

THE CLARION

The Magazine of The Parish of St Mary The Boltons

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

October 2019

What do you say?

Our children hear this question frequently as they learn the art of negotiating relationships with family and friends. On receiving a gift, their parent asks 'And what do you say?' The answer of course is 'Thank you'. Thank you, even for the socks for Christmas, or that scratchy jumper, hand-made with love. Some Thank yous are easier to say than others, and perhaps more sincerely, but it is important always to say them, not least because expressing gratitude is a habit that we all need to cultivate, and particularly

those of us whose lives are so much more richly blessed than most people the world

over. How do we remind ourselves that Thank yous are not just for children, but something we should say to each other, to the people who serve us, care for us, work alongside us?

The Christian fellowship is the place where we are invited to cultivate our thankfulness, where we learn to say thank you to God, 'for all his goodness and loving kindness to us and all men', as the BCP's Prayer of General Thanksgiving says. It is in this fellowship of the Church that we find ourselves being reminded that being thankful is truly our most important calling, as each week we celebrate Holy Communion, the Eucharist, together. Eucharist means thanksgiving in Greek,

In some churches, the Eucharist is shared relatively rarely, just a few times a year, on the basis that it can become too familiar and lose the sense of its holiness. There is something to that way of thinking: overfamiliarity, like being told to say thank you over and over again, can lead to complacency, or worse,

contempt. It seems to me that the answer is not to keep the Eucharist like the best china, only brought out on special occasions, but to celebrate it frequently, regularly, to remind ourselves to be thankful always, to open ourselves to receiving the grace and love of God, wherever we find ourselves, and whoever we are.

A photograph of the words 'Thank You' written in blue and green ink on a white surface. The word 'Thank' is in blue and 'You' is in green. The handwriting is casual and child-like.

<https://www.needpix.com/photo/1450785/thankyou-note-writing-child-blue-green>

Extraordinary things happen in the Eucharist: first of all we are reminded that we are in the presence of the one who holds all things in being, in the place where he is named, and we are his own.

We come knowing our brokenness, our failings, our sins, but we can be unafraid of

admitting them, to God and one another, as we are assured that God has already forgiven us. We hear our story, our history in the reading and preaching of the scriptures. We voice our concerns for the world, and our little part of it, as we offer our prayers for people who lead, who suffer, who have died, assured that God hears us and answers us in love. We share the Peace, declaring that we are God's and his Peace is ours, passing understanding, as we say in the blessing. And finally we are fed at the table, food and drink that seems so small, but which is somehow Christ himself who nourishes our souls and bodies to become his Body, at work in the world. Eucharist – thanksgiving – is at the heart of it all. If we learn to say thank you to God for all of that, perhaps we will be better at saying it to each other.

How might you cultivate thankfulness in your own life? Who do you need to thank today?
Jenny Welsh

The Whispering Breeze of the Eucharist

St Bonaventure (1221-1274) has long fascinated me. He was born a few years before St Francis of Assisi died, and is considered the 'second founder' of the Franciscan Order. He wrote a great deal of theology, but only one essay on the Eucharist is known.

Bonaventure looks to the Hebrew Scriptures to understand the grace the Eucharist brings. He believes that the sacrament gives us the strength to work and prepares us for knowledge of divine reality.

The Eucharist gives us the energy to act. The basis for this claim is the story of Elijah (1 Kings 19). Elijah was fleeing from persecution by enemies who wanted to kill him and asked that he might die. He lay down, ready to die, when he was guided by an angel to 'a cake and a jar of water' (v. 6) at his head to walk for forty days and forty nights 'in the strength of that food' to Horeb, the mountain of God. Bonaventure interpreted the number 40 as a symbol that this food (the symbol of the Eucharist) is there to improve our spiritual life throughout life, guided by the Old and New Testaments.

Another grace of the Eucharist is to uplift us to contemplation. Elijah went to the mountain, which means his mind was elevated and he was thus prepared to receive a gift from the Lord.

The Eucharist prepares us for the manifestation of God. Having climbed the mountain, Elijah waited in a cave. The Lord spoke to him, asking what he was doing there, and Elijah complained that he was fleeing from his enemies. God told him to go and stand at the mouth of the cave and there he experienced a great wind, strong enough to split mountains, 'but the Lord was not in the wind' (v. 11). Then came an earthquake, and a fire, but they did nothing for him. Then came a 'whispering breeze', a 'sheer silence'. When he

heard it, Elijah wrapped his cloak around his face, and he heard again the voice of God asking what he was doing. Elijah repeated that he was fleeing his enemies. This time God told him to go back to where he had come from and gave him instructions for sorting out political disputes among the people who had wanted to kill him.

If God is not found in wind, fire and earthquakes, that is, according to Bonaventure, not in pride, impatience or bodily desires, then God is in the stillness of a serene conscience. The Eucharist makes us want for the 'goods of Heaven', i.e. leading a Christian life. This is suggested by Elijah wrapping his face in his cloak. We recognise our limits, see that humility is the better choice, give up grumbling at our incompetence and powerlessness and that of others. Being in the cave is recognising our smallness, but going to the mouth of the cave indicates the desire to change and become whole, strengthened by the Eucharist. Bonaventure's theology has often been understood as 'wisdom', but at the same time also as 'knowledge and love'.

Verena Tschudin

With acknowledgement to Fr Inos Biffi, *The whispering breeze of the Eucharist*, *L'Osservatore Romano*, 27 July 2011, p. 9.



orthodoxphotos.com

PCC Report

Thirteen members of the PCC met on 17 September in Church. The recent Patronal Festival was a lovely occasion to celebrate the completion of the garden project and a good opportunity of welcoming new people to St Mary's. After a period where building works and major projects have dominated the PCC meetings, it was rather nice to acknowledge completion of the garden works, for the Treasurer to see if we can reclaim the VAT on the lighting works, and also to know that the ongoing and seemingly ever expanding drain works are nearing the end; we can almost see light at the end of that tunnel!

The Archdeacon had visited the church on the day of the PCC meeting and was impressed with the preparation work Jenny had masterminded. The internal systems of St Mary's are good and the internal Financial Controls document, which is taking a huge amount of Carolyn Stubbs' time, is also well under way. The Health and Safety policy of the church prepared by Anthony Williams was also approved by the PCC and will be displayed in the Narthex. While still on documentation the Parish website will now have links on the home page to Safeguarding Documentation.

The subject of the PCC's Away Day was children and how we can welcome families into St Mary's, which the Archdeacon also encouraged as an aim of St Mary's. The PCC would like to encourage more members of the congregation to be part of the Sunday School leadership team rather than just parents of children who go. The focus of Sunday School is knowing the familiar Bible Stories, and there are excellent resources to help. Jenny will take Sunday School once a month and Philip will take the service on those occasions. It was agreed that a Committee should be created to focus on developing this area of the parish.

Jenny's new role as Area Dean is establishing itself and will be time consuming for her, but her role as Director of Ordinands will cease at the end of this year. Jenny's role as Chaplain to St Mellitus is also going well and she is developing further links with the College.

Dates for the diary are: Evensong for All Souls, which John Ward is putting together, and will be an opportunity to reconnect with the families of people whose funerals and memorials have been held during the year; and also the date for the Summer Fair next year has been set for Saturday 20 June.

Katrina Quinton



Choral Evensong and Commemoration of the Faithful Departed, Sunday 3 November, 5pm



<https://brightonoratory.org/2018/11/06/carissimi-todays-mass-feria-vi-in-the-octave-of-all-saints-5/>

This year we will keep the Feast of All Souls at a special Choral Evensong, sung by the Choral Scholars Consort. At the heart of this service will be the Commemoration of the Faithful Departed, when we remember the people whom we have known and loved and those who have been examples of faith and grace for us. Their names will be spoken aloud, and there will be an opportunity to light candles in their memory.

We will remember also everyone whose funerals, memorials or interments of ashes have taken place in the past year, and families will be invited to come along for that occasion.

We hope that many people from the congregation will join us, and help us to remember all those who have died.

If you have someone you would like to be named in that service, please let the Office know, or better still, add the name to the list you will find at the back of church in the next few weeks.

Jenny Welsh



The charity Will Writing Scheme

Will Aid is a special partnership between the legal profession and nine of the UK's best-loved charities. Every November, participating solicitors waive their fee for writing a basic Will. Instead, they invite clients to make a voluntary donation to Will Aid – we suggest £100 for a single basic Will and £180 for a pair of basic 'mirror' Wills.

With Will Aid, everyone benefits. You get a professionally drawn-up Will and peace of mind, while the charities receive much-needed donations for their vital work.

Any time from September onwards, go to our online postcode search (www.willaid.org.uk) or call us on 0300 0309 558 for details of a solicitor near you. Then you need to contact them direct to make an appointment in November. Appointments do get filled quickly so be sure to book early. Will Aid donations support the vital work of their partner charities:

Actionaid, Age UK, British Red Cross, Christian Aid, NSPCC, Save the Children, SCIAF (Scottish Catholic International Aid Fund), Sightsavers, Trócaire.



Bishop's Teaching Evenings

The Rt Revd Dr Graham Tomlin

All are welcome from churches across the Kensington Area.

The Word Made Flesh: How the Incarnation Changes the World

At the heart of the Christian faith is the belief that Jesus Christ is not just another teacher of wisdom, but God with us, the divine Word made flesh.

In these teaching sessions running up to Christmas Bishop Graham will be exploring the dramatic implications that belief in the Incarnation has for us today and the difference it makes to life as we know it.

16 October/All Hallows Twickenham/7.30pm

22 October/St Mary Abbots/7.30pm
31 October/Holy Trinity Sloane Square/7.30pm
5 November/St Paul's Hammersmith/7.30pm
3 December/St Mary's Sunbury/7.30pm
3 February 2020/St Leonard's Heston/7.30pm



Baroque Masterpieces for Soprano, Mezzo-Soprano and Flute

Works by Bach, Handel, Purcell, and Vivaldi
Sunday 6th October, 3pm
The Chapel, Brompton Cemetery
Admission free: retiring collection in support of Fulham Children's Choir

Eleanor Clarke: Mezzo-Soprano
Hermione Ruck Keene: Soprano
Richard Hall and Jeremy Clarke: Piano
Claire Heaney: Baroque Flute



Ebb and flow: a Chelsea Perspective

An exhibition of paintings, prints and sculptures by members of Chelsea Art Society on the theme of ebb and flow in Chelsea, sponsored by Sloane Stanley.

Dates: Tuesday 8th - Sunday 13th October 2019

Venue: 340 Kings Road London SW3 5UR -

Times: Open daily 10am-6pm, Sunday 10am to 1pm. Free Entry.

Not only the ebb and flow of water, which in Chelsea is most obvious in the tidal variations of the river Thames: many artists taking part have also found their cue in the coming and

going of people in Sloane Square, in the movement of traffic, of light, or of the seasons. The watery theme has taken some artists towards rainy pavements or fountains; others, sculptors especially, have found all manner of aquatic inspiration, from boating to water nymphs. In short, this may be a Chelsea perspective but it seems to have become as refracted and complex as the ripples themselves on the waters below Chelsea Embankment.

This is the second year that Sloane Stanley have so generously sponsored both the exhibition and the William Sloane Medal, and we look forward to announcing the winner on the opening night. We are very grateful to Sloane Stanley for their vision in supporting a significant and historical local art group.

We are also delighted that Fulham gallery owner Piers Feetham has so kindly agreed to be the judge for this year's Award. Commissioned by Sloane Stanley for these exhibitions, the William Sloane Medal was designed by Kate Harrison for these exhibitions - and once again this year will be awarded to one of our artists for the best work in the show.



There is a rich artistic heritage in Chelsea, and Chelsea Art Society itself has its roots in the bohemian era of Chelsea's past, when many artists still lived and worked in and around Tite Street. Although rising property prices have forced most artists out of Chelsea, many of the 100 or so members of Chelsea Art Society have lived, worked or trained in Chelsea at some point, and all are in some way connected and inspired by this wonderful area.



Second Half Club

Winter Term 2019:

Fridays September 13 - December 13
There will be No Classes on Friday 25
October (Half term)

10:00-11.00am Digital Clinic

One on one advice for all levels

Bring Your Own Device (mobile phone
iPhone/Android), iPad, Laptop, Tablet etc)



11:00-12:00pm Pilates (£1)

Delivered by Open Age *

12:00-1.00pm Chair Exercise Class (£1)

Delivered by Open Age*

Build flexibility, balance and strength

Lunch

Generously provided by Pret a Manger

1:15- 2:15 pm Game Time (Free)

Refreshments offered throughout the day.

Contact: vicar@stmarytheboltons.org.uk
020 7835 1440

*Free membership to Open Age required



October Services, Events and Readings

Tuesday 8 October

1pm Holy Eucharist

Wednesday 9 October

11am Silent Prayer

12.30 – 2.30pm Sing to Live, Live to Sing

Friday 11 October

10am - 12 noon Second Half Club (details on left)

Sunday 13 October Trinity 17

8am Holy Eucharist (BCP)

10.30am Sung Eucharist with Baptism: Leo Clague

Readings: 2 Timothy 2. 8-15
Luke 17.11-19

Tuesday 15 October

1pm Holy Eucharist

Wednesday 16 October

12.30 – 2.30pm Sing to Live, Live to Sing

Friday 18 October

10am – 2pm Second Half Club (see left)

Sunday 20 October Trinity 18

8am Holy Eucharist (BCP)

10.30am Sung Holy Eucharist

Readings: Genesis 32.22-31
2 Timothy 3.14-4.5
Luke 18.1-8

12.30pm Baptism if Millie Mengle

Tuesday 22 October

1pm Holy Eucharist

Wednesday 23 October

12.30pm - 2.30pm Sing to Live, Live to Sing

Friday 25 October

10am - 2pm Second Half Club (see above for details)

Sunday 27 October Last Sunday after Trinity

8am Holy Eucharist (BCP)

10.30am Sung Holy Eucharist

Readings Jeremiah 14.7-10, 19-end
2 Timothy 4.6-8, 16-18
Luke 18.9-14

Sunday 3 November All Saints and All Souls

8am Holy Eucharist (BCP)
10.30am Sung Holy Eucharist
Come and Sing Choir and Parish Lunch
5pm Choral Evensong and Commemoration of the Faithful Departed

Silent Prayer in Church

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

9 October
13 November
11 December

These meetings are designed to give an opportunity to join with others for silent prayer and meditation. The space behind the altar is a perfect setting, having a quiet air of spirituality, silence and serenity. We begin with a short reading, then two sessions of twenty minutes in which we sit quietly in prayer or meditation with a short break between. If you are practised in meditation or simply wish to join others for the first time, you are welcome.

*If the only prayer you say in your entire life is 'Thank you', that would suffice.
Meister Eckhart*



Year's Mind October

Mary Challen
Charles Lawther
Margaret Singer
James McNair

John Marryat
Moira Tompkin
Mary Proctor
John Williams
Anne Williams
Julia Gordon
Parvis Changizi
Gavin Robert Hodge
John Symons
Sandra Ockwell
Florence Payne
Mary Pretyman
Gillon Aitken
Peggy Smekal



Vicar

Reverend Jenny Welsh
vicar@stmarytheboltons.org.uk
020 7835 1440 and 07864 807959
(Day Off Thursday)

Parish Administrator

Max Noak 020 7835 1440
office@stmarytheboltons.org.uk
Tuesday: 9am-4.30pm
Wednesday – Thursday: 9am-2pm
Friday: 9am-4.30pm
020 7835 1440

Verger / Caretaker

David Ireton
020 7244 8998 (Day Off Thursday)
07881 865386

Churchwardens

Antony Bryceson
020 7937 1055
Edward Quinton
020 7373 6094

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

Director of Music

John Ward 07853 406050
boltonsmusic@gmail.com

Treasurer

Carolyn Stubbs 020 7835 0074

Assistant Treasurer

Bill Gallagher 020 7384 3246.

Electoral Roll Officer

Fiona Parsons (call 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, Kelly Webb may be contacted at 07971 552 014.

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.

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

Contributions for the November Clarion should be sent to the Parish Office by 25 October 2019.

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



Photo by Calvin Jackson and Dave Ireton.
The blessing and inauguration of the garden by the Archdeacon of Middlesex on Sunday 15 September