



Rochdale Parish Churches of St Chad and St Mary in the Baum



NEWS

(Please take one and pass it on)

23 APRIL
2023



Sunday
23 April 2022

3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER

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



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.



**PLEASE ENSURE YOUR
PHONE IS
OFF
DURING THE SERVICE**

Thank You



'An Evening with John Holder'

This event raised

£790

for church funds.

Thanks to John for his entertaining talk,
to those who gave their time and effort
to organise this and also to everyone
who came along to support the event.

LOCAL ARTIST
GEOFF BUTTERWORTH
HAS DONATED A
BEAUTIFUL PICTURE OF ST CHAD'S,
TO BE THE PRIZE IN OUR RAFFLE
ON SUNDAY 7 APRIL DURING
THE BRING AND SHARE LUNCH.

TICKETS ARE £1 EACH

AVAILABLE NOW
AT THE FRONT DESK.



THE
CORONATION
KING CHARLES
III
2023

Join us at Rochdale Parish Church of St Chad
to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles.

Friday 5th May 6.30 pm Prayer Vigil

A reflective prayer service
for King Charles and the Archbishop
as they prepare for the coronation service.

**Sunday 7th May 11.15 am
Civic Service**

A joyful Communion service
to celebrate the coronation of King Charles.

**Sunday 7th May 12.30 pm
Bring and Share lunch**

Bring some food to share and a chair
or a picnic blanket and listen as the bells ring.





The St George's Flag will be flown from the tower at St Chad's today, Sunday 23 April, to celebrate St George's Day.

Whether he actually existed or not, most of us will have learned of George's story during our school days or read about him in adventure story books, the tale of a damsel in distress being rescued by a brave knight in shining armour who

then slayed the troublesome dragon... but his name went on beyond this to be connected with people, places and events during the following centuries.

We are told that George was born in Cappadocia, now modern day Turkey, in the 3rd century and whilst often depicted as a knight in armour, he was probably an officer in the Roman Army.

Cappadocia was the first setting for the legend in the 11th and 12th centuries, but then in the 13th century Jacobus de Voragine's *Golden Legend* places it in Libya.

Jacobus (c.1230-1298) was archbishop of Genoa and he authored, although compiled would be more accurate, the *Golden Legend*, a popular account of the legendary lives of the medieval church's greater saints. (Stories of military saints and their exploits of slaying dragons were a simple way of symbolising good triumphing over evil or the devil at that time.)

The legend is that there was a dragon who lived in a lake near to Silene, in Libya, who demanded tribute from the people there by way of livestock and trinkets, and when the people were no longer able to provide these then a human tribute was made each year instead. Some versions of the legend mention the sacrifice of a beautiful maiden each day rather than each year, but we won't let that uncertainty spoil the story!

The people accepted this until the time came when all the maidens had been sacrificed and the king's daughter was chosen to be the next tribute offering. In order to spare his daughter the king offered all of his gold and silver, but the people would not accept this so, dressed as a bride, she was taken to the lake ready to be fed to the dragon.

By chance, George arrived at the scene on his trusty steed, vowing to remain despite the princess telling him to go away. Then, the dragon emerged from the lake... George made the Sign of the Cross, charged at the dragon and inflicted a serious wound to it with his lance. George asked the princess to throw her belt to him and he placed this around the neck of the dragon, who then followed the

princess like a pet on a leash. They then led the dragon back to Silene where it terrified the people there, so George made them an offer that he would kill the dragon in exchange for them becoming Christians and being baptised. The story continues with some 15,000 men, including the king, converting to Christianity. Then George killed the dragon and beheaded it with his sword.

The king built a church to the Blessed Virgin Mary and Saint George on the site where the dragon died and a spring flowed from its altar with water that cured all disease.

Like many saints, St George was described as a martyr after he had died for his Christian faith. It is believed that he died in Lydda, now Lod (part of modern day Israel, south-east of Tel Aviv) after being tortured and beheaded having resigned his military post, protesting again his pagan leader Emperor Diocletian (245-313 AD) who led the persecution of Christians in Rome in the early 4th century, and for refusing to make a sacrifice in honour of the pagan gods. The Emperor's wife was also executed later for her faith having converted to Christianity after being inspired by George's bravery and strength of faith.



St George was one of the saints (the 'Fourteen Holy Helpers') that people living in the Middle Ages believed could be of help during times of infection and/or epidemic disease, such as the plague and leprosy, and also against venomous snakes.

There is no record of St George visiting England but his feast day was celebrated here on 23 April from the 9th century. His reputation as a character of virtue and holiness had spread throughout Europe. He has been adopted as the patron saint of Catalonia and Ethiopia, and St George's day is also celebrated in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Greece, Portugal, the Republic of Macedonia and Serbia. Christians in middle-eastern countries also celebrate this.

In the 9th century St Edmund, Edmund the Martyr, the King of East Anglia was England's patron saint, with his feast day celebrated on 10 November. (Patron saint of pandemics/plagues, torture victims, wolves and kings.) Born on Christmas Day 841, he was the patron saint of England for more than





300 years, having fought alongside King Alfred to repel the Viking and Norse pagan invaders. Edmund was captured after his forces had been defeated; he refused to renounce his faith and also to share power with the invaders, so was tied to a tree and the Viking bowmen used him for target practice before beheading him. His date of death is given as 20 November 869/70. (Attempts to restore Edmund as England's patron saint have been made but without success, and St George retains this position.)

The Crusades spanned two centuries, from the late 1096 to 1291, and were a series of religious wars fought in the Holy Lands with the aim of

securing control of the holy sites considered sacred to both Christians and Muslims.

St Edmund's popularity was gradually waning. On the eve of a battle in 1199 during the Third Crusade, King Richard I visited St George's tomb in Lydda and went on to win a great victory the following day. After this success Richard decided to adopt St George as his personal patron and protector of the army, after which his soldiers then wore the emblem of a red cross on a white background to avoid confusion during future battles.

Later, Edward I (1272-1307) had banners with a red cross on a white background, the emblem of St George, and his troops wore the St George's cross when fighting the Welsh. In 1300 Edward raised the St George's flag at Caerlaverock Castle in Scotland after its capture.

Edward III (1327-77) owned a relic of St George's blood and took a great interest in the legend. However it wasn't until Henry VIII was king that the St George cross was used to represent England.

The English army had sought St George's help and protection from around the year 1100.

King Henry V was extremely devoted to St George, and there is also reference to this in Shakespeare's 'Henry V' when the king calls on the saint during the Battle of Harfleur with the famous words "Once more unto the breach, dear friends", and crying "God for Harry! England, and St George!" It was later suggested that

St George had actually appeared to the English troops during the Battle of Agincourt in 1415 when they claimed a stunning victory against the French, and after this 23 April became one of the English calendar's most important feast days. William Shakespeare was born on or close to St George's Day in 1564, and is also said to have died on St George's Day in 1616. Appropriate dates for the playwright whose writing helped St George become immortalised in English literature and traditions.

Some 500 years after Agincourt, British troops are said to have been aided by a ghostly apparition of St George during their retreat from Mons, Belgium, during WW1. Whether fiction or fact, it is said that soldiers were helped by celestial figures to survive the battle (with 'The Angels of Mons' appearing as archers also being part of this WW1 story).

Back to 1348 and Edward III establishes The Order of the Garter as the country's highest order of chivalry and the Garter badge still includes the St George cross .



The award of The George Cross was created by King George VI in 1940 to acknowledge acts of outstanding courage or heroism during extreme danger. The award shows an image of St George vanquishing the dragon.

Many of the memorials built to honour those killed during WW1 also include images of St George.

Again in more recent times, UNESCO created World Book Day on 23 April 1995 to mark this historic day, celebrated in more than 100 countries around the world. Lord Baden Powell also chose St George to be patron saint of Scouting when founding the organisation in 1908.

Celebrations of the day in England are often low-key events now, although there may be typically English activities such as Morris Dancing, watching a Punch and Judy show or eating our favourite dish of fish and chips.

George's name also means 'earth-worker' or farmer and with the feast day being in springtime people have prayed to St George for help them have a good harvest.

However you're planning to celebrate St George's day, enjoy.

Linda G.

p.s. researching this revealed a wealth of information regarding England's patron saint and it became a challenge to contain it to the space allocated here - so, more next year, perhaps!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2023



➤ APRIL

Thursday 27

Morning Service at St Chad's 10 am
Place of Welcome at St Chad's 10.30 am

➤ MAY

Wednesday 3

Joint Standing Committee 7 pm

Thursday 4

Morning Service at St Chad's 10 am
Place of Welcome at St Chad's 10.30 am

Friday 5

Pre-Coronation Service at St Chad's 6.30 - 7.30 pm

Sunday 7

Civic Service at St Chad's 11.15 am
with a Bring and Share Lunch after the service

Tue 10

PCC, St Mary in the Baum 5 pm

Thursday 11

Morning Service at St Chad's 10 am
Place of Welcome at St Chad's 10.30 am

Sunday 14

Mission Community Breathe Service
at St Michael's Bamford 7.30 pm

Tuesday 16

PCC St Mary in the Baum :: 5 - 6 pm

Wednesday 17

PCC St Chad's :: 7 - 9 pm

Thursday 18

ASCENSION DAY - Holy Communion at St Chad's 10 am

Saturday 20

SINGING DAY at St Chad's
Coronation "Come and Sing"
Workshops 9.30 am - 3.00 pm :: Performance 3.30 pm

Thursday 25

Morning Service at St Chad's 10 am
Place of Welcome at St Chad's 10.30 am

Sunday 28

PENTECOST - Whit Sunday



place of welcome
 coffee. cake. community.



Thursdays 10.30 am - 12 noon at St Chad's Church Rochdale

for further info contact: fr.darrenquinlan@gmail.com



**Mid-week service
 at St Chad's
 on Thursdays
 at 10.00 am**



Weeks 1, 4 and 5*
 Morning Prayer

Week 2 and 3
 Holy Communion**



* months with a 5th
 Thursday

** for those who wish to receive
 the sacrament in the week

Contactless Payments

**for donations will be available
 soon... more info to follow!**



Find the missing link words
 DANDELION _ _ _ _ _ WORK

TIMES _ _ _ _ _ CLOTH

PINE _ _ _ _ _ PIE

TENNIS _ _ _ _ _ GOWN

FUNNY _ _ _ _ _ CHINA

LOOKING _ _ _ _ _ JAR

LAMB _ _ _ _ _ STICK

BLUE _ _ _ _ _ BANK

CAT _ _ _ _ _ BIN

CHAIN _ _ _ _ _ BOX

➤ SUDOKU ◀

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	2		9				4
8		4	1				6
	1	6	2				

MUSIC AT ST MARY IN THE BAUM

TOAD LANE CONCERTS

Rochdale's Weekly Music at Lunchtime on Wednesdays
at St Mary in the Baum

Doors open at 12 noon ♦ Concert 12.30 - 1.30 pm ♦ Entry fee: £6

♦ APRIL 27 ♦

Margaret Ferguson *soprano (Ghana, Poland & RNCM)*

Jonathan Ellis *piano (RNCM & Manchester University)*

♦ MAY 3 ♦

Richard Haslam *classical guitar (Hull University & RNCM)*

George Strickland *piano (Leeds University & RNCM)*

partnering the Rodrigo Concerto

♦ MAY 10 ♦

The Nightingale Singers

conductor **Ken Greaves**, accompanist **J Edward Rigg**

♦ MAY 17 ♦

Dimitra Ananiadou *violin (Univ of Greece, York & Manchester)*

Richard Whalley *piano (Universities of York & Harvard)*



♦ Thank you for your support ♦

Contact Dr Joe Dawson **01706 648872** for more info

MUSIC ON SATURDAYS AT ST CHAD'S

“Come and Sing” - Saturday 20 May

Workshops 9.30 am - 3.00 pm Performance - 3.30 pm

Music for a Royal Coronation



Vivaldi Gloria in D
G.F.Handel ‘Zadok the Priest’
led by Philip O'Connor (*Director*)
with Philip Lowe (*Organ*)



Full Day - £10 per person
Singers: please bring a packed lunch
Performance - £5 *Pay on the door*

For further information, advance tickets, or to book your place for Singing Day:
email: j.midgley882@btinternet.com phone: 01706 639162

Saturday 24 June at 12 noon

DUNCAN GLENDAY (*Pianoforte*)
[RNCM & University of Manchester]

“A Postcard from Europe”
and Schubert Sonata in Bb

Admission £6 (pay on the door)
including refreshments available from 11.20 pm



Saturday 22 July at 3.00 pm

SCOTT BROTHERS DUO

A Concert of Piano Duets

TICKETS £10 (PAY ON THE DOOR)

*Refreshments available
before the concert from 2.20 pm*

SERVICES OF WORSHIP

♦ Sundays

ST MARY IN THE BAUM

9.15 am

Week 1 - BCP Communion

Week 2 - Eucharist

Weeks 3, 4 and 5*

Common Worship Communion

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

ST CHAD'S

11.15 am

Choral Eucharist

Matins on 2nd Sunday of month

1.00 - 2.30 pm

Asian Fellowship

♦ Thursdays

ST CHAD'S

from 3 November at 10.00 am

Weeks 1, 4 and 5* Morning Prayer

Week 2 and 3 Holy Communion**

** months with a 5th Thursday*

*** for those who wish to receive
the sacrament in the week*



CONTACT INFO

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Elizabeth Julius

07931 846942 (please text)

Churchwardens:

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Mr A Wild 07905 837 847

St Mary in the Baum

Mrs A Pollock 07974 191 246

<https://rochdaleparishchurches.org.uk>

www.facebook.com/rochdaleparishchurches

@RochdaleStChads @stmaryinthebaum

*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.*

