



St Margaret's Church

Together we aim to: Worship God, Proclaim Jesus, Grow in the Spirit and Serve the World

In Contact

19th October 2025

Luke 1. 26-38

Isaiah 52. 13 - 53 .12



NICENE CREED: Jesus- born as one of us, suffered & died

Crash barriers at the side of the road prevent drivers from skidding into the path of oncoming traffic – or off the road altogether. They do not tell you all you need to know about your journey or destination. Christian creeds are like those barriers. They do not tell you everything the Bible teaches about truth, but belief in them prevents you from moving into errors.

The part of the creed we consider today is about Jesus, but does not tell us everything about Him. Speaking of him it says: **'...by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin**

Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried'

It doesn't mention the stories He told, the miracles He did or the journeys He made. The focus is on the beginning and end of His life. Two words are used to describe this, supported by a verse from each of today's Bible Readings.

Incarnation

Coming from a Latin word meaning 'flesh' it tells us that Jesus became a real human being with flesh and bones like us. How it was to happen was explained to Mary his mother. *'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called the Son of God.'* St Luke 1:35

This was in response to Mary's question *'How can this be since I am a virgin?'* The answer was through the miraculous work of the Holy Spirit. He also told her the child would be holy and the Son of God.

We often hear this reading in Christmas services but tend to want to reach the birth in a stable without stopping to ponder how shattering this news would be for Mary. Why was it happening?

Salvation

In a reading we often hear on Good Friday, written hundreds of years before Jesus' birth, is the answer.

'But he was wounded for our transgressions, Crushed for our iniquities; Upon him was the punishment that made us whole, And by his bruises we are healed.' Isaiah 53:5

The Nicene Creed sets this in the historical time of Pontius Pilate, the Roman Governor from AD 26 – 36. It lists the sequence of events: 'crucified, died, buried'.

In three words it gives us the reason 'for our sake'.

Because Jesus became a human being like us, with a miraculous birth, He was without sin, He took on himself the consequences of our sin. It is because of His **incarnation** that He can bring us **salvation**.



Bible Verse for 2025: *Philippians 4.4*

Rejoice in the LORD always. I will say again : Rejoice!

This week- Sunday 19th October 2025:

Holy Communion at 10.30am. Alan Pugmire will be speaking on the theme: **'Jesus was born as one of us, suffered, died and was buried...'**

Alpha Course: Mondays. At 7pm. Please continue to pray for those attending that they may grow in faith and understanding.

Next Week 26th October 2025:

Morning Worship at 10.30am. Peter Miller will be speaking on the theme: **'On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures...'**

CW Communion at 3pm

October 19th – October 26th, Please Pray for:

- People living in Jersey Close, Alexandra Drive & Roseleigh Avenue.
- Clergy Chapter meeting at Archdeacon Karen's on Wednesday.
- PCC away day on Saturday to pray & plan for our new Mission Action Plan.
- Help setting up & doing refreshments at ABC with thanks for new families.
- More funding for Arise Africa campaign helping displaced Christians.
- New sermon series on the Creed to help us to deepen our faith.
- Good relationships, searching questions & hearts ready to receive at Alpha Course.

Looking Ahead:

Anonymous income survey forms: During October every regular member of a church (those who attend at least 12 times a year) is asked to fill in one of these forms. Please do so and place in the box at the back of church. It involves filling in just one square to reflect your income and this cannot be traced back to any individuals. The information is used by the Diocese to determine the size of our parish share (contribution to them to pay for clergy and their other services).

Light Party: Friday, 31st October at 6pm. Helpers needed. See Steph.

Remembrance Sunday: 9th November at 10.15am. Gather at the lychgate.

Family Communion: Sunday 16th November, Family Communion with Rev Jon Williams (former Rector) as part of our 150th anniversary celebrations.

Annual memorial service: at 3pm. Sunday 16th November.

Bud winter warmer: on 30th November, 3pm-6pm. If you can help make or serve refreshments, see Matt.

Prayer meetings at St Margaret's: Monday: 7.00 -7.45pm: on ZOOM / Thursday at 7.30-8.15am in Errwood Room.



Burnage Tesco, Burnage Library
(when open) and Asda Reddish

URGENTLY NEEDED: Please concentrate on Tinned Tomatoes, Tinned Sweet Corn/Peas, Tinned Carrots/Potatoes, Tinned Corned beef/ham, Long life Fruit juice/ Long life Semi milk, Tea/ Coffee, Tinned Fruit/ Custard, Jam/Peanut butter, Shampoo.