

#### DIRECTORY

#### **Team Ministers**

Team Rector	Vacant	
Team Vicar	Revd. Angela Wynne	01204 468150
Curate:	Revd. Kirsty Screeton	01942 575383
Parish Wardens	Margaret Dolphin	01942 790415
	Edward McHale	01942 812193
Deputy Wardens		
St George	Pat James	01204 492994
	Sarah Barry	01942 840441
www.westhoughtonchurches.org.uk Follow us on Twitter @wparishchurch		

TOBY OTHER STRATES

and on Facebook Parish of St Bartholomew Westhoughton St Bartholomew St Thomas St

#### George

# Focus on St. George's Church



As we mark St. George's Day on 23<sup>rd</sup> April, it's a good month to celebrate the life, work at witness of the congregation at St. George's church. Do keep reading to find out what's happening and how to be a part of it.



**History** St. George's church was opened in 1996 and is located within St George's Church of England primary school. The school is Anglican church-aided and was built to replace a school in Hart Common which was unable to meet the requirements of the growing community in the area. The church in Hart Common was also transferred to the school with some of the features of the old church being incorporated into the building. The services are held in the school hall.

The church has a close relationship with the school, with the ministers regularly leading assemblies. The school has a strong Christian ethos. Many of the children are active in the church, making up almost 50% of the congregation. As the children are accompanied by their parents a significant proportion of the remaining congregation are also young with all age ranges represented.

### Services

The church has one service on Sundays commencing at **9:15am** and is usually a communion service. On alternate Sundays, we offer an All Age Communion Service where children are encouraged to participate if they so wish.

are held for

Special services involving the school

Lent, Easter, Mothering Sunday, Harvest, Advent, the Sunday School Nativity Service and our popular Christmas Eve Crib Service with Christmas Carols.

We welcome families for Baptism services; these are incorporated into the Sunday services.

Joint services are held with other churches across our wider parish and team of Westhoughton, Daisy Hill, Wingates and Blackrod.

# **Fund Raising**

During 2018 St George's congregation are participating in a fundraising initiative to raise money for St George's Church. We started the year with the Smartie tube loose change collection and have launched a Lent savings plan. We will have raffles and other fundraising projects throughout the year. We hope all the hard work and support will raise some much needed funds for our Church.

For details of effective and regular ways of giving to church, which allow us to claim back Gift Aid for taxpayers [an extra 25p for each £1 you give], please see our treasurer, John Thompson.

### **Sunday School**

St George's Sunday School meets fortnightly from September to July during

the church service 9.15-10.15. We welcome children from Reception age to Year 6. We begin with a prayer & a collection is taken followed by a Bible reading. We then break into groups -



- Bubbles - Rec & Yr 1 - Splash - Yrs 2 ,3 & 4 - X-stream- Yrs 5 & 6.

We follow the Church Liturgy with Bible readings, stories, prayers & activities matched to the various age groups.

We bring the children into Church for Communion. We sit together on the front rows so we can join in the service.

All children must be registered & a consent form must

be completed & signed for each child to attend Sunday School.

We offer accommodation in the Church Room where parents can take younger children if they want freedom to play.

Sunday School Co-ordinator- Pat James Sunday School. Communicator -Sarah Barry



### News from St. George's School

For news from St. George's school, don't forget to visit their twitter account @WestGeorges1 or website at:

> http://www.st-georges. bolton.sch.uk/Home

## Admission of Children to Communion / Confirmation

In common with the rest of the team we have begun admitting children to take communion before confirmation following a short course of about six weekly sessions. For those thinking about being confirmed the next course will run after Easter with the confirmation service on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> June. For further details, please speak to any of the clergy.