Newspaper of the Anglican Diocese of Southwark

Vol.24 No.6 July/August 2019

Inside

# Ordained for ministry in Southwark Diocese

Twenty-four people were ordained as Deacons by Bishop Christopher on Saturday 29 June in Southwark Cathedral more than the number ordained in the past two years combined.

As the Diocese welcomed this year's new deacons, and celebrated eleven deacons being ordained priest, there was more good news relating to vocations in Southwark.

Since 2015, the number of people entering the discernment process exploring ordained ministry in the Diocese of Southwark has increased by 130% and lay ministries have increased by 65%.

These figures far exceed the strategic objective set in 2017 as part of the Southwark Vision, which aimed to grow lay and ordained vocations by 50% by 2020.

Great strides have also been made in increasing diversity among our ordained ministers in order to reflect the diversity of the Diocese – another major goal. Of the 61 ordinands in training in the Diocese in 2018, 24% were black, Asian and minority ethnic (BAME), well above the national average.

In addition, more than a third (35%) were under 32 years old, nearly half (48%) were women and 30% were offering for non-stipendiary ministry.

"These figures really show that Southwark is taking its strategic objectives seriously and equipping its ministry to reflect our vibrant and diverse Diocese," said Ruth Martin, Diocesan Secretary. "We are very proud and happy to welcome all our new deacons."



#### Those ordained Deacon and the parishes where they will serve their curacies are as follows:

Hayley Argles-Grant: Streatham, St Leonard Sarah Atkins: Ham, St Richard Dr Emmanuel Baikie: Surbiton Hill, Christ Church

Liz Barnett:
Dulwich, St Barnabas
Trini Mari (Carol) Bat

Trini Mari (Carol) Bates; East Wickham, St Michael Martin Calderbank: Barnes, St Michael Ruth Chapman:

Warlingham w Chelsham & Farleigh Team Ministry

**Dr Stephen Davidson:**North Lambeth Team Ministry

Bernadette Excell:
Balham, St Mary & St John

The Divine

Paul Fitzpatrick:

Beddington & Roundshaw, St Michael & All Angels

Erin Gilmour:
Reigate, St Mary Magdalene

Hannah Gordon:

Carshalton Beeches, The Good Shepherd

Reginald Grant: Reigate, St Mark

**Jonathan Haynes,** *Putney, St Mary* 

Michael Johns-Perring: Surbiton, St Andrew & St Mark Tim Jones:

Clapham, Holy Trinity Emma Lowth: Gipsy Hill, Christ Church THE BRIDGE ...this month



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## WRAT'S OR

Page 15



Walking with Jesus and getting to know Jesus better as we journey on Welcoming all, embracing our diversity and seeking new ways

of being church **Growing** in numbers,
generosity, faith and
discipleship as we grow
God's Kingdom

### On Saturday 6 July 11 Deacons were ordained to the Priesthood having served a year as Deacons:

## CROYDON AREA

& All Angels

Ordained by the Bishop of Croydon in Croydon Minster.

Cordella Dawson Woodside, St Luke Alistair Forster Norbury, St Oswald

Darius Weithers Croydon, St Matthew

### KINGSTON AREA

Ordained by the Bishop of Kingston at Kingston, All Saints.

Lisa Bewick

Waterloo, St John w St Andrew Tom Collins Balham Hill, The Ascension

Vanessa Elston South Lambeth, St Anne & All Saints

#### WOOLWICH AREA

Ordained by the Bishop of Southwark at Bermondsey, St James.

**Timothy Ajayi** Blackheath, St Michael & All Angels

Raymond Baudon East Dulwich, St John the Evangelist

t

St James & St Anne UB Christopher Rogers Catford (Southend) & Downham Team Ministry

St John the Evangelist

Joseph Moore:

Tomos Reed:

Croydon Minster

Nicholas Quanrud:

Kennington, St John The

South Dulwich, St Stephen

Joseph (Josh) Skidmore:

Deepthi Wickremasinghe:

Walworth, St Christopher

Wimbledon, Emmanuel

(Proprietary Chapel)

Sarah Whitehouse:

Tooting, All Saints

**Chris Hanning** 

Blackheath,

**Jacob Mercer** 

Bermondsey,

Divine w St James The Apostle





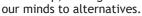


## A view from THE 👺 BRIDGE

## Travel broadens the mind

Mark Twain famously wrote 'Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry, and narrow mindedness.. broad, wholesome, charitable views of men and things cannot be acquired by vegetating in one little corner of the earth all one's lifetime".

Perhaps the same might be said of those of us who have found our niche in one church or style of worship, closing



For many of us our holidays are not just a chance to 'get away from it all'. They're also an opportunity to take time to reflect, to give thanks, to pray and to attend services in different churches, perhaps a church where the style of service and congregation are not what we're used to.

This month's centrespread focuses on pilgrimages. Many of us don't have the time or energy to tackle the Camino de Santiago, but there are other, easier, options closer to home, like Cornwall's Saints' Way, the probable route of early Christian pilgrims on their way from Ireland and Wales to Brittany and elsewhere.

Aside from walking, one of the things I enjoy on holiday is being able to celebrate religious festivals in a different way. This year I was in Palma at Easter, to witness the amazing spectacle of thousands of people dressed as penitents walking from their local churches to their cathedral.

We joined people of all ages to watch the procession, listening to the hypnotic beat of drums which enable those carrying the pasos (floats reflecting scenes from the Gospels) to keep in step, sharing sweets with and chatting to people we didn't know, sometimes just being quiet. It was a chance to reflect on the importance of walking and celebrating together and, as the pasos paused en route, it was also an opportunity to say a small, silent prayer, giving thanks for an opportunity to share with others a closeness with God.

Sallie Eden

## Standing together to combat serious youth violence

St Mark's Church, Kennington hosted 'Churches Standing Together' on 4 July - a Synergy Network meeting to discuss how to tackle the rising challenge of serious youth violence.

It brought together youth practitioners from churches and other groups to explore how different organisations can work with the Church and youth outreach programmes.

The meeting heard from organisations working with young people and in local communities and about the new Churches Together in Britain and Ireland website 'Churches Standing Together'. After group discussions the meeting closed with communion led by the Revd Canon Steve Coulson and the Revd Canon Dr Rosemarie Mallett.

The event was organised in cooperation with Churches Together in Britain and Ireland, London City Mission, Ascension Trust and the Diocese of



## 'Church on the Hill' celebrates diamond jubilee

### St Barnabas Church, Purley celebrated its 60th anniversary on Sunday 9 June.

Bishop Christopher presided at the service of celebration with Priest in Charge the Revd Justine Middlemiss and in the presence of the Mayor of Croydon Cllr Humayun Kabir.

The Bishop described 'The Church on the Hill' as very important to the life and worship of the Purley community and said that hoped it would continue to

The St Barnabas congregation were joined in celebration by All Saints, Kenley and The Hayes Church, Kenley, both sister churches Later in the afternoon St Barnabas hosted a Purley Churches Together service of 'Scones and Songs'.



#### **Chair: Biddy Taylor** E: biddytaylor.spidirchair @gmail.com 020 7622 4912

For information about training courses to become a spiritual director contact Biddy Taylor (above)

**Membership Secretary** E: sallylowe | 943@gmail.com 01306 884467

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## **SITUATION VACANT** Secretary to the SPIDIR Committee. Honorarium offered

Please contact Biddy Taylor (above) for further information

## THE BRIDGE

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The **SEPTEMBER** edition is due to be printed on 22 AUGUST and in your parish from the following

Material for that edition must be with Wendy S. Robins at Trinity House by **MONDAY 12 AUGUST** 

Space limitations mean that we cannot guarantee to publish everything we receive and material may be edited. All photographs submitted for publication will assume to have 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/



At a garden party at Lambeth Palace, celebrating 25 years of women's ordination to the Priesthood the Revd Margaret Mabbs got special attention from the Archbishop of Canterbury, as the previous day was her 95th birthday. Margaret is still a valued member of the ministry team at St Luke's Church, Eltham Park

## Second anniversary of London Bridge attack commemorated in the Cathedral





The second anniversary of the London Bridge attack was commemorated at a special Choral Evensong in **Southwark Cathedral** on Monday 3 June

It was attended by survivors of the attack, families of the victims, police officers, civic leaders and others who were affected by the events of that evening.

The Queen was represented at the service by her Deputy Lieutenant for the Borough of Southwark, Simon Duckworth; also present were the Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan; the Mayor of Southwark, Cllr Sandra Rhule; Neil Coyle, MP for Bermondsey & Old Southwark, and Peter John, Leader of Southwark Council.

During the service the Mayor of London lit a Candle of Remembrance on the altar on behalf of the people of London (left) and the Lessons were read by Amir Eden, Chair of Living Bankside, one of those caught

up in the attack, and PC Wayne Margues GM, of the British Transport Police, who was injured in the attack.

During his address, the Dean of Southwark, The Very Revd Andrew Nunn, talked about the ongoing inquest into the attack and said, "we want to know the truth because the truth will set us free - eventually".

The full address can be found on the Cathedral website: http://bit.ly/2Z1RS4Q.

At the end of the service the congregation processed outside to the Tree of Healing, planted on the first anniversary of the attack, for an Act of Remembrance where the names of those who died were read out and silence was kept.

The final blessing was given jointly by The Bishop of Southwark, The Rt Revd Christopher Chessun, and the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Southwark, the Most Revd Peter Smith.

At the end of the service floral tributes were laid in front of the Tree of Healing by survivors and relatives of the victims and also by the Mayor

of other organisations including Southwark Council and the Police Service.

The Cathedral remained open all evening for prayer and silent reflection. The day of Remembrance was brought to a close with a service of Compline at 9.58pm, finishing at 10.16pm, marking the times of the start and finish of the attack.

Bishop Christopher said that the Service was "all about the slow, hard painful road of healing. It comes by growing closer to each other and sharing what those depths of fear have been and where we are two years on".

Images from the service can be found on Flickr at: https:// flic.kr/s/aHsmE1PkgE



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Trish Arathoon a



Above: the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Southwark. the Most Revd Peter Smith, with Bishop Christopher



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## Nursery to Sixth Form C of E school opens in Greenwich

Pupils, teachers, councillors, church leaders and other special guests celebrated the official opening of St Mary Magdalene Church of England School's Greenwich Peninsula campus with a special grand opening event on Thursday 6 June 2019.

The school will provide more than 1,670 places for young people to learn, thrive and excel - from fledgling learners starting in nursery right through to young adults entering sixth form.

At the service Bishop Christopher blessed a plaque that was placed in the school's Peace Garden to commemorate the opening.

The school, situated on the Greenwich Peninsula, has been developed by the Royal Borough of Greenwich working with Knight Dragon Development Ltd, developers for the peninsula wide site, the GLA which are the landowners and the Southwark Diocesan Board of Education.

Claire Harrison and Victoria Wainwright, Federation Executive Co-Headteachers of St Mary Magdalene C of E said, "It has been a superb day on which we have been able to celebrate with everyone who has been involved on our long iourney to make the dream of our all-through campus a reality. We are delighted with our new building and all the facilities and look forward to welcoming many more new families into our school as we continue to expand through to sixth form.'

The all-through school is located on the corner of

Millennium Way and John Harrison Way and encompasses environmentally friendly technology. It includes a nursery, a two- form entry primary phase, a six-form entry secondary phase and 300 sixth-form places.

The school's high quality sports facilities are available for community use and include a running track, floodlit multiuse games areas, a 4-G external all weather football pitch and a four court indoor sports hall.

Colin Powell, (right) Diocesan Director of Education said: "The Board of Education (SDBE) is delighted that the community of St Mary Magdalene School are firmly settled into their new building on the Greenwich Peninsula.

"The official opening was a joyous event celebrating the



wonderful enhancement of Church of England provision in this Diocese and recognising the strong partnership between Greenwich Council and the

"My thanks go to everyone who has been involved in making this vision become a



have been outside showcasing their artistic talent. Led by Dr Richard Spiller, the team have created a community mural depicting pilgrims from Geoffrey Chaucer's 'Canterbury Tales' on dormant hoardings opposite St Peter's Church Hall. The project was completed in just under a week and has plans to expand involving more of the community, with a panel reserved for children from the local Church of England Infant School in Limpsfield. The mural can be seen from the church and is lit at night by street lamps, admired by many including passers-by who use the church hall entrance to get down to the Glebe Meadow.



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## Whoosh is **17 going on 18**

Jim Belben writes

Cycling 50 to 70 miles per day is not for the faint hearted – but for many of us it has become the highlight of our year, combining physical challenge with wonderful company and amazing scenery.

It all started as a parental fundraising effort for the parish school, St Saviour's. We were building a new school hall and needed to raise £20,000 ourselves to top off the grant funding. Simon Brindley (one of our Readers) suggested a sponsored bike-ride across Wales from Cardiff to Holyhead following the then newly opened Sustrans Route 8.

The 260 miles of mountain and valley felt like a big challenge, and it was, but 16 of us took it on and succeeded. And we had such a brilliant time that we decided to do it again the following year, and so the pattern was set.

This first ride gave us our name – Welsh Hills O O  $\underline{\mathbf{S}}$ chool  $\underline{\mathbf{H}}$ all. Since then we have tackled Land's End, Saint David's, the Scottish Highlands & Islands, the Causeway Coast in Northern Ireland and much

This year's ride - our 17th took us from Exmouth on the South Devon coast to Cleethorpes on the Lincolnshire coast, broadly following the ancient Fosse Way! The photo shows us about to set off from Bath on a crisp May morning.

Over our 17 years we have raised funds for over 30 different charities (two or sometimes three each time) raising between £10,000 and £15,000 each year. More than 100 cyclists of all ages, and all abilities, from teenagers to 70+-year-olds have joined. And the numbers grow each year.

It works because we keep the planning simple, everyone mucks in, we are flexible, and people are ready to rough it. Everyone who joins the ride is part of making it work rather than being a consumer. This

gives us a sense of shared enterprise. In the evenings we eat together, sing together and play games - good oldfashioned fun you might say!

For the past 17 years people from the Parish of Herne Hill have

bikes for an early May

headed out on their

cycling pilgrimage.

The ride has also built up our parish life. It has engaged men and women who were otherwise not involved in church life.

It has given us much broader charitable impact. We support projects that might not otherwise get parish time or money.

But most of all I think it has a sense of pilgrimage. To wake up each day knowing you have a place to get to, and a challenging ride to get there, but knowing you are doing it in the company of others, hearing their story as you ride is what spiritual life is about.

It's a tangible representation of our spiritual journey towards a deeper understanding of God.

Next year is our coming of age – our 18th ride – and we will make it special as we head for Scotland again to take on the Cairngorms. You can find out more about us on our Facebook page @HHWhoosh.

## Your Lent Call donations help the Church Army in Nairobi

On 13 June Bishop Christopher hosted a meeting with the Revd Capt. Patience Wanzala, Principal of the Church Army's Carlile College Nairobi. The College is one of the Bishop's Lent Call Projects in 2019.

## The Revd Terry Drummond

Patience spoke of the work of the College - named in memory of Wilson Carlile, the founder of the Church Army - with an emphasis on the training of students to work in the poorest parts of Nairobi, especially in the slums where families and individuals who lack the basics of life are crowded into poor housing.

The problems of poverty due to low incomes, poor health and young girls becoming pregnant are endemic. Whilst similar issues might be found in London the big difference is the lack of a social welfare system that can offer support.

The Church Army
Evangelists, who are trained
to work in these areas of social
need, take the message of hope
that is central to the Christian
faith whilst also working with
people on gaining practical
skills that will lift them out of
poverty.

The work that is undertaken is difficult and, because it is with the most deprived, is not necessarily seen in a positive light by those who do not suffer from the deprivation and

degradation that is so obvious in the communities that are being served.

The Lent Fund contribution which is distributed in November will be used by the College to assist in funding student fees for those who lack the financial ability to pay for themselves.

The visit of Patience to the Diocese enabled her to give her personal thanks for the support of the Lent Fund.



## Iftar shared at All Saints Kingston

All Saints Church has been at the centre of Kingston life for centuries and serving the community in a variety of different ways is a top priority for us.

## Isobel Isaacson writes:

It therefore seemed a good opportunity to continue this tradition when Beyza Nur Coskun approached the Rector, Jonathan Wilkes, to say that a group she was involved with of Turkish Muslims, the Dialogue Society and Fethullah Gulen would like to host us in our own church as they broke their fast in Ramadan.

Jonathan was delighted to accept on our behalf and to invite people to come and join in. So it was that we gathered together for this purpose on the evening of Wednesday 29 May. Many of us already knew Beyza as she is a valued member of our Listening service at the church and as numbers grew there was a cheerful buzz of conversation and tantalising aromas became noticeable in the café area.

Jonathan gave a welcoming speech, setting out something of the significant heritage of the church. He emphasised that the church is open to all and it is in ways such as this



that we can become more familiar with the different sections of our communities.

There was then a short film about the Dialogue Society. The Dialogue Society is a registered charity, established in London in 1999, and with the aim of advancing social cohesion by connecting communities, and making possible dialogue on a whole range of social issues. The main aim of this event was simply to promote friendship.

We settled ourselves at tables around the café making sure that we didn't sit solely with people we knew. To help us to get to know something of our fellow guests we had a list of three questions which each person was invited to answer:

- where were you born?
- what was your moment of greatest joy?

• who do you love the most?
In answering the second
and third we discovered of
course that there were many
similarities in the answers
given, regardless of place of

Then the food was served and fully lived up to the delicious smells. The many children present happily brought dishes to the tables and helped to clear away, too.

All in all, it was a very

enjoyable evening and perfectly illustrated some words from the epistle for the following Sunday (Sunday after Ascension Day):

"Use hospitality one to another without grudging. As every man hath received the gift,

even so minister the same one

to another, as good stewards of

the manifold grace of God."

**Christ Church CE Primary** Battersea were invited to go to Chelsea Flower Show 2019 on press day to visit the Duchess of Cambridge garden. They were accompanied by Head Teacher Mrs Colette Morris and two parents who during the visit discussed the benefits of outdoor learning. Christ Church has been involved in developing outdoor learning over the last ten years and hold the RHS level 5 award as well as the Learning Outside the Classroom Gold Accreditation.



On Sunday 23 June the Lewisham Interfaith Forum held its fifth Inter Faith Walk for Peace. It was attended by over 400 people and included stops at a Hindu Temple, Islamic Centre, St Mary's Parish Church, the Civic Centre, the Unitarian Church and a Synagogue.

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## Reflecting the increasing global diversity in Southwark Diocese

It is a real reflection of the increasing diversity within the Diocese that, since the last edition of the Bridge was published, Bishop Christopher has been visited by two Bishops from the Church in India and has instituted two priests and licensed another from other parts of the world to lead parishes in this Diocese.

The Most Revd Pradeep Samantaroy, Bishop of Amritsar in the Church of North India joined Bishop Christopher at the Pentecost Confirmation in the Cathedral (see P10) and The Rt Revd Samuel Devasahayam Ebenezer Clement, Bishop of Thoothukudi- Nazareth in Tamil Nadu came to Bishop's House with the Anands who are from his Dicoese and are now priests in this Diocese.

Then, as is his custom, Bishop Christopher instituted



two priests and licensed another from other parts of the world to lead parishes in this

They were (left to right below)

- The Revd Leslie Jesudason, who comes to us from the Diocese of Oxford and is now Vicar of Croydon, Christ Church,
- The Revd Emmanuel Adeloye, who had held

the Bishop's Permission to Officiate became Vicar of Peckham, St John w St Andrew having exercised senior ministry in Nigeria and

The Revd Premraj Dhanaraj, who had served his title in this Diocese and returns to us from the Diocese of Madras in India, is now Priest in Charge of New Addington. St Edward the Confessor.





Bishops, Archdeacons and other senior staff.

serenaded visitors to the Plumstead UB **Christian Aid Fair on** Saturday 1 June - and it was a 'family affair'.

The Stedfast Association Band Director of Music is Dennis Hawkes, whose daughter Denise Kamau is a band member - and one of the churchwardens at St Mark's w St Margaret's Church where the event was held.

Stalls inside the church hall included a collection of original art painted by a member of our congregation - and cakes, including an enormous pink one which was bought jointly by two members Ascension, and enjoyed by the congregations after the Sunday

and copious amounts of tea were also consumed and approximately £350 was raised.









## **OPPORTUNITIES**

## St Mary's Church, Wimbledon Part-time Verger

St Mary's Church, Wimbledon is seeking a team player with good communication skills and initiative to be our Verger on a part-time basis

Duties include preparing and verging for services, responsibility for the security of the building, and concerts, and some cleaning. Due to the nature of the work, applicants must be physically fit.

10 hours a week plus Occasional Offices, Holy Days and Festivals. £120 per week plus £50 for each Wedding or Funeral.

Applicants should be sympathetic with St Mary's main purpose of Christian worship. The appointment is subject to an Enhanced

Full job description and application form are available on the church website www.stmaryswimbledon.org or from the Parish

## Closing Date for Applications Midnight 26th July

Interviews on the morning of 3rd August.

Applications will only be considered if made on the church application form.

Completed application forms should be returned to The Rev'd Mandy Hodgson, at the Parish Office, St Mary's Wimbledon Fellowship House, 30 St Mary's Road, Wimbledon, SW19 7BP. E-mail parish.office@stmaryswimbledon.org

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## Woolwich **Readers** walk the **Darenth Valley**

Woolwich Area Readers made a Midsummer Pilgrimage along the Darenth Valley in Kent, accompanied by members of St Mary, Lewisham on Saturday

They walked six miles from Eynsford, via Shoreham, to Otford, visiting the three village churches of St Martin, St Peter & St Paul (below), and St Bartholomew for prayer and reflection.

The Revd Diane Rees (Shoreham) and the Revd Richard Worssam (Otford) welcomed the travellers to their churches for refreshments, talked about the history of the churches and led them in prayer. Woolwich Area Representative Marion Watson said: "It was a lovely day, enjoyed by all".





## SPA Treasurer 'recognised' Meanwhile as Lay Ministry changes Eight New

Margaret Quaife was surprised and delighted when during the last meeting of the SPA (Southwark Pastoral Auxiliary) Council Bishop Christopher presented her with the Lancelot Andrewes medal in recognition of her work as SPA Treasurer and Reigate Archdeaconry SPA. Margaret will continue as Reigate Archdeaconry SPA but has retired from her role as Treasurer.

The work of the SPA Council came to an end at this meeting and the work of the Diocesan Readers' Board will also come to an end later in the year. The formation of a Diocesan Lay Council was agreed at the Diocesan Council of Trustees on 22 May 2019. It will be a unifying body which will bring together practitioners and others to celebrate, grow and support lay leadership and ministry in its many forms in the Diocese. It will be chaired by Bishop Christopher. The Council is a key part of the Diocesan intention to focus on the flourishing of all God's people and it aims to recognise the charism of lay people in their ministry and leadership as Christians in society as well as in the Church.

There will be Bishop's Advisory groups for SPAs and Readers which will meet with



him once a year to take forward specific initiatives to ensure the flourishing of the work of these two important groups within our lay ministries and pastoral care for members of them

## **Deputy Director**

As part of the Diocese's commitment to recognising, growing and supporting the ministry of all God's people throughout the week Bishop Christopher has appointed The Revd Dr Raewynne Whitely as Deputy Director of Discipleship and Lay Ministry. She will move from the Vocations Team to work in the Ministry and Discipleship Department which is led by The Revd Canon Dr Mandy Ford.

In this new role Raewynne will be taking forward the recommendations of the Diocesan Lay Leadership and Lay Ministries Advisory Group, particularly in growing and discerning vocations to lay ministry.

She will work closely with the new Lay Council to identify and nurture new ministries including learning and training pathways and help the Diocese to achieve one of its strategic objectives 'to grow lay as well as ordained vocations and to better reflect the rich diversity of our Diocese in our leadership.

Raewynne will take up her new role on Thursday 1 August.

## *Meanwhile* Eight New SPAs commissioned

Eight new Southwark Pastoral Auxiliaries were commissioned at Southwark Cathedral on Monday 24 June.

## SPA Training Officer Paula Thorvaldsen writes:

The service was conducted by Bishop Christopher, while The Venerable Dr Jane Steen gave an uplifting sermon about the importance of living out what we believe and showing it forth in our lives.

After the commissioning promises, Bishop Christopher anointed the hands of each candidate and all SPAs present were invited to recommit themselves to their ministry. Those becoming SPA

Emeritus were presented to the Bishop. He prayed and thanked Brenda Barron, Guy Buckland, Maureen Edmonds, Sue Liptrot, Daphne Marshall, Mary Ann Meldrum, Rosie Plumb, Suzanne Retter, Andy Reynolds, Yvonne Trotmann, Barbara Walker, Margaret Wood and Hilary Yates for their service.

SPAs are men and women who are called to share in the ministry of caring and are authorised for pastoral work on behalf of the Church in a voluntary capacity. The ministry of each is different depending on their calling and their personal gifts and according to the needs identified in the local church and community.

The newly commissioned SPAs in the Kingston Area are: Fiona Carnegie (Telford Park, St Thomas with St Stephen); Anna Corcoran (Wandsworth, St Mary Magdalene); Oona Emerson (Streatham, St Leonards).

The newly commissioned SPAs in the Croydon Area are: Justina Foli (St Helier, St Peter); Sandra Groombridge (Sanderstead, All Saints); Claire Mills (Chipstead, St Margaret's); Daniel Simpson (Upper Norwood, St John the Evangelist); Marie Williams (Croydon, Holy Saviour).

If you are interested in this exciting ministry and would like more information, please contact me on paula. thorvaldsen@southwark. anglican.org or 07711 887430





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BRIDGE 2019-07

For most of us, the words 'summer holiday' conjure up visions of beaches and suntans, city breaks and child-friendly activities. Yet for many hundreds of people the summer break offers the chance to go on a spiritual as well as a physical journey, by undertaking a pilgrimage.

Pilgrimages offer a unique perspective on faith and life. Travellers find it transformational to take time out to walk and pray with intention, whether they are going the full 1,195 miles of the Camino de Santiago or spending a weekend completing a single stage of St Cuthbert's Way.

It's about making space in a busy life to reflect, to draw close to God, to listen and to be in fellowship with others who are — not doing the same journey, because I think all our journeys are individual, but who are on a parallel journey," says the Revd Dr Sue Clarke, who is taking her Furzedown parishioners to the Passion Play at Oberammergau next year.

Don't expect luxury, says Neil Tryner, who has walked part of the Camino Way for the past four years, but do embrace the experience. "Staying in a pilgrim hostel at €6 a night in a dormitory of 40 people is not my preferred holiday sleeping arrangements — I like my home comforts. But actually staying in a big dormitory and carrying my own bag is really important. It makes me realise how little I need. I don't need all the stuff I have; none of it's important."

Be prepared for the effects to last, too, Neil adds. "It's not just about walking for those two or three weeks or however long you do; it's about how that impacts on your life. What you learn while you're walking actually carries on with you every day, more than I ever thought it would."

"I would say that, for me, and on that spiritual or Christian side of things, it's about time with me, time with others and time with God," says the Revd Steve Hall of St Mary, Lewisham, who has recently returned from a pilgrimage with his parishioners to Canterbury and who plans to walk 400 miles of the Camino Way during his sabbatical this autumn.

"You're walking along and sometimes you are just on your own, in your own thoughts, and that's great, and sometimes you're chatting with the people you're walking with, but as much as anything it's that awareness of being with God on the journey and that's a really powerful thing," he adds.

You don't even have to leave the comfort of your own home to experience the benefits. The Revd Ruth Lampard, a self-supporting minister in the Diocese who suffers from ME and cannot walk more than a few kilometres a day, undertook a 'virtual' pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela last year. Each day she would track her steps around her house or neighbourhood and plot them against a map of the Camino; she completed her virtual pilgrimage in 275 days.

If the upcoming holidays have inspired you to take a different kind of journey, the panel (right) shows seven of the most popular destinations, all in or (in the case of Ephesus) on the edge of Europe.

St Cuthbert's Way

This cross-border route follows in the footsteps of Celtic saint St Cuthbert. It covers 100km from Melrose in the Scottish Borders, where St Cuthbert began his religious life, to the Holy Island of Lindisfarne, where he died. Pilgrims can undertake the whole route in one go (it will take between four and six days), or do a series of short walks ranging from one to eight miles in length.



Although Cuthbert undertook his own journey in around 650AD, this trail has been officially open only since 1996. Even so, modern pilgrims will be able to get some sense of Cuthbert's spiritual journey regardless of how far they travel, according to Celtic spirituality expert Dr Nick Mayhew-Smith. "In early Christianity there wasn't really pilgrimage as we understand it now," says Nick, a Reader in Southwark Diocese. "When you look at Cuthbert, he had a very, very intense relationship with the land where he was standing. He would go into the sea to pray, and he would talk to the birds and let them nest in his hut. It's not a pilgrimage in that sense — it's very much a focus on the ground beneath one's feet where you are."

For more information: www.stcuthbertsway.info; Dr Nick Mayhew-Smith's new book, 'The Naked Hermit: A Journey to the Heart of Celtic Britain', is published by SPCK

2

## Southwark Cathedral to Canterbury

Travellers have been following the Pilgrim's Way from Southwark to Canterbury since Chaucer's time — the characters in his *Canterbury Tales* gather at the Tabard Inn on Borough High Street before their journey. These days, pilgrims can pick up a Passport from the Cathedral and get it stamped by churches and businesses along the 70-mile route.



Among the pilgrims this year were the Revd Steve Hall (right) and some 30 parishioners from St Mary, Lewisham, who did the journey in stages over eight days in late May. "We planned it so that every day we started and ended at a train station — we weren't staying on village hall floors or anything like that," says Steve. "People joined us when they could, and in the end over 30 of us arrived in Canterbury."

There were moments when the group was tired and fed up, but these were easily outweighed by the day-to-day highlights of walking through "beautiful countryside" and the joy of being together as group. And being welcomed into Canterbury Cathedral at journey's end and sharing a special Eucharist in the crypt was "the ultimate highlight", says Steve. "It was really, really special."

For more information see longer article on page 12 and visit www.pilgrimswaycanterbury.org

3

## Rouen to Mont-Saint-Michel

The sight of the monastery rising out of the sea at Mont-Saint-Michel at the end of a 205-mile journey from Rouen is as welcome to modern-day pilgrims as it would have been to medieval ones. Although Mont-Saint-Michel is primarily a historical monument these days, pilgrims, known as *miquelots*, still travel there from across France. The most well-known routes are the ones that join up with



the Camino de Santiago, but the road from Rouen has a charm of its own, with plenty of unspoiled scenery and quiet forest paths.

Those who can't make the whole journey can simply walk across the causeway from the mainland and join the Monastic Fraternities of Jerusalem who celebrate Mass daily.

For more information: www.lescheminsdumontsaintmichel.com

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## y - make a pilgrimage...

## Oberammergau

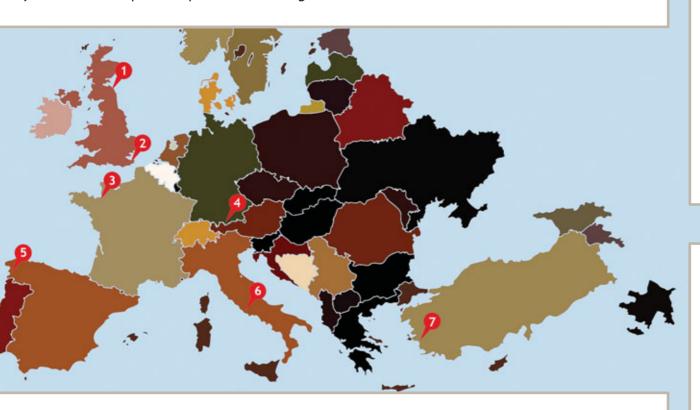
O years, the sleepy village of Oberammergau, set high in the ins of Bavaria, becomes a magnet for pilgrims from all over the then it stages its renowned Passion Play. In 1633, as the Thirty Var ravaged the local area, the inhabitants vowed to perform a the "suffering, death and resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ" ecade if God would save them from the plague. And for the next rs, with the exception of 1940, they have fulfilled their promise.



ar, the Revd Canon Dr Sue Clarke and some of her parisioners from Furzedown Team Ministry will be the pilgrims to see the Passion Play. "It was the historicity of it," she says. "Because it goes back enturies, and the fact that the members of this little village have chosen to do this as a way of g God for their deliverance from the plague, and have kept to that promise and commitment, is very ging and challenging for us in the modern day; how much we commit to doing something in gratitude k with it — and that village has stuck with it."

any pilgrimage, however, it's about more than the destination, Sue adds: "It's the journeying, and to know people, worshipping together, being together and sharing together."

e information: www.passionsspiele-oberammergau.de/en/home



## El Camino de Santiago

the most iconic of all pilgrimages, El Camino de (The Way of St James) attracts more than 300,000 a year. There are a dozen possible routes across but all end at the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela ern Spain, where a Pilgrim's Mass is held daily for ho have earned their *compostela* — a certificate of lishment confirming that the pilgrim has completed on foot or 200km by bike.



ner, who was prompted to leave his corporate job after his first Camino and who now worships at ark Cathedral, describes himself as "addicted". He says: "It's something about stripping away from al, busy life. I always come away feeling incredibly blessed." For Neil, the real joy is meeting his bilgrims, and that is what brings him back year after year. "Every time I've walked I've met the most greople," he says, "people who are dealing with really big life stuff, like losing a child or a parent, or ling from their third recurring cancer, with real grace. It makes me feel that I am really privileged."

e information: www.csj.org.uk



### Rome

The Eternal City has always been a popular



destination with pilgrims, including 36 from St Peter, Walworth who visited the city of their patron saint this Eastertide after five years of planning and saving.

"Highlights included the chance to pray at the tombs of St Peter and St Paul, with many pilgrims finding the space and calm of the Basilica of St Paul Outside the Walls especially moving," says the Rector of St Peter's, the Revd Andrew Moughtin-Mumby.

Greeting the Pope in St Peter's Square (alongside tens of thousands of fellow Christians), and visiting the house beneath which St Paul was kept prisoner were also important milestones in the trip.

In the words of one of the Southwark pilgrims: "This pilgrimage has blown my mind. It's one thing to hear about people like St Peter, but it's another thing to actually be where they were."

Read more at southwarkcofe.tumblr.com



## **Ephesus**

This ancient site in modern-day Turkey has been a focus for pilgrimage since the seventh century BC, when Greeks flocked to its Temple of Artemis. It has been an important Christian site since St Paul preached there and established the Church of Ephesus, which became the head of the Seven Churches in western Asia minor.

These days, Christian visitors can get a sense of the kinds of places Paul would have known and been part of, as well as gaining a greater understanding of how our forebears in the faith lived and the difference their faith made to them.

## When the Day of Pentecost had come...'

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in Camberwell. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit.

Now there were devout people from every nation under heaven living in Southwark. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard the good news: Columbians, Spanish, Jamaicans and residents of Trinidad, Cameroon and Nigeria, Sierra Leone and Ghana, migrants from Manchester and Humberside, Teesside and the parts of Ireland belonging to the UK, and visitors from Europe, both Belgian and German - in our own languages we hear about God's deeds of power.

The Revd Jonathan Roberts, Camberwell St Michael & All Angels & All Souls w Emmanuel





On the eve of Pentecost Saturday 8 June, 31 candidates were confirmed at Southwark Cathedral by the Bishop of Southwark, the Rt Revd Christopher Chessun. He was joined by Nine different languages join in the Acts Pentecost The Most Revd Dr Pradeep Samantaroy, Bishop of Amritsar in the Church of North India. reading at St James Merton. Photo: Jean Lamb



## A Song for the Season of Creation

Creation has been written for churches to include in Creationtide services later this year. A recording by St Bride's Church choir has been produced with the support of the CofE's Mission and Public Affairs.

The song, which uses poet Malcolm Guite's words, has been commissioned by the CofE's Environmental Working Group and has been arranged for singers of various ranges

Sue Mallinson, Diocesan Environmental Officer, said: "The music really helped me reflect. It needs to be heard around Southwark Diocese, and not only in September and October".

Sheet music, rehearsal files and recordings can be downloaded free of charge from the St Bride's website http://www.stbrides.com/ webcast/2019/05/a-songfor-the-season-of-creation.







## Bryan Harris's

## PARISH PROFILE

## **Charlton United Benefice**

Every new incumbent is the signal for a new beginning for a parish but how do you achieve that when you've been part of it for 34 years?

When the Revd Liz Newman became Rector of Charlton United Benefice in 2017, she'd been a member of the congregation, then a Reader and from 2005 an Ordained Local Minister – and she'd been an unpaid member of the clergy team whilst a school and hospital chaplain locally.

"It comes with advantages you know the place and people so well – but also disadvantages because it's harder to be detached and see the need for change" she said.

But change was needed - because Charlton and its parishes had changed and there's more change to come.

The United Benefice, created in 2002, brought together the parishes of St Luke with Holy Trinity, Charlton and St Thomas, Old Charlton – a population of some 22,000 people in a wide area which sweeps down from Shooters Hill Road to the Thames. Both churches have smallish, multicultural congregations. The ministry team - Liz Newman (Rector), two nonstipendiary priests Bennett Spong and Joe Lee and five SPAs - works equally across both. The two parishes have retained their individuality and independence, with separate PCCs and budgets but the congregations co-operate well on joint projects and share worship at patronal festivals and social events.

St Luke's is Charlton's traditional parish church (17th

century and Grade 2\* listed) on a prominent corner opposite the historic Charlton house - now a community centre! There was once a Holy Trinity Church and a St Mary's and St Paul's in the parish but they are long gone. St Thomas's Church is 'newer' (Victorian) and was radically reordered in the 1980s to provide a more flexible layout with the east end partitioned off to provide a two-storey meeting space. St Luke's, in contrast, remains almost as it was 200 years ago.

As was not uncommon along what was a smelly River Thames, St Luke's at the top of the hill was the village church surrounded by large houses. St Thomas's parish, down the hill nearer to the river was a mix of industry and large terraced houses, for up and coming Victorians. Nowadays there's little difference between the two parishes (except in size). Both have a mix of private houses, houses in multiple occupation and social housing and despite some gentrification both are still among the most deprived areas of London.

"The first priority", said Liz, was to take a good long look at ourselves, prayerfully and ask ourselves why do we exist and what is God calling our churches to be". The response was a Mission Action Plan launched last September, which combines some shared elements with, crucially, individual plans for the two parishes.

The priorities established

- nurturing children and young people
- sharing faith confidently and
- developing community engagement and action

Children & young people: The benefice includes four secondary and seven primary schools and a nursery - and whilst none are CofE schools, relations with most primaries are good and a schools project run by a member of St Luke's





St Thomas's Church is

already a community hub

the local community feels

club uses the first floor of

the church: 'Champions for

well-being for all ages from

anti-gang project is about to

also host a winter night shelter

for the homeless, community

begin. The church and hall

meetings, parties and local

councillors' surgeries - and

St Thomas's MAP plans are

focused on further developing

as the community focal point

children to OAPs, and an

'ownership'. There are groups

for the elderly and for young

people (Tom's Café); a boxing

Change' promotes fitness and

layout but also because

partly because of its flexible

reaches almost all, with curriculum related teaching about faith. Tom's Café, a youth group has started up at St Thomas's; they've already held their first Messy Church; and at St Luke's a group is looking at how to make services more inclusive for young people. Other ideas emerging include a holiday church aimed at reaching non-church families.

Sharing faith: Discipleship courses are planned for the two congregations aimed at deepening and enabling people to have more confidence in sharing their faith: there are also plans for an enquirers course and a discussion group in the local pub for people who don't define themselves as religious, but are open to reflecting on some of the big questions of life. Currently worship is largely eucharistic with 10am Sunday services at both churches and a midweek Communion at St Luke's. There is also morning prayer daily at St Luke's and evening prayer at St Thomas'. However formal church may be daunting to some, so the churches are looking at other forms of worship both in and out of the churches, to create a 'mixed economy'.

Church and community: This where the two MAPs diverge. St Luke's has a pressing need for better community engagement. Beautiful and historic but unfit for mission in the 21s century, the layout with bulky pillars and box pews makes it an inflexible space. It also needs a lot on money spent on lighting and refurbishment and is usually closed except for services and special events. Its Grade 2\* listing will make change 'difficult'. Nevertheless, a masterplan group is looking at what is needed for the building to fulfil a modern mission as both a worship space and a community facility and a Friends group is being set up to involve the community more in St Luke's future development.





language classes for recently arrived Syrian families.

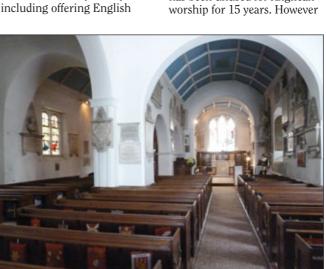
The northern part of the benefice is the Thames riverside – currently industrial and retail estates. But plans are afoot for redevelopment which will bring some 8.000 new homes to an area of the benefice which is 'remote' from both St Thomas's and St Luke's. As part of 'Charlton Together' the benefice is working with the local Council to try to ensure that homes not housing units are built. where people can thrive in community. Near that area is the St Richard's Centre originally a tin mission hut but rebuilt after WW2 damage - it has been unused for Anglican worship for 15 years. However

the many groups using it, from Guides and Scouts to 'Knit & natter' and dog training classes means it is already a community focal point and the intention is to build on that familiarity with the help of lay pioneers, as a centre for mission in the area and eventually a new congregation. A music group has been started for preschool children and next year should see a Holiday Church Play Scheme and a 'lunch box library'. It is also about to open its doors to an exhibition on the riverside development schemes.

Liz Newman said "The new start began with MAP - asking ourselves, what is Church for? The process took a year, including three months of prayer, focus groups and listening to the community. It was thorough and ambitious and so it's a big ask we have set ourselves, especially with limited resources and relatively small congregations. However both congregations are growing and the new people coming in have helped to make 'change' more sustainable. I believe we've got better at opening the front door - and closing the back door and at helping guests transform into hosts. I'm delighted to say that our age profile is also changing with a growing proportion of children and younger adults.

"We are working on our 'governance' and finances to ensure that we have the building blocks which will support our mission plans; we have to grasp a few nettles, the problems with St Luke's Church for example; and we need to look beyond our buildings to see how we can take the Gospel out to the thousands of people in our parishes who don't vet know that God loves them.

"But whilst our congregations are relatively small, there is no shortage of passion and vision, we're just praying that God sends more labourers for the harvest".



and St Thomas's (below)





## A big day out with the DAC

"Welcome"; "celebration"; "vision"; "community".

These were some of the words shared by participants at the end of the annual Diocesan Advisory Committee



(DAC) tour of churches in the Diocese, led by the Revd Canon Stephen Roberts and Luke Tatam of the Pastoral Department.

The theme of the day, which took place on 4 June, was "using our churches for mission", with Stephen Roberts wanting to share examples with members of the DAC and other key people in the Diocese of how different uses of space can enhance the work of the Church.

The focus this year was on Kingston Episcopal Area, with the tour taking in St Mark's Battersea Rise, St Peter's Battersea and St Luke's Ramsden Road, before breaking for lunch at Home Café inside St Andrew's Earlsfield. The day concluded with a visit to St Peter's

"One thing I feel very strongly is that people undervalue the role that churches play in spirituality," said Stephen. "They often play a role even when they are empty. They tell you something about what the church is doing. I think they speak guite eloquently."

## **Boost for** St John's 'reignition'

The campaign to 'reignite' St John's Waterloo has received an important boost. A faculty has been granted for significant improvements to the worship and performance space of the main floor.

According to The Venerable John Kiddle, Archdeacon of Wandsworth, one thing all these churches spoke of was community. During the lunch break at St Andrew's, he reflected on "place and space" as it related to the Archdeaconry of Wandsworth and how, "right from the start, we have been trying to build churches that respond to the places we serve".

As he spoke in St Andrew's. which has converted the west end of its nave into a café serving the whole of Earlsfield, he said: "It's lovely to be in this space, because that begins to show us what that means. It combines the warmth of community and that invitation to be quiet and reflect."

Virginia Wedgwood, an architect and recent recruit to the DAC, said: "The eye-



opener has been how varied the churches are and how they are interpreting their mission in different localities. It's very valuable to me as an architect.'

The day ended in Richmond, where the Revd Tim Marwood shared their 10-year and £800,000 journey to making the tiny St Peter's Church, Petersham fit for purpose, with a bespoke meeting room

that has allowed the church to expand while retaining its historic character. The impetus came from their Mission Action Plan, he said, when they decided they needed a space for children. The build began in October 2017 and was finished in eight months.

"We were just in time for our youth leader to run the first activity with a stillconcrete floor!"

## Southwark members take the lead at General Synod

Members of General Synod from the Diocese and others from the Diocese who had come to support them were prominent at the July meeting of Synod held on 5-9 July.

The Venerable Dr Jane Steen took part in the debate on relations with the Methodist Church, in which she proposed an amendment

which was carried and the amended motion itself was carried in all three houses. Capt. Nicholas Lebey CA and the Revd Canon Dr Rosemarie Mallett both proposed motions. These had come from Deanery Synods in the Diocese, through Southwark Diocesan Synod to General

The motion on combating serious youth violence was put by Rosemarie Mallett. It called upon the National Church Institutions, dioceses and boards of education to take practical steps to help prevent serious violence such as gun and knife crime and to support those affected. It was passed by 315 votes with none against and no abstentions.

Nicholas Lebey put the motion which had been passed at Diocesan Synod recognising that some of the refugees and asylum seekers coming to this

country are well qualified in medicine, teaching, law or other professions but need to undertake appropriate courses and placements before they are ready to practise here.

The motion offered a number of actions which parishes and dioceses can take to enable people to undertake the appropriate courses so that they can practise again. Bishop Christopher also spoke in this debate. The motion was amended before it was put to Synod and the amended motion was passed.



Parishioners from St Anne's Church, Kew met local MP Zac Goldsmith on Friday 7 June to follow up a letter signed by over 100 constituents, expressing their concerns about climate change. Mr Goldsmith said he was committed to doing all he could in Parliament to make it a political priority and is promoting pressure for action with likeminded MPs across all parties.

# few places

## Pilgrimage to the OBERAMMERGAU PASSION PLAY July 20-27th 2020

In 1633, when the small Bavarian village of Oberammergau was in the grip of the plague, the inhabitants vowed that. if they were spared, they would stage a Passion Play

every ten years. For hundreds of years since, despite dangers and threats, they have kept their vow. Today pilgrims from all over the world are captivated by the play which is both a testimony of faith and an outstanding cultural event.

Travel by luxury coach from South London, visiting the fairy tale castles of Austria and Innsbruck, before seeing a performance of the Passion Play, and staying overnight in Oberammergau. Led by the Revd Canon Dr Sue Clarke Prices from £1,095 sharing, (limited single rooms available).

semclarke@btinternet.com or 07710 744006





## Lewisham's Canterbury Tale

## The Revd Steve Hall

At St Mary, Lewisham we enjoy a good pilgrimage: an annual weekend at the shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham; a walk each Holy Week to our cathedral; regular trips to St Peter's abbey church in Ghent, Belgium, our Mother Church from the ninth century. And last year 20 of us had a wonderful pilgrimage to the Holy Land.

In summer 2018 we began planning a walking pilgrimage from Southwark Cathedral. via Lewisham and Rochester, to Canterbury Cathedral, Routes and stages were tried and walked over many months and plans made for a blessing at Rochester Cathedral, ending with a mass and Evensong in Canterbury Cathedral.

This May Dean Andrew Nunn blessed us as we set out from Southwark on a busy day with celebrations in Southwark for 25 years of women's ministry. First stop was back to Lewisham. Each day's walk ended at a train station so we could all come home at night. We reached Rochester by Tuesday evening and returned the next morning to follow the Pilgrims' Way, the North Downs path.

After eight days we arrived in Canterbury on a sunny Saturday, our numbers grown to over 30.

We shared a moving eucharist in the chapel of Our Lady Undercroft, had lunch in the ancient church of St Paul's and returned for Cathedral Evensong and a welcome from the Dean. We also visited the French Chapel in the Cathedral, a link with a previous Vicar of St Mary's in the 17th century, the Revd Abraham Colfe.

We had walked over 80 miles, shared much together as we walked, and grown closer to one another and to God.

For centuries people have gone on pilgrimage for many different reasons – faith health, friendship, a specific prayer intention, or just for

simple enjoyment. It's clear pilgrimage has come back in fashion today, with many Christian pilgrim routes being revived.

For us at St Mary's Lewisham it was a time to draw closer to God and to listen to God's voice as we walked, in silence, in conversations profound and profane, and in much laughter.

The encounter on the Road to Emmaus was in our minds as we met the Lord each day on the journey.

It was also preparation for me as I plan a 400 kilometre walk in September on the Camino, the pilgrim route to Santiago de Compostela in Spain. My new boots and backpack held up well, as did my knees and feet.

It feels like 2019 has become a Year of Walking for me, reminding me that our pilgrimage of faith starts afresh every day. But my own preference on pilgrimage is more Chaucer than John Bunyan – and just as bawdy!





## Do you want to help homeless people?

Your church can take part in World Homeless Week.

To take part or donate, use the form below or visit www.churchhomelesstrust.org.uk/world-homeless-week

Please send a World Homeless Week pack to the address below  Pack includes: How to Help Homeless People booklet; How to Help poster; World Homeless Week poster; Service Sheet; Worship Guide; Fundraising Ideas; Activities for Schools & Youth Groups; Gift Aid envelope  Name	
Church / Organisation Address	
Postcode We need y process of	our postcode to rd donations
Please accept my/our donation of: 🗆 £250 🗆 £100 🗆 £50 🗆 £25 🗆 £15 Other £	
I enclose a □ cheque □ postal order □ charity voucher (payable to <b>Church Homeless Trust</b> ) or charge my □ Visa □ Mastercard □ CharityCard □ Maestro	
Card number Expiry date MMYY Issue no.	(Maestro only)
We always send receipts for donations. We will never sell or share your data, and we promise to keep your details safe and secure. Further details of how your data is used and stored are available on www.churchhomelesstrust.org.uk/privacy-policy We'd also like to send you information about our work up to three times a year. If you would prefer not to receive this tick here  If you would prefer updates by email, please provide your email:  Email	

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Signed Date



#### July

I remember seeing those grainy pictures from the Moon. Science fiction had become science fact. All those stories I had read as a child about spacemen seemed to be coming true and it was amazing.

Some years later I was able to go to the National Air and Space Museum in Washington DC and there was the Lunar Module.

It was incredible to see because it looked so flimsy, a bit 'Heath Robinson' to be honest, the kind of thing that you might make up in your garage at home out of some boxes and tin foil. But it had transported people to the surface of our closest neighbouring planet!

It was 50 years ago that Neil Armstrong stepped from the Module onto the Moon's surface and said 'That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind.'

Half a century later we are still pushing out into the universe, that questing spirit that is within us pushing at the boundaries of knowledge and experience. In September it is the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first circumnavigation of the globe by Ferdinand Magellan.

That was as monumental and adventurous as being fired into space.

He and his crew could not be certain that those who

said the earth was flat and, as it said on the old maps, that 'Beyond here there be dragons' were not speaking the truth. But they had the courage to push at the boundaries and discover what lay out there.

I might not be as adventurous as some but God has made us not to stand still but to take small steps and giant leaps. God of the universe, we thank you for the beauty of creation, this island planet we call home, the moon, the stars, the sun.
As we seek greater knowledge out there help us to take small steps and giant leaps.
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



## The day we went to the House of Lords

Who would've thought that a simple church school in Walworth would have the honour of being invited to the Palace of Westminster and the House of Lords? But that was exactly what happened on Tuesday 18 June.

## Lois – a Year Six pupil at St Peter's Primary School reports:

When we arrived at the entrance, there was a security check to ensure that no-one had any weapons which could harm people.

During the process, we all felt a bit anxious because, even though we had no weapons, going through security is an unsettling experience.

After we were checked, we were given lanyards with our visitor IDs/cards. Entering the lobby, we were greeted by Peter (Peter Haddock, the Bishop of Southwark's Parliamentary Adviser) who answered our questions. He was very patient with our everlasting questions and tried his best to answer them.

Afterwards, he led us into the consultation room where we were split up into two groups. One group was at one end of the room and the other group was at the opposite end. The topics of the day were the medicine expectant mothers are given and Brexit (of course).

The room was voluminous!
The highlight of the day was meeting Bishop Christopher.
We met up in his office and he informed us about his role as

'My Lord Bishop' in the House

There was an opportunity for us to share with the Bishop our thoughts about the visit. Most people spoke about the statues, how big the Palace of Westminster was and the artwork (which was astonishing).

of Lords.

Another climax of the day was meeting Mother Rose Rose Hudson-Wilkins -what an amazing lady. She enlightened us about her experience growing up and some of the difficulties she was faced with like not having a bed to sleep on until she was 14 but this did not deter her from following her dreams. I can personally relate to this as I have been through a lot of hardship to do with housing. Mother Rose realised that she had a passion for preaching the word of God at a young age and she followed this through. She continues to go from strength to strength.

The moral is that it doesn't matter what your background and your beginnings are, if you have an aspiration- just follow it. Thank you to Mother Rose.

## Stay calm & keep serving!

The annual Summer
Festival of Evensong &
Benediction of the Company
of Servers – Southwark &
London Chapter was held
at St Saviour's Church,
Pimlico on Wednesday 26

#### Michael Lewis Chair, Southwark & London Chapter:

The guest preacher was Bishop Jonathan Clark who recalled his experiences of many church vestries – ranging from the highly regimented to the absolutely chaotic but always full of anxiety before the impending service (whether or not that was due to his being present).

He urged all who serve to find that inner calm as they perform their duties before the altar of God.

The worship was enhanced by a small choir whose members work for various central Church bodies; directed by Fr Peter McGeary.

As part of Evensong a new Companion from the serving team at Southwark Cathedral was admitted. The service was followed by cheese & wine and a time to catch up on news from each other's parishes.

The Chapter's next event is on Saturday 16 November 2019 at Southwark Cathedral:

10am: Welcome followed by a talk on "A day in the life of a Verger" by the Head Verger, Paul Timms 12 noon: Mass in the Harvard Chapel. All active servers in the Dioceses of London and Southwark are welcome to

Details are available on the website: companyofservers.org

join the Company.



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## Mutual Flourishing?



In June's issue of The Bridge there is a lot written about the 25th

Anniversary of the Ordination of Women to the Priesthood.

In essence there is nothing wrong with this, as for many this marked a milestone in the Church of England.

## Postbag

However, I was saddened to read in the piece entitled 'A Journey through Women's Ministry' that the author thought it fit to highlight the withdrawal of Philip North from his appointment as Bishop of Sheffield almost immediately after the piece talking about the introduction of the 'Five Guiding Principles' and the concept of 'Mutual Flourishing.'

This statement regarding Bishop Philip seems to me to be one of 'triumphalism' - certainly not one of promoting 'Mutual Flourishing' in that so much pressure was put on a true and faithful priest that he felt obliged to withdraw. Even Justin Welby-Archbishop of Canterbury-regarded this as 'deeply saddening for all involved,' and a 'setback.'

There have been a number of appointments of women to the Episcopate - notably that of the new Bishop of London - but I haven't heard many voices raised in opposition, and to my knowledge none have withdrawn from their appointments.

For my part, I am unable in all conscience to accept the Ordination of Women and I hope that in this Diocese we shall see some positive moves that reflect the 'Mutual Flourishing' that everyone says they are keen to promote.

At the moment I feel somewhat isolated.

Linda Maurice Merton Deanery Synod and South Wimbledon, All Saints

## Something to say?

Drop us a line - the postal & e-mail addresses are on page 2. Publication of a letter does not imply that it reflects the views of the Diocese and letters may be edited.



Please send details of your events for **SEPTEMBER ONWARDS** to Trinity House BY MONDAY 12 AUGUST

## **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
- \* CATERHAM Guided Tours of St Lawrence. Church Sundays 7 July, 4 August and 1 Sept at 6pm. £3 (children free)
- † HΔCKRRIDGF Taizé at All Saints at 7pm First Sunday every month

- \* TATSFIELD Teas served every Sunday 3 - 5 p.m. at St Mary's Church
- \* WADDON St **George - Community** Café and Time to Share. Tuesday (Term time) 9.30am - 11.30am. Lunch 12.15pm. **Community Breakfast** 1st Saturday 10am -12noon.
- \* WARLINGHAM -Water Aid lunches in St Ambrose Church Hall, 12-1pm first Wednesday
- † ZIMBABWE **ANGLICAN COMMUNITY** at St Mary, Newington -Shona Mass, 2nd Sunday of month at 2pm. Mothers' Union last Saturday 2pm

## July

#### Saturday 13 July

- **REDHILL Summer** Classics - Reigate & Redhill Choral Society at St John's Church 7.30pm.
- **RAYNES PARK Organ Recital by Theodore** Frazer 7.30-9.30pm at St Saviour's Church -Tickets £10 (u/18 £1) on the door
- **NORBURY Andrew** Chadney organ recital at St Stephen's Church 3pm, Admission free retiring collection in aid of the Alzheimer's Society.
- **MERTON Wimbledon Chamber Choir concert,** 7.30pm at St Mary's Church. 'The Greenwood Tree' including Vaughan Williams 'In Windsor Forest'. Tickets £9 / £7 020 8644 4053

## Refreshing Church

Glory in our life, our worship and our mission Croydon Episcopal Area Lay Conference 2019

## Paula Gooder Bishop Christopher

and over a dozen practical workshops Tickets £10, including a light lunch

Book at https://refreshing-church.eventbrite.co.uk

Call Croydon Area Office for details: 020 8256 9633



St. Bede's School Carlton Rd, Redhill, RH1 2LQ Saturday 14 September 10.00 - 4.00

#### Sunday 14 July

Vaughn, Organist, plays works by Hollins, Conte, Ireland, Bach & Tchaikovsky. 4.30pm at Crovdon Minster, Free admission. Retiring collection

Compline by Candlelight St Mary's Church, Farleigh 8.00 pm

" More people of Faith" 14th "The way of the pilgrim" A pilgrim in 19c Russia, and

Ukraine - Revd

Michelle Edmonds 21st Ken Leech (Anglican priest, theologian, Christian socialist) -

Bishop Jonathan 28th Lennox Berkeley (Composer, collaborator with Benjamin Britten) -**Revd Simon Jones** 

### Wednesday 17 July

**NORTH GREENWICH -**More than Welcome - disability training from Livability 10.30am-3.30pm, £20/£15. Practical tips, inspiration and guidance to support the full participation of disabled people at your church. To book visit livability.org.uk/events

**Lunchtime Concerts** at St Matthew's Church, Redhill

Thursdays at 1.10pm

18th Reigate Winds quintet

25th Grand Finale & **Annual Party:** 'Dixieland Stompers' Dave Skinner & friends

### Saturday 20 July

STREATHAM - Richard Mackenzie returns to play a "new" 18th century guitar in his farewell to London recital: Scaramouche, will you do the fandango? 4pm-5pm at St Peter's Church. Retiring collection in aid of the Church Organ

### Tuesday 23 July

PURLEY - Science/Faith talk at Christ Church 7pm. Ruth Jarman. from Christian Climate Action, Green Christian & Operation Noah. Talk-45 minutes, followed by 20 minute O & A. [Suggested] donation of £1, to cover expenses.

**LIMPSFIELD CHART -Teas** served every Sunday in August from 3pm - 5pm at St Andrew's Church

#### Friday 26 July

 □ ADDINGTON - A Concert of Medieval Music, 7.30pm at St Mary the Blessed Virgin Church. **Featuring Wilde Roses** with the New York based Avon Faire. Tickets £12 via www. wilderoses.com or on the door.

#### Sunday 28 July

TITSEY - Choral **Evensong at St James'** Church 6.30pm,

## August

**Compline by Candlelight** St Mary's Church, Farleigh 8.00 pm

" More people of Faith" 4<sup>th</sup> St Jerome (Translator commentator, historian) -

- Mark Lanyon 11th - Robert Fitzroy (Admiral, scientist, colleague of Charles Darwin) - Nigel Platts
- 18th St Jean Vianney ('Curé of Ars' French parish priest, confessor) – Revd Stephen Hardaker
- 25<sup>th</sup> Johannes Kepler (Astronomer, astrologer, mathematician) - Revd C Dowland - Pillinger

Monday 5 to Friday 9 August 'Christ Revealed' **Bible Week at All Saints Church Sanderstead** Daily at 3pm and 8pm. 3pm 'Finding Jesus Christ in the Hebrew Scriptures' (Speaker: Nick Lunn). 8pm 'What Jesus said' (various speakers)

For information contact rector@sandersteadparish.org.uk or Tel: 020 8657 1366

#### Saturday 17 August

 BELLINGHAM - Organist **Fransciso Cro Ramos** of Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance, will present a programme of popular classics and new music at St Dunstan's Church 3.15pm followed by refreshments in the church hall. Retiring collections for church roof appeal

#### Wednesday 21 August

**SOUTHWARK** CATHEDRAL -'Shameless' - An evening with author Nadia Bolz-Weber 7pm - 8.30pm. A bestselling author and Lutheran Minister, her latest book offers an overhaul of our harmful and antiquated ideas about sex, gender, and our bodies. Tickets £5-£8 from ttps://www. eventbrite.co.uk/e/

## September

**Compline by Candlelight** St Mary's Church, Farleigh 8.00 pm

" More people of Faith" 1st Hannah Hurnard -20th century Christian author Lay Canon Ruth Martin

- St Hildegard of Bingen (Abbess, visionary, writer, composer, mystic) Revd Col. P Hewlett-Smith
- 15th John Robinson (Bishop, scholar, author of 'Honest to God') The Very Revd Andrew Nunn
- 22<sup>nd</sup> St Mary Magdalene -Revd Ruth Chapman
- 29th Bram Fischer (Antiapartheid activist, Nelson Mandela's lawver) Revd Sara Goatcher

#### **Lunchtime Music at** St Matthew's, Redhill - admission free, donations invited **Every Thursday** at 1.10 pm

- 5<sup>th</sup> Recital Anna Cashell – Violin
- 12th Chamber Music Recital -Cadran Trio
- 19th Recital Anna Kondrashina – Flute 26th Piano Duet Recital

#### Saturday 7 September

MITCHAM - Mothers' **Union International Evening at Mitcham** Parish Church Centre, 5pm – 10pm. Adults £12, Children £5 (incl two course meal & Disco) Cash Bar Tel: 020 8648 1566

#### Sunday 8 September

LINGFIELD - Indian **Summer Tea at Lingfield** and Dormansland **Community Centre** organized by Lingfield Mothers' Union with Fairtrade Lingfield and Dormansland. Fairtrade food and craft and MU stationery stalls. Tickets £7. E-mail: gillwilliams2000@yahoo. co.uk or 01342 833994

#### Friday 13 -Sunday 15 September:

SHIRLEY - St John's Flower Festival: For the beauty of the Earth -Flowers and Food of the World, music, all-day café, Saturday night concert. Supporting the Food Bank.

## Saturday 14 September

**Vocal Consort celebrates** "Hardy & Heritage" a concert of English Choral Music. 7.00pm Mitcham Parish Church. Tickets £10 from 020 8646 0666



A talk by Professor Mazin Qumsiyeh, a Palestinian Christian, about modern day life in the Holy Land under the rule of Israel's military occupation.

Wednesday 24 July 7.30 pm at All Saints Church **63 East Sheen Avenue. London SW14 8AX** 

Register on Eventbright at bit.ly/PalestinianChristiansRichmond

## Welcare celebrates 125 years of service

Diocesan family support charity Welcare celebrated 125 years serving children and families struggling with poverty, mental and physical ill health, domestic abuse and social isolation at a special service in Southwark Cathedral on 15 June.

Welcare's roots go back to 1894 when the Diocesan Association for Friendless Girls was started and over the years the charity has been renamed several times and has now been shortened to Welcare.

Welcare President, Bishop Christopher presided at the

service. In his address he said "I want to focus on the spirit in which we pursue our future hope. We build on the foundations of the past and we look to the future; but if we know where we have come from, we find it easier to know where we are going.

"Take the name Welcare: there may have been something quaint to the modern ear about a society committed to reaching out and caring for "friendless girls" — yet there is a core truth that is of the essence of Welcare today.

"In the 19th century, your 'friends' were more than your social circle: they were your family and your village, everyone cared for each other long before social welfare and services emerged. To be friendless was to be in

material poverty; it was to be an outcast"

Anna Khan, CEO of Welcare (below) spoke about plans beyond 2019. She said "We will continue to provide one-to-one and group work programmes for families in need with children up to the age of 13. This enables us to work with the whole family, and give parents the skills, confidence and support to be the very best parent they can be, whatever their circumstances.

"Our services are constantly evolving to fill gaps in provision and meet changing needs. That is what inspired us to work with older children aged 11-13 especially at the point of transition from primary to secondary school as it can be a turning point, where the wrong path can



lead to poor self esteem, risky behaviour, exclusion from school and possibly serious youth crime."

In 2019 Welcare launched their digital #CapeAbility campaign targeted at schools and junior churches, to raise awareness and support for their work with a new generation.

The campaign uses the metaphor of superheroes (hence the *Cape* in *Cape*Ability) to encourage children to thrive, to care and to inspire others and recognise their own individual strengths and talents, and to give them opportunities to test themselves, and so become superheroes themselves.

Anna said "Through your continuing support and the #CapeAbility campaign Welcare will be able to give the next generation of young people a brighter future".

Find out more about Welcare from www.welcare.org

## Diocese awarded £3.1 million for Strategic Development projects

We are delighted to be able to announce that the Diocese of Southwark has been awarded £3.1million in Strategic Development Funding from the Church of England.

This, the second successful bid, will be used to help to fund six projects in Deptford Deanery, East Greenwich, Elephant and Castle, Lambeth, Summerstown and Horley.

Reflecting our diverse Diocese, the projects are intentionally focused on places where we can breathe new life into mission and ministry for long term growth.

They include expanding the Hispanic bilingual church of St Matthew's at the Elephant and Castle, a new worshipping community as an eco-church as well as lay workers focusing on students & young adults and greater engagement with children and families - all of which is in line with our strategic objectives.

More news and information in the September edition of the Bridge.



## An Ecumenical Pilgrimage to the Holy Land



## 3-10 March 2020

led by Bishop Christopher Chessun and Bishop Paul Hendricks

Cost £1,745 sharing a twin-bedded room with private facilities. Single room supplement.

Details from the Pilgrimage Administrator Trinity House, 4 Chapel Court, Borough High Street, London SE1 1HW Tel: 020 7939 9428

Email: pilgrimage20@southwark.anglican.org

# Caterham's three-legged ministry begins!

Two new Surrey Vicars 'joined legs' and walked cross-country from Chaldon to Whytleafe to symbolise their future journey together in a new shared model of ministry

The Revd Helen Burnett and the Revd Annie Kurk will 'job-share' the role of Vicar to the parishes of St Luke's Whyteleafe and St Peter and St Paul, Chaldon in the Caterham Team Ministry.

Helen Burnett is no stranger to either parish as she has been curate there for three years. Annie Kurk was previously Chaplain to St Cecilia's C of E School, Southfields and Assistant Vicar at St Barnabas, Clapham Common.

They were licensed together at St Luke's Whyteleafe by

Bishop Jonathan, Bishop of Croydon. The Venerable Moira Astin, Archdeacon of Reigate and Tandridge preached and at one point broke into song!

After their first service in each church on 9 June, Chaldon hosted a party in the churchyard, which included huge quantities of tabbouleh and baklava prepared by one of the resettled Syrian families that Helen has been supporting! People of the two parishes enjoyed time together, further cementing the ties between them.



## Walking I Welcoming I Growing