HOLY INNOCENTS FALLOWFIELD

February 2018: "Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return".

This year, we are keeping Candlemas, the final day of the Christmas and Epiphany season on its nearest Sunday, as we turn together from Christmas towards Lent and then Easter. The Revd Richard Young will preside at this service. Please keep Richard in your prayers as he undergoes further treatment in the coming weeks. This will make him very susceptible to bugs so he will not be around for a while, possibly until after Easter.

We continue to owe a huge debt of gratitude to Michael Ainsworth who travels down week by week from Bolton to preside and preach for us. People may not always be aware of the full extent of support and advice that Michael has offered us and continues to offer, from his wealth of experience as a parish priest, his musical and legal knowledge and extensive expertise.

We welcome the Revd Jonathan Tallon to preach and preside on Ash Wednesday. We are hoping to use the famous setting of Psalm 51 by Allegri as the psalm setting for that day.

Looking forward, we have invited the new Archdeacon of Manchester - the Venerable Karen Lund - to preside in early March, and the Revd Nigel Hawley will be coming to lead the services for the Triduum: Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday evening.

Easter is relatively early this year. Ash Wednesday on February 14th is going to be a strange juxtaposition. (We will think about Easter Day on April 1st later!) The PCC meets on February 6th and March 20th, and our APCM is on April 15th.

The organ is undergoing major work from the beginning of February.

Sixsmiths will take it away to work on for about three weeks, and then bring it back to rebuild in church for another three to four weeks. It should be back for Easter. The choir will be singing downstairs during this time.

SUNDAYS AND FESTIVALS IN FEBRUARY

Sunday February 4th Candlemas - The Presentation of Christ in the Temple

President and Preacher: The Revd Richard Young

Readings: Malachai 3:1-5; Psalm 24:7-end; Hebrews 2:4-end; Luke

2:22-40

Hymns: Hail to the Lord who comes; Gospel Acclamation; Of the Father's heart begotten; When Mary brought her treasure

Other music: O Rex gloriae; Nunc Dimittis

Sunday February 11th The Sunday next before Lent

President and Preacher: The Revd Canon Michael Ainsworth

Readings: 2 Kings 2:1-22; Psalm 50:1-6; 2 Corinthians 4:3-6; Mark 9:2-9

Hymns: Christ whose glory fills the skies; Be still for the presence of the

Lord; Alleluia, sing to Jesus; Alleluia, song of sweetness

Other music: Glorious and powerful God (Stanford)

Wednesday February 14th Ash Wednesday

President and Preacher: The Revd Jonathan Tallon

Readings: Isaiah 58:1-12; Psalm 51:1-18; 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10; John

8:1-11

Hymns: Now is the healing time decreed; Be thou my guardian and my

guide; Just as I am; Lord, in this, thy mercy's day

Other music: Hide not thou thy face; Lent Prose

Sunday February 18th The First Sunday of Lent

President and Preacher: The Revd Canon Michael Ainsworth

Readings: Genesis 9:8-17; Psalm 25:1-9; 1 Peter 3:18-end; Mark 1:9-15

Hymns: Forty days and forty nights; The sinless one to Jordan came;

Jesu, lover of my soul; Christian dost thou see them?

Other music: O Lord my God (S.S. Wesley)

Sunday February 25th The Second Sunday of Lent

President and Preacher: The Revd Canon Michael Ainsworth

Readings: Genesis 17:1-7,15-16; Psalm 22:23-end; 1 Peter 3:18-end;

Mark 8:31-end

Hymns: Take up thy cross, the Saviour said; Lord Jesus, think on me; And now, O Father, mindful of the love; My faith looks up to thee

Other music: Lord, for thy tender mercy's sake

Sunday March 4th The Third Sunday of Lent

President and Preacher: The Venerable Karen Lund, Archdeacon of Manchester

Readings: Exodus 20:1-17; Psalm 19; 1 Corinthians 1:18-25; John 2:13-22

Hymns: We sing the praise of him who died; O thou who camest from above; All my hope on God is founded; The spacious firmament on high **Other music:** I know that my Redeemer liveth (Handel)

LEARNING AND STUDY IN LENT

This year marks the tenth anniversary of the death of Phil Tarbuck. Phil left us his collection of theological books which have added to existing stock and there have been further additions over the years.

Lent is traditionally a time when the faithful engage in prayer and study. It is when we possibly go a little out of our comfort zone. There are all sort of different ways of doing this.

So, this year, for Lent:

- Everyone is invited to choose a book from the 'library collection' and read it during Lent.
- It doesn't just have to be one book it could be a book a week, or anywhere in between.
- A form will be attached to the cupboard for people to record which book they have taken away to read.
- If people want to get together at some point to discuss and compare their books, then that's an option as well... it doesn't have to be in church.
- Anyone who reads a book is asked to provide their favourite quotation from it, and to write a short paragraph about what they learned from it.
- The comments will form part of a display wall in church and on this website.
- In addition to the books in the library, reading a book of the Bible that you haven't ever read completely before is an additional option.

This is an opportunity for us all to do something 'together' while not necessarily in the same place!