

Little St Mary's, Cambridge

NEWSLETTER

February 2012: No. 439

Price: 25p

***Jesus Christ is the
Light of the world,
a light no darkness
can quench!***

*'As we turn in the coming Lent from Christ's
Birth to his Passion, grant that we who are
marked with the Cross may share more
deeply in his Death and Resurrection.'*

CONTENTS

Highlights and preachers.....	2
From Fr Mark Bishop.....	3-4
People for our Prayers; Candlemas.....	5
Services and events to note.....	6-8
Electoral Roll; encouraging developments.....	9
In the community.....	10
Calendar and Intentions.....	11-14
Street Pastors; Christian Giving Review.....	15
Parish Centre Development Fund.....	16-17
Society of Mary.....	18-19
The Curate's Fall.....	19-20
Deification through the Mass.....	21
Three thoughts for Lent.....	22
Whom to contact and Services.....	23-24



Highlights of February

Are they all in your diary?

Thursday 2nd: **Feast of the PRESENTATION of OUR LORD: CANDLEMAS:**
7.45am Low Mass; 7.00pm High Mass with Candlemas Ceremonies

Saturday 4th: 3.30pm Children's celebration of Candlemas (*see page 6*)

Wednesday 8th: 9.45am/10.00am Ministry of Healing

Thursday 9th: 7.30pm Society of Mary: Vespers of Our Lady and Benediction

Tuesday 14th: 7.30pm Guild of All Souls: Vespers of the Dead and Benediction

Friday 17th: 8.00pm A Musical Soirée: Cabaret and Cocktails (*see page 16*)

Tuesday 21st: Shrove Tuesday: 7.00pm Pancake Party (*see page 7*)

Wednesday 22nd: **ASH WEDNESDAY: Solemn season of LENT begins:**
10.00am Low Mass and Imposition of Ashes;
7.00pm High Mass and Imposition of Ashes

Tuesday 28th: 7.00pm PCC meeting (following 6.30pm Low Mass)

Wednesday 29th: 7.00pm First session of our Lent course,
"Strangers and Pilgrims: Being a Christian in the world today"

Preachers in February

2nd Feb. 7.00pm: Fr Mark Bishop
Candlemas

5th Feb. 10.30am: The Revd Professor Huw Jones, *Rural Dean*
Septuagesima **6.00pm:** Tanya Hockley, *Lay Pastoral Assistant*

12th Feb. 10.30am: The Revd and Worshipful Dr Rupert Bursell QC,
Sexagesima *Chancellor of the Dioceses of Oxford and Durham*
6.00pm: t.b.c.

19th Feb. 10.30am: Tanya Hockley, *Lay Pastoral Assistant*
Quinquagesima **6.00pm:** Sue Munro, *Reader*

22nd Feb. 7.00pm: Fr Mark Bishop
Ash Wednesday

26th Feb. 10.30am: Fr Mark Bishop
Lent I **6.00pm:** t.b.c.

From Fr Mark Bishop

Dear friends,

February begins with the **Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord in the Temple** when, with candles lit, we think of the infant Jesus and His parents journeying up to Jerusalem. When they get to the Temple they are met by old Simeon who takes the Infant and declares that his eyes have now seen God's salvation, a light for the Gentiles and glory to God's people Israel. From this ceremony of light and hope which draws to a conclusion our celebrations of Christmas and the Epiphany, we then come towards the end of February to **Ash Wednesday** when we follow Jesus as He begins another journey up to Jerusalem – but one which leads to His death on a Cross.

I am interested in the idea that we are all journeying through this world, and to that end our Lent Course is on the theme **'Strangers and Pilgrims: being a Christian in the world today'**. In Hebrews, the writer describes how the ancient leaders of Israel had died without coming into the possession of that which had been promised by God, yet

*"they confessed themselves no more than **strangers or passing travellers** upon the earth. Those who use such language show plainly that they are looking for a country of their own. If their hearts had been in the country they had left, they could have found opportunity to return. Instead we find them longing for a better country – I mean the heavenly one. That is why God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has a city ready for them."* (Hebrews 11.13)

Why is it that Christians speak of journeying on through a land that is not their own with their eyes on a heavenly destination, yet they seem so immensely interested and committed to the realities of justice, freedom and peace in the land through which they journey? Christians do not shrug their shoulders when they see suffering and continue with the journey, but seem to pause and want to do something about it.

We are fortunate that four members of our congregation will be able to give us such interesting insights into the realities of the journey for some widely different groups of Christians. Minas Monir will speak of being a Christian in Egypt, his own country, and the particular difficulties faced by Copts in that country today; Kate Greany will speak about being a Christian woman in Southern Sudan, a country to which she has travelled and which she has studied; and then by contrast Olivia Will and Bob DeWolf will reflect of being a Christian in the secular UK in the NHS and in business in a time of economic difficulty and limited

resources. We will conclude with a reflection on the theme and the course. The dates are:

- 29 February: Minas Monir: being a Christian in Egypt today
- 7 March: Kate Greany: being a Christian in Sudan today
- 14 March: Olivia Will: being a Christian in the NHS today
- 21 March: Bob DeWolf: being a Christian in business today
- 28 March: Fr Mark Bishop: reflections on the course

I hope that there will be a good turnout in the Parish Centre: we will start at 7.00pm and finish by 8.30, with coffee/wine to stimulate our discussions. We will conclude with Compline. I look forward to seeing you there.

The series of sermons at the Sunday High Mass will be '**Aspects of the Father, as revealed in the Son**' with reference to the readings for the day:

- Lent I: The Beloved
- Lent II: Him whom we follow
- Lent III: An angry God?
- Lent IV: Saviour of the world
- Lent V: Drawing all to himself

Our visiting preachers for Lent include Dr Stephen Hampton, Dean of Peterhouse (Lent II), Fr Darren Smith of the Additional Curates Society (Lent IV), and Dr Geoff Dumbreck (Lent V). By the time we have concluded our Lent courses we will be moving into **Holy Week** where we are fortunate to have as our preacher the Reverend Professor Graham Ward, currently Professor of Contextual Theology and Ethics at Manchester University, but from October this year the Regius Professor of Divinity at Oxford. We look forward to being led through the events of Holy Week by him.

I am pleased to say that there has been steady interest in the Lady Chapel after Mass from young people who are interested in exploring the start of the journey as a Christian with a view to eventual Confirmation. I would encourage all those who come to church and receive a blessing at the altar rail (and their parents who bring them and who may be reading this Newsletter) to think seriously about exploring the Faith in this way so that they can fully enter into membership of the Church and receive the sacraments and grow in their faith. And for adults who also want to explore taking this step, please mention it to me: it would be good to discuss it with you.

This is the season for starting out on journeys!

With my love: *Fr Mark*

People for our prayers

Elaine Wheatley has been much in our prayers over many months and sadly died on 14th January. We continue to pray for Elaine, giving thanks for all that she contributed to this city and county, and for those who mourn her, particularly, of course, **Tim**. We have prayed too for **Maurice Rayner** in his illness and we were saddened to learn on 27th January, just as this Newsletter was 'going to press', that he had died the previous day. Maurice was elected as People's Warden at LSM in May 1970, at the time being a regular worshipper at the 10.00am Parish Mass; he served as Churchwarden for 26 years until 1996, and was also our Treasurer until 2002 when he moved to Norwich with **Mary**, whom we remember in her loss. We pray that both Elaine and Maurice may rest in peace and be brought with all the Faithful Departed to a joyful Resurrection.

It is good to have **Barbara Chamier** back with us on some Sundays with her daughter Catherine. We continue to pray for Barbara and her new home. It is always inspiring to see **Laurence Fletcher**, with his daughter Jane, so faithfully attending Mass week by week, and we pray for him and for **Joyce**. Please pray for too for **Father Robert** as he prepares to be our Vicar: we greatly look forward to his arrival amongst us at the end of May.

Fr Mark

CANDLEMAS

The Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord in the Temple

Thursday 2nd February

7.45am Low Mass

7.00pm High Mass with Candlemas Ceremonies

Nunc Dimittis, Blessing of Candles and Procession

*This is a glorious Feast:
do be here so
we can keep it well*



Services and events to note

FUNERALS:

- The funeral of **Elaine Wheatley R.I.P.** will be held in LSM on the Feast of the Presentation, Thursday 2nd February, at 2.00pm.
- The funeral of **Maurice Rayner R.I.P.** will be held in St John the Baptist, Timberhill, Norwich on Friday 10th February at 11.30am.

HAIL TO THE LORD WHO COMES:

At the start of the month falls **Candlemas Day**, the great Feast of the Presentation: **Thursday 2nd February**. The High Mass of the Feast includes the traditional Candlemas Ceremonies, which find their meaning in Simeon's acclamation of the Holy Child as "*a Light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel*". You will have seen a large advertisement for this on the previous page so we will say no more about it here except to remind you that this Feast puts before us both the joy and the cost of the acknowledgement that the true Light has come into the world. Sophronius of Jerusalem, preaching in the seventh century, said: "*Let us all hasten to meet Christ, we who honour and venerate the divine mystery we celebrate today. Let no one refuse to carry a light... Our candles show how bright our souls should be when we go to meet Christ. The God-bearer, the most pure Virgin, carried the true Light in her arms and brought him to help those who lay in darkness... Let us be shining ourselves as we go together to meet and to receive with the aged Simeon the light whose brilliance is eternal.*"

CHILDREN'S CANDLE-MASS:

We have a further opportunity to celebrate Candlemas on **Saturday 4th February** when we offer another in our popular series of Guided Masses especially for children, with candlelight and music to evoke the glory of God revealed in the holy Child. We meet at 3.30pm in the Parish Centre to prepare candles and learn the music, and the Mass will be celebrated at 4.00pm. Afternoon tea in the Parish Centre follows the Mass. Of course, all are welcome and we hope many will come.

DIAMOND JUBILEE YEAR:

On **Monday 6th February**, the 7.45am Mass will be offered in thanksgiving for the sixty year reign of HM the Queen, conscious of her model of commitment and service, and thankful for all that she has done and continues to do for the peoples of the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth, that great family of nations. Commemoration will also be made at the services the previous day.

WEDNESDAY MORNINGS:

Our monthly opportunity to participate in the Church's Ministry of Healing occurs on **Wednesday 8th February**, with 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 the Laying-on of Hands and Anointing. Coffee afterwards. The Rosary will be prayed at 9.30am in the Lady Chapel on **Wednesdays 15th and 29th February**.

CATHOLIC SOCIETIES:

The **Society of Mary** meets on Thursday 9th February, and the **Guild of All Souls** on Tuesday 14th February, in both cases for the singing of the Office at 7.30pm, followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. All are welcome at both these services, whether members of the society in question or not, and refreshments are available afterwards in the Parish Centre. On Thursday 16th February, members of the **Guild of Servants of the Sanctuary** meet at 8.00pm in Emmanuel College Chapel for their Office and Benediction.

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKES:

There will be a Shrove Tuesday meal on **21st February** in the Parish Centre at 7.00pm. Savoury and then sweet pancakes will be served up (for the first time in the new Centre!) by young persons of the parish, or by whoever wants to help out. We will be selling tickets at what will certainly be a very reasonable price: teenagers and children FREE. Do come along and make up for not having been able to enjoy this occasion last year. (*Bob DeWolf*)

LENT:

Easter falls this year on **8th April** (note: Paschal Vigil at 4.30am) and so the last days of February find us once again in the holy season of Lent, with **Ash Wednesday** arriving on the 22nd of the month. The days of Lent are observed by the Faithful as days of discipline and self-denial, and Fridays as days of particular abstinence, but the season is also a splendid opportunity to grow in the Faith through prayer, worship, study, fellowship and almsgiving. *'Welcome, dear feast of Lent,'* wrote George Herbert, and who would not welcome it? For Lent is not the dreary winter of drudgery and despair, but the glad springtime of the soul and of the Church who, for a while, girds herself with simplicity and makes the journey with the baptismal candidates of old, to die to the old life and rise with Christ to the new. When we receive our ashes, we are 'signing up' to strive, marked with the sign of the Cross, to set the Christian life free for advance during the holy season.

Two major features of our programme are the **Wednesday evening course** (*'Strangers and Pilgrims: being a Christian in the world today'*) and the **Sunday morning sermon series** (*'Aspects of the Father as revealed in the Son'*). We will be reflecting on two of the **Stations of the Cross** at the end of the 12.30pm Mass on Fridays (and perhaps you may like to stay for the **Charity Lunch** afterwards – in February we are continuing to raise money for CamRead). Our various **Lent offerings** will be supporting the work of the Gospel at local (Cambridge Street

Pastors), national (the Additional Curates Society) and international (USPG) levels. All this is underpinned by the daily round of Masses and Offices.

This is only a brief sketch: **our full programme this year is set out in the blue leaflet “RENEWAL: LENT 2012”, a copy of which is enclosed with this Newsletter.** Please read through it and pin it up somewhere at home for easy reference. Further copies are available in church for all worshippers and other visitors. Do make some definite ‘rule’ for yourself about what *you* are going to do: we hope that this programme will help us all in the keeping of a holy Lent as we walk along the Way of the Cross towards Easter, the great Festival of Eternal Life.

MUSIC LIST:

The music list for choral services until the Feast of the Annunciation (Monday 26th March) is available at the west end of the church (and is also on the website). Do collect a copy, and note that the High Mass on Sunday 4th March will be sung by the combined choirs of LSM and Peterhouse, including music by Lotti (*Crucifixus*), Howells (the *Collegium Regale* Mass setting) and Vittoria (*Versa est in luctum*): how good it would be to see a full church on that day. We have enjoyed a relationship with Peterhouse, in some guise or another, for over 725 years.

ANNO DOMINI MMXII:

There is, it seems, a good chance that YOU, who are reading this now, may not have bought your **LSM Calendar for 2012** (now with striking colour photographs for each month of the year). There has been a lot to remember lately so it’s understandable – though we daresay a calendar might be a useful aid in remembering *other* things ‘not to forget’! It contains the full liturgical diary of this year’s feasts and observances, together with notice of visiting preachers, special services, devotions, outings and other events, as well as a list of handy contact details and plenty of space to add things in as the year goes on. You would find it, we think, very helpful to have one so that you can be sure not to miss anything. Fortunately there is still a good supply of copies left: they cost £5 each (and we make no profit on this) and are available from the back of the church after Sunday Mass or from Christine Tipple or Tanya Hockley. We hope all LSM households will soon have one...

...and that you will ALL add the following date to your diary/calendar:

Wednesday 30th May 2012 at 7.30pm

THE INDUCTION OF FR ROBERT MACKLEY

AS VICAR OF THIS PARISH OF ST MARY-THE-LESS

All worshippers at LSM are, naturally, most warmly invited to this Service

The Electoral Roll

The Electoral Roll will be revised in March this year. If you are a regular member of the congregation and are not yet included on the Roll, please complete an application form and send it to the Electoral Roll Officer, Susan Coote, not later than the closing date of **March 4th 2012**.

Forms are available on the table at the back of the church. Susan is usually available after High Mass on Sundays, or completed forms can be left in the pigeon holes at the back of the church.

*A reminder that all members of the Electoral Roll are encouraged to attend the Election of Churchwardens and Annual Parochial Church Meeting. This year the meetings will be held on **Sunday 25th March at 12.15pm** in the Parish Centre, in the hope of encouraging the participation of as many as possible. There will be a short break for coffee after the High Mass and then the meeting will begin.*

Encouraging developments: the call to persevere

As the interregnum progresses it is good to have encouraging developments to report: the author of the Epistle to the Hebrews recognised the great value of encouragement within the Christian community when he urged the Hebrews to “*consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another*”. It is good, therefore, that although weekday attendance continues to be somewhat erratic, the gathering of the Body of Christ for Sunday worship has seen an ‘upturn’ in recent weeks – can we keep this up? We hope so! It would, however, be still more encouraging to see more of the High Mass congregation coming through to the Parish Centre afterwards to meet over refreshments: do *you* make a point of turning to the stranger near you, welcoming them to LSM and inviting them to stay? There was a very positive atmosphere, and a good number of unfamiliar faces, at the Epiphany Carol Service on the Feast of Our Lord’s Baptism: the attendance was a good improvement on last year (90 compared with 63) – and the same is true of Christmas, always an unpredictable time in Cambridge, when the number of communicants at the three Masses showed a welcome rise from 166 to 217 (though we were not amid the winter’s snow this year). The Friday Lunch is also doing well (still with room for more!), and we were pleased to note that the January Newsletter sold over 230 copies, very encouraging growth. So let us continue to *consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another*.

In the community

BREAKING BARRIERS:

Poverty and Homelessness Action Week runs from 28th January to 5th February and focusses our thoughts and concerns on the work which can be done in churches and local communities to break the barriers between people in society, barriers which prevent us from understanding one another. This Action Week is a challenge to tear down the barriers which trap people in poverty and homelessness. To raise awareness, **prayer cards** will be handed out at Mass on Sunday 29th January, and there will be a **sale of cakes and baked goods** after High Mass on Sunday 5th February to raise funds. Posters and information about the week are on display at the west end of church. If you would like further information, please ask Chris or Irene Beecham or see any member of the Social Responsibility Group. Find out more online: www.actionweek.org.uk

FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT:

At the other end of the month we mark **Fairtrade Fortnight**, which runs from 27th February to 11th March. Have you visited the fairtrade stall run by our neighbours at Emmanuel URC? 'Traidcraft' goods are on sale there during café hours (10.30am to 3.00pm, Tuesday to Friday) and after the morning service on a Sunday. They stock stationery and foods together with olive wood figures from Bethlehem, and also supply orders for gifts and crafts.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER:

We give you advance notice that the local Service for the Women's World Day of Prayer will be held in LSM this year: on **Friday 2nd March** at 10.30am. The service has been prepared by the Christian women of Malaysia.

MONDAYS and WEDNESDAYS at LSM:

Part of our vision for the Parish Centre is that it becomes increasingly a place of meeting for members of different sections of the community: a place of friendship where people can be at ease with each other. Two of the weekly groups in the Centre may be unfamiliar to some members of LSM but both, we think, deserve to be more widely known. On **Mondays** at 11.45am our 'Monday Group' offers a monthly rotation of activities, usually with a 'spirituality' angle, for people with mental health difficulties – a group which evolved from Fr Andrew's links with the (now closed) drop-in centre at 2 Trumpington Street. On **Wednesdays** at 11.30am our play reading group meets, again drawing a variety of people: it has been good that some of those who have been at coffee after the 10.00am Mass have been choosing to stay on to share in the group's reading (no acting involved!) and more are most welcome. Malcolm Munro, together with Tanya Hockley, is supervising the arrangements for these two important parts of life at LSM.



Calendar and Intentions

for

FEBRUARY 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 February

Wed.	1st	St Brigid, Abbess
Thu.	2nd	PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD: CANDLEMAS DAY: LM 7.45am; HM with Candlemas Ceremonies 7.00pm
Fri.	3rd	St Blaise, Bishop and Martyr
Sat.	4th	St Gilbert of Sempringham, Priest: Guided Mass 4.00pm
SUN.	5th	SEPTUAGESIMA: III BEFORE LENT
Mon.	6th	St Paul Miki & Companions: ACCESSION 1952
Tue.	7th	Deanery Synod meeting (here) 7.30pm; LSM Global 7.30pm
Wed.	8th	Healing Ministry 9.45am/10.00am; SRG meeting 7.30pm
Thu.	9th	Requiem 7.45am; Vespers of Our Lady and Benediction 7.30pm
Fri.	10th	St Scholastica, Abbess
Sat.	11th	St Radegund, Abbess
SUN.	12th	SEXAGESIMA: II BEFORE LENT
Mon.	13th	
Tue.	14th	SS Cyril and Methodius: GAS Office and Benediction 7.30pm
Wed.	15th	Steering Committee 7.45pm
Thu.	16th	GSS Office and Benediction at Emmanuel College 8.00pm
Fri.	17th	A Musical Soirée 8.00pm
Sat.	18th	of the BVM
SUN.	19th	QUINQUAGESIMA: NEXT BEFORE LENT
Mon.	20th	
Tue.	21st	of the Holy Spirit: Shrove Tuesday Party 7.00pm
Wed.	22nd	ASH WEDNESDAY: LM 10.00am; HM 7.00pm (with Ashing)
Thu.	23rd	commem. St Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr
Fri.	24th	Addresses on the Stations of the Cross begin at 12.30pm LM
Sat.	25th	
SUN.	26th	LENT I
Mon.	27th	commem. George Herbert
Tue.	28th	LM 7.45am <u>and</u> 6.30pm; PCC meeting 7.00pm
Wed.	29th	Ember Day: Lent course (1 of 5) 7.00pm
March		
Thu.	1st	St David, Bishop, Patron of Wales
Fri.	2nd	comm. St Chad: Ember Day: Women's Day of Prayer Service 10.30am
Sat.	3rd	Ember Day

Daily Intentions and *Anniversaries* for February

The European Union	1st
Thanksgiving for the gift of Jesus Christ, Light of the World	2nd
Prayerful response to our Christian Giving Review	3rd
The General Synod next week	4th
The Parish	5th
HM the Queen: Sixtieth Anniversary of her Accession	6th
The General Synod	7th
The Church's Ministry of Healing: Friends of LSM	8th
The Faithful Departed	9th
The General Synod	<i>Ronald Moorhouse, Bill Thomas</i> 10th
Jesus College	11th
The Parish	<i>Margaret Webber, Enid Maycock</i> 12th
Our Monday Group	<i>Alich Nilsson</i> 13th
The Guild of All Souls	14th
Romsey Mill	15th
Increase in devotion to the Blessed Sacrament	16th
CamRead (<i>Friday Lunch charity</i>)	17th
Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham	18th
The Parish	<i>John Lyon (Pr), Audrey Sparrow</i> 19th
Forbearance with one another	<i>Mary Stubbs</i> 20th
The spirit of true penitence	21st
A holy Lent	22nd
Christian Unity	<i>Mary Dawson</i> 23rd
Growth in devotion to the Lord's Passion	24th
Cambridge Street Pastors: Bishop's Lent Appeal	25th
The Parish	<i>Arthur Leslie Peck, James Campell Townley</i> 26th
Fr Robert Mackley	27th
Our Churchwardens and Parochial Church Council	28th
Our Lent course	29th
	March
The Churches and People of Wales	1st
Vocations to the Priesthood	2nd
Ordinands: Cambridge Theological Federation	<i>Ceta Cherry</i> 3rd

***This month opens with Candlemas:
may we bring our failings and strivings into
the Light of Jesus Christ during holy Lent
and thus come to a joyful Easter***

Eternal Light, shine into our hearts;
eternal Goodness, deliver us from evil;
eternal Power, be our support;
eternal Wisdom, scatter the darkness of our ignorance;
eternal Pity, have mercy upon us;
that with all our heart and mind and strength
we may seek thy face
and be brought by thine infinite mercy
to thy holy presence;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***“O Light of all the earth,
thy children wait for thee!
Come to thy temples here,
that we, from sin set free,
before thy Father’s face,
may all presented be!”***

The Bishop's Lent Appeal: Cambridge Street Pastors

The Bishop of Ely's Lent Appeal this year is supporting **Cambridge Street Pastors** and their colleagues in **Newmarket**. As a Cambridge parish, this Diocesan appeal should have particular interest for us, and the Bishop encourages parishes to be generous: at LSM we are also offered the opportunity in Lent to support the work of USPG and the ACS (see Lent leaflet for full details), but we will be having collections in aid of the Bishop's Appeal at both Masses on Ash Wednesday, at the 7.00pm High Mass on the Feast of the Annunciation and after Evensong on Palm Sunday.

Alcohol-related violence and antisocial behaviour are among the top safety priorities for central Cambridge: most incidents, and many of the hospital admissions that result, occur in the 'night-time-economy' hours from 10.00pm to 4.00am. Cambridgeshire police and local government officials agree that there needs to be a pastoral as well as a policing response to this problem. Cambridge Street Pastors is an interdenominational Church response: similar groups operate in some 200 locations across the UK, and the Cambridge arm of this national initiative was launched in 2009. Street Pastors are Christians from local churches, recruited in a volunteer capacity: they patrol the central 'pubs and clubs' area of the city on Friday and Saturday nights, developing listening, pastoral relationships with young people and providing practical assistance to those who may want to get home or to a next destination safely and in good order. The main cost is the employment of part-time staff to run things from day-to-day, licence fees and uniforms: the charity needs to increase its financial support to sustain its Friday and Saturday activities and to launch 'patrols' on weekday nights.

Our Christian Giving Review...

...begins on January 29th when each worshipper will be given an envelope continuing an invitation to reflect and pray about what we give to the Church in terms both of material gifts and of the gifts of our time and talents, to sustain and enhance the rich life of worship, fellowship and service in this place. We are beginning this annual Review during the Epiphany season, and our splendid Epiphany House (remaining beside the High Altar until Candlemas), putting before us the image of Wise Men from the East adoring their infant Lord, prompts us to consider what it is that *we* bring to offer to Christ like the Magi of old. Fr Mark's letter in the envelope, together with the other documents enclosed, clearly lays all this out for our prayerful attention. We hope for a good response.

Parish Centre Development Fund

Thank you to the helpers, donors and buyers who helped to make the January unwanted gifts and preserves stall such a success – we raised £185. The next Produce and Preserves Stall will be after High Mass on **Sunday 4th March**.

Thank you to all who have provided jam jars during the last year, and more recently the cellophane wrappers from birthday cards, but we don't need any more at present.

Sponsored Pilgrimage Walk

Route: Camino de Santiago de Compostella

When: early May

Duration: probably 10 – 14 days

Distance: about 200km

Cost: depends upon circumstances

Before details are finalised, Jo wonders if anyone would like to join her?

If anyone is interested, please contact

Jo Wibberley (jowibs.mu@ntlworld.com)

before 8th February.



Friday 17th February

8.00pm

A Musical Soirée

*Cabaret and Cocktails by Candlelight,
starring our very own Simon Jackson and others*

Tickets (£4.00) will be available soon

from Patricia Boulhosa (ppb21@cam.ac.uk, 01223 305214);

all proceeds to the Parish Centre Development Fund

Do you do online shopping?

If so, you could help us raise money, without costing you *or* LSM anything.

LSM is now on easyfundraising.org.uk Over 2000 companies have signed up to easyfundraising.org.uk to provide a small donation as a percentage of each purchase made; companies such as Amazon, Apple, Argos, Currys, Dixons, Ebay...

Just go to

www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/littlestmaryschurchcambridge

and sign on, then start shopping. Keep this as an icon on your desktop so you will be just clicks away from your favourite shops.

Everyone wins...

You can raise funds for our Development Fund

Little St Mary's gets the funds

The companies that have signed up to easyfundraising.org.uk get more traffic and more sales

In December just two people raised almost £10 this way. We now have seven people who have signed up. Don't put it off, sign up today! *How much more effective if we had 50 or 60 people who regularly used this site?*

Happy shopping!

Also use:

littlestmaryschurchcambridge.easysearch.org.uk

as your search engine for the benefit of LSM!

LSM receives ½p for each search. Not much on its own but a few of us have raised 63p in the last month so if enough people used it regularly, it would soon mount up.

Wednesday 8th February

Reflections on Jewish-Christian relations today

A high-profile public lecture

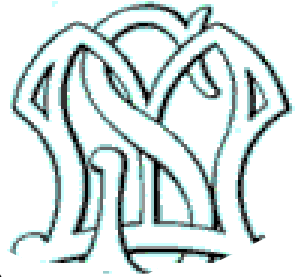
*by the R.C. Archbishop of Westminster, **the Most Revd Vincent Nichols***

The lecture begins at 5.30pm in the Garden Room of St Edmund's College, and will be the Archbishop's first major public address on Christian-Jewish relations since becoming Archbishop of Westminster in 2009

The Society of Mary

To launch our series looking at the work of the *Catholic Societies* which meet in our parish, Fr Stephen Anderson introduces us to the Society of Mary.

The Society of Mary (SOM) exists to honour Mary, the Mother of our Lord, drawing spiritual strength and encouragement from her faith in accepting the message of an Angel, giving birth to our Saviour and remaining faithful to her Son to the foot of the Cross.



One of the ancient titles of Mary is the *Stella Maris*, the ‘Star of the Sea’, a Latin version of the phrase which in the Aramaic spoken in earlier times meant “pilot” or “guide” – someone by whom people could navigate through the desert or across the sea and know that they would be lead to safety.

This inspiration and confidence is summed up most beautifully in the Office Hymn, ‘*Hail O Star that pointest towards the port of heaven*’ – and we ask of Mary’s prayers that *as now we journey*, she might *aid our weak endeavour*, till we gaze on Jesus, and rejoice for ever.

It is right and fitting that a parish dedicated to Mary (variously known to us as *Our Lady*, *the Blessed Virgin Mary*, *St Mary*, and *Queen of Heaven*) and in the Catholic tradition should be host to the Cambridge Ward of the SOM.

We meet several times during the year, mostly for the office of **Vespers and Benediction**, sometimes an **outing** and always combining with the wider parish in a Day Pilgrimage to **Walsingham** – to take place this year on **Saturday 21st July**.

Perhaps the spiritual and social highlight of the year is the **May Devotion**, to be held this year at **7.30pm on Wednesday 23rd May**. Always a great devotional occasion of meticulously choreographed liturgy and uplifting singing (in 2011 we were treated to the superb voices of singers from Jesus College), this year we have the added delight of the Superior General of the national SOM, **Bishop Robert Ladds**, being with us to officiate and preach. And if all this is not enough, our joy and fellowship together is completed by a really good party afterwards. It is wonderful to have a group of Christian people so united in prayer and praise – a

very reflection of all that should be in our common life together. Please note the date in your diary now.

SOM services and activities are open to everyone, whether members or not, but it is our hope that non-members may be sufficiently moved to join. **Daphne Foreman** is the Ward Secretary. Have a word with her in the first instance.

In any event, why not join us for **Vespers and Benediction at 7.30pm on Thursday 9th February** as we honour Mary – Mother, Star and Guide?

Fr Stephen Anderson
Ward Superior

Smile-lines: The Curate's Fall

The Lord Bishop took the priest and his curate and placed them in the vestry. And the Lord Bishop commanded them, “You may freely use any book authorised or allowed by canon – but if you should use the revised Roman Missal your licence will surely be revoked.”

Now, the Anglo-Catholic was more crafty than any other creature the Lord Bishop had ordained. He said to the curate, ‘Did the bishop say “you shall not use any liturgical book in the vestry”?’ The curate replied to the Anglo-Catholic, “We may use any book authorised or allowed by canon, but if we use the revised Roman Missal our license shall be revoked.”

The Anglo-Catholic said, “Your licence will not be revoked – the Lord Bishop knows that when you use the missal your eyes will be opened and you will know God.” So the curate saw that the Missal was good and a delight to the senses, so he took it from the shelf and celebrated Mass. He gave the missal to his incumbent, they concelebrated, and their eyes were opened. They then saw that they were dressed in surplices and were ashamed. So they sewed pieces of damask together and made chasubles.

Then the Lord Bishop arrived for his visitation, and the priest and curate hid themselves in the vestry. But the Lord Bishop said, “Where are you?” “We heard you arrive and hid ourselves, as we were ashamed of our surplices.”

The Lord Bishop asked, “Who told you that you were wearing a surplice? Have you used the revised Roman Missal?” The Incumbent replied, “The curate whom you gave me to be with me – he gave me the missal.”

Then the Bishop said to the curate “What is this that you have done?” The curate said, “The Anglo-Catholic tricked me, and I celebrated Mass.”

The Lord Bishop said to the Anglo-Catholic, “Because you have done this, cursed are you amongst all Anglicans! Your liturgy will be lower than a snake’s belly and you shall eat wholemeal loaves at Communion all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the House of Bishops and between your offspring and our successors.”

To the curate he said, “I will greatly increase the pain of your curacy. In misery you shall complete IME 4-7. Your desire will be for your own parish, but your Incumbent will rule over you.”

To the Incumbent he said, “Because you have listened to the voice of your curate and have used the Roman Missal (about which I commanded you, ‘You shall not use it’), cursed is your ministry because of you; in toil you shall minister all the days of your life; trouble and strife shall be your fruit. Common Worship shall be your diet and you shall be fed by it until you return to the ground.”

Then the Lord Bishop said, “See, the Incumbent has become like us, knowing good liturgy from bad; he might over-reach himself and seek preferment.” Therefore the bishop sent him forth from the parish and into the Diocese of Europe. He drove out the Incumbent and at the door to the church he placed a churchwarden, bearing a staff, guarding the way to the Church of England.

Craig Lawrence Roters (printed by kind permission of the author)

Looking forward to summer...

The LSM SUMMER FESTIVAL will be held on
Saturday 14th July

Lucy Razzall and Hanna Weibye are producing this year’s play, an Arthurian spectacular, to be performed on Friday 13th and Saturday 14th. More details will follow soon.

***Please ensure the date is firmly in your diary...
and start thinking of good ideas for the Festival!***

Deification through the Mass?

Recently in my theological studies I came across a very important concept, which seems to be somewhat neglected in Anglican theology: the notion of **deification**. Deification is the idea that ‘over the course of a Christian life, one is to become as holy, as godly, and as completely united with God as it is possible for a created being to do so in this life.’ So, when you think about it, it might seem strange that this is a neglected area of our theology, since it is the very purpose of our existence. Perhaps the concept of deification is neglected because people misunderstand what is meant by the word. It is an important concept for the Orthodox Church, and does enjoy more emphasis within the Roman Catholic Church than it does within our own.

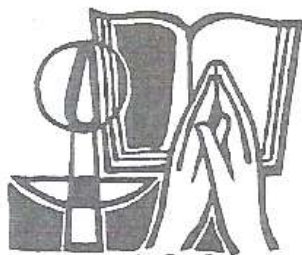
How does deification take place? Why, through participation in the sacraments of course! It has been said that ‘the sacraments are a created media which transmit the uncreated grace of God, and it is through them that our deification is made possible.’ Not only are our hearts strengthened by attending Mass, but through frequent participation in the sacraments Christ’s presence is evermore imparted in us, and our nature is evermore changed into the likeness of God’s. Pusey wrote that the immediate and proper end of receiving the Eucharist is union with Christ, infusion into us of him, the cleansing of our sin, and that the Eucharist refines our corruptions and repairs our decays.

So why is this important? Well, it is important because if we are consciously aware of what is happening to us when we receive this Sacrament, we can reap more spiritual benefits. Some of the early Church Fathers wrote beautiful prose explaining what happens to people when they receive the Eucharist, such as: ‘Christ, then, feeds his Church with these sacraments, by means of which the substance of the soul is strengthened, and seeing the continual progress of her grace,’ which was written by St Ambrose of Milan. Reading material such as this can be quite helpful for our spiritual journeys. Perhaps you could decide to take up reading a book about the Eucharist or something else of spiritual benefit as part of your Lenten devotions?

Pusey wrote that not receiving the Sacrament leads to starvation and death of the soul, so we can see the importance of regularly partaking of the Eucharist. It is the food that sustains our souls on our spiritual journeys, on our journeys towards deification. Pusey goes so far as to ask, how can we receive the fullness of the divine life if we receive the Eucharist only once a month? Considering this, maybe you might like to improve your regularity at Sunday Mass or take up attendance at a weekday Mass as part of your Lenten devotions, to help you on your path to deification?

Tanya Hockley

Three thoughts for our keeping of Lent



**MORE
fervent in
PRAYER**



**MORE
generous
in works of
CHARITY**



**MORE
eager in cele-
brating the
MYSTERIES
by which we
are reborn**

“Prayer is the raising of the mind and heart to God in praise and thanksgiving to him and in supplication for the good things that we need, both spiritual and physical. The essence of prayer is therefore the spiritual lifting of the heart towards God. The mind in the heart stands consciously before the face of God, filled with due reverence, and begins to pour itself out before him. This is spiritual prayer and all prayer should be of this nature. External prayer, whether at home or in church, is only prayer’s verbal expression and shape; the essence or the soul of prayer is within a man’s mind and heart.”

Theophan the Recluse

“Doubtless some of our charity must be public, for the very mentioning our name encourages others to follow our example. Still I ask, is much of our charity also private? Is as much private as is public? I will not ask whether much more is done in secret than is done before men, though this, if possible, ought to be the case.”

Bl. John Henry Newman

“In the Mass is set forth... the consecration of human pain and discipline... The priest standing at the altar has behind him the darkness, the gloom, the failure, and the fetters of our poor humanity. Before him stretches the light and splendour of the Kingdom. At that meeting place of human faith and hope and aspiration, with the downwards sweep of God’s wondrous love and power, a marvellous liberation comes to the Christian soul – the light floods over into the darkened, confused ways of men, and we feel within us the fruits of his redemption. ‘Who maketh us afraid?’ ‘I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.’”

Fr Charles W. Hutchinson

***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*

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, Fr John Hughes or Fr Christopher Woods

*Coffee is served in the Parish Centre after the 10.30am High Mass on Sundays
and after the 10.00am Low Mass on Wednesdays.*

*There is a **Charity Lunch** (minimum donation £2.50),
after the 12.30pm 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: send a blank email to: LSMsocial-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

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

Deadline for March Newsletter: Sunday 19th February

Trumpington Street, Cambridge. CB2 1QG.

Open daily for prayer and visiting, 7.30am to 6.30pm

www.lsm.org.uk