

THE CLARION

The Magazine of the Parish of St Mary The Boltons

rooted in faith • open in thought • reaching out in service

June 2022

From the Vicar The Archdeacon's Triennial Visitation

Now that's an example of church-speak if ever there was one. Let me explain.

Every three years St Mary's (and every parish in the Church of England) undergoes a kind of inspection by our Archdeacon, one of the senior staff in the Diocese. It is a formal inspection of our church's organisation, looking at a range of aspects: from how we manage our finances, to how we perform and order our worship; from our policies for safeguarding and health and safety, to our policies for employing and managing our lay staff and volunteers; from matters to do with maintenance, repair and improvements to our building, to the contracts and agreements with our tenants and people who occasionally hire the premises. If you think all this sounds like bloodless bureaucracy, just remember that one of the gifts of the Holy Spirit is that of administration; and the first act of the Spirit of God in creation was to bring order out of chaos, so this is an exercise that is not only necessary, but theological.

Yet there is more to the Visitation than just good administration. It also provides an opportunity for the Vicar and Churchwardens to have a conversation about what the church is really for, its mission and work and ministry in the parish. After asking about the nuts and bolts of the church's life, the final question the Archdeacon asks is, 'Is there anything else that the Churchwardens or the PCC would like to raise?' He hopes that this will encourage discussion about what is most important to the life of the church. It may well be to do with good administration or finance, but hopefully coupled with a concern for growing and nurturing the congregation, for learning how better to proclaim the Good News in the local area, for

making the church more welcoming or more available, or more open to anyone who might come through our doors. It is hoped that the conversation will continue with the PCC and the rest of the congregation, to encourage them to be more involved, or more engaged, to be more faithful in their Christian life. I hope that our Churchwardens and I will have a lot to raise with the Archdeacon when he comes. What would you want them to raise?

In our part of the diocese, our Archdeacon normally delegates the Visitations to the Area Deans; in the Chelsea Deanery, that is me. I have the privilege of asking about the administration and good order of the churches in our little area, and asking the question, 'What else do you want to raise?' After Covid (when the Visitations were



Illustration: *King Henry IV, Part I, Act III, Scene i, The Archdeacon of Bangor's House in Wales*
Engraving by John Peter Simon

suspended), there are a good number of churches to catch up with, and a lot of good conversations to be had in the coming months. Thank goodness, our Archdeacon The Ven Richard Frank will be helping us here at St Mary's to think about our ministry in our parish. Please will you continue to pray for our church, as we take that conversation forward.

Jenny Welsh



70th Jubilee Celebration Bring and Share Parish Picnic

Please join us for the Jubilee Celebration Parish Picnic on Sunday 5 June, after the 10.30am Family Eucharist. It will be a Bring and Share Picnic, so this is your chance to dust off your royal recipes for Coronation Chicken etc. Everyone is welcome. If you can come, please sign up on the signing sheet in church. It would be helpful to know how many are in your group and what you have in mind to bring to share.

Jenny Welsh



Illustrations: Jacob King/PA Wire/PA Images.
<https://platinumjubilee.gov.uk/>

The Story of the Tikondane Nthawisa Farmers Group

We received this story as a USPG Partner in Mission in Malawi, which is one of our principal charities.



At the inception of the community programme, the community volunteers and local leaders from Nthawisa village identified vulnerable families that needed support.

They organised a group called Tikondane, where 22 members (4 men and 18 women) have been actively participating in the programme-related activities. The group received training on how to make compost using locally available resources. They were also trained on how to manage small-scale businesses, trained in Village Savings and Loan (VSL) activities, and were encouraged to establish small businesses to increase their incomes.

The group members started contributing shares for their village bank. They trained in environmental management as this catchment area is suffering the effects of climate change year on year. The group planted 500 trees in a community forest where they achieved a 50% survival rate as unfortunately it was too hot for some of the trees to flourish. They also received training on how to make briquettes and environmentally friendly stoves.



There has been a significant change in the lives of the beneficiaries who have received an increase in income. Group members contributed shares and shared the dividends among the active members. The group has been selling the vegetables, and members harvest the produce for their own household daily so that they don't buy from the

market. Eating fresh vegetables from their garden has been really fulfilling for the group. The proceeds from the sales are shared on a daily basis once sold, so that everyone benefits equally, and some are investing the money in small-scale businesses.

Anthony Williams on behalf of the charity committee

Image: <https://raisely-images.imgix.net/partners-in-mission-malawi/uploads/img-20210621-wa-0019-jpg-248a3d.jpg?fm=jpg&fit=max&w=700&auto=format&q=62>

Adapted from <https://partners-in-mission-malawi.raisely.com/>

Covid and Communion: further thoughts

In February I wrote about the PCC's conversations about how we take communion together. We were not ready to start offering communion 'in both kinds' yet, but we recognised that our communion felt incomplete, even though perfectly valid. I am writing now to let you know how the conversation has developed, because not only has the sense of risk of Covid changed, so has our thinking about how we respond. It is timely that the Church of England guidance has now changed and that churches should consider giving communion in both kinds, except where there is clear reason not to. At the May PCC meeting someone asked, 'Why can we not use those little individual cups? They use them in the Methodist Church, and indeed in the Church of Ireland'. It seems like a perfect solution, except that the problem is, the Church of England has explicitly not permitted it. The reason, say the Bishops, is that the cup needs to be shared. This is a strong sign of our sharing together in the Sacrament: we do not take it alone.



When we share it, we are reminded of our unity and willingness to accept each other and we share our lives as we share the cup. Little cups are not the answer.

What are the options now? In some parishes you will find that the chalice is offered as before. People are given the option of receiving, and those who abstain are free to do so. Indeed, this has always been the case and some people have always received only the bread. In discussion there was still much uneasiness about this option at St Mary's, but some of us would welcome it.

In other parishes, the presiding minister dips the bread in the chalice, and places it in the hand of those receiving. Intinction (or presidential intinction), as it is called, was seen as a viable option for us, at least for the members of our PCC. It enables both elements to be received, makes use of the common chalice, and because only the minister dips the bread and does not touch the person's hand, it is a Covid-safe process. It is certainly far safer than individual intinction, even with sanitised hands.

The PCC is keen to make the option of communion in both kinds possible once again. With that in mind, we will begin using the second option or 'simultaneous administration' from the second Sunday in June. The chalice will be held by a communion assistant, while the priest administers the bread dipped in wine. If anyone wishes to receive undipped bread all they need to do is indicate that when they come to the altar rail. This will be a bit of an experiment for us to see how it works. I hope that members of the congregation will be patient with one another as we get used to this new step. I will be pleased, once we have begun, to hear what you think.

Until then, the Eucharist will continue as it has been during the pandemic. Let us be thankful for the grace and nourishment we receive through the sacrament and through our prayer and fellowship together.

Jenny Welsh

Report of the May 2022 PCC Meeting

The PCC met via Zoom on Wednesday 11 May as our Vicar was still testing positive for Covid.

Newly elected PCC members Clive Ingram and Adrea Blakeney and our new Warden, Candice Lee, were particularly welcomed to the first PCC meeting since the APCM. The annual Election of Officers took place, with roles including PCC Treasurer, Health & Safety Officer and Gift Aid Secretary, being unanimously appointed for another year. Grateful thanks are passed on to all who undertake important roles that enable St Mary's to function and thrive throughout the year.

The church has been awarded a Bronze Award by EcoChurch for our environmental efforts and we look forward to pursuing a Silver and Gold award. It was agreed that each edition of our magazine, *The Clarion*, should feature a section on 'green issues'. Could you contribute an article on this subject?

We continue to have to carry out major works to our historic building. Forthcoming projects include renovations to our spire and stonework, as well as new and improved lighting in the church hall. Also, we aim to have fully functioning boilers in time for next autumn/winter.

Finally, everyone is very much looking forward to our Jubilee bring & share picnic lunch on Sunday 5 June. Do sign up for this parish event and invite your friends and neighbours.

The PCC next meets in July (hopefully in person in our church hall). If you have any questions about the functioning of the PCC or the running of St Mary's in general, please do not hesitate to contact the Vicar or Joanna Hackett, PCC Secretary.
Joanna Hackett

New PCC Member

It is an honour to be voted back on to the Parish Church Council at St Mary the Boltons after a period of absence. I see it is just as dynamic, friendly and inclusive as ever, under Revd Jenny Welsh's leadership. I have been an Anglican all my life, as is my husband Charles and daughter Sophia. While some more of our time is being spent in Dublin, the realities of Sophia's school and my NHS management job in London keep us more here than there. I look forward to participating in and contributing to the many and varied activities associated with the church.

Clive Ingram



Christian Aid Bake Sale

Thank you everyone who baked for and supported the Christian Aid Bake Sale in Church on Sunday 22 May, and especially to Joanna Hackett for organising it!

Together we raised £270 for Christian Aid Week's appeal to help families grow drought-resistant crops, set up water taps on farms, and learn how to grow food in the harsh climate in Zimbabwe



Charity Cake Sale, Sunday 3 July Bakers Needed!

You are most welcome to join us for our Annual Cake Sale after the 10.30am Service on Sunday 3 July. You will be supporting St Mary's charities for people in need locally and internationally, and enjoying delicious cakes with coffee outside, weather permitting. Caroline Jackson and Katrina Quinton are organising the sale, with Alex Burtt and friends providing coffee and Calvin Jackson working as Treasurer. We need as many people as possible to provide a cake (or two!) whether large, medium or just very tempting individual cakes. Do please contact Caroline to let her know how you can help: email caroline@birdmoore.co.uk and telephone number 020 7460 0450. *Caroline Jackson, on behalf of the charity committee*

Silent Prayer in Church

The Silent Prayer meetings continue in church on the second Wednesday of each month, 11am to 12 noon.

The next dates are:

8 June
13 July
10 August

A group of people who gather sit together in silence for some 40 minutes. No spoken prayers are said, just the tinkle of a bell at the beginning and end and half-way through. Being silent for a little while is an invitation to listen to what is happening inside. In our liturgies we are used to address God in praise and song, but listening to the inner 'still small voice' may take some more attention. Doing it with other people forms a

creative power that can be felt and can be powerful. Letting go of the need to be busy even for a little time is not only relaxing, but will eventually lead us to the truth of our selves that seems to be the big task of all our lives. There is no need to join anything, book or apologise; just come if and when you can.



ST MARY'S CHARITABLE POT CAKE SALE

To raise funds to support the charities in the 2022 St Mary's Charitable Pot:

- * Learn to Love to Read
- * Lyra in Africa
- * Beacon House
- * United Society's Partners in the Gospel (USPG) Malawi
- * Paul's Cancer Support



The PCC of St Mary with St Peter & St Jude, West Brompton is a registered charity, no. 1133073

CAKE SALE
SUNDAY 3 JULY
AFTER THE 10.30AM
PARISH EUCHARIST

St Mary's Church
The Boltons
London
SW10 9TB

Phone: 020 7835 1440
E-mail:
office@stmarytheboltons.org.uk
www.stmarytheboltons.org.uk

Services and Events at St Mary's

Sunday 29 May Ascension Sunday

8am Holy Eucharist (BCP)
10.30am Holy Eucharist
with baptism of Catherine West
Readings Acts 16.16-34
John 17.20-end

Thursday – Friday 2-3 June Queen's Jubilee Holidays – Church closed

Sunday 5 June Pentecost and Celebration of Queen's 70th Jubilee

8am Holy Eucharist (BCP)
10.30am Family Eucharist
with Come and Sing Choir
12 noon Parish Jubilee Picnic

Wednesday 8 June

11am Silent Prayer

Thursday 9 June

7pm Confirmation at St Mary Abbots

Friday 10 June

10am Second Half Club

Saturday 11 June

2.30pm Wedding of George Davie
and Catherine West

Sunday 12 June Trinity Sunday

8am Holy Eucharist (BCP)
10.30am Holy Eucharist
Readings Romans 5.1-5
John 16.12-15
2.30pm Baptism of Rupert Colson

Monday 13 June

6.30pm Archdeacon's Triennial Visitation

Wednesday 15 June

4pm Wedding of Joseph Arnold
and Lucy Oman

Friday 17 June

10am Second Half Club

Sunday 19 June Trinity 1

8am Holy Eucharist (BCP)
10.30am Holy Eucharist
Readings 1 Kings 19.1-4, 8-15a
Luke 8.26-39

Friday 24 June

10am Second Half Club

Sunday 26 June Trinity 2

8am Holy Eucharist (BCP)
10.30am Holy Eucharist
Readings Galatians 5.1, 13-25
Luke 9.51-62
12 noon Last Sunday Recital

Sunday 3 July Feast St Thomas the Apostle

8am Holy Eucharist (BCP)
10.30am Holy Eucharist
with Come and Sing Choir
Readings Ephesians 2.19-22
John 20.24-29
12 noon Summer Cake Sale
for the Charitable Pot

Image: Allium, St Mary's garden, J. Ellard



Year's Mind June

Joan Palin

Hannelore Percival

Pamela Shaw

Gary Davies

Britta Osbahr

Leslie Stone

Leonard Berry

David Dixon

Malcom Goddard

Evelyn Davson

Madge Terry

Helen Davey

Grahame Challen

Hugo Garten

Marjorie Cooling

Kenrick Prescott

Margaret Woollven

Gisela Osbahr

Doreen Allen

St Mary The Boltons

Photographed from a flight coming into Heathrow.

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/vikingman/2499686489>



Parish Office

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020 7835 1440

Vicar

Reverend Jenny Welsh
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020 7835 1440 and 07864 807959
(Day off Thursday)

Parish Manager

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020 7835 1440

Verger/Caretaker

David Ireton
020 7244 8998
07881 865 386
(Day off Wednesday)

Churchwardens

Edward Quinton 020 7373 6094
Candice Lee 078989 70379

Director of Music

John Ward
boltonsmusic@gmail.com

St Mary's Church Bank Details

Account name:
PCC of St Mary with St Peter & St Jude
Account number: 80692190
Sort code: 20-80-14

Assistant Treasurer

Bill Gallagher 020 7384 3246

Electoral Roll Officer

Fiona Parsons
er@stmarytheboltons.org.uk
or call the Parish Office

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Margarete Geier 020 7373 1639

Sunday School

children@stmarytheboltons.org.uk

Safeguarding at St Mary's

The St Mary The Boltons' Safeguarding Officer is Clair Gordon. Her role is to help us to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and adults at risk. She is the first point of contact for children, adults at risk and other members of the congregation regarding suspicions of abuse and other safeguarding concerns. If you have any concerns, please contact Clair on 07850 944 834. In the event of Clair not being available, Rosie Meckiff Mengel may be contacted at 07905 245652. Alternatively, speak to Sheryl Kent, Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser: 020 7932 1224 Churches' Child Protection Advisory Service (CCPAS) helpline: 0845 120 4550 Family Lives: 0808 800 222 (Previously Parentline) Childline: 0800 1111.

Children's Champion

The St Mary The Boltons' Children's Champions are Chris and Katie Fowkes. Their role is to ensure that the voices and needs of the children and young people are heard and reflected in parish life. They can be contacted via: children@stmarytheboltons.org.uk.



There is a Hearing Loop in operation at St Mary The Boltons

Contributions for the July / August Clarion should be sent to the Parish Office by 20 June, please.

The PCC of St Mary with St Peter & St Jude, West Brompton is a Registered Charity, No 1133073