



WORTH PARISH

£1.00

MAGAZINE

Serving Crawley in Worth, Pound Hill, Maidenbower and Forge Wood

ST BARNABAS', POUND HILL
ST NICHOLAS', WORTH

December 2015 - January 2016

Reg. Charity No. 1131090

CLERGY SERVING THE PARISH

Rector	Revd Canon Anthony Ball	01293 882229
Curate	Revd Steve Burston	01293 279028
Assistant Priests	Revd Canon Roger Brown	01293 520454
	Revd Gordon Parry	07802 432398

REGULAR SERVICES AND EVENTS

Our regular services are shown below and in addition, there is also a calendar on page 35 which details groups and events happening throughout the next two months.

	St Nicholas', Worth	St Barnabas', Pound Hill
Sun	08.00 Holy Communion (every week) (Book of Common Prayer, 1662) 09.45 Sung Eucharist (every week) (Common Worship) 11.30 1st and 3rd Sun of each month Nic's (Informal Family Service)	10.00 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays Eucharist (Common Worship) 10.00 2nd Sunday of each month Informal Family Eucharist 10.00 4th Sunday of each month Informal Family Service (non-Eucharist)
Mon	07.30 Morning Prayer and Eucharist	17.00 Evening Prayer
Tues	07.30 Morning Prayer	10.30 Eucharist 17.00 Evening Prayer
Wed	07.30 Morning Prayer and Eucharist	15.00 Messy Church (4th Wednesday in term times) 17.00 Evening Prayer
Thu	07.30 Morning Prayer 10.30 Eucharist	17.00 Evening Prayer
Fri	07.30 Morning Prayer and Eucharist	17.00 Evening Prayer
Sat	08.30 Morning Prayer and Eucharist	17.00 Evening Prayer

Stepney's Coffee Shop Maidenbower	
Every Fri	11:30 A time to chat over coffee and cake

The Studio Maidenbower Infant School RH107RA	
2nd Wed of the month (in term times)	15:00 Messy Church@ Maidenbower

Church in the Pub	
Last Fri of each month	20:00 A pint down the pub with friends in the Coaching Halt, Maidenbower.

Worth Parish Office, St Barnabas' Church, Worth Road, Crawley, RH10 7DY

☎ 0300 111 8150 ✉ office@worthparish.org.uk 🏠 worthparish.org 📘 facebook.com/WorthParish

CONTENTS

CLERGY SERVING THE PARISH.....	2
REGULAR SERVICES AND EVENTS	2
CONTACT US.....	4
FROM THE RECTOR.....	4
NEWS.....	5
DEFENCE MINISTER ADDRESSES TRAINING DAY	5
WALKING GROUP STARTS UP	5
MOTHERS' UNION ROUND UP.....	6
CRAWLEY CHRISTIANS AGAINST POVERTY 2015 REVIEW	6
ST BARNABAS' HOSTS THE PARIS PILGRIMS.....	7
REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY IN OUR CHURCHES.....	8
FAREWELL TO JAMES	9
MARY SUMNER FOUNDER OF THE MOTHERS' UNION	11
PILLARS OF FAITH DECEMBER AND JANUARY	12
RECIPE PAGE.....	13
BAPTISMS AND MARRIAGES.....	14
2016 – A YEAR OF MERCY.....	15
CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS.....	16
KNIT AND NATTER	17
NOTES FROM THE CURATE'S DOG	20
ARCHBISHOP WORDSEARCH!.....	22
FROM THE CHRISTMAS BEAR.....	23
ALPHA COURSE REVIEW	24
FROM SISTER SHONA	25
HYMN STORIES - JOHN S B MONSELL.....	27
MEET THE PARISH ADMINISTRATORS.....	27
CHRISTINE BERGER.....	27
MAVE ESHUN	28
A VISIT TO STRASBOURG	30
VIEW FROM A PEW	31
ST NICHOLAS CIRCLE	32
CALENDAR.....	35

CONTACT US

If you have a Baptism, Wedding or general enquiry, you can call the office on 0300 111 8150 or email us on office@worthparish.org.uk.

Send articles, photos, information and jokes for the magazine to magazine@worthparish.org.uk

You can also find us here:

-  www.worthparish.org
-  facebook.com/WorthParish
-  twitter.com/worthparish

FROM THE RECTOR

I write this flying back from Egypt after a week's visit to the Coptic Orthodox Church with 19 other clergy. Just before leaving, security concerns following the tragedy of the Russian airliner brought down over the Sinai desert led to the suspension of flights from Sharm el-Sheikh. The impact on tourism - over 10% of Egypt's economy - was plain to see - from the armed escorts we attracted when visiting desert monasteries to the almost empty tourist sites. The livelihood of thousands is in the balance as reverberations spread beyond the friends and relatives of the 224 people who lost their lives.

The day after our arrival in Egypt, the attacks in Paris occurred, again with a dreadful loss of life and shockwaves affecting the life of that nation and many others. It feels as if these events represent pivotal moments of change – there is a 'before' and an 'after', and only time will tell how lasting the impact will be and how deeply our day-to-day lives are affected. Even as the political ramifications unfold, what is already clear is that for countless individuals life will never be the same again.

We are accustomed, as individuals, to pivotal moments that change our lives – some joyful and some sad and as a priest, I have the privilege of walking with people at those moments of transition – publicly represented at the 'moment' by officiating at weddings, baptisms and funerals. Of course there is often also a 'journey' involved and many more private moments as relationships are built up through the sharing of hopes and fears, joys and pains. But, still, it is those public events that we often point to as moments of change, and times when the significance of each person's life is reaffirmed.

And what is true for nations and individuals is also true for all types of community. I write in a week

that is bracketed by two such 'moments' of change in the life of our parish family. Both feel to me to be significant and where potentially profound changes ripple out from individual lives affected. Time will tell.

The first of those two moments in this week have been James saying his farewells and presiding at his final service, a Parish Eucharist. Although the experience of saying goodbye to a member of the clergy team is not new, this time it is accompanied by a decision not to appoint a successor, for a time. That time gives us the chance to reflect on how best to respond to developments happening in the parish and elsewhere in Crawley, while providing an opportunity to establish a small community of young adults dedicated to developing their leadership and ministry skills within and beyond the parish. An exciting prospect, the outworking of which is not wholly predictable.

That unpredictability and need to be open to change is also present in the other moment of the week – still in the future at time of writing - when we will be hosting a parish retreat as part of our Alpha Course. It is a day of learning about, reflecting on and praying for the Holy Spirit which has proved transformational for many.

The 'moment of change' in which the Holy Spirit was given to the apostles is celebrated at the Feast of Pentecost – often considered the birthday of the Church. The other prominent birthday which we celebrate at this time of the year is most definitely marked by a 'before' and 'after' - B.C. and A.D. - and the impact of that moment has rippled out over 2000 years, transforming not only nations but the whole world. Time has told! It is, of course, Jesus' birth – when God was made flesh and *the light shines in the darkness and the darkness did not overcome it*.

In the dark events in Paris and Sharm el-Sheikh, we may have to strain to see the light still shining, not overcome, but shining it is, not least in countless individual acts of kindness and heroism. As the church keeps the season of Advent, a time of preparation and waiting for Christmas, it is a good time to reflect on what people and events have proved to be - 'moments of change' in our own lives. And, having done that, perhaps we should commit ourselves anew to taking each little opportunity that comes our way to share the love we have received. Now, that would be a New

Year's resolution that changes the world we live in! A resolution which changes it one step (or life) at a time, so that the light that came into the world in Bethlehem all those years ago shines ever more brightly.

May each of you have a blessed Advent, a joyous Christmas and a 2016 filled with the Light of Christ and the Holy Spirit,

Anthony

NEWS

DEFENCE MINISTER ADDRESSES TRAINING DAY

Representatives from 34 dioceses, chaplains, serving personnel, Ministry of Defence officials and speakers from the Royal British Legion and the Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund attended a recent training day to help remind parishes of the vital role they can play in helping support the Armed Forces, veterans and their families.

Defence Minister Earl Howe, in a keynote address to the conference, spoke of the 'enormous' support given by the Church of England to the Armed Forces with clergy acting as 'Good Samaritans' to local service and veterans' families.

With your vast grass roots knowledge of the local community, your understanding of the needs of local Armed Forces men and women, you are undoubtedly the people best placed to identify the gaps in

provision, and to help plug them, he told the conference.

You know that veterans might be struggling to get into work or make the transition to civilian life. You know that young families might feel isolated in a strange area with little support. And you know that injured ex-service personnel may find their altered circumstances hard to bear - as indeed may their families. And if you see a need of that kind, I know that you can make a big difference.

The training day follows the signing earlier this year of the Armed Forces corporate covenant by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York committing the Church of England to recognise and care for Armed Forces personnel, veterans and families.

WALKING GROUP STARTS UP

Dan Acharya from the Vine Fellowship has recently set up a Christian Social Walking Group in Crawley.

The aim is to get people aged approximately 20-40 together from all the local churches for fun walks and a bite to eat afterwards.

Dan recently married and moved to Crawley (his wife Jo's home town!) and is keen to get the walking/social group off the ground.

He previously helped organise what became really popular walks and socials at Purley Baptist Church for 20s-30s over the last couple of years. He loves getting out into the great outdoors, getting to know new folk and enjoying some good food too! The more the merrier and it would be great to have new faces come and join in!

If you are interested in finding out more, you can email Dan at crawleywalkers@gmail.com or search Facebook for the crawleywalkers group.

MOTHERS' UNION ROUND UP

So, what have the Mothers' Union been up to in the past few months? On October 10th, we held a Coffee Morning at the Pastoral Centre. There were home-made cakes, books and a raffle. There was a District Council Meeting on 17 October in Haywards Heath.

We had a 'Songs of Praise' as our monthly meeting on 22nd October. It was well attended and Balcombe MU joined us that evening. On Thursday 26 November our meeting was entitled "Preparation for Advent". The special Raffle prize was a Christmas hamper!

In January, we are going to enjoy our New Year Dinner. Two dozen diners will enjoy a meal at the Restaurant at Crawley College. That's on Tuesday 26 January 2016.

We would like to emphasise that anyone and everyone is very welcome to join us. Our branch meets on the last Thursday of every month. We always start in the Pastoral Centre at St Barnabas' at 7.30pm. There is a wide-ranging, interesting programme and refreshments are always served during the evening. Come and join us!

Ann Phillipson

CRAWLEY CHRISTIANS AGAINST POVERTY 2015 REVIEW



The Crawley CAP Debt Centre was launched on March 8 with a commissioning service held, in some style, at St Andrew's Church. Our Parish was represented by both the clergy and a number

of parishioners.

Christians Against Poverty is a highly regarded debt management organisation which began life in Bradford in 1996. They are passionate about lifting people out of debt and poverty through their debt help service. It has grown into a national charity with a vision to have a CAP Debt Centre, in partnership with local churches, in every town and city across the UK. The main focus is to help people, irrespective of religious belief, with debt problems while showing the love of Christ.

It is believed that as many as 1 in 9 households are struggling with debt and this, inevitably leads to family breakdown, depression and even suicide. There are now around 270 CAP Debt Centres throughout the country and Crawley adds to this number; before this, the nearest Centre was in Leatherhead. The Debt Centres are supported by a Bradford head office staff of up to 250, both salaried and volunteers. Some 27,000 people are helped every year and last year, 2,534 clients became debt free.

The Crawley Debt Centre is managed by David Dickson and he is supported in various ways by members of a number of Crawley churches, from different denominations. It is intended that our own Parish will be active in this field.

Look out for leaflets at the back of church or in the Pastoral Centre, which will give more details about CAP and the wonderful service provided.

Stuart Sharpe

FREE ADMISSION

BAKING, BOOKS, CRAFTS, REFRESHMENTS AND MORE
ST BARNABAS', WORTH ROAD, RH10 7DY

SATURDAY MARKETS

5 DEC AND 9 JAN

10-11.45AM



ST BARNABAS' HOSTS THE PARIS PILGRIMS

In November, world leaders and negotiators from more than 190 nations will be holding UN climate talks in Paris, to discuss a new global agreement on climate change aimed at limiting greenhouse gas emissions from 2020. People from across the UK are calling on world leaders to agree a fair, ambitious and binding climate change deal.

To harness this feeling, the Church of England, Christian Aid, CAFOD and Tearfund organised a Pilgrimage2Paris ahead of the UN talks. The pilgrimage started in London on Friday 13 November with a service at St Martin-in-the-Fields, and at time of writing, will arrive in Paris on Friday 27 November.

On Saturday 14 November, in very rainy and windy weather, a group of about 40 Pilgrims arrived at St. Barnabas around 5.45pm. They had walked from Banstead where they had spent the previous night. After depositing their bags in the Hall, which was their bedroom for the night, we were happy to provide them with an evening meal before they gathered together with members of local churches for a CAFOD talk.

On Sunday morning, the pilgrims enjoyed a



7.45am breakfast in the Pastoral Centre followed by an ecumenical communion and prayers service in Church. The Pilgrims were very appreciative of the hospitality they received and departed on the Sunday, in the dry, heading for Burgess Hill. We wished them well on their journey to Paris.

Thanks to those who helped me welcome the pilgrims with their preparations, cooking, serving and clearing up - Christine Brown, Rosemary Cordan, Sheila Dring, Janet Hewerdine, Pam Marson, Pam Newley and Sue Perry.

Phyl Pennell



REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY IN OUR CHURCHES



Top: Our 09.45 Remembrance Service at St Nicholas' Church, Worth involved the 4th Worth Scouts and Cubs.

Below and Bottom: Beautiful decorations for the 10.00 Remembrance Service at St Barnabas' Church.



O God of truth and justice, we hold before you those whose memory we cherish, and those whose names we will never know.

Help us to lift our eyes above the torment of this broken world, and grant us the grace to pray for those who wish us harm.

As we honour the past, may we put our faith in your future; for you are the source of life and hope, now and for ever.

Amen

FAREWELL TO JAMES

James celebrated his last Eucharist in our Parish on November 15th and we took the opportunity to thank him for his time with us and wish him, Hengyi and Ronja well. We hope you enjoy your future Ministry in Shoreham, James !



HALL FOR HIRE

St Barnabas' Church Hall, Worth
Road,
RH10 7EB

- * Available for private functions
- * Hall seats up to 110 people
- * Pastoral Centre seats up to 40
- * Kitchen facilities available

For rates, see
worthparish.org/hall-hire/
or call 0300 111 8150 or email
office@worthparish.org.uk

Remember

to raise this **Christmas**

Collect **FREE** donations for **WORTH PARISH** when you shop online this Christmas!



We need you to...



1. Join

Head to easyfundraising, search for us to start raising.



2. Shop

There are nearly 3,000 retailers on board, so pick the one you want and start shopping.



3. Raise

After you've made your purchase, the retailer will make a donation to us at no extra cost whatsoever!

Join, shop and raise here:
easyfundraising.org.uk/worthparish

MARY SUMNER

FOUNDER OF THE MOTHERS' UNION

Mary Heywood was born in Swinton, Lancashire in 1828 and in Rome in 1846, met George Sumner, the son of the Bishop of Winchester and who was studying theology at Oxford.

Mary's father believed that girls should have as good an education as boys and she was competent in many languages and a brilliant musician, very suitable for being a vicar's wife! Not long after George was ordained he and Mary married, and he became Curate at St John's in Crawley. When George's mother died, his father wanted them closer, so George became the Bishop's Chaplain and the family lived at the Bishop's House in Farnham Castle. In 1851, they moved to Old Alresford when George became Vicar there and this was Mary's home for the next 34 years and where they raised their three children.

Mary was very active in the Parish and visited young families to impress upon them the importance of motherhood, as well as teaching Sunday School. Less typically, she held meetings for men on a Sunday evening at the vicarage while Evensong was on in church. As well as Bible study, Mary expounded to them the revolutionary idea for those days, that they should be concerned with the upbringing of their children and encouraged them to express love for their wives in ways such as remembering their birthdays!

When her elder daughter gave birth, Mary remembered the feeling of panic she had experienced when her first child was put in her arms and she realised that she was entrusted with the responsibility of "training a soul for heaven". Perhaps because of this, and inspired by meetings her own mother had held for new mothers, in 1876, Mary invited new mothers and mature wives to the Rectory to talk about their concerns and experiences. At the first meeting, she panicked so much that George had to talk to them but Mary took the next meeting and they became so popular that they printed membership cards and the Mothers' Union had taken root! Neighbouring Parishes were interested and impressed, so similar meetings were held there.

In 1885, the Bishop of Newcastle, had been asked to address the women churchgoers



at the Portsmouth Church Congress, but felt that he had very little to say to women so invited Mary to speak instead. Although nervous, she gave a passionate address about morality and the importance of women's vocations as mothers to change the nation for the better. A number of women present went back and founded mothers' meetings based on Mary Sumner's pattern in their parishes. The Mothers' Union was made a diocesan organization, Queen Victoria became its patron and by the turn of the century, membership was 169,000.

With Mary as unanimously elected president (a post she held into her nineties), branches were set up in other countries, beginning in New Zealand, then Canada and India, as well as continuing strongly in this country, "rebuilding the heart of Britain" after the First World War.

Now, over 139 years later, the Mothers' Union has expanded to 83 countries with more than 4 million members and work covering, amongst other things, parenting courses, literacy work, prison visits, cake and tea distribution in hospitals, holidays for the needy, supporting workers in Africa, and campaigns such as the "Bye, Buy Childhood" campaign, concerned with commercialisation and sexualisation of childhood.

Mary Sumner died on August 9 1921 and is buried in the grounds of Winchester Cathedral beside her husband who had been an Archdeacon of Winchester and suffragen Bishop of Guildford. Next year's Annual General Worldwide Meeting will be in Winchester to celebrate 140 years since the Mothers' Union was formed. Mary Sumner would be surprised but extremely pleased and proud of her dream.

Joan Tick

PILLARS OF FAITH DECEMBER AND JANUARY

It is clearly important that we 'keep an eye' on those saints who appear in the lectionary day after day. Some have become much better known than others because they are commemorated in our Sunday or weekday services but others often slip through the net of our observations.

What is a 'saint' anyway? Most people would agree that a saint has characteristics that are seen as holy or God-like. Those who have been officially recognised – 'canonised' by the Church are believed to inhabit Heaven with God, which is why we talk about 'the communion of saints'.

We also use the term 'saints' in reference to those who have shown impressive stoicism and fortitude in dealing with great challenges and hardship in their lives or whom have quietly sacrificed their own ambition and wellbeing for others.

There are some extremely well-known saints who are commemorated in December or January. The following is not an exhaustive list by any means but it includes 'our own' St Nicholas on 6 December and then St Ambrose on 7 December. St Ambrose (339-397) is said to have been the first person to introduce the singing of hymns into the worship of the Western, Christian Church.

On 14 December we commemorate St John of the Cross (1542-1591), a Spaniard and Carmelite monk who composed some very powerful spiritual writing. Readers will know only too well that we commemorate the martyrdom (in approximately AD 34) of St Stephen on 26 December. This is considered to be the first Christian martyrdom and his stoning to death is described by Luke in the Acts of the Apostles (Acts 7:58 - 8:1) – a deed approved of by the, as yet, unconverted, zealous, orthodox Saul (Paul)!

In contrast on 27 we commemorate St John, the writer of the Fourth Gospel, the most abstract and philosophical of all the Gospels, the beautiful prologue of which is one of the most beloved texts of the Christmas season. The theme of martyrdom returns on December 29 with the commemoration of Thomas Becket, assassinated by four knights in Canterbury Cathedral on the orders of King Henry II on 29 December 1170. What is perhaps less well-known is the aftermath of this brutal execution. In Avranches, in

Normandy, is a monument commemorating the spot where Henry sought and received forgiveness for this murder from Pope Alexander's legate on 21 September 1172.

January's saints are an extremely diverse group of individuals. They include a number of Eastern and Celtic saints, including Aelred of Rievaulx (1109-1167), at which Cistercian monastery he was Abbot from 1147 to 1167. He is known for his clear, spiritual writings and a sense of the power of his surroundings can still be felt by a visit to the very beautiful remains of Rievaulx, just north of Helmsley in the North York Moors. On 13 January we commemorate Hilary (315-367) who spent much of his adult life in Poitiers in western France. He became bishop there in 350. He was an orator and writer, arguing that we are in our lives to practise those moral virtues that reflect the purity of the God in whose image we are made. His influence spread to Britain and a number of village churches are dedicated to him. It would be inappropriate not to mention Antony of Egypt (251-356) who is commemorated on 17th January. Not only does our Rector share his name but also the connection with Egypt. Antony spent many austere years in the desert but he became famous for his spiritual wisdom and his simple, uncluttered life did not prevent him from living to the incredible old age of 105! Although there are several other saints commemorated during January, I will just mention Timothy and Titus, commemorated on 26 January and referred to by St Paul as partners and fellow-workers in God's service. Timothy is traditionally associated with Ephesus and Titus with Crete. Both displayed phenomenal devotion to the Gospel and its values.

It is on that point that I would like to relate this very abbreviated summary of holy lives to our lives today. We see aspects of holiness in many around us, even though they might not be acknowledged as such, and we encounter them both within and outside our church communities.

Overleaf is an adapted prayer from the Iona Community which brings sainthood right into our lives so that we can recognise and be thankful for the holy in those we know and love.

Gordon Parry

God of grace,

*We thank you for the saints whom we ourselves
have known and loved.*

*It does not come easily to us to call them saints,
it seems as if ordinary mortals
are not great or good enough.*

*But you have given your people this name
and invited us into your company;*

and you know how much we loved them.

*So for those we love and have loved, with their
gifts of holiness that bring us close to you,*

whom we recall before you this day;

we give you grateful thanks.

In the mystery of your love,

in the power of your Spirit

we are one with them.

We give great thanks.

Amen.

FOREST ROW LIFEBOAT CHOIR Christmas Concerts in aid of the R.N.L.I.

Saturday 5 December 2.30pm

Trinity Methodist Church, East Grinstead

Tuesday 8 December 2.00pm

Chequer Mead Theatre, East Grinstead

**Saturday 12 December
7.45pm**

Freshfield Hall, Forest Row

More details from Simon Morris

01342 823940

simonmorris3940@btinternet.com

RECIPE PAGE – PEPPARKAKOR

Swedish Christmas celebrations are closely linked to food and it's not Christmas without saffron buns (saffransbullar) and gingersnaps (pepparkakor). The Swedish spice cookie is traditionally served on St. Lucia Day (Dec. 13).

You will need to mix up the dough a day in advance, cover and let it rest overnight. Then it will take 45 min prep and 10 min cooking time.

Ingredients - Makes 42 cookies

- 3 ½ cups flour
- 2 teaspoons ginger
- 2 teaspoons cinnamon
- 2 teaspoons ground cloves
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 cup butter or shortening (NOT margarine)
- 1 egg
- ½ cup black treacle

Preparation Method

1. Sift together the dry ingredients and set aside.
2. Cream the sugar and butter.
3. Add the egg and black treacle.
4. Blend wet and dry ingredients thoroughly.
5. Let the dough stand overnight for easy rolling (or 30 minutes in the fridge and handle with care).
6. On a well-floured board, don't try to roll out the whole batch at once but break off small handfuls of the dough and roll to about 3 mm thick (1/8 inch).
7. Cut into shapes (we usually make gingerbread people) and bake at 180° for 10 minutes.

Tip: One batch of biscuits can cook as the next is being prepared, but use a timer to keep track of those in the oven.

Jill Alderton

BAPTISMS AND MARRIAGES

Congratulations to those who were baptised since the last magazine came out including:

- Jenson John Arthur Shadbolt
- Scarlet Rose Shadbolt
- Rosie May Heath
- Asa James Mead
- Scarlet Lydia Rose Pugh
- Toby George Laing
- Isaac Jonathan Sangers (pictured)
- Asher William Sangers
- Keeleigh Christine Ann Muttitt
- Jude Miller Pullen
- Poppy Jean O'Donovan
- Dylan Oliver Newbury Ferguson
- Jessica Loiusse Grace Tipper
- Annabelle Lucy Farman
- Scarlett Lilly Farman
- Ethan Alfie Scott-Hosking



And also congratulations to these couples who were married since the last magazine was published:

- Iain Craigen and Emma Louise Baxter (left)
- Richard Trevor Cooling and Chiara Scalco (below)



2016 – A YEAR OF MERCY

Bishop Martin recently gave a Charge to the clergy, marking the conclusion of his Visitation of the Diocese that he undertook when he became our Bishop. One of the recommendations which emerged from the Charge was that as a Diocese we celebrate 2016 as a Year of Mercy. The question is what will that mean for us personally and for the life of our Diocese?

Mercy is a word we are familiar with in our worship. In our intercessions we often use the words *Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer*. To ask God for mercy is to ask God to have compassion on us in our need and to relieve our suffering.

Mercy is a constant theme throughout the scriptures. In the Old Testament, God is consistently shown to be merciful. In Exodus, when God reveals his name to Moses at the burning bush he is seen as *a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness* (Exodus 34.6). Throughout the Old Testament, God is shown to be merciful to his wayward people. But God's mercy is often experienced in a deeply moving and personal way as when the Psalmist says in Psalm 23 *Surely goodness and loving mercy shall follow me all the days of my life and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever* (Psalm 23.6).

The theme of mercy is taken up in the New Testament. It is a prominent feature in Jesus' teaching. Parables such as the Prodigal Son, which could also be called 'The Loving and Generous Father', are all about compassion and mercy. One of the Beatitudes focuses on mercy: *Blessed are the merciful: they shall receive mercy* (Matthew 5. 7). In his actions, Jesus constantly shows compassion and mercy as he heals the sick and forgives those who have sinned. Jesus is mercy incarnate and of course, in Jesus we see the Father's mercy. *He who has seen me has seen the Father*.

As Archbishop Michael Ramsey put it so memorably *God is Christ-like and in Him is nothing un-Christ-like at all*. Our God is a God of mercy and as one of the early Church Fathers put it so memorably: *Jesus is the door to the Father's mercy*. (Ignatius Letter to the Philadelphians 9.1)

As Christians, we not only try to follow Jesus' teaching but we are also called to share his life so that Christ lives in us and we in Christ. Our lives are to be transformed so that we become more

like Christ and so ourselves share and reveal the nature of God. If God is merciful, then we too both in our individual lives and our shared life as the Church are called to be merciful. What might that mean for us in the Diocese of Chichester?

Our Diocesan Strategy which constitutes our vision for the way ahead has three key strands and the Year of Mercy has the potential to impact on each of those three areas.

The first area is **Church Growth** which is both spiritual and numerical. It is clear that individually and as a Church we will be judged on how much we have shown love, compassion and mercy. In order to grow in our capacity for love, compassion and mercy we need to spend time with Jesus in prayer. This is of course what he himself did – he went to a lonely place very early in the morning to pray (Mark 1. 35). In his prayer he was resourcing himself and his followers for a ministry which was an outpouring of compassion and mercy. To grow in compassion and mercy is a spiritual issue for us and a focus for our prayer as we seek to become more Christ-like. It will bear tangible fruit as we help and support those in need, as we comfort the sorrowful, as we forgive those who mistreat us, as we hold before God the needs of others in our intercessory prayer. And all of this, can have an impact upon the numerical growth of the Church. As we grow in the likeness of Christ and his life is lived out in ours so we hope and pray that people are drawn to the Church through us. They see something in our life which is good and attractive and want that to be part of their lives too.

The second area is **Re-imagining Ministry**. Fundamental to re-imagining ministry is the recognition that all Christians by virtue of our baptism have a share in the ministry of Christ as we are called into the life in Christ and empowered with gifts by the Holy Spirit. The question for us is how can we bring God's compassion and mercy to bear upon the different contexts and situations that we find ourselves? Whether in the supermarket or at the railway station, at work or walking the dog, in all the different places we find ourselves over the course of the week, there are abundant opportunities if we are alive to them to be conduits for God's grace and mercy.

The third area is **Contributing To The Common Good**. This is an area which lends itself easily and readily to our living out the mercy of God. The parable of the Sheep and the Goats (Matthew 25) spells out clearly how as Christians we are called to engage in acts of mercy and compassion. For us today there are so many opportunities to feed the hungry, give shelter to the homeless, to visit the sick and bereaved, to visit those in prison, to send money to support migrants and those affected by natural disasters – the list is endless. But there are other less obvious ways in which a focus on mercy can contribute to the common good. Being compassionate and merciful is about breaking down the barriers of mistrust and suspicion that can exist between us. It is about emerging from our well-defended opinion and views and engaging generously with the perspectives of others. It is about entering into dialogue with those with whom we disagree, sometimes profoundly, to see the world in a different light. It is about opening the doors of our hearts and minds.

This opening of the doors of our hearts and minds is key for our growth in recognising the mercy and compassion of God. This will be celebrated in a practical way. The start of the Year of Mercy will be marked by the opening of a door, which is not usually used, in Chichester Cathedral. This will

happen on 6 December at 3.30pm in the context of Cathedral Evensong. There will be a short service at the beginning of Evensong when Bishop Martin will open the door, which will be St Richard's door on the south side of the Cathedral. Bishop Martin will be joined by Bishop Richard Moth, the Roman Catholic Bishop of Arundel and Brighton. It is hoped that each Deanery will send a group to share in the launch of the Year of Mercy.

Resources for ongoing reflection on the Year of Mercy will be produced and available on the website. This year's Lent Course will take up the theme of mercy and is entitled Opening the Doors. It will be available shortly.

And finally, a prayer for the Year of Mercy:

Heavenly Father,

as we celebrate this year of mercy:

open the doors of our hearts and minds

that we may show forth in our lives

the mercy and compassion

that we see in the face of your Son Jesus Christ

who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit

one God forever and ever. Amen

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

As Advent approaches we decorate our homes and churches with holly, ivy and mistletoe and each has an interesting history.

Holly - the Romans gave sprigs of holly to their friends as presents during the feast of Saturnalia which falls in winter. Pliny the Elder, who was killed during the eruption of Vesuvius, wrote in his natural history that if a holly tree grew near a house it would deflect lightening and evil spirits. Holly was called 'holy tree' as the red berries were symbolic of Christ's blood and the thorns represented His suffering.

Ivy - Bacchus, who was the God of Wine, is represented with a wreath of ivy leaves around his head. This was supposed to ward off the effects of drinking too much wine. It was also reported to

be a symbol of fertility and the Greeks gave a wreath of ivy as a gift when two people married. When ivy grows up a house, as it often does, many thought it would protect their home from evil.

Mistletoe - Pliny, again in his book of natural history, also wrote about the magical rites the druids performed. They thought mistletoe, which grew up the bark of mainly oak trees, was very potent and lovingly cut it with special sickles and caught it to stop it falling on the ground and getting damaged. Freya was the Norse goddess of love and was associated with fertility, which is probably why kissing under the mistletoe became a custom as she also protected mistletoe fiercely.

Sheila Bedwell

KNIT AND NATTER

The Tree of Life Project came about in late 2014 when the Knit and Natter Group were given an enormous piece of heavy cloth on which had been painted in oil a beautiful tree. Patterns were then sourced to knit hundreds of leaves, using oddments of wool. At least 12 different fruits were knitted to depict the 'twelve crops of fruit' described in Revelations 22, Verse 2.

The enthusiasm and talents of the Knit and Natter group began to shine through when, as well as the leaves, insects, bees, butterflies, squirrels, owls and slugs wearing little hats began to appear!

The project was completed and backed in time to be displayed for the St Barnabas' 60th Anniversary celebrations on the weekend of 3/4 October 2015.

Beryl Hovell, the very talented artist who painted the Tree of Life, came along during one of our sessions to view the completed project and I found out about her background.

She trained at Wimbledon Art School and the Royal College of Art in London. After completing teacher training at Bournemouth, she taught art and craft at Sutton High School for girls for 32 years until her retirement.



She still paints and draws all the time, teaching children in her home at the weekends and giving demonstrations to local clubs. She has had four exhibitions at The Hawth showing paintings of various subjects and in different media. One of her favourite hobbies is painting silk scarves with special dyes.

Beryl told me that painting the Tree of Life was a challenging experience for her. The piece of cloth was too large for her table so she had to lay it on the floor and because she has artificial knee joints which prevent her from kneeling, this meant bending over to do the painting. She found the hardest part was the lettering at the top.

Beryls is pictured on page 17 in front of the completed Tree of Life project displayed at St Barnabas'.

If you are interested in joining the Knit and Natter Group, do come along on Thursdays 2pm to 4pm to share hints and tips, learn new skills, make new friends and have a cuppa and chat for only a £1 donation per session.

Val Rudd

JOIN THE 100 CLUB AND WIN

A £10 a month standing order or an annual payment will enter you into our monthly draw where you have very good odds of winning:

- 1st prize - £100
- 2nd prize - £50
- 2 x 3rd prize - £25

In joining, you also help us raise funds for our many upcoming projects as half the proceeds go to the Parish (the other half is prize money).

Why not subscribe someone as a gift?

To take out a subscription, contact Phyl on 01293 883362 or email roger.pennell@zen.co.uk or contact Mark Chappell on mark@mbhc.co.uk



Registered Charity No: 1131090



- Sun 29 Nov 9.45am Eucharist and Christingle **St Nicholas'**
- Sun 29 Nov 3pm Messy Church Christingle **St Barnabas'**
- Sun 29 Nov 6.30pm Advent Carol Service **St Nicholas'**
- Wed 9 Dec 3.15pm Messy Christmas Maidenbower Infants School
- Wed 16 Dec 3pm Messy Christmas **St Barnabas'**
- Sun 20 Dec 4pm Christmas Carol Service **St Barnabas'**
- Sun 20 Dec 6.30pm Nine Lessons and Carols **St Nicholas'**
- Christmas Eve 4pm Crib Service **St Nicholas'**
- Christmas Eve 4pm Crib Service **St Barnabas'**
- Christmas Eve 11pm Carols then Midnight Mass **St Nicholas'**
- Christmas Eve 11.30pm Midnight Mass **St Barnabas'**
- Christmas Day 8am Christmas Holy Communion **St Nicholas'**
- Christmas Day 9.45am Christmas Family Eucharist **St Nicholas'**
- Christmas Day 10am Christmas Family Eucharist **St Barnabas'**

**St Nicholas', Church Road,
Worth, RH10 7RT**

Tel: 0300 111 8150

**St Barnabas', Worth Road,
Pound Hill, RH10 7DY**



www.facebook.com/WorthParish



www.twitter.com/worthparish



www.worthparish.org

CHRISTMAS

LUNCH

£10.50

Turkey, accompaniments,
Christmas pudding and
mince pies, fruit juice, tea/
coffee
(bring your own alcohol)

Fri 4 Dec and Fri 18 Dec
12.30pm

St Barnabas' Pastoral Centre, Worth Road,
Pound Hill, RH10 7DY

Call 0300 111 8150
or 01293 883362 to book

COMFORT FOOT CARE CLINICS



Maidenbower, Turners Hill,
Handcross and Ashurst
Wood, or request a home visit

Victoria Vaughan S.A.C. Dip FHPP FHPT

**Corns, In-growing Toenails,
Thickened Nails, Verruca,
Hard Skin, Fungal Infections,
Athlete's Foot, Cracked Heels
or just Regular Nail Cutting**



0759 363 0863 £25

STONEMAN FUNERAL SERVICE

Fifth Generation Family Funeral Directors Established 1865



- Private Chapels Of Rest • 24hr Service • Private Arrangement Room
- Prepaid Funeral Plans • Home Visits

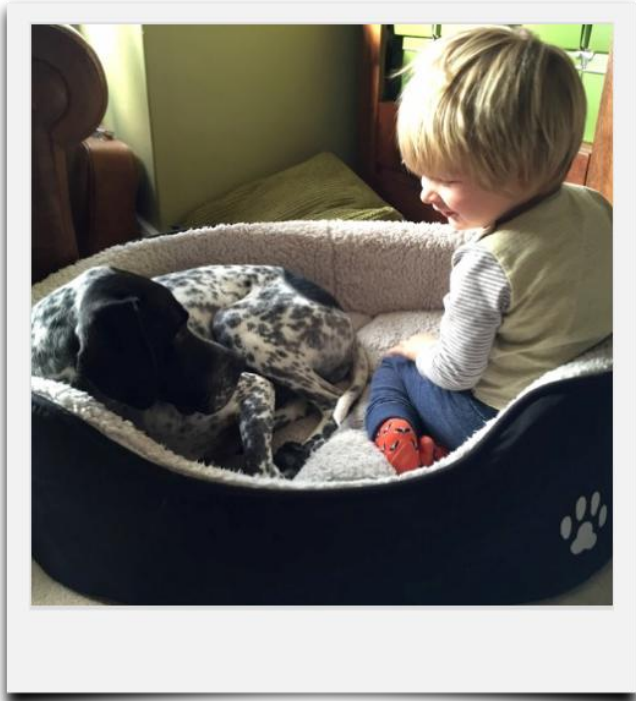
Littlewood House, Turners Hill Road, Crawley Down, West Sussex RH10 4HE Tel: 01342 716333
email: steve@stonemanfunerals.co.uk www.stonemanfunerals.co.uk



Free advice and guidance on Registration or the Coroner's procedure



NOTES FROM THE CURATE'S DOG



Well - I think as we close another year that I should begin my Owner's Performance Annual Review for 2015. On the whole 2015 has been a

good year as my owner has worked well in the areas of providing for my care, comfort, exercise and food. Well that was what I thought until this weekend!! This weekend I needed a break from my owner, Steve. I packed my bags and arrived at my weekend retreat with the Moulders, Sian, Will, James, Ciara and Oscar. Oh my goodness how I was treated - there was no hiding of cuddly toys - I was free to rip these apart. Oscar didn't leave me to lie in my bed alone as Steve does. He joined me and made sure I was comfortable. They even bought me a new toy - that never happens in Maidenbower Vicarage!

As for exercise I went out for a quick walk with Will (although I think he thought he was running!) and then into the Cowdray Woods for over an hour fun. As for food I ate like a king. So back to Steve's Performance Annual Review - I think that it will read; could do a lot better, much room for improvement and lessons to learn from the Moulders!!

Happy Christmas from Digger XX



Refreshments, Crafts, Songs, Story,
Sandwiches, Cake and More!
Entry by donation. All welcome.

Wednesday 9th December
in the Studio, Maidenbower Infant School,
RH10 7RA 3.15-4.30pm

Wednesday 16th December
in St Barnabas' Church, Worth Road, Pound Hill,
RH10 7DY 3-4.30pm

Wednesday 13th January
in the Studio, Maidenbower Infant School,
RH10 7RA 3.15-4.30pm

Wednesday 27th January
in St Barnabas' Church, Worth Road, Pound Hill,
RH10 7DY 3-4.30pm

worthparish.org/messy-church



LETTER FROM PAST CLERGY

To all at St. Barnabas' Church,

I am terribly sorry not to be with you this weekend but I pray your 60th anniversary celebrations are going well.

I am eternally grateful for the seven years I was with you; the fun we had, for all we did and achieved together (even if you had to wait until I was on holiday to get some things done!). I thank you for your warmth, enthusiasm and friendship, and personal support for Pauline and I. (Family + friends spoke for years about all you did for our wedding).

I apologise to the then PCC for such long and late meetings!

I thank you all for your hard work, dedication and commitment to the church and to the Gospel; delivering Christ's welcome and hospitality and love to the community.

With friends at Worth and Maidenbowes, keep it up and may God bless you all for the next 60 years!

With all our love,
Steve & Pauline (Barnes)
XX

LATE CHRISTMAS QUIZ Saturday 16 Jan 2016

19.00 if bringing a takeaway, 19.30 start



St Barnabas' Church Hall, Pound Hill, RH10 7EB
Teams of 6 Come as a team or join with others on the night

£5.00 per head Please bring your own drinks & nibbles
(glasses/plates/cutlery provided)

Please support Fundraising February

To book tickets, please contact Parish Office on 0300 111 8150

ARCHBISHOP WORDSEARCH!

Archbishops of Canterbury 1

Find the first 18 Archbishops of Canterbury who range from 597 to 870.
Please note that Wighard died of the plague before his consecration.

b	w	c	k	u	z	n	o	t	h	h	e	l	m
r	a	t	h	d	r	a	h	l	e	h	t	e	a
e	c	h	j	o	d	e	u	s	d	e	d	i	t
g	e	h	t	o	n	l	e	o	c	l	y	h	x
o	k	n	f	t	d	o	n	a	i	b	r	q	i
w	d	z	i	s	r	w	r	g	w	e	f	d	h
i	l	e	d	t	y	e	o	i	b	v	r	d	m
n	a	c	r	q	s	l	b	n	u	a	y	e	t
e	w	n	q	o	o	u	e	h	h	s	l	r	a
t	t	e	d	e	d	a	g	g	t	l	x	f	t
f	h	r	f	b	j	o	i	u	i	u	z	l	w
e	r	u	z	p	k	w	e	t	a	v	c	u	i
r	e	a	h	o	n	f	u	h	e	j	a	w	n
f	b	l	s	u	t	s	u	j	t	h	j	k	e

Augustine

Laurence

Mellitus

Justus

Honorius

Deusdedit

Wighard

Theodore

Berhtwald

Tatwine

Nothhelm

Cuthbert

Bregowine

Jaenberht

Aethelhard

Wulfred

Feologild

Coelnoth

FROM THE CHRISTMAS BEAR...

Gosh, can it really be nearly Christmas? What happened to 2015? They say time passes quickly when you get older so

out with age!
you about my



I think I will have to check my stuffing, in case it is beginning to pop
Can that be me? I must give the mirror a clean while I am telling
Christmas trivia for this year....

Talking stuffing... why do we stuff turkeys? Well, for flavour I guess but remember there is always a risk that the juices of the turkey may contain salmonella bacteria and soak into the stuffing, so it must be cooked at a minimum of 180°C in order to be safe. Why not baste the turkey with its own juices with a bit of butter under its skin and cook the stuffing separately, better safe than sorry!

Now don't fall off the log at my suggestion you can eat one - a log that is! Do you know about Yule Logs? It is traditional in some countries to light a special Yule Log on Christmas Eve and keep it burning through the 12 nights of Christmas until Twelfth Night. A huge log is selected in the forest on Christmas Eve, decorated with ribbons and dragged back home; the magical properties of the Yule Log were said to ensure good luck in the coming year to the home and all who helped to pull it.



over the log, then
it remained burning

On its arrival near the fireplace a blessing would be said over it and wine poured
it was placed in the fireplace and lit by a piece of the previous year's Yule Log and
throughout the twelve days and nights of Christmas. The ancient Celts thought

the lit log would persuade the sun to move again and bring longer brighter days after the end of December. Christians say
it symbolises the need to keep
yummy Yule Log the chocolate
candles as a table decoration.



the stable warm for the Infant Jesus. Of course, there is always a
covered chocolate roll shaped like a log ...mmm... or you could have a log and

Talking decorations and food, did you know that it was only early last century, that the Norwegians began to follow the German tradition of having a pine tree in their homes at Christmas? This in spite of the landscape
being carpeted with the trees! The traditional Christmas feast is eaten on Christmas Eve, after which the family custom is



to all hold hands and dance around the tree in a ring before opening their presents! Don't forget that the best present we
have at Christmas and all the year is Jesus. Open your heart to him and



Christ Is Born

welcome him into your lives. Happy Christmas everyone, pray for

peace, please. See you next year, and I've had a brush now, look, that's better!

Love from the Cuddly Christmas Bear



ALPHA COURSE REVIEW

As we near the end of our first Alpha Course for a number of years, it is a good time to pause and reflect if it was all worth it and what, if anything, people enjoyed. If you don't already know, the Alpha Course is a 10 week course where we have met together, had dinner and discussed the main points of the Christian faith. On a note of gratitude I have enjoyed the wonderful food from our dedicated cooks Mary Fry, Sheila Dring, Pam Marsden, Phyll Pennell, John and Shirley Seddon, Sue Perry, Higgidy Pies (who donated 50 pies to us!) and of course me (Anthony escaped or maybe **we** did!!) I have also enjoyed the setting up with Mark Chappell and David Parker as we tried to make (and I think succeeded) St Barnabas Church look like it was holding a Wedding Banquet each week. I have also been overawed by those that have tirelessly stayed and help clear away at the end (too many to mention by name – but I will just say thank you to Diana Hodson who came just to wash up - thank you all and thank you Diana!).

But what about the Alpha content and the group discussions afterwards? The talks have ranged from the basic “Who is Jesus?” through “Why and How do I Pray” and “Why did he have to die”? However, one of the sessions that prompted the most interesting discussion (at least on my table) was “Why and how to read the Bible”? An extract of the talk I gave went something like this:

The Bible is first of all God's revelation of himself. In the Bible, God has spoken, just as He has spoken in the teachings, miracles and life of Jesus Christ. So we learn about God through the Bible and through the life of Jesus. The writer in the letter to the Hebrews says: *In the past God spoke in many and various ways, but in these last days he's spoken through his Son, Jesus Christ.* We also learn about God in the words of the Bible. St Paul's letter to his pupil Timothy states in Chapter 3, Verse 16: *all scripture is God-breathed or as some translations put it, inspired by God and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that God's servant may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.*

What Paul is saying is that the Bible is God speaking - not that God directly dictated

the Bible; Of course, he used human authors. Over a period of 1500 years at least forty authors — kings, scholars, philosophers, fishermen, poets, statesmen, historians, doctors — they wrote different types of literature such as wisdom, history, poetry, prophecy and letters. It's 100% the work of human beings. But what the writer is saying here is it's also 100% inspired by God. How can that be? Let me use an analogy.

Sir Christopher Wren, the greatest English architect of his time, built St Paul's Cathedral starting when he was 44 in the year 1676, and remaining the architect for the next 35 years. The cathedral was completed in 1711, when Wren was 79 years of age. Sir Christopher Wren 'built' St Paul's Cathedral, but actually he didn't lay a single stone - other people put the stones in. Many different builders were involved. But there was one mind, one architect, one inspiration behind it and so it is with the Bible - many different writers, one architect, one inspiration behind it all: God himself.

In the rest of the talk I chatted about how that doesn't make the Bible easy to understand or doesn't make any one person the one and only authority of what the God is actually saying in the Bible - we can differ in interpretations. But the Bible is a living document – it was written by specific people at a specific time answering a specific issue – but it still speaks maybe in new fresh ways that we must interpret together – for if we willingly engage with it daily, it can transform us. After the talk some people wanted to try reading the Bible together and so, on every other Friday at 10am at St Barnabas' we have started a group looking, at the moment, at the Sunday readings together. Anyone is free to join (so if you are interested just ask me).

In this article, you have had a tiny snippet of what we covered in Alpha. If you are feeling that you missed out or thinking that you would have liked to try the Course for yourself, we are planning on doing an Alpha Course in the daytime early in 2016 and a further evening Alpha Course later in the year.

So finally, I guess the proof is in the pudding as they say - what did those coming think? We started with 49 people and ended with 42 (so we lost some on the way for differing reasons) but this is what some have said about the Alpha Course at St Barnabas':

I have found that God really does look after us all in the same way, loving us all equally. Showing us in different ways (because we are all different) how he tries us and trusts us to continue trusting and loving him. Also the food was good.

Liz Gallagher

There was a great sense of communion and friendship which will continue long after the Course is over. I do believe that the Holy Spirit was with us. We could have gone on talking, when the bell went and I think this always a good sign. Everyone had something interesting to say. The content was well presented by Steve and Anthony and I suspect more acceptable than the standard Alpha videos etc., which I hasten to say I have not seen. There was a great deal of hard work preparing food, laying out tables and more and this just seemed to happen without any fuss. I know that Steve, Mark, David and others put in a lot of hours making St Barnabas' look right for each evening. Various chefs excelled without any fuss – Steve's steak pie was superb (I am an expert critic of steak pie!).

Stuart Sharpe

We had delicious food, of course. Seriously, it has been a privilege to listen to often difficult and frank experiences, which are very moving and thought-provoking and to make real friendships with the other members over the weeks of the Alpha course. In addition, there is a unique feeling of being cared for.

Thank you for all your hard work with the sessions.

Sue Walshe

A safe place - where I thought about my life and the things I wanted to change. I really loved the companionship and I will miss all the people on my table and how lovely they made me feel each week. Thank you for helping cope with stuff.

Leslie Edwards

What I liked about the evenings was having the opportunity to focus on a powerful, passionately delivered talk followed by the chance to explore our questions and thoughts in an open, supportive, friendly and relaxed environment - learning from each other every week.

Chloe French

Thank you everyone !

Steve Burston

FROM SISTER SHONA

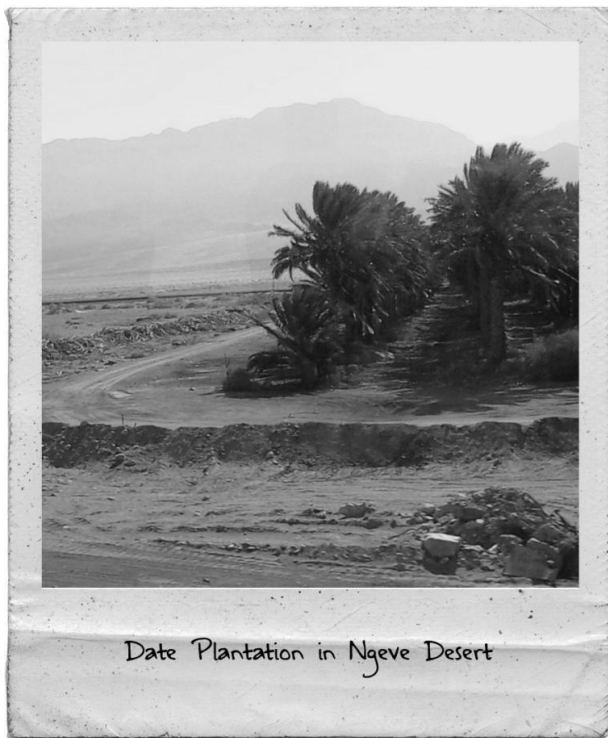
Sister Shona writes from Israel where she has felt called by God to go this year.

In Israel I have been inspired the way the Jews worship - they memorize scripture and try to spend a large portion of the day praying these passages. The festivals I have experienced here have also inspired me and I believe His purpose was for me to witness them. They had just had Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur was getting underway as I travelled across Israel.

In Haifa one day, I was called to really sit quiet all day and prepare, listen and wait but I thought I'll just sneak to the bus station to find out information. Halfway there a dove flew into the right side of my head! I was astounded and stunned and as a Jewish woman sat me down on a bench, had a vision of heaven with angels rushing to and fro, bumping into each other and handing

things along. I thought they were getting ready for a battle as I saw the glint of metal. A voice said, 'They are getting ready for what will happen on earth.'

At the pinnacle moment of Yom Kippur after the holiest feast of the year, I was sitting in the park and heard a ram's horn trumpet sound, soft at first, then louder. I then knew the meaning of the vision - the angels instruments were trumpets not swords. At this moment I knew that this is what it will be like when the Lord comes to get us. Like Handel's Messiah, "The trumpets shall sound and the dead shall be raised". The people blowing the shofar were a group bringing the Jews back to Israel from South America. Leaders, Dominica Bierman and Baruck Rabbi, say the Church has lost its power and must go back to its Jewish roots.



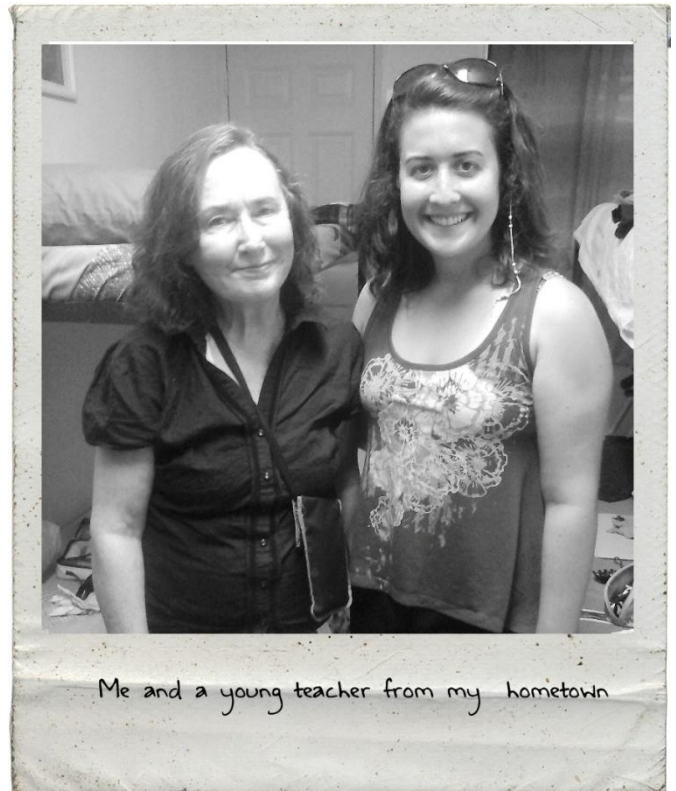
Date Plantation in Ngeve Desert

Thank You, Heavenly Father, for bringing me much closer to your people and your Word, it is so alive today. Lead me to make an anniversary for your important events and my own Spiritual milestone events. Amen



At the hostel in Eilat, God brought all the people of my life through in a week - just like This Is Your Life! A Hawaiian girl brought news of the old church I used to attend when I lived in Hawaii, a young teacher girl in Jerusalem was from my hometown - we marvelled at this and talked about

the place of our birth. Two London girls and a man from Wales made the place seem like home. Then an abundance of amazing nurses, like my sister, most from Germany, like my grandmother. Then I met a Jewish lady who invited us to her house where everyone is hugged and there is no talk on religion. Last but not least, a couple from Mannheim, where my great grandfather and mother came from before they settled in America.



Me and a young teacher from my hometown

They have warmly invited me to their church and to visit them, which I intend to do.

So, in Israel I had a real people month. A lot of love came to me as I experienced Muslim, Christian and Jewish riches. Israel, the land, is very attractive and fruit bearing. I marvelled at banana and date plantations, goat cheese, spicy sausages and falafel pita feasts. At the Norwegian hostel I had Fiske gratin and brown cheese as well as Arab sweets and pomegranate juice.

My last few days I spent in Akko (Acre) a place where pilgrims of the middle ages came to the Holy Land. There were 50 churches there at that time with many relics, so people did not make the journey on to Jerusalem. Believers started coming in the 1st century and Holy Sepulchre Church graffiti shows a drawing of a boat and words *Domine Irimus* - Lord, we shall go. I, too, am a pilgrim, coming to the places of Jesus Christ and His Jewish Heritage, loving the people of the Book.

Sister Shona

HYMN STORIES - JOHN S B MONSELL

*Fight the good fight with all thy might;
Christ is thy Strength and Christ thy Right;
Lay hold on life, and it shall be
Thy joy and crown eternally.*

John Samuel Bewly Monsell, born in Ireland in 1811, was educated at Trinity College, Dublin, graduating in 1832. His first post was as a curate in Derry and after holding a number of ecclesiastical positions, he became rector of St Nicholas's Church, Guildford, in 1870, and Chaplain to Queen Victoria (1870-1875).

He was a prolific poet and hymn writer, publishing eleven volumes of poetry and approximately 300 hymns. His books included *Hymns and Miscellaneous Poems* (1837) and *Litany Hymns* (1870), but he is best remembered for the hymn *Fight The Good Fight* which first appeared in 1863. Only this and three of his other hymns are still sung today.

Despite the first line, this hymn is not a Christian battle-song in the style of *Onward Christian Soldiers* but rather, a call to faithfulness. Each of

the verses is based on a verse from the Epistles. The first echoes 1 Timothy 6:12, *Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life*. The second, with its athletic connotation, follows Hebrews 12:1, *Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us*:

*Run the straight race through God's good grace,
Lift up thine eyes and seek His face;
Life with its way before us lies,
Christ is the Path and Christ the Prize.*

The third verse is from 1 Peter 5:7, *Cast all anxiety on him, for he cares for you* and the fourth from Colossians 3:11, *Christ is all, and is in all*.

Monsell believed that hymns should be enthusiastically sung and full of joy. He wrote that we are "too distant and reserved in our praises."

In 1875, whilst supervising the rebuilding of St. Nicholas' Church, Guildford, he slipped and fell from the roof, dying shortly afterwards from his injuries.

Eddie Newell

MEET THE PARISH ADMINISTRATORS

CHRISTINE BERGER

Christine Berger was born in East London to an Austrian father and a Scottish mother, and lived in London with her parents and older brother until she was 18. She was always active at her local church including being a Sunday school teacher in her teens.

Her first job was as a legal secretary and then she worked as a resort representative and coach rep at a resort in Austria, a place she had always spent her holidays due to family connections. Christine likes to cram as many experiences into life, so after living in Austria for 4 years, she returned to England, buying her first house in Essex and getting a position as a PA/translator with an import/export company and worked in the beer and wine department!

After this, she moved to Crawley to continue working within the travel industry as it offered her variety and interesting opportunities. She worked



as cabin crew and customer services for an airline, before moving into airline representation, working her way up to sales manager for UK and Ireland for the group of South American national airlines.

She met her husband to be, Steve, when they both studied Spanish at Crawley College, but she had also met him through work as he also worked in travel. Much to Christine's father's joy, having lost Christine's mother in earlier days, Steve and Christine were blessed with their daughter Amelia and over the next 10 years, Christine stayed at home to bring up her daughter as well as care for her father who had been diagnosed with a terminal illness.

During this time, Christine kept busy helping in the local school Nursery and held voluntary roles, first for the National Childbirth Trust and then as a school governor for Maidenbower Infants

MAVE ESHUN

Mave Eshun was born in the Czech Republic as her father was studying there when he met her mum. She moved to Ghana for five years so her father could finish his degree and lived with her grandmother. She then came to the UK to join her parents where they moved around a lot due to her father's job as a doctor. Burnley was her favourite place to live in as it was the first place in the UK that they came to and it seemed very different and exciting!

She is the eldest of four sisters who all live in different areas of the UK. She and her sisters used to accompany their mum to church when they were younger but it was not until 6 years ago that Mave started attending church regularly to find out more about God.

Mave's first worked in retail but after attending college and taking some computer courses she got a job with the NHS as an administrator. Moving to Crawley seven years ago, to join family who already lived here, Mave has been working in Ifield Parish as the parish office administrator for the last five and a half of those years. She really enjoys this job and consequently, she thought that she would additionally take the chance to work in another parish when she saw our job advertised.

When working for Ifield, she is based at St Margaret's Church and enjoys all aspects of the job as it is very varied and no day is ever the same. She especially enjoys interacting with people who pop into the office for a chat or for information and the fact that she is, in some small way, involved in helping people or families with their service.

School. Following the death of her father four years ago, Christine returned to work and has been working in a doctors' surgery as a receptionist/administrator where she was much loved by the patients.

When she heard about the role as Parish Administrator, she felt it was an opportunity to combine her love of helping the community with a more local position – she enjoys walking to work – and she is loving meeting parishioners, especially when they pop into the office clutching little bags of money! Christine wants to thank everyone for their friendly welcome and looks forward to meeting more people as the job progresses.



Mave enjoys reading, working out – she jogs regularly as well as doing weights and spin classes - baking, eating out, long walks and movies. Her favourite film is Moulin Rouge as she enjoys musicals and loves the storyline and characters. When asked her favourite song, she replied that it is Bohemian Rhapsody by Queen as it is a song she loves singing along to and it cheers her up, but her favourite hymn is Be Thou My Vision because of the words and music.

We are very lucky to have both these lovely ladies with us – both Christine and Mave are very warm and approachable, and like Christine, Mave is loving getting to know everyone, both through attending the Alpha course and more generally.

Elizabeth Whyman

Coffee Shop

MONDAYS 2-4PM
TUESDAYS / FRIDAYS / SATURDAYS
10.30am-12.00pm



Homemade cakes and drinks
Everyone welcome !

St Barnabas' Pastoral Centre,
Worth Road, Pound Hill, RH10 7PY

It's Knit and Natter time!

Bring along your unfinished knitting projects, tapestries, papercraft or anything else you have on the go.

Every Thursday 14.00-16.30
St Barnabas' Pastoral Centre

**NEW
TIME !!**

Come along to share hints and tips, meet new people, learn new skills and have a cuppa

Everyone welcome! £1 donation



NEED A PLUMBER?

**FROM A LEAKY TAP
TO A NEW BOILER
OR BATHROOM**

- Service
- Maintenance
- Repair
- Installations
- Emergencies

Free Estimates
No Job Too Small

**Boilers supplied and
fitted from £1800
including VAT**

**Want peace of mind
with your new boiler?**



**We can offer a 8 year guarantee on
all Worcester Bosch Greenstar boilers**



WORCESTER

Bosch Group

Accredited Installer



Tim Burberry Plumbing & Heating

01342 719891 / 07811 682747

www.timtheplumber.co.uk

A VISIT TO STRASBOURG

During a recent trip to Strasbourg we came across the most amazing Lutheran Church – St Peter the Younger. This doesn't refer to St Peter's age but relates to a Roman Catholic church named St Peter the Elder.

The earliest traces of a place of worship on this site date back to the 5th century. Nothing remains of this early period and the present church seems to date from the 11th century with additions etc right up to the 1870's when a great deal of repair was necessary after the bombardment it suffered in the Franco-Prussian war of that time. In 1871 Alsace was ceded to the German empire. In 1918, at the end of the Great War, Alsace was handed back to France and remained so until 1939 when Alsace was annexed by Germany and remained so until the city was liberated in November 1944.

The church of St Peter the Younger had as complicated a history as the city of Strasbourg and the State of Alsace. At the time of The Reformation in 1524 the whole church was given over to Protestant worship; however in 1681 King

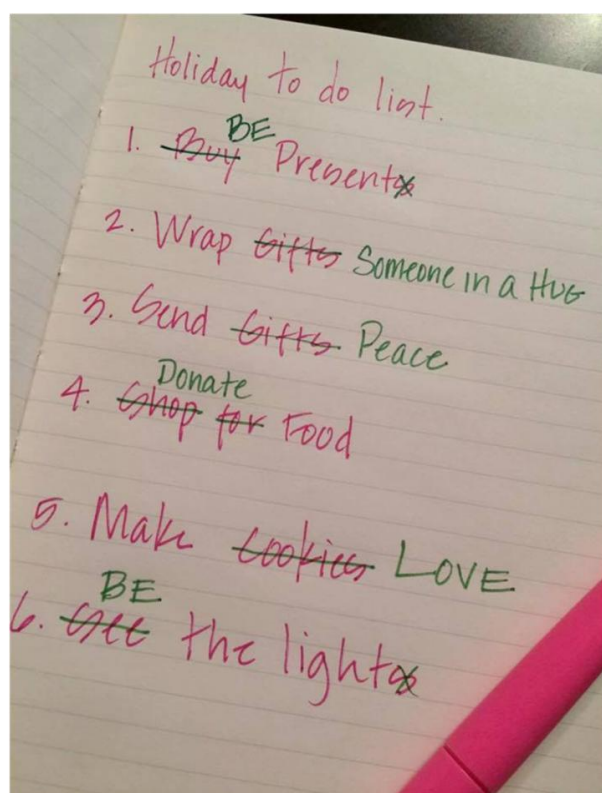
Louis XIV returned the chancel to the Catholics; the rood-screen is still in place. Since 1893, the



date of a new Roman Catholic church also named St Peter the Younger was completed on the further side of the river, the whole building is again dedicated to Lutheran worship.

Despite its confused history, we found the church to be very peaceful and particularly appreciated the depiction on the west wall of the "Navicella", St Peter's boat; this is thought to be the oldest replica of the work of Giotto, which was originally in St Peter's, Rome and has since disappeared. The lower part of the picture depicts the eight beatitudes.

Stuart Sharpe



**DLM FENCING
AND GARDENING SERVICES LIMITED**

- Fencing • Decking • Turfing • Tree Surgery • Patios
- Grass / Hedge Cutting • Leaf Clearance • One Off Tidy Ups

£5M Public Liability Insurance • CRB Checked
We accept Credit / Debit Card Payments

01293 883650 • 07870 601 298
WWW.DLMGARDENSERVICES.CO.UK

Proud members of
Checkatrade.com
Where reputation matters

MasterCard **VISA**

VIEW FROM A PEW

Along with many, I've heard, I was very moved by the All Soul's Day evening service on 2nd November. We were helping with transport to the service and, after dropping off at the Lych Gate, I went to park the car. Ironically the closest parking was nearly as far away as my house! I was therefore last to arrive, closing the inside West doors moments before the organist began the Requiem and the Clergy entered.

Because the Church was so full, I took a pew in the children's corner at the back rather than disturbing anyone. It was "the best seat in the house" and I had a good view of my wife and the rest of the Festival Choir. Sue's lips seemed to work perfectly as she either sang with the rest or mimed through the high parts where she says she can no longer reach the notes. The Choir and Alex made an excellent team and performed a fitting tribute to the occasion.

Throughout the service, the names of those who have passed on were read out and I thought of my Dad. The size of the congregation and their participation made it even more special as I went up to light a candle for him.

When I came back to my pew I looked directly up at the South stained glass windows. It was dark outside so the light bounced back from the inside making the glass look like patterned blobs of black rubber. But I could remember and picture the saints and people in the stained glass there in the same way as I pictured and remembered loved ones no longer with us.



Finally, as the performance of excerpts of Mozart's Requiem came to an end, I thought how everyone must have thoroughly enjoyed both the service and the music. All perhaps except one of those characters in the stained glass window who I imagined switching a light on halfway through the service, looking down with a serious frown and shouting "Oy! Keep that music down, some of us are trying to sleep up here"!

Max Perry

2016 Parish Magazine Dates

Feb/March Issue	advertising deadline 18/01, issue out 28/01
April/May issue	advertising deadline 21/03, issue out 03/04
June-September issue	advertising deadline 23/05, issue out 05/06
October/November issue	advertising deadline 19/09, issue out 02/10
December/January issue	advertising deadline 01/12, issue out 18/11

Colour Advert Rates

£10 for 1/8 page, £20 for 1/4 page, £45 for 1/2 page, £68 for whole

Black and White Rates

£5 for 1/8 page, £10 for 1/4 page, £22 for 1/2 page

Big discounts for advertising in multiple issues. Talk to us !

Circulation: 130+

Contact: magazine@worthparish.org.uk



ST NICHOLAS CIRCLE

We have had two talks since the last magazine, both from members of our Parish. Rev'd Steve Burston gave a very moving account of his life and career in the Police force and his pathway to Christianity and how this led to him and his family being with us today.

In November, Bill Puttick presented an excellent illustrated tour of the UK from Cornwall to Edinburgh, showing us his skills as a both a photographer and orator.

It's been a great year at St Nicholas Circle and it will end on Thursday 3rd December with the festive Yuletide Cheese and Wine Party. Do come and join us to enjoy each other's fellowship and of course the traditional raffle -to quote from that terrible advert, I'll be buying some tickets and you don't want him to win.

St Nicholas Circle

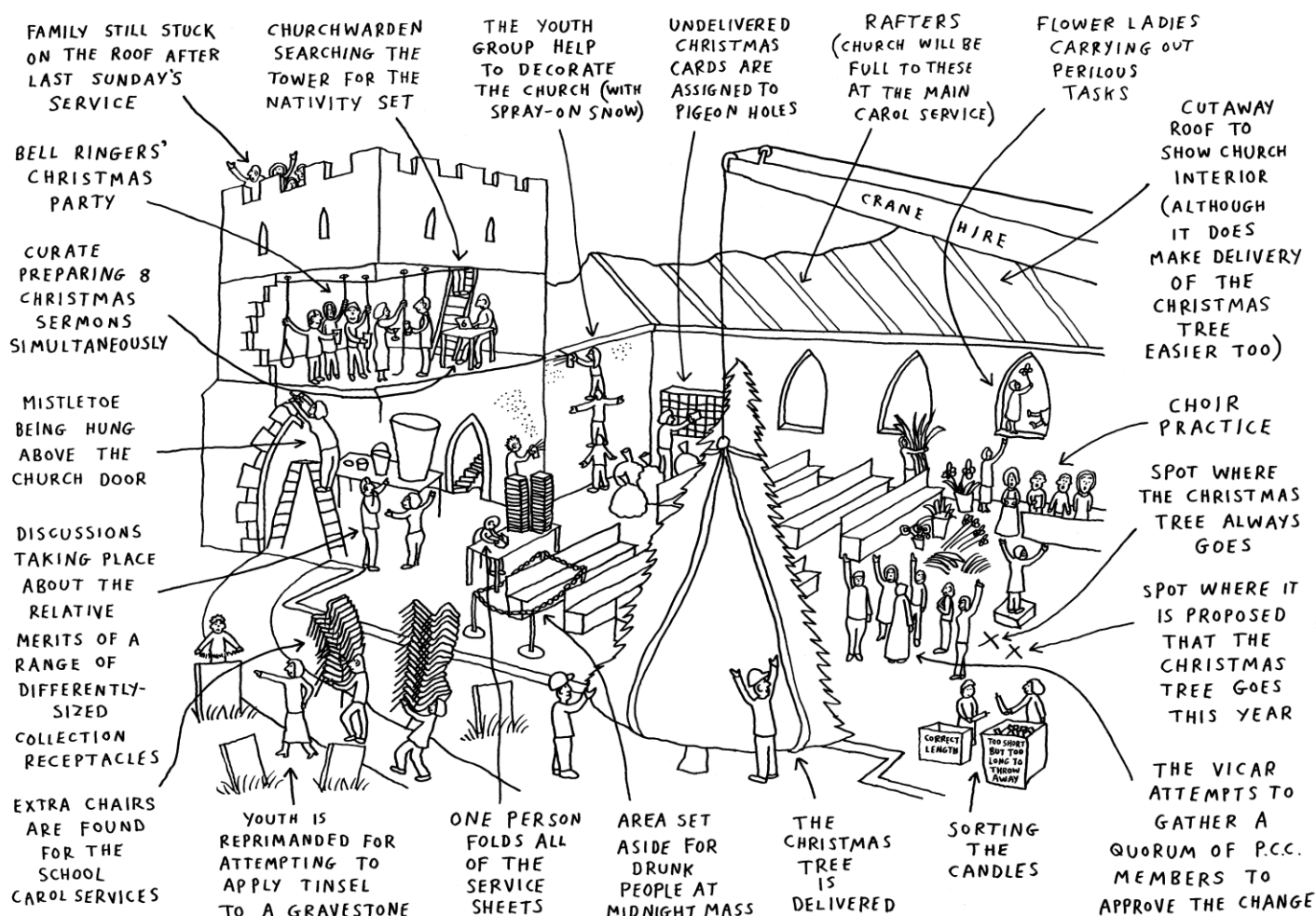


I would like to thank everyone for their continued efforts in helping me in my first year as Chair of the St Nicholas Circle and making everything so much easier; also for forgiving my inexperience.

Thanks also to my dear wife for helping with getting speakers for 2016. See page 33 for what is in store next year. Yes, Sue, I have already started the quest for 2017 speakers!! A most special thank you goes to Pam Newley as she retires from being Secretary of the Circle - we so appreciate all she has done across many years. Our thanks also then to Ann Lane for so willingly stepping into Pam's shoes from the New Year.

Max Perry

CHRISTMAS PREPARATIONS



ST NICHOLAS CIRCLE 2016

The St Nicholas Circle is a group which meets once a month, usually on the first Thursday of the month, at 8pm, in the Pastoral Centre to listen to a variety of talks. It is open to all – to join, just turn up and pay an annual membership of £2. Contact Max Perry (Chair) or Ann Lane (Secretary) to find out more.

PROGRAMME FOR YEAR 2016

January 7	Consumer rights - The work of Trading Standards	Charlotte Jones from Trading Standards with a talk on doorstep selling and scams.
February 4	Aldingbourne Trust	Nicki Clarke from the Aldingbourne Trust visits to tell us about their work with people with learning disabilities.
March 3	Stones of Sussex	David Bone gives a history of the stones of Sussex. His talk is adapted to include his knowledge of St Nicholas Church.
April 7	History of Policing the Railway	Kevin Gordon will share with us his 35 years working for the British Transport Police and their history.
May 5	Responding to crisis with BMS World Mission	Corinna Woods provides an update on the charity work, friends and contacts in Nepal and other areas around the world.
June 2	Annual Summer Bring and Share night.	Come and enjoy the fellowship of St Nicholas Circle colleagues in our summer celebration and raffle.
July and August	NO MEETINGS DURING THIS HOLIDAY PERIOD	
September 1	Bats about bats	Jenny Clark from the Sussex Bat Group discusses bats.
October 6	Life of a Librarian	Our own Chloe French talks about her work with the Sussex Library service.
November 3	Staying safe from fraud.	Max shares 30 years' experience of internet, post and telephone security and discusses how to stay safe.
December 1	Festive Yuletide Cheese and Wine	Our pre-Christmas and end of year celebration with good company and Festive Yuletide Cheese and Wine.

USEFUL NUMBERS

100 Club	Parish Office
Administration (Parish)	Mave Eshun Christine Berger
Altar Servers (St Barnabas')	David Anderson
Altar Servers (St Nicholas')	Jenny Dobson
Bell Ringers	Neil Dobson
Bookings (Hall, Pastoral Centre, Church)	Parish Office
Buildings and Facilities	See Churchwardens
Charities and Community Activities	Canon Anthony Ball
Children's Society	Brenda Booker
Choirs (Worth Church and Festival)	Alex Hiam
Church Cleaning (St Barnabas')	Phyl Pennell
Church Cleaning (St Nicholas')	Jill Freeborn
Churchwardens (St Barnabas')	Phyl Pennell, Sheila Dring
Churchwardens (St Nicholas')	VACANT
Discipleship Committee	Revd James Grant
Events (Parish)	Jane Stanford
Families, Youth and Children Work	Revd Steve and Liz Burston
Fellowship Activities	Joan Tick
Festival Choir (occasional)	Alex Hiam
Flower Arranging (St Barnabas')	Phyl Pennell
Flower Arranging (St Nicholas')	Noreen Oxlade
Friends of St Nicholas	Colin Smith
Julian Group (St Barnabas')	Don Hewerdine
Julian Group (St Nicholas')	Gill Gusterson
Knit and Natter	Val Rudd
Magazine	Elizabeth Whyman
Messy Church	Liz Burston
Mission Committee	Canon Anthony Ball
Music (incl. Choirs)	Alex Hiam
Mothers' Union	Mary Fry
Office (Parish)	
Pastoral Assistants Co-ordinator	Canon Anthony Ball
Pastoral Centre	
PCC Chair	Canon Anthony Ball
PCC Electoral Roll Officer	Jane Stanford
PCC Secretary	Christine Berger
PCC Treasurer	Stephen Edwards
PCC Vice Chair	Phyl Pennell
Plugged In (Friday Youth Group 7-9pm)	Revd Steve Burston
Safeguarding Officer	Sheila Dring
St Barnabas' Committee	Phyl Pennell
St Nicholas Circle	Max Perry
St Nicholas' Committee	Canon Anthony Ball
Sunday School (St Barnabas')	Greta Sawyer
Sunday School (St Nicholas')	Joan Tick
Switched On (Sunday Youth Group)	Liz Burston
Toddlers (Tues/Thurs am)	Jenny Dobson
Website/Facebook/Twitter	Elizabeth Whyman
Weddings / Baptisms / Funerals	Parish Office
Worth Choir (St Nicholas')	Alex Hiam

0300 111 8150

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
29 Regular Services + 3pm Christingle 6.30pm Advent Carol Service <i>N</i>	30	DEC 1 9.15-11am Toddlers 10.30-12pm Cafe Open 7.30pm Alpha Course	2	3 9.15-11am Toddlers 2.30pm Knit and Natter 8pm St Nicholas Circle	4 10.30-12pm Cafe Open 12.30pm Xmas Lunch 7pm Plugged In	5 10am Market 10.30-12pm Cafe Open 1-5pm Advent Course (at Bishop's Cottage)
6 Regular Services + 11.30am Nic's <i>N</i>	7 2-4pm Cafe Open	8 9.15am-11 Toddlers 10.30-12pm Cafe Open	9 2.30pm Pastoral Assistants Tea 3.15-5pm Messy Church 7.30pm St Nicholas' Committee Meeting <i>N</i>	10 9.15-11am Toddlers 2.30pm Knit and Natter 2.30 Julian Group <i>N</i>	11 10.30-12pm Cafe Open 12.30pm Lunch	12 10.30-12pm Cafe Open
13 Regular Services + 9.30am Switched On <i>N</i>	14 11am Julian Group 2-4pm Cafe Open	15 10.30-12pm Cafe Open	16 3pm Messy Church	17 2.30pm Knit and Natter	18 10.30-12pm Cafe 12.30pm Xmas Lunch 7pm Plugged In	19 10.30-12pm Cafe Open
20 Regular Services + 11.30am Nic's <i>N</i> 4pm Carol Service 6.30pm Nine Lessons <i>N</i>	21	22 10.30-12pm Cafe Open	23	24 4pm Crib Service 4pm Crib Service <i>N</i> 11pm Carols foll. Midnight Mass <i>N</i> 11.30pm Mass	25 8am Holy Communion 9.45 Family Eucharist 10.00 Family Eucharist	26
27 Regular Services	28	29	30	31 2.30pm Knit and Natter	JAN 1	2 10.30-12pm Cafe Open
3 Regular Services + 11.30am Nic's <i>N</i>	4	5 10.30-12pm Cafe Open	6	7 2.30pm Knit and Natter 8pm St Nicholas Circle	8 10.30-12pm Cafe Open 12.30pm Lunch	9 10am Market 10.30-12pm Cafe Open Baptism Prep Course
10 Regular Services + 9.30am Switched On <i>N</i>	11 11am Julian Group 2-4pm Cafe Open	12 9.15am-11 Toddlers 10.30-12pm Cafe Open	13 2.30pm Pastoral Assistants Tea 3.15pm Messy Church <i>M/S</i>	14 2.30pm Knit and Natter 2.30pm Julian Group <i>N</i>	15 10.30-12pm Cafe 12.30pm Lunch 7pm Plugged In	16 Marriage Prep Day 10.30-12pm Cafe Open
17 Regular Services + 11.30am Nic's <i>N</i>	18 2-4pm Cafe Open	19 9.15am-11 Toddlers 10.30-12pm Cafe Open	20	21 2.30pm Knit and Natter	22 10.30-12pm Cafe Open 12.30pm Lunch	23
24 Regular Services + 9.30am Switched On <i>N</i>	25 2-4pm Cafe Open	26 9.15am-11 Toddlers 10.30-12pm Cafe Open	27 3pm Messy Church	28 2.30pm Knit and Natter <i>Parish Magazine Out</i>	29 10.30-12pm Cafe Open 12.30pm Lunch 8pm Church in the Pub	30 10.30-12pm Cafe Open

Events are on the St Barnabas' site RH10 7DY unless listed as *N* when they are at St Nicholas' RH10 7RT, or *M/S* when they are at Maidenbower Infants School, RH10 7RA

CHIROPODY & PODIATRY

FOR ALL YOUR

FOOT HEALTH & CARE NEEDS

HARD SKIN CORNS PROBLEM NAILS VERRUCAE
CRACKED HEELS DIABETIC FEET INGROWN TOENAILS

Put the SPRING



Back in your STEP!

BOOK ONLINE OR CALL FOR YOUR

FREE FOOT MOT



01342 458553

Brickyard Lane, Crawley Down, RH10 4HJ

www.bodikind.com

DOMINIC SMITH PHOTOGRAPHY



01444 28 00 58

dominic@dominicsmithphotography.co.uk

www.dominicsmithphotography.co.uk

FREEMAN BROTHERS FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Holly Lodge,
25 & 27 Brighton Road,
Southgate, Crawley,
RH10 6AE
Branches also at:
Horsham and Billingshurst

Serving Surrey and Sussex since 1855

Take away the financial worry from
your loved ones with a pre-paid
Funeral Plan.

With plans starting at just
£2680.00, no hidden costs
at the time of arrangement
and a simple application
process, Freeman Brothers
make everything easy and
stress free.

www.freemanbrothers.co.uk



Please contact

01293 540000

to request your brochure. Interest free
payment plans available on request.



The Martins Family Funeral Directors Truly Independent



Under the personal supervision of
Peter, Jenny, Debbie and our dedicated team.
Our family caring for your family.

THE PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE
FOR WHICH WE ARE RENOWNED IS AVAILABLE AT

38 - 40 Broadfield Barton, Crawley, RH11 9BZ
Free parking in front of the premises
01293 552345 (24hrs)

IF YOU WISH, ARRANGEMENTS CAN BE MADE
IN YOUR OWN HOME

Pre-paid funeral plans available

MONUMENTAL MASONS