

Little St. Mary's, Cambridge

NEWSLETTER

March 2009

No. 407



Price: 25p

SERVICES & EVENTS THIS MONTH

Sun	1st	1st SUNDAY of LENT Preacher at High Mass, 10.30am: the Revd Christian Heycocks, Chaplain at Great St Mary's
Mon	2nd	Bible Study 12.45pm (Bring your lunch)
Wed	4th	Lent Course 1: 7.00pm Bring & Share Supper, 7.40pm start
Fri	6th	Women's World Day of Prayer, St Andrew's St Baptist Church, 10.30am
Sun	8th	2nd SUNDAY of LENT Preacher at High Mass, 10.30am: the Revd Mark Bishop
Mon	9th	Bible Study 12.45pm (Bring your lunch)
Wed	11th	Lent Course 2: 7.00pm Bring & Share Supper, 7.40pm start
Sat	14th	10.00am Garden working party
Sun	15th	3rd SUNDAY of LENT Preacher at High Mass, 10.30am: the Rev'd Chris Savage, Chaplain to People at Work
Mon	16th	Bible Study 12.45pm (Bring your lunch) PCC meets 7.00pm
Wed	18th	Lent Course 2: 7.00pm Bring & Share Supper, 7.40pm start
Sun	22nd	4th SUNDAY of LENT: Refreshment Sunday Preacher at High Mass, 10.30am: the Rev'd Stephen Young, Chaplain of Dulwich College.
Mon	23rd	Bible Study 12.45pm (Bring your lunch) 7.30pm Pastoral Visiting Team meets
Wed	25th	ANNUNCIATION to the BVM Low Mass 10.00am High Mass, Baptism & Confirmation 7.00pm
Sat	28th	<i>n.b. CLOCKS GO FORWARD ONE HOUR</i>
Sun	29th	5th SUNDAY of LENT: Passion Sunday

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VICAR'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

Full details of our Lent programme were in the February newsletter, so may I just remind you that we shall be continuing with the **Monday Bible Studies** which began on February 23rd; we're looking at the gospel passages for the following Sundays, meeting at 12.45pm in the Parish Room. You're welcome to bring your sandwiches! The Wednesday evening course (7pm Bring-and-Share Supper before the session at 7.40pm) entitled 'Glimpses of the Sacred?' begins on March 4th with Stephen Siddall's choice of English Literature; he is followed by Adrian Barlow on the 11th (Kempe's Annunciation window) and A. N. Wilson on March 18th (Journalism and the Christian faith). We then have a break on March 25th, the Feast of the Annunciation, when the Bishop of Ely will be with us for High Mass, Baptism and Confirmation (7pm). The last session in the Lent Course will therefore be on April 1st, when we are privileged to be welcoming Sir David Willcocks, who will be speaking about 'My life in Music'. In my sermon on the Sunday before Lent I both commended and drew on the Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent Book, 'Why go to Church?', by the Dominican Fr Timothy Radcliffe, and endeavoured to use some of what he says to encourage a more positive and committed approach to attendance at Mass. As that Sunday was not one of the better attended I'm hoping that our editor may be able to include the text of the sermon in this Newsletter. It will also be found on our website.

We have been having some pre-Lenten tidying and re-organization of the many items which seem to accumulate in churches! Up in the Choir Room, Christian Rutherford and Patricia Davies have been sorting out the music as well as the cassocks and cottas, now that the excellent new cupboards and pigeon holes (all made of oak, like the section of the organ case which extends into the Choir Room) have been completed. Our 'Buildings Committee' (the Churchwardens, Jo Wibberley, Mark Caddick and Chris Nevitt) have been looking round the various sheds, porches, passages and cupboards where all kinds of interesting materials are to be found; some things have been discarded, and others 're-ordered', with the passage between the church and Peterhouse having been brought back into use. We are most grateful to all who have been involved in these activities, and also to Lucy McKitterick and Fusae Takahashi who have been standing in as Church and Parish Room cleaners while our regular cleaner, Elizabeth Lacey, has been absent. It's important to remember from time to time how much work has to be done in a large and well-used building!

The Churchwardens are also concerned about the difficulty which some

people experience in getting to Church, whether for Sunday services or for weekday events. You may have seen the proforma which invites information about such difficulties. Parking problems mean that there aren't easy answers, but we do need to find ways of responding to this situation. Please let the churchwardens know if you are willing and able to offer lifts.

There has been some progress with two major projects. The application for a faculty for the new **lighting for Choir and Sanctuary**, supported by the Diocesan Advisory Committee, is with the Registrar, and we should have a response fairly soon. Various preliminaries which are necessary before we can make a planning application for the **Parish Centre Development** are now in hand, in particular archaeological and ecological surveys of the areas of the churchyard which would be affected, and adjustments to the architect's plans in the light of comments from English Heritage. Our working group was due to meet in the last week of February, and their latest proposals for publicity and fundraising will be brought to the PCC on March 16th. Those who come to the **Annual Parochial Church Meeting** in April will be brought up to date with progress; please note among the alterations and additions to our Calendar for the year that this important meeting will be on **Tuesday April 28th**, and **NOT** on April 22nd.

The national press covered some of the recent General Synod debates, not least that on the 'Code of Practice' which is intended to safeguard those opposed to the Ordination of Women to the Episcopate. It's clear that there is still much uneasiness on all 'sides' about the proposals; but the 'revision' processes which are now beginning will take some time, and we must continue to pray for patience, sensitivity and clear thinking. Don't forget that in Dr Peter Harland we have a General Synod member with close links to LSM...and in Shirley Dex someone who attends all the meetings and debates; I'm sure that they would be both pleased to talk over Synod matters with you.

With prayers and good wishes for Lent: Fr Andrew

People for our Prayers

Confirmation by the Bishop of Ely on Wednesday March 25th:

Please pray for our candidates: Chris Beecham, Alastair Crookes, Irene Debiram and Nao Fujita.

R.I.P. Fr David Neaum's mother **Margaret** died on January 23rd after a long battle with cancer. We pray for Fr David and his family in their bereavement and pray that **Margarqt**, with all the departed, may rest in peace and rise in glory.

The Sick: Miranda Long has been in hospital for some days for surgery and treatment relating to troubles partly caused by her chemotherapy, but sadly she does have further cancer problems. Daphne Peck, who comes to the Sunday 8am Mass with her husband Dennis, has recently spent a fortnight in Brookfields Hospital, but it was good to see her back in church on the Sunday before Lent. Fr Andrew's sister-in-law Marian is in hospital following a major stroke.

FRIDAY LUNCH CHARITY FOR MARCH AND APRIL

Biblelands Humanitarian work in Gaza

Biblelands is sending grants through the Anglican Diocese of Jerusalem to be used for humanitarian work in Gaza, for example at the Al Ahli Hospital, where many injured and wounded patients were taken during the recent fighting. In addition to struggling with shortage of supplies, the Hospital lost all its windows to blast damage. Biblelands promises to spend donations which it receives wherever the need is greatest during the forthcoming weeks and months. Please come and support the Friday lunches whenever you can during Lent and Eastertide...£2.50 as a minimum donation is asked for our chosen charity; the lunch follows the 12.30pm Low Mass which, during Lent, includes reflection on two of the Stations of the Cross.

SERMON PREACHED SUNDAY 22ND FEBRUARY

'In the Name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit'. Thus innumerable preachers 'sign on' at the beginning of their sermons. So too begins the Mass. We begin the liturgy, every day of the week in this church, by invoking the Three-in-One. Let us hear how the Dominican, Fr Timothy Radcliffe, writes about the significance of this invocation in his book 'Why go to Church?' (the Archbishop of Canterbury's highly recommended Lent book). He says: 'We come to church with our fragile identities, often enough constructed over against each other. We come as people whose sense of self is sometimes grounded in competition, striving for superiority or struggling with a sense of inferiority. Even our loves may contain knots of rivalry or reticence. We begin', he continues, 'by invoking the Triune God, a *home* in which we may flourish and find happiness, liberated from the need to fight for our identity, to justify our existence, at ease in the uncompetitive and equal love of the Father and the

Son, which is the Holy Spirit.' *A home in which we may flourish.* There's a striking thought: the Trinity, not a complex theological or mathematical problem, but a *home*. So too the Church of God is our home, or should be. 'We are travelling home to God' as the hymn has it...and this is because the Church is the effective sign on earth of the new Jerusalem, itself our true home and destiny. We imagine that we have to *leave* our homes to come to church, to get out of their familiarity and security. Yet those homes we've left this morning are not our final homes; *this* is home, and here, in the liturgy of the Mass, we express the joyful truth that we are at home in God the Holy Trinity. Or, to express it in terms which relate to the theme of our readings today, we find ourselves at home (unlike Peter) on the mountain of transfiguration, where we see the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ, acknowledged, in the Spirit, the beloved Son of the Father. Confused maybe was that little group of disciples; but this is where Jesus had called them to be; this is where they were to glimpse the deepest truth about the gift of Jesus to them and to the world. The glory of a God made vulnerable in sacrificial love. That's where they were to learn to be at home.

Maybe this is where we need to begin when we think about coming to church. It's not unusual on the Sunday before Lent for a preacher to encourage people to develop a particular pattern for their prayer and worship in this season (what used often to be called a 'Rule of Life; after all, the origins of this penitential season lie in the intense preparation for the celebration of Easter which catechumens – candidates for initiation by baptism and confirmation – undertook...prayer, fasting, instruction in the faith). But I have already been mildly reprimanded this year for using the language of obligation about coming to Mass... and the vocabulary of 'Rule of Life', often up for revision in Lent, might be thought equally inappropriate. Those of you present this morning would be justified in saying 'well, *we're* here anyway!' So, as an alternative, let's at least give room to Fr Radcliffe's encouragement to think of life in the Trinity and life in our liturgy in church as 'coming home'...and not least because this gives us a way into a further vital truth...that this home is a place of *community*. Christian identity is a bodily identity...our identity is that of the Body of Christ. Those who are gathered here

are, as we say, the Body of Christ, a local manifestation of the community of Christ's body which enfolds the living and the departed, saints and sinners, the apostle Peter and the most lately baptised member, the worshipper in the Highlands of Papua New Guinea, in St Cyprian's Sharpeville, in the college chapels, here in LSM this morning. The *absence* of a member, a limb, is painful and injurious to that body. Participation in the liturgy of the Mass, then, is not primarily about each individual getting their private share of the body of Christ, but, to quote Radcliffe again, 'saying yes to the Body of Christ' (perhaps our Amen as we receive the host, or the greeting at the Peace): saying 'yes' to the Body of Christ is not just about me getting my bit of Jesus...it transforms how we belong to one another.'

Radcliffe has much more to say in his book, which I do encourage you to read for yourselves. He argues that as we listen to the word of God in the Ministry of the Word, we grow in *faith*: faced with the recalling of failure, violence and death, we find *hope*, because Jesus, *on the very night before his death*, took bread and wine, and said This is for your re-remembering of me...that is, in a bodily presence beyond the power of death. Finally, receiving and encountering the Risen Christ in his victory over death and hatred we know the force of *love*, and we are sent out to bring that love to the world. But for today, three days before we shall come to hear at Wednesday's imposition of ashes the words 'turn away from sin and be faithful to Christ', and with the prospect of a gathering next Saturday to reflect on the purpose and presentation of our worship...for today, I simply want to leave with you Radcliffe's picture of the *homecoming* of participating in the Mass...the liturgy which begins, not just on Sundays, but every day of the week here in LSM, with the invocation of the Trinity in which we are at home, 'at ease', you remember, 'in that uncompetitive love'. And I hope that we shall recall too that this is *gift*, this is the filling of our emptiness, our empty hands, with a love which we can't manufacture. So why then should we hold back from coming home, from climbing the mountain, certainly every Sunday, and, if this can be realistically part of the pattern, on a weekday as well? Why should we not see this coming Lent as the gift of a season in which to do this? Not just in order to get our individual helping, our little bit of Jesus, but in order to open ourselves to the transformation, the transfiguration, of the way in which we relate to each other and to the world... *within* the Holy Trinity to whom be ascribed all majesty and praise and adoration, now and for ever. Amen.



Calendar and Intentions

for

MARCH

*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 March

SUN.	1st	LENT 1
Mon.	2nd	St David, Bp <i>transf.</i> Bible Study 12.45pm
Tues.	3rd	
Wed.	4th	Lent Course 1: 7.00/7.40pm
Thurs.	5th	
Fri.	6th	commem. St Tibb: Women's World Day of Prayer Service
Sat.	7th	commem. St Perpetua and Felicity MM
SUN.	8th	LENT 2
Mon.	9th	Bible Study 12.45pm
Tues.	10th	
Wed.	11th	Lent Course 2: 7.00/7.45pm
Thurs.	12th	
Fri.	13th	
Sat.	14th	
SUN.	15th	LENT 3
Mon.	16th	Bible Study 12.45pm PCC 7.00pm
Tues.	17th	St Patrick, Bishop
Wed.	18th	Lent Course 3: 7.00/7.45pm
Thurs.	19th	St JOSEPH
Fri.	20th	commem. St Cuthbert, Bishop
Sat.	21st	
SUN.	22nd	LENT 4: Refreshment Sunday
Mon.	23rd	Bible Study 12.45pm: Pastoral Visiting Team Meets 7.30pm
Tues.	24th	
Wed.	25th	ANNUNCIATION to the BVM: LM 10am HM, Baptism and Confirmation 7pm
Thurs.	26th	
Fri.	27th	
Sat.	28th	
Sun.	29th	LENT 5: Passion Sunday
Mon.	30th	Bible Study 12.45pm Stations of the Cross 6.30pm
Tues.	31st	

Daily Intentions and *Anniversaries* for March

The Parish		1st
The People of Wales		2nd
Afghanistan	<i>Ceta Cherry</i>	3rd
Our Lent Course		4th
Christian Unity		5th
Women's World Day of Prayer: Papua New Guinea		6th
Those who suffer for their faith	<i>Geoffrey Clayton, Bp</i>	7th
The Parish	<i>Jessie Rolph</i>	8th
Care in the community		9th
Cambridge South Deanery Chapter		10th
Friends of LSM: ministries of healing		11th
Jimmy's Nightshelter		12th
The unemployed	<i>Elsie Murrell, Helen Dex, Beryl Oliver</i>	13th
Whitworth House		14th
The Parish	<i>Violet Barnard, Elizabeth Lampe</i>	15th
Parochial Church Council	<i>Teresa Pike</i>	16th
The People of Ireland	<i>Richard Boulind</i>	17th
Journalists		18th
Families under strain	<i>Mary McDougall</i>	19th
Humanitarian work in Gaza		20th
'Ely 900'	<i>Constance Hennings, Margaret Bottrall</i>	21st
The Parish	<i>Emily Glennie, Nellie Edwards, Ken Topley, Merlin Brown</i>	22nd
Our Pastoral Visiting Team		23rd
Spiritual Guides	<i>George Head</i>	24th
Thanksgiving for Our Lady's 'Yes' to God	<i>Edith Allen</i>	25th
Today's candidates for Baptism and Confirmation		
Trumpington Parish	<i>George Papworth, Philip Hall</i>	26th
Our Choirs	<i>Nora Everiss</i>	27th
Local Councillors		28th
The Parish		29th
Faithful walking of the Way of the Cross		30th
Local Schools		31st

March 25th

*Feast of the
Annunciation*

*We beseech thee O Lord
pour thy grace into our hearts
that as we have known the
Incarnation of thy Son Jesus Christ
by the message of an angel,
so by his Cross and Passion
we may be brought unto the
glory of his Resurrection;
through the same
Jesus Christ Our Lord.
AMEN*

THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS

The Stations of the Cross are a devotion which commemorates the Passion and death of our Lord Jesus Christ. Each of the fourteen stations represents an event which occurred during Jesus' Passion and death at Calvary on Good Friday. They were originally performed many centuries ago by Christian pilgrims who visited the Holy Land and the sites of Jesus' Passion. Promotion of the devotion to the Stations began in earnest with the Franciscans, who were given custody of the Holy Places in the Holy Land in the 1300s.

The Stations of the Cross, also called The Way of the Cross, consists of prayers and meditations on fourteen occurrences that were experienced by Christ on His way to the crucifixion. During the time of the crusades (1095-1270), it became popular for pilgrims in the Holy Land to walk in the footsteps of Jesus to Calvary.

After the Moslems recaptured the Holy Land pilgrimages were too dangerous. As a result, the Stations of the Cross became a popular substitute pilgrimage throughout Europe. Originally done only outdoors, the Stations were allowed inside churches in the mid-18th century. Finally fixed at fourteen, the Stations eventually became a familiar feature in churches and became an important catechetical tool. Its popularity inspired some of the greatest examples of medieval Christian art.

Some scholars believe that medieval miracle plays, which were essentially tableaux of Christ's life, developed from the sculptured representations of the Stations of the Cross in the great Churches. These scenes from the Way of the Cross have provided inspiration for many of the world's greatest works of visual art. The visual representations, combined with the prayers and meditations, help to deepen our understanding of the Way of the Cross.

JIMMY'S NIGHT SHELTER

Beverley Williams, General Manager of Jimmy's Night Shelter, has once again sent a letter of appreciation for the recent contribution of food, clothing and toiletries from LSM. They are particularly grateful for 'seasonal' donations, and ask that people look at their website for suggestions of appropriate gifts. For those without internet access a list of requirements and information is with the box.

Penny Sale

LITTLE ST MARY'S CALENDAR 2009

Addenda and Corrigena

Sunday March 8th: Preacher at 10.30am:

Fr Mark Bishop (in place of Anna Rowlands)

Good Friday, April 10th:

Preaching of the Passion: Noon-1.20pm:

Fr James Gardom, Dean of Pembroke College

Saturday April 25th: Feast of St Mark

Sung Mass at 11am, NOT 10am: as part of special day for
Friends of Calcutta Cathedral Relief Service

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING:

now on TUESDAY APRIL 28th at 7pm,

and NOT on Wednesday April 22nd

Sunday May 24th: Preacher at 10.30am:

The Revd Professor Sarah Coakley

Sunday July 19th: Preacher at 10.30am:

Br Martin SSF

Sunday October 4th: Preacher at 10.30am:

The Rt Revd David Stancliffe, Bp of Salisbury

Sunday October 18th: Preacher at 10.30am:

The Ven Hugh McCurdy, Archdeacon of Huntingdon

Sunday November 8th: Preacher at 10.30am:

Fr Thomas Seville CR

Friday December 4th-Sunday 6th: Advent Quiet Weekend

Anna Rowlands (Margaret Beaufort Institute)

LENT PROGRAMME CONTINUES...

- Bible Studies: Mondays 12.45pm-1.45pm
(The Gospels for the following Sunday)
- Sunday 1030am Sermons: 'God among us'
- Wednesday evenings: 'Glimpses of the Sacred?'
March 4: Stephen Siddall (English Literature)
March 11: Adrian Barlow (Kempe stained glass)
March 18:A. N. Wilson (Journalism)
April 1: Sir David Willcocks (a life in music)

Bring-and-Share Supper at 7pm,
session at 7.40pm Compline at 9pm

NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE

The Bishop of Huntingdon, Dr David Thompson, has set up a web log (which abbreviates to blog) where you can find his reflections on many matters and a wide variety of resources and information.

Bishop David's Blog: bpdtd.wordpress.com/

LENT 2009: CHURCH URBAN FUND HELPS LOCAL PROJECT

Church Urban Fund, which supports churches putting their faith into action, has launched its Prayers for Lent 2009 calendar and is asking people to help make a real change in some of the poorest communities in England.

For each week of Lent the calendar contains prayers of the people involved in some of these projects. Reading them will give you the chance to catch a glimpse of their desire to see justice and change through faith in their local communities.

In this diocese, Church Urban Fund is helping support the Orton Goldhay Community Centre. This project is in a deprived area of Peterborough, and runs coffee mornings for people aged over 55, a 'mums and tots' group, and lunch clubs for children and parents.

Following a refurbishment, Church Urban Fund has given money towards the cost of a new fridge and freezer for the kitchen, and a washing machine and tumble drier for the utility room – much needed in the community as many people do not have their own..

SPICY BUTTERNUT & BUTTER BEAN SOUP

Why not try this delicious soup during Lent?

1 oz butter or a little oil if you don't want to use butter

1 medium onion, finely chopped

3 cloves of garlic, finely chopped

1 fairly chunky butternut squash, peeled, seeded and roughly chopped

2 big sweet potatoes, peeled and roughly chopped

1 or 2 red chillis (according to taste) finely chopped

2 cans of butterbeans, drained

1 1/2 pints of stock

Salt & Pepper to taste

5 tbsp chopped coriander plus extra for garnish

Melt the butter in a large saucepan, then add the onions and garlic and fry gently over a low heat for 15 minutes or until the onions are soft and golden, but not browned. Add the chilli and fry for a couple of minutes before adding the rest of the chopped vegetables, except the beans. Stir to coat, then cover and leave to sweat for 10 minutes.

Cover with hot stock, bring to the boil and simmer for 15-20 minutes or until the vegetables are tender. Puree the soup, season and add the tins of beans and chopped coriander. Return to the heat and simmer for approx. 8 more minutes to allow the beans to warm through and take on the flavour of the soup. Serve garnished with a little chopped coriander and warm crusty bread.

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PREVENTS PUBLICATION OF
THIS PAGE

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 April Newsletter: Sun 22nd March