

Little St. Mary's, Cambridge

NEWSLETTER

February 2006, No. 370

Price: 25p



SERVICES & EVENTS IN FEBRUARY

- Thur 2nd **Presentation of Our Lord: CANDLEMASS**
7.45 am Low Mass
7.00pm Sung Mass and Ceremonies
- Sun 5th **4th Sunday before LENT/5th Sunday of Epiphany (BCP)**
10.30am High Mass, Preacher: the Revd Jonathan Boardman,
Chaplain of All Saints, Rome
- Wed 8th Reflection & Meditation on the Word, Amy Merriman,
Lady Chapel, 6.30pm
- Sun 12th **3rd Sunday before LENT/Septuagesima**
Sun 19th **2nd Sunday before LENT/Sexagesima**
10.30am High Mass, Preacher: the Rt. Revd Richard Jewellin,
formerly Bishop at Lambeth
- Fri 24th **Mardi Gras Event, 7.30pm, Parish Room**
- Sun 26th **Sunday before LENT, Quinquagesima**
Bring in last year's palms and leave them by the font.

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VICAR'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

The PCC met on 18th January. With a lengthy and varied agenda, of particular importance was the decision to set up a **Social Responsibility Group** to raise our awareness of local concerns and to facilitate appropriate response. A good example of the sort of concern which the group might address is the current reduction in Mental Health service provision in Cambridge and the surrounding area. The initial membership of the group is: Sheila Bennett, Malcolm Munro, Janet Nevitt, Anne Thompson and Tim Wheatley, and they will be having their first meeting in February.

Mention of mental health issues reminds me that we are supporting the Friends of Fulbourn Hospital through the **Friday lunches** until the end of February, and that on January 20th the Chaplain of Fulbourn Hospital, John Nicholson, came to the lunch and spoke about some of the current problems and hopes for local response to them. On this occasion over £50 was raised for the Friends of the Hospital. In relation to the Friday lunches in general, the PCC agreed a change to the way in which money is raised, there will be a £2 charge to meet the expenses of providing the lunch, and a 'retiring collection' for further voluntary contributions towards the charity which we are supporting. It is recognised that the lunches serve a variety of purposes, social and 'missionary' as well as fund raising; I hope that the new arrangement will continue to serve all of these, while making it clearer that, despite the generosity of those who prepare the lunch, there are regular expenses involved.

Two matters were discussed on which members would welcome comments from the congregation. First, **new chairs for the Parish Room**: the Friends of LSM have generously offered £1,500 towards 40 chairs to replace the notorious 'red chairs'. Obviously we are looking for something more comfortable, but also – and this is of enormous importance in the restricted space of the Parish Room – something easier to store! Over the next few weeks, there should be samples of chairs in the Parish Room, available for you to try; comments please, to Sarah Martin, Janet Nevitt or Jo Wibberley. Second, **choir dress**: there is an ongoing debate as to whether cassocks (as worn by all members of the Choir when they were in Rome!) would enhance the visual effect at the east end of the church, or whether we should continue with our tradition (established in my predecessor's time?) of academic gowns; comments please to Christian Rutherford or to myself.

PCC members were also told of an offer from Fr Graham Ward to lead a pilgrimage to the Holy Land (something which he has done in the past with other groups); this would be early in January 2007 (probably just after Epiphany), and requires 20 participants. The likely cost is about £500. If you are interested, please let Fr Graham, Robin Osborne or myself know as soon as possible. Decisions on this can't be delayed too long!

Council members were told that an advertisement for an **administrative assistant** for LSM is ready, and you will find a copy on page 9; it has also been widely circulated among other local churches. We hope that we may be able to fill this **important part-time post** within a few weeks. It has financial implications, but not as major as the proposed renewal of the **church heating**; the old radiators and pipe-work have caused trouble for many years, and the whole system is somewhat antiquated. Under new regulations it might be necessary to renew the boiler as well; but for the moment, the PCC is applying for a faculty for the renewal of the radiators and pipe-work only. We have one estimate, and intend to obtain two more, but it is clear that this work, which we would like to have done this summer while there is no organ in the building, will be a major drain on our *restricted funds*. There will be more details when we have all the estimates, and a response from the Diocesan Advisory Committee.

We have rather **more breathing-space** before Lent this year compared with last, and you will find on page 4 a piece from Fr Mark Bishop about our **Lent course 2006**, which will begin on Wednesday March 8th. He has worked very hard on this with Amy Merriman and the varied group of ordinands and others on placement here. On the social side, we shall be having a **Mardi Gras** event, not on Shrove Tuesday, but on Friday February 24th, and I hope that after their Choir Practice members of the Junior Choir will be assisting the Social Committee in preparing pancakes for the rest of us to enjoy from 7.30pm. I hope that the event might boost both the Music and Pastoral Assistant funds (while not forgetting the importance of sustaining regular giving, see the Treasurer's contribution on page 10)

Our visiting preachers in February are **Fr Jonathan Boardman**, Chaplain at All Saints in Rome, whom our Rome pilgrims will recall from last July; he will be with us on February 5th; on February 19th, we shall be welcoming **the Rt Revd Richard Llewelin**, whom I remember from my days in St Albans Diocese, when he was Vicar of St Nicholas, Harpenden. From there he went to be Bishop of St Germans in Truro Diocese, before becoming 'Bishop at Lambeth', in effect an episcopal curate to the Archbishop of Canterbury. Now retired, he is back in Cornwall. I'm delighted that the Bishop of Ely is willing to let him conduct a **Confirmation** for us; there will be four candidates on February 19th: one adult, **Sally Clough** (who visited the Calcutta Relief Service with Catriona Mackay last year, and joined her in giving us the excellent presentation on their experience in India), and three youngsters, **Jacob Bassett**, **Cressida Rigney** and **Christiana Walker**. We shall also be admitting **Isobel Appleton** to Holy Communion. You should be able to recognise them all, to help you with your prayers for them; Jacob is a boat boy, and Christiana, Cressida and Isobel are all in the Junior Choir.

Meanwhile, we have the lovely festival of Candlemas (2nd), closing the Christmas and Epiphany season, and directing us towards Lent and Passiontide. *Fr Andrew*

LENT COURSE 2006 Christian Discipleship Today, living out the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic faith

At the end of the Mass, having received the sacrament of the Body of Christ, we offer to God 'our souls and bodies' and to be 'sent out' into the world in the power of the Spirit to live and work to God's praise and glory. The final words of the Mass are the Deacon saying 'Go, in the peace of Christ.' We are a people who are sent out from the Lord's table to live the Christian life. We are told: 'Go.' Go where? Go to do what?

The question that we will be considering in this year's Lent course is how we live this 'sending out'. How do we discern the presence of Christ in the world and serve Him there? We believe in One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church. If we are the Church in the world, in what way can it be said that we are a people that is any of these things, are we One, Holy, Catholic or Apostolic?

A group of us have worked together to produce a course which, we hope, will lead our thoughts and discussions on this topic through Lent. Leadership of the sessions will be shared amongst members of the group who have worked to devise the course.

- 8th March **An introduction to the course**, how are we a Eucharistic people being 'One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic'?
- 15th March **being 'One' people** particularly reflecting on ecumenical relationships and interfaith understanding. Discerning Christ's presence in places to which we do not think we belong
- 22nd March **being a 'Holy' people**, the ethics of business and fairtrade. Political activity.
- 29th March **being a 'Catholic' people** do we see human society as a place where all are linked and no one is completely separated and 'outside'? Issues of human sexuality. Being a good neighbour to those excluded through mental illness.
- 5th April **being an 'Apostolic' people**, mission and proclamation in a secular society. Living in a multi-faith society; difficulty or common assumptions about God?

The format will be as previous courses with a Bring and Share supper beginning at 7.00pm, followed by a 30 minute presentation, with discussion afterwards. Everyone is welcome to attend all or some of the course.

Fr Mark



Calendar and Intentions

for

FEBRUARY

*The list of Thanksgivings and Intercessions offers a focus
for our daily prayer, both at the Offices and Mass,
and in our personal times of prayer.*

*The Vicar would be glad of suggestions for additions
to the list of daily intentions.*

Calendar for February

Wed.	1st	St Brigid, Abbess
Thurs.	2nd	PRESENTATION of CHRIST; CANDLEMAS. LM 7.45am. HM and Ceremonies, 7pm
Fri.	3rd	St Anskar, Bp.
Sat.	4th	St Gilbert of Sempringham
SUN.	5th	4 th before LENT; BCP 5 th after EPIPHANY
Mon.	6th	St Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs
Tues.	7th	Society of Mary Office and Benediction: 7.30pm
Wed.	8th	'Meditation on the Word': 6.30pm
Thurs.	9th	
Fri.	10th	St Scholastica
Sat.	11th	St Radegund, Abbess
SUN.	12th	3 rd before LENT; SEPTUAGESIMA
Mon.	13th	Mission Link Group 7.30pm
Tues.	14th	SS Cyril and Methodius, Bishops: CBS 8pm
Wed.	15th	Anointing and laying on of hands at 10am Mass
Thurs.	16th	
Fri.	17th	
Sat.	18th	
SUN.	19th	2 nd before LENT; SEXAGESIMA
Mon.	20th	
Tues.	21st	
Wed.	22nd	Finance and Standing Committee 7.30pm
Thurs.	23rd	St Polycarp, Bishop
Fri.	24th	'Mardi Gras' event: 7.30pm
Sat.	25th	
SUN.	26th	NEXT before LENT; QUINQUAGESIMA
Mon.	27th	commem. George Herbert, Pr.
Tues.	28th	St David (transf.)

Daily Intentions and Anniversaries for February

Faithfulness in the life of prayer		1st
Thanksgiving for Jesus, light to all nations		2nd
The Churches of the Porvoo Communion	<i>Dennis Barnard</i>	3rd
Vocations to the religious life		4th
The Parish		5th
Local ecumenical links		6th
Society of Mary		7th
Friends of LSM		8th
Northern Ireland		9th
Friends of Fulbourn Hospital	<i>Ronald Moorhouse</i>	10th
Jesus College	<i>Olive Clark, Mary Jones</i>	11th
The Parish	<i>Mabel Barnard, Margaret Webber, Enid Maycock</i>	12th
Our Overseas Mission Links	<i>Alicia Nilsson</i>	13th
South Cambridge Clergy Chapter		14th
Ministry of Healing		15th
Christian Unity		16th
The Departed		17th
The People of Iraq		18th
The Parish	<i>John Lyon, Pr, Audrey Sparrow</i>	19th
Our Social Responsibility Group	<i>Mary Stubbs</i>	20th
Those working in the media		21st
Openness to the guidance of the Holy Spirit in our parish life		22nd
Our Choirs	<i>Mary Dawson</i>	23rd
Mental Health support		24th
Candidates for Confirmation and admission to Holy Communion		25th
The Parish	<i>Arthur Peck, James Townley</i>	26th
Good preparation for Lent		27th
The People of Wales		28th

CANDLEMAS

February 2nd

***Lord God,
who fulfilled the hope of
Simeon and Anna,
when they lived to welcome the Messiah:
may we be made ready to meet
Christ Jesus
as he comes to be our light
and our salvation.***

AMEN

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR REQUIRED

As part of the Parish re-organisation, about which Fr Andrew has written in earlier newsletters, the PCC has agreed in principle to the appointment of a Parish Administrator.

This will be a paid part-time post with tasks ranging from the humdrum of filing and photocopying, to the more exacting of helping to co-ordinate the various facets of Parish life. There will still be scope for volunteer help from members of the congregation, but it is hoped that this appointment will provide the consistency of support needed by the Vicar to free him from routine administration of the Parish.

It is estimated that the job will take 8 to 10 hours a week, including home-working. Working hours will be flexible. Typing and computer skills are, of course, essential.

Further details of the post are available from Robin Osborne on C.306868 or email ro225@cam.ac.uk. Applications should be in by Monday 20th February, and interviews will be in the last week of February and early March.

THANK YOU

To all who made time to give me feed-back on last month's Newsletter. It was very much appreciated. Im happy to include any articles, space permitting, that you send in, although obviously priority is given to items directly connected with the church. Sue Munro

SAD NEWS FROM NEWTON THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE, POPONDETTA

One of the staff at Newton Theological College, Popondetta, Papua New Guinea, Fr John Demesi, has been killed in a tragic road accident, when a tree fell on his truck; his wife Rachel was seriously injured and is in hospital, and two other passengers were killed. Please pray for Fr John and the others who died, for Rachel in hospital, and for the family of four children, and also for Br Justus, SSE, Principal of the College, and for the other staff and for the students.

REMINDER

- another opportunity for quiet and reflection, with Amy Merriman
- introducing 'Meditation on the Word', Wednesday February 8th at
- 6.30pm in the Lady Chapel. The March date is Monday 6th.

A MESSAGE FROM THE TREASURER

Many thanks to the 50 who responded, mainly positively, to our Advent stewardship campaign. The extra money pledged, however, only just exceeds the income we have lost over the past year through death, illness, emigration and misfortune among the congregation. Most of the replies came from people who already give regularly and who were offering to give more. I would be pleased to see more people joining our regular giving schemes: for tax payers, it means that I can claim back income tax which increases giving by almost a third. To cover all our expenses in 2006 we need an average of £9 per week from everyone (£7 if given under Gift Aid). We really need a bit more than this as we give 5% of our income away to overseas mission. The £9 will be spent as follows:

Clergy stipends, housing, pensions & training	£5.65
Organists	60p
Other clergy expenses	40p
Lay Pastoral Assistant	40p
Wages	40p
Flowers & Candles	40p
Insurance	30p
Maintenance	30p
Heating	30p
Photocopier	25p
TOTAL	£9.00

As some people cannot give at this level, please, if you are able, be generous in your giving to make up the difference. For more information or help please contact me, Julia Wheatcroft, or the Gift Aid Adviser Clive Brown, our details are at the back of the newsletter.

A plea to envelope users: please push notes right down at the end of the envelope or it gets torn when I tear off the perforation.

RIP

Some members of the congregation will remember Isabel Nourse, who lived for many years in Barton Road, and was a regular worshipper at LSM, at one time being in charge of flower arranging. After living for some years in Gretton Court in Girtton, where she received Home Communion, she moved to a nursing home in Sussex, to be nearer her daughter. She died on January 15th.

May she rest in peace and rise in glory.

SERVICES AT LITTLE ST MARY'S

Sundays

7.30am *Morning Prayer* 8.00am *Holy Communion*
10.30am *High Mass* 6.00pm *Solemn Evensong & Benediction*

Weekday Services

Monday

7.15am *Morning Prayer* 7.45am *Low Mass* 6.00pm *Evening Prayer*

Tuesday

7.15am *Morning Prayer* 7.45am *Low Mass* 6.00pm *Evening Prayer*

Wednesday

9.00am *Morning Prayer* 10.00am *Low Mass* 6.00pm *Evening Prayer*

Thursday

7.15am *Morning Prayer* 7.45am & 6.30pm *Low Mass* 6.00pm *Evening Prayer*

Friday

7.15am *Morning Prayer* 7.45am & 12.30pm *Low Mass* 6.00pm *Evening Prayer*

Saturday

8.00am *Low Mass* 6.00pm *Evening Prayer*

Festivals

7.00pm *Sung Mass*
Low Mass as announced

The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

Friday at Noon Saturday 6.30pm
or at other times by appointment

Coffee is served in the Parish Room after the 10.30am High Mass on Sundays and after the Low Mass on Wednesdays.

There is a Charity Lunch (£2 minimum) after the Low Mass on Fridays supporting both home and overseas charities.

There is a monthly Meditation on the Word, offering time for prayer and reflection, from 6.30pm to 7.30pm in the Lady Chapel, as announced.