at improvising. Someone has broken the snooker cue? Who needs a cue? There's always a mop handle.

Hilary Edgerton - April 2025
Prison Chaplain
HMP Buckley Hall, Rochdale

SERVICES OF WORSHIP

♦ Sundays

ST MARY IN THE BAUM 9.15 am

Week 1 - BCP Communion Week 2, 3, 4 and 5* CW Communion

** where there is a 5th Sunday in a month*

ST CHAD'S 11.15 am

Choral Eucharist (*Matins on 2nd Sunday of month*)

ST CHAD'S 2.00 - 3.30 pm

Asian Christian Fellowship

♦ Thursdays

ST CHAD'S 10.00 am

2nd Thursday in the month Said Eucharist

CONTACT INFO

Vicar: The Revd Anne Gilbert

Vicarage: 01706 346 774 Mobile: 07865 293 827 revannegilbert@gmail.com

Churchwardens:

St Chad's: P Goddard 07564 635900 P Bollington 07566 983798

St Mary in the Baum: A Pollock 07974 191 246

Asian Christian Fellowship: Janice Julius 07983 388169

<https://rochdaleparishchurches.co.uk>

www.facebook.com/rochdaleparishchurches

*To book a Wedding or Baptism/Christening at St Chad's or St Mary in the Baum,
please come along to church on Sunday morning or phone the vicar to make arrangements.*

