

Little St. Mary's, Cambridge

NEWSLETTER

May 2008, No. 397

Price: 25p



SERVICES & EVENTS IN MAY

- Thur 1st **ASCENSION DAY**
Low Mass 7.45am High Mass 7.00pm
- Sat 3rd **SS PHILIP & JAMES, Apostles (transf)** Sung Mass 10.00am
- Sun 4th **SUNDAY after ASCENSION**
10.30am High Mass, Preacher: the Rev'd Ailsa Newby,
Priest-in-Charge St Anne's, South Lambeth.
- Mon 5th Bank Holiday Low Mass at 10:00am
- Tue 6th PCC meets, 7.00pm
- Thur 8th Ways of Prayer (3), St Bene't's, 7.30pm
- Sun 11th **FEAST OF PENTECOST: Friends of LSM Festival**
3.00pm Month of Guided Prayer concludes, St Paul's, Hills Road
- Tue 13th May Devotion, 7.30pm
- Wed 14th **ST MATTHIAS, Apostle**
Low Mass 10.00am Sung Mass 7.00pm Compline 9.30pm
- Thur 15th Churches Together in Cambridge, Wesley Church, 7.15pm
- Sat 17th Prayer Vigil for the Homeless, 8am - 8pm PCC Away Day
- Sun 18th **TRINITY SUNDAY**
10.30am High Mass, Preacher: the Rev'd Dr Keith Straughan
possible Concert 7.30pm (see p. 6)
- Mon 19th An Interfaith Meditation, 12.45pm - 1.45pm
- Tue 20th Social Responsibility Group, 7.30pm
- Thur 22nd **CORPUS CHRISTI**
Low Mass 7.15am High Mass, Procession, Benediction 7pm
- Sun 25th **1st SUNDAY after TRINITY**
- Wed 28th Archdeacon's Visitation at Burwell, 7.30pm
- Fri 30th **SACRED HEART (Divine Compassion)**
Low Mass 12.30pm Sung Mass 7.00pm
- Sat 31st Parish & Society of Mary Pilgrimage to Walsingham

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VICAR'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

There was an attendance of about forty at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, and some useful discussion of the possibility of including the proposed development of the Parish Room into a Parish Centre in the 'Mission Action Plan' which every parish in the Diocese is being asked to draw up; this will be discussed at the first meeting of the new PCC on Tuesday May 6th. One suggestion from the floor was that there should be a list of the potential uses of an LSM Parish Centre, and I hope that this is also something which our new PCC will address. It might be good for all of us to reflect on questions such as:

Given extra and more flexible space and a better kitchen...

How might our Children's group work/adult education be improved?

How might our social life be improved?

What more might we do for the local community?

What sort of events could we hold which we can't hold now?

A list of what we will be able to do, or to do better, in the sort of LSM Parish Centre which we envisage will be surprisingly lengthy; why not have a go at putting together your own and passing it on to a PCC member. (see list opposite on p. 3)

In my report at the APCM, I suggested that a Mission Action Plan for LSM might well also include ideas which would make it easier for people to share in the Church's Daily Prayer in their own homes, and for the development of our Social Responsibility concerns. It's important that such ideas are related to the particular context and resources of a parish, and that they are concerned with the continuing development of its life and witness.

Churchwardens

At the Annual Meeting of Parishioners (which precedes the APCM), I expressed my thanks to both Churchwardens for all their work and support over the previous year, but particularly on this occasion to Robin Osborne, who was not standing for re-election after five years as an extremely energetic and enthusiastic holder of the office. I'm very pleased that he was willing to remain on the PCC. Our Churchwardens for the coming year are:

Paul Huskinson and Christine Tipple. Congratulations to them both!

Christine is the first woman to be elected to the office of Churchwarden at LSM. She and Paul will be sworn in at the Archdeacon's Visitation at Burwell on Wednesday May 28th, so Robin technically remains Churchwarden until that date; however, as you may have observed, Christine is already learning the Sunday morning ropes! I shall be inviting the new PCC (which meets for the first time on Tuesday May 6th) to approve the re-appointment of **Jo Wibberley** and **Janet Nevitt** as Deputy Churchwardens.

Deanery Synod representatives and PCC

As our Electoral Roll number as reported to the 2006 APCM was over 200, we are entitled to elect three lay representatives to South Cambridge Deanery Synod: those elected are: **Richard Morgan**, **Sue Munro** and **Jo Wibberley**. They and the Churchwardens are *ex officio* members of the PCC, as are **Peter Harland** (General Synod), **Sheila Bennett** and **Shirley Dex** (Diocesan Synod). **Julia Wheatcroft** (Hon.Treasurer) was co-opted to the Council.

Our fifteen elected members are:

with three years to serve:

Clive Brown, Ian Douglas, Clare Jarmy, Robin Osborne, Liz Smith

with two years to serve:

Diana Galletly, Lucy McKitterick, Chris Nevitt, Andrew Wardill, James Yardley

with one year to serve:

Bob DeWolf, Sally Head, Jane Jackson, Richard Martin, Mary Ward

Month of Guided Prayer continues...

Thirty-three people from the parishes of St Bene't's, St Paul's and LSM were bold enough to offer themselves as participants in the Month of Guided Prayer which was launched with a meeting and meditation at St Paul's on April 13th. Sixteen prayer guides were recruited, and so that initial gathering was a large one; it was most encouraging to see people from different churches and of a wide age range ready to embark on something which seeks both to deepen awareness of God and to strengthen connections between prayer and daily life. Some people from St Bene't's and St Paul's may be able to join us at LSM for the High Mass at 7pm on **Ascension Day**, May 1st, and then we shall have one more of the 'Ways of Praying' sessions; this will be at St Bene't's, 7.15 for 7.30pm on **Thursday May 8th**; Mother Joanna, an Orthodox nun, will be speaking on **Praying with Icons**. Please remember that all will be welcome to that session. The month concludes with a gathering at St Paul's at 3pm on Sunday May 11th.

May programme

Apart from the Month of Guided Prayer and Ascension Day, there are several special services and events during May; devotional, musical and social; you will find a full list on page . May I particularly commend to you the '**Interfaith Meditation**' which Alice Thompson will be introducing on Monday 19th over lunchtime; this is the fruit of the course which she has been doing on the three great monotheistic faiths over the course of this year.

Pentecost, Friends and an offering

Once again we shall be combining the great celebration of the gift of the Holy Spirit with our Friends of Little St Mary's Festival; don't forget that non-members of the Friends are most welcome to the lunch. The open plate collections at all service on May 11th will once again be our 'Whitsuntide Offering' to Fr Mark Bishop and to the priests who most regularly help us with weekday services. Please note that there will be a separate and later collection for our 'thank-you' to our Deacon, David Neaum, so that we can make an appropriate offering to him at the time of his Ordination to the Priesthood and First Mass.

Worth Abbey Retreat

It's time to remind you of the August Retreat with some of our friends from Chant d'Oiseau in Brussels, to be held at Worth Abbey; *it would be good to have exact numbers by the end of June*. The dates are Monday August 25th to Thursday 28th; the cost for 3 days full board is £72 (sharing a room) or £82 (single room). There will be a small additional charge (not more than £5) for the talk which will be given about the life of the community by Fr Stephen Ortiger OSB. I shall be giving other addresses on the relevance of the Benedictine life to our own 'life in the world'. We are welcome to share in the community's round of daily worship.

Vicar on the move...

Some of you already know that after much hesitation I have decided to move from 4 Newnham Terrace into the new Vicarage which has been built in the grounds of St Botolph's Rectory in Summerfield (near the western end of Fen Causeway). 4 Newnham Terrace has been LSM Vicarage for 50 years (although Fr Morcom, one of my predecessors, didn't live in it), and has been very much part of the 'parish scene'; I have many happy memories of my 14 years there, and it will be a wrench to bid farewell to that river view. But it seemed right to begin the pre-retirement process of sorting out and discarding, 'letting go' if you like, while at the same time trying to settle in afresh for at least a few more years!

Do come along if you can on Trinity Sunday, May 18th, for farewell drinks at the 'old house'; donations to Christian Aid. There will be a house blessing and warming at 1b Summerfield before too long, I hope!

with my prayers and best wishes: Fr Andrew

People for our Prayers

David Greason currently has some difficulties with mobility; a visit to the USA with the family to see another consultant hasn't changed the recommendation of further chemotherapy. Gillian Beard's daughter **Miranda Long** is just beginning a course of chemotherapy following an operation. Former Choir member **Emma Chopourian** has suffered a recurrence of cancer and will also be having chemotherapy.

R.I.P.

Michael Farmer died in the Arthur Rank Hospice on April 1st after a long struggle with cancer. Many local churches were represented at his funeral in LSM, which demonstrated the affection in which he was held and the impression which his devotional life, sustained faithfully in his mental as well as in his recent physical sufferings, made on a great many people. May he and all the departed rest in peace and rise in glory.

Compline in May:

Wednesday 14th (Fcast of St Matthias): 9.30pm

Perhaps people would like to have a meal together after the 7pm Sung Mass, and return to LSM for Compline!

Ministry of Healing in May:

Prayer Group: 9.45-10am Wednesday 21st

6.15-6.30pm Thursday 22nd

Anointing and laying-on of hands at the Mass which follows on those days.

Friday Lunch Charity for May and June:

We return to one our regular charities this May and June, the Northern Ireland Children's Holiday Scheme, and its continuing work of encouraging reconciliation and understanding between the young people of communities which had been at odds with one another for so long. Do come along and support the Friday lunches when you can (£2.50 *minimum*)...and if there are more willing providers of the lunch, please sign up on the list in church!

A FULL PROGRAMME FOR MAY!

**Sunday 11th: the Feast of Pentecost:
Friends of LSM Festival and AGM**

Tickets for Lunch from Helen Smith: non-members welcome

**Tuesday 13th: 7.30pm:
The May Devotion**

Society of Mary and Parish combine to honour the Mother of the Lord in 'Mary's Month': refreshments afterwards

**Saturday 17th:
8am-8pm Vigil**

for the Homeless and those who suffer through mental illness

10.30am-3pm: PCC Away Day

Sunday 18th: Trinity Sunday

*Farwell drinks at 4 Newnham Terrace after High Mass:
donations to Christian Aid*

Concert at 7.30pm: details to be announced,
come and support both LSM & Friends of Fulbourn Hospital

**Monday 19th: 12.45-1.45pm:
Interfaith Meditation**

bring sandwiches to eat as we prepare for the meditation

**Thursday 22nd:
Corpus Christi**

High Mass, Procession of the Host and Benediction at 7pm

Monday 26th: National Pilgrimage to Walsingham

Friday 30th: Feast of the Sacred Heart (Divine Compassion)
the WREN SINGERS are the visiting Choir at 7pm High Mass

**Saturday 31st:
Parish and Society of Mary
Pilgrimage to Walsingham**

*Coach leaves LSM at 9am, and returns by 6.15pm
please sign for the Coach: £15 (reduction for children)*



Calendar and Intentions

for

MAY

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 May

Thurs.	1st	ASCENSION DAY: LM 7.45am, HM 7pm
Fri.	2nd	St Athanasius, Bishop
Sat.	3rd	SS.PHILIP & JAMES, Apostles (<i>transf.</i>) SM 10am
SUN.	4th	SUNDAY after ASCENSION
Mon.	5th	
Tues.	6th	PCC 7pm
Thurs.	8th	Julian of Norwich: Ways of Prayer(3) St Bene't's 7.30pm
Fri.	9th	
Sat.	10th	
SUN.	11th	FEAST of PENTECOST: Friends of LSM Festival Month of Guided Prayer concludes: 3pm at St Paul's
Mon.	12th	This is Christian Aid Week
Tues.	13th	May Devotion 7.30pm
Wed.	14th	St MATTHIAS, Ap.: LM 10am, SM 7pm: Compline 9.30pm
Thurs.	15th	Healing Ministry 6.15/6.30pm: Churches Together 7.15pm
Fri.	16th	
Sat.	17th	Prayer Vigil 8am-8pm: PCC Away Day
SUN.	18th	TRINITY SUNDAY Concert 7.30pm
Mon.	19th	St Dunstan, Bishop: 'An Interfaith Meditation' 12.45-1.45pm
Tues.	20th	comm. Alcuin of York. Social Responsibility Group 7.30pm
Wed.	21st	Healing Ministry 9.45/10am
Thurs.	22nd	CORPUS CHRISTI: LM 7.45am HM, Procession etc 7pm
Fri.	23rd	
Sat.	24th	commem. John & Charles Wesley
SUN.	25th	1 st after TRINITY
Mon.	26th	St Augustine of Canterbury: LM10am: Walsingham 'National'
Tues.	27th	
Wed.	28th	Archdeacon's visitation at Burwell 7.30pm
Thurs.	29th	
Fri.	30th	SACRED HEART (Divine Compassion): LM 12.30pm SM 7pm
Sat.	31st	Parish & Society of Mary Pilgrimage to Walsingham

Daily Intentions and Anniversaries for May

Thanksgiving for Jesus, Lord of all Creation	<i>Cicely Gibson</i>	1st
Theologians	<i>Richard Masheder, Pr.</i>	2nd
Preparations for the Lambeth Conference		3rd
The Parish		4th
Fulbourn Hospital and Care in the Community		5th
Parochial Church Council: new members		6th
Rural Deans' residential meeting		7th
The Orthodox Churches		8th
Northern Ireland Childrens' Holiday Scheme	<i>Lois Rayner</i>	9th
Thanksgiving for the month of guided prayer		10th
Thanksgiving for the Holy Spirit: the 'Friends' Festival	<i>Arthur Mickle</i>	11th
Christian Aid		12th
Society of Mary	<i>Charles Perrin</i>	13th
Friends of LSM		14th
Churches Together in the Centre of Cambridge	<i>Ruth Walker</i>	15th
The People of Iraq	<i>Sarah Marriott White</i>	16th
South Cambridge Deanery: Pastoral planning	<i>Constance Rosedale</i>	17th
	<i>Gwendolen Plumley, Elsie Dolby</i>	
The Parish	<i>Arthur Cuff</i>	18th
Interfaith study	<i>Helen Paton</i>	19th
Our Social Responsibility Group		20th
The Church's Ministry of Healing	<i>Ethel Gibbons</i>	21st
Thanksgiving for Our Lord's Sacramental Presence	<i>Herbert Burrell, Pr.</i>	22nd
The Departed		23rd
The Methodist Church	<i>Elizabeth Glover</i>	24th
The Parish: tomorrow's national pilgrimage to Walsingham		25th
Archbishop Rowan	<i>Edward Hardy, Pr., Margaret Verney</i>	26th
Those taking exams this term	<i>Harry Nourse</i>	27th
Our Churchwardens	<i>Eileen Cope, Frank Hollick, John Bagley, Pr.</i>	28th
Christian Unity		29th
Thanksgiving for the Divine Compassion		30th
Our Walsingham Pilgrimage	<i>Liz Fretten</i>	31st

MAY

***The Divine Compassion of Christ
(The Sacred Heart)
Friday May 30th***

***Almighty God,
whose Son Our Lord and Saviour
Jesus Christ
was moved with compassion
for all who had gone astray
and with indignation for
all who had suffered wrong:
in flame our hearts
with the burning fire of thy love,
that we may seek out the lost,
have mercy on the fallen
and stand fast for truth and
righteousness;
through Jesus Christ Our Lord:
AMEN***

FRIENDS OF LITTLE ST MARY'S

The Friends of Little St Mary's still have some merchandise for sale to help raise funds for the Church:

Notelets:	£2 for a pack of five
Pens:	£1.50 each
Light blue polo-shirts with the LSM logo: (sizes S, M, L)	£11.50 each
The Life and Times of LSM: A Living History:	£15 per copy

If you would like to buy any of the above items, please contact Helen Smith (contact details on p.15). Also, on Sunday 11th May, the Friends will be holding their Annual Festival Lunch and AGM. Tickets (priced at £8 for adults and £4 for children) are available from Helen Smith. Even if you are not a 'Friend', you are welcome to buy a ticket and join us for lunch. If you would like to become a member of the Friends, application forms are usually available at the back of the church.

GIFT DAY

Saturday July 12th... will you join the Lambeth Walk?

With Gift Day falling just 4 days before the start of the Lambeth Conference, Catherine Osborne has put together a topical and amusing adaptation of a well-known musical whose musical numbers include 'The Lambeth Walk'. Soloists, Chorus and all sorts of helpers required... please contact Catherine, Christian Rutherford or Fr Andrew! We hope to have a read- and sing-through before the end of May!

LAY PASTORAL ASSISTANT FOR 2008-9

A small committee will be interviewing four candidates on Friday May 9th. We had six strong applications this year; please remember this process in your prayers.

APPEAL FOR FURNITURE FOR IMPECUNIOUS CURATES!

David Neaum is in need of furniture as he sets up home in rural Dorset! If you can help in any way, please let him know.



TIME FOR ACTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE

As sea levels rise in coastal Bangladesh, salt water is contaminating the water supply of riverbank and coastal communities. These communities also face losing homes to rapidly increasing river erosion and the changing climate is poised to reverse decades of development. Forget making poverty history; poverty is set to become permanent unless we address climate change as a matter of urgency.

Money in itself is not enough. We also need to act. We can all use our influence on politicians and business leaders in the rich world – who are the ones making many of the key decisions affecting poor countries. Global warming is not just a distant forecast. It's already happening now, and poor people are the ones who are being hit the hardest.

Climate change increases the unpredictability and severity of extreme weather patterns. Ninety per cent of the victims of weather-related natural disasters during the 1990s were from poor countries and 150,000 people are dying annually from diseases exacerbated by the changing climate.

The outlook is bleak. Even if we are able to stabilise CO₂ emissions, global average temperatures are still likely to rise by at least 2°C by 2050 and 1-3 billion people will face acute water shortages. Thirty million more people will go hungry as crops fail across the globe. Melting ice caps mean drastically rising sea levels.

Climate change is an issue of injustice. The world's poorest people have done the least to contribute to the problem, and yet they are suffering the worst effects. Christian Aid is pressing for an international agreement to ensure that rich countries dramatically cut their CO₂ emissions so that poor countries can develop in a way that won't further increase climate change and condemn them to perpetual poverty.

As citizens of a rich country, we are all in a powerful position to make a difference. Please sign the prayer and action card this Christian Aid Week, and send a message to the government that urgent action is needed on climate change now. Campaigning works. Previous campaigns have delivered real change on issues such as debt and fair trade. We need to take action on climate change now, before it is too late.

OXFAM WALK SPONSORSHIP

Jane, Catherine, and Lucy Wheare/Banner are planning to do the Oxfam Walk on 11th May (9 miles) and would welcome any offers of (modest!) sponsorship (though if the United Arab Emirates want to make a contribution that's fine too . . .).

Jane Wheare

CHILDREN'S GROUP

It is High Mass on a Sunday morning, and there is a brief pause before the Old Testament reading as children emerge from the pews to follow their candle bearers out into the Parish Room. "Who are they, and what do they do?" I was asked by Sue Munro recently, on behalf of readers of the Newsletter.

They are, quite simply, those children, broadly in the age range of five to eleven years, who have been brought to Church on any given Sunday. Some are likely to be from our small band of Children's Group 'regulars'; some may be from the Choir, the 'boat' boy or girl, or perhaps a visitor. Numbers vary widely, normally between about four and twelve. Some of the children have been baptized, others are considering Holy Baptism; a few have already been admitted to Holy Communion.

Such is the little group which makes its way to the Parish Room, where the candles are placed either side of their table which has been prepared with the liturgical colour and a cross and candle. The children always give the impression of feeling at home as they gather round in a circle on the carpet, however recently or long ago they last came.

The sessions are taken by leaders (four at present) and helpers. Leaders are entrusted with conducting the sessions in whatever style their gifts or training best equip them for: some are more didactic and others more meditative in style, but all follow a simple quasi-liturgical structure and have respect to the Church season and lectionary. All of us make time for children's art and craft which they seem to enjoy – not least the dreaded glitter glue!

A tricky moment is when we have to end their creative work to assemble, with two of them as candle-bearers at the font for the Peace. It is, however, an important liturgical moment for these children. As we hear together the great affirmation that "We are the Body of Christ", the children share in exchanging a sign of peace with each other and those around them before returning to their places. "Whoever welcomes this child in my name welcomes me..." (Lk.9:48).

Jill Biddle

FLOWER FESTIVALS

Flower Festival 'Poetry Please!' 3rd - 5th May, 2008

All Saints' Church, Boughton, Norfolk

There will be flower arrangements inspired by the poems, together with work by local artists and photographers.

The church will be open from 11am-5pm on all three days. There will be Refreshments and a raffle. Contact: 01366 500429

Abbots Ripton Hall Garden Show Sat 21st June & Sun 22nd June

Abbots Ripton, Huntingdon PE28 2PQ

Opening times 10am- 6pm

Entry Adults £7 Children U15 - Free

Major Charity Garden Show in aid of local Churches, Cambridgeshire Red Cross, Ormiston Families Trust, WI & local Rotary Charities.

These Magnificent Gardens will be open only this for this weekend this year, there will be Show Gardens, a Schools 'Grub in Tub' Competition, an Art Show and Antiques Road Show by Cheffins of Cambridge, NAFAS East of England Floral Art Show, and over 100 Trade Stands. Hot & Cold Food Available all weekend. Local Brass Bands and lots more.

On Sunday 22nd June join us at 10.30am for 'PRAISE IN THE GARDEN' when the Bishop of Ely will join us for a spiritual service in the Rose Circle.

Web Site <http://www.abbotsriptonhall.co.uk>

or Contact Nigel Dyson on 07802 282193

Hemingford Abbots Flower Festival 28th - 29th June, 2008

St Margarets Church, Hemingford Abbots, PE28 9AN

Opening times 12 - 6pm

Entry:- Adults £6 per day or £10 for weekend, Children U16's - Free

Free car parking

Visit more than 20 stunning open gardens and the beautifully decorated church in the historic village of Hemingford Abbots nestled in the heart of Cambridgeshire. Other attractions include brass band, historic cars, tractors, bicycles and motorbikes, country and morris dancing, local produce stalls, art and local history exhibitions plus much more.

Saturday church concert 6.30pm and Sunday Festival evensong 6.30pm

Web Site - <http://www.hemingfordabbots.org.uk> or contact Erika Brown on 01480 465138

For details of more festivals later in the year see the Diocesan website at http://ely.anglican.org/news_events/festival/festivals.html

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, min. £2.50, 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:

LSMsocial-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

LSM website

www.lsm.org.uk

Deadline for June Newsletter: **Sunday 18th May**