

THE CLARION

The Magazine of The Parish of St Mary The Boltons

September 2007

September; a time to

Perhaps it's because the academic year starts in September that the Church year seems to start this month too. It doesn't of course – it starts on the first Sunday of Advent which this year will be 2nd December. But after the summer holidays, when so many people understandably are away, there's a real sense that life in the Church makes a new start in September.

Over the summer while we have continued to glorify God through our daily and weekly worship services, St. Mary's has been quiet with no Sunday School, or lunches, or Mother & Toddler groups or any of the other activities that make up our common life. But people have continued to come to the church during the week to find time for reflection or prayer, to be alone with their thoughts or as someone once said to me 'to chill out with God'. Keeping St. Mary's open during the week for such visitors is an important part of our vision to be an open and welcoming Church.

In our lives as Christians there's always a tension between being contemplative – spending time in thought and prayer – and being active in the Church's daily life, whether helping with Sunday School, singing in the choir, helping with various social events, or volunteering to help people less fortunate than ourselves.

But we are all called to be both active and contemplative and we need to find ways to be comfortable with that tension. This is made much more difficult in that many of us also lead busy lives outside the Church, with demands of family and work that necessarily take much of our time and energy. As a result we can become far too busy, one of the curses of our age.

However I would encourage you to take some time this month to think how you might contribute to our common life at St. Mary's. For St. Mary's is your Church and it is your participation that helps to make it what it is and what it can become – a Church that worships God through Jesus Christ and seeks through God's grace to live out the values of God's kingdom. September, with the sense of a New Year beginning, is a good time to give some thought to how you can contribute to our life together; I hope and pray that you will do so.

Ginny Thomas

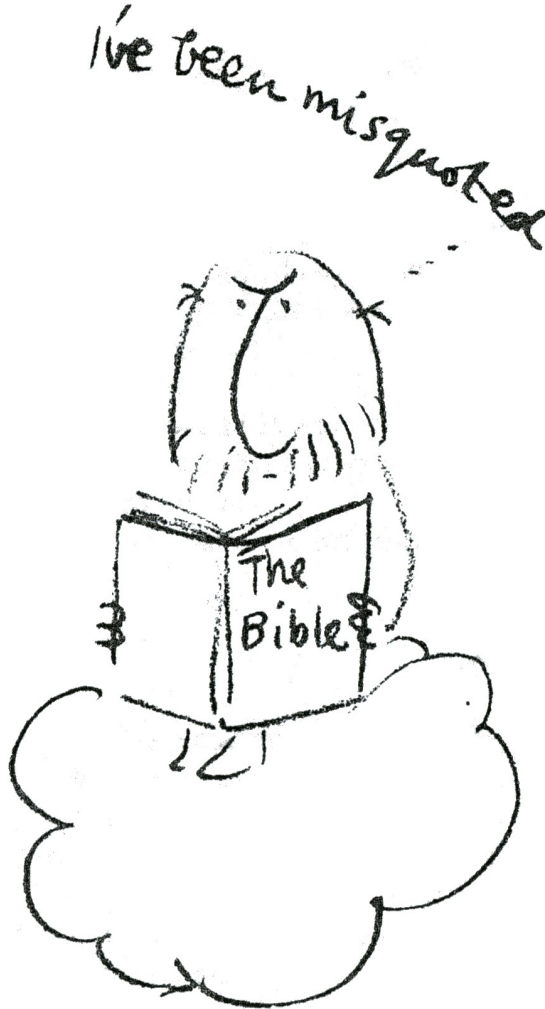
Sunday School restarts on Sunday 9 September. We have a new leader in Jane Dash, who has come up with a creative program for the coming year ahead. We are looking to support a child in need in a developing country and will need to raise about £200 per year. One of the ways will be to start a second-hand children's book/CD/video trolley to be run after the Sunday service. Other fundraising will come from the Sunday School stall at the summer fete. If you have any items that may be suitable, please give them to Dave or John at the parish office.

Simple Lunch

Our next simple lunch will be on Thursday 13 September at 12.30. Our speaker will be the novelist Tom Harper whose talk is entitled "A pilgrimage of words: writings about the first crusade" (Tom Harper is perhaps better known to members of St Mary's as Edwin Thomas)

Patronal Festival at St Mary's

Our Patronal service will take place on Sunday 16 September at 10.30am. The Chelsea area Dean, The Reverend Rob Gillion, will be joining us as preacher.



Police Surgery

Starting on Tuesday September 11 at 2.0pm, the Redcliffe Ward Safer Neighbourhood policing team will be running the first of a monthly surgery. This will be held in parish office at the back of the Church. This is an opportunity for you to come and meet our local officers and discuss any policing problems or issues you are experiencing. The surgery will run for one hour.

Kensington Area Conference

Just to remind you that it is not too late to sign up for the 'Creed & Creation' on Saturday 15th September starting at 10.0 am. The conference will be held at St. Barnabas Church, 23 Addison Road, W14, covering the challenges facing us and our environment.

Clarion

We are going to look at the format and content of The Clarion over the next few months. It would be great to have your input and hear from you what format and content you would like to see. Please let John in the parish office have your thoughts.

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There will be speakers from several organizations, including the Royal Botanical Gardens, Kew, and the RSPB. If you require more details, see the notice board in Church.

Harvest Festival

We will be celebrating Harvest Festival on Sunday 30th September. On the two preceding Sundays there will be retiring collections for the flowers and fruit/vegetables which will be bought to decorate the church. In the week following the service the perishable items will be donated to the Earl's Court Community Project, based at St. Jude's Church.

Members of Sunday School will be asked to bring tinned items to the service which will also be taken late to the project.

St Paul's Institute - A Good Childhood? Growing up in the 21st Century

St Paul's Institute was founded in 2002 as a public forum for reflection and debate on the spiritual and ethical challenges of our times. It aims to foster Christian response to questions facing business, finance and global economics, including environmental, social and political issues and to influence opinion, both in the Christian world and beyond.

This year the focus is on the vitally important subject of contemporary childhood. As you may have seen, a UNICEF report this year placed the UK bottom of developed countries in terms of children's wellbeing, and many who work with children have called for debate on the market-driven society's impact on childhood. The Children's Society has set up the first national independent public inquiry into childhood, and St Paul's Institute will be working in partnership with them.

A series of debates will take place in St Paul's Cathedral on parenting, consumerism, education and on what makes for a good childhood overall. Speakers include the Archbishop of Canterbury, the children's Commissioner for England, Al Aynsley-Green, Camila Batmanghelidjh among other leading experts.

The dates are 16,23,30 of October and 6 November. Admission is free and is unticketed. Doors open at 6.00pm, and the debate starts at 6.30 pm to 8.00pm. More details are in a leaflet at the back of the church or on a poster in the porch.

PCC Meeting

Our next PCC meeting will be on Thursday 20 September 2007 at 7.45pm.

Nonsuch Singers Concert

**Saturday 3 November 2007 at 7.30pm
St. John's, Smith Square, London SW1P
3HA**

Rachmaninov	Vespers
John Tavener	Magnificat (<i>Collegium Regale</i>); Hymn to the Mother of God; <i>Svyati & Chant</i>

**Stephanie Allman mezzo-soprano; John
McMunn tenor
Naomi Williams cello
Graham Caldbeck conductor**

Box Office: 020 7233 1618; www.sjss.org.uk

Mother and Toddler Group

The Mother and toddler group will restart in the Church on Monday 17 September, from 9.30am to 11.30 pm.

Papua New Guinea

You may not be aware that monies raised for the sale of tea and coffee on Sunday morning goes to support the Papua New Guinea Church Partnership. This was first started by Bee Spices and then carried on by Betty Greenland and others. Last month we sent a cheque for £1,000.

Summer Fete

Our Summer Fete was a great success and raised £5,950.00. The money was split between ARC and the Al Ahli hospital in Gaza. Last week we finalized our accounts and sent the respective payments. Thank you letters are on the notice board in the porch.

Contributions for the November Clarion should be sent in to the church office by 24th October

ST MARY THE BOLTONS CALENDAR SEPTEMBER 2007

SERVICES AND READINGS

SUNDAY SERVICES

8.00am Eucharist

10.30am Sung Eucharist

4.30pm Evening Prayer

The meeting room at the back of the church is available for people with pre-school children. There is a baby changing facility in the wheelchair accessible toilet in the hall.

WEEKDAY SERVICES

Usually Morning Prayer is said at 8.30am (Eucharist on Feastdays) on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays except Public Holidays. Wednesday 7.00pm Eucharist

READINGS in September

Sunday 2 September The Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

Readings at 10.30am Jeremiah 2. 4-13; Hebrews 13. 1-8, 15-16; Luke 14. 1, 7-14

Wednesday 5 No Service

Sunday 9 August The Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

Readings at 10.30am Jeremiah 18. 1-11; Philemon 1-21; Luke 14. 25-33

Wednesday 12 Readings at 7.00pm Colossians 3. 1-11; Luke 6. 20-26

Sunday 16 The Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity Patronal Service

Readings at 10.30am: Jeremiah 4. 11-12, 22-28; Timothy 1. 12-17; Luke 15. 1-10

Wednesday 19 Theodore of Tarsus

Readings at 7.00pm Timothy 3. 14-end; Luke 7. 31-35

Sunday 23 The Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

Readings at 10.30am: Jeremiah 8. 18-9. 1; Timothy 2 1-7; Luke 16. 1-13

Wednesday 26 Ezra 9. 5-9; Luke 9. 1-6

Sunday 30 September The Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity Harvest Festival All Age Worship

Readings at 10.30am Deuteronomy 26. 1-11; John 6. 25-35

Sunday 7 October The Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

Readings at 10.30am Lamentations 1. 1-6; Timothy 1. 1-14; Luke 17. 5-10

REGULAR EVENTS

Thursdays 9.30am onwards Fabric Group

Saturdays 9.15am onwards Gardening Group

Sundays Sunday School

Monday	17	Mothers and Toddlers Group Re
Thursday	13	Simple lunch 12.30
Saturday	15	Area Conference
Marriage	22	Muneesh Khullar & Anita Kirkland
Baptisms	15	Alexander Kelly
	23	Sebastian Whittaker
	30	Elizabeth & Frederick Ohlson

FROM THE August 2007 REGISTERS

Baptisms	19	Johan Aaron
Marriage Blessing	14	Marco & Nubia De Silva
Funeral	23	Lady Lorraine Seely

DIRECTORY

Parish Postal Address, Telephone, Fax & Website

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ginny@stmarytheboltons.org.uk (day off: Tuesday)

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Mark Nichols 020 7370 0752

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020 7835 1440 john@stmarytheboltons.org.uk

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Verger / Caretaker David Ireton

020 7244 8998 / 07881 865386 (day off: Wednesday)

Parochial Church Council Officers

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Stubbs 020 7835 0074 **Gift Aid Secretary** John Barker 020

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Parkin Magalhaes 020 7565 2756 **Prayer Network** Verena

Tschudin 020 7351 1263 **Readers & Intercessors Rota**

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020 7352 6958, Dorothy Patrick 020 7352 1396 **Assistant**

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