

Little St. Mary's, Cambridge
NEWSLETTER



July & August 2009
No. 412 Price: 20p



*For Diary and Calendar information
for these two months,
please refer to the green 10p supplement,
which also includes
the daily intentions for prayer.*

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VICAR'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

Sue Munro, who edits our Newsletter, was recovering from a cataract operation in the second half of June, and will be on holiday towards the end of July; so we decided to make different arrangements for July and August. I produced a 10p 'supplement' (green) before the end of June to cover those two summer months with a full list of LSM events and the Calendar and daily intentions for prayer; but this newsletter will not be ready until early July, and there won't be an August edition this year.

However, this letter should be on time to encourage readers to come along to our **2009 Summer Festival and Gift Day** on Saturday July 11th (with the first performance of Liz Smith's 'The Curate and the Naturalist' on Friday 10th at 8pm, and the second on the Saturday at 3pm). A number of people put hours of work and energy into the festival... the stalls, the refreshments, the exhibitions, the music, the drama production and the publicity; so we do hope to see not only plenty of visitors from 'outside', but also a good turn-out of members of the congregation! Joe Fort will be playing the organ for half an hour from 11.15am, and we look forward to another display of musical talent from our young people just after 12 noon (their concert follows a few moments of quiet and prayer which, like the Low Mass at 8am and Choral Evensong and Benediction at 6pm, remind us that the activity of the day is set in the context of our corporate prayer). The Deputy Mayor of Cambridge will be with us for those musical items.

If the Summer Festival is the highlight of our July Calendar, August has the Feast of the Assumption and our **Patronal Festival**. Our principal celebration will be at 7pm on Friday August 14th, the eve of the Feast, when the preacher will be **Fr Matt Bullimore**, now Chaplain to the Bishop of Wakefield, and a member of that Westcott House 'gang', including Fr John Hughes and Fr Robert Mackley who remain very supportive of LSM. On Saturday August 15th, we shall have the **Assumptiontide Barbecue** at the Vicarage in aid of the Papua New Guinea Church Partnership...look out for tickets from the beginning of August. On Sunday August 16th we welcome the new General Secretary of the **Additional Curates Society**, Fr Darren Smith, as our preacher; the ACS 'Lent' boxes should be returned on or before that day, and the collections on the Sunday itself will be for the Society. I hope I don't need to remind you that we continue to receive a grant from the Society towards the costs of having a Lay Pastoral Assistant; the *quid pro quo* is that we have a special collection on a particular Sunday each year.

Mention of Lay Pastoral Assistants leads to a reminder that **Chris Pickles'** last Sunday with us will be August 2nd; he will preach at High Mass that morning, and we shall say our official farewells to him afterwards. We are enormously grateful for all that he has contributed here since September, and offer our prayers and best wishes for his ordination training at Cuddesdon... and for his well-earned holiday in the USA during August. His successor is to be **Kyle McNeil**, a Scot who has recently graduated from Durham University; all being well, he will be with us in time for a first Sunday on September 13th.

The 'green supplement' has a list of the Sunday morning preachers for July and August; it will be a particular pleasure on July 19th to welcome **Br Martin SSF** back to LSM, as Cambridge is being included on his holiday itinerary. I'm grateful to a number of priests who will be keeping the weekday Mass going at the times when I'm away on holiday (about 11 days in July, which will include officiating at my son John's wedding in Yorkshire) and a similar period in August...although I have felt it advisable to drop the Thursday evening Mass on July 23rd and 30th, and August 20th and 27th. July 2nd and August 6th are both festivals with a Sung Mass at 7pm; there will be Holy Hour on July 9th, and Low Mass with anointing and laying-on of hands following prayer for healing on July 16th and August 13th. This prompts me to jog memories again about the weekday Mass and the value of building attendance at it into your pattern of prayer. The 7.45am time on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays (and indeed 6.45pm on Thursdays) is designed to make it possible for people who might come by car to be able to park on the single yellow line in Trumpington Street. Apart from a regular weekly pattern, it's good to come to Mass on a favourite Saint's day, or on the anniversary of a friend's or relative's death, or when the intention for the day is something of particular concern and interest to you. I'm also hoping that before he leaves at the beginning of August, Chris Pickles may be able to assist in the establishment of another group to meet in a home for the saying of an evening Office from time to time.

The pewsheet on Sunday June 28th had a list of LSM 'needs':

- More Friday lunch providers (and people to come to the lunch!)
- More volunteers for the Sunday morning coffee rota
- More Children's Group helpers (...and children to come more regularly!)
- More Choir members (all parts)

...and on another page, there's a request for people prepared to offer lifts to church services and events. Perhaps it's the hot and humid weather, but I've sensed a lack of energy and enthusiasm about some of these important aspects of our church life (or perhaps I just speak for myself!) If you would like to know more about any of these things, do have a word with me or with one of the Churchwardens in the first instance. Involvement in such tasks, some of them admittedly mundane, offers nevertheless a way for God to use us and transform us, as he uses and transforms the ordinariness of bread and wine at the Mass.

I hope that the summer months and holidays (for some!) will bring refreshment and prepare us for the formal launch of the Parish Centre Development project on Sunday September 20th, when the Bishop of Huntingdon, Dr David Thomson, will be the preacher at High Mass.

With best wishes and prayers: Fr

Andrew

People for our Prayers

After the traumatic days in Addenbrooke's soon after Easter, followed by several weeks in the Arthur Rank Hospice, **Miranda Long** has been able to settle down again at home with the help and support of family and carers; it's wonderful that she's been able to attend many of her two sons' school events in this busy summer term. We continue to pray for Miranda and her family, as for **Elizabeth Wylie** and **David Greason** and their families.

FIRESTORM

They were all gathered together,
In one place:
No longer scattered, running, hiding -
They were all waiting, united,
For one Word.

They had a purpose - quiet, focused,
When the Storm burst.
They were all filled completely,
Hearts blazing:
Your sons and daughters, prophets, praising!
Woody Caan

Parish Centre Development Project

Most of those who are on the Electoral Roll should now have received a copy of the brochure about this project, along with a letter setting out hopes and ideas for fundraising from individuals. One or two gifts and pledges have started to come in, and the Treasurer would obviously be delighted to receive additional offerings before the official launch of fundraising on September 20th. The more has been achieved by that date, the more encouragement we shall feel as we welcome the Bishop of Huntingdon to High Mass that day. Fr Mark Bishop has been working hard at identifying possible donors from Fr Owen's era. In the September Newsletter, we shall hope to set out initial plans for fundraising events for the coming months; this is where we hope to involve as many of the congregation as possible, not least those who are unable to make major financial gifts or pledges.

The architect made one or two minor adjustments to the plans before sending in the planning application; we hope to hear from the planning authority before very long. The Diocesan Advisory Committee continues to be very positive about the plans.

Our thanks again to the working group for the preliminary work which has been done, and to those who have already donated to the fund.

The Choirs

In May the Parish and Junior Choirs completed a major project, the recording of Somervell's 'The Passion of the Christ'. We hope that the resulting CD will be available by the late autumn.

The Junior Choir continue to follow the pattern of singing at High Mass on the first and third Sundays of the month, and at Evensong on the second Sunday. The girls at the 'senior' end of this Choir have been very occupied with exams this term, but their sound continues to improve; 3 girls have been having singing lessons supported by bursaries from our Music Fund. We have had some new arrivals at the lower end of the age range, notably Agatha and Agnes Pethers, who were admitted as full members on June 21st, and Bethany Bayliss. Mary Ward continues to work energetically with the pre-Junior Choir, though it has to be said that this isn't marked by consistency of attendance on the part of the children! Our Assistant Organist, Joe Fort, has been doing great work with six of the girls on RSCM 'ribbon' preparation; it's been a joy to have Joe with us since last autumn, and we wish him well as he prepares to move to the

USA to do a PhD. Sebastian Smallshaw has also made a notable contribution as our Organ Scholar

We continue to be grateful for the time and commitment given by the Parish Choir, Sunday by Sunday and Festival by Festival; as noted in the Vicar's letter, more singers (all parts) would be welcome. Just to encourage potential recruits, members enjoy an occasional dinner together at a local restaurant!

STOP PRESS: There is also a Junior Choir Punting Picnic taking place after High Mass on Sunday 19th July.

Additional Curates' Society

As mentioned in the Vicar's letter, our 'ACS Sunday' this year is August 16th, which links it effectively with our Patronal Festival on August 14th and 15th. There follows an article about the Society:

THE ADDITIONAL CURATES SOCIETY - WHAT DO THEY DO?

The Additional Curates Society is about more than curates. Since 1837 it has been working to ensure more clergy, full stop, particularly in poorer parishes. 'Passionate about priesthood' is its 'strap line'. A banker, who left London although not for financial reasons, founded the Society and ironically 170 years later, the current financial downturn has triggered a sharp rise in requests for help from the ACS from parishes in England and Wales. "There's a genuine need out there - an indication of the financial state of the Church and nation", says ACS Secretary, Father Darren Smith.

Joshua Watson, who founded the ACS, gave up his successful banking career because he wanted to devote himself to service to the Church. He is one of the forgotten heroes of the 19th century English church. A leader of the Hackney Phalanx, forerunner of the Oxford Movement for liturgical reform (his brother was vicar of Hackney for 40 years), Joshua took a major part in founding King's College in the University of London, to offset the 'Godless' University College.

It was a period of population explosion and the industrial revolution. The objective of the ACS was to provide clergy in 'poor and populous parishes' in the rapidly expanding towns in the inner cities. Before new parishes were created, these depended particularly on curates. From one parish as many as 30 new ones might be created.

Curates had to provide all the care until new incumbents were appointed.

Then, the church in the inner cities was expanding; now, under pressures, it is retreating. Next year, to help relieve these pressures, the ACS may go back to paying stipends for whole or half-time posts. At present it makes grants to parishes to support team vicars and priests-in-charge, as well as curates, but not an incumbent holding a living, of which there are still many. It also helps with housing and other expenses.

ACS is institutionally high church Anglican and most of its support comes from Anglo-Catholic churches. "But in making grants we are concerned with need, rather than any theological stance", says Father Smith. "We help many evangelical churches and evangelical churches support us."

Making grants is not the only thing the ACS does. Each Pentecost - the Sunday nearest St Peter's Day (June 29th) - it produces Pentecost Packs for parishes, giving sermon outlines, prayer cards, Sunday school material, magazine articles and service outlines. There is also a range of rosary meditation cards and lines in the ACS shop which include new black and mother-of-pearl rosaries and a new crucifix.

The ACS keeps in personal touch and since his appointment as Secretary, Fr Smith has travelled over 10,000 miles visiting parishes. "I see myself as something of an itinerant preacher", he says.

from an article by Laurence Dopson

LIFTS WANTED

Some parishioners find it increasingly difficult to get to L.S.M. for services and other activities. The church wardens are looking for people who normally drive to church and could sometimes offer lifts to people living in their area. If you are able to help, please talk to Paul or Christine.

**Friday Lunch Charity for July and August...
Help to complete the roof of the 'Little St Mary's Sunday
School Room' at St Cyprian's Sharpeville, South Africa**

The church at St Cyprian's in Sharpeville witnessed a tremendous membership growth due to the development of new townships in the nearby areas. This put pressure on St. Cyprian's infrastructure. Over the years (pre and post 1994) St. Cyprian's also functioned as a venue of choice for many and varied community events. So much so that more space became necessary.

A number of fundraising activities were embarked upon, which included Golf Days, Fundraising Dinners, Choral Music Festivals, Raffles, and donations from organisations, etc. LSM also contributed towards the cost and the new centre will be called the Little St Mary's Rooms.



The building grows...

The project involves

- Extension of the current church to cater for much bigger congregations and other needs of both church and community events.

- Building a new smaller facility to function as:
 - Sunday school venue.
 - Meeting rooms for both church and community events.
 - Training facility for Aids Counsellors and Home-based Caregivers, who are currently assisting HIV positive members of the local community with such things as taking medication, hospital and clinic visits, bathing and other home chores.
 - Nursery school for children in the local community.
 - Such other activities as the church may decide from time to time.

The total cost, according to the architect's estimates, was R1.8 million (exclusive of VAT).

The new building is now well under way, but further funds are necessary to roof it and the Friday Lunch donations will go towards this.

CHILDREN'S GROUP

The good news, as they say, is that two graduate students, Lucy Razzall and Hannah Weibye, have volunteered to help with Children's Group; more volunteers still welcome! The other news is that the attendance at Children's Group continues to vary between a minimum of one or two and a maximum of eleven or twelve. This makes planning and leading the sessions extremely difficult. We hope that everyone is aware that Children's Group does operate every Sunday (including during the summer holidays, and on Sundays when the Junior Choir isn't singing). Anything that members of the congregation can do to encourage regular involvement on the part of parents and children would be much appreciated!

AN EVENING OFFICE?

This is mentioned briefly in the Vicar's letter. Chris Pickles has approached Rob Francis about the possibility of a group meeting occasionally (perhaps fortnightly?) in the Milton Road area to say a simple Evening Office, using the form available in church. Chris is hoping that there might be a first gathering before he leaves!
STOP PRESS: Wednesday 29th July at 7.30pm at 17 Fraser Road.

ASSUMPTIONTIDE 2009

Friday August 14th

Patronal Festival High Mass

at 7pm

Preacher:

The Revd Dr Matthew Bullimore

Refreshments afterwards

Saturday August 15th

Low Mass at 8am

Barbecue at the Vicarage

at 7.30pm

(for the Papua New Guinea Church Partnership)

Sunday August 16th

Preacher at 10.30am High Mass:

Fr Darren Smith

General Secretary of the Additional Curates Society

Collection for the Society

For contact details please see
www.lsm.org.uk/about/whoswho.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 & 6.45pm *Low*
Mass 6.00pm *Evening Prayer*
(*Exposition at 6.15pm on 1st Thursday of month*)

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 **September** Newsletter: **Sun 23rd August**

