

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, PINNER

PINNER PARISH REVIEW



August/September 2009

EDITORIAL

Welcome to the Pinner Parish Review. The Review team wishes everyone a refreshing summer break. We hope that you will enjoy reading this combined issue which includes:

- Ministerial Letter
- The Life of Christ
- PCC Resumé
- An Encounter with Joy Daffon
- Youth Page
- Harvest Lunch
- Services from Advent
- Diary Dates

Please note that the copy date for the October issue is midnight Wednesday 23 September. Please email contributions to: chittleborough@btinternet.com or the church office.

Joy

BAPTISMS

12 July Ayla Nicole Jowett

DEATHS

18 July Brian Sidney Tripp
22 July Joan Emily Mead

MINISTERIAL LETTER

Harvest always comes to mind at this time of the year. It is, of course, not so many years ago that harvest was always thought of in terms of agriculture – that which we had planted so many months ago has now grown to produce a crop. Perhaps it is the biblical connotation of the parable, “a sower went forth to sow” which has aligned “Harvest” with the reaping of the cereal crops and the vision of those bands of yeomen with scythes sweeping the corn from the fields. I also remember, from my very young days in Cornwall, the thrilling sight of those old threshing machines driven through great floppy belts from terrifying traction engines, and the harvesters and the stooks. And how those belts stayed in place remains a mystery.

Yet we must not forget that “harvest” is something that actually happens all year round – root vegetables, potatoes, Brussels sprouts, - then peas, beans – gardeners, you name it, not to mention the summer fruits. Harvest is a time when we remember all this, the miracle of growth and reproduction, of the provision of almost unlimited quantities of food simply by standing and staring. That is how good God is to us. And the animals – the miracle of reproduction, whether we are vegetarian or not – but the sheep’s wool, and so on.

We need to remember the harvest of the sea and rivers, and when we remember the sea – recall that it is portrayed as moody, wild, subject only to God. Yet we believe it was the origin of life, it is made almost entirely of water, the sustainer of life. The fish which provide so much nourishment and is also a symbol of Christianity – the ΙΧΘΥΣ. And a very potent symbol it is too, when we remember that several of the first disciples were fishermen, and the story at the end of John’s gospel where there must have been about seven of them together – when first they caught nothing – and then 153 enormous ones. Did they remember Jesus’ remark some three years earlier, “I will make you fishers of men.”? Of people – not only are fish “harvest”, but those who accept Jesus’ word. Jesus’ words at the end of Matthew, “Go, make disciples of all nations.”

We are now verging on the edges of God's wonder – we are looking at what mankind, with God's help, can achieve. We are looking at what can be achieved through manufacturing, how we can preserve God's harvest long after it might otherwise have rotted on the storehouse floor. And manufacturing is so much more than just that concerned with food – so much more. God has given us the knowledge and the intelligence to make these things work.

Yet, in a sense, all this is peripheral. Why is it that God shows us these things? – the way vegetables grow and reproduce, the corn that is “buried and rises to produce 100 fold”. Animals that have babies – that also grow up and have babies. God is showing us the wonder of his world – the world he has created. This is not because he wants to “show off” and simply let us know how clever he is – it is because all this is a sign of God's love for us. He wants us to know how much he loves us. This enormously wonderful world is symptomatic of God's love – all he hopes for is that we shall recognise that love. A love that he hopes will draw us to himself to be that “great harvest of souls” – his Church on earth and in heaven.

Nick Ridge, Reader

“FAREWELL”

to our curate Revd Elizabeth Birch



Elizabeth, David and Hugo thank everyone for the gifts, cards and kind messages given on their departure from Pinner in July. They have now moved to The Rectory, Church Street, East Hendred, Oxon, OX12 8LA where Elizabeth will be Rector at Wantage Downs covering four parishes – we wish them all God's blessings as they start a new chapter in their lives.

GOD IS WORKING HIS PURPOSE OUT

Shizu focuses on how God spoke to her through the Alpha course. The following piece tells how God spoke to Marilia through the Christianity for Life course.

Something happened to me that I will never be able to explain

It was May 2005 outside Holy Trinity Brompton London I saw a poster, “Alpha course, to explore the meaning of life”. So I joined the course.

Alpha course was started by Revd Charles Manham, a curate, Holy Trinity, Brompton, a Church of England parish in London. The course was to teach church members the basics of the Christian faith and was to be used as an introduction for those interested in the faith. In 1990 the Revd Nicky Gumbel took over the running of the course and he oversaw its revision and expansion.

Alpha course is organized in ten weekly sessions and one weekend away. Each week participants follow the week's topic and talk and discuss in small groups. The talks aim to cover the basic beliefs of Christian faith.

I enjoyed attending the course and I didn't miss any sessions. In our group there were eleven of us and every week we discussed very interesting thought-provoking topics in friendly environment. All of us had a variety of reasons to join the course. Some wanted to investigate whether God exists; others were concerned about what happens after death. Some people had particular questions to discuss; others wanted to understand other people's beliefs or to explore what the purpose of life was.

After ten weekly sessions, on one Friday at 3.30 pm in July we got on a coach outside the Victoria and Albert Museum and travelled to the Horizon Campsite in East Sussex. The weekend away was scheduled from 6.30 pm Friday to 1.00 pm Sunday. There were nearly 400 participants, who were not only from Holy Trinity Brompton, but also from other churches. There were 4 acts of worship, 4 talks, 2 group discussion meetings and some entertainment.

On the Sunday the last talk was delivered by Nicky Gumbel, entitled "How can I make the most of the rest of my life?". Our group was sitting in the first row of the auditorium. And then half way through the talk (around 11.15 am) Nicky Gumbel looked down straight at me and said "A Prodigal Daughter", I couldn't remember exactly what context in the talk he used the phrase. I suddenly felt some heat piercing through my heart. *Something happened to me, that I will never be able to explain.* As you know in the New Testament a prodigal son was quoted in Luke 15:11-32, but not a prodigal daughter. I was overwhelmed that God was speaking to me.

Before the course I worshipped in various churches in London and I didn't belong to any church. I thought that it wasn't important to attach to any particular church. My faith was neither warm nor cold. After the Alpha course I worshipped in Pinner Parish Church, Church of England. In 2006 I attended Emmaus, Christianity for Life Course run by Ann Fuller and other dedicated people of the church. I was accepted as a member of the Church. I take part in the Eucharist and share Christian fellowship in the church.

Shizu Inada-Kim



For many years I have had a dream. My dream was to be Baptised and Confirmed. My parents tried when I was young but for various reasons it never happened. As I grew up I felt a yearning, a gap in me that couldn't be fulfilled. I had a strong desire to be a better person and accepted by God.

In January 2009, I started on a journey, through the Christianity for Life course. I did not know what to expect, I thought it would be the chance to ask questions, to gain more knowledge on Christianity and make sure that this was what I really wanted.

I nearly gave up after the first couple of sessions. I thought this is not what I need. I found myself asking questions of me, myself and that was hard. I am not in a habit of questioning myself.

What I hadn't realised at the time was the effect it was having on me. I couldn't walk away, it just kept persisting and I had to continue the journey that I had started.

I don't know at what point or how or why things changed; was it the group of very different but equally wonderful people and helpers on the course that never judged me, but made me feel welcome and accepted? But I felt my life changing.

I can't explain how it happened; I just know that it has. I stopped being and feeling who I was. I have learnt to listen, not to judge, to be more patient, to accept, to be grateful, to appreciate life and most important of all to me, something I thought would never be possible – to be able to forgive! I have found a wonderful sense of being, a very profound peace within me.

On the 21 June this year I was Baptised and Confirmed. I cannot even begin to express how I felt, the sense of joy, happiness and fulfilment I experienced. Being accepted by God is with me every minute of every day. I no longer need to ask: What is faith? What does it mean to have faith? because faith is in my heart. I wake up and go to sleep with it every day.

I know it wasn't the people or a church building that was pulling me. However without the help of the Christianity For life course and my friends on the course I'm not sure I would have made it. But I know it was God, he was calling me so loud I could no longer turn away or find an excuse not to hear him and now that I have found him, I will never let him go.

My purpose, God willing and with his help, is to follow in God's way.

Marilia Perrett

THE LIFE OF CHRIST

27 June

A flier in the bulletin invited us to an open air play in three acts, at Wintershall Estate – leaving in Pinner at 7.30 promptly on a Saturday morning! Not really my “cup of tea” – I like to have a lie-in on a Saturday, it might rain or be windy, and anyway I already know the outcome!

For some reason this flier wasn't immediately thrown away and caught my eye again several weeks later – Mark Arnold indicated that there were still several places available. And so “nothing ventured, nothing gained” I found myself, with twenty other bleary-eyed passengers, on our way to Bramley, seven miles south of Guildford, starting with prayers led by Ann Fuller and Mark Arnold.

Mark's organisation was superb and we arrived with our packed lunches, folding chairs or rugs, sun-cream, water, and hats, in good time, in glorious hot weather, soon to be joined by some 3000+ others, most like myself not knowing quite what to expect.

The play was written and produced by the owner of Wintershall, using extracts from St. Luke and St. John's Gospels, as a one-off production for the Millennium. But it proved so popular that he was persuaded to continue it for another year and then another, and now this was the tenth (and final?) year. It was realistically acted by a cast of 200, in four different natural outdoor locations, which meant that 3000+ people had to move to a new location after each act.

The first Act started, not unexpectedly, with Joseph being somewhat angry at finding his wife pregnant. Soon after the field in front of us had horses, a large flock of (very quiet!) sheep and a very obedient sheepdog, a donkey, all obviously well rehearsed, and the acoustics were brilliant.

For the second Act we moved to a hillside, below which was a lake, where several of the parables were enacted, the last being the feeding of the 5000, and so real was the performance that we felt we could have actually have been there, with Jesus. Everyone of our 2009 vast crowd partook of the bread, and there still plenty left over. It was very moving.

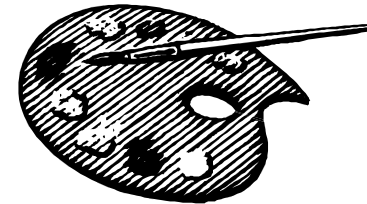
Half an hour was then allotted for our picnic lunch, then onto the final three Acts, with the play finishing around 4 o'clock. To describe the whole day would be impossible, because you had to be there and experience it personally, but it certainly put a different perspective on my understanding of the life of Christ, just by seeing the story unfold, in one go over five hours, from beginning to end.

All I will say, to conclude, is that the day vastly exceeded my expectations, gave so much food for thought, and I only pray that the owner can be persuaded to have a repeat in 2010. If he does, then I would urge you, if you haven't already been, to respond positively if there is a similar flier in next year's bulletin.

Anonymous

PINNER SKETCH CLUB

in the Church Hall



The 67th Summer Exhibition opens
Saturday 22 August and closes Saturday 5 September
10.00 am to 6.00 pm, Monday to Saturday
12 noon to 6.00 pm, Sundays
Free admission
Refreshments available
Raffle in aid of the West House Appeal

CONGRATULATIONS



Bridget and Ian Murray

There were a good number of the congregation at the 10.00 am service on Wednesday 1 July to help Revd Ian Murray mark his 25th anniversary to the ordination of the priesthood.

HARVEST COLLECTIONS

There will be retiring collections at all services on 13 September for the work of USPG and special Gift Aid envelopes will be available. Please sign them if you can – it can add so much.

'Produce' gifts will also be much appreciated.

They can be brought to church from 10.30 am onwards on the 12 September, or on 13 September. May we please say, "*NO TOILETRIES, NO BAKED BEANS and NO DAMAGED OR OUT OF DATE MERCHANDISE.*"

For the residential homes in the parish and Milmans, we would welcome 'items suitable for tea-time'. Other produce will be distributed as appropriate.

Nick Ridge
Social Responsibility Committee

SHORT PCC REPORT

Thursday 9 July



New Committee:

Agreement was made on setting up a Property Maintenance Committee which will oversee the maintenance of the church, its premises and properties. It was agreed that David Payne should Chair the Committee.

Restoration Committee:

This Committee had its inaugural meeting on 8 July. Quotes and estimates should become available during the summer.

Financial Matters:

Common Fund: It was agreed that the 2010 contribution to the Common Fund will be £97,000.

Church Fabric:

Heating report: The survey of the church heating has been completed. The survey indicated that with proper maintenance the heating system should last a considerable number of years.

South Porch: The tiles are to be repaired and properly sealed.

Any Other Business:

Church Watch: Following a review of "Church Watch" it has been decided that although the church will remain open between 9.00 am and 5.00 pm as usual, those on watch must be in pairs.

Audrey Taylor
PCC Secretary

AN ENCOUNTER WITH ...

This month we encounter Joy Daffon



How many years have you worshipped at St John's?

Occasionally for 39 years; regularly for 5 years

Do you go out to work or volunteer in any way? If so, what do you do?

I started my training in January 1948 and for 44 years was a Radiographer with the NHS. Since retiring I've been a member of the CRYO Research team in the Thoracic Division of Harefield Hospital. I am a life member of the Embroiderers' Guild and the Society of Radiographers and on the Retired Radiographers committee, a member of Cumbrian Family History Society and a committee member of The Friends of Pinner Parish Church

Tell us about your family

For an only child I have a lot of cousins in Australia, Canada and UK! My immediate closest family is in South Africa and I'm now an honorary great gran!

What is your favourite radio or TV programme?

Classic FM or Radio 3. 'Have I Got News for You', travel and nature programmes on the TV

Where was your best holiday and why was it the best?

My best holiday was celebrating our 40th wedding anniversary, going to see my Australian cousins via Los Angeles, Fiji, New Zealand, Sydney, Melbourne, Perth and then Singapore

What gets you 'hot under the collar'?

People who cannot say 'Thank You'

If you were stranded on a desert island, what

- ❖ **three books would you take with you?**
(the Bible and Shakespeare are already there)
'The Long Road to Freedom' by Nelson Mandela
'Deep as the Sea' by Joy Packer (one of my Australian cousins is married to her grandson)
'Big Book of Puzzles & Crosswords' plus a big pencil with a rubber on the end - that is if permitted!
- ❖ **three pieces of music would you take with you?**
(we have provided a clockwork CD player!)
Nat King Cole - My Husbands Pleasure
Clarinet Music (Classical & Jazz) - the late Kenny Daverne/Dunstan Coulbert
Queen - No One Lives For Ever
- ❖ **three luxury items would you take?**
Mosquito Spray
Case of South African Shiraz (a good year!)
Selection of Head Scarves!

If you were an animal, what animal would you like to be and why?

A Giraffe - being small I would love to be tall!

What are your favourite Bible passages?

John 11.35: Jesus wept

Ruth 1.16: Ruth's answer to Naomi 'Whither thou goest, there shall I go also.'

Have you a hero or heroine or is there some person whom you admire or respect? Tell us about the person

The Consultant with whom I worked for 28 years who developed CRYO Surgery for the bronchus and lungs

What is your motto for life?

There is only now, for the only thing constant is change

MONSTERS STINK!

Holiday Club

Wow! It never ceases to amaze me how quickly Holiday Club week flies by. Having started receiving emails from parents wanting places at Christmas, it seems odd that it's all over now. Following the success of last year's club (Junior Heroes), this year's club was Monsters Stink! We spent the week exploring the Christian faith through 'monsters' we sometimes face in our everyday lives. We looked at Adam and Eve being tricked into disobeying God by the serpent; Joseph being bullied by his brothers; Gertrude the lost sheep and Jesus being frightened in the Garden of Gethsemane.

Each morning we surfed to Monster Beach, did a Mr Motivator style workout, played lots of messy games (many involving some revolting food), danced fantastically (some of us in a chicken costume), made some spectacular crafts and watched clips from the Disney Pixar film Monsters Inc. This year Robyn Wilson made her debut at Holiday Club and ran puppet workshops with each of the age groups. The 9-10s group made rod arm puppets, the 6-8s made pop-up puppets and the 4-5s made shadow puppets.

On Friday we had a huge Monster Party to celebrate our brilliant week. As a special surprise the cast of High School Musical (strangely resembling a rag tag group of leaders and helpers) performed a dance choreographed by Emma Bowles, which went down very well with the children. Rumours that the cast are appearing on the next series of Britain's Got Talent have yet to be confirmed but watch this space as a video will appear on the church website. If you were in Pinner around midday you'd have seen one hundred children pour out of the church hall dressed in fantastic outfits and painted very odd colours! If you'd been in Pinner any later you'd have seen 30 plus leaders and helpers leaving dressed in fantastic outfits and painted very odd colours too!

On Sunday holiday club week was celebrated with a special Monster Service, followed by a yummy breakfast! I must take this opportunity to thank my fantastic team that worked tirelessly throughout the week to make it so brilliant.

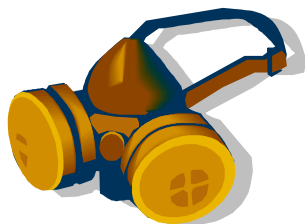
So, thank you to: Brenda Allanson, Catherine Almond, Diana and Emma Bowles, Maureen and Lauren Craddock, Matt and Beth Gandy, Rachel and Peter Hedderick, Richard Hillman, Francesca Hopkins, Father Paul and Thomas Hullyer, Jane Humphris, Chris and Anita Lomax, Rory McCabe, Rebecca Maggs, Katherine Makris, Elizabeth Metivier, Lucy Pinching, Jacqui Richardson, Nick Ridge, Ben Schrodell, Emily Stokes, Natasha and Jamie Wait, Becca White. Another thank you goes to Heather Brassey who not only co-ordinated her team who made us lunch every day, but also baked (and iced!) 140 fairy cakes on Thursday night for Friday's party. Thank you to Margaret Birkinshaw, Ann Fuller, Dorothy Natrass and Jill Stokes who prepared refreshments for all the children each day and to everyone who cut out, sharpened, collected, dropped off or picked up something for me in the lead up to the week. A big thank you to the ridiculously talented Michael Betts, Beth Stobbart and Ollie Yank who joined me on stage each day, threw pies and water at me but in return put their hands in "sick," had cold baked beans and yoghurt thrown at them and made the children laugh. May I also take this opportunity to thank Father Paul for all his support of holiday club and to let people know that he is the first vicar to be a holiday club group leader (a big undertaking) as well as helping throughout the set up weekend. My final thank you is to Howard Lush who was with me from set up at midday on Friday 17 July to the take down on Sunday 24 July and not only took on a group, but made all the technical things happen too!

This year saw a record number of children in attendance and spaces were filled up quicker than ever. It brings together a huge number of people from different generations, with an age range spanning more than 50 years. Thank you for taking time off from your jobs, time out from your school holidays, caring for all the children, cutting holidays short, sharing your vast array of hidden skills and talents and supporting me throughout the club. The week has been exhausting but fantastic fun and a huge success thanks to all the support the church gives to it. But your support is still needed, maybe now more than ever, as Holiday Club is only going to get bigger and better!

Elise Allanson

THE DAY WAR BROKE OUT

1939



September 3 this year marks the 70th anniversary of the beginning of the Second World War, but for me the war started two days earlier. At that time I was a chorister at St Paul's Cathedral in London and a pupil at the 38 strong Choir School in Carter Lane nearby. As war seemed imminent we were evacuated to Truro in Cornwall two days before the declaration. I remember we walked to Chancery Lane underground station with rucksacks on our backs, gas masks in cardboard boxes around our necks and a label tied to our coats giving our personal details. We went by underground to Ealing Broadway where we boarded a local train to Newbury, from there on another slow train to Bristol and then on a main-line train to Truro. After an awful journey we eventually got to bed after 3.00 am.

We awoke to find ourselves in Trewinnard Court at Kenwyn, the boarding house of Truro Cathedral School, which is now defunct. The main school building was on the north side of the cathedral.

After a couple of years at Trewinnard, I enjoyed the freedom of being billeted out as an older boy. My first billet was in the home of Mr Hyde, a widower who employed a cook and two maids. Breakfast and lunch were very formal, waited on by the maids, but the rest of the time we boys were left very much to ourselves.

In complete contrast, I was then moved to the very small house of Mr Jenkins and his wife, who fed us on wonderful Cornish food such as saffron cake, heavy cake, hog's puddings and the best and biggest pasties I have ever tasted. There was no bathroom there, so we went to Mrs Jenkin's sister's house nearby for baths.

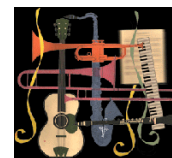
We sang at two services with the cathedral choir on Sundays and twice a week we sang evensong on our own in the cathedral. It was a great joy that during some school holidays when the bombing allowed, we were able to sing in St Paul's, London. There was also one special occasion during term time when we travelled to London for a thanksgiving service to mark the victory at El Alamein, in the presence of the royal family and members of the government and armed forces.

During our stay in Cornwall we were able to see something of its beauty, with few visitors, which was certainly a bonus. However, after 70 years I still regret that I spent four years of my life in Truro, instead of singing daily services in St Paul's - one of the misfortunes of war.

Len Reed

Len was interviewed last year for a programme due to be shown on ITV in September - there will also be an exhibition at the Imperial War Museum

PINNER PARISH CHURCH JAZZ



Programme for the twelfth concert season 2009/10:

26 September	Ken Peplowski & Alan Barnes Quintet
7 November	Vic Ash - Simon Spillet Quintet
5 December	The Humphrey Lyttelton Band with guest vocalist Tiny May (<i>Pinner's Tribute to Humph</i>)
9 January	The Scott Hamilton Quartet with Enrico Tomasso
13 February	John Dankworth Quintet
13 March	Geoff Eales Trio
17 April	Karen Sharp Quintet

Information about booking is available on the website

www.pinnerjazz.org.uk

or from the Information Line 020 8429 1260

HARVEST LUNCH

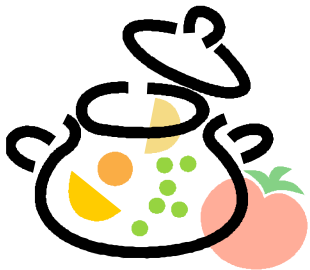
Latin American Beef Stew

Ingredients to serve 4 to 6:

- 3 tablespoons olive oil
- 907g (2lb) beef, in 2.5cm (1") cubes
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup chopped onions
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup chopped green peppers
- 3 cups water
- $1\frac{1}{2}$ cups cubed yellow squash
- $1\frac{1}{2}$ cups cubed white potatoes
- $1\frac{1}{2}$ cups cubed sweet potatoes
- 1 cup corn kernels
- 1 cup sliced carrots
- $2\frac{1}{2}$ tsp salt
- $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp freshly ground black pepper
- 2 tbsp minced parsley (optional)

Preparation:

- 1 Heat the oil in a lidded, flameproof casserole
- 2 Brown the meat in it
- 3 Mix in the onions and green peppers until browned
- 4 Add the water, squash, white potatoes, sweet potatoes, corn, carrots, salt and pepper
- 5 Cover and cook over low heat for $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours
- 6 The stew should be very thick; add a little boiling water if too thick
- 7 Taste for seasonings and sprinkle with the parsley
- 8 Garnish with fried onions and green peppers if desired



The Harvest Appeal this year will be for USPG's work in the Amazon region and the speaker at the combined 10.30 am service on Sunday 13 September will be Revd Canon Edgar Ruddock (see following article). The recipe above (there will be a vegetarian alternative) will be served in the church hall afterwards. Tickets (£4 each) will be available soon!

SPEAKER AT COMBINED 10.30 AM SERVICE

Sunday 13 September



Edgar Ruddock is a Deputy General Secretary of USPG: Anglicans in World Mission, and is Director of the International Relations Team. In this role he manages an overview of the Society's engagement with Anglican churches in over 60 countries around the world, and supports a team of Regional Desk Officers and managers of USPG's personnel and grants programmes.

Before joining the staff in 2003 he was Rector of Stoke upon Trent for eleven years, during which time he was closely engaged with regeneration programmes in the City, and was Chaplain to the civic community, the Spode Pottery and Stoke City Football Club.

Edgar and his wife Annette (a modern languages teacher) had begun their ministry in inner-city Birmingham and after nine years there, worked in Southern Africa through most of the 1980s as USPG missionaries, where Edgar was primarily involved in training and strengthening the church's ministry in the face of apartheid. They spent three years living in the Transkei, two years in Zululand, and a further three years in Swaziland, during which time Edgar was working on Archbishop Tutu's staff, as Director of Training for the Anglican Province of Southern Africa.

Edgar and Annette have three children, two of whom are married, and are currently learning their new role as grandparents to a bilingual English-Swedish two-year old!

THE WEEKEND

Published in Punch 1951

I'm going to the sea for the weekend, in a couple of days I'll be back,
so I'll just take my little tweed suit and a blouse, and a beret, and carry my mack.

But what if the house is a cold one, the house where I'm going to stay,
no fires in the evening, no hot drinks at night, and the windows wide open all day?

I'd better take one woollen twinset, my long tartan scarf for my head,
and my bed-jacket too and my bed-socks in case there isn't enough on the bed.

And what about church on the Sunday? I *could* wear my beret and suit,
but if it were sunny it might be a chance to wear my new straw with the fruit.

I can't wear my little tweed suit though, not with my straw with the fruit—
so I *must* take a silk dress to go with my straw and a felt hat to go with my suit.

I think I should take my old reefer in case we go out in a car,
and my big coat in case we go out in a boat—

d'you know where my swimming things are?

D'you think I should take my red velvet—they may have booked seats for a play—
and is it still usual to take your own towel when you go somewhere to stay?

I had thought of packing my slippers and wearing my black crepe-soled,
but I'll pop in my sandals, court shoes and some socks

for the heat, and the church, and the cold.

I daren't go without my umbrella in case I'm dressed up and it rains;
and what do you think about wellington boots for walking down long muddy lanes?

I'd rather not take my old house-coat, it's such a colossus to pack,
but suppose they have breakfast in house-coats?

I'd have to have mine in my mack.

I'm going to the sea for the weekend,
in a couple of days I'll be back,
so I'll just take:

my little tweed suit and a blouse,
my twinset, my scarf, my bed-socks,
my bed-jacket, my straw hat, my felt hat,
my silk dress, my old reefer,
my big coat, my swimming things,
my velvet, my towel, my slippers
my flat shoes, my court shoes, my socks,
my umbrella, my wellington boots,
my housecoat
and a beret, and carry my mack.



Anon

JONAH AND THE WHALE

A Study Series in September

A couple of years ago my cell group met together for our annual retreat and we were led on the theme of vocation and discipleship in general. The Bishop who led our discussions and thoughts used the book of Jonah to prompt our deliberations and we were soon all fascinated as to just how much this short book contains. As I said to Elise, "*It's so much more than just a whale!*"

Having led, in my previous parish, a series of 4 study groups on Jonah and wanting to introduce this Autumn a Bible study, I am leading a 4 week series of study on Jonah. There is a wealth of material packed into 4 chapters and a total of 48 verses, and there are riches to be had and discovered.

So, please join me in the hall at 10.00 am on the following Saturdays
(10 October session will be in the church):

26 Sept	A prophet in rebellion; an introduction and Chapter 1
3 Oct	Out of the deep; Chapter 2
10 Oct	Mission accomplished; Chapter 3
17 Oct	Exploring anger; Chapter 4

There will also be accompanying notes concerning the historical, sociological and other issues of Jonah's time.

None of this requires anything other than an enquiring mind and a willingness to study the Bible. Research degrees in Old Testament theology are not required! However, having read the book beforehand would be an advantage.

So please put these dates in your diary, and my intention is that, whatever else goes on during Autumn, and Lent in particular, we study a book of the Bible in some degree of depth.

I very much hope that you can come in the Autumn.

Yours, Fr Paul

SERVICES AND TIMES

from Advent 2009

At the Ministry Team meetings we have felt for a while that it would be good to formalise some of our Eucharistic celebrations, in particular, those that usually don't fall on a Sunday.

Canon Law requires us to have a Eucharist on certain Principal Feasts and Festivals, a list of which (rather than type them here) can be found in Common Worship. These include Christmas, Epiphany, Holy Week and some others. This we do already.

However, the next "grade" of Festivals is what are known as Greater Festivals, what some of us may remember as Red Letter Days. These include the individual Apostles, The Blessed Virgin Mary, the Transfiguration, Holy Cross Day and a few others. Again, a list of these can be found in Common Worship towards the front of the book.

It has been decided that, alongside our normal pattern of Eucharistic celebrations (Sunday, Monday 9.30 am and Wednesday, 10.00 am) when there is a Greater Festival there will be a Eucharist at 9.30 am in the Lady Chapel. These Greater Festivals remind us in particular of the early church and although we keep the "lesser Festivals" already, if we have a Eucharist on the day that they fall, these Greater Festivals will be extra to that pattern.

The Saturday morning Eucharist has now been stopped due to continual non-attendance. However, the intention is, from later in the year, to have a Saturday morning monthly Healing Eucharist, so more on this to come.

In terms of combined services with the 9.00 and 11.00 am, these will be annually on the following occasions:

Harvest
Annual Parochial Church Meeting
Confirmations (moved from the evening)
Patronal Festival

I do hope that this isn't confusing - we found it confusing when we discussed it! - and services such as All Souls' and Corpus Christi will continue as evening services, either Said or sung. However, we did want to look at exactly how we remembered the Saints, what our canonical obligations were, how often the Choir routine was affected, what the optimum days/times for services would be, the desire to incorporate a ministry of Healing within our parish life, and the pattern of combined Sunday services, and those were the factors behind the above decisions.

It makes sense to bring this pattern into play from the beginning of the Church year on Advent Sunday, so from then please read the notices carefully, and join with us in a wider remembrance of the company of Saints.

Fr Paul

DIARY DATES

AUG 2	Trinity 8 August/September Review published 3.30 to 5.30 pm The Friends' Sunday teas
5	10.00 am Holy Eucharist (1662)
6	Feast of The Transfiguration 8.00 pm Said Eucharist
8	The Friends' Coach Trip to Gloucester Cathedral
9	Trinity 9 3.30 to 5.30 pm The Friends' Sunday teas
11	7.15 pm PAC Praying Together at Cannon Lane Methodist Church
15	Church ramble
16	Trinity 10 3.30 to 5.30 pm The Friends' Sunday teas
22	Pinner Sketch Club Summer Exhibition begins in church hall
23	Trinity 11 3.30 to 5.30 pm The Friends' Sunday teas
25	12.30 to 2.30 pm PAC Welcome Lunch at Love Lane Methodist Church
30	Trinity 12 3.00 pm PAC Songs of Praise at Love Lane Methodist Church 3.30 to 5.30 pm The Friends' Sunday teas

DIARY DATES (continued)

SEPT	
2	10.00 am Holy Eucharist (1662)
4	Elizabeth Birch's induction as Rector of Wantage Downs
5	Pinner Sketch Club Summer Exhibition ends
6	Trinity 13 9.00 am Baptisms Church Ramble 3.30 to 5.30 pm The Friends' Sunday teas
8	Feast of The Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary 9.30 am Said Eucharist 7.15 to 7.45 pm PAC Praying Together at Pinner Methodist Church
13	Harvest Festival 10.30 am Combined Service followed by lunch Traidcraft Stall in the church hall 3.30 to 5.30 pm The Friends' Sunday teas
19	10.00 am to 4.00 pm Church hall open as part of Open House London
20	Trinity 15 11.00 am Baptism 1.00 pm to 5.00 pm Church hall open as part of Open House London 3.30 to 5.30 pm The Friends' Sunday teas 6.30 pm PAC Worshipping Together at St Andrew's URC
21	St Matthew 8.00 pm PCC Meeting
23	Copy date for October Review
25	10.15 am to 12 noon World's Biggest Coffee Morning for Macmillan Cancer Relief at PAC Coffee Shop
26	10.00 am Bible Study Series 2.30 pm Wedding 8.00 pm Jazz Concert
27	Trinity 16 3.30 to 5.30 pm The Friends' Sunday teas 6.30 pm Youth Service
29	Feast of St Michael and All Angels 9.30 am Said Eucharist