

NEWSLETTER



This month we have a flower-arranging workshop and garden pruning party,, the Cambridge Homelessness Project, a visit from David Christophersen and Jane Austin, a call to monastic life, and the Vicar's letter, usual prayers, intentions...

Highlights of October

Saturday 10th October

Monthly Healing Mass *with the laying-on of hands & anointing.*
10am preceded by prayers for healing at 9:45am.

Tuesday 13th October

Servers' rehearsal & annual Dinner

7pm. Please let Bill de Quick know if you are able to come.

Thursday 15th October

Guild of Servants of the Sanctuary

8pm Office & Benediction at All Saints, St Ives. *See Bill de Quick for info.*

Saturday 17th October

11:30am Burial of Catherine Beesley's ashes

Monday 19th October

Feast of S. Luke, Evangelist *(transferred)*

12:30pm Low Mass, 7pm Sung Mass *followed by refreshments.*

Friday 23rd – Sunday 25th October

Parish Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham

Depart Cambridge Friday 6pm, depart Walsingham after Sunday lunch.

See the Vicar for more information. All welcome – especially those who've never been before.

Wednesday 28th October

Ss Simon & Jude, apostles

10am Low Mass, 7pm Sung Mass

Saturday 31st October

Flower Arranging Training Morning

Come and learn to arrange flowers (from after 10am Mass onwards). No experience necessary!

From the Vicar

25th September 2015.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I don't know who it was who said in the early 20th century that the government produces three sets of statistics: one to confuse the public, one to confuse Parliament and one to confuse itself. The Church of England presently is awash with statistics which are rarely treated with the caution they need. A good example was given to me recently by a friend who is a parish priest in Guildford. He observed that a proportion of his 8am congregation had moved from coming weekly to coming fortnightly to Mass because of caring for elderly relatives. His statistics for the diocese had consequently shown a 10% drop in attendance at the 8am Mass despite the same number of people coming. This wouldn't be a problem if the Church of England didn't give these numbers incredible significance and plan expenditure and deployment of priests by them.

I wrote last month about the Diocesan Strategy and this month I want to go into a little more detail about the thinking behind part of it. The first thing we are told is that this is not primarily about money; the Diocese of Ely is not rolling in cash but we are OK and balancing the budget is not an impossible exercise. This seems true enough. The main problem is numbers, especially numbers of priests. Here's the key statistic: 40% of stipendiary priests in the Church of England will retire in the next 10 years. This, however, is not entirely true. 40% of priests may well reach 65 years of age in the next decade but there is no guarantee they will retire. My predecessor did not retire until he was 68 and since then seems to me to be working just as hard as he ever did – except now without pay! Given the likelihood that compulsory retirement ages will be made illegal soon, and the excellent health and energy of people in the seventies these days (never mind their sixties) this is not quite the cliff that we are being warned we are about to fall off. It does, however, explain why the Archbishop of Canterbury is so keen to increase vocations to the priesthood. We are told, however, that even if +Justin manages the 50% increase at which he is aiming, this will still not offset the reduction due to retirement.

The problem is that we simply cannot know this because we do not know the career intentions of every priest, nor do we know how many people will discern priestly vocations in the next decade. God has a long history of surprising us. This situation would not be a problem if this statistic hadn't frightened some in this diocese into a panicked desire to reduce clergy numbers to get ahead of the curve. The problem, of course, is that this very action guarantees the future we fear – it creates the curve.

The argument goes that if we do not reduce the number of priests we take then other dioceses in less attractive parts of the country will have to endure huge cuts and this isn't fair. It is far from clear however how reducing (say) a full-time priest in Cambridge to half time will help (say) the Diocese of Carlisle. The priest can hardly spend half her week in Cambridge and half her week in Penrith. Further, we do not have a system like the Roman Catholic Church which can just command clergy to go and work where it wants. A more practical solution, surely, is to support those dioceses in the raising up of their own vocations? A comparatively wealthy diocese like ours could certainly offer financial support at least. But let's accept the argument that some dioceses have to lose some priests in order for other dioceses to gain them. There is one argument, however, that surely indicates there must be an exception for Ely: Ely is the fourth largest producer of vocations of any diocese and Cambridge produces 75% of Ely's vocations. If it is vocations we need then the cutting of clergy in places that produce them is the very definition of sawing off the branch you are sitting on.

If we had to summarise the situation we could do no better than to quote Matthew 9:37-38: 'Jesus said to His disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; pray therefore the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest."' Please join me not only in praying for the churches in Cambridge that we might be enabled to do the work of raising up vocations for the rest of the Church of England but also in praying for new vocations. LSM has a wonderful history of priestly callings – let's ask the Lord to make that an even more wonderful future too.

With my love and prayers, I am
Yours ever,

Fr Robert.

Do you enjoy having guests at home? So does Little St Mary's ...

The Cambridge Churches Homeless Project needs YOU!

Now in its third year, LSM will once again be host this winter to ten homeless men, every Tuesday night from December to February, who would otherwise have nowhere to go.

The Project runs throughout the winter across seven churches, one for each night of the week, who take turns to provide a friendly welcome, hot supper, and safe space to sleep to guests referred to us by Jimmy's and other organisations within the city. Volunteers from our churches act as hosts each night, and the scheme is joined up by a team of support workers who offer pastoral care and links to further help for those of our guests who need it.

For this 2015-16 season we need people to:

Cook supper for twenty people, once a fortnight or once a month;

Help with serving and clearing away;

Stay the night at church (in teams of four) taking turns to sleep and keep watch;

Talk with our guests and enjoy their company – or even play cards or chess!

If you are interested, or would like to know more, you are warmly invited to join us for supper and a short talk on what volunteering involves on **one** of three evenings, all at 7:30pm:

**Tuesday 3rd November at LSM Thursday 5th November at St Giles
.... Thursday 12th Nov at Great St Mary's**

... or talk to Fr Robert or Lucy McKitterick irm26@cam.ac.uk
if you'd like to know more.

This is an immensely rewarding work and becoming increasingly vital in our city as the numbers of people living on our streets grow from year to year. You don't need a career in social work, or even in hospitality, to be a huge help to us: all you need is a friendly interest, and a willingness to give and be blessed!



Do you enjoy ... *FLOWERS?*

**... and have never
arranged them in
church, or not for some
time?**

This year as **All Saints' Day** and the
feast of the **Feast of the Dedication
of LSM** coincide we are holding an
exciting new **WORKSHOP** for all
flower enthusiasts to try their skills!

Experienced friendly arrangers from the LSM flower team will be on hand to give a practical demonstration, followed by the chance for everyone to bring out their secateurs and imagination as we fill our beautiful church with flowers in honour of the feast.

No experience needed! Come and join us on

Saturday 31st October at 11am

Flower arranging is a wonderful way to give a little time to the house of God and help others lift their hearts in prayer. Why not give it a try?



Calendar and Intentions

for

October 2015

Calendar for October

LM-Low Mass, SM-Sung Mass, HM-High Mass

Thu 1st *Remigius, bishop*
Fri 2nd Holy Guardian Angels
Sat 3rd

SUN 4th EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY after TRINITY

Mon 5th
Tue 6th William Tyndale, martyr
Wed 7th
Thu 8th
Fri 9th *Denys, bishop & companions, martyrs*
Sat 10th Paulinus, bishop

SUN 11th NINETEENTH SUNDAY after TRINITY

Mon 12th Wilfred, bishop
Tue 13th Edward the Confessor, king
Wed 14th
Thu 15th Teresa of Avila, religious & doctor
Fri 16th *Nicholas Ridley & Hugh Latimer, bishops & martyrs*
Sat 17th Ignatius, bishop & martyr

SUN 18th TWENTIETH SUNDAY after TRINITY

Mon 19th S. Luke, evangelist (transf.) LM 12:30pm, SM 7pm
Tue 20th
Wed 21st
Thu 22nd of Requiem
Fri 23rd
Sat 24th of the Blessed Virgin Mary

SUN 25rd LAST SUNDAY after TRINITY

Mon 26th Alfred the Great, king
Tue 27th
Wed 28th Ss Simon & Jude, apostles LM 10am, SM 7pm
Thu 29th James Hannington, bishop & martyr
Fri 30th
Sat 31st

Daily Intentions and *Anniversaries of death for October*

Faithfulness to our baptismal promises		1 st
	<i>David Walser, pr., Lester Vellanoweth, Audrey Gulland</i>	
That we may ask for angelic assistance		2 nd
The Friends of LSM		3 rd
Our Parish & People	<i>Magda Phillips</i>	4 th
Confraternity of the Blessed Sacrament	<i>John Wade</i>	5 th
Biblical scholars	<i>Elizabeth Mary Knight</i>	6 th
Deepening of prayer	<i>Irina Findlow, Peter Le Huray, Derek Hulyer</i>	7 th
New undergraduates		8 th
The church and people of France		9 th
Those who suffer		10 th
Our Parish & People		11 th
Society of Ss Wilfred & Hilda	<i>Geraldine Adams</i>	12 th
Westminster Abbey		13 th
Deans & Chaplains	<i>Eric Horne</i>	14 th
Spiritual Directors	<i>Thomas Timmins</i>	15 th
Ridley Hall & evangelical Christians		16 th
Bishop Stephen	<i>Bertie Clough</i>	17 th
Our Parish & People	<i>Frederick William Linsey</i>	18 th
Medics		19 th
Refugees & asylum-seekers	<i>Percy Poulter, Alice Royston</i>	20 th
The homeless	<i>Norman Cruttwell, pr.</i>	21 st
Faithful departed	<i>Winifred Staples, Jennifer Mary Moseley</i>	22 nd
Friends of Fulbourn Hospital	<i>Frederick Waring</i>	23 rd
The Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham	<i>Patricia Nutbrown, Robert Wolverson</i>	24 th
	<i>Meredith Dewey, pr., Freddie Webber,</i>	
Our Parish & People		25 th
The Queen		26 th
The unemployed	<i>Margot Fynes-Clinton, Michael Jackson, pr.</i>	27 th
Those who despair	<i>Patricia Chopourian, Donald Clough</i>	28 th
Persecuted Christians	<i>Beatrice Mary Bicheno</i>	29 th
Parish of S. Cyprian, Sharpeville, SA.	<i>Edith Lock</i>	30 th
Christian unity	<i>Richard Crowden, Charles Holland</i>	31 st

Saints of October

13th October – S. Edward the Confessor, king.

Sovereign God,
who didst set Thy servant Edward
upon the throne
of an earthly kingdom
and inspire him with zeal
for the kingdom of heaven:
grant that we may so confess
the faith of Christ by word and deed,
that we may, with all Thy saints,
inherit thine eternal glory;
through Jesus Christ Thy Son our
Lord,

who liveth and reigneth with Thee,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.



Edward was born in 1002, the son of the English King Ethelred and his Norman wife Emma. Living in exile during the Danish supremacy, he was invited back to England in 1042 to become king, and was heartily welcomed as a descendant of the old royal line. His reign, however, was a balancing act between the influences of stronger characters at his court or overseas, sustained by Edward's diplomacy and determination. Edward's reputation for sanctity was built on his personal, more than his political, qualities. He was concerned to maintain peace and justice in his realm, to avoid foreign wars, and to put his faith into practice. He was generous to the poor, hospitable to strangers, but no mere pietist. Having vowed as a young man to go on pilgrimage to Rome should his family fortunes ever be restored, he later felt it irresponsible to leave his kingdom, and was permitted instead to found or endow a monastery dedicated to St Peter. Edward chose the abbey on Thorney Island, by the river Thames, thus beginning the royal patronage of Westminster Abbey. He died on 5 January 1066 and his remains were translated to the Abbey on this day in 1162. They continue there to this day and are a focus of prayer at the Abbey where Mass is celebrated weekly at his tomb (see the picture above).

Tuesday 13th October Low Mass 7.45am

Christophersen at Lunchtime

David Christophersen opens his 2015-16 series of Saturday lunchtime piano recitals at LSM with two autumn performances, the first on 10th October, the second on 14th November, both at 1:15pm. The October recital opens with a late and wonderfully lyrical sonata by Haydn. Alkan's extraordinary transcription of one of Mozart's greatest piano concertos (K466 in D minor) follows. The latter offers a rare opportunity to hear a pianist performing both as soloist and orchestra!

David writes:

Haydn's sonata in E flat, Hob XVI/49, is a spacious work in three movements. It is sophisticated and humane and as a performer I find myself communing with an old friend's witty, tender generosity of spirit and brilliance. Haydn was Beethoven's teacher, and comparing the mature wisdom of Haydn's late sonatas with the relentless drive of his young pupil is fascinating psychologically. Haydn's generous humanity is delightful.



Alkan's transcription of Mozart's great K 466 piano concerto in D minor is a successful amalgamation of the orchestra part's rich colour and substance with the original piano solo part preserved intact. As a concerto it is one of Mozart's greatest and indeed one of the greatest by any composer in that genre, remarkably romantic and heroic and a reminder that Classicism in music goes hand in hand with the birth of Romanticism - the hero contending with and vanquishing great forces, the drama of the individual's sensibility, Sturm und Drang. Alkan inserts two gigantic cadenzas that cite and explore Mozart's style by drawing widely from not just the concerto but also from his symphonies and operas. Busoni sometimes used these cadenzas when performing the original Mozart concerto.

Volunteers are needed in the parish garden on **Saturday, 10th October from 9:30am onwards**. New blood, especially with rose pruning experience, is very welcome! Contact Sue Munro.

Some of you will have seen Emerald O’Hanrahan as Jane Austen (her first performance was at LSM). Jeremy Musson and I have now cast **Hannah Lee** to share the bookings with Emerald. She plays the same script, but gives a very different (but equally compelling) performance

Hannah read English at Corpus Christi College Cambridge, before training at the Bristol Old Vic Theatre School, graduating in 2013. She has toured extensively as actor, dancer and choreographer, and has played significant roles at the highly regarded Bristol Tobacco Factory Theatre.



She will be performing Jane Austen at Home a one-woman show, consisting entirely of Jane Austen’s words: it celebrates the variety and wit of her writings, with extracts from her memoirs, letters, juvenilia, poetry and novels, and takes us into the attitudes, imagination and sensations of those who lived in country houses and rectories in the early nineteenth century. We include much of her perceptive (often satirical) observation of the social life of the English county families. The extracts also capture her warm-heartedness and her religious beliefs.

Monday 12th October at 7:30pm

Parish Centre at Little St. Mary’s Church

Cost: £8 (£5 for students) – at the door.

A proportion of the takings will go to LSM funds

The performance runs for about 90 minutes (including interval, when wine and juice will be available) - *to prebook, contact Steve Siddall in advance: 01223 316754 or stevesiddall@gmail.com*



We are delighted to announce that the Director of Music is looking to appoint **four Sixth Form Choral Scholars** to sing with our flourishing Parish Choir of 15 adults and 15 choristers. Each scholarship is worth £200 and will last for a period of one or two years.

Applicants should be between 15 and 18 years of age when applying.

Please help to spread the word about this exciting opportunity, and pass this information on to anyone you think might be interested in applying.

For further information please contact:

Dr Simon Jackson
The Director of Music
Little St Mary's Church
Cambridge
01223 366202

or email: pastoralassistant@lsm.org.uk

Closing date for completed applications: 31st October 2015

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A Vocation to Religious Life

As well as vocations to the priesthood, the church is always looking for new vocations to be monks, friars and nuns. These are called ‘religious’ vocations – vocations which involve vows or rules (from which we get our word religious).



We’re delighted that Andrew Ellis, a member of our congregation for the last four years, is going to join the Community of the Resurrection (CR) in Mirfield, West Yorkshire, as a Postulant to explore just such a vocation to the religious life.

The Postulancy lasts about four to six months after which you leave or enter the Novitiate. You are a novice for three years, after which you enter simple profession, which lasts three years. This can be renewed once. After that you either leave or make life vows. At all stages it is a matter of mutual discernment by the individual and the community. The Community of the Resurrection is loosely Benedictine and the three vows are stability, obedience and conversion of life. The Superior of the Community, Fr George Guiver CR, writes: “When a new person comes to a religious community, it is always part of a longer exploration – it should never be assumed that once through the door, they have arrived. There is a lot of discerning over the following years before arriving at the point where life vows can confidently be made. It’s all in God’s hands, and it’s enough to trust in Him.”

So what is the Community of the Resurrection? The Community was founded to act as an association of Christians who desire to follow the Gospel life after the pattern of those recorded in the Acts of the Apostles, of whom it is said “they continued steadfastly in the Apostles’ teaching and in the fellowship, in the breaking of the bread and in the prayers. The company of those who believed were of one heart and one soul and no-one said that any of these things which he possessed was his own but they have everything in common.” Founded in Oxford in 1892 by the Revd Charles Gore (who later became Bishop of Worcester, Birmingham and then Oxford), the Community moved to Mirfield in 1898 to be close to the then thriving industrial centres. It was under Gore’s successor, Walter Frere, that CR developed its character as a religious community. Brethren of the Community of the Resurrection follow a routine of daily prayer and worship. The Community undertakes charitable work at home and overseas; this includes

pastoral, evangelistic, literary, educational and other charitable works for the advancement of religion. Next door to the Community is the College of the Resurrection which trains priests. Bishop Rowan Williams trained there, as did Fr Andrew Greany (who was also on the staff).

Andrew writes:

I feel a strong call to a life of prayer and service and felt drawn to the religious life as an expression of this. I didn't know about Anglican religious orders until Fr Robert mentioned them to me at the back of church one day! After exploring the idea of getting ordained or working in chaplaincy I actually plucked up the courage to enquire about the religious life, and went on a series of visits to Mirfield as an enquirer. This included a teaching trip to an Anglican mission at S. Augustine's Penhalonga, Zimbabwe. Eventually I began to feel that this was the truer direction of my calling, and asked the community if I could be an aspirant. I am looking forward to going, but also I am often frightened, and there is sometimes a sense of loss about some of the things that I will have to give up. I am going with an open frame of mind - of course I go with the hope that I will eventually enter the religious life, and have properly discerned my calling, but if it turns out differently, if I leave and have a family instead and find work elsewhere, come what may I am sure that it will be a stepping-stone to a fulfilled Christian life, whether that is monasticism or something else. And I am sure that whatever happens it will be a great time of learning. Ultimately, I would deeply regret not going to try it out while I could.

Andrew's last Sunday with us is 11th October. We wish him well, surround him with our prayers and look forward to hearing of his progress. Benedictines welcome visitors, so don't think you can't go to Yorkshire and see him!



Little S. Mary's, Trumpington Street, Cambridge CB2 1QG. T
tel: 01223 366202

Open daily for prayer and visiting, 7:30am to 6:30pm

www.lsm.org.uk