

Little St. Mary's, Cambridge

NEWSLETTER

December 2008, No. 404

Price: 25p

FOR FULL DETAILS OF CHRISTMAS &
EPIPHANY SERVICES
PLEASE SEE p. 9



SERVICES & EVENTS THIS MONTH

- Mon 1st ST ANDREW, Apostle:
Low Mass 7.45am Sung Mass: 7.00pm
- Fri 5th-Sun7th Advent Quiet weekend
- Sun 7th 2nd SUNDAY in ADVENT
- Mon 8th CONCEPTION of the BVM
Low Mass 7.45am Sung Mass: 7.00pm
- Sun 14th 3rd SUNDAY in ADVENT
Advent Carol Service 6.00pm
- Sat 20th ST THOMAS, Apostle Sung Mass 10.00am
- Sun 21st 4th SUNDAY in ADVENT

We prepare..

We remember...

We hope...

We wait...



"O come to us Emmanuel!"

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VICAR'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

Recently I was invited to conduct an assembly at St Paul's C of E School; I'd been asked to talk about the liturgical colours, and began by trying to establish the names of the major Festivals. There was a corporate intake of breath when the word 'Christmas' was mentioned, and I discovered afterwards that this was because the children have been warned against using the word too early! I found this rather encouraging; but it's ironical that while in some quarters Christmas is 'plugged' from the beginning of November (or even earlier), we are also fed stories about the 'cancellation' of Christmas, or about the watering down of emphasis on a Christian celebration in December. But when we recite the Creed, and proclaim that 'Jesus Christ was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, and was made man', we are saying that Christmas is not and cannot be cancelled, whatever any local authority or business organisation may say. So perhaps it's not for us to worry about the interpretation given to the civic decorations, or to work out whether we've heard 'Santa Claus is coming to town' more frequently than 'Silent Night'; December 25th is the day for Christians to come together in joy and praise and thanksgiving that the Creator God 'tabernacled among us'...the day on which to encourage others to glimpse the same truth...the day on which to renew our sense of the implications of it. God so valued (loved) the human condition that in the person of Jesus he participated in it fully and demonstrated its infinite potential for goodness and generosity.

Where Christian 'prophecy' (speaking out) is also needed is in the Advent themes of attentiveness and readiness...for signs of judgement on ourselves and our society. It may be that the financial events of recent months, and ongoing concerns about the environment, have provided a series of 'wake-up calls'. But we must continue to welcome the particular opportunities which the church offers, not least in Advent. Fr Bill Scott will be with us for part of our **Advent Quiet Weekend**, and I hope that some of you will be able to take advantage of time and space with him at Mill Green House on Saturday December 6th. We shall arrange transport in cars for that. The weekend begins and ends in LSM: address and Compline on the Friday evening, and then on the Sunday afternoon the showing of the lengthy film 'Into Great Silence', a meditative experience in itself, in which we are taken into the life of a Carthusian monastery. Then to help us with our personal penitential preparation we shall once again include an act of corporate penitence within the Sung Mass for the Feast of St Thomas; this we are keeping on Saturday 20th December at 10am.

Reference to a Carthusian monastery in the previous paragraph leads naturally to plans for our meeting with friends from Chant d'Oiseau in 2009. A provisional booking has been made at the Mont des Cats Trappist monastery in Northern France from Thursday April 16th (the Thursday after Easter) until Sunday 19th. The cost for 3 days full board will be 107 euros, and Trappist rules on silence will not apply to us! We are also being offered Eucharistic hospitality. We shall make a decision on travel arrangements when we have a reasonably clear ideas of numbers; *so please let me know if you would like to come as soon as possible, and certainly by the end of January.* Chris Pickles, meanwhile, is still trying to rally young people (25-30) to join him in Brussels for the great Taize gathering shortly after Christmas; there will be accommodation in Chant d'Oiseau for LSM participants.

We continue with the very thorough process of exploring the implications and advantages of developing the Parish Room into a Parish Centre. While increased and more flexible space is a major part of the scheme, it's important to realise that provision of a ground-floor office, better access to the lavatories and an improved kitchen are also of great importance. Should the next stage of consultations between ourselves, the architect and English Heritage go well, we shall be looking towards plans for the launch of as wide-ranging an appeal as possible. The other improvement which is on the cards at the moment is **lighting for the Choir and Sanctuary**; we have a design for this, and an agreement that it would be paid for by the Peck Trust, but it requires some further consideration.

2009 is the 900th anniversary of the Diocese of Ely; the year's celebrations are to be launched with a service in Ely Cathedral on Saturday January 24th, at which the Archbishop of Canterbury will be present. The PCC gave a little time to thinking about ways in which we might be involved locally in celebration, and I hope to say more about this in the January Newsletter. Some of you will be pleased to hear that some form of Diocesan Newsletter is to be restored in the New Year.

May I add to my prayers and good wishes for the keeping of Advent and the celebration of Christmas (wherever that may be happening for you) an encouragement to remember the opportunities for weekday worship at LSM; what better way is there to discern the presence of Christ in the everyday than to participate in a weekday Mass (and at LSM we do offer a good variety of times!)? Prayer 'with the Church' at home is also very valuable; I'm sorry

that there doesn't at the moment seem to be much take-of the sheets with psalms, readings and prayers for use with our 'Simple Daily Office'. Perhaps the Church's New Year will be the time for more people to make use of this.

Fr

Andrew

People for our prayers.

Peter Barnard remains at home, but is now bedridden, with visits from carers four times a day. David Greason is still coming down to Cambridge from Wisbech three times a week for dialysis at Addenbrookes, but is feeling quite a lot better, although the frequent travelling must be exhausting for him. Jane, Holly and Lizzie are still hoping to get down to see Choir friends before too long. Life is difficult for the Munros at the moment, with Sue's mother Margaret Gatward having had a nasty fall, while Sue was recovering from surgery on her hand and awaiting a cataract operation.

In the middle of December we shall be saying farewell to Steve and Jo McGrade, who have decided to leave their house in Newnham and return to the USA; they will be living in a retirement apartment in Florida. They have been faithful members of our congregation for several years, often ready with positively critical comments on sermons and LSM life. We shall miss them greatly, and wish them well in their new home. At the end of the Lent term we shall also bid farewell to Fr James Rigney, who has been appointed Dean of Newcastle Cathedral, New South Wales. Fr James has been a great support to us at LSM while he has been at Magdalene College. Anna and Cressida may be staying in England until the end of the summer term. Our congratulations to Fr James, and our best wishes for his new work.

HUGH MUNRO

Thank you to everyone who has prayed for and continued to enquire about our nephew, Hugh, since his accident 2 years ago. Malcolm and I have very much appreciated. Sadly Hugh died, very peacefully, of pneumonia and major organ failure on 2nd November. It was very sudden and although we knew that Hugh probably would not live a long life it has still been very hard for us to cope with. His funeral was a wonderful celebration of his life with his family, girl friend and many friends made in early school days, speaking of what Hugh had meant to them. These same friends had continued to visit Hugh throughout the last two years, showing what strong bonds he formed with his friends.



Calendar and Intentions

for

DECEMBER

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 December

- Mon. 1st St ANDREW, Ap. (*transf*) LM 7.45am SM 7pm
Tues. 2nd
Wed. 3rd St Francis Xavier
Thurs. 4th commem. Nicholas Ferrar, Deacon
Fri. 5th Advent Quiet Weekend begins 8.15pm
Sat. 6th St Nicholas, Bp. Quiet W/end continues, Mill Green House
- SUN. 7th 2nd in ADVENT 'Into Greater Silence' 2.15pm
Mon. 8th CONCEPTION of the BVM: LM 7.45am SM 7pm
Tues. 9th
Wed. 10th
Thurs. 11th
Fri. 12th St Jane Frances de Chantal
Sat. 13th St Lucy, Martyr
- SUN. 14th 3rd in ADVENT: Advent Carol Service 6pm
Mon. 15th
Tues. 16th
Wed. 17th O Sapientia: Healing Ministry 9.45/10am
Thurs. 18th O Adonai: Healing Ministry 6.15/6.30pm
Fri. 19th O Radix Jesse: Carol Singing 7.30pm
Sat. 20th O Clavis: St THOMAS, Ap. *Transf.* SM 10am
- SUN. 21st 4th in ADVENT: O Oriens
Mon. 22nd O Rex Gentium
Tues. 23rd O Emmanuel
Wed. 24th
Thurs. 25th CHRISTMAS DAY
Fri. 26th St STEPHEN, Martyr: LM 10am
Sat. 27th St JOHN, Apostle & Evangelist: LM 10am
- SUN. 28th 1st after CHRISTMAS
Mon. 29th St Thomas Becket, Martyr: LM 10am
Tues. 30th in the Octave of Christmas: LM 10am
Wed. 31st in the Octave of Christmas: LM 10am

Daily Intentions and *Anniversaries* for December

The People of Scotland		1st
Music at LSM	<i>Anthony Morcom, Pr</i>	2nd
Christians in Japan		3rd
Little Gidding	<i>Romo Gorrada</i>	4th
Our Advent Quiet Weekend: Fr Bill Scott	<i>Michael Fisher SSF, Bp</i>	5th
Economists		6th
The Parish	<i>Michael Barnard</i>	7th
Society of Mary		8th
South Cambridge Chapter	<i>Hal Oakley, Charles Goodhart</i>	9th
Friends of LSM		10th
Afghanistan		11th
Spiritual Guides		12th
Our work with children and young people	<i>Glyn Daniel</i>	13th
The Parish	<i>Charles McBurney</i>	14th
Local Shopkeepers	<i>Gladys Stockbridge</i>	15th
All who care for our church building		16th
The Church's Healing Ministry	<i>Jack Grist</i>	17th
Christian Unity		18th
Cambridge Mencap	<i>Eric Lawson</i>	19th
Good preparation for Christmas	<i>Yvonne Mashedor</i>	20th
The Parish		21st
Those working in the Post Office		22nd
The Children's Society	<i>Ruth Wheatley</i>	23rd
The Holy Land		24th
Thanksgiving for the Incarnation	<i>Nelson Bleackley</i>	25th
Those who are persecuted for their faith		26th
St John's College	<i>Muriel Ellis, Leonard Beard</i>	27th
The Parish		28th
Rowan, Archbishop of Canterbury	<i>Leonard Askham, Pr</i>	29th
Christian Aid		30th
Thanksgiving for God's blessings	<i>Muriel Brittain</i>	31st

December

The Advent Season

*O Lord our God,
Make us watchful and keep us faithful
as we await the coming
of thy Son Our Lord;
that when he shall appear,
he may not find us sleeping in sin
but active in his service
and joyful in his praise:
through Jesus Christ Our Lord:
AMEN*

ADVENT, CHRISTMAS and EPIPHANY 2008

Advent Quiet Weekend: December 5th-7th:

Friday 5th 8.15pm: Compline and Address: Fr Bill Scott

Saturday 6th 10.30am-4pm: at Mill Green House:

Fr Scott will give two addresses

Sunday 7th: lunch in the Parish Room, followed by showing of 'Into Great Silence': a Carthusian Monastery Reflection during 6pm Evensong

Advent 3: December 14th: Advent Carol Service 6pm

Friday December 19th: Carol Singing around Parish
in aid of Cambridge Mencap: meet 7.20pm



Advent 4: December 21st : Services as usual

CHRISTMAS EVE:

5pm CANDLELIGHT SERVICE: *all welcome*
our young people provide musical accompaniment for carols
and children assist with the forming of the crib

11.30pm MIDNIGHT MASS and Blessing of the Crib

CHRISTMAS DAY:

8am: Low Mass 10.30am: Procession and High Mass
5pm Evening Prayer, Carols at the Crib & Benediction

Friday 26th-Saturday 27th , Monday 29th , Tuesday 30th , Wednesday 31st:
Low Mass at 10am

Sunday December 28th: services as usual

Wednesday December 31st:

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 11.50pm

Thursday January 1st: The Naming of Jesus:

10.30am: Sung Mass, followed by Refreshments

Tuesday January 6th: Feast of the Epiphany

7pm: Blessing of the Holy House and High Mass

Sunday January 11th: Baptism of Our Lord

6pm: Epiphany Carol Service, and Epiphany Party

Personal and Corporate Preparation for Christmas

The Sacrament of Reconciliation: times for Confession

The Vicar: Friday December 19th 12.05pm,

Saturday 20th 6.30pm,

Monday 22nd 6.30pm,

Tuesday 23rd, 12.05pm,

Wednesday 24th, 2.30pm

Or by appointment

By appointment with Fr Anthony Moore: Tel: 338346

FRIDAY CHARITY LUNCHEAS for January & February

Sue Ryder Care cares for people who are seriously ill, helping them to get the best from life. They help people living with cancer, multiple sclerosis and brain injury, by which approximately 11 million people are affected in the UK, with 1 in 3 people being affected by cancer at some stage in their life. Sue Ryder Care aims to help those currently not receiving appropriate specialist care by increasing the number of hours of care they can provide each year in the UK from 4 million to 10 million.

Their approach considers every aspect of an individual's well-being by listening to and supporting their choices. They return the dignity, independence and confidence that the disease takes away, enriching people's lives and those of their families. Care is provided in people's homes, in the community and in their care centres and hospices. Our local Sue Ryder Care is at The Old Palace in Ely which is a specialist neurological centre caring for 44 permanent residents and 1 respite resident. Both residents and their families can seek help, this being one of the few UK charities able to do so and making sure someone who is living with a serious life-changing condition gets the very best care possible.

DATA PROTECTION ACT
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PAGE ONLINE

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 January Newsletter: (EARLY!) Sun 14th December