

Marking 300 years of Hawksmoor's Church

"The Case of the Inhabitants of Greenwich in the County of Kent and Reasons why they ask Relief for Rebuilding their Parish Church..."

So began the petition to Parliament 307 years ago, seeking to rebuild the medieval St Alfege church after a storm. The petition led to the Fifty New Churches Act of 1711 under which the present church, other Hawksmoor churches and others like them, were built.

The event was re-enacted in February 2018 to launch the Tercentenary celebrations of the Dedication of Hawksmoor's building in 1718. Current churchwardens, Sarah Lavery and Nick Hervey, presented the same petition to The Rt Hon. Nick Raynsford, former Minister for London and local MP. Also present were Greenwich Council Leader, Cllr Denise Hyland, Deputy Lieutenant for London, Dr Pieter van der Merwe and representatives from the Maritime Greenwich World Heritage Site.



Dressed in 18th century costume and accompanied by children's church members, Karile and Simon Jones (also in costume), the wardens read the petition to an audience of about 60 local people (above).

Celebrations...

Other key anniversaries to be celebrated this year include:
23 April 1953 - The re-consecration of the church by

the Bishop of Southwark after war damage and the last major reconstruction

12 June 1711 - Royal Assent given to the Fifty New Churches Act

18/23 September 1718/19 - the consecration of the new church by Francis Atterbury, Bishop of Rochester, to be celebrated on 23 September 2018.

Heritage funding

St Alfege Church has received a grant (£1,836,800) from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) for the Heart of Greenwich, Place and People project. The plans include vital repairs to the fabric, improvements to access and facilities in the church - and enhanced landscaping, signage and interpretation.

Archbishop Josiah commissioned as an Honorary Assistant Bishop

The Secretary General of the Anglican Communion, the Most Revd Dr Josiah Atkins Idowu-Fearon, was commissioned by Bishop Christopher as an Honorary Assistant Bishop in the Diocese, at the March Synod meeting in St John's Waterloo.

Before his Commissioning, Archbishop Josiah was invited to address Synod about his work and the work of the Anglican Communion.

He said: "I was honoured when Bishop Christopher asked me to be an Honorary Assistant Bishop in the Diocese of Southwark. I look forward to hearing the stories of the people of the Diocese and sharing them with the people around the globe."

"I hope this will help churches in other parts of the world to understand that we

are all people with the same common wish - to serve God in the best way we know."

Bishop Christopher said: "I am delighted that Archbishop Josiah has accepted my invitation to become an Honorary Assistant Bishop in the Diocese."

"His knowledge and experience of the worldwide Anglican Communion will be a great blessing to the Diocese and will help us all to appreciate how much we are all part of something that is bigger than ourselves".



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The joy of our Easter faith

As we reach Easter Day it is good to look back over the journey through Lent and to give thanks for all that God has done and continues to do for us.

At the beginning of Lent the Dean and I led a group of nearly 90 Pilgrims from across the Diocese to the Holy Land.

We were blessed to be able to tread where Jesus trod and to see where he lived and shared his ministry. We visited those

places in which he rested and prayed alone or with his disciples and for many of us the Pilgrimage was life changing, leading us further on our spiritual journey.

Just like Jesus it is good for us to find places to be quiet and pray which is why the gardens in our centrespread are so significant: they offer places for tranquillity and prayer, for us to find ourselves and God.

I hope that many of you this Lent have been helped to journey with Jesus and to find out more about what it means to follow as his disciples. I know that many of our parishes have dawn services on Easter morning - I shall be at Southwark Cathedral for a Dawn Vigil and Confirmations.

Whether you will celebrate Easter morning as the sun rises or a little

later in the day I hope that the joy of our Easter faith will fill you with the knowledge of God's love and forgiveness and all that Jesus has done for us. And, as it does, I pray that the joy and renewal of hope that Easter brings will fill you with the desire to spread the Good News of God in Christ even more.

I pray also that the Easter message will help you to want to welcome others as you journey on, with hearts on fire: loving God, walking with Jesus, led by the Spirit.

May God richly bless you this Eastertide and may it be for each of you truly joyful.

Christopher Southwark

You can find more about the Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Holy Land 2018 on P12 of this edition of The Bridge



Welcare supporting children and families in Greenwich

BBC Children in Need and the William Wates Memorial Trust have awarded funding to Welcare to employ a specialist children's worker and to deliver group work recovery programmes for children who have been exposed to domestic abuse. The work will be delivered from Welcare's centre on the Nightingale Vale estate in Woolwich.

Welcare Chair, Cherry Murdoch, commented "We are immensely grateful for the support from these two trusts.

The awards recognise the real need to support vulnerable children and families in our community. Last year, throughout Southwark Diocese, Welcare helped over one thousand children and families through one-to-one support, group work programmes and activities.

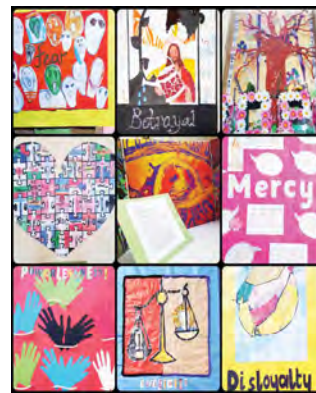
"If any readers would like to know more about our work or would be interested in becoming a trustee please contact me at info@welcare.org"

Stations of the Cross – Community Art at St John, Hurst Green

What does it mean to have "the weight of the world on your shoulders"?

The children in year four at Holland School thought about the burdens that Jesus faced as he carried the cross to Golgotha and the burdens that they and their parents and carers carry in everyday life.

They then created 'Burdens' - one image in a set of fourteen 'Stations of the Cross' for St John, Hurst Green, by local schools, churches, care homes and other groups inspired by passages from the bible about Jesus' final hours before, during and after his death on the cross. Hundreds of children and adults from age 4 to 84 have been involved.



The Vicar of St John's, the Revd Anna Eltringham said, "None of us had any idea what the different groups would come up with or how powerful they would be.

"They were each simply given a passage from the bible and asked to consider what it means to them, now.

"Themes that emerged included 'fear', 'betrayal', 'forgiveness', 'hope' and each image conveys this in an original and personal way.

"I have been moved by the depth of thought and feeling that has gone into each one and visitors have been inspired and drawn into the prayerful journey with Jesus as a whole."

The artworks were on display every day at St John, Hurst Green, during Lent.

Lent Plastic Challenge

Thank you for your initiative in putting the Church of England's Lent Plastics Challenge on the back page of March Bridge. It has been welcomed in my local churches - sizing down

our responsibilities to what each person can do day by day - and not just in Lent. It was distributed at the Deanery Lay Chairs meeting to send to the churches.

With your help, people will be challenged on every side!

Sue Mallinson,
Diocesan
Environmental
Officer

OPPORTUNITIES

Children's and Youth Minister

St Anselm's, Kennington is seeking to recruit a full-time Children's and Youth Minister who will:

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Start Date: September 1st (with hand-over period to be arranged beforehand if possible)



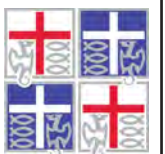
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The MAY edition is due to be printed on **26 April** and in your parish from the following Sunday. Material for that edition must be with Wendy S. Robins at Trinity House by **MONDAY 16 April**

Space limitations mean that we cannot guarantee to publish everything we receive and material may be edited.

The editorial team will assume that all photographs submitted for publication come to us with the necessary permission for printing. So, please ensure that people are happy for their photographs to be submitted before you do so. Forms for permission for the use of photographs of children and adults who may be vulnerable can be found at www.southwark.anglican.org/safeguarding/diocesan-policies-procedures

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Eileen Ripley – 100 years old!

On 10 February St George's Church, Morden celebrated the 100th birthday of congregation member Eileen Ripley. Eileen was born on 7 February 1918 in Earlsfield. She moved to the St Helier Estate in the 1930s and is still living in the same house. She has worshipped and served at Farm Road Church and the London City Mission Centre in Middleton Road and for the past six years has been a member of St George's Church.

The church held a celebratory birthday party, when, much to her (genuine!) surprise, a large number of relatives and friends gathered to toast her.



A day for celebration and sadness

A special service on 25 February marked the opening of the latest phase of the Community Transformation Project at Christ Church, Purley.

The Mayor of Croydon, Cllr Toni Letts and the Archdeacon of Croydon, Chris Skilton were present, along with 300 congregation members.

A number of rooms have been refurbished or newly built and are now in use by the Church and local community groups. These include: a new meeting room; accommodation

for the Purley Wellbeing Counselling Centre; a kitchen that can cater for up to 200 people; a large storage area and much needed church offices.

During the service, Christ Church also said good-bye to the Vicar, the Revd Charles Trefusis, after 23 years in the parish. Charles is to be Vicar of Holy Trinity, Aylesbury.

"He has been a pillar of the community and will be very much missed by all here at Christ Church," said a congregation member.

Charles Trefusis said, "It has been a privilege to serve Christ Church and the town and to see the church develop and serve the local community."

Maundy purse nominations

Four Southwark people will receive Maundy Thursday purses this year at the nomination of Bishop Christopher.

The Revd Neville Jacobs is a retired parish priest who served a number of rural communities in the West Country, before retiring to the Diocese of Southwark where he has, until declining health has prevented him from doing so, been a mainstay of his Parish Church.

Mrs Natalie Gibson-Wilson has managed a daycare centre for the elderly for thirty years and has served a number of charitable trusts and been active in visiting inmates in Wandsworth Prison.

The Revd Francis Gardom has served as a self supporting Minister for fifty years but devoting more than part time to the work of the Parish and wider community in many ways and supporting work further afield including the inception of Water Aid.

Miss Mimi Heinrichs was brought up in South Africa, but came to this country as a young woman: she had a long career as a primary school teacher, and a parallel career as Reader and Honorary Administrator at her Parish Church, where she also took on a very wide range of informal responsibilities.

The venue for the 2018 Maundy ceremony will be St George's Chapel, Windsor and it will be held on 29 March.



Sunday 4 February saw the return of another hugely successful 'Bake Off' at Christ Church, Shooters Hill.

Vik Scales reports

Taking place immediately after the service, the church hall was packed, bringing the community together, young and old, both as cake bakers and cake eaters!

The event organisers were delighted to welcome back Oli Blanc as judge. Oli works with many different schools educating children about where their food comes from with his Henri Le Worm programme.

Alongside Oli were fellow judges Ashley and Paul from local businesses Plumstead

Pantry and Pottery and last year's 'Bake Off' winner, Hannah Wakeford.

The competition was organised into three categories: Victoria Sponge, flavoured cake and the new category, 'cupcakes for the under 12s', and proved yet again what fantastic bakers there are in the parish.

There really were an impressive range of cakes and cupcakes and some outstanding winners, including Christ Church's very own Mother Ariadne whose *Dutch Apple Cake* won an impressive silver and young parishioner, Colby, whose lemon cupcakes left the judges speechless and raised a fantastic amount when auctioned at the end. A terrific morning all round!

Vik Scales is a member of the Christ Church Communications Committee.

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Wendy S Robins

DIOCESAN SYNOD REPORT

The Diocesan Synod met in its familiar home of St John Waterloo on Saturday 10 March 2018.

After the Revd Canon Dr Sue Clarke had led the Synod in prayer, Bishop Christopher welcomed those attending their first meeting of the Synod. He thanked the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Diocesan Board of Finance (DBF), who are stepping down, for all that they had done to help with the move into the new governance structures. He announced that Adrian Greenwood had agreed to be Chair of the DBF pro-tem. He further announced that Dr Nick Burt had agreed to serve as the Chair of the Policy and Finance Committee.

He noted that the Revd Andrew Moughtin-Mumby had filled the General Synod vacancy caused by the Revd Canon Stephen Hance's move to Derby. Thanking the Revd Canon Giles Goddard for hosting the Synod once again, he said how good it is that the project at St John's is going ahead (see page 10).

The Diocesan Secretary gave the notices and then Vanessa Elston spoke to Synod about 'Thy Kingdom Come'. She commended the website (www.

thykingdomcome.global) and reminded them of the small grants which are available to help to set up 'Thy Kingdom Come' prayer stations.

Bishop Christopher expressed thanks to Vanessa for all her work as she is leaving her role shortly in order to further her vocational journey.

Presidential Address

In his address Bishop Christopher focused on the Pastoral Letter he had issued on the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA). He asked the Synod to stand in silence to offer an opportunity to reflect, accept responsibility and to repent, and to hold in our prayers those whom we as a Church have failed. He concluded with the Collect for Good Friday.

He then went on to speak about how the new structures of the Diocese such as *Lead, Enable, Serve* and *Fit for Purpose*, are having a positive effect. He also spoke about Lay Leadership, the need to have a good tone and spirit in all our dealings with one another, and the fact that he would be commissioning Archbishop Josiah Idowu-Fearon as an Honorary Assistant Bishop. The

Bishop's full Address can be found at <http://bit.ly/2Gf3cFi>

As Paul Morris, the Diocesan Registrar was unable to be at the Synod, the Bishop, as President of the Synod, then promulgated Canons 36 & 37. The first enables clergy to dispense with robes if they have ascertained that adopting some other form of dress is more appropriate. The Bishop said it was best he did not comment on this change save to say he would continue to wear robes! The second Canon allows for the normal burial service to be used in the case of someone who had committed suicide or who was not baptised. The Bishop said that this change is long overdue.

Lay Leadership

Anne Deering, the Chair of the Lay Leadership & Lay Ministry Advisory Group gave a presentation on their work and the work of *Setting God's People Free*. She said that this was a real opportunity to reaffirm what is already happening. She mentioned the Bridge centrespread in March and how it highlights the work of lay people Monday to Saturday and spoke of the fact that Southwark is a pilot

Diocese for *Setting God's People Free*.

She said that we have 20 or so parishes who are working with the Lay Leadership & Lay Ministry Advisory Group to help establish the current position of Lay Leadership and Lay Ministry in the Diocese, and to pilot recommendations arising from the ongoing consultation.

So far, there have been 400 responses to a questionnaire which was sent out as part of this process. Discussion with Deaneries has begun and the input is already rich. It is becoming clear that work commitments are the main factor stopping people getting more involved in their churches. Anne concluded by saying that she hoped that this discussion had whetted Synod's appetite for the major debate in July.

Deaneries

A Report from the Deaneries' Advisory Group followed in which several members of the group spoke. Adrian Greenwood, the Chair, noted that the Group's key task is to enable Deaneries to become viable centres of mission and ministry.

He said that it is important to remember that Deaneries and Deanery Synods are different and to be clear which is being talked about. He also said there is a close correlation between this group and Anne Deering's.

Chris Elliot took over and invited the Synod to have a look at the calendar on the website and the rules and constitution. He said that the toolkit is on the Deaneries page on the website. Adrian Greenwood noted that they had 're-booted' the Deanery Synod link with the General Synod and that there is to be another National Deaneries Conference at Swanwick this year and that we were the biggest cohort last time and have twelve places for this year.

There are he said two big ideas: that of Deanery Leadership Teams instead of Deanery Mission Teams which would ensure that there

is a focus on mission and invigorate Synod meetings. The second is Mission Accompaniers: a constructive friend to help enable mission focus. Synod then split into groups to consider the questions:

- what am I going to do to help my deanery focus more on Mission and Growth,
- what is my Deanery doing to focus more on Mission and Growth
- what should our Diocese be doing to enable Deaneries to focus on Mission and Growth?

A debate followed during which some issues were raised concerning the level of detail in the report and other matters. Once Adrian Greenwood had responded, the motion was put that Synod thanked the Deaneries Advisory for their work and commended it to the steering group for further work. Synod noted that it would welcome a revised report in July. This was overwhelming passed with three votes against and four abstentions.

Refugees

Vasanth Gnanadoss then spoke to the Battersea Deanery Synod motion concerning assistance for refugees with professional qualifications such as doctors, dentists, lawyers and teachers. She noted that their skills are needed so this is a 'win-win' situation as there can be no objection to letting them practice here.

She said that the next step following the Synod's approval of this motion was to take it to General Synod so that the Mission and Public Affairs Department could be asked to help Diocese to engage with this. Ten spoke in the debate to which Vasanth responded. The motion was then put and significantly passed with 5 against and 9 abstentions.

General Synod

Adrian Greenwood then reported on the February General Synod. He said that it was the first time that the Synod had met in London on a Sunday and that three Primates from the 'global

south' were in the chamber for the whole of Synod.

He said that the Anglican Methodist covenant was the most controversial debate. General Synod was also briefed on the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse and on digital evangelism.

Elections

It had been announced earlier that Philip Fletcher was to be the Chair of the DAC and the House of Laity were asked to elect him to the Diocesan Council of Trustees which they duly did.

Ruth Martin then spoke of the timeline for the elections to Diocesan Synod Election Timeline. She said a letter will soon be sent out to the Deaneries with details.

She noted that people do not have to be on Deanery Synod to stand but only those on Deanery Synod can vote. The elections are run on a 'first past the post' basis and the numbers to be elected were agreed at the last Synod. The elections need to be completed by 15 July as the first meeting is on 17 November 2018.

Ruth then gave details of the timeline for the *Fit for Purpose – Implementation Review*.

She noted that the Articles of Association have been amended and modernised. Implementation is important and therefore this review is significant. The DCT has already been encouraged to feedback and feedback from Synod would be welcome.

Adrian Greenwood noted the amazing transformation in Governance which Ruth has led and that the Parish Support Fund is going from strength to strength.

Questions and their supplementaries followed, concerning safeguarding and communications matters.

The Synod then concluded followed by a Eucharist in which the Most Revd Dr Josiah Atkins Idowu-Fearon was commissioned (see page 1). He also addressed the Synod about his work.

The Revd Canon Duncan Swan was also commissioned as the Deaneries Adviser.



Church/Mosque twinning celebrated at Lambeth Palace

Five priests from the Diocese were part of a unique event at Lambeth Palace celebrating the growth of Church/Mosque Twinning partnerships.

Siriol Davies, Diocesan Inter Faith Adviser writes:

This initiative was first piloted in the Kingston Area in a joint project with the Christian Muslim Forum and Bishop Richard. It is now inspiring others in the Diocese as well as further afield.

At the heart of each partnership is a personal relationship between at least two individuals in leadership

roles in a neighbouring Church and Mosque.

The Revd Jonathan Roberts from St Michael & All Angels, Camberwell spoke at the event, which he attended with his twinning partner Imam Hakeem. One of the fruits of the partnership is 'Mumspace' – a weekly space for new parents. It takes place in the church and is supported by Christian and Muslim volunteers. Imam Hakeem spoke of his gratitude to Jonathan for his help when he had a tricky visa issue and did not know what to do.

Archbishop Justin Welby spent time listening to the different contributions and

stated how important he felt Church/Mosque Twinning relationships were. He urged everyone to continue making connections.

Hearing Church Mosque 'Twins' from different contexts such as Bradford and Rochdale was illuminating to Southwark colleagues. 'I learned so much' said one. 'Can we go and visit?' said another.

Perhaps what really stands out is that it is often through our differences that we come to new understandings of our own condition, just as through inter faith encounter we are so often led deeper into the heart of our own faith.

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'Nearer God's head

Gardens in Jerusalem

I have to admit to not being anything at all of a gardener (much to my mother's chagrin) but I do very much like to sit in the peace and tranquillity of a well kept garden or in one which has been deliberately allowed to become wild.

Wendy Robins

There is something very calming about them and it seems to allow me to sit and think more clearly. So, it has never really surprised me that Jesus and his disciples spent time in the Garden of Gethsemane.

But, what did surprise me, when I first visited the site of the Garden of Gethsemane, is that it was small – or at least it is today.

Here today on the site of the All Nations Church (so called because the gifts of many nations helped to build it) is quite a small garden full of ancient (and some not so ancient) olive trees.

I was helped to understand it more when I learned that the Garden of Gethsemane would have been right across the foot of the Mount of Olives, not just in the small space that it is now contained within. The Church itself was built over the rock upon which Jesus is to have prayed before his arrest and crucifixion.

The Church is also known as the Church of the Agony because of the agony that Jesus suffered during the night when the disciples could not stay awake to pray with him.

The Garden of Gethsemane



Above: The Garden Tomb

Below: the tomb



garden. When a small group of us visited it during the Diocesan Pilgrimage, there was quite a lot of maintenance work going on but it was still somehow wonderfully peaceful and a haven for prayer and contemplation.

Some believe that the tomb and the garden belonged to Joseph of Arimathea. If this is so, then it might be that this

is where Jesus was laid after he died as Joseph of Arimathea was given permission to bury him. The tomb gives those who see it today a very good idea of what the tomb that Jesus was buried in would have been like. Here in the place where Jesus may have laid, the garden has seats and nooks and crannies in which one can sit and contemplate Jesus' life, death and resurrection.

At Easter, especially on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday, it is good to find somewhere to sit and to contemplate all that Jesus has done and all that Jesus is to his people today. Gardens are an especially good place to do this as Easter is at the beginning of spring and there are signs everywhere in our gardens and parks and forests of new life. Spring bulbs and flowers are beginning to blossom and the trees are beginning to be in leaf again.

These reminders of the new life which we find in Christ can help us to see in a new way the gifts which God has given to us all both in sending Jesus to save us and in the world around us.

...and in Southwark Gardens and Church quiet reflection and

St Mary, Lewisham

St Mary's Therapeutic Garden opened in September 2017, after two years of working with the wider community and staff and patients from the NHS Ladywell mental health unit next to St Mary's.

With help and advice from the Sydenham Community Garden project, newly planted beds, landscaping and raised beds for vegetables, were developed in an area of the churchyard known as St Mary's Meadow. 'Community Build' days brought together budding gardeners, from the congregation, the Ladywell Unit and the community.

Local resident Flo Headlam, from BBC Gardeners' World cut the first turf and brought her colleagues to film the work.

St Mary's Vicar, the Revd Steve Hall said "Work has continued through the winter and now we are preparing and



planting for the year ahead. We are developing the ecological benefits, with bug houses and bird boxes.

"Not only has the Therapeutic Garden transformed an under-used area of our churchyard – and been truly therapeutic for everyone involved – it has become a precious, prayerful space, valued by the wider community".

St Andrew, Earlsfield

In 2010 the garden of St Andrew's Church in Earlsfield was transformed into an accessible garden for the local community. Five Trusts including Community Spaces/ Groundwork gave a total of £105,000 towards the construction.

The opening, by the then MP for Tooting, Sadiq Khan, was the culmination of a journey that started with a design competition to rejuvenate the area in the church grounds in 2006. The winning design centred on a labyrinth and, as the designer said, was a versatile space that could be used for relaxation, contemplation, play activities, church fêtes etc. The prayer labyrinth was not only an attractive paving detail but



being able to use it as an aid to prayer and meditation also added a spiritual dimension to the garden.

The garden is maintained by volunteers under the direction of a professional gardener.



art in a garden...

work

Churchyards: places for and so much more...



St John, Malden

The whole of the churchyard is a conservation area, and two thirds of it are managed to a conservation model. It is home to a wide variety of wild flowers, including some rare species, as well as many insects and butterflies. Once a year it is given a 'meadow' cut and the grass is allowed to lie for a period before being gathered

God's Garden

THE Lord God planted a garden
In the first white days of the world,
And He set there an angel warden
In a garment of light unfurled.

So near to the peace of Heaven,
That the hawk might nest with the wren,
For there in the cool of the even
God walked with the first of men.

And I dream that these garden-closes
With their shade and their sun-flecked sod
And their lilies and bowers of roses,
Were laid by the hand of God.

The kiss of the sun for pardon,
The song of the birds for mirth,--
One is nearer God's heart in a garden
Than anywhere else on earth.

For He broke it for us in a garden
Under the olive-trees
Where the angel of strength was the warden
And the soul of the world found ease.

*Dorothy Frances Gurney (1858 - 1932)
Published in Country Life, London 1913*

up - letting any seeds in the grass drop out. The Revd Kevin Scott, Vicar of St John's says: "We sometimes have to explain that the effect is the result of management rather than neglect, but most people value the flourishing of fauna and flora".



St Paul, Clapham

The Eden Community Garden is formed of part of the churchyard. Eden at St Paul's was founded in 2000 with the aim of turning a piece of disused church land into a green, organic inner-city space. Its Mission statement says that its objective "...is to provide a green, tranquil, inner city space; a pleasant place for all to sit, play or garden. Its aim is to create and maintain a sustainable habitat for wildlife and promote bio-diversity by planting British native species and through organic gardening".



St John, Hurst Green

Like so many others, the churchyard was derived from ancient meadowland.

In 1997 a purple spotted orchid was discovered in bloom in part of the churchyard and the Parochial Church Council decided to designate that region of the churchyard a conservation area in order to protect it and to encourage other wild plant species.

Much of the rest of the Churchyard is set aside as a Garden of Remembrance, an oasis of peace where the cremated remains of those who have lived in Hurst Green can be interred.

The good news is that the orchid has reproduced and there are now four separate orchids - so the parish have truly been responsible for conserving this plant. In addition, a wide

variety of grasses and colourful wild flowers flourish including violets, primroses, fritillaries, cowslips, ox-eye daisies and red campion.



All Saints, Warlingham

churchyard is managed as a conservation area where grassland and hedges are

allowed to remain uncut in some areas until wild flowers have seeded and birds have fledged. It provides a haven for wildlife and surveys have indicated that there has also

been an increase in the species of flora. There are about 200 trees of many varieties including several ancient English yews. Volunteers undertake much of the management.

The churchyard is soon to be extended into an adjacent field bringing the total area to about 5 acres. This land will be consecrated by Bishop Christopher on 20 May.

The churchyard is a valued resource to the community. It is regularly visited by school children to study both history and the rich and diverse flora and fauna. It also attracts visitors interested in memorial design and for research of family or local history.



The site goes back one thousand years to the original church of Clapham. Later, the land was part of the manor house owned by Henry Atkins, physician to King James I.

It was a burial ground for victims of the Great Plague of 1665 and later for Roundhead soldiers killed in the Civil War battle for Battersea Marshes.

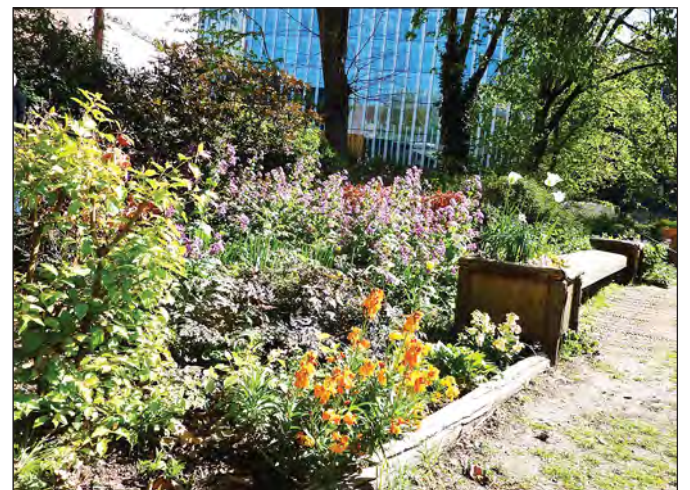
Today's visitors to the garden (as well as humans) include: bats, endangered stag beetles, woodpeckers, crickets, dragonflies and the house sparrow.

Christ Church, Southwark

Christ Church, on busy Blackfriars Road SE1 has a garden looked after by Bankside Open Spaces Trust.

The garden is in the middle of a number of major construction projects but has remained open throughout and the church itself has increased its opening times to six days a week 9 - 8 to give space for prayer and reflection.

The Revd Jonathan Coore, the Vicar of Christ Church, says that the garden and church are used



by dog walkers and residents as well as the large number of workers in the area.

Personal trainers bring their clients into the garden and whenever he has had the chance to speak with people in the gardens they all appreciate the peace, space and greenery in such a built up area.

It is also one of the few community focal points left in an increasingly built up area.



Bryan Harris's

PARISH PROFILE



**St Barnabas,
Clapham
Common**

The parish website describes it as 'a church for all including you' – so the question was, would that ambitious claim stand up to examination.... It did!

On the north side of Clapham Common, St Barnabas serves a small parish, almost exclusively residential, with a population of around 10,000. Part of 'Nappy Valley', it's a community of mainly young 'professionals' and their families. But it wasn't always this way. For many years St Barnabas mainly served the West Indian community, who had settled there in the 1950s.

However, in the 80s the parish's Victorian terraces became highly 'des-res' and many residents cashed in and moved out. Along with those who have remained in the parish, many still return every Sunday from Mitcham, Thornton Heath and further afield to the church who welcomed them when they first arrived - and St Barnabas Church's Windrush Room celebrates their part in the church's history.

That diverse church family is obvious on Sunday mornings. Three Sundays out of four there is one Sunday

service at 11am – alternating Morning Worship & Holy Communion (with a creche & Sunday Schools). They draw a congregation of all ages and ethnic origins of between 80 and 100.

The worship is structured and 'by the book' but informal as befits a church which, if you had to give it a label, might describe itself along the lines of liberal inclusive evangelical.

However on the first Sunday of the month, there are two services - and the congregation divides, not by culture but by age! There is a 9.30 informal family service which attracts the younger families – with the focus on children (over 50 of them from toddlers to teens on the Sunday I visited). It starts with craft work and goes on to 'action' choruses (with guitar and piano accompaniment) and a simple talk and prayers.

The second service – at 11am – is a more formal Eucharist-Common Worship with hymns, organ and sermon. Here the congregation was ethnically diverse – but mainly the older generation, who prefer the more traditional worship. There are also mid week services - Daily Prayers on Monday to Thursday and a monthly Taize Communion - - 'a church for all including you'.

The Vicar is the Revd Richard Taylor who has been

at St Barnabas nine years. His predecessor, David Page had established the church's liberal inclusive evangelical style, but retired to make way for 'a new vicar to bring fresh energy and spiritual leadership.'

"The liturgical building blocks were all there - mainly organ, hymns and common worship - and what I have done is to repackage them. So we have liturgical services by the book and services without liturgy, the family service for example – we are liturgically structured but informally presented," said Richard.

"When I came there was me, an NSM curate and a Reader (both of whom were planning to move on but waited until they had 'seen me in'). So then there was just me! First we appointed a part time administrator and then a part time parish assistant, someone who was exploring ordination and looking for parish experience. Since then we have had three more parish assistants (now full time). All three so far have been recommended to train for ordination. It's a brilliant training opportunity to experience day-to-day parish ministry.

"We now also have two self-supporting priests, one was a teaching assistant (until recently), the other is chaplain at St Cecilia's School – theirs is largely a Sunday ministry but they also give their time during the week when they are able".

"As the activities of the parish grew so did the staffing. We now also have a financial co-ordinator, a church manager and a youth worker – all part time- between them we can facilitate anything that goes on within the building".

And a lot goes on...

The parish halls in the grounds were sold in 1986 and converted into flats – and the proceeds enabled the reordering of the church. The

huge interior had changed little since 1898 when it was built to seat 800. It was agreed to carve off the west end and create community facilities with a kitchen, hall and toilet accommodation on the ground floor, and two meeting rooms, hall and store room on a new mezzanine floor.

The halls serve two sets of users, the church itself and outside bodies (mainly children's groups, adult classes and support groups like AA and Survivors of Sexual Abuse).

"While the building is an important source of income it is also a resource for those who need it. Where we can support by giving space at a cheaper rent we will do so," said Richard.

There's an impressive range of church activities facilitated by the staff team but run by volunteers – these include Barneys, a twice weekly toddler group, Bible study groups, Thursday Fellowship Ladies group and Friday evening youth groups. The church also runs a weekly night shelter under the umbrella of 'Glass Doors' "seen as the best thing we do with volunteers coming out of our ears!" said Richard. The parish also offers Alpha courses, baptism preparation, 'Marriage Prep in a Day' and Parenting courses (facilitated by Care for the Family).

Most activities are the result of seeing what was needed or listening to suggestions – "We don't go searching for ideas... just listen" he said.

Richard is also currently Area Dean of Battersea. Deaneries can be a medium for sharing ideas and resources – and in Battersea that is clearly the case. "As well as Glass Door night shelters, we have Battersea Welcomes Refugees – supporting Syrian families in the area. We are on the cusp of acquiring two flats to rehouse families under the Voluntary Persons Relocation Scheme.



The Revd Richard Taylor

"Battersea Deanery is an exciting place – 11 churches with different traditions and contexts; the Nine elms development; pioneer arts minister in Battersea Fields; resource-church planting planned... Donald Trump can call it 'off-location' but I'd question his judgement in lots of things! Whisper it quietly but he told me, "I didn't think I would but I am enjoying being Area Dean...."

So what are the challenges? "Our volunteer base is thinly stretched particularly for work with young people and providing proper pastoral care to older members- they are fiercely independent but it would be good to run a lunch club for example.

"Money is tight – we pay 90% of our clergy costs – although it has increased every year since I've been here. It's just under half of our £150,000 budget and from the rest we pay for staff and give money away and invest in people to grow the church.

"Growing a regular giving base is also a challenge as many of our people come regularly but not every week and also have high mortgages and school fees. So giving is below where it might be but is creeping up and is now half of

our income – the rest comes from lettings".

"As for the future – who knows – we have tried to make worship accessible, faith comprehensible and mission local and do-able. Those are the foundations. Things develop year on year just because of the momentum we've created. We're not a church which says 'in three years time we'll be there...' . We're more concerned with the immediate, listening to needs and responding. MAP has been really helpful in organising our thinking and how we make decisions and think about church life in its different areas".

He said "What we offer at St Barnabas is good old fashioned local church ministry, that's why I'm a Vicar, that's what I believe in. Being a 'local' church is a bit like being an independent brewer – offering a brew that suits local people; not trying to produce the volume of the corporates but what you produce is far more interesting and everyone is a bit more hands-on. As Vicar, I see myself like a super domestic in a cycle team, the enabler who enables others to star. And I have a great team – we wouldn't be half the church without them".

First Sunday...the child friendly informality of the Family Service and the more traditional Eucharist



Tuesday evening and the church prepares for the evening's 'Glass Door' guests. Later the tables will be taken away and the room will become a dormitory



'Life Events' seminar in Reigate

On 28 February, at the height of the 'Beast from the East', 52 delegates battled the snow to St Mary's Church, Reigate for a day seminar on 'Life Events'.

The event was run and presented by Revd Canon Dr Sandra Millar, Head of Life Events for the Church of England.

Extensive national research from the Archbishops' Council over the past few years has led to practical insights and resources helping churches work with those who approach us at life's key moments.

There were over 30,000 people having conversations with churches in Southwark Diocese in 2016 as a result of a life event. There were around 400,000 visitors to services that marked a birth, marriage or death. During the day, Sandra Millar spoke about ways in which people who have already come into contact with our churches can be encouraged further to continue their faith journey and become part of the church's story.

Resoundingly positive comments were received on the day echoed in the feedback from the three attendees below:



Sarah Cousins, Reader – St Mark's Church, Reigate:

"Although a Reader for almost 10 years, I'd always thought of baptisms, weddings and funerals as the sole prerogative of the clergy."

However if they are willing to have the PCC and congregation support them with this, then we can share this opportunity to welcome ordinary people into God's kingdom. Learning more about the staple business of the Church of England was fascinating.

Even more exciting was the evidence, revealing the scope for focused and sustained mission - to people who approach their local church at key moments in life.

If we as the local church accept that challenge, what a privilege for the family of God!"

The Revd James Percival, Team Rector – Limpsfield & Tatsfield Team Ministry:

"We were warmed as well as informed by Sandra Millar's enthusiasm and experience - and by a continual stream of hot drinks."

This was a down-to-earth day, taking in Christenings (how people in England generally describe it), Weddings, and Funerals. There were lots of practical tips and food for thought rooted in thorough research. The church is still needed and valued; we can be more confident in talking about God;

and relationships are crucial. Things that particularly struck me were the difference between Church Facing and Public Facing websites; the range of resources now available, including (the free) pastoralservicesdiary.org; the need for GraveTalk (<https://churchsupporthub.org/article/gravetalk/>); and, "This is a Church of Jesus Christ where all of us are guests." One key quality that makes a difference is that in our dealings with people - there is no substitute for personal warmth.

Andy Reynolds, SPA – St George the Martyr, Shirley

As a SPA, I attended the Life Events seminar hoping to get something to help me in developing a bereavement group at our church.

It was an extremely well organised day, with an excellent speaker in Sandra Miller and a wealth of resources to use from the churchprinthub.org. The site offers a number of printed materials, from funeral visit prayer cards, prayer book marks and cards to mark key moments after the funeral.

The website churchofenglandfunerals.org was also great for providing information on arranging funerals and coping with bereavement and will be useful in future Gravetalk sessions.

Rhyme Time at Windmill Manor

Residents of Windmill Manor Dementia Care Home, Hurst Green, are now enjoying visits from parents and children for Rhyme Time sessions - a time to join in singing everyone's favourite nursery rhymes and to chat over a snack.

It follows recent initiatives about children keeping their local care homes young and fun and an exploratory meeting between St John's Church, and the care home.

The sessions are led by St John's Reader in training, Wendy Hewitt and her banjo! Wendy says "leading sessions is a privilege. My main aim was to offer dignity, joy and love to the dementia residents - and to

see them enjoying time with the children is amazing!"

Emese Pomezanski, Activities Organiser at Windmill Manor said "The joy and excitement the children bring is lovely to see and it's great how happy and animated the residents become. You can see the positive stimulation it creates for our residents by giving them something back from their past."

The children also benefit from the visits, according to mum, Kelly, who called it an 'amazing experience, the sessions are really good fun, and I think are also helping to enhance the children's social and emotional development'.



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April

'I have a dream I have a dream today!' It must be one of the most famous and oft quoted speeches in history. Yet hearing it

still makes our heart beat faster. Dr Martin Luther King Jr stood on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington on 28 August 1963, before an audience of a quarter of a million Americans and called for the rights of black people to be honoured. It was a defining moment in the civil rights movement.

But then 50 years ago on 4 April 1968 Dr King was assassinated as he stood on a hotel balcony. That same year Bobby Kennedy, brother of President John F Kennedy, was also

assassinated. JFK had died the November after the 'I have a dream' speech was delivered. The American dream appeared to be becoming a nightmare.

'He's a dreamer' people say of others, and they don't usually mean it as a compliment.

But in the Bible there are dreamers galore. Both of the biblical Josephs - the one with the coat of many colours and the one from Nazareth - were dreamers. God spoke to them through their dreams.

We have to dream.

The Prophet Joel says this *'Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions.'* (Joel 2.28)

Peter quotes this in his address to the crowds who gathered on the day of Pentecost.

We have to have a dream, we have to have a vision, we have to prophesy that things will be different,

that things will be better, that under God our dreams can become, not our nightmares, but our new reality.

Lord, in my waking and my sleeping may I dream dreams, may I see visions, and may I work with you to bring them from dream to reality. Amen.



The Very Revd Andrew Nunn, Dean of Southwark

Please follow me on Twitter as I offer a prayer each morning so that you can join me in Morning Prayer. Go to @deansouthwark

Landmark church to get a welcome make-over

St John's Church, Waterloo, has received approval for renovations to the ground floor and a large part of the crypt.

The sensitive renewal has been designed by Eric Parry Architects, architects of the St Martin-in-the-Fields renewal and the restoration of the historic Charterhouse, London.

The work will include: a new foyer space, with new entry, reception and view into the nave; disabled access and a new staircase into the crypt; renovation and renewal of derelict vaults and entrance rooms of the crypt, with new toilets, kitchen and community space for heritage and arts training.

The renovations will enable a new home for the Bridge at Waterloo, St John's community engagement hub - and improved facilities for Southbank Sinfonia, Futures Theatre and Banksie Keys.

Proposals are also being developed for the nave of the church, making it lighter and brighter for worship,

improving acoustics and transforming the chapel for prayer and meditation throughout the week.

In preparation for the renovation, damp-proofing of the exterior forecourt will take place in July 2018.

St John's has raised £1.5 million of its £3 million target for the project. Funders include Reaching Communities, Allchurches Trust and London Borough of Lambeth.

Canon Giles Goddard, Vicar of St John's said: "Our vision is to become a beacon church for London. Working with Eric Parry has encouraged us set our sights high, and this exciting renovation will allow us to better serve London and the fast-changing community of Waterloo."

For more information visit: <http://southwarkcofe.tumblr.com/> or <http://www.stjohnswaterloo.org/>



Pioneer Minister in the Arts for Southwark

On Sunday 25 February the Revd Betsy Blatchley was licensed at St Saviour's Church, Battersea Fields, as Southwark Diocese's first Pioneer Minister in the Arts.

She will work, as part of a growing and diverse team, across the Battersea Nine Elms development area.

Betsy was ordained in 2003 and was Vicar of St Luke, Hackney from 2011 until taking up this new post. She

previously spent five years in Southwark Diocese, as Associate Vicar at St Thomas with St Stephen, Telford Park. Before ordination Betsy worked in theatre for over 20 years, initially as a performer, and then as a producer, culminating in five years at the Royal National Theatre on London's South Bank.

Betsy is passionate about seeing God's love and justice transform London, through the mission

of God's church and through the arts.

She said, "I am thrilled to be taking up this new role. I believe passionately in the power of the arts to help develop community, build bridges and impact lives. I hope that I, with others, will be able to make a significant contribution to the lives of all in the Nine Elms area and look forward eventually to developing a brand new congregation in the area".



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WHAT'S ON

Please send details of your events for **MAY ONWARDS** to Trinity House
BY MONDAY 16 APRIL

Ongoing

- * **BEDDINGTON** - Quiet @St Mary's - 3rd Thursday each month 11am - 2pm. Various tools for quiet including labyrinth
- * **BOROUGH** - St George the Martyr Community Cafe and TimeBank every Thursday 2pm to 4.30 pm. Meet people, get advice, help one another
- * **ELTHAM** - Sing with an orchestra. Hymns, light classics, popular standards 3pm last Sunday each month (not Aug or Dec.) Eltham Pk Methodist Ch.

† **HACKBRIDGE** - Taizé at All Saints at 7pm First Sunday every month

* **KEW** - Homemade cakes and teas 3-5pm on Sundays at St Anne's Church.

Suspended - until May (building works)

* **WARLINGHAM** - Water Aid lunches in St Ambrose Church Hall, 12-1pm first Wednesday

† **ZIMBABWE ANGLICAN COMMUNITY** at St Mary, Newington - Shona Mass, Second Sunday of month at 2pm. Mothers' Union last Saturday 2pm

April

Wednesday 4 April

- ♫ **CATERHAM** - Munch with Music at St John's Church, Caterham Valley. Juliette Koch (Soprano) & Claire Habbershaw (Piano). Admission Free - Donations welcome. Tea/Coffee from 12:15 Performance 12:45 Bring your own 'munch'

Lunchtime Music at St. Matthew's, Redhill
Every Thursday 1.10 pm
April 2018

- 5th** Guitar Recital - Paul Gregory
- 12th** Flute Recital - Gemma Emson-Jukes w Jeremy Cooke (piano)
- 19th** Harp Recital - Margaret Watson
- 26th** Clarinet Recital - Claire Dunn

Monday 9 April

- ♫ **SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL** - The Four Quartets, a reading by Jeremy Irons 7.30pm Tickets <http://bit.ly/2FGXkRu>

Tuesday 10 April

- ♫ **LEWISHAM** - Musical cabaret evening at St Mary's Church by the British Recorder Light Orchestra 7.00pm inc opening of Paul Chatenay's Art Exhibition. (wine and finger food) Tickets £10 from www.lewishamparish.com

Wednesday 11 - Saturday 28 April

- * **LEWISHAM** - Art Exhibition by Paul Chatenay at St Mary's Church. 'Al Capello Rosso'... the inspiring red. 'Syria and Palmyra' ... before Palmyra's destruction. 'The Apocalypse of John' ... fresco medieval panels. Free viewing Tuesdays, Thursdays & Saturdays 10am to Midday

Saturday 14 April

- ♫ **BERMONDSEY** - Concert: JS Bach's St John Passion, 7pm in St James' Church. Rotherhithe & Bermondsey Choral Society and Chamber Orchestra. Join in singing the Chorale Melodies (music available). Interval refreshments, donations welcome. www.rbcs-choir.org.uk

Tuesday 17 April

- ♫ **PURLEY** - Christians in Science event, 7 pm at Christ Church. Speaker: Sir Colin Humphreys President of Christians in Science on 'Science and the Historicity of the Bible'. Free of charge (donation of £1 suggested) Free light refreshments

Wednesday 18 April

- ♫ **WESTMINSTER** - Westminster Cathedral Interfaith Group 4 to 5 pm in the Hinsley Room, Morpeth Terrace. - Dr Helen Costigane (Heythrop College)

Thursday 19 April

- ♫ **CHELSEA** - Getting ready for the Spirit: Making the most of liturgy from Ascension to Pentecost, including the opportunities of "Thy Kingdom Come". PRAXIS day 10.30am - 3.30pm at St Luke's Church, Sydney Street W3. The cost £20 (£15 for affiliate members. No charge for ordinands, readers or others in training). Details from: http://www.praxisworship.org.uk/praxis_south.html

Saturday 21 April

- ♫ **SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL** - St Andrew's Cathedral School from Sydney in concert at 2pm to celebrate ANZAC Day.
- ♫ **REIGATE** - Organ concert at St Mary's Church at 7.30 pm to celebrate the restoration of the Norman and Beard organ. Free but please book via www.stmaryreigate.org Office 01737 221100
- ♫ **PURLEY** - Café Concert for Christian Aid at Christ Church. 7.00pm. Featuring performances by a Rock Choir, Sue Keeler and song! Tickets from 020 8763 8291 include supper

- ♫ **BERMONDSEY** - Homeless, Peace, Environment - what does it mean to the church, what has it to do with me? St Hugh's Church, Crosby Row - 11am-3pm - initiative of the RC Archdiocese of Southwark and the Justice Peace and Integrity of Creation Department of Southwark (Anglican) Diocese. For details contact marlene. collins@southwark.anglican.org

Sunday 22 April

- ♫ **GREENWICH** - Sunday Afternoon Classics in the Chapel of the Old Royal Naval College 3.30pm. Redhill and Reigate Choral Society. Inc. highlights from the 10 March concert 'Musical Reflections'

Wednesday 25 April

- ♫ **CITY OF LONDON** - Doing Theology In A Strange Land - Dalit Theology On Caste Discrimination 11.30am - 3.30pm at St Clements Church, 1 St Clements Court EC4N 7HB To book and for further details including the full itinerary for the day, please visit amostrust.org/dalit-day

Thursday 26 April

- ♫ **NORTH GREENWICH** - One day Livability training event to equip clergy & lay leaders to run Livability's Happiness Course. £50/£100, visit livability.org.uk/events for details or contact happiness@livability.org.uk.

Sunday 29 April

- † **TANDRIDGE** - Choral Evensong BCP at St Peter's Church 6.30pm. Led by the Reigate St Mary's Choir School. Refreshments 5.30pm
- † **EAST DULWICH** - Choral Evensong at St. John's Church, East Dulwich Road 6.00pm. Music by Tertius Noble and S S Wesley. All welcome.

May

Wednesday 2 May

- ♫ **SOUTH CROYDON** - 'A token gesture of National songs and ditties' Sylvan Handbell Ringers at St John's Church Hall 2pm, Free entry inc. afternoon tea. Donations in aid of the Garden Room Project

Lunchtime Music at St. Matthew's, Redhill
Every Thursday 1.10 pm
May 2018

- 3rd** Piano Recital - Theresa Yu
- 10th** Duo Concert - Simon Wallfisch (Baritone / 'Cello) & Charlotte Brennand (Piano)
- 17th** Chamber Music Recital - Angela Jones (Mezzo soprano), George Mitchell (Viola) & Ann Slater (Piano)
- 24th** Violin Recital - David Hanesworth w Patricia Romero (Piano)
- 31st** "Reigate Winds" led by Gemma Emson-Jukes (Flute)

Compline by Candlelight
St Mary's Church, Farleigh, at 8 pm
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MAY 2018

- 6th** Dietrich Bonhoeffer - Pastor, theologian, Anti Nazi martyr (Bishop Christopher)
- 13th** St Vincent de Paul - French priest, servant of the poor (Revd Tim Pike)
- 20th** Dorothy L. Sayers - Crime writer, poet, playwright (Mark Lanyon)
- 27th** Isaac Newton - Mathematician, theologian (Revd C. Dowland Pillinger)

Saturday 5 May

- ♫ **ELTHAM** - 'Spring Serenade' popular classics - Greenwich Youth Band at St Luke's Church. 7.30pm. £10 at the door (concs £8) Interval refreshments
- ♫ **STREATHAM** - Come and Sing at St Peter's Church - Parry's 'Songs of Farewell' and Howells' 'Requiem', Rehearsal from 11am, (refreshments all day). Concert at 7.30pm. Places £15, proceeds to St Peter's War Memorial restoration and Organ Funds.

Tuesday 8 May

- ♫ **GREENWICH** - Constantine the Great and Christianity in Roman Britain. Dr Sam Moorhead FSA (British Museum) 7.30 pm at St George's, Westcombe Park

Saturday 12 May

- ♫ **EAST DULWICH** - Organ recital at St John's Church, East Dulwich Road 11 am by Neil Stevenson and Niall Baxter (Assistant Organists): music by Bach, Stanford, Guilment, Messiaen and others. All welcome. Admission free; retiring collection.

Sunday 13 May

- ♫ **DULWICH** - Organ Recital by Marilyn Harper at Christ's Chapel, Dulwich College - 7.45pm. (Dulwich Festival Recital)#
- ♫ **EAST DULWICH** - Music by the Green - 1:30 - 5pm - at St John's Church featuring music by choirs and musicians from the local area and beyond. Refreshments. Activities for children. Admission free.

Tuesday 15 May

- ♫ **KEW** - Churches Together in Kew present a conversation on "Climate change and human development - sustainable life-styles and global action". Ian Christie, University of Surrey and David Nussbaum, CEO of The Elders Foundation. The Barn Church, Atwood Avenue. TW9 4HF 7.45pm - 9.15pm

Wednesday 23 May

- ♫ **WESTMINSTER** - Westminster Cathedral Interfaith Group 3pm. Tour of St James Piccadilly and talk on the church's interfaith work by Revd Lucy Winkett

June

Compline by Candlelight
St Mary's Church, Farleigh 8 pm
'More people of Faith'
JUNE 2018

- 3rd** St. Josemaria Escriva - Spanish priest, initiator of Opus Dei (Father Stephen)
- 10th** Revd Hon. Maurice Berkeley Peel MC - WW1 army chaplain (Revd Vince Short)
- 17th** Dorothy Kerin - Healer, Founder of Burrswood (Frances Withers)
- 24th** Farleigh Voices

Lunchtime Music at St. Matthew's, Redhill
Every Thursday 1.10 pm
June 2018

- 7th** Piano Recital - Simon Watterton
- 14th** Piano Recital - Kyle Nash-Baker
- 21st** Saxophone Recital - Hannah McCarthy w Simon Watterton (Piano)
- 28th** South London Saxophone Quartet

Friday 15 - Sunday 17 June

- † **ASCOT PRIORY** - Preached retreat on the theme: 'Jesus, Thou Art All Compassion' led by the Revd John-Francis Friendship SSF. Eucharist and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament each day (optional). Further details from jff2209@yahoo.com or tel. 020 3583 9312

Wednesday 20 June

- ♫ **WESTMINSTER** - Westminster Cathedral Interfaith Group 4 to 5 pm in the Hinsley Room, Morpeth Terrace. Jeremy Rodell (British Humanist Association)

July

Lunchtime Music at St. Matthew's, Redhill
Every Thursday 1.10 pm
July 2018

- 5th** Violin Recital - Emmanuel Bach w Jenny Stern (Piano)
- 12th** Piano Trio - Ellie Blackshaw (Violin), Paul Gregory (Cello) & Yoko Ono (Piano)
- 19th** Cello Recital - Camilla Morse-Glover
- 26th** Annual party including "Double Duos" - Alan Lakin (Saxophone/Clarinet), Michael Withers (Saxophone/Clarinet), Trevor Denyer (Horn) & Susan Denyer

The 2018 Diocesan Holy Land Pilgrimage

'A moment in time never to be forgotten'



Wendy Robins writes

The 84 pilgrims who went on the third Diocesan pilgrimage arrived at Heathrow by 11am - well most of them - and were soon involved in getting through security.

That's not always an easy task, and those of us who were travelling alone were left until last and queued for some while. That's a bit like a preparation for the pilgrimage as it is part of real life.

A good deal of a pilgrimage to the Holy Land, especially when one is in Jerusalem, is about a mixture of the holy and the everyday.

Just three pilgrims - apart from Bishop Christopher, the Dean, and people like me who had a job to do - have been on all three pilgrimages - The Revd Patrick Eggleston, Team Rector of Thamesmead Team Ministry, Linda Smith, from St John's Peckham and The Revd Erica Wooff, Vicar of Stockwell

See what makes them come

back on the blog <https://southwarkpilgrimages.com>

Some were on their second pilgrimage but for all, it was a wonderful experience to see the holy sites and to walk where Jesus and his disciples would have walked.

The way of the cross

The first day saw us in the Mount of Olives and visiting

the Garden of Gethsemane, then on the second day in the early morning, in the souk we walked the way of the cross.

Some of our pilgrims reflect on their experience:

Amuda Poongavanam:

"Coming from an Eastern Orthodox background, the Stations of the Cross was something I've only done with a gaggle of girls in



Catholic convent school and in Southwark Cathedral as part of Holy Week. It doesn't prepare you for the real thing.

"We started after Morning Prayer. The Dean swiftly focused our minds... We were not to be distracted from the Via Dolorosa by the other attractions - the stores selling the most wonderful coloured fabrics, spices, fragrances, foods, tapestry, souvenirs. School kids rushing past, chagrined at being delayed by another group of pesky pilgrims. The keen eyed Israeli guards with rather nonchalantly held Kalashnikovs. The ten seater cars and trucks racing up at one in impossibly narrow, steep and bendy lanes.

"Each stage swiftly brought home the pain and vulnerability, the humiliation. Of how carrying the cross and stumbling multiple times would have felt. In front of family and friends. Their helpless pain adding to one's burden of sorrow at being innocent, framed, and having humiliation, slight, torture heaped at every stage. The walk is short, but treacherous.

"I had an epiphany towards the end, when it hit me that sometimes tremendous distress and vulnerability is best dealt with by submitting and surrendering. Jesus' tormentors would be horrified by the utter reverence and honour we treat their symbol of a condemned criminal - and how widespread Christianity now is, because of their actions".

Caroline Ridsen, Curate at St Alfege, Greenwich:

"I had thought that Jesus went along a straight path, with

people lining the route. But the Via Dolorosa is a winding road; steep and uneven in parts. The other insight I gained was that for Jesus, his family and his friends, the events would have been all-consuming, devastating and unbelievable. But Jerusalem was packed with people observing Passover. So, for many, it was just another day. I've realised that this walk imitates our journeys of faith - we are travelling personally and corporately. And sometimes the most profound happens amidst the most mundane."

Mountain and lakeside

The stations of the Cross was just one of the really moving visits that we made.

Rose Marie Best:

"One of the most moving moments and highlights of our pilgrimage for me was this morning when we visited the mount of the Beatitudes.

"While waiting for the gate to open, our guide told us about the handful of nuns who run the site, working industriously

in the coffee shop, gift shop, church, grounds, hotel and guest house. To see those well kept grounds and church and welcoming hospitality, made me wonder at their devotion and selfless life. He told us that three of the nuns were tragically killed a few years ago in a fatal car accident on their way to Bethlehem to Christmas Eve mass.

"After a brief time spent in the church we gathered to celebrate the Eucharist together by the Sea of Galilee in a simple unadorned amphitheatre

"As Bishop Christopher spoke, with the Sea of Galilee as his backdrop, the morning sun and the sound of the birds, the whole meaning and purpose of our pilgrimage was there before us.

"To witness the locations and actions of our Lord as he would have done over two thousand years ago with words powerfully and movingly spoken evoking for us a moment in time never to be forgotten".



It is hard to pick out highlights of the trip but some things will be for ever memorable and one such moment is depicted left. A number of people on the pilgrimage had a photograph which I really wish I had been there to take. Two Bishops deep in conversation outside the Church of the Holy Sepulchre on Wednesday 21 February, just four days before it closed to the public.

There is so much more to read and tell why not look at the blog on <https://southwarkpilgrimages.com>

Thy Kingdom Come

10-20 May 2018

Join the global call to prayer this Pentecost



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The Diocese of
Southwark