

Little St. Mary's, Cambridge

NEWSLETTER

September 2006, No. 377

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SERVICES & EVENTS IN SEPTEMBER

- Sun 3rd **12th SUNDAY after TRINITY**
Thur 7th PCC, 7.05pm
Fri 8th **Nativity of the BVM**
Low Mass 7.45am Low Mass (hymns) 12.30pm
Sun 10th **13th SUNDAY after TRINITY**
Thur 14th **HOLY CROSS DAY**
Low Mass 7.45am Sung Mass 7.00pm
Sun 17th **14th SUNDAY after TRINITY**
Thur 21st **ST MATTHEW, Apostle**
Low Mass 7.45am Sung Mass 7.00pm
Sun 24th **15th SUNDAY after TRINITY**
Mon 25th F&S Committee, 7.30pm
Tue 26th Emmanuel/LSM Forum, 7.30pm
Wed 27th Social Responsibility Group, 7.30pm
Thur 28th Music Fund Group, 7.15pm
Fri 29th **ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS**
Low Mass 12.30pm Sung Mass 7.00pm
followed by Organ Fund meeting

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VICAR'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

Looking back at the August Newsletter, I notice a question about reasons for an apparent decline in regular Sunday Mass attendance; the Churchwardens did receive *one* response to that question! This contained the suggestion that our children and young people might undertake a survey of our Electoral Roll members about this. It so happens that Bob de Wolf is planning a social event for some of our younger members, to take place after Evensong on Sunday September 10th (when the Junior Choir will be singing); perhaps if they are planning a future programme for their meetings (which I very much hope they will) they might like to include this survey!

Those who have been in the Church over recent weeks will have realised that a great deal of work has been going on...and more is about to start as I write. The **heating engineers**, Arcline, have been engaged first in the removal of the (very) old heating pipes and radiators, which had become troublesome because of leaks and general inefficiency, and then in the installation of new pipework and radiators. Alongside this, there has had to be a certain amount of building works (excavation near the boiler house, lifting of paving stones, moving of the Choir Stalls) and 'making good'; some woodworm was discovered in the rear Choir Stalls. Work related to the new heating will probably cost over £40,000. We had **steeplejacks** on the roof of the Choir room doing work specified in our last 'Quinquennial inspection'. While they were up there, they noticed cracks in four of the very heavy stones on the ridge of the roof of the nave, and in much of the pointing. This work now has to be done as a matter of urgency at a cost of over £6,000. Finally, for Health and Safety reasons as much as anything else, the **main path** from the Trumpington Street gate to the North Porch is to be relaid.

You will appreciate that we are extremely fortunate to have both the interest on Arthur Peck's legacy and money from legacies held in the Vicar and Churchwardens Fund to cover these works, but the VCW Fund in particular is being significantly depleted (you will remember that the PCC agreed that up to £60,000 from it should be made available to the **Organ Fund**...and incidentally, there will be more about that and Ken Tickell's progress on the new instrument in the October Newsletter). The fact that we are so fortunate in the benefactors of the past should not make us complacent; and I do remind you once again of the huge importance for our day-to-day budgeting and for maintaining the life and witness of our community of *weekly* giving (by Gift Aid if possible), rather than 'giving when I'm there'!

Among other commitments that have a financial implication (such as administration and music), we hope to maintain the post of Lay Pastoral Assistant, something

which has enriched us here over the last four years, and has, I hope, been of benefit to the holders of the post. Our next LPA, **Gemma Burnett-Chetwynd**, is to start work on Monday September 25th. There will be a chance to welcome her in a social context on the Feast of St Michael and All Angels, Friday September 29th, when there will be refreshments after the 7pm Sung Mass. You'll find a short piece from Gemma elsewhere in this Newsletter.

You may remember that the Mission Statement objectives for 2006-7 include the recommendation that we have **Compline** once a month, and also a monthly **Meditation**. As always, it's difficult to find days and times to suit everybody, but I've decided that both of these should begin in October. Compline, at least for the first 3 months, will be on the *first Friday of the month at 9pm*: that is, October 6th, November 3rd and December 1st. The first of the Meditations will be introduced by me (and thereafter I hope to find others to introduce them!) on Monday October 16th at 1pm, probably in the Crypt. One other reminder for your diaries: our **Autumn Course** on 'Illuminating the Mass' will be on Wednesdays November 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th, December 6th, beginning with supper at 7pm. There will be more details in later Newsletters, but I hope that the course will be of interest to those who may be 'exploring' the tradition of LSM as well as to people who have been coming for many years.

For myself, September brings the excitements of a six days' holiday in Southern Spain, followed by a long and (I hope) enthralling train journey through Spain and France (with a night each in Madrid and Bayonne) to the Diocesan Clergy Conference which is taking place over four days in a Retreat Centre near Lille (which will apparently be cheaper than a similar place in this country!). Clergy Conferences are somewhat overwhelming occasions, but we are privileged to have as one of our speakers this time Jean Vanier, founder of the L'Arche communities. I shall come back to continuing discussions about the draft 'Pastoral Plan' for the South Cambridge Area Deanery; this suggests ways of moving towards a reduction of Stipendiary Incumbent posts in our Area over the next 11 years. Our own PCC will be discussing the plan on September 7th, before I go away; all members have had a copy of the plan, so please, if you wish, find time to talk to them, or to me, about it.

I have also been involved recently in conversations with Fr Alan Moses, Vicar of All Saints Margaret Street, and Fr Peter Groves, Priest-in-Charge of St Mary Magdalen, Oxford, about developing links between our three churches, and arranging the occasional joint event (like our recent visit to 'Mary Mags' for their Patronal Festival).

Initially, we thought that it would be good to arrange a meeting between a few PCC representatives of each Church, to be chaired by a sympathetic outsider!

At the very beginning of October, Sunday 1st, we shall have our **Harvest Thanksgiving**, with the usual opportunity to bring appropriate offerings to be distributed by Cambridge Foodbank to projects for the Homeless in our neighbourhood. These may be brought to Church on Saturday 30th September, or on the Sunday itself. This year, through the initiative of our Social Responsibility Group, we shall also be taking note of October 1st as the International Day of Older People, and seeking to 'celebrate old age'. Two of our members, Joan Waton (in this issue) and Catherine Beesley (in the October Newsletter) are offering their insights about their situation in old age. The Social Responsibility Group is also informing a local organisation for older people, COPE, about our Friday lunch...which brings me finally, to let you know that the Charity which we shall be supporting in September and October through the Friday lunch is the **Prisoners' Fellowship**, with the Angel Tree Project, which buys Christmas presents for prisoners' families. As sometimes happens in August, we have been having something of a struggle finding people to provide the Friday lunch, so I renew the perennial appeal for more volunteers for this! The list for signing is on the board at the west end of the Church; Robin Osborne or I would be glad to explain what's involved.

with love and prayers: Fr Andrew

People for our Prayers:

- **Fr Martin Sceley**, to be licensed as the new Principal of Westcott House on Saturday September 30th.
- **Sheila Duffy**, who is making a good recovery from her recent stroke; it was wonderful to see her in Church for Patronal Festival High Mass (there's dedication for you!)

The ministry of anointing and laying-on of hands will be offered at the 10am Mass on Wed Sept 27th. The monthly Requiem is on Fri 22nd Sept (both 7.45am and 12.30pm).

NEW LAY PASTORAL ASSISTANT

I come from Holywood, Northern Ireland and read theology at Corpus Christi College, before going on to do an MPhil in liberation theology. I have spent the last year assisting The Rev'd Rhiannon Jones at St Vigor's Church in Fulbourn, and am hoping to begin ordination training in October 2007. Last August I married Peter Chetwynd, a PhD student studying Anglo-Saxon literature. We are both looking forward to becoming part of the LSM community during the coming year.

Gemma Burnett-Chetwynd



Calendar and Intentions

for

SEPTEMBER

*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 September

Fri.	1st	St Giles, Hermit
Sat.	2nd	Martyrs of Papua New Guinea
SUN.	3rd	12th after TRINITY
Mon.	4th	
Tues.	5th	
Wed.	6th	Licensing of new Incumbent at St Mark's, Newnham
Thurs.	7th	Parochial Church Council 7.05pm
Fri.	8th	Nativity of the BVM LM 7.45am & 12.30pm (Hymns)
Sat.	9th	Historic Churches Sponsored Cycle Ride
SUN.	10th	13th after TRINITY
Mon.	11th	
Tues.	12th	
Wed.	13th	St John Chrysostom, Bishop
Thurs.	14th	HOLY CROSS DAY: LM 7.45am SM 7pm
Fri.	15th	St Cyprian, Martyr
Sat.	16th	St Ninian, Bishop
SUN.	17th	14th after TRINITY
Mon.	18th	
Tues.	19th	Ely Diocesan Clergy Conference (until Friday 22nd)
Wed.	20th	Martyrs of Korea and the Pacific
Thurs.	21st	St MATTHEW, Apostle: LM 7.45am SM 7pm
Fri.	22nd	
Sat.	23rd	
SUN.	24th	15th after TRINITY
Mon.	25th	commem.Lancelot Andrewes, Bp. F & S Committee 7.30pm
Tues.	26th	Emmanuel/LSM Forum 7.30pm
Wed.	27th	St Vincent de Paul Social Responsibility Group 7.30pm
Thurs.	28th	Music Fund Group 7.15pm
Fri.	29th	St MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS: LM 12.30pm SM 7pm Organ Fund meeting after Sung Mass
Sat.	30th	St Jerome

Daily Intentions and *Anniversaries* for September

St Giles Church; the Ascension Team		1st
Papua New Guinea Church Partnership		2nd
The Parish	<i>Ernest Cherry</i>	3rd
The Middle East		4th
St Mark's Newnham		5th
Our Overseas Mission links		6th
PCC	<i>Ian Ledsham</i>	7th
Society of Mary		8th
Zion Baptist Church (new Minister today)		9th
The Parish.		10th
Local Schools	<i>Christine Stevenson, Joyce Bird</i>	11th
Northern Ireland		12th
Friends of LSM		13th
Thanksgiving for the Holy Cross	<i>Lilian Fletcher, Doris White</i>	14th
Prisoners' Fellowship (<i>Friday Lunch Charity</i>)		15th
Our Choirs		16th
The Parish	<i>Leslie Norman, Edith Butcher</i>	17th
The People of Iraq		18th
Ely Diocesan Clergy Conference	<i>Rose Linsey-Bird, Hannah Demmett</i>	19th
Christians in the Far East	<i>Lily Wythe</i>	20th
Our Servers		21st
The Departed		22nd
Gemma Burnett-Chetwynd (Lay Pastoral Assistant)		23rd
The Parish	<i>Ena Matheson</i>	24th
Finance & Standing Committee		25th
Emmanuel/URC link	<i>Richard Buinbridge</i>	26th
Our Social Responsibility Group; Ministry of Healing		27th
Christian Unity		28th
Thanksgiving for the Holy Angels		29th
Westcott House (new Principal licensed today)		30th

Saturday September 2nd

***The Martyrs of
Papua New Guinea***

***God our Redeemer,
whose Church was strengthened
by the blood of the martyrs
of Papua New Guinea;
so bind us in life and death
to the sacrifice of Christ,
that our lives,
broken and offered with his,
may carry his death
and proclaim his resurrection
in the world;
through Jesus Christ Our Lord:
AMEN***

CAMBRIDGE CELEBRATES AGE 2006.

The International Day of Older People is on Sunday 1st Oct when people across the world of all ages will be remembering the contribution made to families, neighbourhoods and wider communities by older people.

Last year COPE(Cambridge Older Peoples Enterprise) co-ordinated a programme of activities to help to combat negative images of older people and the social isolation that adversely affects some people. This year we have a wider Steering Group preparing the programme and we welcome the contributions made to it by Little St Mary's. and other faith groups. We hope those who read it will participate in and enjoy the diverse events offered and encourage others to do so.

Dorothy Runnicles, Chair of Steering Group

ENJOYING LIFE TO THE FULL

As an older member of the LSM congregation, I have been asked to write briefly on life in later years. For me, the main requirement for an enjoyable & fulfilling life is to have a firm foundation. Ideally, membership of a Church could provide this, with its regular services, social activities & associated societies. Clearly, too, mental stimulation on a wide scale is vital. Here in Cambridge we are especially fortunate in living in a leading university city with its range of intellectual & cultural activities. Here, too we have the University of the Third Age.

In 1981, Dr Nicholas Coni, Consultant in Geriatric Medicine at Addenbrooke's was on a study tour of France, looking at facilities for older people there. He heard about 'L' Université du Troisième Age' set up in 1973. On returning to Cambridge, he contacted Dr Peter Laslett of Trinity College who was interested, among other topics, in the ageing process. This led eventually to the establishment of the U3A in Cambridge in 1982. For those of my generation whose formal education was interrupted or curtailed by War service, the U3A has been a major factor in widening our horizons & plugging gaps. Each year, there is a full range of courses, some 140 in total, from the seriously academic to more leisurely pursuits. We continue to enjoy full support from Cambridge University, with the use of lecture theatres & with courses given by retired academics & lectures by those still working. Special mention must be made of Open Illustrated Lectures in the 1980s & 1990s, given by Dr (later Professor) Peter Soyde, on Italian frescoes, well supported by U3A members, which led many of us to Italy on journeys of discoveries. There is an excellent book on the history of the U3A written by Dr Ross Mitchell, a former Medical Superintendent of Fulbourn Hospital & a leading member of the U3A. This is on sale at the U3A office, 33 Bridge Street, for £5.

Joan Waton

PARISH & CHOIR TRIP TO ST ALBAN'S & FLAMSTEAD

There will be a Parish and Choir outing to St. Albans and Flamstead on Saturday October 21st. We will leave LSM at 9.30 am for St. Albans where we will have a chance both to explore the Abbey and look at the late Iron Age and Roman remains in Verulamium Museum and park. The hypocaust and mosaic, excavated by Sir Mortimer Wheeler in the 1930s, has recently been re-housed in a brand new building. You can find a virtual tour of the Abbey at <http://www.thegrid.org.uk/learning/re/virtual/cathedral/>, and preview the museum at http://www.stalbansmuseums.org.uk/ver_onlinetour.htm. Lunches to suit all tastes can be come by in St. Albans.

In the middle of the afternoon we will proceed to Flamstead, where Fr. Andrew was once in charge, for tea and for the choir to sing Evensong at 5 p.m. The coach will return to LSM after Evensong. All are welcome. A sign-up sheet will be at the back of church, and the cost of the coach will be £10 (£5 for U16s).

FAIR FARE AT HARVEST

It's not only farmers in developing countries who struggle to make ends meet. The UK farming industry is nearly £10 billion in debt, and 80% of UK farmers depend on income from outside food production. Churches and Church members share a Gospel concern for justice, and represent a lot of buying power. We can support farmers both here and overseas by choosing home-grown produce wherever possible, and fairly traded produce for tea, coffee, chocolate and exotic fruit and vegetables. Look for the "Little Red Tractor" sign on local produce and the Fair Trade mark on overseas produce.

A free briefing paper on food trade issues entitled "Free and Fair?" is available from Churches Regional Commission for Yorkshire and the Humber, 20 New Market Street, LEEDS, LS1 6DG Tel: 0113 244 3413 or on the Commission's website at: <http://www.crc-online.org.uk/papers.htm>

Revd Robert Beard, Senior Policy Adviser to CRC for Yorkshire and the Humber

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY GROUP

Julia Wheatcroft has kindly invited members of the congregation to her house, 20 Grantchester Road, at 8.00 pm on Wednesday 27th September when she will tell us about her work with the Cambridge Downs Syndrome Group. It is hoped that this will be the first of an occasional series in which members of the congregation talk about the activities in which they are engaged. For further information please contact Sheila Bennett on Cambridge 564848

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, after the Low Mass on Fridays, supporting both home and overseas charities.

LSM Social group/ mailing list

To join: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/LSMsocial/>

Mailing list only: blank email to:

LSMsocialsubscribe@yahoo.com