

# NEWSLETTER



*This month we have from our Social Responsibility Group a report after the successful Lent Talks and news from Kolkata. Also, a call out for volunteers for Gift Day, a Sing-a-long with Mary Poppins sponsored by the Choir and a poem by Charlotte Perry dedicated to Our Lady.*

## Highlights of May

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> May**

**Sixth Sunday of Easter (Rogation Sunday)**

After Mass – Beating of the Bounds & blessing of homes & institutions

**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May**

**Feast of Ss Philip & James**

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

**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May**

**Feast of the Ascension**

Low Mass 7:45am

High Mass 7pm. Preacher: the Rev'd Nicol Kinrade, *Assistant Curate of Ditchling, and former Ordinand on placement*

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> May**

**Feast of S. Matthias**

Sung Mass 10am.

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> May**

**Pentecost**

Low Mass 8am, High Mass 10:30am, Solemn Evensong & Benediction 6pm

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May**

**May Devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary**

7pm Vespers, Sermon, Procession & Benediction

*Preacher: The Right Rev'd Graeme Knowles, Assistant Bishop of Ely*

**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May**

**Corpus Christi – the annual day of thanksgiving for the Eucharist**

7pm High Mass, Procession & Benediction starting at S. Bene't's Church

Joint service with our friends from S. Bene't's & Westcott House

**Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> May**

**Feast of the Visitation**

Low Mass 7:45am, Sung Mass 7pm followed by refreshments

# From the Vicar

30 April 2016

Dear Brothers and Sisters

The Church of England has very few Holy Days of Obligation, traditionally laying few burdens on the shoulders of her sons and daughters. One such Holy Day, however, is Ascension Day. I mention this not to guilt-trip those of you reading this newsletter between 1<sup>st</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> May into coming to Mass (though let us not underestimate the value of guilt in making us do good things!) but rather to draw attention to the importance of Ascension Day. It used to be a great day in the life of the Church of England and the fact that it is one of the few feast days where the Canon Law of the CofE expects us to make our Communion emphasises this point.

Its comparative decline in importance is largely, I imagine, due to the decline of weekday church attendance generally. It has perhaps been felt that it's bad enough being expected to abandon our beds or the rugby pitch on a Sunday morning without religion invading our weekdays as well! Joking aside, with the craziness of people's patterns of life and the need for husband and wife both to work to support a family today, it is not surprising that Thursday nights have less space in them to come to church than they once did.

We are, however, missing something if we don't come. First, we miss sharing in the offering of the Mass – itself something that brings great fruits – together with missing out on the nourishment of Holy Communion. Secondly we miss a (potentially) helpful sermon and the fellowship of other Christians over refreshments afterwards. Particular to Ascension Day, however, is the joy and glory of seeing our victorious Saviour and Brother complete His work, crown His triumph and reclaim His kingship at the Father's side, now carrying with Him our very own humanity. Now the Lord is beyond particular space and time in order to be with us by His Spirit in every space and time – surely an occasion of thanksgiving!

The nine days between Ascension and Pentecost therefore are days of celebration of the glory of Christ's victory but also days of anticipation and longing, for He has gone away not (as He Himself puts it) to leave us as orphans but so that He give us the greatest gift He can: the Holy Spirit.

For a long time the church has dedicated the nine days between these feasts to prayer for the gift of the Holy Spirit – a novena or nine days of prayer for a specific intention. This year the Archbishops of Canterbury and York have issued a call to all parishes to dedicate some time to praying in this period for the evangelization of England and an increase in vocations to the priesthood. One of the ways they suggest we do this is by spending time in prayer before the Eucharist. In obedience to this suggestion, therefore, LSM will be keeping thirty minutes of prayer before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament each of these nine days. You can find the precise times on the posters around church and on line. Some of these times will be 12noon to 12:30pm and others will be early evening 5:30-6pm. Additionally, on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> there will be a thirty-minute period from 7 to 7:30pm – not to mention the usual time after Evensong on the Sunday. I hope very much that most of you – especially those who live in Cambridge – will be able to find time to be present for at least one of these half-hours. The majority of the time will be in silence to allow you just to be with the Lord but also to bring whatever prayers and intentions you have to Him. But there will also be short scriptural readings and the thirty minutes will end with His blessing us in Benediction.

Brother Roger of Taizé once said that people will come flooding back to the churches when they become houses of prayer once again. We are not short of people praying and visiting our church but one of my prayers for this Novena we are keeping this year is that we will all be re-inspired in prayer, that more people will discover the possibility of Christian faith and more Christians will discover the Lord calling them to the priesthood or the consecrated religious life.

With my prayers and love, I am  
yours ever in the Lord,

Fr Robert

PS We have further witness to our faith on 26<sup>th</sup> May when we take the Eucharist to the streets of our city for Corpus Christi. Don't miss it!

PPS I want to note my especial thanks to Melissa Guiliano for her editing of this newsletter for the past couple of years. She is leaving to study at the Birmingham Conservatoire this summer and goes with our gratitude and love.

# Conversations on Social Justice: Lent 2016

*from Patricia Boulhosa*

It was during a meeting of LSM's Social Responsibility Group that the idea grew of a series of Lent Conversations on social justice. In the course of discussing the money that we allocate to the charities supported by the group, a consensus grew that we should do more than just remind members of the congregation to be charitable – we ought to engage as directly as possible with the social problems that demand our charity, as well as the charitable causes themselves.



So the Conversations arose from our need to acknowledge and discuss the reality that these charities deal with: poverty, homelessness, mental health, disability, hunger, social inequality, and vulnerability at home and in the streets. Representatives of the charities were invited to speak about their work and the challenges that they face; we invited theologians to reflect on these problems, to help us – the LSM congregation – to consider the actions that we can and should take in response.



We began with CamTRUST, who specialize in lifelong learning for adults with disabilities and learning difficulties, followed by the MEDAILLE TRUST, working against the evil of human trafficking, JIMMY'S, working with the homeless in Cambridge and FULBOURN HOSPITAL, working with people affected by all kinds of mental illness, and we heard reflections from Zachary Guiliano, Ruth Jackson, Fr Paul Dominiak, Fr Max Kramer and Hannah McManus.

The talks showed us the incredible charity, goodwill and hard work of the volunteers and professionals who work for these institutions. But they also reminded us that much more is needed from society and government alike, and that prayerful charity must be central to our very identity as a congregation. They emphasized the need to fight prejudice – against the poor, the homeless, the mentally ill, the old, and the vulnerable – prejudice which allows us to close our eyes to these social evils, or even to assume a comfortable and self-righteous position in face of those who may not have our luck and opportunities.

### **Do you enjoy baking?**

If so, we are looking for more people to join the Social Committee, to provide food and refreshments for certain events. If you are interested and think you may like to help us, even on a very occasional basis, please have a chat with Vicki Farmer.

### **Summer Fête and Concert (Gift Day) 9th July**

This is our special fund-raising occasion and big social event of the year. Please note it in your diaries and come to enjoy the day. The concert will be at 3pm after the children's concert at noon. Lunches and teas will be served, all the usual stalls and more besides. For all of these ideas and help are needed. Please come to coffee in the Centre on Saturday 7th May at 10:30am to help plan our big summer event.



## **Calendar and Intentions**

**for**

**May 2016**

*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 or additions to the list of daily intention.*

# Calendar for May

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

**SUN 1<sup>st</sup> SIXTH SUNDAY of EASTER (Rogation Sunday)**  
**Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> Ss Philip & James LM 12:30pm, SM 7pm**  
Tue 3<sup>rd</sup> Rogation Day  
Wed 4<sup>th</sup> English Saints & Martyrs of the Reformation  
**Thu 5<sup>th</sup> ASCENSION DAY LM.7:45am, HM 7pm**  
Fri 6<sup>th</sup> of the Sacred Heart  
Sat 7<sup>th</sup> of the BVM

**SUN 8<sup>th</sup> SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (After Ascension)**  
Mon 9<sup>th</sup>  
Tue 10<sup>th</sup>  
Wed 11<sup>th</sup>  
Thu 12<sup>th</sup>  
Fri 13<sup>th</sup>  
**Sat 14<sup>th</sup> S. Matthias SM 10am**

**SUN 15<sup>th</sup> PENTECOST**  
Mon 16<sup>th</sup>  
Tue 17<sup>th</sup>  
Wed 18<sup>th</sup>  
Thu 19<sup>th</sup> S. Dunstan, Bishop  
Fri 20<sup>th</sup> Alcuin of York, Deacon & Abbot  
Sat 21<sup>st</sup> *S. Helena, Protector of the Holy Places*

**SUN 22<sup>nd</sup> TRINITY SUNDAY**  
Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> of Requiem  
Tue 24<sup>th</sup> John & Charles Wesley, Priests  
Wed 25<sup>th</sup> The Venerable Bede, Religious & Doctor  
**Thu 26<sup>th</sup> CORPUS CHRISTI HM 7pm** *starting at S. Bene't's*  
Fri 27<sup>th</sup>  
Sat 28<sup>th</sup> *Lanfranc, Archbishop & Religious*

**SUN 29<sup>th</sup> FIRST SUNDAY after TRINITY**  
Mon 30<sup>th</sup> Josephine Butler, Social Reformer  
Tue 31<sup>st</sup> **The Visitation of the BVM LM 7:45am, SM 7pm**

## **Daily Intentions and *Anniversaries of death for May***

Our Parish & People	<i>Cicely Gibson</i>	1 <sup>st</sup>
Ordinands	<i>Richard Mashedor, pr.</i>	2 <sup>nd</sup>
The Leys School		3 <sup>rd</sup>
All Martyrs		4 <sup>th</sup>
All people to acknowledge Christ as Lord	<i>Barbara Chamier</i>	5 <sup>th</sup>
Understanding of Christ's love		6 <sup>th</sup>
Shrines dedicated to Our Lady		7 <sup>th</sup>
Our Parish & People		8 <sup>th</sup>
Permanent Deacons	<i>Lois Rayner, Deaconess</i>	9 <sup>th</sup>
The LSM Choir		10 <sup>th</sup>
Increase in prayer	<i>Arthur Mickle</i>	11 <sup>th</sup>
Past Curates of LSM	<i>Jeremy Bunting, pr.</i>	12 <sup>th</sup>
Our personal Vocations	<i>Charles Perrin</i>	13 <sup>th</sup>
Courage to evangelize		14 <sup>th</sup>
Our Parish & People		15 <sup>th</sup>
Those selected for Theological Training	<i>Sarah Marriott White</i>	16 <sup>th</sup>
The Society of Mary	<i>Elsie Dolby, Catherine Beasley</i>	17 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Constance Mary Rosedale, Gwendolen Plumley,</i>	
The homeless	<i>Arthur Walter Cuff, Laila Antoun</i>	18 <sup>th</sup>
Bishop Stephen	<i>Helen Paton</i>	19 <sup>th</sup>
All studying at Cambridge University		20 <sup>th</sup>
Musicians	<i>Ethel Gibbons</i>	21 <sup>st</sup>
Our Parish & People	<i>Herbert John Edwin Burrell, pr.</i>	22 <sup>nd</sup>
The faithful departed		23 <sup>rd</sup>
Theological colleges		24 <sup>th</sup>
Churches in the North East	<i>Hugh Maycock, pr.</i>	25 <sup>th</sup>
The Mothers' Union	<i>Margaret Verney</i>	26 <sup>th</sup>
LSM Choristers		27 <sup>th</sup>
Church Musicians	<i>Eileen Cope, Frank Hollick,</i>	28 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>John Marmaduke Erskine Bagley, pr.</i>	
Our Parish & People	<i>William John Dempsey, Roy John Abraham</i>	29 <sup>th</sup>
Social Workers		30 <sup>th</sup>
Mothers	<i>Inge (Liz) Fretten</i>	31 <sup>st</sup>

# SING-A-LONG

WITH



Parish Centre, Saturday, 4<sup>th</sup> June, 2-4:30pm

£3 singles, £6 families

Prizes for best costume, and refreshments for sale!

All proceeds go to support the LSM Choir.

# News from Kolkata

*from Clive Brown*

CRS (the Calcutta Cathedral Relief Service) is one of the overseas links we support. It is an NGO operating under the auspices of St Paul's Cathedral in Kolkata. We support it through the UK Friends of CRS which is the oldest and largest support group. CRS works in city slums and several villages, to provide primary education, healthcare and women's empowerment, principally to teach skills which enable women and girls trapped in poverty to earn a respectable living. Some of you may have met the CRS Director, Rig David, when he was here in October, and heard him speak about the work of CRS.

Some recent highlights are as follows:

- On the 24<sup>th</sup> of February Mike Harrison, who is the Chair of the UK Friends, was consecrated Bishop of Dunwich at a magnificent service in Westminster Abbey which I was privileged to attend. We are hoping that Bishop Mike will continue as a trustee and our chairman, but it does depend on what demands his episcopal duties put on his time.
- Finance remains a crucial issue for CRS, and in the last financial year, income was about £43,700, leaving a deficit of nearly £7,000 for which they had to draw on reserves. It is, however, not all bad news. Last year Loft, which is a small high-tech business in the City of London, committed 1% of its profits to CRS, and has promised £2000 this year. They have also offered to teach children living in slums computer programming, and we are at present setting this up through St Thomas's, one of the large private schools in Kolkata.
- Rig has been working hard to raise local funds, and has had some success with businesses in Kolkata, notably Hindustan Petroleum which very recently donated a new 4x4 vehicle to be used as a mobile medical unit. Other businesses have also made some significant donations.

- CRS has a growing and enthusiastic support group in Canada, and also receives support from the Anglican Church in Australia.
- We have been helping Rig establish a social enterprise which will employ women trained by CRS in sewing and embroidery to make products for sale both locally and in the UK. This has meant setting up a company in Kolkata – it is called Nari Dana, which is Bengali for ‘Women’s Wings’. We have a core of about 30 women working under a production manager, Ritu Ghosh, and the enterprise is slowly coming to fruition with, we hope, the first consignment for sale in the UK imminent.
- The CRS website has been redesigned by Jenny Lunn, one of the trustees of the UK Friends who now lives in Washington, and it is maintained by her. She posts regular news items on the website, so please do have a look at it: [www.friendsofcrs.co.uk](http://www.friendsofcrs.co.uk)

## Mary’s Month of May

The month of May has been dedicated to the Virgin Mary since the end of the 13<sup>th</sup> century but that dedication has a long anticipation in pagan and ancient traditions. Already in Greek culture, May was dedicated to Artemis, the goddess of fecundity. In Roman culture, May was dedicated to Flora, the goddess of bloom and of blossoms. The Romans celebrated *ludi florales* (literally: floral games) at the end of April, asking the intercession of Flora for all that blooms. This is also related to the medieval practice of expelling winter as 1<sup>st</sup> May was considered the beginning of growth.

According to the historian Frederick Holweck the May Devotion in its present form originated at Rome where Fr Latomia of the Roman College of the Society of Jesus, wished to counteract infidelity and immorality among the students, so he made a vow at the end of the eighteenth century to devote the month of May to Mary. During this month Christians, both in church and in the privacy of the home, give especial thanks for the life and ministry of Mary, ask for her prayers and remember her maternal care with particular affection. In his 1965 encyclical *Mense Maio* Pope Paul VI

identified the month of May as an opportune time to incorporate special prayers for peace into traditional May devotions.

Our May Devotion will be on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May at 7pm and we welcome back Bishop Graeme Knowles. Do join us for this lovely act of worship.

## **Magnificat**

*by Charlotte Perry*

Did your song, beloved,  
Strong as wine, hallowed and triumphal, weave  
Golden through the labyrinth of ages,  
And touch the desolated heart of Eve?

Did your brave step  
Upon this happy, silent threshold land,  
And echo over the wails of Adam;  
A tender balm from tender loving hand?

And did your starry eyes  
Keep watch in desperate, lonely hours?  
This hope, this gentle promise of your joys,  
Dear amongst the scent of chastened flowers?

We hear it, beloved,  
Woven, a memory of a gift,  
Through hearts that might otherwise be strangers;  
Eyes fixed on Heaven's thickly spangled drift.

We hear it, sweet as water,  
And tangled round each indrawn anxious breath.  
Upon each prayer, and in the chill of morning;  
Now, and at the hour of my death.

## About the Cover Art

*Self-portrait as the Madonna*, Melissa Guiliano, ink with brush, 2016

Self-portraits are among the most compelling forms of expression in art because they reveal directly how artists see themselves. What features do they draw attention to — consciously or self-consciously? Do they pull the viewer in close or keep them at a distance? Does their manner suggest strength, weakness, arrogance, modesty or flamboyance? Also, the image of the artist's gaze is often striking. What are they looking at?

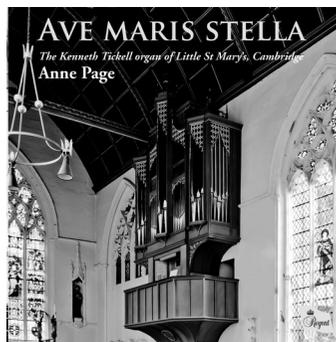
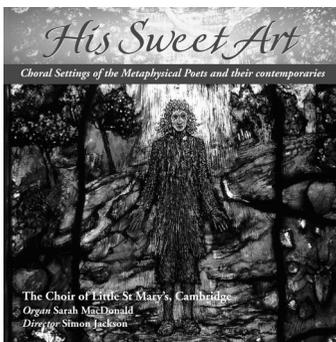
A self-portrait can be an extremely easy project for a more prosaic reason: the artist's face is always present. There's no need to schedule and pay a model, or hoodwink a friend or family member to sit still for long periods of time. I confess that I often use parts of myself in my work simply out of convenience — which brings me to the point of this article. For my final issue as editor of the parish newsletter, I decided to create my own portrait of the Madonna for the cover, May being the month of Mary. At first, I felt uncertain about using my likeness for such an exalted figure, but then I remembered a few Great Masters who have done just this sort of thing: Albrecht Dürer as Christ, Rembrandt in the costume of St. Peter and Frida Kahlo as Our Lady of Guadalupe are a few of the more obvious examples. This memory gave me confidence to follow in their footsteps, and along the way attempt to discover something of myself within the character of Mary.

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Also, check out new videos on the choir's page on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMTGM7eep4KKIVfOByxS4>