

Little St Mary's, Cambridge

NEWSLETTER

January 2012: No. 438

Price: 25p



***O little All, in Thy embrace,
the world lies warm and likes his place***

*A line from 'A Hymn for the Epiphany'
in 'Steps to the Temple' by Richard Crashaw (Priest at LSM 1638-1643).*

*On Friday 6th January we celebrate the **Feast of the Epiphany**,
the Manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles.*

Highlights of January

Sunday 1st: **Feast of the MOST HOLY NAME of JESUS:**

All services as usual (Procession and High Mass at 10.30am)

Monday 2nd: Bank Holiday: 10.00am Low Mass (*not* 7.45am).

Friday 6th: **The EPIPHANY of OUR LORD:**

7.45am and 12.30pm Low Mass;

7.00pm Blessing of the Holy House, Procession and High Mass

Sunday 8th: **Feast of the BAPTISM of OUR LORD:**

10.30am High Mass, Procession to the Font and Renewal of Baptismal Vows

6.00pm Epiphany Carol Service and Benediction

*(followed by Parish Epiphany Party: tickets on sale from
Christmas from Robin Osborne or the Churchwardens)*

Wednesday 11th: 9.45am and 10.00am: Prayers for the sick and Healing Ministry.

Friday 13th: 1.30pm Organ Recital by Anne Page (*see page 15*)

Wednesday 18th: The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins (to 25th).

Friday 20th: 1.30pm Organ Recital by Anne Page (*see page 15*)

Wednesday 25th: **The CONVERSION of ST PAUL:**

10.00am Low Mass; 7.00pm Sung Mass.

Preachers in January

1st Jan. **10.30am:** Fr Mark Bishop

Holy Name **6.00pm:** Fr Mark Bishop

8th Jan. **10.30am:** The Revd Robin Griffith-Jones, *Master of the Temple*

Baptism OLCJ **6.00pm:** Epiphany Carol Service: no sermon

15th Jan. **10.30am:** Fr Mark Bishop

Epiphany II **6.00pm:** Tanya Hockley, *Lay Pastoral Assistant*

22nd Jan. **10.30am:** The Revd Dr James Walters,

Chaplain to the London School of Economics

Epiphany III **6.00pm:** Fr Mark Bishop

29th Jan. **10.30am:** Tanya Hockley, *Lay Pastoral Assistant*

Epiphany IV **6.00pm:** No sermon owing to United Service (Emmanuel, 7.00pm)

From Fr Mark Bishop

Dear friends,

I am writing this letter in mid-December before we have got to the shortest day and when the language of our liturgy is still about watching and waiting for the light to penetrate the darkness. It is also a week when there have been two funerals of Church members known to many of us for some years – by name if not personally. **Patricia Barnard** died on the day after Advent Sunday: she faithfully attended in her latter years Evensong and Benediction whatever the weather, having had a close association with the church for many years. And we were sad to learn that **David Greason** had died after an immensely brave endurance of illness for many years. We send our love and condolences to their families and all those that mourn for them.

But some of you may be reading this letter on the *other* side of Christmas, when the liturgical mood has changed, the darkness in the early morning is beginning to recede, and we celebrate the great Festival of **Epiphany** and the opening up of the gift of the Incarnation to all the world so that the light pours out upon us all.

Writing a letter in one season for it to be read when the season has changed, particularly so dramatically from Advent into Christmas and Epiphany, is a good reminder to us that in every moment of our lives there is encompassed within it both death and Resurrection: the two are inextricably linked. We receive the pre-sanctified Sacrament on Good Friday, that is the bread of life, at the heart of the moment when we observe the death of Christ. And we proclaim at every Mass the great Christian truth that '*Christ has died, Christ has risen, Christ will come again*'. Like those sad paintings of the Madonna looking down at the infant Christ, she points us towards the brightness of the light that manifests His incarnate presence amongst us, but she also knows from her expression of sadness that this will bring His suffering and death, from which will come Resurrection and new life.

So looking from darkest Advent across to the brightness of Epiphany, we are all delighted with the news that **Father Robert Mackley** has been appointed our Vicar. As we journey into the new year, we are heartened that we will be led by Fr Robert. We are very grateful to the Dean of Peterhouse, and the committee that has had the conduct of the selection process, for all their hard work and the obvious care with which they discharged their responsibilities as our patron. We are also delighted that a full-time priestly ministry will continue from LSM, which is an important Diocesan affirmation of the particular ministry of LSM to this City and the wider Church.

God's work of building the Kingdom around us continues: of particular importance to that is that **young people** continue to grow and develop their faith. To this end, Mary Ward and I will be inviting any young people who would like to explore the Christian faith to come to the Lady Chapel for 30-minute discussion sessions after the High Mass from 15th January. If you are a parent and want to come along and join in with your child, you would be most welcome. And I continue to invite any adults amongst our congregation who would like to explore the possibility of Confirmation and being admitted to the Sacrament to contact me.

One other person who died in November but who can encourage us throughout the year is **Thomas Timmins**. He lived in the north and visited LSM only once, I believe, and was so impressed by the silence of the congregation before the Mass, and their attentiveness to the presence of God, that he set up regular monthly giving to LSM, and in his will left a legacy to us. A good reminder, I think, of how God works in us and through us all in unexpected ways, and how throughout the coming year we should always be open to the possibilities and opportunities that God creates all around us for the building of His Kingdom.

I look forward to seeing you throughout January as we celebrate the Epiphany of Christ.

With my love,

Fr Mark

People for our prayers

It was very good to see **Barbara Chamier** at church recently: please continue to remember Barbara, who has been such a presence at LSM over the years. We pray for **Joan Waton** still awaiting the operation on her knee with such patience. **Catherine Lofts** has been in Addenbrooke's and remains unwell. Richard Davies' mother **Audrey** died in Cardiff in mid-December and Patricia's mother is in hospital. Please also continue to pray for **Elaine** and **Tim Wheatley**. In this interregnum I have become aware, to a much greater extent than I was previously, how prayerfully attentive people are to each other at LSM. We hold each other up and bring each other into the presence to God by our prayers.

Fr Mark

ADVANCE NOTICE for your diary:

Our 2012 Lent series will take place at 7.00pm on Wednesday evenings, running from 29th February to 28th March. The theme is "Strangers and Pilgrims: Being a Christian today". More information next month!

From Fr Robert Mackley

Dear friends,

I'm honoured and thrilled to have been appointed as the next Vicar of Little St Mary's and very excited about all that we're going to do in our coming years together.

As you may have heard, the Bishop has instructed me to withdraw entirely from the life of LSM until I arrive as parish priest. This is not only to allow me to complete my doctorate and to avoid my becoming de facto Vicar immediately, but also to give a healthy psychological gap between being a priest who helps out and being the Vicar.

This is, I'm sure, very wise. Having worshipped at LSM as an undergraduate in the 1990s and then as an ordinand after that, I come to the parish with (I hope) a good sense of what she's about and how she ticks, but it will also be good to have a distance before coming here again in a new capacity.

For those of you who don't know me, here's a bit of brief autobiography: I was born and brought up in rural Leicestershire and went to school in Grantham. I read history at Christ's College here in Cambridge before reading theology at Emmanuel while training for the priesthood at Westcott House. I was ordained in 2003 to a parish in central London (Holy Redeemer and St Mark, Clerkenwell) and then served a second curacy in Liverpool at the parish church of the city: Our Lady and St Nicholas. Since 2009 I have been Assistant Chaplain at Emmanuel College and working on a PhD on the eighteenth century Church of England.

Outside of parish life I do a bit of writing for the *Church Times* and the Bible Reading Fellowship, do some teaching of church history for diocesan courses and conferences and even occasionally lecture for Swan Hellenic cruises... I also follow the – currently miserable – fortunes of Nottingham Forest Football Club.

Now isn't the time to inflict on you all my thoughts and ideas about our parish (there'll be plenty of chances for that) but simply to express once again my excitement about LSM, my great gratitude to Fr Mark and all who are managing the interregnum, and to ask for your prayers for me as I prepare to join you sometime after Easter. Do be assured of mine for you. Have a joyful Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

With my love and prayers,

Fr Robert

REMINDER for CHRISTMAS

This January Newsletter is being published early, owing to Christmas Day falling on a Sunday, so it will surely do no harm to print a reminder of the arrangements for our Christmas celebrations – at which all are most welcome and at which we hope to see very many of you and your friends:

Monday 19th December: 7.00pm CAROL SINGING around the Parish in aid of Cambridge Mencap, followed by punch and mince pies.

Wednesday 21st December: Feast of St Thomas: 7.00pm Sung Mass with corporate ACT OF PENITENCE in preparation for Christmas.

Thursday 22nd December: 5.00pm Fr Christopher Woods will be in the church to hear Confessions.

Christmas Eve: 8.00am Last Mass of Advent; 5.00pm “The Light of the World” – Candlelight Service; 11.30pm MIDNIGHT MASS AND BLESSING OF THE CRIB (sung to Shephard’s *Mass of the Nativity*, with string accompaniment).

CHRISTMAS DAY: 8.00am Low Mass; 10.30am PROCESSION AND HIGH MASS (sung to Shephard’s *Mass of St William*); 5.00pm Evening Prayer and Carols at the Crib.

Monday 26th – Saturday 31st December: Octave of Christmas: Low Mass at 10.00am daily. (Offices at 9.30am and 6.00pm. No Charity Lunch on Friday.)

Saturday 31st December: New Year’s Eve: Parish Gathering from 10.30pm, at which all are welcome. At 11.50pm we move into the church for EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT, PRAYERS AND BENEDICTION, and toast the New Year afterwards! Sunday services (Feast of the Most Holy Name) as usual.

On the **Feast of St Thomas**, the collection at the Sung Mass will be in aid of Tariro: Hope for Youth in Zimbabwe. At the **Christmas services**, the collections will as usual be divided between the Cyrenians and the Children’s Society.

*Hail, thou ever-blessed morn; hail, Redemption’s happy dawn!
Sing through all Jerusalem: Christ is born in Bethlehem!*



Services and events to note

THE JANUS PERSPECTIVE:

Janus, as someone tells us every New Year, looked backwards and forwards at the same time, which seems particularly appropriate in this Newsletter which, as Fr Mark points out in his letter, is being written in one season of distinct character to give information about a season of very different character. There has been much to be thankful for at LSM in the last few weeks – not least the splendid **Advent Carol Service** on Gaudete Sunday which was marvellously supported by just under 130 people, nearly twice last year's turnout, on a cold rainy evening. Many positive comments were received after the service about the beauty of the liturgy, somewhat revised and reshaped this year, and the quality of the music. A few days earlier the Feast of **Our Lady's Conception** was a feast in every sense of the word with a regal spread after the High Mass, the somewhat euphemistic description 'AGM of the Society of Mary' concealing a most convivial occasion which also provided members of that Society with a chance to reflect on the past year and develop their programme for 2012. These are two representative occasions but there has of course been much else: the regular round of Masses and Offices, the series of three Advent films and discussions, Friday Lunches, the weekly programme of meetings and groups in the Parish Centre, musical activities and so forth. We move now towards the great celebrations of the holy season of the Incarnation, and then on into Epiphanytide... thankful to be in this place at this time, and anxious to find ways to share it more widely with others.

HAIL, THOU SOURCE OF EVERY BLESSING:

A new civil year gets underway when, on Sunday 1st January, we keep the **Feast of the Most Holy Name of Jesus** and reflect on that Name which is above every other name, the Name at which every knee shall bow – a scriptural proclamation with which many people try to identify by maintaining the lovely custom, enjoined by Anglican authority, of slightly bowing the head when the Name of Jesus is mentioned. All the services take place as usual on that day and it's difficult, really, to think how better to begin the Year of Our Lord 2012.

This Feast is, of course, still well within Christmastide, and as the Twelve Days run their course we come all too soon to the wonderful **Feast of the Epiphany** on Friday 6th January, when the keynote of the day (and, indeed, of the whole season which follows) really is *worship* – worship of the God who is revealed to us in Jesus Christ in various ways which we celebrate at Epiphany: in the adoration of the Magi, in the waters of John's Baptism in the Jordan, in the first miracle at Cana in Galilee – all signs in which the light of who Jesus Christ really is shines forth. 'Sir,' said some Greeks to Philip, 'we would see Jesus!' (St John 12.21). In the Epiphany season we celebrate that Sight, that Manifestation, that

Revealing of Jesus Christ to a broken world – and the response is natural, “O come, let us worship and bow down, and kneel before the Lord our Maker”.

On the Feast of the Epiphany itself there will be Low Masses at 7.45am and 12.30pm, and at 7.00pm the splendid Procession, Blessing of the Holy House and High Mass. Two days later comes the **Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord**, a day when we reaffirm our commitment to our own baptismal profession and are sprinkled with the waters of the font at the High Mass, and later in the day celebrate the light of Christ, revealed to all peoples, at our Epiphany Carol Service and Benediction at 6.00pm. (That lovely festal service, followed by our Epiphany Party, offers an opportunity to invite a friend or two to come with you: how good it would be to fill the church!) So, what shall OUR response be, in these first days of 2012? Shall it be said of us too, *‘When they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary His Mother, and fell down, and worshipped Him’*?”

SATURDAY MASS:

As forewarned last month, from the start of January the Low Mass on Saturdays will be offered at **10.00am, NOT 8.00am**. The Saturday Mass has been at 8.00am for many decades, but nowadays only ever has a congregation of one or two, if that. We think a change to 10.00am may prove beneficial to many people. Doubtless Fr Mackley, when he arrives, will want to carefully consider our weekly programme, but this new time will continue at least until the end of the interregnum. Perhaps some may like to combine coming to this quiet Mass with their Saturday shopping, or other ‘Saturday jobs’ in town or around the church? Later in this Newsletter we’ll have a look at the whole question of the daily Mass.

MINISTRY OF HEALING:

Our monthly opportunity to participate in the Church’s Ministry of Healing will occur on **Wednesday 11th January**, when there will be prayers for the sick and those who care for them at 9.45am in the Lady Chapel, followed at 10.00am by Low Mass with laying on of hands and anointing at the High Altar. Our other regular Wednesday opportunity is the praying of the Rosary, which will take place on **4th January** (in Christmastide) and on **25th January** (at the end of Unity Week, when the intention of the Rosary might well be the Unity of Christians), at 9.30am.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL:

The PCC meets on **Wednesday 11th January** and on that occasion there will be an additional Low Mass at 6.30pm.

EPIPHANYTIDE with the GSS:

The Guild of Servants of the Sanctuary are arranging a celebration of the **Guild Office, Epiphany Procession and Benediction** on Thursday 12th January at St Clement’s: all are most welcome to go along.

One Church, one Faith, one Lord

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

runs from January 18th to 25th

This is our annual eight-day opportunity to join with our separated brothers and sisters throughout the world in recalling with penitence the sin of Christian disunity, and praying that God will bring peace and unity to His Church when He wills and by such means as He wills. The question of Christian Unity is not a matter of being organisationally pragmatic; no, it is far more important than that – and the fact that we are so used to speaking of ‘different denominations’ and conceive of variety as a positive quality has, perhaps, made us indifferent to the issue and encouraged us to give it up as a bad job. But one need only read St John chapter 17, among many other passages in Scripture, to see the whole thing in a different light and to realise that the unity of the Church matters because it is an ‘image’ of the perfect unity which exists between the Father and the Son.

Our prayer at the **daily Masses** during that week will involve intercession for our brothers and sisters in other parts of Christ’s Family, and it would be good if many people could try to share in that work of intercession at the altar... or to use the church for **private prayer** or a **visit to the Blessed Sacrament**. Our **Sung Mass** for the Conversion of St Paul will round the week off, and the following weekend will see our **principal Cambridge observance**:

A Taizé Service for Christian Unity

at Emmanuel United Reformed Church: 7.00pm, Sunday 29th January
(on which day there will be 6pm Evensong & Benediction in LSM, but no sermon)

Parish Centre furnishings

The process of putting the finishing touches to the Parish Centre continues. This work includes the addition of cushioning to the curved seat at the south end of the room, the hanging of a number of photographs and pictures, and the provision of **curtains**.

The old windows (a feature preserved from the old Parish Room) are to be recurtained. There will be two curtains, each 2.25m wide and 3m in length, with separate insulated linings. Thus far, however, we have found nobody to make them before the end of February except John Lewis, and should be very interested to know if any member of the congregation has a contact or friend who might be able to provide a quotation for doing the work, as we should like to have more than one estimate. If you, or someone you know, might be able to help, please have a word with **Christine Tipple** or **Lucy McKitterick**.

Christian Giving

Our annual Christian Giving Review will start on **Sunday 29th January**. As in previous years, you will be given forms which you will be asked to complete and return before **Ash Wednesday** (22nd February).

The occasion is not simply another appeal for funds to enable the Treasurer to balance his books. Rather than that, it is an opportunity for each one of us to reflect on the many ways in which God has blessed us, to give thanks for those blessings, and to consider how we may give back a small part of the abundance we have received.

We therefore hope that everyone will consider, thoughtfully and prayerfully, how they can respond. *In particular, the Financial Giving Form is designed to be completed by everyone, whether or not they are able to make a regular commitment, so we ask everyone to fill it in and return it.* There will also be an opportunity to volunteer your time and your abilities to help support the life and worship of Little St Mary's.

The Christian Giving Group

From Fr Mark Haworth

Dear friends at LSM,

In the days following the announcement in our team churches, and at the 'other end', I am delighted to say that I have been appointed Vicar of Rochdale (St Chad, St Mary and St Edmund) from Sunday 22nd January 2012; my Collation and Induction are on that day at 3.00pm in St Chad's Rochdale (Rochdale Parish Church), which I hope some of you might be able to manage.

My last Sunday here will be 1st January, with following midweek worship; my last service being a Team Service, open to the deanery of course, on Epiphany Eve, Thursday 5th January, 7.30pm at St Thomas' Pendleton.

Please pray for the team here, and for the appointment of my successor.

Best wishes to you all, as ever,

Mark

The LSM Calendar for 2012 should soon be on sale at the west end of the Church: do be sure to buy a copy and keep it close at hand!



Calendar and Intentions

for

JANUARY 2012

*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 Lay Pastoral Assistant would be glad of suggestions
for additions to the list of daily intentions.*

Calendar for January

SUN.	1st	The MOST HOLY NAME of JESUS
Mon.	2nd	SS Basil and Gregory (Bank Holiday): LM 10.00am
Tue.	3rd	
Wed.	4th	Rosary 9.30am
Thu.	5th	First EP of Epiphany 6.00pm
Fri.	6th	EPIPHANY of OUR LORD: LM 7.45am & 12.30pm; HM 7pm
Sat.	7th	LM on Saturdays at <u>10.00am</u> from today
SUN.	8th	BAPTISM of OUR LORD: Children's Group meeting after HM; Epiphany Carol Service and Benediction 6.00pm
Mon.	9th	of Requiem (Ordinary Time begins)
Tue.	10th	commem. William Laud
Wed.	11th	Healing Ministry 9.45am/10.00am; LM 10.00am <u>and</u> 6.30pm; PCC 7.00pm
Thu.	12th	St Ælred of Rievaulx, Abbot: GSS at St Clement's, 8.00pm
Fri.	13th	St Hilary, Bishop: Organ Recital 1.30pm
Sat.	14th	of the BVM
SUN.	15th	EPIPHANY II: Confirmation preparation begins after HM
Mon.	16th	
Tue.	17th	St Antony of Egypt, Abbot
Wed.	18th	Confession of St Peter: Unity Week begins (to 25th)
Thu.	19th	St Wulfstan, Bp
Fri.	20th	SS Fabian and Sebastian, Martyrs: Organ Recital 1.30pm
Sat.	21st	St Agnes, Martyr
SUN.	22nd	EPIPHANY III
Mon.	23rd	for Unity: Pastoral Visitors meeting 7.30pm
Tue.	24th	St Francis de Sales, Bishop
Wed.	25th	CONVERSION of ST PAUL: Rosary 9.30am; LM 10am; SM 7pm
Thu.	26th	SS Timothy and Titus
Fri.	27th	
Sat.	28th	St Thomas Aquinas, Teacher
SUN.	29th	EPIPHANY IV: Giving Review begins: United Service 7.00pm
Mon.	30th	Charles I, King and Martyr
Tue.	31st	St John Bosco, Priest

Daily Intentions and *Anniversaries* for January

The Parish: God's blessing on 2012 <i>Dorothy Alice Ogden, Derek Williams</i>	1st
Reverence for the Holy Name	2nd
Persecuted Christians <i>Edward Arthur Maycock (Pr), Lena Wheatley,</i>	3rd
<i>Arthur Clough, Cecilia Sylvia Scott-Townsend</i>	
Vision for the Parish Centre	4th
The unemployed <i>Jennifer Williams</i>	5th
Thanksgiving for Jesus Christ revealed to all peoples <i>Maggie Hulyer</i>	6th
House of the Epiphany, Diocese of Kuching, Malaysia	7th
The Parish: Grace to be faithful to our baptismal promises	8th
The Faithful Departed	9th
Ordinands from our Parish <i>Sylvia Skeil</i>	10th
(at 10.00am) The Ministry of Healing: Friends of LSM <i>Geoffrey Baines</i>	11th
(at 6.30pm) Guidance of the Holy Spirit	
Anglican Religious communities	12th
Vocations to the Priesthood	13th
Increase in devotion to Our Lady <i>Marjorie Shepherd, Aline Norman</i>	14th
The Parish <i>Isabel Nourse</i>	15th
Those suffering from substance abuse and addiction <i>Marjorie Galletly</i>	16th
Peace in the Middle East	17th
The Roman Catholic Church	18th
The United Reformed Church <i>Daphne Clavey</i>	19th
The Orthodox Churches <i>Donald Bertram Harris (Pr), Pauline Martindale</i>	20th
Salvation Army and the Society of Friends <i>Athelstane Furley</i>	21st
The Parish: the Anglican Communion	22nd
Baptist and Pentecostal Churches	23rd
Methodist and Lutheran Churches <i>Robert Garrett (Pr), Peggy Hall</i>	24th
Healing of Christian division	25th
Stephen, Bishop of Ely	26th
CamRead (Friday Lunch charity) <i>Sebastian Hawkes, Elsie Perrin</i>	27th
Theologians	28th
The Parish <i>Eric Furley, Beryl Goonetilleke</i>	29th
Conversion of England	30th
Our young people	31st



EPIPHANYTIDE

*Jesus Christ revealed to all people
as King of Kings and Lord of Lords,
Son of God and Son of Mary,
that all may come and worship*

Almighty God,
whose Son our Saviour Jesus Christ
is the Light of the world:
grant that thy people,
illumined by thy word and sacraments,
may shine with the radiance of his glory,
that he may be known, worshipped and obeyed
to the ends of the earth,
who liveth and reigneth, world without end.
Amen.

JANUARY ORGAN RECITALS

by ANNE PAGE

The 'LSM leg' of a musical marathon

Cambridge organist Anne Page has embarked on something of a challenge as she plays, from December 2011 to September 2012, a series of 23 organ recitals on 14 organs in Cambridge (in eight college chapels and three city churches), showcasing J S Bach's complete works for organ. To play the complete works of Bach in recital has been a longstanding ambition of hers. The series is her tribute and gift to the city of Cambridge, a 'city of organs', and we are pleased to be hosting three recitals here on our 2007 Tickell organ – two this month, and one on Wednesday 16th May.

Friday 13th January, 1.30pm: Christmas – Epiphany

*Free works in G major BWV 568 & 577 (Gigue fugue).
Pastorale. Chorale Preludes for Christmas and Epiphany.*

Friday 20th January, 1.30pm: New Year – Candlemas

*Free works in G major 571, A minor 543.
Chorale Preludes for the New Year and Candlemas.*

Pay what you like! Admission is by donation, taken at the end of each recital. Proceeds from donations will be shared between the venues that provide and maintain the instruments and the Cambridge Academy of Organ Studies (CAOS). Further details are available at www.cambridgesummertime.com

A New Year Ceilidh

to be held at the Guildhall by kind permission of the Mayor

Friday 20th January, 7.30 to 11.30pm

Tickets (including supper) cost £12 for adults, £6 for under-16s,
and are available from www.adcticketing.com

The Ceilidh is organised by the **Friends of Whitworth House** to raise money for the extension appeal; all are most welcome to attend what promises to be a lively evening supporting a worthwhile cause.

Visit www.friendsofwhitworthhouse.com for further details.

A matter of saucers and vin rosé

Most of you will have observed that since moving into the new Parish Centre we have been without saucers on Sunday mornings, and when the congregation is large some have been without cups also: having conducted a thorough search for the missing china without success, we will be buying new supplies as early as possible in the New Year.

However, it may be worth pointing out at this stage that the **Coffee Fund**, from which the china will be bought, relies *entirely* on contributions on Sunday mornings – and besides supplying us with coffee, sugar etc is also called upon to provide cafetieres, saucepans, leaving parties, Christmas Eve children’s teas etc, and on festive occasions DRINKS after Mass. We do not have an alcohol licence to sell drinks (and such a licence would be prohibitively expensive) so the latter are supplied very much in the hope of recuperating costs from the prominent contributions bowl: it is rather distressing to see, every time drinks are served, so little response from the congregation in the way of contributions!

It is very good to be able to give free drinks to visitors but PLEASE if you are a regular member of the congregation could you follow the suggestion of “£1 per glass”: thus we shall be able to have saucers under our coffee cups sooner rather than later and the custom of celebratory drinks for festivals can happily continue. Many thanks.

Music at Little St Mary’s

It’s been well over a year since I started at LSM, and – bearing in mind all of the music taking place over Christmas – it seems an appropriate time to spend a moment briefly looking back at what the Choir has achieved during that time. We’ve certainly managed to do a great deal in the short time I’ve been working with the Choir, and I can’t possibly mention everything.

We’ve sung for services in **Peterborough Cathedral, Ely Cathedral and St Mary the Virgin, Nottingham**. In their own right, the Choristers have been performing around Cambridge, singing services at **Trinity College, Madingley Hall and St George’s Six Mile Bottom**. There have been memorable collaborations with the **Anima Singers** and the **Girls’ Choir of St Catharine’s College**. The **Junior Choir**, too, is flourishing under Mary Ward’s energetic leadership and, since the opening of the new Parish Centre, they are enjoying singing in this resonant new space. Its acoustics are perfect for their lovely new

repertoire of music from the Iona community – music that they performed for the first time during the well-attended **Children’s Mass** for Christ the King.

Other highlights have included the performance of a new **commission** by **Philip Moore**, *Let hearts and lips* (a setting of the words by Richard Crashaw inscribed on the Lady Chapel doors), a very atmospheric **candlelit concert** commemorating the Gunpowder Plot, and the recent **Advent Carol Service**; and as I write, the choir is preparing for carol singing and the festival celebrations of Christmas. And all this is in addition to their most important duty, singing for the regular round of worship every **Sunday** and on **all major Feast Days**. Few parish churches expect that level of commitment from their choir. Perhaps most striking, though, is the enjoyable and sociable atmosphere fostered among the Choir, and I am extremely grateful to have such a dedicated group of singers to work with – and am sure music at LSM will continue to flourish in the new year.

I am always pleased to hear from **anyone interested in joining the Choir** – particularly from parents who think their boy or girl (aged 7+) might like to sing in the choir, or from younger children interested in joining the Junior Choir. If you know of any likely candidates, please do encourage them to get in contact with me at directorofmusic@lsm.org.uk

Simon Jackson

The Catholic Societies of the Church of England

Often, you will hear it announced at the end of Mass that one of the ‘Catholic Societies’ is meeting in the coming week. But is every member of LSM aware of what these societies actually are and what they do?

Religious societies, guilds and organisations have a long history in the Church in this land. Prior to the Reformation, every parish had them – we know of very many which existed in Cambridge, including a Guild of St Mary in this parish, and the Guild of the Annunciation at Great St Mary’s. The latter guild possessed four great wax torches which were used for wakes and requiems, and every member of the guild contributed 13 *d.* a year for the lights set before the image of the Virgin in the Lady Chapel at her five great feasts. These societies were a real focus of devotion, often having their own office – and they served social purposes as well, providing help for members in need.

They all disappeared at the Reformation, and it wasn’t until the mid-nineteenth century, with the revival of Catholic spirituality in the Church of

England, that a number of Anglican guilds and societies once again sprang up – many of which continue to this day, and each of which serves a different purpose.

In many cases, their objects include the teaching of a particular aspect of the Faith which receives insufficient attention in the Church at large. Their members are committed to the revival and setting-forth of particular aspects of the Faith, pledge themselves to certain simple acts of prayer and devotion, and, corporately, take part in devotional services (often a simple Guild Office concluding with Benediction), outings and pilgrimages, meetings and social events. Four are represented with branches or wards at LSM: the **Society of Mary**, the **Guild of All Souls**, the **Confraternity of the Blessed Sacrament** and the **Guild of Servants of the Sanctuary**. We are starting a new series in this Newsletter and, from next month, will be looking in turn at each of these societies to find out a little more about their objects, interests and activities.

Easy fundraising at LSM

***YOU can help us to raise money for the Development Fund...
...without costing yourself a penny!***

Little St Mary's is now on **easyfundraising.org.uk**

If you do **online shopping** (and many of us do), you could help us to raise money without costing you or LSM anything. Just go to

easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/littlestmaryschurchcambridge
and sign on, then start shopping!

Keep it as an icon on your desktop so you will be just two clicks away from your favourite shops.

This really does work: over 2000 companies have signed up to the site to provide a small donation as a percentage of each purchase made – including Amazon, Apple, Argos, Currys, Dixons, ebay...

AND you can use **littlestmaryschurchcambridge.easyssearch.org.uk** as your search engine and LSM will gain similar benefits.

Further information from Jo Wibberley (jowibs.mu@ntlworld.com)

CamRead

Our Friday Lunch Charity for January and February

Our Charity Lunches on Fridays in January and February will be raising money for **CamRead**. CamRead provides a personal reading service and audio publications for blind and partially-sighted people in Cambridgeshire. Its services are delivered by unpaid volunteers, who visit visually-impaired people in their homes to read to them, produce the audio magazine *CamMag*, record periodicals of local interest, record books for the County Library's Postal Tape Service, fundraise and assist at the charity's office.

CamRead does not receive any regular major grants: it relies largely on the generosity of supporters and successful applications to companies, trusts and foundations to enable it to continue its unique service to blind and partially-sighted people in the region.

***Lunch served every Friday in
the Parish Centre at 1.00pm:
homemade soup, bread,
cheese, fruit and coffee.***

***£2.50 minimum contribution –
all welcome!***

A New Year's resolution...?

A Poem for the New Year

I said to the man
who stood at the gate of the year,
'Give me a light
that I may tread safely into the unknown'.
And he replied,
'Go out into the darkness
and put your hand into the hand of God.
That shall be to you better than light
and safer than a known way!'
So I went forth and finding the Hand of God,
trod gladly into the night.
And he led me towards the hills
and the breaking of day in the lone East.

So heart be still:
What need our little life
Our human life to know,
If God hath comprehension?
In all the dizzy strife both high and low,
God hideth His intention.
God knows, His will
Is best. The stretch of years
Which wind ahead, so dim
To our imperfect vision,
Are clear to God. Our fears
Are premature: In Him
All time hath full provision.

Then rest; until
God moves to lift the veil
From our impatient eyes,
When, as the sweeter features
Of Life's stern face we hail,
Fair beyond all surmise
God's thought around His creatures
Our mind shall fill.

*Minnie Louise Haskins (1875-1957)
Verse 1 was used by King George VI
in his Christmas broadcast, 1939*

‘Day by day with strength supplied’

Amid all the endeavour of the interregnum, a not inconsiderable amount of work is going into the task of ‘booking’ celebrants to offer the daily Mass – and we are extremely grateful to them all for their willing assistance. But we may well ask ourselves what all the fuss is about: what’s the point in having a *daily* Eucharistic celebration? For goodness’ sake, surely Fr Mark and the Churchwardens have more important things to do than worry about trying to find a priest to celebrate the Eucharist on a rainy Tuesday just after dawn. It may well be a practice recovered at LSM many decades ago, but that was when there were lots of priests around who had, well, probably not very much to do, and we live in rather different times now.

This view (which does, it must be said, have its proponents in the Church of England and her sister Churches) fails to take account of some important insights. We may note the *context* in which the Daily Eucharist was reinstated in the English Church: it was, we think, at St Peter’s Plymouth in 1849, in the midst of the horrors of a cholera outbreak in the densely-populated district in which St Peter’s was set. The vicar, the Revd George Rundle Prynne, wrote many years later: “*During the raging of the cholera... the Sisters [of Mercy] asked to be allowed to receive Holy Communion daily to strengthen them for their daily work.*”

Give us, that is, our daily bread – not our special Sunday lunch – but a *daily* showing-forth and entering-into the life of Christ to be renewed and made ready for the day’s work. Indeed, Michael Ramsey once noted that the lifting of the soul in prayer is not simply the ‘preparation’ for the day’s work, but the work itself. It is the bringing into the here-and-now of a glimpse of what shall be hereafter, when all will be ‘Amen and Alleluya’ as faith passes into sight.

But the danger here is that we then conceive of the Eucharist as ‘topping ourselves up’, the implication being that the more self-sufficient we feel, the less we need it. But the daily Eucharist is, in fact, the daily celebration of a Person: Jesus Christ, who we apprehend in its material reality – a reality which stretches out to us to bring us into communion with the transcendent God who dwells in unapproachable light. The Eucharist, because it is the physical celebration of the Mystery of Christ, gathers up ‘things earthly and heavenly’ so that we, physical creatures that we are, can, in expressing that strange and wonderful Mystery bodily, be enabled to live it. And so *every* day we show forth this Mystery at the altar of God, believing that here we encounter the uniting of earth and heaven, the conjunction of Time and Eternity. Thus we are incorporated in Christ’s Body, ‘becoming what we are’ and making present, here in Cambridge, in season and out of season, taking into it all the minutiae of the cares and worries and joys of God’s People in this place, the very Mystery of Christ – given to us for the life and health of the world. ‘So may we, with willing feet, ever seek thy mercy-seat.’

An Archbishop-elect

The province of South-East Asia has a new Archbishop-elect, **the Right Reverend Bolly Lapok**. He is presently the the Bishop of Kuching, and his theological training at the **House of the Epiphany** was supported by LSM through the **Borneo Mission Association**. He will be the fourth Archbishop of the Province. After his early education and theological training at the House of the Epiphany he pursued his theological education at Birmingham University (UK), from which he graduated with an MA. He was ordained deacon in March 1975, and ordained priest in December 1975. He became an Archdeacon in June 1991 and was enthroned as the Diocesan Bishop in April 2007.

Archbishop-elect Bolly is scheduled to be installed as Archbishop at St Thomas' Cathedral, Kuching, Sarawak on 12th February 2012. When asked by the *Borneo Post* of his reaction, Bolly said, "Given so high a calling and the enormity of the expectation involved, I feel so small, so inadequate. This must be one of those mysteries of God."

Eighty years ago at LSM

An extract from the Parish Magazine for January-February 1932

DEDICATION OF THE CHAPEL

November 22nd was a red letter day for the parish. The Bishop had promised to take part in the High Mass and to preach on the Sunday early last spring. I had not then any expectation that the new chapel would be completed by that date, but when, to our great joy, it seemed about certain that the altar would be ready in time I asked him to dedicate that as well.

The service had to begin with the dedication of the chapel as, the crowd being so great, the Bishop would not have been able to reach it when the mass had started. When the dedication was over it was possible to find room for some more people in the chapel.

Workworth's (sic) chantry chapel (which stood more or less on the site of the new one) "was consecrated gratis by Joh. Alcock, bishop of Ely, 12 Oct., 1487, in honour of St Etheldreda, St Leonard, St John the Evangelist and All Saints. At the same time he granted 40 days indulgence to all who should say in the said chapel the mass of St Mary with the gospel *Stabat juxta crucem*. This indulgence was afterwards extended to the bearers." (*Le Keux and Cooper Memorials of Cambridge*, Vol. III, 331, Note (a).) Its successor has been dedicated in honour of the Holy Sepulchre, St Mary and All Saints. The altar was first used for mass on Thursday, November 26th.

The present retable (that is, the decorated shelf behind the altar) is temporary. An examination of Mr Lyon's place at the church door will show what has still to be done for the decoration of the chapel, and will make anyone, I think, desire the completion. It is, perhaps, worth recording that the dedication of the chapel, the High Mass in the presence of the bishop of the diocese and the Bishop's sermon were all done in under 60 minutes, and there was no hurry at any moment in the service. We are most grateful to the Bishop for honouring us with his presence and for his sermon. Fr Harris was the celebrant, myself [Fr Hankey, Vicar] deacon and Fr Roberts subdeacon. Fr Harvey and Fr Robson attended the Bishop.

*Where's wisdom? And where should the people demanding
To get understanding have chosen to cling?*

*Perhaps with the tracers of planetary orbits,
And spinners of proteins, and ravellers of rays,
Who, freshly distilling their thinking with checking,
Can rightfully revel, revealing God's ways.*

*Perhaps with the readers of deep human motives,
Exalting low cunning insightfully high,
Who, stooping in empathy, sharing the shadows,
Can shuffle them, showing God's children the sky.*

*Perhaps with the painters, and dreamers, and singers,
Obliquely expressing what logic's compressed,
Who must be forgiven inflammatory darkness:
How else could God's beauty be fitfully guessed?*

*Perhaps with those seeking harmonious balance,
As ships with the optimal sails unfurled,
Who synthesize reasons, desires, and morals,
To play in the round on the stage of God's world.*

*Not, surely, with Persia's outdated astrologers,
Wrong in their science, deceived by a king,
Enthroning a baby whom farm workers fuss over,
Shedding proportion for one needful thing.*

*There's wisdom with all, but for all that the Magi
Surpass any sage I could sensibly sing.*

(Submitted)

*Contact details removed
from online edition*

SERVICES AT LITTLE ST MARY'S

Sundays

7.30am *Morning Prayer* 8.00am *Low Mass (BCP Lections)*
10.30am *High Mass* 6.00pm *Solemn Evensong and 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 *Low Mass* 6.00pm *Evening Prayer*
Holy Hour (once a month) in abeyance during the vacancy

Friday

7.15am *Morning Prayer* 7.45am & 12.30pm *Low Mass* 6.00pm *Evening Prayer*

Saturday

10.00am *Low Mass* 6.00pm *Evening Prayer*

Weekday Festivals

7.00pm *Sung Mass* (10.00am on Saturdays)
Low Mass as announced

The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

by arrangement with Fr Mark Bishop or Fr John Hughes

*Coffee is served in the Parish Centre 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 12.30pm 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

Diary and other information to: admin@lsm.org.uk

Deadline for February Newsletter: Sunday 22nd January