



*St Anne's with St James' Mothers' Union
Annual Report 2019*

The year began with our annual "Christmas Meal". We went to The White Horse in Edgworth on 9th **January**. Donna and Rachael, former Parent and Toddler Group Mums, joined us again.

Our meeting in **February** began with a Corporate Communion Service led by Rev'd Canon Michael Arundel. After the Service, we held our A.G.M. All Committee Members agreed to stay on.

We held a Coffee Morning on 11th **March** during the Parent and Toddler Group Meeting. We had a raffle and a Bring and Buy table and raised £123.20. We met on 30th **March** to prepare Daffodil bunches for Mothering Sunday.

In **April** we went to Christ's Church Harwood. The speaker was Mrs Cath Hilton who had recently completed her 6-year term as Diocesan President. We held our Wave of Prayer service at St Anne's on 24th **April**. One of the prayers was written for the Mothers' Union by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby.

In **May**, Mrs Sheila Latham and her husband, Mike, came to talk about Visual Impairment. Sheila is a Low Vision Therapist and spoke of the various problems that people suffer, and the available treatments.

In **June** we had our annual Quiet Evening at Whalley Abbey. This year our speakers were John and Laura Hardy, retired Methodist ministers. John's message was "Listen to God and trust Him".

In **July**, we went to St Catherine's Hospice near Preston for a delicious Afternoon Tea. This had been recommended by Doreen Hough; she was unfortunately unable to join us.

In **August** we supported the RNLI Afternoon Tea in the Broadhead Room; several of our members are "Lifeboats" supporters.

On 3rd **September**, some of us attended the Deanery Meeting at Christ Church, Walmsley. We took items for "The Beeches" Hostel. The following day Jenny Murphy, Diocesan Co-ordinator for "Action and Outreach" brought examples of the knitted garments needed in Manchester's Maternity Hospitals. Marlene Topham brought in 16 Twiddle Muffs (for Dementia Patients) that she had completed. We also support Prisoners' families.

In **October**, Harry Campbell came to tell us, and several friends, about his visit to an Orphanage in Uganda, where he worked as a volunteer for 2 weeks. He told us the history of the "Fountain of Peace Children's Foundation" and showed us pictures taken while he was there.

In **November**, Michael and Maureen Hawksworth came to tell us about the school they had helped to fund, and continue to support, in a small village near Kathmandu. We bought craft items made by the village ladies, to raise funds for their children's education.

In **December**, Malcolm Dowle showed us archive photos of Turton, Chapeltown and Edgworth. Historically fascinating, and prompting delightful memories from Jean Lowe and from Margaret Ollerton who also read some Lancashire Dialect poems. We were given sherry and mince pies by our hostesses - Susan, Barbara and Margaret.