

Church opens Croydon's second 'Food Stop'

St Francis Church, Selsdon has teamed up with Croydon Council and community partners to support families struggling to make ends meet.

Launched on Tuesday 22 October the church is the second location to adopt the Community Connect/Food Stop model, a multi-agency approach which saves low-income families up to £700 a year on household bills, reduces their debts and boosts their job skills.

Each Food Stop shop offers local people the opportunity to reduce their food shopping bills by paying £3.50 a week for around £15-£20 worth of grocery shopping. It also runs a jobs club and provides access to Croydon Council's award-winning Gateway service with budgeting and skills training.

The Selsdon Food Stop is the second to open (the pilot

launched at Fieldway Family Centre, New Addington, in 2018). A third site will open in November.

Councillor Alison Butler, Croydon Council's deputy leader and cabinet member for homes and Gateway services, said: "Rising prices and benefit cuts have burdened thousands of local low-income families, which is why the Food Stops make such a difference.

"I am grateful to St Francis's Church for working with us and, with more Food Stops in the pipeline, I look forward to us working with groups across the borough to boost the financial independence of more Croydon people and make sure children do not go hungry."

The Revd Peter Wyatt, Minister-in-Charge at St Francis Church, said: "The Food Stop is a fantastic opportunity for local people to get quality food for a bargain price and use supermarket surpluses to reduce food waste at the same time".



Above: Peter Wyatt with Cllr Alison Butler (Photo: Croydon Council)

Doorkins Magnificat retires

Doorkins, the cat who lives in Southwark Cathedral, has retired to more comfortable surroundings now that old age has finally caught up with her.

The Dean, the Very Revd Andrew Nunn writes: "When Doorkins arrived at the Cathedral back in 2008 we didn't know her name, we didn't even know she was a 'she'; she was just a little cat, without a home. Through the kindness of the vergers she found her way in, enjoyed the food and the warmth - and eventually made her home with us.

"When our former Dean, Colin Slee, died she spent his final night beneath his coffin,

she met the Queen (though slept through the experience), she had a book produced about her and over time became a Twitter celebrity.

"She was out of the Cathedral when the terrorist attack happened in 2017 and when, finally, she got back into the church, her home, she never left again. We have come to know her and she has come to know us and the thousands of people who have made friends with her, people who love her.

"Over the last few months we have noticed that she has not been so well. Her hearing and her sight have deteriorated and that came to a head last weekend. She can no longer find her way around and what was her place of comfort and safety became hazardous and

this was confirmed for us when we went to see the vet last week who told us that old age has caught up with her.

"So she has retired and moved to her retirement home, with one of the vergers, where she is warm and safe and being pampered, just what she deserves. We will continue to hear news of her. But at this point I simply want to thank her on all our behalves. She has become the feline face of Southwark Cathedral, a symbol for many of our openness, our inclusiveness, our hospitality and our humanity. She is still part of the family but now taking a well-deserved rest".

At the last count Doorkins had 5,499 Twitter followers. She will continue to play a role in the life of the community but from her new home.



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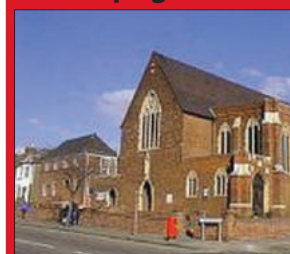
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A view from THE BRIDGE

Modern saints are all around

We may not always realise it but we can see saints in the world around us today.

These are not the saints of old but the ordinary people we live with and see every day, who do things for others and behave over and beyond their call of duty. We visit the sick and lonely, the prisoner in jail, the orphan in a home or who needs a home. In short we can see saints in our behaviour to one another when we seek to see that needs are met. Mother Theresa, with her love for people did what she could for her fellow human beings - a modern day saint.

We see saintliness in those who choose a career, then train and do it to the best of their ability and treat it as a vocation not a job. They do what they do for their fellow human being with love and compassion and they do to them as they would like to be treated. Modern saints, not living in heaven, but among us and thorough their faith doing for others as they feel called to do.

Some welcome other people's children into their homes, treat them with love and devotion, putting into practice what they have learnt through faith, following the teachings of Jesus who fed the hungry, healed the sick, cared for the homeless.

They undertake these things knowing that if they do these things to other people, especially children, they are 'doing it to me' - here then are modern day saints by practice not by words only. They live out the scriptural teaching that if someone strikes you on the cheek turn the other cheek to them, or if someone takes you cloak give him your coat also.

We honour people when they go 'over and beyond' but does that make them a 'modern day saint' - they are on their way, they are responding to Jesus' teachings especially when the extra is done voluntarily and willingly, not coerced or pressured, but willingly out of love. In Jesus' name we pray for this to be true.

Modern saints are all around us - do not fail to see them.

Adeline Cole



Wendy Robins has been talking to

The Rt Revd Farai Mutamiri - the new Bishop of Harare

Bishop Farai Mutamiri has not been a Bishop for very long – just since Epiphany – but he knows the Diocese of Harare well, having previously been the Dean of Harare.

The Diocese of Harare is not linked with the Diocese of Southwark, but with Rochester Diocese. However, it is linked with Southwark Diocesan Mothers' Union, and so when Bishop Farai visited Britain recently he spent some time with Bishop Christopher and in the Diocesan office and Cathedral.

Bishop Farai also gave the Zimbabwe Roundtable - which Bishop Christopher chairs on behalf of the Archbishop of Canterbury - an update on the situation there which, it seems fair to say, is changing day by day.

Situation in Zimbabwe

Bishop Farai described the situation in Zimbabwe now as being as bad as that in 2008. People lost virtually all their savings and investments then and now the situation is much the same. The economy is in a dire situation and people are finding it difficult to make ends meet and put food on the table.

Bishop Farai described the collapse of many facets of daily life and suggested that this was being triggered because the two main political parties are polarised and because of the decision to stop using the multi-currency system. The Real-time Gross Settlement System (RTGS) had allowed people some freedom in how they paid for things so that they could maximise their spending power.

But the country has run out of US dollars and is legally enforcing the use of bond notes. Now, if people are paid in US Dollars into their bank they have to use the bond note for local transactions and lose a great deal getting money out of the bank.

The government is not printing notes as they did in 2008 which was part of the cause of the hyperinflation, but the cost of living continues to go up.

The Econet system of mobile banking which enables people to transact on their phone has been a staple of the financial system for a while but the charges have increased and transactions are now very costly.

Costs rising but salaries are not

Salaries are not rising but the cost of services such as



health insurance and pension provision is. So the stipends that the clergy take home are decreasing in size because of what is taken out of them. At the same time the cost of basic items such as bread, maize and fuel continue to rise.

When asked what could happen to change the situation Bishop Farai spoke of the need for the churches to work together and for politicians to begin to think more about working for the good of the country, possibly through a government of national unity.

He recalled that such a government had had very positive effects before and saw this as a possible way forward if it could be made to happen.

"Pray for us"

Asked what we could do he said that everyone in Zimbabwe is so grateful that we pray for them and for us to continue to do so, as well as working wherever possible to make the situation in Zimbabwe known so that it might come to a time of change.

Farewell service in February for the Venerable Chris Skilton

As readers will be aware, the Archdeacon of Croydon, Chris Skilton, is retiring in February 2020.

The official service of farewell for Chris will take place at Emmanuel Church, South Croydon on Sunday 1 February 2020 at 6.00pm.

It is anticipated that the service will be quite informal and clergy are not required to robe. There will be a reception in the church hall afterwards. Everyone is welcome.

Should an individual or PCC wish to make a donation towards a leaving present for the Archdeacon, they may make cheques payable to "SLCF" writing "Skilton" on the back and sending them to the Finance Department, Trinity House, Borough High Street, London SE1 1HW



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Further details about the service, including travel and parking arrangements, will be sent out nearer the time.



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THE BRIDGE

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The **CHRISTMAS and NEW YEAR** edition is due to be printed on **5 DECEMBER** and in your parish from the following Sunday. Material for that edition must be with Wendy S. Robins at Trinity House by **MONDAY 25 NOVEMBER**

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Harvest with a difference at St Mary, Addington

The fruit and vegetables made the window ledges look pretty. The tins and non-perishable items flooded in for the Floating Shelter and the Foodbank and *We plough the fields and scatter* was sung lustily. But there was a difference.

The Revd Debbie Forman

Outside the church people were greeted by a scarecrow made up of plastic bottles and bags. Inside, the altar frontal was made entirely of crisp packets with the pillars decorated in similar fashion –

the work of Junior Church.

We gave thanks for the amazing beauty of the world and the fruitfulness of the land but then our thoughts switched to the environment and the ways in which we overuse plastics.

We reflected on a story from Tearfund in Pakistan where there is no refuse collection. Plastic bags are simply dumped in the poorest parts of the community, leading to an increase in vermin and therefore disease, but also putting those areas at greater risk of flooding as the plastic prevents water from draining away.

But this is not to be just the reflection of one Sunday!

We have discovered that the crisp packets can be recycled so we shall continue to be held to account by our home-grown team of ecowarriors.



Lancelot Andrewes Medal for long-serving Eltham priest



The Revd Margaret Mabbs has been awarded the Lancelot Andrewes medal 'for Godly Service and Zeal for the Gospel'.

The award was presented to Margaret at St Luke's Church, Eltham Park by the Vicar, the Revd Liz Oglesby-Elong, on behalf of Bishop Christopher.

Margaret Mabbs has been central to the life of St Luke's for many decades. A school teacher by profession, she was Licensed as a Reader, then made a Deaconess, Ordained to the Diaconate in 1987 and among the first women to be Ordained Priest in 1994. She has ministered faithfully,

skilfully and with great care in all these roles, as many at St Luke's will testify.

Now it is very hard for Margaret to get out of the house, it is agreed that it is time to acknowledge that her ministry has moved into a new phase, in which the emphasis is on prayer, interceding for the needs of all in this community and pastoral conversation.

Liz presented Margaret with the medal - Bishop Christopher's gift to Margaret in recognition of 'Godly Service and Zeal for the Gospel' - during St Luke's Patronal Festival celebrated on 20 October. Followed, of course, by another celebratory party! (St Luke's Parish Profile is on page 9)

Theology college celebrates students' success

On Saturday 19 October, St Augustine's College of Theology held its annual graduation service at St James's, Bermondsey.

The event presented and celebrated the academic awards achieved by those who recently completed their programmes of study and training.

They included independent students as well as Readers, newly ordained deacons, and curates.

Bishop Karowei, who is an Honorary Fellow of the College, preached on the



College's motto – 'What we will be has not yet been revealed' (1 John 3:2) – before handing out the certificates.

The Revd Jonathan Croucher, Chair of the College's Board of Trustees, spoke about the new Tattersall Fund set up to provide bursaries to enable more people to study theology.



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To Be a Pilgrim...

The theme of this year's Diocesan Prayer and Spirituality Day was pilgrimage. *To Be a Pilgrim* featured journeys of all kinds – metaphorical, spiritual and actual. And what an exhilarating voyage it was, from beginning to end!

Peter Graystone

Almost 300 people gathered in Southwark Cathedral on Saturday 19 October for a day of prayer, worship and reflection.

It began with praise songs led by the band of St Margaret's Church, Chipstead, and a meditation by Jane Hoskins about what we carry with us on our journey of faith with God.

The highlight of the day for many was a tremendously inspiring address by Dr Meg Warner about the life of Abraham.

We don't know why he was chosen by God, and maybe he himself didn't know when he started out on his epic journey. He made countless mistakes along the way. But he was the first great man of prayer – never for himself; always for people he encountered.

And by the end of his life he knew why he had lived and could glimpse God's plan. Dr Warner drew our attention

to the moving last words of Abraham's story in which Ishmael, the one to whom Muslims look as their ancestor, and Isaac, to whom Jews look, come together to bury their father at Mamre.

The day continued with an intriguingly varied selection of workshops, all using the theme of movement and travel. There was dance in one transept of the Cathedral, and a labyrinth in the other.

There was some crafty cutting and pasting in the Song School, and some nifty thinking about the place of feet in the Bible downstairs.

Workshops about sacred Celtic sites by Nick Mayhew-Smith, and the life of Thomas Merton by Revd Ian Mobsby drew large numbers. Elsewhere

there were prayer walks, and sessions on the practicalities of pilgrimage, spiritual direction, hearing God's call, and making your daily commute an act of prayer.

A dozen stalls in the marketplace offered people resources to enrich their walk of faith, and the retrochoir was turned into a quiet oasis of prayer with words to say, symbols to handle, and ideas to reflect on.

The day came to a climax with Bishop Christopher recalling the blessing that pilgrimages have been to him over the years.

He walked our imaginations through Psalm 23, past its places of peace and its places of challenge, urging us to dwell in the house of the Lord



People gathered for the Spirituality Day

forever. His final challenge, however, was the most thought provoking. Southwark Diocese has a Spirituality Day every two years. It's too long to wait for the next one. How can each

of us turn every day between now and then into a personal spirituality day? The way we answer that question really will shape and guide us as we all seek to be a pilgrim.

Six new Readers admitted and licensed



Six new Readers were admitted and licensed at Southwark Cathedral by Bishop Christopher on Sunday 6 October for service in parishes across the Diocese.

They are
Leon Clarke
Lewisham, St Swithun
Graham Connell
Furzedown Team Ministry
Leonora Davies
Norbury, St Oswald

Richard Evans
Lee, Good Shepherd with St Peter (with PTO at Lewisham, St Swithun)
Andrew Palfreyman
Morden Team Ministry
Alice Eka
Catford and Downham Team Ministry
The new Readers were presented to the Bishop by the Revd Dr Simon Stocks, St Augustine's College of Theology. The sermon was preached by The Venerable Chris Skilton, Archdeacon of Croydon and the choir of St John the Baptist, Catford sang.

Photo shows the new Readers with Chris Skilton (left), Dr Simon Stocks with the Bishop (centre) and Ray Wheeler, Warden of Readers (right)

Music Mark for St Cecilia's

Saint Cecilia's Church of England School, Wandsworth has been accredited with the Music Mark, recognising the excellent quality of music education provided to pupils and sixth formers. Bridget Whyte, Music Mark Chief Executive Officer wrote: "We would like to thank you for all the hard work you and your colleagues do to ensure that pupils at your school are able to access and engage with a high-quality music education".

Stephen Roberts to retire next August

The Revd Canon Stephen Roberts, the Deputy Diocesan Secretary, Secretary to the Diocesan Advisory Committee and the Diocesan Mission and Pastoral Committee and the Bishop's Lead on Safeguarding will be retiring next August.

Stephen has spent most of his ministry in the Diocese of Southwark. Deaconed in 1983 and Priested in 1984 his title post was in the Diocese of Rochester and his second Curacy at St Martin-in-the-Fields in London Diocese.

He came to Southwark in 1989 as Warden of Trinity College Centre and Vicar of St George's Camberwell. He was Rural Dean of Camberwell



from 1997-1999. He became the Senior Diocesan Director of Ordinands and Canon Treasurer of Southwark Cathedral in 2000. He was Archdeacon of Wandsworth from 2005- 2015.

Since 2015 he has been Deputy Diocesan Secretary and an Honorary Canon of Southwark Cathedral.

He will be much missed in the Diocese and He will be much missed and we will say a proper 'goodbye' next year.

'Showcasing' St Paul's Church

On Saturday 29 September St Paul's Church and Community Centre, Wimbledon Park, opened its doors to the community to show what goes on at this important local hub.

Heinz Toller writes:

Visitors of all ages enjoyed demonstrations and children's activities, including rugby tots, ballet, ballroom and Latin American dancing and bingo. Stalls run by the Lunch Club, the Fledglings Playgroup, the Safer Neighbourhood Team, 'Little Grey Cells' (Alzheimers Support), and yoga and reiki classes showcased what is available at St Paul's for people with different needs.

In the church the choir sang, individual congregation members performed and there were recitals by members of the Stoneleigh Youth Orchestra,

which rehearses regularly at St Paul's.

Visitors were able to look at the Creationtide prayer stations, each representing a day in the Creation story and exploring our relationship with the natural world. Teas and

homemade cakes were served by the St Paul's Community Café team.

Ice creams, a barbecue and Pimm's (and a non-alcoholic punch) were on offer in the Memorial Garden (below) - with food generously donated

by the local Co-op store. The Revd Susan Bolen, Priest-in-Charge, said: "The atmosphere has been fun and welcoming, and I've seen several people come into St Paul's for the first time".



Bringing country life to Kennington

For the past eight years, St Anselm's Kennington Cross has opened its doors each Autumn to some unusual guests.

Suzette Aagaard writes

We have previously welcomed geese, rabbits, sheep, goats and on several occasions Peregrine the pony (who has obligingly masqueraded as a donkey for other key church events over the years). On 12 October 200 people watched from the pews as three very grand looking alpacas processed with their handlers from nearby Vauxhall City Farm.

Our annual Kennington Country Life service has proved enduringly popular, with its

joyful celebration of all things harvest. Before the service there is an opportunity to pet smaller animals in pens on the church frontage, an experience enhanced by the cider and apple juice on offer.

We have developed a hotly contested scarecrow competition where local groups, businesses and schools vie for the trophy, this year handed to 'Change Up', our in-house charity, for its gloriously unusual creation.

Children from Archbishop Sumner Primary School and from our own Young Voices choir sang beautifully, their choice of music adapted to fit this year's theme (Ed Sheeran's 'I'm in love with the shape of you' accordingly became 'I don't love when you waste your food').

Each year covers a different, often quite serious, theme.

This year we dealt with food waste, illustrating some alarming facts in an accessible way: the congregation were asked how many slices of bread (24 million), glasses of milk (5.8 million), apples (860,000) and bags of salad (178 million/year) were thrown away in the UK each day.

Four children had very gamely dressed up as the relevant foods and were either 'thrown' in the (actual) skip or preserved in the (actual) fridge, depending on how accurate the guesses were. To further hammer home the point, Archbishop Sumner School had kindly donated a large and rather ripe bin bag full of that lunchtime's discarded food.

After the service, the children flocked into the crèche area for a sumptuous tea, policed by older children. This year we asked the



congregation to offer up cakes and delicacies using leftovers where possible. Thankfully there were no leftovers whatsoever when the children had passed through. They took their plates of goodies to the back of the church and each sat on a hassock to watch an

episode of *Blue Planet* on a large screen. Conscious that there are always a lot of rambunctious children at this service but not wanting it to be exclusively child-centred, we also set up a café-style, tabled area at the back of church, with tea and cakes for a more

intergenerational feel.

After the considerable clean up operation, removing stubborn cake crumbs from the church carpet, many of us returned home to guiltily inspect our own fridges with the feeling that we must improve our shopping habits.

"Building a bonfire.... building a community"

In October, Christ Church, Brockham Green's parishioners and clergy blessed the annual bonfire that regularly attracts 18,000 guests to the green.

Cllr Simon Bud and Chairwoman of the Parish Council, Karen Gargani joined the church family and more than 60 volunteers to celebrate their work with a glass of post-church service sherry.

The Revd Doug Ross (pictured) said: "We are not simply building a bonfire, but building a community."



Meanwhile in Merton...



St Francis (as played by PCC member Nick Alexandrou) visited St James Merton for his feast day on 6 October. He greeted the various pets as the Parish Mass began with a pet procession, blessings and prayers. (SJM photo)



The annual Diocesan Clergy Study Day took place at Southwark Cathedral on Tuesday 15 October. Clergy from around the Diocese gathered and were welcomed by Bishop Christopher. The speakers were The Revd Canon Professor Richard Burridge and Dr Meg Warner.



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The making of a mo

Every arena has its heroes, and the Church's are commemorated in the official calendar. Most days, we are asked to remember someone who has played a significant role in the Church's history and faith journey, from hymn writers and teachers of the faith to social reformers, missionaries, bishops and others.

Abigail Sanderson

Some of these are saints, dating from a time when we shared a calendar with the Catholic Church. However, there have been no new saints in the Church of England since the 17th century – not even John Henry Newman, who was sanctified by the Pope earlier this year (although he is commemorated in our Church calendar every 11 August).

How often, though, when we look at the short paragraphs describing the lives of these heroes – sometimes centuries old, others who lived and died little more than 50 years ago

– do we think about how they came to be chosen, and why they are there?

According to Sue Moore, Administrative Secretary to the Liturgical Commission, which is responsible for the process of updating the Lectionary, they are 'fantastic for teaching'.

"You look at some of the commemorations," she says, "and for want of a better word, they're not saints, they're ordinary people, who have had particular experiences in their life or done particularly effective social reform. They're people who have something to teach us, who have done good for the world."

Whatever their achievements, the path to inclusion in the Church of England lectionary is the same – and it is a slow and thorough process.

Incredible journey

The journey begins with ordinary churchgoers. Anyone is welcome to write to the Liturgical Commission with a suggestion for inclusion, and the idea is for the Commission to look afresh at the material every decade or so – the next revision is due during the next Quinquennium (the five-year period into which Church business is divided), if the House of Bishops' agenda



Bishop Christopher was among the Anglican Bishops who were in Rome for the canonisation of Cardinal Newman

allows. In between times, the suggestions are logged and set aside for formal discussion at a later date.

Sue Moore of the Liturgical Commission says that the name that has come up most frequently since the last revision in 2009 is Samuel Crowther, the first African bishop of the Anglican Church (see box).

"We've had a lot of long, quite detailed letters with a biography of him," she adds. Several bishops, too, are keen for Crowther's case to be heard.

Hard choices

However, there is a long process to go through before Crowther's name can be added to the Lectionary. Once submissions have been made, a sub-group of the Liturgical Commission is appointed to consider the evidence. They will decide on a suitable date for the calendar – usually the date of death – and write up a short biography. They will also consider whether any other names ought to go forward, and take another look

at any suggestions that did not make it into the previous revision to see if they might now qualify.

In making their decisions, the group must abide by certain rules – most importantly, the 50-year rule.

Under this, people must have been dead for at least 50 years before they can be considered for inclusion, unless they were martyred.

So, for example, Amy Carmichael (died 1951) and Gregory Dix (died 1952, see box)

were among those rejected in the 1995 revision because they did not meet the 50-year rule.

However, they were both put forward again for the 2009 revision and this time they were accepted.

Martyrs fall into a special category and can be added no matter how recently they died.

The Seven Martyrs of the Melanesian Brotherhood (see box), for example, who died in the Solomon Islands in 2003, were proposed and accepted in 2009.



Samuel Crowther

Samuel Crowther's story is an inspiring one: born in Nigeria, Ajayi, as he was then known, was sold into slavery, along with the rest of his village, at the age of 12. After being rescued and freed by the British Royal Navy, Ajayi was resettled in Sierra Leone, where he was cared for by the Church Missionary Society and converted to Christianity. When he was baptised in 1825, Ajayi named himself Samuel Crowther after the vicar of Christ Church, Newgate, in East London, who was one of the pioneers of the CMS.

After a spell in England, Crowther went back to

Sierra Leone and studied languages. Later he joined a missionary expedition to Niger, before being recalled to England where he trained as a minister. Two years later he returned to Africa to open another mission in modern-day Ogun State, Nigeria, where he translated the Bible into the local Yoruba language.

Crowther continued his languages work for the next two decades, adding a translation of the *Book of Common Prayer* as well as primers in the Igbo and Nupe languages. In 1864 he was consecrated a bishop, and continued to serve in that capacity until his death in 1891.

Crowther has started to receive a lot of support to be commemorated in the next iteration of the Church calendar, and the Bishop of Southwark is in full support.

He says: "I am delighted that there seems to be a groundswell of people urging that Bishop Samuel Crowther, the first African Anglican Bishop in Nigeria, be included in the liturgical calendar when it is next updated. It is time that we had a greater number of BAME people represented in our calendar and this would be an excellent start."

How it feels to have a relative in the Lectionary

Every 17 December, James Buxton has the surreal experience of commemorating one of his own relatives alongside the rest of the Anglican Communion: his great-aunt Eglantyne Jebb, the founder of Save the Children. "It is slightly bizarre," he says.

Buxton is chaplain in the benefice of Izmir with Bornova in Gibraltar and a former succentor in Southwark Cathedral.

Jebb is not the only famous Christian reformer in his family: he is also distantly related to Elizabeth Fry.

"They were both strong women in a time when it wasn't very easy to be, and

there were good reasons for that," he says.

"They grew up in enlightened families where women were encouraged to learn about the world and believe they could change things for the better. They came from families which encouraged them. As a family member, that's something I particularly notice. Yes, they had remarkable personal qualities, but they also had the best possible environment for learning to be like that."

Commemorated as a social reformer, Jebb was born in 1876. After studying at Oxford, she became a teacher before ill health forced her to give up her career. She then focused her energies on charitable works, founding Save the Children in the wake of World War One alongside her sister Dorothy Buxton.

"Save the Children was founded on 19 May 1919 and, unlike a lot of charities, it

started with a big bang – a huge meeting at the Royal Albert Hall," says Buxton. "It began to raise a huge amount of money straight away. A lot of that was to do with my grandmother Dorothy's vision and energy."

Once the charity was founded, Dorothy Buxton stepped aside in favour of her sister, giving Jebb "a way to meaning in her life," says Buxton. Stepping into the limelight certainly allowed her to shine: Jebb was also responsible for drafting the League of Nations' Declaration of the Rights of the Child, which was adopted in 1924. "She cared deeply about the plight of children around the world," adds Buxton. "She gave a standard by which countries should be able to treat children and it is a beautiful document to read."

For Buxton, it is putting that learning into action that is most impressive.



He believes that Jebb felt that the Gospel should really mean something about change in society and caring for the vulnerable. "I think she's a great example, really, and that's part of what *Exciting Holiness* people are there for, isn't it? For putting faith into action, for putting themselves in the shoes of vulnerable people, for coming up with solutions."

Modern Church 'hero'

The Seven Martyrs of the Melanesian Brotherhood

The Seven Martyrs of the Melanesian Brotherhood are one of the most recent additions to the Church calendar. They died in 2003, but are exempt from the so-called '50-year rule', which disqualifies people from being officially commemorated until more than 50 years have elapsed since their passing, because they died a martyr's death.

The Melanesian Brotherhood is a small Anglican religious community, formed in 1925 to evangelise in the Solomon Islands, Vanuatu and Papua New Guinea. During a period of civil unrest in the Solomon Islands between 2000 and 2003, the Brotherhood and other religious communities worked to bring about peace and reconciliation between the warring factions.

Just before Easter in 2003, a group of guerrillas kidnapped, tortured and killed Nathaniel Sado, a Melanesian Brother. Six of his fellow Brothers – Robin Lindsay, Francis Tofi, Alfred Hill, Ini Paratabatu, Patteson Gatu and Tony Sirihi – set out to discover what had happened to Sado, knowing that it might mean their own deaths. Three were shot on arrival, and the other three were tortured for 24 hours before being killed.

In 2008, the seven Brothers were honoured during the closing service of the Lambeth Conference at Canterbury Cathedral, and their names added to the book of contemporary martyrs. An icon representing the Melanesian Martyrs continues to be displayed in the cathedral, and they are commemorated in the liturgical calendar every 24 April.



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The thinking, according to the Liturgical Commission, is that it takes time to discover "whether a person's life has such a quality of heroic sanctity that the Church ought to regard them as models, (whereas) one who dies as a martyr witnesses by his or her death".

Once the sub-group is happy, the proposals go to the House of Bishops – "the guardians of doctrine", so to speak. They can either reject the submission and ask the Commission to do more work on it, or accept it and send it forward to Synod.

Final phase

The arrival at Synod triggers a whole new phase of work, as Synod members are now free to make changes or new suggestions of their own.

Sue says: "People can say, 'yes, I want that person but I want this one as well.' Or, 'No, we don't think that person should go in.'

Then it's up to the Revision Committee to consider all the options and the reasons and the arguments."

This Revision Committee is made up of representatives from Synod. As with the Liturgical Commission committees, these people are drawn from a range of churchmanship and geography.

According to Sue, they also try to choose "people who have put in really coherent, really detailed proposals or who spoke well in the (Synod) debate". Some are recommended to the Archbishops and chosen by them; all have a deep interest in liturgy.

Together, these appointees work in tandem with a steering committee – whose chair is usually the chair or vice-chair of the Liturgical Commission and is a bishop – to consider all the new comments raised by Synod, point by point. If they're not happy, they ask the steering

committee for further changes and gradually, bit by bit, the two groups whittle the submission down to something with which they are both happy. At this point, the text can go back to Synod for final approval by the House of Bishops, the House of Laity and the Convocations of Canterbury and York.

To pass this last hurdle, the submission must have the support of a two-thirds majority in each house; if it falls in one, it falls altogether – and cannot be brought back within the lifetime of that Quinquennium.

Assuming, however, that the Revision Committee and their colleagues in the Liturgical Commission have dotted every 'i' and crossed every 't', the submission should pass Synod and there will be a new entry in the Lectionary.

It may only be a few short paragraphs, but it will have been up to a decade or more in the making.

Janani Luwum

Janani Luwum, whose death is marked by a Lesser Festival on 17 February, was Archbishop of Uganda at the time of his death in 1977. As with the Melanesian Brothers (see box), he is exempt from the 50-year rule.

Born in 1922, Luwum spent his childhood as a goatherd, but he quickly showed an aptitude to learn when given the opportunity and he eventually became a teacher.

He converted to Christianity in 1948 and was ordained in 1956, becoming Bishop of Northern Uganda in 1969 and Archbishop in 1974, some three years after Idi Amin had come to power in a military coup. During those three years, Luwum never ceased to preach against Amin's harsh rule.

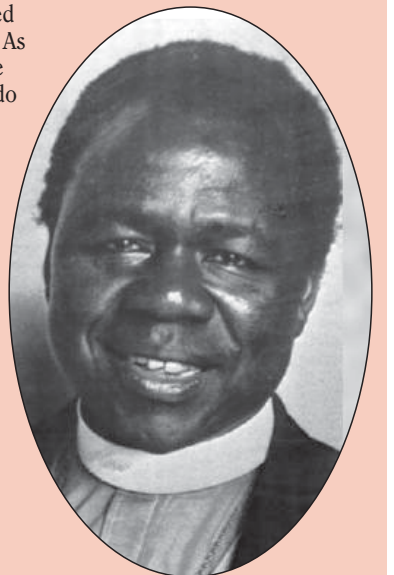
When he became a Christian, he said: "Today I have become a leader in

Christ's army. I am prepared to die in the army of Jesus. As Jesus shed his blood for the people, if it is God's will, I do the same."

These words turned out to be prophetic, as Luwum was found dead in 1977 – ostensibly in a car accident, although his death turned out to have been on the implicit orders of Amin himself – after putting his name to a letter protesting at what he termed the institution of state murder.

Today, as well as being celebrated in the Church calendar, Luwum is one of 10 modern saints and martyrs commemorated in Westminster Abbey.

Statues to these modern martyrs stand above the Abbey's Great West Door (photo above), representing people from every continent and a range of Christian denominations who have been persecuted for their faith.



They include Dietrich Bonhoeffer, killed by the Nazis in 1945; civil rights leader Dr Martin Luther King Jr; Oscar Romero, Archbishop in El Salvador who was assassinated in 1980 while presiding at mass; and Wang Zhiming, a pastor killed during the Chinese Cultural Revolution.

A view of the frieze of the Modern Martyrs above the entrance to Westminster Abbey



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Gregory Dix

Gregory Dix, an Anglican Benedictine monk and noted liturgical scholar, was proposed twice for



the calendar before he was accepted (the first time he fell foul of the 50-year rule, which says that people may not be commemorated until they have been dead for 50 years).

Born George Dix in 1901, Dix was briefly a fellow at Keble College, Oxford, while also studying at Wells Theological College. He was ordained deacon in 1924 and priest in 1925, entering Nashdom Abbey in Burnham in 1926.

For three years Dix served as a novice on the Gold Coast of Australia, before his health broke down and he returned to Burnham. Apart from a brief secondment to the Anglo-Catholic daughter church of

St Michael in Beaconsfield during World War Two, Dix remained at Burnham until his death from cancer in 1952. He took his final vows in 1940 and became prior in 1948.

Dix earned his spot in the Church of England calendar for his groundbreaking liturgical work. His entry states: "A gifted and popular preacher and spiritual director, Dix is best remembered as a liturgical scholar whose monumental work, *The Shape of the Liturgy*, has had an unparalleled influence over liturgical study and revision since it was first published in 1945." He is commemorated every year on 12 May.



Helping children to make sense of Easter

As the nights start drawing in and we begin to turn our gaze towards the season of Advent, we are excited to launch a new resource for...Easter!

Keli Bolton

Why? To give enough time for you to know about it, receive training early next year and sign up your local schools in time to run it at Easter.

This resource was written, and has been delivered, over the past six years by one of our brilliant Children's Workers: Jude Barber of Christ Church, Purley. It encourages churches to connect more intentionally with schools.

CSI: Easter - The case of the missing body is a hands-on workshop designed to enable pupils in Key Stage 2 to discover the beliefs behind the Christian festival through engagement, excitement and fun. Investigation, scientific experimentation, code-breaking, fingerprinting and evidence packs help pupils to learn about the events of Good Friday and discover why the garden tomb was empty on Easter Sunday morning.

Recognising what it is that Christians believe and how this affects their lives are two key elements of most RE curriculum programmes. In addition to the learning, this educational project also provides pupils with the opportunity to visit a place of worship, enriching their

experience and knowledge of Christianity.

The planning book aims to provide all the information, ideas and resources needed for you to run, lead and host the project in your church, worship space or local school.

Each 90-minute session is based on a police investigation whereby the pupils are given the 'crime brief' and are invited to attempt to solve the 'case of the missing body'. Through undertaking four investigative activities, observing three witness interviews and discovering two evidence packs, the pupils work collaboratively to discover why the tomb, originally containing the body of Jesus, has been found empty and to identify the Christian beliefs underpinning the celebration of Easter.

The intention is that churches host the event for the week(s) leading up to Easter in order to provide a fun learning experience for the pupils of local primary schools. Why not transform your worship space into a crime scene and invite multiple classes from local schools to experience the fantastic hands-on workshop?

Training to run it is on Monday 24 February 2020, 7.15pm to 9pm at Christ Church, Purley - sign up at <http://cypmm.eventbrite.com>

The full resource is available FREE at <https://southwark.anglican.org/cypmm/linking-with-schools/>

i Keli Bolton is a Mission Support Officer in the Diocesan Mission and Evangelism Department

Good News from Kingston Deanery

- Christ Church, New Malden recently held a special service for the blessing of animals. A large number attended bringing their pet or a picture of their pet and it was considered a huge success
- The Haven Winter shelter will be based at All Saints and Kingsgate Church in the town centre. Guests will be able to turn up and gain a dry place to sleep, refreshment and access to help from Kingston Churches Action on Homelessness. Last year the shelter was London winner for 'inclusion' in Premier Radio's Love Britain awards and also won Kingston's award for charity excellence.



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Ministry to people with Dementia

Today you will find more and more being written about dementia. As the population in this country ages and people live for longer, it is becoming an issue that directly faces more and more people.

Joanna Cox

The NHS mental health website suggests that in England "it is estimated that one in three people will care for a person with dementia during their lifetime."

Parish churches know the importance of walking alongside those who are living with and are affected by dementia. In many congregations there are individuals who offer friendship and practical help to people experiencing some degree of cognitive impairment. Churches can also provide a place of belonging to people living with one of the various forms of dementia, as well as to those caring for them. The important thing is to make sure those coming feel welcome and relaxed.

Holy Trinity, Upper Tooting has arranged for their church to be used for a Dementia Café run under the auspices of the Alzheimer's Society. They organise a short worship service before the café, offering a welcoming environment for those coming to the café and their carers.

Holy Trinity, Wallington runs a fortnightly "Altogether Group" which welcomes those who experience dementia as well as their carers. The team lay on refreshments, quizzes, songs and games. They say one of the most encouraging things has been to see friendships develop amongst those who come, who offer support to each other.

Information and Training

To help churches develop ways to respond appropriately to dementia, SAGE, JPIC and the Diocesan Dementia Forum have arranged for trainers to run a day workshop on Saturday 23 November (10am – 4pm) at St John, Angell Town (Brixton).

This will help look beyond medical approaches and explore how dementia can often lead to social and spiritual isolation. It will help us draw on theological

and spiritual resources. Participants will be encouraged to reflect on ways in which churches can be dementia-inclusive, and begin to think about practical actions that might be appropriate.

The Diocese is subsidising the workshop, and a contribution of just £5 is asked (including lunch). To book places e-mail ministryandtraining@southwark.anglican.org

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Bryan Harris's

PARISH PROFILE

Having had both her children whilst in full-time stipendiary ministry, Liz Oglesby-Elong is no stranger to navigating the challenges, and the tremendous opportunities that motherhood brings to her role as a Vicar of St Luke, Eltham Park.

We met at 9.30am, after she'd done the daily school run. One of her sons goes to a nearby CofE primary school and the other attends Pre-School in St Luke's Church Hall. Her outgoing personality means that at the school gates opportunities abound for developing new relationships, which have led to new families in church, youngsters being prepared for Holy Communion and a growth in confirmations. All very good news for St Luke's Church and a Vicar with a heart for growth and community engagement.

St Luke's Church was built in 1907 initially to serve the Eltham Park estate developed by Archibald Cameron Corbett (Lord Rowallan) between 1900 and 1914. Property ranges from large detached houses (originally with servants quarters) to semis and terraces. All but the largest were originally 'rented at reasonable prices' to Woolwich Arsenal workers. A century on a detached 'Corbett' house will cost you £1.5 million and a two bedroom flat just under £300 a week! The church is Grade II listed, described as 'a fine example of the work of one of the greatest Gothic revivalists' (Temple Moore). The initial layout of a nave, chancel and north aisle was extended in 1934 by the addition of a south aisle, porch and vestry. There is a church hall to the north, linked to the church by a glass-roofed walkway, called The Link.

The tradition at St Luke's is liberal catholic. It's not stuffy or prickly but somehow retains the air of awe and reverence which typifies Anglo-Catholicism. I joined them for the 10am Parish Mass. Liz, presided and



preached with a congregation of 60 or so adults plus 20 children. The service was sung Mass, Common Worship contemporary language, 'augmented' by incense and bells, a relaxed style and light hand. There is a robed choir, including Patrick Shorrock, one of St Luke's two Readers - the other is Rosemary Roper - and the ubiquitous shortage of organists is overcome by a digital system (which you don't realise until you are told!) During the Gloria the children collected their cross and processed out to Kingdom Kids, (St Luke's Sunday school), built up in the five years that Liz has been the Vicar. The church also has a purpose-made creche area with full view of church and a speaker system for parents/guardians of the 0-3 year olds during the service. The Kingdom Kids came out to witness the baptism and then returned to their own activities until the distribution of Holy

Communion. The baptism plus the third birthday of one of the vicarage children meant that after the service there was cake and 'fizz' and no hurry for anyone to leave. Since Liz's arrival five years ago, hospitality has grown - there seems to be 'a party' after the service most weeks! In fact a quick glance through the annual report suggests that every aspect of church life - from the servers to the choir and the faith development groups - seems to include some sort of party at least once a year!

"The people who come here just seem to fall in love with the place," Liz told me. "It's an area surrounded by green spaces and very accessible into central London and Kent. People do settle in Eltham Park such that many of our congregation have been members of St Luke's for years, many of whom form the core congregation. Alongside this there is the growth of younger families - and changes in the area with new small local businesses and a growing community spirit." This is all good news for St Luke's mission and outreach. They have engaged with the local Eltham Park Summer Festival for the past few years, as well as bringing together a Tri-Churches Choir (Anglican, Baptists and Methodists) for an evening of singing at "Westmount Lights Up" mini-Christmas festival, now in its third year.

St Luke's have recently joined Greenwich Citizens with Holy Trinity Eltham, working together to empower local people to better engage with local issues.

Liz's welcoming ministry and growing links to two local primary schools has seen a significant change in the average age as younger families with their children join the church family. As a result, on the Sunday I visited the age range seemed to be from octogenarians to toddlers - boosted by a baptism of a teenager happening that day. Eltham Park is known as a predominantly white middle-class area and that is reflected by the limited number of Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic worshippers in the congregation - although this too is growing. Liz is married to Samuel, who is a Cameroonian and like Liz was brought up as a child of an Anglican Priest, and Liz commented on the slowly increasing diversity that she is beginning to be aware of in the parish.

St Luke's proclaims itself as 'living, loving & serving in the community since 1907'. So how does that manifest itself.

It's a generous and engaged parish. They have a Charities Group which plans a year-round programme of support for a wide range of charities. For example, Water Aid benefits from the refreshments after services... they support the Eltham FoodBank with food and money, in May they supported the Tommy Crush Foundation: supporting teenagers vulnerable to suicide, founded in memory of Tommy whose funeral Liz took at St Luke's the previous May; and this month it was CRUSE Bereavement Care as they mark 60 years of supporting bereaved people (Greenwich CRUSE operates out of space rented at St Luke's).

Every month they focus on a specific charity with a coffee morning, a display, a magazine article and themed

intercessions, all for raising awareness as well as money. In September the Gift Day to raise money for the Church's own heating appeal was combined with a craft exhibition and a coffee morning to raise money for MacMillan Cancer Care and South East London Breast Cancer Trust.

And it's a caring parish. Listening to people chatting on Sunday morning, it was clear that they 'keep an eye out' for each other - and for anyone local who is thought to be vulnerable through age or infirmity. There is a Friday evening Fellowship Group founded more than 70 years ago with a programme of outings and social activities and a monthly afternoon Pastoral Group, particularly aimed at people who live alone. Home Communion is a growing area of ministry as the Vicar, mostly supported by one of the Readers, offers this sacramental ministry to the housebound, the sick and the dying. Regular Pastoral care and visiting happens, supported by a strong Mothers' Union - though with Diocesan MU Secretary Anne Love in the congregation that is no surprise.

However, there is still a perceived need to increase outreach. Since Liz's arrival as Vicar in November 2014, these first five years of the Mission Action Plan are being focused on 'building the platform', making the church more welcoming and accessible to the community. For example, seating at the back of the church has been moved around to create a more useable 'café' space, the vestry room behind the sanctuary has been refurbished to be more inviting to potential users and the present aged and inadequate heating system is to be replaced.

'Looking in' has been a success and so in the autumn of 2020 will see the move to the second phase 'looking out'. Liz sees the Vision for this already in 'The Link' that has

been built between the church and the Church Hall and other spaces. The hall has the Royal Eltham Pre-school during the daytime, and then is a hireable venue for everything from uniformed groups to karate, pregnancy pilates and birthday parties. The other spaces are rented out to Greenwich CRUSE bereavement care and a counselling practice. Phase two will look to build on the 'physical link' to increase the church's links to the hall users and through them the rest of the local community.

There are challenges, of course, including the need to grow and support the team of laity being encouraged to take on new roles and ministries; with a number of retired clergy (Peter Allen, Paul Keogh, Margaret Mabbs, Ingrid Nash and Gerry Stevenson) some of whom are still in active ministry, whilst others sadly not, due to aging and health issues.

"As the Church, we are in changing times, as we experience the need to re-think and re-imagine ministry; moving away from over clerical dependence and building towards stronger lay leadership and embracing varieties of ministries," says Liz.

"We've moved a long way from 'the Vicar does everything' but we still have some way to go in developing new sustainable patterns of ministry here".

Fortunately St Luke's people are proving very willing to take on things they are asked to do - and increasingly beginning to take the initiative in new ideas and projects.

St Luke's gives the impression of enjoying its life together, and Liz is a great encourager of getting a Church celebration started. This year's Patronal Festival was no exception! On Sunday 20 October, the Revd Margaret Mabbs was presented with the Lancelot Andrewes Award, by Liz on Bishop Christopher's behalf and of course there was a party! (See page 3)



Let us pray

November

In 1620 the *Mayflower* set sail for the New World across the Atlantic.

The ship had been docked at Rotherhithe and from nearby 65 pilgrims boarded and set sail picking up more

passengers before sailing from Plymouth to New England.

Many of those who boarded the ship on the Thames came from the Borough, what is now the Cathedral Parish, St George's and the parishes along the river. They were seeking a place of religious freedom and tolerance. Later they would be followed by John Harvard who would found the university outside Boston which bears his name.

2020 will be a year of celebration of the sailing of

the *Mayflower* and we look forward to taking part in those celebrations.

'Mayflower 2020' is launched on Thanksgiving, Thursday 28 November and although it would be 1621 before the pilgrims would be able to celebrate and give thanks in their new homes we begin the anticipation of our celebrations.

Though this is not a festival that we keep it will be good this year to offer thanks in our own way. What drove the pilgrims overseas has changed, we

are much more tolerant of difference than we were then.

But there is still a long way to go. So we join the members of The Episcopal Church by praying with them the Collect for Thanksgiving Day.

Almighty and gracious Father, we give you thanks for the fruits of the earth in their season and for

the labours of those who harvest them. Make us, we beseech thee, faithful stewards of thy great bounty, for the provision of our necessities and the relief of all who are in need, to the glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. 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

New look for The Bridge

From the February edition the Bridge will have a new look and feel which we hope will encourage even more people to read it.

As a result we will be looking for a volunteer Editorial Adviser who can help to keep us in touch with things that are happening across the parishes and give us ideas of what we should be featuring as

we seek to showcase the work of our laity across the Diocese.

We will, of course, continue to share news of what our Bishops, Archdeacons and clergy colleagues are doing to share God's Good News. A small honorarium will be offered for the role.

If you are interested or know anyone who might be please contact David Loft, Director of Human Resources on david.loft@southwark.anglican.org

Old Vic stars visit school

St Saviour's & St Olave's CofE School, Southwark welcomed award-winning actors Claire Foy and Matt Smith into the school on 9 October to perform The Old Vic's

upcoming production, *Lungs*.

Over 140 students were selected to watch the play which explores the relationship between a couple wrestling with the biggest issues in the modern world – political unrest, climate change, over population and pollution – all themes that link to the school curriculum.

Caroline Elliott-Janvier, Head of PSHCE at the school, commented: "It was absolutely riveting to watch so many

important themes being broached within the context of a 'typical modern relationship'. I can see myself asking the question 'What would Claire and Matt have done?' when we discuss these issues in lessons!"

Kate Varah, Executive Director of The Old Vic, said: "It was a joy to be able to share a production as exciting as *Lungs* with the students of St Saviour's & St Olave's School to physically bring a piece of The Old Vic and embed it within their school. At The Old

Vic we are passionate about providing opportunities for young people to access the arts. It could be that seeing a production opens up thoughts of a potential career path, provides a chance to learn new skills, or simply offers a new enjoyable way to spend time and connect with others that they may not otherwise have been able to access. We hope it has planted the seeds for a lifelong love of theatre".

The play runs from 14 October to 9 November.



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Interview Date:	Week commencing 25th November
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Contract type:	Full time
Contract term:	Permanent

Our one form entry school continues to grow and will become full in September 2020 for the 1st time including a maintained nursery. Since opening we have achieved our vision of providing the highest possible quality of education supported by a caring ethos and focus on the individual child.

Trinity Oaks is Surrey's 3rd most sought-after primary school according to Department for Education data.

Thanks to the vibrancy and dedication of our founding Headteacher and her staff, the school which opened in 2014, is now a thriving community dedicated to providing the highest standards of education, embedded within a Christian ethos.

We as Governors are privileged to be part of this remarkable school and believe that the key to our success is the strong relationships and support between staff, pupils, parents, the church and the wider community.

In recruiting our new Headteacher, we are looking for someone who can share our values and help us shape and deliver our vision and ethos. The successful candidate will have the energy, enthusiasm, skills and experience to move Trinity Oaks from being 'the new school' to a well established community that supports and enables children in their educational journey.

For more information please visit the school website at: www.trinityoaks.surrey.sch.uk
Send your application to: admin@trinityoaks.surrey.sch.uk
To arrange a visit contact: Frances Plowman on 01293 776935

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Good interpersonal and teamwork skills are essential as is a sense of humour and the ability to exercise tact, diplomacy and sensitivity.

You need to be committed to our vision of 'Developing Church of England Education', be in sympathy with the aims and objectives of the Christian Church, and ideally have an understanding of the workings of the Church of England in Education.

An application pack is available from Sarah Bogati (sarah.bogati@southwark.anglican.org)
Tel: 020 7234 9206

Closing date for applications: 5pm Friday 8 November 2019

Interviews and assessment: Tuesday 19 November 2019

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Ongoing

- * **BEDDINGTON** - Quiet @St Mary's - 3rd Thursday each month 11am - 2pm. Including labyrinth
- * **BOROUGH** - St George the Martyr Community Cafe and TimeBank every Thursday 2pm-4.30 pm.
- † **HACKBRIDGE** - Taizé at All Saints at 7pm First Sunday every month

- * **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

November

Saturday 2 November

- * **ROTHERHITHE** - 'Sounds and Sweet Ayres' A new play about the life of Shakespeare's fool, Robert Armin, with music from his time for lute and voices, performed by Musica Antica, 7.30pm at Holy Trinity Church. Tickets (£10 adult, £2 children) from www.musicaantica.org.uk

Wednesday 6 November

- ♫ **CATERHAM** - Munch with Music at St John's Church. Marianne Town Smith (soprano) and Panaretos Kyriatidis (piano). Tea/Coffee 12.15 - 12.45 Performance 12.45 - 1.30pm Free Admission - Donations welcome
- † **SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL** - Railway Workers WWI Centenary Memorial Service at 3.00pm in the presence of HRH the Duke of Gloucester

Lunchtime Music at St Matthew's, Redhill Admission free, donations invited Thursdays @ 1.10pm

- 7th Dunottar School
- 14th Hannah Hever (Clarinet)
- 21st Wind & Words: "World War II" - Valerie Fry (Narrator) & Chris Hooker (Clarinet)
- 28th David Hanesworth (Violin) w Patricia Romero (Piano)

Choral Evensong sung by the RGS Godfrey Searle Choir

- Thursday 7 November St Mark, Reigate 5pm.
- Thursday 14 November St Mary, Reigate 5pm.
- Sunday 17 November St Peter, Tandridge 6.30pm.
- Thursday 21 November St Mark, Reigate 5pm.
- Sunday 24 November St Mary, Reigate 5.15pm.
- Thursday 28 November St Mary, Reigate 5pm.

Lunchtime Recitals at Croydon Minster
Fridays at 1.10 - 1.50pm
Free entry donations requested

- 8th Tim Guntrip (Organ)
- 15th Old Palace of John Whitgift School
- 22nd Emmanuel Garnier (Piano)
- 29th Laine Theatre Arts Choir

Saturday 9 November

- ♫ **DULWICH** - The Ionian Singers with clarinettist Marina Fimmamore - St Stephen's Church, 7.30pm. Tickets at the door £14.00 (u/16s & f/t students free).
- ♫ **STREATHAM** - Visions of Albion - Streatham Chorale at St Peter's Church 7.30-9.30pm. Concert of some of the most popular anthems in the church music repertoire. Tickets: £10.00 (£8.50 concs). Available online (www.stpeters-streatham.org) or on the door

Saturday 16 November

- ♫ **CROYDON** - Come and Sing Dvorak's Requiem. A one-day choral workshop and performance with the Croydon Bach Choir 10am - 5.30pm Pre-registration and payment essential. For more information go to <http://bit.ly/2mfSSUW>
- ♫ **CROYDON** - Lewisham Choral Society Concert at the Phoenix Concert Hall, Fairfield Halls, 7.30pm - Belshazzar's Feast (Walton) & - Enigma Variations and Give unto the Lord (Elgar). Details/tickets from lewisham choralsociety.org.uk
- * **LINGFIELD** - Friends of the College of St Barnabas Annual Fair at 10.00am. Gifts, cards, refreshments, stalls, raffles, tombola. Admission £1. Come and help The Friends to provide social activities, concerts and visits.

- ♫ **KINGSTON** - Mendelssohn Saint Paul at All Saints Church, 7.30pm. Anna Patalong (Soprano), Alex Sprague (Tenor), Thomas Faulkner (Bass) with the Thames Sinfonia. Tickets £8 - £16 from www.kingstonchoralsociety.org.uk or phone 07770 932912 or at the door.

Sunday 17 November

- ♫ **STREATHAM** - Matt Lowe (cello) and Poppy Beddoe (Clarinet) at St Peter's Church, 12.10pm to 1pm. Free entry with a retiring collection in aid of the Church Organ fund
- ♫ **LEWISHAM** - 'Invest In Peace' - Hear the stories of two peace activists: one Israeli and one Palestinian. 3.30 - 5.00pm followed by refreshments. Organised by the Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin and Catford and Bromley Synagogue. Enquiries: 07767 811113. Free but booking essential at investinpeace. eventbrite.co.uk. Venue address will be sent to registered attendees.

Monday 18 November

- ♫ **KINGSTON** - 'Islam the Basics' one day study course with Dr Chris Hewer at The Guildhall, High Street. 9.30- 4.00. Free, donations welcome. Details from dianamills31@gmail.com

Tuesday 19 November

- ♫ **BATTERSEA** - Social Media - good or bad for children and young people? Debate at St Luke's Church 7pm. Speakers inc John Carr OBE, Claire Levens (Internet Matters), Andrew Przybylski (Oxford Internet Institute), Aaron Vallance (Consultant, Surrey Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services). Tickets £5 from www.stlukeschurch.org.uk

Wednesday 20 November

- ♫ **RICHMOND** - 'Muslim views of Christianity' a study day led by Dr Chris Hewer. 10.00-4.00 at Richmond Library Annex, Quadrant Road. Free, donations welcome. Details from dianamills31@gmail.com
- ♫ **WESTMINSTER** - Westminster Cathedral Interfaith Group at Hinsley Room, Morpeth Terrace (4 - 5 pm) - Raya Tibawi on her walk for Medical Aid for Palestine

Friday 22

& Sunday 24 November

- ♫ **WATERLOO** - 'Dialogues des Carmélites' - Midsummer Opera Symphony Orchestra and Chorus at St John's Church. (Friday @ 7pm, Sunday @ 5.30pm) Tickets £24 (£22 concs Friday) from 020 7652 0070 or <http://bit.ly/2kDqDPP>. On the door £28 (£26 concs

Saturday 23 November

- ♫ **DEPTFORD** St Paul's Lunchtime Recital: Celebrating Women Organists - 1-1.45pm Eleni Keventsidou.
- * **MERTON** - St James Church Christmas Fair 11am. Visit from St Nicholas. Adm. free.
- ♫ **CHEAM** - Sutton Symphony Orchestra concert, 7.30pm at St Andrew's URC, Northey Avenue. Tickets £10. Further information from Sue White 020 8644 4053

Sunday 24 November

- * **LINGFIELD** - Stir-Up Sunday Fairtrade Christmas Pudding making at St Peter and St Paul Church from 12 noon, £12. Bring the pudding bowl - ingredients, & help supplied Children welcome. Fairtrade stalls, hot drinks. Book by 18 November. gillwilliams2000@yahoo.co.uk or 01342 833994

Wednesday 27 November

- ♫ **ROTHERHITHE** - 'Lo Spedale', or 'The Hospital' - recently rediscovered 17th century comic opera (satire of healthcare, hypochondria and response to poverty). 7.30pm at Holy Trinity Church. Tickets (£10 - children £2) from www.musicaantica.org.uk

Thursday 28 November

- ♫ **GREENWICH** - "Thank God for Equal Marriage" - The Very Revd Jeffrey John, Dean of St Albans at St George's, Westcombe Park at 8pm. Q&A session. Refreshments. Admission free. Retiring collection.

Saturday 30 November

- * **ADDISCOMBE** - Christmas Fair at St Mary Magdalene Church, Canning Road 11am - 3 pm.
- ♫ **BATTERSEA** - Choral concert by the Festival Chorus and soloists, 7.30pm St Luke's Church. Haydn's Nelson Mass and Tippett's 'A child of our Time'. Tickets £18 (concs £14) from www.slms.org.uk

Saturday 30 November & Sunday 1 December

- * **BETCHWORTH** - St Michael's Church Alternative Christmas Tree Festival. Saturday 10am-4pm; Sunday 12 - 4pm. Refreshments and gift stall.
- * **ADDINGTON** - Crib Festival at St Mary's Church. If you have a crib (bought or home-made) to donate to the festival please bring it to church on Friday 29 November (afternoon).

December

Sunday 1 December

- ♫ **MERTON**: The Joyful Mysteries: Advent Music at St James Church 6pm.

Wednesday 4 December

- ♫ **CATERHAM** - Munch with Music at St John's Church. Musicians from Caterham School. Tea/ Coffee 12.15 - 12.45. Performance 12.45 - 1.30pm. Free Admission - Donations welcome

Lunchtime Music at St Matthew's, Redhill Admission free, donations invited Thursdays @ 1.10 pm

- 5th Raymond Wui-Man You (Piano)
- 12th Martin Cooper (Organ)

Choral Evensong sung by the RGS Godfrey Searle Choir

Thursday 5 December St Mark, Reigate 5pm.
Thursday 12 December St Mary, Reigate 5pm.

Saturday 7 December

- * **CLAPHAM COMMON** - Holy Trinity Green & Ethical Christmas Fayre 11-4pm. Environmentally friendly gifts & food; Santa's Grotto; activities for children. Christmas trees & wreaths. Vegetarian & organic meat BBQ. Fairtrade cafe. Admission £1
- ♫ **WEST WICKHAM** - Big Christmas Sing - Carols and readings in aid of Christian Aid. Come and join in favourite carols at St Francis of Assisi at 4pm. Free admission & refreshments
- ♫ **BRIXTON** - A Gospel Christmas 2019 - an evening of gospel music and spoken word in aid of Christian Aid. @ the NTCG Brixton Community Church, Lambert Road, 7-10pm. Adult £15 (before 15 November from agc19. eventbrite.co.uk) Discounted group bookings: london@christian-aid.org
- ♫ **OXTED** - Oxted & Limpsfield Choral Society Christmas concert, 5pm in the United Reformed Church. Puccini's Messa di Gloria and Christmas carols. Tickets £15 (£5 for u/16s), inc wine and a mince pie from 01959 577749 or on the door.
- * **LINGFIELD** - Christmas Wreath Workshop Morning at St Peter and St Paul. All materials provided, demonstration, helpers, and refreshments, £20 Early booking advised gillwilliams2000@yahoo.co.uk or 01342 833994.

- * **SELSDON** - St John's Christmas AngelFest Saturday 11am-3pm Fayre; children's activities; Father Christmas; stalls and refreshments. Free Entry Sunday 6pm - Christmas Concert, mulled punch and mince pies. Free Entry.

Saturday 7 & Sunday 8 December

- * **WIMBLEDON** - Wimbledon Chamber Choir concert, 7.30pm at St Matthew's Church. Tickets £12/£10. Further information from Sue White 020 8644 4053

Saturday 14 December

- ♫ **WIMBLEDON** - Wimbledon Chamber Choir concert, 7.30pm at St Matthew's Church. Tickets £12/£10. Further information from Sue White 020 8644 4053

From Generation to Generation

Black History Month Celebration at Southwark Cathedral



The Cathedral was packed for a joyful celebration at the annual Black History Month service of thanksgiving on Saturday 5 October.

The theme this year, "From Generation to Generation", focused on the contribution of Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic women in ministry.

The Mayors of Southwark, Wandsworth, Greenwich and Lewisham were present as guests along with the leader of Southwark Council, Cllr Peter John. Bishop Christopher

presided at the Eucharist assisted ably by BAME Deacons from within the Diocese including the Revd Deepthi Wickremasinghe, the Revd Reginald Grant, the Revd Carol Bates and the Revd Cordella Dawson.

Highlights of the event included the presence of the Mother of Clemency and Southwark Trinity icons and moving performances from the Amies Freedom Choir, made up of former victims of trafficking. The choir of 15 women adorned with beautiful head dresses sang beautifully in English and French.

There was also a performance by Rachel Young on the oboe and the President of the Southwark Diocese Mother's Union, Mrs Comfort Idowu-Fearon (left), gave the address drawing attention to the way that women both lay and ordained have been crucial to the growth of the Church.

After a lunch break, there were workshops on the themes of Lay and Ordained Leadership presented with support from the Vocations Department and complimented by a workshop on the work of the Mothers' Union, worldwide and locally.



Five BAME women talk about their road to ordination

Bee-ing kind in Battersea

The 'Bee Kind Garden' - a new community garden based at Christ Church CofE Primary School in Battersea - was formally opened and blessed on 27 September.

In his opening address, Jules Pipe, London's Deputy Mayor for Planning, Regeneration and Skills, talked about the importance of access to green spaces.

Bishop Christopher then blessed the garden and the community and award winning designer Cleve West, who had worked with pupils and staff to create the garden, encouraged every school to create something similar.

The garden has a wild flower meadow with insect houses and bird boxes as well as fruit trees, vegetable beds and a puppet shed theatre.

It enables both pupils, parents and volunteers to have access to home grown organic vegetables all year round. The puppet shed theatre is being used to teach about the importance of insects in a garden using puppets created with the help of Jenny Ogden.

The school's curriculum gives pupils access to regular outdoor learning both for academic work as well as for mental health and well-being.

Pupils learn how to grow vegetables from seed as well as learning a range of other subjects outside. The garden is also used for worship, prayer and reflection.

Pupils learn to value nature and understand the importance of looking after the insect life in the garden.

The project was funded by the Mayor of London, Big Local SW11, GLL, St Luke's Church, The Royal Parks, Wholefoods Market and other local funders.



Vauxhall Tide

A banner reflecting the lives of local people was presented to the community on 23 October at a special event in Tate South Lambeth Library.

The banner was made by members of *Vauxhall Tide*, a new community art project based at St Anne and All

Saints, South Lambeth. The banner comprises 16 panels made by individual members of the group, each reflecting the lives and histories of local residents. It emerged from group conversation as well as each individual's creativity.

The project was funded by an AllChurches Mission Money grant and is part of St Anne's Community Wellbeing Programme.

Contemporary visual artist Dr Zak Jones and St Anne's Curate the Revd Vanessa Elston (above) organise the group, which includes long-established residents as well as those newer to the area.



The wheels on the bus don't go round & round!

Anyone wondering about the recent arrival of two double decker buses in the car park at St Mildred's Church, Lee may be interested to know that these are being used to house activities for children's groups and young people!

The buses serve as interim accommodation following the decommissioning of the church hall owing to serious structural deterioration.

Janet Daby MP 'launched' the buses in October. Having been interviewed about her faith and her work as an MP, Janet 'cut the ribbon' on each bus and enjoyed spending time with the young people in the refurbished double decker meeting space.

St Mildred's Church plans to replace the hall with a new building designed not only for church activities but also for community use.

The estimated cost of the project is £3.7 million. The congregation has already raised £1.8 million without any external appeal for funds. The Diocesan Advisory Committee has been advising the project team and a planning application has been submitted to Lewisham Council.

Walking | Welcoming | Growing