

70/70 Vision - History, Story, Legacy

Southwark Diocese celebrates Black History Month

On Saturday 6 October, the Diocese held its annual Black History Month Thanksgiving service and workshops at Southwark Cathedral.

Elizabeth Booker writes:

This year we worked with the Windrush Nurses and Beyond Foundation and focused on the contribution of British Citizens who travelled from the Caribbean to the UK 70 years ago, their history, the story of their lives as they helped build national institutions - such as the NHS - and the legacy that these people have left for future young people of colour.

More than 700 people attended the service and many stayed on to attend

the workshops that were led by Minority Ethnic Anglican Concern Committees from the three episcopal areas.

The service was presided over by the Bishop of Woolwich, the Rt Revd Dr Karowei Dorgu and the address was given by the Revd Prebendary Rose Hudson-Wilkin, Chaplain to the Speaker of the House of Commons.

The new Southwark Trinity icon was unveiled and blessed by Bishop Karowei. Created by artist Meg Rowe in the style of the Trinity by Rublev, it features three black lay members of the Diocese.

The icon is available for loan to churches in the Diocese. Please contact the Department of Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation at Trinity House

on 020 7939 9400 for more information.

Bishop Karowei commented "It was a joy and a privilege to be able to mark the start of Black History Month with this celebration of the history, story and legacy of all the BAME people who have had such a great impact on the life and culture of Britain. the Southwark Trinity icon, commissioned by Bishop Christopher is a fitting tribute to the lay members of our Diocese and reaffirms our commitment, to Walking, Welcoming and Growing together".

Elizabeth Booker is Public Policy Research Officer, Dept of Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation



Canon Rosemarie Mallett and Prebendary Rose Hudson-Wilkin admire the icon



Trinidad-born Alexander D Great was among the talented musicians taking part



Bishop Karowei blesses the icon



One of the exhibits showing the contribution of British Citizens from the Caribbean to the NHS

Bishop Cleophas in London for talks on tackling malaria

The Rt Revd Cleophas Lunga, Bishop of Matabeleland, was in London on 8 October to speak at the *Roundtable on Partnership Towards Eliminating Malaria* at Lambeth Palace.

The churches are playing a significant part in efforts to control the spread of malaria across borders. Progress in eradicating the disease has been greater in some countries than others but that could be impeded or even undone by cross-border re-infection.

Bishop Cleophas explained that those who are involved in cross-border work also work in other parts of Zimbabwe on eradicating the disease.

Nanlop Ogubureke, who works with Christian Aid in Nigeria, talked about the disease and the work of Christian Aid there including

Zimbabwe Update...

Reports coming out of Zimbabwe talk of growing problems caused by shortages of food, fuel, medicines and other essentials - exacerbated by huge price-rises caused by the continued decline of the value of the Zimbabwean currency.

Please pray for Zimbabwe, its churches and its people.



the faith and civil partnership in malaria elimination in Kaduna.

Bishop Cleophas is far right next to the Bishop of Lusaka in Zambia. Zambia and Zimbabwe share a border. On the left

are Bishops from Namibia and Angola who also share a border.

Whilst in London Bishop Cleophas made time to meet with members of the Kingston Link Group.

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...this month



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What's your favourite carol?

Everyone has a Christmas carol which is special to them. Tell us what's your favourite - and why - for the Christmas/New Year edition of The Bridge.

E-mail: bridge@southwark.anglican.org or write to The Bridge, Trinity House, 4 Chapel Court, Borough High Street, London SE1 1HW



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A view from THE BRIDGE

Colours of day...

Once upon a time Vogue fashion notes included a colour that women would need to wear to be truly "in fashion". I seem to recall "African violets" was one such shade in the 1950s - the predominant tone (incidentally) of a genus with the scientific name "saintpaulia" (which for a time was the rage).

How amazing that, in Diocletian's day, a pound of Imperial purple dye made from Murex shellfish to colour his toga cost three pounds of gold. Rare colours before chemistry got clever were often very expensive.

Churches have seen iconoclasm as well as beautification. Colours associated with vestments and coverings for particular feast days or seasons or special services are indicative. Martyrs get red for the blood they shed, the dead get black as the colour of mourning, off-white undyed fabric may suit penitential Lent, and "rose" provides relief from being penitential on the third Sunday of Advent and fourth of Lent (also known as "Refreshment" Sunday).

Lent's and Advent's preparatory penitential theme may also be reflected in violet. But red is the colour for Pentecost, too, when flames sat on inspired heads and the Holy Spirit of comprehension was universal for a moment.

Pure white or silver or even gold (or glowing yellow) are the range for the Christmas season and the time from Easter to Pentecost; also for Trinity Sunday and feasts of angels or teaching saints not martyred and so known as "confessors".

Pure white does for feast days of Our Lady too, and the conversion of Paul, and the nativity of the Baptist, and All Saints, and John the beloved apostle, and baptisms, marriages, ordinations. In the rest of so-called "ordinary time" (formerly called "Sundays after Trinity") the church colour is green for growth - even in winter weeks following Christmas.

Liturgical colours in church convey the theme on which teaching and preaching tied to the Lectionary are based. Church seasons note how winter passes to spring, while death leads to resurrection and growth in the world outside.

Creation is nature. As Genesis puts it so simply and touchingly, God looked and saw that it was good. And so should we.

Tom Sutcliffe



Oxted Rector to be Bishop of Ramsbury

The Revd Dr Andrew Rumsey, Rector of the Oxted Team Ministry, is to be the next Bishop of Ramsbury. He will mainly be responsible for the Wiltshire parishes in Salisbury Diocese and chair the Diocese's Mission and Ministry Council.

He is expected to take up his new position in January 2019.

Bishop Jonathan said, "I am delighted that Andrew is to be the next Bishop of Ramsbury. He is a talented and dedicated parish priest, author and musician and will be much missed in the Croydon Area."



Bishop Christopher added, "He will lead the people of Ramsbury with wisdom and humour. My prayers go with him and his family."



Reader Licensing Service

At Southwark Cathedral on 7 October, nine new Readers were Admitted and Licensed. The Bishop's Chaplain, the Revd Joshua Rey, preached the sermon on the subject of William Tyndale, Admitted:

Sarah Corlett - Brixton, St Matthew with St Jude

Gerry Daley - Coulsdon, St Andrew
Wendy Hewitt - Hurst Green, St John the Evangelist
Ejovwokoghene "Ivan" Ibuno - Rotherhithe, Holy Trinity
Julie Knight - Redhill, St Matthew
Julie Mason - East Greenwich, St George
Christopher Serbutt - Balham, St Mary & St John the Divine
Vivian Snell - Earlsfield, St Andrew
Elizabeth Windridge - United Benefice of Bletchingley and Nutfield



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The Bishop of Woolwich joined Army Chaplains in Woolwich to meet personnel from the Royal Anglian Regiment as they prepared to deploy. The Bishop gave out New Testaments and prayer cards, as well as praying a blessing for some of the soldiers. An army chaplain said: "It is really important that the soldiers feel that they have support from 'back home'. Being able to give pastoral care during pre-deployment preparation is vital."

Diocesan Retirement Officer to stand down

The Revd Canon Nicky Tredinnick is to stand down as Diocesan Retirement Officer after 10 years.

Bishop Jonathan said: "We are very grateful for all that Nicky has done in enhancing the care provided for retired clergy in the Diocese."

"The development of area-based gatherings and area advisers has been hugely important in enabling a real sense of collegiality among the retired clergy and with their area bishops and archdeacons. It has also



enabled some who are less mobile to attend, which would not have been possible when events were solely at the cathedral.

"It is a sign of the success of her work that it is now to be taken under the wing of the newly formed clergy wellbeing group".

"Nicky goes forward with our thanks for her ministry and our prayers for her next steps".

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THE BRIDGE

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The Christmas/New Year edition is due to be printed on 6 December and in your parish from the following Sunday.

Material for that edition must be with Wendy S. Robins at Trinity House by MONDAY 26 November

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

Famous faces support the CRE call for 'Churches for All'

Actress Sally Phillips opened this year's Christian Resources Exhibition at Sandown Park, Surrey on 16 October with a rallying call for churchgoers and Christians everywhere. "We are not the body unless we are all together," she said.

Sally Phillips' own son, Olly, has Down's syndrome and she has long been a vocal advocate for inclusion. Talking about the ethical implications of pregnancy screening, she said: "Maybe on a purely mathematical level my son's life doesn't make sense, but once you bring spirit into it, it makes profound sense."

Sally, who worships in Southwark Diocese, added: "I feel so proud to be a part of the Church. We can be the resistance. We can model how to include people, how to speak to people as human beings, we can model how to appreciate what people can do and not just what they can't. Let's go out there and really turn this around. It's a call to arms."

The theme of this year's CRE was Churches for All, and Sally Phillips' words came



after a powerful statement by Jonathan Bryan, a 12-year-old quadriplegic with cerebral palsy. Jonathan is non-verbal and spent a week using a letterboard to spell out his message for the exhibition-goers, which was read out by his mother, Chantal.

"Throughout my life I have known Jesus with me, sheltering me from pain," Jonathan wrote. He went on to describe his faith, and to thank CRE for highlighting the issues that affect him and others like him.

However, Jonathan, who has also written a book titled *Eye Can Write* using only his eyes,

Right - Jonathan listening to Marilyn Baker and the choir

also warned that inclusion on its own is not enough. "True inclusion goes beyond accessibility," he said, adding: "True inclusion enables us to contribute as well as to

receive...As churches, we have the chance to model a society where all are accepted and all are valued and enabled to contribute."

The opening ceremony was rounded out with a performance by an 82-strong choir from Notre Dame girls' school in Cobham, accompanying gospel singer Marilyn Baker in one of her own compositions, *Open My Eyes*.

In keeping with the three-day event's theme, several of the 210 exhibitors were encouraging and modelling ways to create 'Churches for All', and Urban Saints' Mark Arnold delivered a seminar on becoming a fully inclusive fellowship.



The 'meadow garden' at St John the Evangelist Church in Upper Norwood has been awarded the Growing Calm Award at the Church Times' Green Health Awards. The Awards recognise efforts by churches to use their gardens and green spaces for health and wellbeing, and the Growing Calm award is particularly focused on projects that give respite to communities living in built-up areas, or so-called 'urban eco-therapy'. For the full story visit <http://southwarkcofe.tumblr.com/>

St Leonard's War Memorial to be re-installed

To commemorate the centenary of the end of WWI St Leonard's Church, Streatham is to re-install and rededicate its War Memorial.

The large wooden monument lists the names of 113 men of the parish who lost their lives in the armed forces between 1914-18.

Miraculously the tablet survived the fire that gutted the church in 1975 as it was in the crypt pending re-erection in the church.

Recently it was re-discovered and has since been displayed at the annual Remembrance Day Service.

The Rector, the Revd Canon Anna Norman-Walker, said; "The 100th Anniversary of the end of the War is an ideal time to re-erect the memorial in the church. The re-dedication

service will be held at 10am on Sunday 11 November and I extend a warm invitation to everyone to join us for this special occasion".



The Old Chapter House of the ancient Priory of Our Lady at Merton has been set up as an exhibition of the life and times of the Priory - once one of the great religious houses of England. A Sainsbury's store stands where the cathedral-like church once stood. The Service of Re-dedication on 13 October was led by the Revd Alison Judge of the Merton Priory Team. The new centre will stand as a witness to the Christian faith for many to learn from and enjoy.



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Reaching Out, Growing Together

– Reigate Archdeaconry Conference

'In Christ alone my hope is found' – with these words began *Reaching Out, Growing Together*, the Reigate Archdeaconry day conference held at St Matthew's School, Redhill on 29 September.

The Revd Dr Stephen Srikantha, Assistant Curate - St John the Evangelist, Redhill writes: The conference explored

evangelism across the nearly 50 parishes in the Reigate and Tandridge Deaneries through three perspectives: growing in depth, growing in breadth and growing beyond.

Dr Nick Shepherd explored what it means for churches to grow in depth, using resources published by the Church of England's *Setting God's People*

Free initiative. We are called to encourage and equip one another to be aware of Jesus' abiding presence with us.

This can begin simply by being curious about others' walk with God – not just in church on a Sunday, but every day – which can transform our liturgy, preaching, intercessions and, above all, our relationships with Christ and one another.

Archdeacon Moira Astin and Canon Will Cookson helped us to reflect on growing in breadth. We considered the ways in which our society has changed since the two World Wars and the need for churches to form relationships with people living in an increasingly pluralistic, busy and technologically driven context. Moira and Will highlighted that the key to growing in breadth is listening to God's promptings in a community and understanding its needs.

The Right Revd Ric Thorpe, the Bishop of Islington and an Assistant Bishop in Southwark, encouraged us to think about growing beyond. He highlighted the transforming impact of church plants in energising Christian witness in new and existing communities in London and elsewhere and facilitated our

group session in which we explored how we might partner with neighbouring parishes to build relationships with local organisations and community hubs.

In his final address, Bishop Jonathan underlined that all evangelism begins and ends with prayer: it is out of our own rootedness in the wellspring of Christ's love that we can share the living water of the Gospel.

As well as clergy and parishioners from across the archdeaconry, there were also representatives from Wychcroft and Christian Vision for Men. Canon Jay Colwill brought along resources for parishes to proclaim the Good News!

This conference could not have happened without the hard work of Mr Chris Elliott and Mrs Sue Mallinson, Lay Chairs of Reigate and Tandridge Deaneries.

Susan Gibbin, a member of St John the Evangelist, Caterham Valley, said that she had been: "Inspired and enthused to wake up to

finding God in everyday life, Saturday to Sunday; thinking about how we can all become more curious, blessing others through our talents and prayers, building relationships so we can show and share our faith with those across all places in our community.

"Daunted and fearful about what this might mean for me; what skills I might be called on to use to help others grow in understanding and faith. What does it really mean to take a stand, be a disciple. Does it require changes in the way I live my comfortable life?"

"Hopeful that, as Dr Nick Shepherd said, our journey is our destination; that a focus on what we already do but better, taking small steps and acting on nudges will help us to be more courageous to be persistent in living out our lives more consciously with Christ. I was reminded that although it feels like our churches have been here forever, we may have forgotten how they began, their purpose and mission and that for some,

continuing in the same way year on year means that they are at risk of become relics of a bygone age.

"So, whether this is acting on 'a nudge', I have found it really helpful to use this opportunity to think more deeply about the challenges laid down before us. In particular how we, with time and prayer, can empower our church community to be more curious, be more confident and be more courageous in using our talents to build a greater ownership of our mission within the world in which we live, Saturday to Sunday. This is something for all churches, laity and the ordained to reflect on as we review our mission in the world".

There are lots of resources available from the Church of England's Renewal and Reform programme *Setting God's People Free* <https://www.churchofengland.org/mondaytosaturday> as well as material related to *fresh expressions* <https://freshexpressions.org.uk/>



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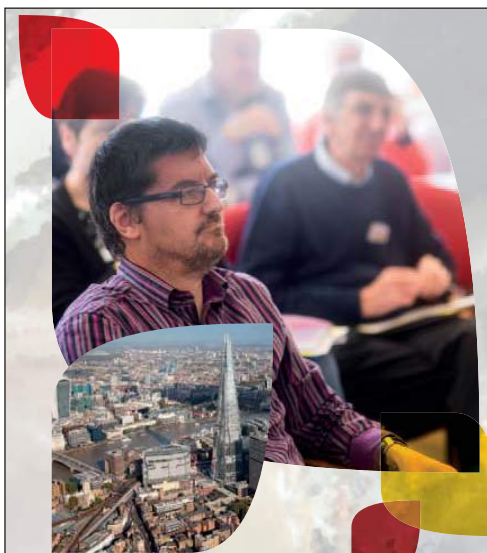
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Saturday 03 November 2018

11:00am - 3:30pm

Is your love in vain? Reading Ecclesiastes and the Song of Songs

Dr Robin Plant

The Song of Songs and Ecclesiastes are part of Christian Scripture - but why? One doesn't mention God, in the other he seems very distant. One brims with erotic delight, the other exudes cynicism and disillusionment. In this illustrated, one-day course, we'll explore their meaning and message, and consider their significance for our faith and practice.

Saturday 10 November 2018

11:00am - 3:30pm

Islam for Anglicans: an Introduction

Revd Dr Stephen Laird

This fast-paced, well-illustrated, reliable and thorough introduction to Islam is ideal for 'the intelligent person in the pew'! Topics include the Qur'an; the role and status of Jesus in Muslim scripture and tradition; and the challenges and demographics of Islam in modern Britain. Fantastic resources will be provided and you will be signposted towards others. Come with your questions and be informed and enthused, whether you are 'just interested' or are already grappling with this fascinating subject.

Saturday 24 November 2018

11:00am - 3:30pm

Praying into Scripture: a practical guide to Ignatian Prayer and Imagination

Revd Dr Susanne Carlsson

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As we head into the winter months and towards Advent Sunday and the beginning of the Church year (on 2 December we will enter Common Worship Year C) the colours of nature are changing all around us.

The trees turn into their autumnal hues and begin to shed their leaves; and as we change the clocks the nights will get dark earlier and the bright sunny mornings - if they continue - will be cold and frosty.

Winter is on its way. As we move into winter and begin to look forward to Christmas and New Year, it is all change in our churches too. In the next few weeks we will move into the season of remembrance with All Souls and All Saints days and then Remembrance Sunday - a particularly powerful day this year as it is exactly 100 years from the end of the First World War.

With the nights drawing in and colder days we turn to darker clothes - as if our dress mirrors the changing colours and feel of our world. And as we change our clothing, so do our churches.

Many churches offer people a reflection of the season and of the changes in colour in the world. The church's year begins with a season of penitence and the hangings in the church and the vestments that our priests wear change from green to purple too. It is sombre and wintry and as we prepare for Christmas the readings and life of the church call us to reflect on our lives and to review and repair our behaviour.

The changing colours and seasons of the church's life continue throughout the year and we thought that a view of the importance and meaning of the colours we use might be interesting for our readers.



The Venerable Dr Jane Steen writes:

The first churches to use different coloured fabrics to mark the seasons of the year were in mediaeval Jerusalem.

We know this because the Pope of the time described them in a book about liturgy. In pre-Reformation England, from mediaeval times to the sixteenth century, a lot of churches used the order of service coming from Salisbury Cathedral, called the Rite or Use of Sarum.

That too had colours for the different seasons of the

year. Just to make it clear that England was England, our colours were a bit different from the ones used in Rome – even although at that time, we were all still Roman Catholic.

But whatever the colour, the point was what a later hymn calls 'the beauty of holiness'.

People find beauty in different ways: some in music, some in silence; some in colour, some in the calm of water, green fields or dark forests; but the worship we offer to God should always be beautiful. Indeed, our very lives should be beautiful offerings of worship to our Lord. And where the circumstances of our lives are not beautiful, perhaps because we cannot afford the lovely things which create beautiful places, or because our own or others' sin mars our existence, then the church has often tried to provide beauty instead. At its most exalted, this can even be seen as a glimpse of heaven where, in the constant presence of God, ugliness and wrong cannot come. Many modern services celebrate this idea of beauty and joy in chorus, song and even dance. But many other churches still use fabrics and clothing as well as music to convey an idea of the glorious presence of God which is different from everyday living.

In that sense, the colours used in churches at different seasons are not so different from the bright wall paintings and statues which would have adorned churches before the

Reformation. They are one way among many in which we are encouraged to 'think differently' as we are lifted up to God in prayer and praise. They provide a contrasting setting to that in which we ordinarily live and help us to realise that our faith also changes our lives, changes us.

So, what are the colours and why? Perhaps the place to start is with the seasons of the church year itself. Some of these are very familiar: the major feasts of Christmas and Easter, for example. In preparation for Easter we have Lent and before Christmas, there is Advent, where the year begins. In between these periods of feasting and fasting, we have ordinary time which is, well, ordinary, interspersed with the short festivals when we remember saints, martyrs, apostles and others who have taught us the faith of Jesus.

Each season has a colour...

In Advent, the start of the church year, we use purple. This reminds us to repent and perhaps to be sad; it is traditionally the colour of royal mourning. But it is also a reminder to be humble – which is particularly appropriate for Advent, when the wonder of God's coming among us as one of us is certainly enough to make us turn to the Lord in humility and thanksgiving. (By the way, in case you have



Advent at Trinity School

ever wondered, this is also a reason why bishops often wear amethyst stones set into their episcopal rings. They remind the bishop to be humble before God and God's people.)

But then, of course, Advent gives way to Christmas.

For Christmas, we might use gold as the colour of joy. But we might also use white, which is often taken to make us think not only of joy but also of innocence and purity, glory and light.

So you can see why we might wear that or gold for other occasions too, such as weddings, funerals (as we remember the hope and glory of the resurrection) and baptisms.

The fact that we might use gold or we might use white tells you something about these colours, which is that what you wear depends largely on what you have! Some churches have gold chasubles, stoles and other things; others only have white. (Chasubles and stoles are worn for holy communion and other services; there's more about them a bit later on.)

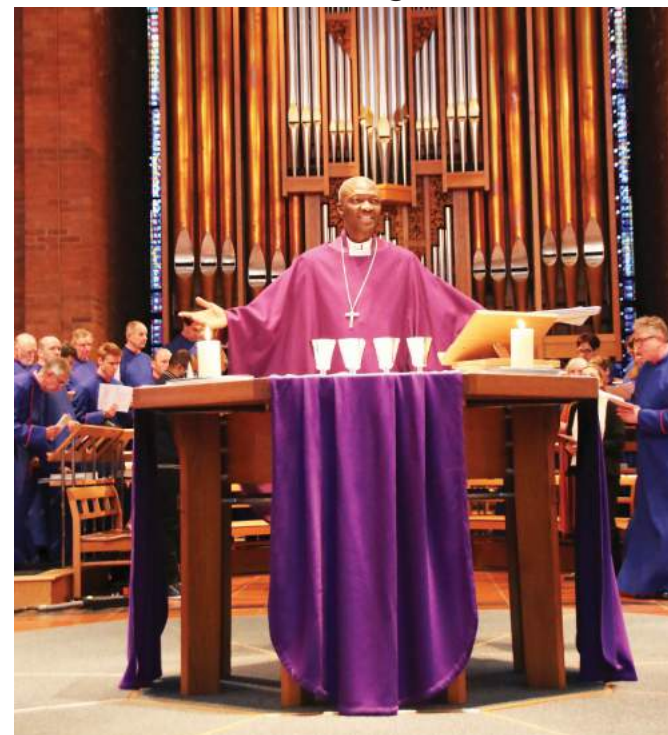
If you only have white, you use white. If you have gold, it tends to come out on the really big occasions: Christmas Day, the Epiphany (when the Magi arrive to worship the child Jesus) and the Feast of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple, also called Candlemas (2nd February).

After Epiphany, we are in Ordinary Time for a while. How long, depends on the date of Easter. But the colour of Ordinary Time, is green. (Mediaeval England liked red for Ordinary Time, though I don't know why; if you do, let me know.) I always think of green as the colour of grass and trees, forests and rolling hills – but that might be because I live in a



Pupils of St Gabriel's College, Lambeth display chasubles made for the school by Roman Catholic nuns in Ghana and given by St John the Divine Kennington. The chasubles are in the four main colours of the Christian year: purple, white, red, and green and decorated with Kente fabric, a hand-woven cloth from Ghana which is used for ceremonies, festivals and sacred occasions. The chasubles carry two symbols. The Christian Chi-Rho symbol represents Jesus Christ and a traditional Adinkra symbol from West Africa, Gye Nyame, expressing God's omniscience and omnipresence. Student Serwah Boateng, from Ghana, said: "These vestments are very special to me because they express something from my home country and make me feel part of a worldwide Christian family".

Bishop Karowei at his service of welcome to the Woolwich Episcopal Area at St Barnabas, Dulwich, during Lent



Worship the Lord in Simplicity of holiness'



ol, Lewisham

very urban archdeaconry!

I also like to remember what a restful colour it is for our eyes and it speaks to me of the harmony of God's created order and the importance of our stewardship in caring for the world and its plants and creatures. But green is also the colour of hope and the colour of eternal life – so you might say, of the new heaven and the new earth as well as this one.

Ordinary Time lasts until Lent. Once Lent comes, we might turn to purple again – and now the idea of using purple as a colour of repentance makes more sense. Some churches also have what is called 'Lent array' – a sort of hessian or sackcloth, often with motifs of Christ's suffering on it, such as his crown of thorns.

You can see, from the number of times in the Bible in which people repent in sackcloth and ashes, why Lent array is appropriate for the penitential

season of Lent. Occasionally, Lent is interrupted! On 25 March every year we remember the coming of the Archangel Gabriel to Mary to announce the coming of the Christchild. The date of the Annunciation was fixed after the date of Christmas was fixed and is, obviously, nine months earlier. The Annunciation is a time of great joy, so the gold might come out then, but we return to Lent array or purple until Holy Week, the final week of Lent which begins on Palm Sunday.

The passion.. and the fire

On Palm Sunday itself, red is used. Red is the colour of the Passion of Christ, but also of martyrdom and of fire. In some churches it is used throughout Holy Week with the exception of Maundy Thursday when white is used.

Then after that, white might be used for the rest of Holy Week, the three days of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday. Maundy Thursday is the day on which we remember Jesus' new commandment (mandatum, in Latin) to love one another, Good Friday the day on which we recall Jesus' crucifixion and Holy Saturday the time of repose in the grave before the glory of the resurrection on Easter Day – and a return to gold.

After that, it's joyful white all the way until Pentecost on which we wear red (remember its meaning of fire), with the exception of any interruptions. These might be for the days on which the church remembers martyrs (red) or saints (white/gold) or, after Pentecost, for

Christ's Ascension (also white or gold). And after that, it's Ordinary Time again the day after Pentecost, almost all the way until Advent.

I say, 'almost' because there are always the interruptions: the Transfiguration (Mark chapter 9) on 6 August, various saints (for example St Matthew on 21 September, St Luke on 18 October), Trinity Sunday and in some churches, Christ the King on the Sunday before Advent.

You might say, isn't this all rather a bother?! Well, perhaps. But it's also a good (to me) way of marking the passage of God's gift of time, of reminding ourselves that things pass and yet are renewed by God's grace, of experiencing anew the loveliness of some of our church buildings and the skill of embroiderers, seamstresses and designers.

This isn't just a matter of one year or even one lifetime. The quality of their work will often last and delight for years to come.

Older fabrics in our churches serve to recall those who have worshipped there before us, who have handed on their treasures of faith to us – and that encourages us to make sure that the church is there for the generations to come after us.

Even more than that, although the church has only had liturgical colours since the twelfth century, that's still a lot of Christians who have known them and prayed with them.

The seasons of the church year are older: we have celebrated the resurrection from the first days, and Christmas since the early fourth century.

So they, and their colours, connect us with all the saints of God since the days in which our Lord walked the earth, that great cloud of witnesses (as the letter to the Hebrews has it) of whom we can name so very few, yet whose faith has been handed down to us.

They, with us, are the communion of saints, our spiritual friends and companions on the way and although our lives are very different from many of theirs, I at least find some pleasure in the thought that the cycle of the church year is shared across countless generations.

The saints of God are, of course, found in all walks of life and in all parts of the church, East, West, Catholic, Orthodox and Protestant. And all those churches have very different

churches and liturgies and the use they make of colour varies too.

The rest of this paragraph only describes something of what you might find in some of our churches.

In them, different fabrics might appear as a fall of cloth hanging from a pulpit, an altar or a lectern.

They might be used for chasubles as I said earlier – the more-or-less circular garment worn by the president at holy communion, which remind the person wearing it and the person seeing it that this marks a sacred space, that something holy is happening here. They might be used for stoles, strips of cloth hung round the shoulders reminding clergy that the Lord's yoke is easy and his burden is light. They might be used for tunics worn by servers.

But where ever they are, they should make church more enjoyable, more colourful, more interesting, more intense an experience – because our worship is also to be captivating, catching us up into the wonder of God who loves us.

Just two more things to be said...

The first is that there is a lot more that could be said! Some churches have other colours – black for funerals, rose for the third Sunday of Advent and the fourth Sunday of Lent (another colour of joy). Other churches use the colours for other garments and vestments I have not described here. So this isn't the last word, by a long chalk.

The second thing to say is, one of the colours of mediaeval England where we began, was the cloth embroidered in many colours which could be used for any season at all.

That's important to remember, because liturgical colours are servants of our worship and whether you get them wrong sometimes, or forget what they mean, or don't use them at all, doesn't matter.

What matters is that we come to God as honestly, humbly and true-heartedly as we can, offering our love, our prayer and our service – and if the Church's colours help in enabling us to do that in joy, then they have done their work.

'...liturgical colours are servants of our worship'



Easter at Holy Saviour, Croydon

Harvest at St Michael's Bletchingley

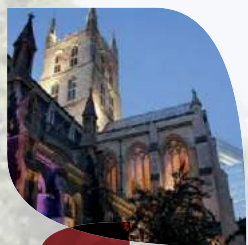



Vestments have been donated by mission societies and by Southwark parishes to our link dioceses in Zimbabwe



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08 May 2019


Southwark
26 November 2018
04 March 2019
13 May 2019

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24 November 2018
09 February 2019
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Clergy Study Day

Clergy in the Diocese met for a Study Day on 16 October on the theme 'Here I am, Lord: Nurturing the call of all God's people'. The day focused on one of the key themes for the Diocese of increasing vocations to lay and ordained ministry.

The speakers were Dr Jane Williams, Assistant Dean and lecturer in Systematic Theology at St Mellitus College; Rosemarie Davidson Gotobed, the CofE National Minority Ethnic Vocations Adviser and Dr John Spence, a Lay Canon in Chelmsford Diocese and Chair of the Archbishop's Council Finance Committee.



Raise Your Voices

A concert in Southwark Cathedral on 8 November will kick-start 'Raise Your Voices', a music-based campaign, in aid of the Church Urban Fund.

The event will feature The Rolling Tones, an all-female cappella group, the London International Gospel Choir and a Dementia Friendly Choir from The Memory Café, a CUF project in North London.

Over 50 'Raise Your Voices' events will take place across the country during November and December with thousands of people taking part.

For tickets and details visit www.raiseyourvoices.org.uk



The last of the new corbels was installed by Southwark Cathedral stonemasons on Friday 19 October - on the south side of the Cathedral in order to face Borough Market who funded it. They were represented at the installation, together with the Cathedral School who created the concept for the corbel and the City & Guilds Art School whose students sculpted it.

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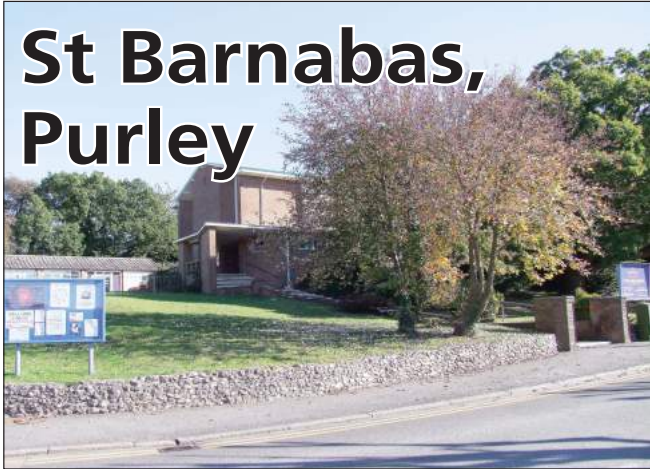
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PARISH PROFILE

St Barnabas, Purley



You turn right off the A22 south of Croydon and go up the hill... and up... and up - and when you arrive at St Barnabas, Purley you go up again.

While I didn't count how many steps - from the road to the church door, but it's a lot! I was told: "It's off putting for the elderly, the less able and those with small children - although they do come! Some of the congregation are out of breath by the top of the steps!"

St Barnabas is half of a 17 year old 'partnership' with a parish profiled a couple of years ago - All Saints, Kenley. The two parishes are set in an apparently comfortable middle-class area of steep hills and large detached houses - but with pockets of deprivation among the flats, semis and terraces in the valley below.

Despite sharing a ministry team for nearly two decades, the two are distinctly different. St Barnabas Church firmly occupies the middle ground of the Church of England spectrum; whereas All Saints is at the 'higher' end and has a 'Fresh Expressions' plant - the Hayes Church - at the evangelical end.

The Revd Justine Middlemiss (below) had led the Sutton Team Ministry for some years but felt it was time for a new challenge and when the parishes became vacant, she was pleased to be appointed and earlier this year was licensed as their new Priest-in-Charge.

Her mission is to encourage each to be confident and to



develop in its own style, but to draw them closer together, and perhaps one day to achieve united benefice status.

However, when she arrived she found 'faith in the future' in short supply!

A lot of effort had gone into 'bringing up baby', the Hayes Church and that had somehow left the two traditional parish churches feeling that it was necessary to be a Fresh Expression to have any mission or growth potential - and their confidence (and numbers) had suffered!

"It was important to make it clear from the start that we, the clergy team, are here, for everyone, equally", she said. "I want each congregation to feel comfortable in its own skin and valued, but at the same time to work more closely together, to learn from and support each other - and to know that they have the total commitment of Elizabeth (Elizabeth Goodridge, the Assistant Priest) and myself."

So how does that play out in practice?

I want to focus on St Barnabas, so let's get the other two 'out of the way' first. All Saints is liberal Anglo-Catholic; Hayes Church is evangelical and refocusing on being a community church. Both have the assurance that each tradition is valid and valued within the future ministry of the three-church family.

Sunday worship across the three starts with an 8am Eucharist (alternating between St Barnabas and All Saints). On three Sundays out of four the main service at both churches is Holy Communion. The fourth is a family/parade service. Fifth Sunday services are shared and there are shared mid-week services. The Hayes focusses on putting faith into practice in the Community and creative worship.

At St Barnabas services are Common Worship, structured and formal, but with an informality helped by what Justine calls 'fabulous music'. Traditional hymns are given a

new lease of life by jazz style arrangements and augmented by songs created by Music Director Giles Holland and choir member Jock Miller.

Despite the small congregation there is an active Sunday School. Scouts, Guides and Brownies take part in parade services and recently led part of the Harvest service. A monthly Messy Church draws 35 to 45 children each time. Attendance at festivals is high with around 100 at Harvest, more at Christingle, about 80 at Mothering Sunday, Easter and Christmas.

Justine and Elizabeth work across all three locations and they have two retired priests giving occasional help. The service pattern enables Justine or Elizabeth to be at the main Sunday services at both All Saints (9.30am) and St Barnabas (10.45am). At Hayes Church (10.30am) lay leadership remains a vital ingredient, but Elizabeth plays a vital role. The three churches share a Pastoral Team including a SPA. Each church has its own House Groups but "we are planning talks on the Gospels across the team in Lent", said Justine.

St Barnabas Church was built in the late 1950s by an architect who (allegedly) mainly designed aircraft hangars - and it shows! It's a concrete and brick box - you could imagine a Wellington standing in there! Plain magnolia walls are relieved only by a distinctive blue and white resurrection cross above the altar. The layout is inflexible with rows of fixed pews - and the heating doesn't work. Curiously there's a Lady Chapel - where the fixtures and fittings include a mural of the Blessed Virgin reflecting an Anglo-Catholic past, reinforced by the Stations of the Cross along one wall of the church.

Attached to the north side is the previous St Barnabas Church, now used as a hall and there is another hall in the grounds used by the uniformed organisations and a day nursery. Both are also used by the community for parties etc. They sit in a huge site with an assortment of old structures around the site. Currently with developers targeting properties in the area, the local rumour mill has it that the church land is also likely to be sold - something which Justine strenuously denies. "Our plans will be to improve not replace - we're here to stay!" she said.

"The church has the potential to serve the community better and make a significant difference to people's lives - but we need to make changes to realise

that potential," said Justine. They are 'looking at options', creating a project brief and talking to local people, local councillors MPs etc.

"Nowadays a good chunk of every PCC meeting is taken up with how our buildings and worship can contribute to our newly re-discovered mission".

"We're starting by reminding the community that we are here. We are open for coffee and teas every Tuesday morning. We will be delivering Christmas cards to every home for the first time. We're planning a community Festival for the church's 60th birthday next year and we are cutting back the trees that mask the church from the road - it's all about saying we are here - we are the community church - and a major plank of that is 'Old school Vicaring' - that's me out there visible and available, walking with them and especially, visiting!"

St Barnabas greatest asset is the church family, described by Justine as "... lovely, lovely people - committed and enthusiastic to see St Barnabas Church thrive and grow - sadly in recent years they haven't felt encouraged but I hope that has changed. It is about saying 'yes we are few but it doesn't matter - it doesn't diminish us in God's eyes or our ability to share and show his love'.

"We try to inject excitement into Sunday worship to give an increased sense of expectation, hope and purpose - and to provide solid ground for a lovely group of people whose enthusiasm and commitment promises a bright future for the church on the hill" said Justine.



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October: Lawrence of Arabia

At 9.00am on 1 October 1918 one of the most famous and mythologised figures of the First World War entered Damascus.

The war in the Middle East was coming to an end and the city had fallen to the Allies. The man in question was T E Lawrence, known to us as Lawrence of Arabia.

Many of us will have seen David Lean's 1962 film with Peter O'Toole playing the part of Lawrence. The evocative music and the romance of the desert make for a fantastic movie.

But Lawrence wasn't just a war 'hero', he was a writer and

he was someone who sought to understand more about the cultures within which he moved and the faith of the people alongside whom he lived.

His famous book 'The Seven Pillars of Wisdom' mirrors in its language the 'Five Pillars of Islam', the five things that are necessary to Muslims in the living out of their faith.

These five are

- Shahada: Faith;
- Salah: Prayer;
- Zakat: Charity;
- Sawm: Fasting; and
- Hajj: pilgrimage to Mecca

Shia Muslims add two more to this list. But these are the

essential pillars which build the life of faith and it was these that Lawrence saw being lived out around him.

Inside the Cathedral, underneath the tower, are four massive pillars. They, with the high arches that spring from them, hold up the massive weight of the structure above and the bells that hang and swing within it.

These four pillars of Southwark hold the whole

thing up. Later generations may have been able to make these pillars more elegant but their mass gives us a sense of their strength.

So, what are the pillars that hold up my own life and how many are they?

God, may the structure of my life, hold me up and keep me strong in my faith and in my living.

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

Song Without Words

As "People of the Book", words have made a very significant contribution to our Christian faith.

Yet God can 'speak' to us in many ways and through our different senses - not only through words - many of us will be grateful for times when we have sensed God's presence through non-verbal experiences such as art, music

SAGE Southwark Spirituality and Age Working Group

or a special place.

As people age, physical limitations may make it increasingly difficult to seek out such experiences, and those who minister and spend time alongside older people may be able to find ways to create a range of opportunity.

In addition, participation in different activities can not only help build confidence in older people, but may release

skills and abilities that are not related to verbal ability. People experiencing dementia have sometimes produced accomplished drawings long after losing the ability to easily communicate through speech.

SAGE will be running a session titled *When Words are not Enough: Creative Alternatives*.

This will explore ways in which art, music and craft activities can make a valuable contribution to ministry with older people, and will provide practical examples.

The session will be held at Trinity House from 10am - 1pm on Saturday 24 November.

To book a place email ministryandtraining@southwark.anglican.org

Good News Stones

At St John's Church, Coulsdon, a group of about a dozen adults and children spent an afternoon painting stones with Good News messages.

The idea was to choose a favourite bible verse, paint a picture of it and add the text onto a large stone. The stones were blessed on the following Sunday and people placed them where others would find them. On the reverse of each stone was an invitation

to take a photo of it, and then hide it somewhere else.

Loads of people - especially children - have been looking for the stones and some have travelled far outside the parish. Photos have been posted on the parish's Facebook page and the whole project has captured people's imagination.

The Revd Paul Roberts said: "Our prayer that the stones would be a blessing has been born out by this message from a man who found one: *'It was the right message at exactly the right moment. I*

had lost something from my childhood which had really affected my day to day life. I had lost my relationship with God and was on life's auto pilot. Your little blue stone and it's simple message allowed me to be released from a trolling thought that my relationship couldn't be repaired, despite the fact that it was I who walked away from it. I was the sheep that got lost!

"At Christmas we are planning to hang small knitted 'good news' angels around the parish," said Paul.



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WHAT'S ON

Please send details of your events for
DECEMBER ONWARDS to Trinity House
BY MONDAY 26 NOVEMBER

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. 3pm last Sunday

each month (not Aug or Dec.) Eltham Pk Methodist Church

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

November

Lunchtime Music at St Matthew's, Redhill
Thursday 1.10 pm:
admission free,
donations invited

- 15th Chloe Barnes (Oboe)
- 22nd Alionor Trio - Ioana Voicu-Arnautoiu (Violin); Alan Thomas (cello) & Norman Macsween (Piano)
- 29th Giulia Semerano & Filippo di Bari (Piano Duo)

Lunchtime Recitals at Croydon Minster
Fridays at 1.10pm
admission free,

- 9th Amiri Harewood, Trinity School (piano)
- 16th Sofia Peciña Medina (piano) & Ana Dunne Sequi (viola)
- 23rd Students from Old Palace of John Whitgift School
- 30th Students from Whitgift School

**Friday 9 to
Sunday 11 November**

- * **WEST WICKHAM** - Festival of Peace at St Francis of Assisi Church commemorating 100 years since the end of World War I. Floral displays, photos, poems, music and readings.

Saturday 10 November

- * **STREATHAM** - Piano Recital at St Peter's Church at 7.30pm - Alessandro Belotto, inc works by Beethoven, Chopin and Schumann.

Saturday 10 November

- * **CROYDON** - Come and Sing Monteverdi's Vespers of 1610 at St Matthew's Church. Choral workshop and evening performance with the Croydon Bach Choir. 10

am to 5.30 pm. Pre-registration essential. £20 inc. score hire (Students & concert audience free).

- * **REIGATE** - Armistice 100; Peace - Concert by Reigate & Redhill Choral Society with Redhill Sinfonia and Sandcross School Choir. 7.30pm at St Mary's Church. Music by John Williams and Karl Jenkins. Tickets in advance £19 (inc. programme & drink); £15 (ticket only) from 07588 730246. On the door £18.

**Saturday 10
& Sunday 11 November**

- * **ADDINGTON** - Remembrance Weekend at St Mary the Blessed Virgin. Flower Festival Saturday 10-4pm followed by Music and Words for Remembrance. Sunday Act of Remembrance at 11am. Flower Festival 11.30 - 3pm. 6.30 Requiem Mass.

**Sunday 11
to Sunday 18 November**

- * **CATFORD** - Centenary of the Armistice - an exhibition at St John the Baptist Church .. poppies made by church members and school children; memorabilia and silhouettes from 'There But Not There' initiative.

**Friday 15
and Sunday 17 November**

- * **WATERLOO** - Midsummer Opera presents Verdi's Macbeth at St John's Church, Friday 7pm, Sunday 5pm. On the door £28 (£26 cOncs Friday) gallery: £15 - u/16s £10 Advance tickets £24 (£22 cOncs Friday) from 020 7652 0070 or www.midsummeropera.org.uk

Tuesday 13 November
SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL 1.45-8pm
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Register free at <http://bit.ly/2N2iufL>

Saturday 17 November

- * **LINGFIELD** - The Friends of The College of St Barnabas Autumn Fair. 10am- 12 noon at the College. Adm £1 (lucky programme). Coffee, stalls, raffle.
- * **HORLEY** - Come and Sing Handel's Messiah at St Bart's Church. Workshop 1pm to 5pm (£5 for singers); Concert 7.30pm. Tickets: Adults £8 Children £5. ttl. 01293 782218.
- * **MITCHAM** - Remembrance, Hope & Light - English choral treasures by the Wesssex Consort at Mitcham Parish Church 7.00pm. Tickets: £10 (£5 u/12s) from 020 8646 0666 or on the door.
- * **ADDISCOMBE** - Croydon Philharmonic Choir: Choral Classics. 7.30pm St Mildred's Church, Tickets £12 (u/16s £6) from: tickets@croydonphilharmonic.org or pay at the door.
- * **NEW CROSS** - Dvorák: Mass in D, Te Deum, Sonata for piano and flute. Lewisham Choral Society Goldsmith's Great Hall 7.30pm. Tickets £15, (£13 conc, £5 f/t students, £2 u/17s) from www.lewishamchoralsociety.org.uk

Wednesday 21 November

- * **NORWOOD** - Baptism Matters - a presentation for Clergy, Readers, SPA's and others involved in baptism and family ministry. 10am-4pm Spurgeon's College. Cost £10 inc lunch. To book: <http://bit.ly/2Ob4THP>
- * **WESTMINSTER** - Westminster Cathedral Interfaith Group 4 to 5 pm Hinsley Room, Morpeth Terrace. Spkr: Bishop John Sherrington

Saturday 24 November

- * **BEDDINGTON** - Frost Fair at St Mary's Church 11am to 3 pm.
- * **SOUTH NORWOOD** - Christmas Market, St Alban's Church Hall 11am- 2pm. Stalls, refreshments, children's activities and raffle.

- * **LINGFIELD** - Stir-Up Sunday Fairtrade Christmas Pudding Making at St Peter and St Paul Church, 12 noon to 3pm. Ingredients and help provided. Children welcome. Fairtrade and hot drink stalls. Book by 20 November gillwilliams2000@yahoo.co.uk Tel: 01342 833994.

- * **BERMONDSEY** - St Anne's Winter Wonderland Christmas Fair - 12 - 3pm in the Church Hall, Thorburn Square. Raffle, tombola, stalls, face painting, secret presents, arts & crafts.

- * **MOTSPUR PARK** - Holy Cross Church Chrismas Fair 2pm-4pm. Homemade cakes, books, gifts, raffle, refreshments.

- * **BATTERSEA** - Festival Chorus in concert at St Luke's Church 7.30pm. Tickets: £14, £18 from 07951 791619.

- * **STREATHAM** - Recital at St Peter's Church at 7.30pm - Opus XVI - Chamber Choir music on the theme of "Remembrance" Tickets £15 (£12 cOncs) from Lesley Gibbs: 020 7733 0518.

- * **TADWORTH** - Music to Remember - The Surrey Yeomanry Band 7.30pm in the Good Shepherd Church. Refreshments/raffle. Tickets £10 - u/16's free. 01737 812504.

- * **CHEAM** - Sutton Symphony Orchestra concert 7.30pm at St Andrew's Church inc. Saint-Saens Cello Concerto Tickets £10 from 020 8644 4053

- * **SOUTH CROYDON** - Christmas Market at St. Peter's Hall, 10.30am-2.30pm Stalls & Hot lunches. Adm 50p

Friday 30 November-Sunday 2 December

- * **SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL** - Christmas Market - stalls selling gifts for Christmas and other occasions. Friday 11am-7pm, Saturday & Sunday 10am - 5pm.

December

Saturday 1 December

- * **WEST WICKHAM** - The Big Christmas Sing, 4pm at St Francis of Assisi, with West Wickham Choir and school choirs. Carols, readings etc. proceeds to Christian Aid. All welcome, free admission.

- * **EAST DULWICH** - Christmas Fair at St John the Evangelist - 12 noon - 3pm. Admission free. Santa's grotto; Games, activities for children, stalls, refreshments, Festive music

- * **CROYDON** - Baroque Masterpieces - Croydon Bach Choir! Music by Handel, Bach & Purcell. Purcell. 7:30 pm at St Matthew's Church. Tickets £15 Child £5 from <http://bit.ly/2StyECM>

Sunday 2 December

- † **TANDRIDGE** - Choral Evensong BCP at St. Peter's Church 6.30pm led by Reigate St Mary's Choir School. Refreshments 5.30pm.

- † **MERTON** - St James's Church: 11am Visit of St Nicholas; 6 pm Advent Carols with Benediction.

Tuesday 4 December

- * **REDHILL** - Festival of Carols - Redhill & Reigate Choral Society. 7pm - St Joseph's Church.

Thursday, 6 December

- * **GREENWICH** - "Io Saturnalia - The Pagan Roots of Christmas Traditions" at St George's Westcombe Park 8pm. Dr. Sam Moorhead (British Museum). Refreshments

- * **REDHILL** - Lunchtime Music at St Matthew's 1.10 pm: The Renaissance Recorder Group. Admission free, donations invited.

Friday 7 December

- * **CROYDON** - Lunchtime Recital at Croydon Minster 1.10pm. Venice Chamber Recital (Trinity School students).

Saturday 8 December

- * **MITCHAM** - Handel's MESSIAH - staged by Merry Opera Company at Mitcham Parish Church 7.00pm - Tickets: £10 from www.merryopera.com or on the door.
- * **WEST DULWICH** - Concert by The Ionian Singers, All Saints Church 7.30pm. Songs on theme of water and the sea plus music for Advent and Christmas . Tickets £13 £11 cOncs) at the door or in advance from 020 8693 1051.

- * **REIGATE** - Christmas Classics - Reigate & Redhill Choral Society at St Mary's Church 7.30pm. Music by Rutter and Chilcott plus Carols for All.

- * **SOUTFIELDS** - Concert - Putney Choral Society, orchestra and soloists: music by Vivaldi, Pergolesi & Saint-Saëns. 7pm at St Paul's Church . Tickets: £15 (inc refreshments & programme) from 07968 209245 or at the door.

**Saturday 8
& Sunday 9 December**

- * **SELSDON** - White Christmas Weekend at St John's Church. White Christmas display and activities. Concert on Sunday with Christmas songs, mulled punch and mince pies.

robos
charity number 1174060

SLEEPOUT

Spend a sponsored night out under the stars to raise money for the robes winter night shelter
Fri 30th November 7pm to 7am the following morning at Southwark Cathedral.
Registration deadline 23rd November 2018.
Register yourself or a team at www.robos.org.uk

'She decided that although she was ill, she wanted to make a difference'

This is a line from the film shown about Dame Tessa Jowell which ran in Southwark Cathedral as people arrived for the Service of Thanksgiving for her life and work on Thursday 18 October.

Wendy Robins reports:

It seems to have summed her up! Throughout the service there were tributes to her and all of them spoke of her with love and affection and spoke of the tremendous difference that she had wanted to make during her life along with the difference she had actually made to individuals and to whole groups of people.

The Service was both a joyful and poignant occasion at the same time. The Cathedral was full to bursting as some 1,200 people arrived to pay tribute and to remember a woman who was a tireless public servant full of integrity and purpose.

They greeted each other warmly, queueing patiently to get through the security at the main gates. On a beautifully sunny day, inside and outside the Cathedral, the love for her shone through as people reminisced, sharing significant moments of life with Tessa.

Such was the affection and respect in which she was held that the Royal Family were represented: The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh by Lord Taylor of Holbeach, The Prince of Wales by the Earl

of Rosslyn, The Duke of York by Sir Andrew Cahn, The Princess Royal by the Lord Coe and Princess Alexandra, the Hon. Lady Ogilvy, by Mrs Peter Afia. Also present were David Cameron, Gordon Brown, Tony Blair and Mayor of London Sadiq Khan, as well as many other politicians including Harriet Harman, David Blunkett, Heidi Hunt, Jack Straw.

The service was led by the Sub-Dean, the Revd Canon Michael Rawston. The preacher was Prebendary Rose Hudson-Wilkin, Chaplain to the Speaker of the House of Commons. A choir from St Luke's CofE Primary School, West Norwood and St John's CofE Primary School, Brixton, sang and the intercessions were led by the Revd Andy Coates, who worked in Tessa Jowell's parliamentary office before he was ordained.

Integrity and care

Peter John OBE, Leader of Southwark Council, spoke of her work as did Michael R Sinclair, Director of the Harvard Ministerial Leadership Programme, who spoke of her teaching on the Programme saying that: "her classes were oversubscribed and everyone wanted to talk to her".

He spoke of her integrity and care for the poor. He said that she said "yes to everything", spending time with students and faculty "and was among the rarified few to receive a standing ovation at the Harvard business school". He announced that they were setting up a Tessa Jowell fellowship for graduate study in her honour.

Helen Hayes, who succeeded

her as MP for Dulwich and West Norwood, said that at the reception following the debate on brain cancer treatment in the House of Lords, she was unable to find all her words but did manage to articulate these: determined, love and lucky. These were the words that had summed up her essence.

Solomon Smith and Mohammed Hashi spoke with humour of their meeting with her when they did not realise that she was an MP and didn't really know what an MP was. They spoke of her care and concern for them and the young people in Brixton and how she helped them to set up the Brixton Soup Kitchen. She had inspired them and Mohammed was elected as the first Somali Councillor in London in May and he said it was Tessa Jowell who had helped him to know he could do this. The garden at the soup kitchen is to be named in her honour.

Legacy and love...

Sue Gray CBE from the Civil Service said that one of her most significant legacies was the Sure Start programme which had helped millions. She said that she could, and did, drive her civil servants mad by trying to have too many meetings and doing too much but she said: "I loved Tessa Jowell and few civil servants say they love their minister".

The final tribute was from the Rt Hon Tony Blair, who spoke of her work on bringing the Olympics to London in 2012 and how David Cameron had kept her on the Board of the Olympics when he had become Prime Minister, which he said was good for



The family and other members of the congregation

both parties. He said that, "If life is measured in not how long you live but what you give, she lived a life of biblical proportions." He concluded: "We love you and will never forget you."

Following biblical readings by Lib Peck, Leader of Lambeth Council and Duncan Chapman, Tessa Jowell's Parliamentary Office Manager, Tessa Jowell's husband, David Mills, and her children, Jess and Matthew came to the lectern. Jess spoke for her and Matthew talking about their mother as inspired by love, saying she was "defined by her public service" and that "all parliaments need a Dame Tessa in their midst".

David Mills thanked the many people who had been part of her journey and part of making this service and, before the blessing, which was given by Bishop Christopher who had interrupted his sabbatical to be part of the service, the congregation was reminded: "You who have been inspired by her. This is your mission to go and do likewise."

It's Your Call...



Called by Name: Vocations Quiet Day

16 November, 10.00am-3.30pm, Wychcroft House, Redhill RH1 4NE

It's Your Call: Vocations Fair

29 November, 6.30-8.30pm, Emmanuel Centre, Normanton Road, South Croydon CR2 7AF

E-mail vocations@southwark.anglican.org to register

Walking | Welcoming | Growing

Upgrade for Abbey Wood church hall

A major project is taking place at St Michael and All Angels Church, Abbey Wood, to replace the 114 year old church hall roof – and upgrade its facilities!

Originally serving as a joint church and hall until the parish church opened in 1908, the hall has served as "home" to a wide variety of community groups, including the 13th Woolwich Scout group, St Michael's Social Club, Majorettes, Kumon after school programmes, table tennis, Tai chi, dog training, and the Abbey Wood Women's

Institute. Church fundraising and social events are held as well as private parties etc.

The roof is being completely renewed, mainly using top quality Canadian slates, and the project is totally funded by Biffa Award, a multi-million pound fund that gives grants to communities and environmental projects across the UK.

As part of the overall project, a £50k grant from SUEZ Communities Trust will enable improvements to the interior, including refurbishment of the toilets, and will also cover some external repairs.

The PCC must also carry out quinquennial and stonework repairs on the church, so needs

to raise over £250,000 in grants and fundraising altogether

The roofing work, which uncovered World War II embedded shrapnel was phased to fit in with the migrating pattern of swifts, which nest under the eaves each summer, having flown in from Africa each May.

They left in late August on their return journey, and roofing work started two weeks after their departure.

The project is part of a major scheme to prepare the church and hall to serve the Abbey Wood community for the next 100 years.

(Right) The Vicar, the Revd David Sherratt, up aloft with two of the roofers.

