

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, PINNER

PINNER PARISH REVIEW



May 2008

EDITORIAL

Welcome to the Pinner Parish Review.

We hope that you will enjoy reading this issue which includes:

- Pinner Music Festival Programme
- The Friends' Sunday Teas
- Message from Honorary Treasurer
- Church Services Abroad
- An Encounter with Ann Fuller
- Newly elected PCC Members
- Holiday Club Announcement
- Church Ramblers' Holiday Fellowship

Copy date for the June issue is Thursday 22 May. Please keep sending your contributions to: parishreview@fsmail.net or the church office.

Joy

BAPTISMS

6 April	Rowan Benjamin Galbraith
4 May	Oliver Jake Gunn

DEATHS

18 April	Mary Suzanne Starr
19 April	Lilian Charlotte Snell

BURIAL OF ASHES

12 April	Pamela Audrey Taylor
----------	----------------------

MINISTERIAL LETTER

Dear Friends,

May is the month traditionally associated with Mary the Mother of Jesus, despite the fact that there is no particular significant festival for Mary in the Church's calendar in May. Candlemas, traditionally a focus for Mary, is in February, The Annunciation, when the Church remembers the Angel Gabriel's visit to Mary and the conception of Jesus, is on 25 March – Lady Day. Her main feast day is celebrated in August and her birthday in September so why is May associated with Mary?

Gerard Manley Hopkins wrote about this in his poem called "The May Magnificat". The answer he comes to is that there is something about May in nature that reflects the essence of Mary. The growth of new shoots and plants, the effervescent blossom in apple and cherry trees, the new life waiting to emerge from fragile birds' eggs and all manner of life forms; the sheer exuberance of nature at this time of year mirrors Mary's joy at embracing God's creation within her and all that it will bring, despite the uncertainty, cost and difficulty that may lie along the way.

Whether or not we think of May as Mary's month Manley Hopkins reminds us that Mary's response to encountering God is one we should be happy to imitate. Knowing God, coming close to him, hearing him and seeing him at work in the world should trigger in us an outpouring of joy similar to the one that makes Mary erupt into the Magnificat, that wonderful song of delighted praise in St Luke's Gospel.

Sometimes Christianity can have a reputation for being rather dull and staid – it isn't and if we feel rather dull and staid about it, we have missed something a bit fundamental. In this day and age joy is all too scarce a commodity – it gets clouded up with worry and anxiety, it gets done to death by over-analysis and rationalising and takes a pasting from our desire to control and possess.

It is terribly important that as human beings we know how to express joy, how to enjoy what there is to be enjoyed in life, how to let joy shape and form us, as well as all the things that so often get in first at defining us, such as worry about the future, stress at things we can't change and guilt about the past.

This is not to say that life is always a bed of roses – of course it isn't and sometimes we just don't feel there is much to be joyful about, but God is a God of joy and even when things look pretty black he has a way of surprising us with possibilities of joy if we are open to them.

I pray that this month God shows you an unexpected source of joy that makes your heart sing as blithely as Mary's and which will accompany you all your life.

Elizabeth



“The May Magnificat” by Gerard Manley Hopkins

May is Mary's month, and I
Muse at that and wonder why:
Her feasts follow reason,
Dated due to season—

Candlemas, Lady Day;
But the Lady Month, May,
Why fasten that upon her,
With a feasting in her honour?

Is it only its being brighter
Than the most are must delight her?
Is it opportunist
And flowers finds soonest?

Ask of her, the mighty mother:
Her reply puts this other
Question: What is Spring?—
Growth in every thing—

Flesh and fleece, fur and feather,
Grass and greenworld all together;
Star-eyed strawberry-breasted
Throstle above her nested

Cluster of bugle blue eggs thin
Forms and warms the life within;
And bird and blossom swell
In sod or sheath or shell.

All things rising, all things sizing
Mary sees, sympathising
With that world of good,
Nature's motherhood.

Their magnifying of each its kind
With delight calls to mind
How she did in her stored
Magnify the Lord.

Well but there was more than this:
Spring's universal bliss
Much, had much to say
To offering Mary May.

When drop-of-blood-and-foam-dapple
Bloom lights the orchard-apple
And thicket and thorp are merry
With silver-surfed cherry

And azuring-over greybell makes
Wood banks and brakes wash wet like lakes
And magic cuckoocall
Caps, clears, and clinches all—

This ecstasy all through mothering earth
Tells Mary her mirth till Christ's birth
To remember and exultation
In God who was her salvation.

PINNER MUSIC FESTIVAL

3 to 7 June in Church



Our annual Music Festival is almost here and I want firstly to thank all those members of the congregation who have so generously sponsored the choir. This is a tremendous help in so many ways. As usual the church musicians will open the Festival on Tuesday 3 June with a mixture of instrumental and choral items. The main choral piece will be Vivaldi's ever popular 'Gloria' with a small orchestral group. Wednesday sees Grimsdyke School taking part for the first time, in a programme of singing, dancing and instrumental music. It was one of the founding ideas of the Festival back in 1966 to encourage the youth of today to take part and I am so glad Grimsdyke is coming - I would like to see the church full to overflowing with an audience not just made up of supportive parents! On Thursday we continue the recent addition of a lunch-time recital - this time with the return of *Jennifer Langridge* 'cello (home grown talent) with *Margaret Semple* - piano. Refreshments (sandwiches, etc.) will be on sale from 12.30pm in the church. Ticket price for this recital has been held at £5.00 - a true bargain! The same evening the *Amici Chamber Choir*, under their conductor, David Bray, will provide a wide-ranging programme of music from Byrd through to Peter Maxwell-Davies. A concert not to be missed! Friday sees a 'first' in the form of *David Briggs*, the internationally famous concert organist, performing a live improvisation to the 1929 silent movie 'Phantom of the Opera'. In addition he will perform his own transcriptions of orchestral pieces like 'Sorcerer's Apprentice' by Dukas, plus the ever popular and famous Widor Toccata - these pieces will have live projection of David's hands and feet at work! The Festival concludes with another highlight with *Benjamin Grosvenor*, the rising very young concert pianist who won the Keyboard section of the BBC Young Musician of the Year in 2004 when he was just 11 years old. He will be playing Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 3 with our own Festival Orchestra. The other half of the programme will be provided by the Festival Choir singing Chrubini's Requiem in C minor.

The charity we are supporting is the Middlesex Association for the Blind - in particular, their specially adapted equipment (IT and mobile phones), daily living equipment and Magnifier Loan Services.

As usual there will be a season ticket covering *all* concerts, on sale *only* at Church on Sundays starting on 11 May to the congregation only - £40 full price and £30 concessions (£6.50/£5.00 per concert - what a bargain!) Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday individual tickets are £10(£8) and celebrity nights £12(£10) - this represents a small price increase - the first for 3 years.

The success of the Festival depends on the support of all. Publicity is something which costs nothing other than a bit of time and thought - please be willing to take a few programmes and handbills to give to friends, neighbours, libraries, surgeries, supermarkets, shops, etc - use your imagination. Consider putting your name forward to have an Alexander Watson Estate Agents board at your property to advertise the Festival - just contact Michael Turvey as soon as possible please. Remember the Festival was started to try to make the Church a focal point for the local community and can be seen as a large part of the outreach of this Church. Hopefully you will find a programme which suits your taste in music or makes you curious to find out more. The committee works very hard in putting the Festival on and looks forward to meeting you there in June.

Michael Turvey

THE FRIENDS AFTERNOON TEAS

3.30 to 5.30 pm, May to September

Sunday afternoon teas with home-made cakes will begin again today and continue through until the end of September. So don't forget you can bring your friends and relatives along to visit the church hall rooms, or you may even be able to sit outside if the weather is fine!

Volunteers are always welcome to bake cakes and/or help serve. If you would like to be involved in raising funds for The Friends in this way, please contact:

Paddy Haslam 8933 7911

MESSAGE FROM THE HON TREASURER

I bumped into a member of the congregation who had not been able to attend the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, but had heard that I had given everyone a hard time!

I explained that all I had said was that we need to cover our regular expenditure with income, that no one had availed themselves of the will writing/amendment discount which we had arranged with local solicitors and that less than 20% of stewardship givers had responded to our 2007 appeal for a small percentage increase in giving.

At the APCM I did ask for feedback on the low stewardship response. One member of the congregation said afterwards that it was because free water was now being provided to visitors (lucky we don't have loaves and fishes on a regular basis) and that heating was probably to be provided in the porches and that this was demonstrating a lack of care with expenditure. I should say that these are fairly minor items of expenditure. However, I and the Parochial Church Council would appreciate more feedback.

I also asked for volunteers for the 2008 stewardship committee – sadly not one as yet.

Doug Yates

Following a question asked at the recent Annual Parochial Church Meeting, it is apparent that several members of our congregation were unaware of a letter of advice regarding legacies that went out with the bulletin a year ago so a copy is included here.

DEAR PARISHIONER

April 2007

You will know that our rich Parish is currently utilising reserves that have been accrued to cover a shortfall between current income and current expenditure.

During the Stewardship campaign much was said and written about increasing our giving to the Church. However, for some in our congregation increased giving is no longer an option. Living in a house in Pinner is not always indicative of a person's

income and financial position, and many prudently wish to ensure that they have sufficient money for a rainy day or old age.

There is, however, an almost painless alternative – by leaving a legacy in a Will (or in a Codicil) to the Parochial Church Council, equivalent to "Living now, paying later!" There are many examples of memorials set up by this method, most noticeably the money bequeathed by Peggy Davis, enabling the extension of our Church Hall. This option applies to us all; particularly, for those who are on their own and who have a net estate currently likely to exceed £285,000, that would currently attract 40% Inheritance Tax. Therefore for every £1000 left to the Church in a Will, the Inland Revenue would receive £400 less tax.

If you feel that this suggestion has merit then please contact your own Solicitor, who will be able to advise you. Alternatively, if you do not have a Solicitor and/ have not already made a Will we have the names of local firms of Solicitors who, in strictest confidence, will be able to advise you at a beneficial fee.

Please contact the church office, again in strictest confidence, to be advised of with the names and telephone numbers of such firms and, in the event of your pursuing this suggestion, the exact wording of the clause to be used. If you would like the money you leave to the Church to be used for a specific purpose then the Solicitor will be able to incorporate your wishes in the Will.

On the other hand if you are happy to give the Church greater flexibility, but indicate in your Will the likely areas where you would prefer the money to be spent, when the time comes a record will be kept, and every effort made to spend the money in those areas.

You will be aware that any gift made during your lifetime which can be Gift-aided has an even greater benefit to the Church, in that not only will there be a reduction in any Inheritance Tax levied on your Estate, but income tax can also be reclaimed by the Church.

Your support for this Church, whether large or small, by time, talents or money, continues to be very much appreciated, enabling the expansion of the word of God. Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

Simon Pothan, vicar;

Shane Godbolt, churchwarden; Gordon Williams, churchwarden

SUNDAY SERVICES

in Kyoto, Japan and Perth, Australia

Doug and I spent our first Easter away from Pinner in twenty-five years in Kyoto, Japan. This rather unusual Easter was scheduled like this to take in Japan on our way to our second visit to Sydney, Australia, to hear our daughter, Alexandra, sing with the Bach Choir in Sydney Opera House.



Thus we thought that Easter this year was off the agenda. However, while on a bus tour around Kyoto, we drove past an Episcopal church (in the land of Shinto shrines and Buddhist temples this was quite a surprise). Our hotel very efficiently found out the time of the English language service and Easter Sunday morning found us at St. Agnes Church attending a very simple said Eucharist, with a short discussion-type sermon.

There were about fifty people present, many of them professors and their families from the university, some of whom were of Anglo-Japanese descent. There was an organist and his two children, one of whom played a recorder flute and the other a psaltery. These instruments accompanied our hymns. I did my best to boost the rather tentative congregational singing, using the music that was fortunately provided, as we did not know three of the four hymns. For an anthem the organist left the organ, took out a viola de gamba, and the three of them played a pretty baroque piece. All very unusual, but adding greatly to the worship.

Afterwards, we went to their church hall where an Easter feast had been prepared. As we had already eaten breakfast at the hotel, we politely ate a few things, thus going over my rather haphazardly applied holiday calorie allowance for the day! We had some interesting conversations and tried to get the feel of being the member of a minority religion in a mainly Shinto and Buddhist culture.



After visiting Sydney, spending a few days seeing this vibrant city, and attending the aforementioned concert (very good), we arrived in Perth, Western Australia. It was late on a Sunday afternoon when we went for a walk to explore downtown Perth and happened to walk past St. George's Anglican Cathedral.

We went in to have a look and found that evensong was a third of the way through. We stayed for the rest of the service. There was a small congregation (about twenty people). The cathedral is about the size of a large church, built at the end of the nineteenth century, in brick, with a pretty wrought-iron rood screen. The adult choir was excellent and sang a very traditional evensong, with canticles by Wood and an anthem by Byrd. Afterwards, we met the Dean and the Bishop, who had been associated with a mission society and knew USPG well.

It was interesting to compare the two. Both the services were quite traditional, but the organisation and resources of each church varied greatly. The church in Kyoto was small and run by the congregation with a vicar who was (rather appropriately, I thought!) a carpenter during the week, while the cathedral was efficiently run with many clergy, a paid organist and a professional choir.

Gill Yates

PS from Hon Church Treasurer:

Worshippers at Shinto Shrines – approach the shrine – throw money into a container in front of the shrine – ring the bell – bow twice – clap hands twice – make a wish – bow once – retreat. A big wish had to be written on a piece of wood which was supplied on the payment of a large donation. It appeared to be a successful way of raising funds!

Doug Yates

AN ENCOUNTER WITH ...

This month we encounter Ann Fuller

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

About 40 years

What changes have you noticed in the Parish over the years?

"Regular" church going no longer implies *weekly* church going. Increased involvement of children and young people

What are your earliest memories of the Parish?

A "Stewardship Supper" (after being well fed we were urged to give money regularly!). Though I knew only a few people, my hostess, Kath Hamey, made me feel totally at home

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

I've been a teacher, playgroup supervisor and Local Government Officer (now retired). As a Reader I preach, teach, lead worship and assist in pastoral work (all voluntary!) I am a bereavement visitor and sometimes visit bereaved children at school or home

Tell us about your family

I have a daughter Ruth, trained as an auditor, married to Mark, also an auditor. They and my three lovely grandchildren: Sam (10), Phoebe (7), Molly (6) live in Lytham St Annes, near Blackpool

My son Peter died of leukaemia in 1974, aged 6

What is your favourite radio or TV programme?

Casualty! I'm totally hooked on the lives of the characters!

What is your favourite film and why?

Ben Hur: great chariot race and Charlton Heston!

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

Venice in 2002: a holiday to mark my retirement. It was absolutely beautiful, like being in a Canaletto painting. Visiting galleries, getting a 3 day "rover" ticket on the boats and watching Venetian life from the cafés and bars of the numerous squares



What gets you 'hot under the collar'?

Injustice, deliberate lying and being held in a queue on the phone!

If you were stranded on a desert island, what

❖ **three books would you take with you?**

(the Bible and Shakespeare are already there)

"*Persuasion*" by Jane Austen: Anne gets her man in the end even though (in her late twenties) her bloom "*had vanished early*"!!

"*Miss Garnet's Angel*" by Salley Vickers: the story of the "frozen" Miss Garnet's being warmed into life by her stay in Venice is intertwined with the story of Tobias and the Angel

"*Bleak House*" by Charles Dickens: a mystery story which shows the terrible effects of a long-drawn-out case in Chancery

❖ **three pieces of music would you take with you?**

(we have provided a clockwork CD player!)

When I want to be active and join in:

Haydn: *The Creation*

Bach: *St Matthew Passion*

Margaret Rizza: *Icons 1* – for when I want to be still and listen

❖ **three luxury items would you take?**

Some bubble bath (don't know if I'd feel the benefits in the sea?)

A large cuddly rug or blanket to keep warm in the cold nights

A large bag/box of plain chocolate (Fairtrade of course!)

Have you any hobbies and interests?

Visiting gardens, old houses, art galleries, taking photos

If you were an animal, what animal would best describe you and why?

A cat because (providing they have a good home) they have a lovely life: being fed and stroked and always finding the warmest place to sit!

What is your favourite Bible passage?

John 15: 1-17

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

A Quaker Scripture teacher at my grammar school: she was gentle and calm but with a quiet authority

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

13 April : PCC Elections



Sue Sabry-Grant and Helen Hutchins have been newly elected to serve on the Parish Church Council and Richard Lawrey, Audrey Taylor and Wendy Myers have been re-elected. Mark Arnold, Stephen Brown and Pam Stephens have been elected to the Deanery Synod. Sheila Bishop and Mark Arnold have retired from the PCC and Nick Ridge from Deanery Synod. Shane Godbolt was voted to continue as churchwarden and David Poole takes over from Phil Lawder who retires as churchwarden.

'Congratulations' and 'Thanks' to all

IF A CHILD LIVES WITH ...

Criticism he learns to condemn
Security - he learns to have faith
Hostility - he learns to fight
Fairness - he learns justice
Ridicule - he learns to be shy
Praise - he learns to appreciate
Shame - he learns to feel guilty
Encouragement - he learns confidence
Tolerance - he learns to be patient
Approval - he learns to like himself
Acceptance and Friendship - he learns to find love in the world

Anon



(Submitted by Mary Thomas)

HOLIDAY CLUB 2008

The world of entertainment has always featured superheroes to inspire and thrill children and adults alike. The Bible, too, has it's heroes.



This year's holiday club, 'Junior Heroes!', for boys and girls aged 4 to 10 explores the lives of five biblical junior heroes – Samuel, The boy who gave Jesus his lunch, David, Naaman's servant girl and King Josiah – as well as some not so biblical heroes such as The Incredibles, Superman, Batman, Wonder Woman and Captain Britain.

So, for a week of messy games, crazy craft, super singing and dancing and a whole lot of fun book your child's place now! Closing date 8 July.

Dates: 28 July to 1 August
Time: 10 .00 am to 12 noon
Service: Sunday 3 August
Email: holidayclub@pinnerparishchurch.org.uk

Can you help?

Are you around for Holiday Club week?

I need all the help I can get! So if you fancy joining in the madness email holidayclub@pinnerparishchurch.org.uk or speak to Elise Allanson.

Are you away during Holiday Club week and on the verge of re-booking your flights just so you can join in!? You can help! There are loads of things to do in preparation. So if you've got some spare time to sort craft, cut things out, organise or pick stuff up etc email holidayclub@pinnerparishchurch.org.uk or speak to Elise Allanson.

Please get in touch as soon as you can as CRB checks have to be carried out/updated for those of you over the age of 18 and they take time!

Elise Allanson

THE RAMBLERS' HOLIDAY FELLOWSHIP

Haytor, Dartmoor 23 to 26 April

In late April a group of sixteen Pinner Church Ramblers descended on The Moorlands Hotel at Haytor – descended may be the wrong word as our first walk in the late afternoon sunshine was a steep ascent to the nearby Haytor Rocks. This was an introduction to the magnificent scenery that Dartmoor provides. We learnt that some of the rock formations are of volcanic origin and some date back to the ice age.



Granite corbels originally destined for London Bridge

The next day dawned dark and gloomy with prospects of thundery showers. No sooner had we donned our water-proofs than the sun came out and the rain thankfully held off. Each day, three types of walk were available: 'easier', 'medium' and 'harder', based on the length and the steepness of ascent. Those of us opting for the 'easier' walk of about seven miles quickly realised that this was only easier than attempting to reach the base camp of Everest! Not for nothing does the army use Dartmoor as a training ground for the Marines. There are fast flowing streams to cross, boggy patches to negotiate and steep climbs to the summits of Tors. At each rest stop, the leader gave us fascinating information about the landscape, history and folklore associated with the areas we visited. We walked along a disused railway track at Swelltor, high on the Moor, once used to transport the granite used in the construction of London Bridge (now in Arizona). A welcome sight towards the end of the day was Dartmoor Prison and Princetown, from where we returned to an excellent Moorlands Hotel dinner, thus giving us the opportunity to regain those pounds we had lost on the day's walk.

In the evening entertainment the Pinner team beat, by one point, the team from the Isle of Wight and *The Dragons* from Wales, thanks to our superior knowledge – or guess work – in a game of *Call my Bluff*. Gordon Williams' knowledge of the medical term for wind came as a surprise to some of us, but not to those sitting next to him.

On the second day, we set out in the sunshine from the Clapper Bridge at Dartmeet, following the bank of the East Dart river northwards and ending at Widecombe-in-the-Moor. It was a delightful walk taking in a deserted medieval village, the sight of Alpacas grazing in a field and the stunning views, where we had our picnic lunch sheltering from a strong wind behind the rocks of Yar Tor. We were assured at the end of each day that those going on the medium and harder walks enjoyed similar magnificent views from the various Tors that they visited. On non-walking days, some of us visited the beautiful Abbey at Buckfast, where we purchased fudge and wine made by the Benedictine monks. The Abbey houses magnificent stained glass windows designed by the monks themselves. It is well worth a visit if you are in Devon.



Alpacas

On the last evening the so-called Pinner Players put on a short sketch involving eight 'actors' with minimal speaking parts and even less rehearsal, but with a punch line from Gordon that raised the roof. The evening ended with country dancing that brought a smile to every face. As we packed our bags on the last day, it was many thanks to Eileen Ormandy for organising a holiday which brought us all together, made us some new friends and gave us such an enjoyable three days. Thank you Eileen.

John and Lis Warren

HARROW DEANERY SYNOD

Following the APCM we still have three vacancies for parish lay representatives on the Harrow Deanery Synod. The Harrow Deanery includes lay representatives as well as all the licensed clergy of parishes from Northwood to Queensbury. The Deanery Synod meets four times a year in different churches. We worship together, hear about the ministry of the host church, do a small amount of formal deanery business and then, following a refreshment break, we have a guest speaker or facilitator and learn about a more substantive topic. In the last few years these topics have included the Bishop of London talking about the London Challenge, and a session with the Area Interfaith Advisor, Diocesan finances, etc. Each year the synod decides on the allocation of grants from the Hillside Trust to cover rescue work in deanery. The current Area Dean is the Revd Richard Bartlett, Vicar of Holy Trinity, Northwood and Lay Chair is John Dolling of Emmanuel, Northwood, although new lay officers of the synod will be elected at the July meeting. Deanery Synod members also elect the members for Harrow of the London Diocesan Synod and the Willesden Area Bishop's Council. In 2010 members of the synod will be able to elect the members of General Synod for Diocese of London for 2010 to 2015.

All Deanery Synod members are also members of the Parish Church Council, which meets six times a year and works with the vicar and churchwardens to manage all aspects of church life in the parish. PCC members also join one of its sub-committees. It is a particularly exciting time to be a member of our PCC as we will be helping our new vicar, Paul Hullyer, to introduce his particular insights into parish life.

If you would like to know more about the work of Deanery Synod please speak with Steve Brown, Pam Stephens or myself who have been members for some time. The PCC will need to consider how to fill the vacancies, so if you feel that service on Deanery Synod is your sort of Christian ministry please talk to one of the churchwardens or to Audrey Taylor, the PCC secretary. The basic qualification is to be a communicant of the Church of England and to have been on the Electoral Roll for at least six months.

Susan Cooper

LAMBETH CONFERENCE

Welcoming Bishops

The Willesden Area of London is in a key position to welcome many of the bishops and their spouses as they arrive in the UK for the Lambeth Conference. Over 800 bishops are expected and many will arrive at Heathrow. About half are coming in advance and going to enjoy hospitality in dioceses in other parts of the UK. Local churches will be offering hospitality and looking after bishops until people from their host dioceses can meet them. Many bishops will not be sophisticated travellers and English may not be their first language. They may find Heathrow very confusing; so may those meeting them from the dioceses.

Volunteers are needed to meet bishops at Heathrow and ferry them and their luggage to local churches where they can have a cup of tea before they travel on to their host dioceses. Specifically, people are needed to meet bishops as they come out of Customs and escort them to the kerb-side where they can be picked up; drivers with a car big enough to take a bishop, spouse and luggage to local churches; people able to provide tea, chat and a welcome in a local church and answer practical and other questions. Also people are needed to help staff a central phone and keep track of who has arrived and who is missing. Ideally, volunteer groups of 4 to 8 people, with a car, who can cover a terminal for a period, are required. The days concerned are 9–11 July, 15–16 July and 4–5 August and cover is required for five three-hour periods each day so lots of volunteers are required. It would good if we could provide a group or groups prepared to work together on this exciting project. I will get the details and volunteer forms put on our parish website or else ask me for copies. The whole scheme is being organised by David Slater, who is a Lay Chaplain at Heathrow and a one time Lay Chair of Hillingdon Deanery Synod.

For those reading St John's gospel alongside the bishops, the passages for

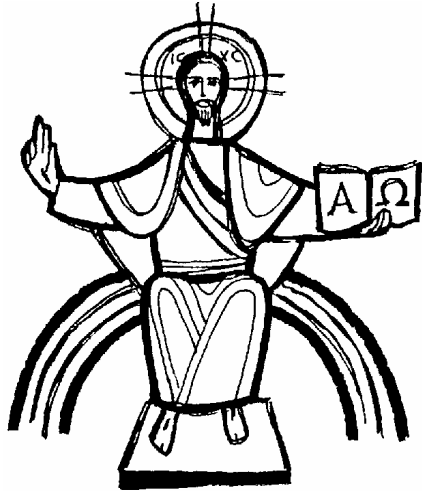
May are:	5 to 11 May	John	11:45–12:36
	12 to 18 May	John	12:36–13:30
	19 to 25 May	John	13:31–14:31
	26 May to 1 June	John	15:1–16:7

Susan Cooper

PROMISES

God's promises to us and our promises to Him

Evening Worship on Sunday 25 May at 6.30pm



Members of the Cursillo group in Pinner warmly invite you to Evening Worship to reflect on what God has promised us and how we reciprocate.

Monica Bolley, Synodical Secretary to the Diocese of London, Lay Director of Cursillo in London and a long-time member of the Cursillo movement, will give the Address.
Refreshments will be served at the back of the church after the service.



Thank God for church ladies with typewriters.
This sentence actually appeared in a church bulletin:

'The pastor would appreciate it if the ladies of the congregation would lend him their electric girdles for the pancake breakfast next Sunday.'

THE FRIENDS

Auction of Talents: another follow-up!



Sue and I bid successfully for many items at the Auction of Talents back in the Autumn (and we sadly had a few unsuccessful bids as well!). We have been enjoying the results of many of the bids recently.

Our thanks to Wendy Myers for the superb guided tours of St Paul's Cathedral and National Gallery, to the Hetreeds for a pleasant garden centre outing, and to Doug Yates for providing chauffeuring skills and a picnic lunch when we went to the Festival Hall. Sue has also had a singing lesson with Michael Turvey (now why wasn't I there too!). Each of these has been wonderful in their different ways.

However, most recently we had our first Bridge lesson with Dorothy and Stuart Nattrass. The Nattrasses are clearly hugely skilled and experienced players. But, despite their own expertise, they displayed commendable patience explaining the basics of the game to us – "there are red cards and black cards, they are all different, some have numbers on them and some have pictures..." – well perhaps not quite that basic, but close to it!

Sue and I were taught the basics of bidding and the rudiments of play – and then we got on with a few games. The masters let us make our own mistakes and never once told us off! The session was over so soon, as the time flew by. Our first lesson hurt the brain rather a lot, but our tutors were expert in suitably placating the brain overload. Indeed, we are going back for more very soon!

We really have been so lucky with our results from the Auction!

Peter Ellis



INFORMATION

Christians in Pinner working together

PAC Worshipping Together for Pentecost

Sunday, 11 May

There will be two strands to our worshipping together. A group will be travelling to take part in the 'Global Day of Prayer' at Millwall Stadium. If you would like to join this group please let Mike Hall know (8866 1743) and arrange to be at Pinner Station at 12.15 pm. For those who wish to remain in Pinner, there will be a PAC Worshipping Together Service at Cannon Lane Methodist Church at 6.30 pm.

Christian Aid Week 2008

11 to 17 May

PAC will be collecting outside Tesco supermarket on 13 May

Praying Together



7.15 pm, Tuesday 13 May
Pinner Free Church

Welcome Lunch



12.30 to 2.30 pm, Tuesday 27 May
Love Lane Methodist Church

Anyone on their own is welcome but please ask for an invitation so that we know the numbers to cater for.
Phone Elizabeth Catto (8868 8911) or Valerie Hastie (8428 5610)

DIARY DATES

MAY 4	Easter 7 9.00 am Baptism May Review published 3.30 to 5.30 pm The Friends' Sunday Teas begin in church hall rooms
5	Bank Holiday
7	10.00 am Holy Eucharist (1662) 8.00 pm PCC Meeting in hall rooms
10	10.00 to 11.30 am Gossiping the Gospel in hall rooms
11	Pentecost Christian Aid week begins Traidcraft stall in church hall 2.00 pm PAC at Millwall Stadium for 'Global Day of Prayer' 3.00 pm Wedding 3.30 to 5.30 pm The Friends' Sunday Teas in church hall rooms 5.15 pm The Friends' AGM 6.30 pm PAC Worshipping Together at Cannon Lane Methodist Church
12	8.00 pm Christianity for Life Course in hall rooms
13	PAC Collecting outside Tesco for Christian Aid 7.15 pm PAC Praying Together at Pinner Free Church
14	Feast of Matthias the Apostle
17	Church ramble 10.00 to 11.30 am Gossiping the Gospel in hall rooms
18	Trinity Sunday 3.30 to 5.30 pm The Friends' Sunday Teas in church hall rooms
19	8.00 pm Christianity for Life Course in hall rooms
22	Corpus Christi Copy date for June Review 8.00 pm Holy Eucharist
24	10.00 am to 4.00 pm Quiet Day
25	Trinity 1 3.30 to 5.30 pm The Friends' Sunday Teas in church hall rooms 6.30 pm Cursillo service
26	Feast of St Augustine
27	12.30 to 2.30 pm PAC Welcome Lunch at Love Lane Methodist Hall
31	Feast of the Visitation