

THE CLARION

The Magazine of The Parish of St Mary The Boltons

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

OCTOBER 2013

Responding to God's Generosity

'As each has received a gift, employ it for one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace' 1 Peter 4.10

As Christians we believe in a God who gives generously and without measure. Giving is at the centre of God's character; through giving his life for us, Jesus provided the ultimate demonstration of God's generosity. God gives us life, and his giving is renewed daily. Made in the image of God and receiving from God innumerable gifts and blessings – our family and friends, our well being, our talents and abilities, the natural world in its beauty and ability to nourish and sustain us – we are called to be generous in every aspect of our own lives: in offering hospitality, giving time and using our skills in our homes, our workplaces, our communities and in our churches. Giving is the response and outworking of our Christian faith.

When we give, whether to charity or to our church, we make new life possible in its many and varied forms. Regular and committed giving to our church of St Mary's gives life to all who come and worship with us and to those who live in our parish and beyond. St Mary's, where we are rooted in faith, open in thought and where we reach out in service, is the place where we come together to respond to God's generosity, by giving thanks and by serving others. In doing so we give back to God what we have been so generously given and entrusted with.

Later this month many of you will receive a letter asking you to reflect on God's generosity to you and how you might respond to it financially so that St Mary's can continue to be a place where we give thanks to God and make God's love known. When you receive the letter, I hope you will take the time to reflect and give thanks for everything that God has blessed you with. The more we look at our

own lives, the more we realise how much we have been given and our sense of gratitude and our response to it increases.

As the quotation above from the letter of St Peter reminds us, our gifts are not just given for ourselves but also for the benefit of others, so that through us they may experience God's grace, God's love. As we have received, so we have the privilege and the duty to share with others; may we do so with joy, gratitude and generosity.

Ginny Thomas

Upcoming dates for your Dairy

Thursday 10 October: Thursday Lunch at 12.30

The next Thursday Lunch will be on Thursday 10 October at 12.30pm. The speaker is the Revd Andy Emerton who is Assistant Dean at St Mellitus. There will be **no Eucharist** preceding the lunch on Thursday 10th October as Ginny will be away on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. If you would like to attend please put your name on the list at the back of the church.

Saturday 12 October

Kensington Area Study Morning:
Children's Ministry

Saturday 2 November

10am-3pm Exploring the End of Life –
(See Page 4)

Sunday 3 November

5.00pm A Service for All Soul's Day

Saturday 16 November

Confirmation at St Paul's Cathedral

Sunday 17 November

12noon The Big Leaf Rake

Sunday 8 December

10.30am All Age Worship with Nativity Play
7pm Carol Service

Tuesday 24 December

Christmas Eve:
Crib Service 4pm
Midnight Mass 11.30pm

Wednesday 25 December

Christmas Day
10.30am Sung Eucharist

Our website:

stmarytheboltons.org.uk

This summer has seen a further expansion of the new website that we introduced last May. Thanks to contributions from several people and the hard work of Camila Ruz and her colleague Will, the website is now a great source of information about St. Mary's.

You may have heard about the opportunity to buy a Ken Howard oil sketch, and you can view the painting on the website in the news section. This also has a series of articles from the visit to Ham House to Ruth's Farewell. One of the nice extras is that we are able to illustrate these with plenty of photographs of the



Katie and Chris Fowkes.

participants. You can also find photos of the wardens and key people at St. Mary's. Here is the latest addition for our Children's Officers,

The website is kept up to date quite frequently and you can find useful information about what's happening. John has posted our rotas for sides people and John Ward has tweeted the choir dates for the rest of the year. The website will show tweets without you having to sign up to Twitter! If you want to explain to a friend how to find the church, the directions and map on the website make this easy.

We have archived many of the old editions of *The Clarion* so you can revisit articles that you remember reading and would like to re-read.

We are delighted with the general response to the new website, and it was good to hear from some American visitors who attended the church in the summer that the reason they came to St. Mary's was because they had looked at several church websites and liked what they saw on ours! Some come to visit during the week to look at the stunning Craigue window, which they have read about, and others come to sit in the garden, which is well illustrated on the site with many of the flower photos we have had in the weekly bulletin this year.

We will continue to develop our email capabilities, and if you do not receive the weekly bulletin or *The Clarion* by email and would like to receive these, please send a quick email to John and we will add your details to the expanding list, and you can play your part in supporting sustainability at St. Mary's by reducing the amount of paper we generate.

Please let us have any comments or feedback on how we can continue to improve and develop the website to make it more useful and attractive for you.

Patrick Thomas, Katrin Roskelly, Camila Ruz and Timon Molloy



New Hymn Books

We are now using our new version of the Ancient and Modern hymns books. We hope that members of the congregation will

consider sponsoring 'their' hymnal. We will be offering a bookplate so that you can nominate a person to be commemorated in the front of the hymnal. The cost per book will be £15 and if you would like to buy or dedicate a copy, please contact John in the Parish Office on 020 7835 1440 or john@stmarytheboltons.org.uk, who will deal with your requests.

News on West London Churches Homeless Concern

On 19 September I was able to attend the Annual General Meeting of one of the charities we support, WLCHC. As we are all aware, the problem of rough sleeping continues to be a serious issue in the Royal Borough and last winter was one of the coldest for many years. As a result the winter shelters stayed open for an extra two weeks to provide hospitality. The WLCHC shelters are now the largest in London, regularly offering accommodation for up to 70 people throughout the winter and rising to a capacity of 100 when temperatures dip to freezing. Brian Leathard explained that WLCHC does not accept government funding as this comes with many restrictions and the charity's principle is to be open to anyone, not just referrals from agencies.

We had a report from one of the caseworkers who provides assistance to the homeless from the Chelsea Methodist drop-in centre on the King's Road, who explained that the government is making it much harder for homeless people to claim benefits by requiring weekly reports by computer on job seeking activity. It is also taking longer to process claims and obtain benefits. Last year the caseworkers saw 337 guests for advice and assistance. Health checks and medical support are also provided via the drop-in centre.

All the work being done comes at a cost and last year, in common with many charities, saw a gap between income and expense of a deficit of just over £50,000, which meant dipping into reserves. As a result the charity is working hard to raise funds for the coming winter shelter season. This includes a sponsored sleep out in Duke of York Square on Friday 4 October, with over 150 people signed up. Steven Platt, who came to talk to us at St. Mary's, will be running in the Royal Parks half marathon on Sunday 6 October. You can get all the latest updates on these and other activities from their website www.wlchc.org/latestnews. This is a very worthwhile charity and it makes a practical difference to people in the midst of our community whom we are called to help. Please continue to assist them financially and encourage friends to support them.

Patrick Thomas



Thursday Lunch Meeting Report of 12 September

Thirty people attended the Thursday Lunch at which the speaker was Sharon Thurley, Project Manager for the Silver Sunday programme run by the Royal Borough of

Kensington and Chelsea in conjunction with Westminster and Hammersmith and Fulham.

Sharon explained that Silver Sunday on 6 October is a day for older people to celebrate, with free activities and events happening across the Borough and surrounding areas. These are open to anyone aged 65 or over and their carers, and encourage people to meet others and try new things. Most activities take place on 6 October, with some on other days early in October. All Freedom Pass holders in the Borough should have received a copy of the programme by now.

This initiative started last year in Westminster, and is intended to provide a sustainable, long-term service for older people throughout the year. It seeks to help to coordinate the many services that are available through community groups and council services, but which can be hard to access.

Many volunteers help delivering the programme. Some activities among the many on offer are services at the Earls Court Health and Wellbeing Centre in Hogarth Road; various walks and talks, including an Ecology and Nature walk in Holland Park and a tour of HQS Wellington near Temple; a simple golf lesson; introduction to email and internet; help with mobile phones, laptops, and digital cameras; a Library quiz; aquamotion; a tea dance; introduction to yoga; volunteering to read with children; and classical concerts. (I was asked – not by Sharon -- not to mention that one activity is belly dancing!)

As more people live longer lives, some in great loneliness, this project promises much to help people tap into the rich seam of social activity and support available in the area.

All enquiries to SilverSunday@rbkc.gov.uk or telephone 020 7361 2677. There is also a new website full of relevant information at www.peoplefirstinfo.org.uk
Arthur Tait

Approaching Death – Exploring the End of Life

A discussion day with guest speakers on Saturday 2 November 10.0am to 3.30pm in the south transept of the church.

Talking about and preparing for death – one's own or the death of someone close to us – has always been difficult and has until recently been something of a taboo subject. The discussion day on Saturday 2 November seeks to explore this difficult and sometimes frightening subject in order to help us face the reality of death and be better prepared for it.

Programme for the Day

10.00am – 10.45am: 'Planning Your Funeral':
A speaker from Chelsea Funeral Directors
10.45am – 11.15am: Coffee
11.15am – 12.15pm 'Good Grief –
Understanding Bereavement':
*The Revd Richard Adfield, Director,
Kensington & Chelsea Branch of Cruse*
12.15pm – 1.00pm: Sandwich Lunch (provided)
1.00pm – 2.00: 'Making Your Intentions Clear;
the Legal Aspects':
Lucy Gordon, Spratt Endicott, Solicitors
2.00pm – 2.15pm: Short break
2.15pm – 3.15pm: 'Preparing for Death':
*Dr Russ Hargreaves, The Macmillan Centre,
Chelsea & Westminster Hospital*
3.15pm: Short closing liturgy
3.30pm: End

If you would like to attend, please contact the Parish Office on 020 7835 1440 and give your name to John McVeigh. There will be a charge of £5 to cover the cost of lunch and refreshments. Participation in this discussion day is *not* restricted to members of St Mary's, but is open to anyone who would like to attend.

Ruth's Thank you

We received a thank you card and update from Ruth.

Dear All

Thank you so much for a warm farewell and such a generous leaving gift. I plan to buy two floor standing reading lamps – to help eyes that are beginning to need more light – and a picture or print of long-tailed tits. I was surprised how often a charm of these lovely finches would visit The Boltons, their friendly chit-chat a blessing. It will remind me of St Marys and of your friendship and kindness. A very warm thank you to Ginny, John, Dave, Trent and John for being such a strong close team. Special thanks to Margarete for all her support, visible and invisible, and for a lovely farewell spread.

With my warmest thanks to you all

Love

Ruth

Ruth is well and truly settled into her role as Chaplain of Chapter 1, and is being welcomed at St John's Waterloo as their Honorary Curate on Sunday 27 October at 10.30am. It would be great to have a presence from St Mary's to see her in, all are welcome. St John's is very close to Waterloo Station, the church website is <http://www.stjohnswaterloo.org/>.



Francis of Assisi and His Canticle of Brother Sun

Saint Francis of Assisi, (1181-1226) is one of the best loved of all the saints. He stands for very simple principles: poverty, humility, simplicity and prayer. There was nothing complicated or abstruse about the Franciscan way of life; its originality lay in its intensity and imagination. Unlike other men devoted to the religious life he went about among the people. He frequented the worst slums of the medieval cities in search of sick and poor people. This was a new kind of 'religious life' and one that has a strong appeal today, but if we are to understand Francis, we must look carefully at what he said and did.

The basis of Francis' experiment in Christian living was total obedience to the recorded commands of Christ. No one can read the Gospels without an uneasy feeling that Jesus was perhaps asking too much. We read his 'hard' sayings and begin at once to find good reasons for not accepting them. We do not sell all that we have and give to the poor. We do not go on journeys taking nothing with us. We do not turn the other cheek or go the second mile. In fact we try to persuade ourselves that orders like these were not meant for ordinary people like us. But Francis was not an ordinary person. All he wanted to do was to take Christ seriously and face the consequences.

Francis lived in a world of hunger, dirt, poverty and disease. These were the things he willingly endured in order to show that the teaching of Christ was not just an impossible ideal but a practical way of life for those who were prepared to take the consequences. To those who were not, he gave short shrift, and could mete out very harsh punishment to those of his brothers who failed to come up to his standards. The 'Poor Man of Assisi' wanted to be as poor as poor could be, and watched like a jealous lover to ensure that no one should rob him of his darling Lady Poverty, which he experienced as a new form of freedom. He lived in this way for twenty arduous years. We celebrate his Saint's Day on 4 October, the 787th anniversary of his death.

People have always made much of Francis' love of animals, but they have seldom understood it. It has nothing to do with going into raptures over nature, because this is blind to the difficult problems with which nature's contradictions confront us. Much more it was because Francis' heart was filled with compassion for all creatures and the salvation of the whole of nature. He thought of animals as his brothers in a unique way that can only be understood with New Testament simplicity. Christians have not followed this approach. Perhaps they have not been able to do so because this is a matter of grace and not of the will. This affection for the whole of life was like the dawning of a new day in human history. (1).

In his short life Francis wrote little except for rules and exhortations to his brothers. As death came near, however, he composed a

poem that we now know as the *Canticle of Brother Sun*. It brilliantly expresses Francis' attitude to the whole of creation and is greatly loved and admired by Franciscans. Francis called himself one of God's minstrels. Poetry for him was a heavenly message, which he welcomed in song. The *Canticle* is a great and pure song of praise that teaches us, as we read it, how to glorify God

The Canticle of Brother Sun

English Translation:

Most high, all powerful, good Lord!
Praise is yours, glory, honour, and all blessing.

To You, alone, Most High, do they belong.

No mortal lips are worthy to pronounce Your name.

Be praised, my Lord, with all Your creatures,

especially my lord Brother Sun, who brings the day; and You give light through him.

And he is beautiful and radiant in great splendour!

To You, Most High, he bears the likeness.

Be praised, my Lord, through Sister Moon and the stars;

in the heavens You have made them bright, precious and beautiful.

Be praised, my Lord, through Brothers Wind and Air, and clouds and storms, and all the weather, through which You give Your creatures sustenance.

Be praised, my Lord, through Sister Water;

she is very useful, and humble, and precious, and pure.

Be praised, my Lord, through Brother Fire,

through whom You brighten the night. He is beautiful and cheerful, and powerful and strong.

Be praised, my Lord, through our sister
Mother Earth,
who feeds us and rules us,
and produces various fruits with
colored flowers and herbs.
Be praised, my Lord, through those
who forgive for love of You
and those who endure sickness and
trial.

Happy those who endure in peace,
for by You, Most High, they will be
crowned.
Be praised, my Lord, through our sister
Bodily Death, from whose embrace no
living person can escape.
Woe to those who die in mortal sin!

Happy those she finds doing Your most
holy will.
The second death can do no harm to
them.
Praise and bless my Lord, and give
thanks,
and serve Him with great humility.

Despite being one of the rare examples of the saint's own words, a landmark in the development of Umbrian poetry and one of the first known works of literature in the Italian language, it has been paid little attention by literary critics. Brian Moloney is a long-standing and much respected member of the Third Order of the Society of St. Francis. He is emeritus professor of Italian at the University of Hull, former Chairman of the UK Society for Italian Studies and Senior Editor of the journal *Italian Studies*. His latest book *Francis of Assisi and his 'Canticle of Brother Sun' Reassessed* is being published by Palgrave Macmillan in October 2013. A launch of this book will be held at St Mary The Boltons on Thursday 28 November from 6.0-8.0pm. Professor Moloney will give a talk about his book, Danae Eleni will perform the Canticle to a new musical setting by Richard Moore, and wine will be served. It should be an enlightening and enjoyable evening. All are welcome.

Hugh Beach

(1) Walter Nigg, *Francis, the Little Brother from Assisi*
translated by William Neil. Mowbrays, 1975.

Obituary of Yolande Whittall, 1929-2013

'A treasured member of the Whittall family and passionate custodian of its Turkish heritage.'

There are not many of the Whittall clan who did not know her. Having drawn up the first genealogy of the family in 1966, she was a living encyclopaedia and always had the answer one was looking for. I would not have been able to update the genealogy in 1996 without her unstinting help. Never did I hear Yolande utter anything negative about a family member, and in fact, when I mentioned to her that research I had done indicated that the birth of a son to an ancestor had taken place some six months after his marriage, her reaction was, 'Oh, but they were so young and innocent in those days.'

She was a model aunt and godmother and a very willing and caring baby-sitter: she never forgot birthdays and quite regularly took a troupe of excited and excitable children, which she somehow successfully corralled, on excursions to London and to shows such as *Charlie's Aunt* and *The Importance of Being Earnest*. The annual visit to The Royal Tournament was, I am told, as big a thrill for her as it was for her young companions. Later on in life, she supported her great nephews at swimming galas and cricket matches, despite having no understanding or interest in the latter.

Like her father and uncle, Yolande was a prolific writer and recorded family history. During World War II, she spent some years in Egypt, but not much has been recorded about that; it was all about Turkey, the wondrous countryside, the magical sea of Marmara and in particular, the warm-natured people. She was not computer literate, yet she contributed greatly to the Levantine Heritage website. Her legendary photograph albums continue to provide material for this website. Yolande was a diplomatic lady who once gave the following tip to one of her fellow Rock & Fell Climbing Club members:

If you are a diplomat and say 'yes', you mean 'maybe'

If you say 'maybe', you mean 'no'

And if you say 'no', you are no diplomat.

But, if you are a lady and say 'no', you mean 'maybe'

If you say 'maybe' you mean 'yes'

And if you say 'yes', you are no lady

She loved the great outdoors: she would take part in the family expeditions to Alemdağ, where the family went walking and shooting at weekends; she swam the Bosphorous; she climbed Uludağ and Erciyas Dağ in Turkey; she climbed the Matterhorn, an achievement regarded with awe at the time, and from 1990 onwards regularly took to sailing the southern coast of Turkey in the traditional *gülets*, exploring archaeological sites.

Yolande's interests went beyond the family: on a visit to Istanbul, she went to the War Graves Commission cemetery at Haydarpaşa, studying and recording the epitaphs of the graves of soldiers; and in 1996 she wrote an article called 'The English Garden' about that cemetery, which was published in *The Clarion*. She was a keen walker and was part of the London branch of the Fell & Rock Climbing Club offering the use of her flat for its twice yearly committee meetings; she was a very keen traveller, visiting family and friends all over of the world; she made friends easily and kept up correspondence with them; she supported a number of societies. She loved poetry and classical music and Radio 3 would be on 24 hours a day as quiet background music in her flat.

She was a staunch supporter of the Anglo-Turkish Society, was an active member of its Council for many years and attended as many lectures and events as she could. In 1983, she even persuaded (or should I say subjected) the Society to a talk about the Whittall family. In the days that the Society held an annual ball, she would support it financially, regardless of whether or not she could attend.

She loved the garden behind her flat and would admire its view from her flat window. She would often be seen working with the gardener looking after the beds and ensuring that the Whittallii tulip thrived there.

Having occasionally provided me with accommodation, I know she was a wonderfully

welcoming hostess. If one had the good fortune to be asked to her flat for a meal, be it lunch, tea or supper, it was always presented using china and silver. I cannot recall ever being served a hot drink in a mug at Yolande's. She also enjoyed her glass of wine. She once told me that she loved the visits of her nephew, Richard, when they shared a bottle of wine and a meal on the evenings he had to spend in London for business reasons. She had made it a tradition to invite her neighbours on Shrove Tuesday for pancakes and did so for the final time just before moving to Oxfordshire when the friends did the tossing.

This is the picture of the sister, aunt and great aunt, godmother, cousin and friend that we have lost and whose life we are here to celebrate. I will always remember her with great fondness.

Betty McKernan (née Whittall)

Yolande worshiped at St Marys for all of her adult life.



Out in the garden

With the approach of autumn, the plants in the garden begin to die down and fewer flowers colour the scene. However, the bed to the right of the entrance

was planted with a variety of cyclamen, which should flower throughout the winter. Did you notice that the tree in that bed has been cut down? It was a crab apple tree and had been looking sick for the past three years. Many dendrologists (tree experts) and gardeners were consulted about its sickness and no-one was sure. When not sure of any sickness, blame a virus. Dave cut the tree down, and Margarete took the wood to her garden for burning.

Apparently there are now too many bee-keepers in London, and not enough plants for those bees. Recently, Bousfield School has acquired two hives, and our garden will be proudly hosting plants to feed them; some of them – lavender and buddleia – are even now in preparation for next spring. It may be winter soon, but work in the garden has just begun.

Verena Tschudin

Autumn Chili Beef Stew with Cucumber and Avocado Salad

This is a great dish to prepare in advance, or cook and reheat the following day.

For the Autumn Chili Beef Stew

- 1 kilo beef shin or braising steak cut into chunky cubes
- 2tbs goose fat
- 1 bell pepper, chopped
- 3-4 seeded chilies, diced (leave seeds in if you like it hotter)
- 2 cans diced tomatoes
- 350g shallots left whole
- 1 tbs Worcestershire Sauce
- 250g button mushrooms
- Half bottle good red wine (I use Chianti)
- 2tbsp tomato sauce
- 1tbsp flour
- black pepper and salt to taste

Heat a large casserole pan and add 1tbsp goose fat. Coat beef with seasoned flour, fry until golden brown, about 3-5 minutes, then turn over and fry the other side until the meat is browned all over, adding more fat if necessary. Do this in 2-3 batches, transferring the meat to a colander set over a bowl when browned. Heat oven to 150C/fan 130C/gas 2.

Add red wine to the pan, deglaze the bits at the bottom of the pan, bring wine to boil and add beef, and the rest of ingredients (except mushrooms). Put into pre-heated oven for about 2½ hours. Take out of oven, stir and add in mushrooms, check seasoning. Cook for a further 20 minutes. (If cooking in advance add mushrooms when reheating.) Serve with good bread and the prepared salad.

For the Cucumber Avocado Salad

- 3 medium cucumbers, cubed
- 2 avocados, cubed
- 1/4 cup chopped fresh coriander
- salt and pepper to taste
- juice of 1 lime

In a large bowl combine cucumbers, avocados, and coriander. Stir in salt and pepper. Squeeze lime over the top, and toss. Cover, and refrigerate at least 30 minutes.

John McVeigh

Sponsor a bench

The benches in the gardens are looking sad and tired and need refurbishment. If you would like to sponsor the restoration of the benches please contact the parish office.

The Delights of Slow Travel

The Quinton family have had two wondrous holidays by car. Our first holiday, allowed us to cover quite a few miles and enjoy a huge amount of the British Isles.

In the summer half term we combined an off-the-cuff offer for a wedding car and an excuse for a holiday. Some dear friends were getting married in Findhorn, a village east of Inverness in June and we offered our classic car to take them from church to reception. We headed north to spend the bank holiday weekend with friends in Lancashire, crossed the Pennines to friends in Yorkshire, then up to Hadrian's Wall and on to Edinburgh. From there to Corroir via Stirling Castle and from there to Nairn and Findhorn and then on to Elgin where a wonderfully kind and generous man had offered to keep the car under wraps for us until the wedding. Back to London, on the sleeper on Friday.

The glorious second part of this holiday was the wedding itself. Taking the night train from London to Inverness allowed for the easy connection to Elgin where the car had been polished within an inch of her life, flowers set on the parcel shelf for the bride and ribbons and bows all over the place. Everyone had a lovely time and Edward and I adored our journey home where we stayed in Hawick overnight. The A7 from Edinburgh to Carlisle is also one of the prettiest roads I have ever journeyed on.

Then in the summer we motored down to the South of France to stay with friends, stopping off en route to show the boys Paris with croquet-monsieur at Notre Dame. We had a delightful journey, ably assisted by the patron saint of long distance driving with children: Stephen Fry reading Harry Potter. The travelling was part of the pleasure. It was wonderful and meant we saw signposts of

French history and places we want to go back to all the way.

Flying is lovely; we are not virtuous people but we did have the most wonderful holidays in this country and a huge amount of the pleasure of travel is getting to where you are aiming for – bit like life really!

Katrina Quinton

Please support our 3rd Annual Concert at St Mary's

In aid of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution

(organised by the RNLI Kensington Branch)

Thursday 17 October 2013 at 7.15 pm

 **The Catalya Wind Quintet** 

Young professionals from
The Royal College of Music
Flute, Oboe, Clarinet,
French Horn & Bassoon

**followed by
Reception in the Church Hall**

**£25 per ticket
Including wine and canapés**

Further information and tickets
contact Catriona Essenhigh

catriona@hhs.co.uk

020 7751 0833



All Souls' Day Service: Sunday 3 November

There will be a service for All Souls' Day on Sunday 3 November at 5.0pm when we will remember people who have died, especially those who have died in the past year, and all whose death we continue to mourn.

The service will include hymns, music and readings and will be followed by refreshments.

PCC Report of September meeting

News from the September PCC meeting could be described as variable. The PCC has expressed its satisfaction with the introduction of the new hymn book, the 150th anniversary edition of *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, often billed as the world's most popular hymn book. Contributions towards the cost of the books are still actively sought. Contributors can sponsor books in memory of family or friends who do not necessarily have to have a connection with St Mary's. Names will be inscribed in bookplates in due course and added to the books. However, the financial outlook is poor and the year is expected to end with another deficit in the accounts.

News of the appointment of an Associate Vicar is also disappointing. The post was advertised but the response was poor and no appointment was made. The reason for the lack of interest is almost certainly because the post does not come with accommodation. The PCC is considering whether it might be possible to remedy this by using the proceeds from the enfranchisement of the lease of Redcliffe Gardens and the other assets in the Redcliffe Gardens and St Peter's Trusts to purchase a suitable property. On current estimates we are tantalisingly close to being able to achieve this, but there remains a shortfall in the capital funds available, which so far we have not been able to cover.

A policy for the use of legacies was approved and plans were laid for the annual Planned Giving Programme, which will be run in the early autumn. This is designed to provide committed funding for our regular expenditure so that we can manage our annual budget effectively. Next year this will include work that has to be done to the hall. In order to bring the facilities up to the standard required for an OFSTED registered nursery, the toilets will have to be improved and new arrangements made for storage of chairs outside the hall, which will involve a different type of chair. These necessary costs, to which the current tenant will make a contribution, ensure that the rents obtained from letting the hall can

continue to be maximised over the longer term.

The meeting was preceded by a short study of Luke 16 – the story of the dishonest manager – which ends with the well-known phrase ‘you cannot serve both God and wealth.’

Leo Fraser-Mackenzie

In the Treasury

Now that we have the ‘coffee and conversation’ in the south transept after church, maybe look at some of the items in the treasury occasionally. They are mainly items that have come to St Mary’s from St Peter’s Cranley Gardens and St Jude’s Courtfield Gardens after their amalgamation with our parish.

One item, though, is definitely not from these neighbours, but was given to St Mary’s as a personal gift and an ecumenical gesture. The picture below is of the chalice that Abbé Jean-Paul Mahieu had made for his ordination in 1931. Jean-Paul was a Roman Catholic priest who came to London regularly between 1975 and 1983, when he died of a heart attack. The then Vicar, Gary Davies, invited him to be in the Sanctuary for the Eucharist, and eventually Jean-Paul helped with the administration of the chalice. He could not see why Christians could not share Communion, and never asked anyone for permission to do what he did.

The chalice is a very plain silver vessel, with a ring of amethyst quartz in the stem. It has a large cup, intended for congregational use, contrary to what would have been the custom at the time of JP’s ordination, when only the priest consumed the wine. The paten, which sits on top of the chalice, however, is relatively small and flat. It has three little feet of amethyst quartz, which JP intended to represent his three parents: his parents and an aunt who lived with them. Her presence was vital in the household: JP was the seventh of 13 children. On the underside of the paten is a very simple Chi-Rho sign (P with x across it), and the underside of the chalice was engraved by the parish to acknowledge the gift.

In due course other items in the Treasury will be described and featured in *The Clarion*.

Verena Tschudin

Autumn Education Programme at St Martin-in-the-Fields: Faith on the Frontiers.

The programme (7.30pm – 8.30pm) examines what it means to be a Christian in the 21st century through a number of different perspectives and voices. The programme is free and open to all, with a retiring collection to cover the cost of the programme.

Monday 7 October: *On the Frontiers of a Male Church*. Speaker: June Osborne

Monday 21 October: *Faith on the Frontiers*.

Speakers: Stanley Hauerwas in conversation with Sam Wells

Monday 4 November: *On the Frontiers: Violence, Nonviolence and the Earth*. Speaker: Alastair McIntosh

Monday 11 November: *On the Frontiers of Modern China*. Speaker: Lord Christopher Patten

Monday 18 November: *Faith on the Frontiers of Atheism*. Speaker Richard Kearney

More information is available on the website www.stmartin-in-the-fields.org and there are flyers available at the back of the church.

Clocks go back



The clocks go back on **28 October**.

Octobers Year’s mind

Peter Jouvet
Mary Challen
Charles Lawther
Margaret Singer
James McNair
John Marryat
Mary Proctor
John Williams
Anne Williams
Gavin Hodge
John Symons
Sandra Ockwell
Florence Payne
Mary Pretyman

Just As I Am

One of the great evangelical hymns of the 19th century has had a long life through the 20th, and its usefulness is far from over.

Just As I Am expresses a profound truth in simple but powerful language. Its unifying idea is grace; there is nothing we can do to make us acceptable to God, and we don't have to wait until we're good enough to come to him, because we never will be.

It was written by Charlotte Elliott in 1835. An invalid at the age of 30, she suffered ill-health until dying aged 82. We don't know the nature of the illness, but she wrote of it: "My Heavenly Father knows ... to resolve, as He enables me to do, not to yield to the slothfulness, the depression, the irritability, such as a body causes me to long to indulge..."

She was converted after meeting a minister, Cesar Malan, while visiting friends in London's West End. He asked if she were a Christian; irritable from the pain of her illness, she did not wish to discuss it. The question preyed on her mind. When they met again she said "I am miserable. I want to be saved. I want to come to Jesus; but I don't know how." "Why not come just as you are?" answered Malan.

The words may have been given to her then, but the hymn came later. According to Bishop H C G Moule of Durham, a relation, she was deeply troubled by her seeming uselessness. It came to a point in 1834, when she was 45 and her brother, a minister, was involved in raising funds to set up a school. A bazaar was planned, and the whole house was busily making preparations – except Charlotte, who was unwell. After a sleepless night, she realised that her sense of being good for nothing was a spiritual assault, which had to be met by an appeal to the promises of God.

While the rest of the household was at the bazaar, she wrote Just As I Am. Perhaps in some of its lines – "Just as I am, though tossed about/ With many a conflict, many a doubt" and "Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind" we can hear echoes of her own situation. But the hymn takes its enduring value from the fact that it speaks for all of us – "Just as I am, thou wilt receive/ Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve/ Because thy promise I believe/ O Lamb of God, I come."

The last line of each verse is hypnotic in its intensity. It was used during the altar calls at the Billy Graham crusades, and has probably accompanied more souls to salvation than any other hymn ever written.

We will be singing this hymn on Sunday 27 October

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 daily at 8.30am (Eucharist on Feastdays); Evening Prayer is usually said at 5.30pm on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday except Public Holidays.
Wednesday 7.00pm Eucharist

Readings in October 2013

Sunday 6

Readings at 10.30am

Wednesday 09

Readings at 7.00pm

Sunday 13

Readings at 10.30am

Wednesday 16

Readings at 7.00pm

Sunday 20

Readings at 10.30am

Wednesday 25

Readings at 7.00pm

Sunday 27

Readings at 10.30am

Wednesday 30 October Eucharist

Readings at 7.00pm

Harvest Festival All Age Worship

Philippians 4.4-9;

John 6.25-35

Eucharist

Jonah ch4;

Luke 11. 1-4

Twentieth Sunday after Trinity

Jeremiah 29. 1, 4-7;

2 Timothy 2. 8-15;

Luke 17. 11-19

Reformation Martyrs

Romans 2. 1-11;

Luke 11. 42-46

Twent-First Sunday after Trinity

Jeremiah 31. 27-34;

2 Timothy 3.14-4.5;

Luke 18. 1-8

Eucharist

Romans 7. 18-end;

Luke 12. 54-end

Last Sunday after Trinity

Joel 2. 23-end;

2 Timothy 4. 6-8, 16-18;

Luke 18. 9-14

Romans 8. 26-30;

Luke 13. 22-30

Sunday 27

Readings at 10.30am

All Saints Day*Daniel 7. 1-3, 15-18;
Ephesians 1. 11-end;
Luke 6. 20-31*

Mr David Parsons

Mrs Katrina Quinton

Mrs Judy Rydell

Mrs Ann Tait

Upcoming in October 2013

Sunday 6 Parish Lunch
 Monday 7 7.00pm Bible Study
 Wednesday 9 11.30am Memorial Service for
 Michael Gorman
 Thursday 10 12.30pm Thursday Lunch
 Wednesday 16 Bousfield School Assembly
 Monday 21 7.00pm Bible Study
 Wednesday 23 10.30am Bible Study
 Saturday 26 Wedding of Scott Rowarth &
 Olivia Shepherd
 Sunday 27 10.30am Baptism of
 Antonia Blomquist
 Wednesday 30 7.30pm Marriage Preparation

Parish OfficeSt Mary's Church House, The Boltons, London
SW10 9TB Tel 020 7835 1440www.stmarytheboltons.org.uk**Vicar** The Revd Ginny Thomas
020 7835 1440, mobile 07590074951.

Day off: Tuesday

gabby@stmarytheboltons.org.uk**Director of Music** John Ward

07853 406050 (mobile)

boltonsmusic@gmail.com**Parish Administrator**

John McVeigh 020 7835 1440 (church office)

Mon to Fri 9.15am-2.15pm

john@stmarytheboltons.org.uk**Verger / Caretaker** David Ireton

020 7244 8998 / 07881 865386

day off: Tuesday

Churchwardens

Leo Fraser-Mackenzie 020 7384 3246

Ann Mulcare 020 7937 2005

Members of the Parochial**Church Council**

Revd Ginny Thomas (Chair)

Mr Philip Bedford-Smith

Mr Craig Drake

Mr Leo Fraser-Mackenzie

Miss Margarete Geier

(Deanery Synod Representative),

Mrs Mary Godwin

Miss Joanna Hackett (PCC Secretary)

Revd Ruth Lampard

Mr Timon Molloy

Mrs Ann Mulcare (Deanery Synod
representative)**Safeguarding Officer**

The St Mary The Boltons' Safeguarding Officer is Timon Molloy. His role is to help us to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and adults at risk. He 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 Timon on: [07816 184207](tel:07816184207)

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: Katie.Fowkes@talktalk.net / [07810 831505](tel:07810831505)

Treasurer Carolyn Stubbs 020 7835 0074**Assistant Treasurer**

Bill Gallagher 020 7384 3246.

Electoral Roll Officer Fiona Parsons**Gift Aid Secretary**

John Barker 020 8571 0737

Co-ordinators:**Monday Bible Study Group**

Pat Schleger 020 7589 2359

Wednesday Bible Study Group

Margarete Geier 020 7373 1639

Clarion Editor

Verena Tschudin 020 7351 1263

Flowers Margarete Geier & Katrina Quinton**Prayer Network**

Verena Tschudin 020 7351 1263

Readers & Intercessors Rota

Mary Meeson (call Parish Office)

Reading at St Cuthbert's**and St Matthias School**

Sheila Gibbs 020 8788 9744

Thursday monthly lunch

Ann Tait 020 7352 5127

Social Secretary

Margarete Geier 020 7373 1639

Sunday School Parish Office

**Contributions for the September Clarion
should be sent in to the church office by
18 October 2013**

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