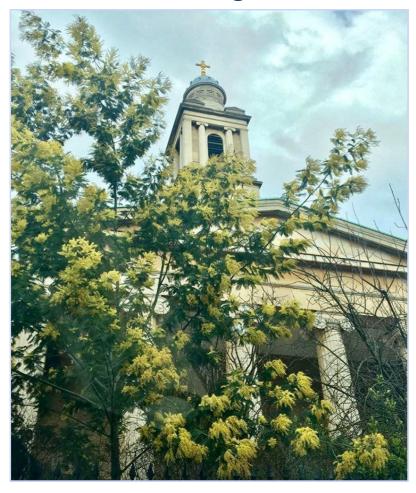
St Peter's Eaton Square

Parish Magazine



APRIL 2017



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VICAR'S NEWSLETTER



Colour, Food, Forgiveness and Love

As traditional religious belief and practice weakens in the west, it is interesting to visit places where religious festivals are still celebrated by the whole community, as they once were here. This year on my annual visit to our deeply inspiring Saakshar project in Delhi, my visit coincided with the Hindu festival of Holi, 'colours'. Holi is a spring festival which has become very widespread, and not just in Hinduism - it seems to adapt itself to various religious contexts as a celebration of love, life, and goodness. It is a time for healing relationships and for celebrating the victory of good over evil, and it is attached to various religious stories - about Krishna, Vishnu and Shiva. It even includes a story about 40 days of asceticism leading to forgiveness and restoration. It is about new starts, about forgiving debts and about love. It sounds strangely familiar. Thankfully, although I had gone with disposable polythene covers for my camera, I did not get caught in any excited throwing of coloured powder or liquid - my hosts took me to a discreet community lunch which showed the less rowdy side of the festival - bringing friends and neighbours together to share food and good company. In Indian festivals, as in other festivals the world over, a major focus is food. The community meal I shared with two hundred others cost less than 50p a person, but was delicious, varied and nutritious. And just as we in our cultures (I am thinking of the wonderful food shared by many of you at St Peter's) have a range of cakes and breads associated with our festivals, so in Hinduism there are special cakes and sweets for every occasion. At Holi the main sweet treat is 'Gujia', pastries shaped like miniature Cornish pasties filled with



Gujia - traditional Holi pastries

sweet coconut. Everywhere I went I was given gujia - everyone making them, in the slum, in our NGO, in the guesthouse where I stayed, and bringing them to me, their guest. Every day I ate gujia, conscious that accepting food from people is important, as well as fun. But in the end it became too much - like over indulgence in Easter eggs, and I could not eat another. Having been kindly entertained by our 17 year old trainee teacher Rupa, with her parents and relatives, in their tiny home beside the slum, and feasting on chai and the gujia she had baked for me, we

moved on to another home in the slum and when more gujia were brought I had to say 'no' - apologising profusely for accepting other people's gujia and not theirs, I suggested that there was a real danger that I was about to turn into one huge gujia myself. Surrounded by flies and four generations of their family I acted out what it was like for a middle aged Englishman to turn into a huge sweet pastie, and everyone laughed. Humour saved the day.

I was a little sorry that I did not play 'Holi', with the exuberant throwing of colour this year, but as on every visit, I was dabbed with colour on the forehead when I first arrived as a guest at each of the four tiny schoolrooms, dabbed on the forehead with bright vermillion by a small child - as a sign of welcome and of honour.



Bright colours on sale in Old Delhi for playing of 'Holi'

A necklace of marigolds was placed over my head and the child took a syrupy sweet and placed it in my mouth. That gentle touch on my forehead, the ancient gesture of welcome, felt like a blessing from God, as the sweet syrup melted in my mouth, and the smell of flowers surrounded me. As a Christian and as a foreigner in India I cannot know the depth of Holi's meaning, but my experience this year was a genuine part of my own Lenten preparation for Holy Week and Easter, our own celebration of forgiveness, of new beginnings, of love and of joy, demonstrated here in the colourful flowers of spring, and in the celebratory food of many different cultures, mediated through the love of God who gave his Son to welcome us into the life of heaven. I look forward to sharing Holy Week and Easter with you, and sharing with you the joy of life, abundant, and eternal.

Ralph

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

Wednesday, 26April 2017 7.00pm Eucharist in Church 7.30pm A.P.C.M. in Parish Hall

If you are on the Electoral Roll, please ensure that you attend.

FROM JULIE



For my letter this month I have reworked a recent sermon from the Sung Eucharist. As you read, reflect on how God meets you in your Lenten discipline, how his love is re-enacted as we walk through Holy Week together in anticipation of Easter

Have you ever been on the top of a mountain where it seems like you can see forever? Standing in awe and silence, in whatever direction you look, you see only pure beauty.

In a recent sermon Fr Ralph described the spiritual awakening of RS Thomas. He told how Thomas had an experience of God, an awareness of the light of God made present to him in the light and beauty of little birds. And this reminded me of a similar experience I had many years ago.

I recall driving through the cascades, the mountain range on the northwest coast of the US. I was one of 3 chaperones on a camping trip with young teenage girls. It was getting close to dusk and we still had quite a way to go before reaching our campground. I was driving and everyone else in the minibus was asleep. And, as I was a bit tired, I decided to pull over onto a lookout point. And what happened next will always stay with me.

I should explain that at this time in my life I was struggling with my faith. I had been involved in a church with quite a narrow interpretation of certain aspects of theology and scripture. And I was beginning to ask questions. And so, as I looked out over the mountain range with no one else around, I began to question God, his goodness, his justice and even his existence. As the sun was setting, falling behind the farthest mountain peak, hues of pink, orange and yellow floated across the sky. Suddenly, out of nowhere, a blue-green almost translucent light illumined everything around me... And then I was surrounded by a flock of little yellow birds – hundreds of them.

It was as if God was speaking to me from the sky, into the midst of all my questions and doubts. I had an overwhelming sense that God was there in the sunset, with the birds and in my life. This was my mountain top experience – quite literally. And, I'm sure some of you have had similar experiences. . . They are wonderful, even life changing, and yet these tangible experiences of the presence of God do not happen very often.

So what do we make of them? And, for that matter, what do we make of our readings from Exodus about Moses meeting God on Mt Sinai and Matthew's account of the transfiguration of Jesus? For these, to my mind, are the ultimate mountain top experiences.

Moses enters the divine presence at the top of the mountain where, according to poetic imagination, heaven touches earth and God engages humanity. Here he encounters the hidden "glory of God," that like "a devouring fire," is powerful even dangerous. And yet, Moses enters this mysterious presence, staying for 40 days and 40 nights.

There is no doubt that Jesus, on the "Mountain of Transfiguration," alludes to this story of Moses. And the significance is not difficult to see. It is one of those bible stories that would make a good film. Like the parting of the Red Sea, or the feeding of the 5,000, we can see the Transfiguration in our mind. We can use our imagination and fill in the details. The glory and power of God shown to Moses is now embodied in Jesus. It is no wonder that the disciples "fell to the ground overcome by fear."

Peter, James and John are caught up in the drama of the moment; before them stand Moses and Elijah. Jesus, as bright as the sun, is surrounded by the overwhelming presence and voice of God. And suddenly, as quickly as it occurred, Jesus is back to normal, the friend they know and love. What happens next is, in some ways, the most interesting part of the story.

Jesus puts their fears at ease and leads them down the mountain. And the allusion here is important. As Jesus comes down the mountain he re-enacts the incarnation, when God came down from his mountain to became one of us. God has come down to earth. This is a great comfort to all of us who spend our time at the foot of the mountain. Because it is here where the spiritual life is brought down to the ordinary and everyday reality of life. It is here where God meets us, where the light of Christ illumines the darkness.

One of my favourite spiritual writers is St John of the Cross He was a 16th century Spanish mystic who wrote about the presence and absence of God the midst of the darkness. His masterpiece, 'The Dark Night of the Soul' takes us on a journey towards union with God. For many years St John felt nothing of God's presence. He felt trapped, as he put it, in the 'dark night of the soul.' God seemed far away, living on a distant mountain. And yet, looking back on these years he realised that, in the midst of his darkness, God was actually very close.

And this is what we see in the Transfiguration. The light of Christ is always shining but only occasionally do we catch glimpses of his illumination.

This reminds me of a story. Before I was ordained I worked for a time as a lay chaplain in a local care home. And while I was there I met a man named Tom. Tom, who was in the later stages of dementia, never spoke. In the few years I knew him I never heard him say more than a faint whisper. And yet, Tom attended our regular communion service, something that he clearly enjoyed.

On one occasion I was giving a talk about Jesus and his love for us. I began to say something like 'we know that Jesus loves us'... And Tom suddenly broke out in song – he sang clearly and loudly a few rounds of the familiar Sunday school song 'Jesus loves me this I know for the Bible tells me so.'

He then went on to sing it again and still again in German.... As you might imagine we were all amazed and overwhelmed. And, after a while, we joined in with the singing.

This experience was deeply moving to all of us there that day. Tom, it seemed, had an encounter with God. And Tom's encounter with God sparked deep memories that had been hidden in apparent darkness. The words 'Jesus loves us' reminded Tom that Jesus loved him — and through Tom and his song, Jesus revealed the brightness of his love to all of us there that day.

In a place such as St Peter's we have many opportunities to help one another recognize the light of Christ. Coming together in worship, in the sharing of the Eucharist each week, helps us do just this. By recalling how Jesus identifies himself with broken bread and wine outpoured we see that he is a door into hope and a window to the light.

And so, as we move through the season of Lent, as we walk together through Holy Week and wait in anticipation for Easter, let's take the time to recognize and embrace the glimmers of God's light in this present moment. Because it from here, from this very place, where God transfigures the world in ways that might surprise us.

Olila Khovace

ST PETER'S EATON SQUARE

A beautiful and inclusive church, renowned for its music, outstanding professional choir and all-age welcome. Find us at the corner of Eaton Square and Hobart Place, just a few minutes from Victoria Station.



We warmly invite you to join us this

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

In addition to our regular Sunday worship we have special services during Holy Week and Easter. These include our Palm Sunday procession with donkey and palms, a Concert of Sacred Music on Tuesday of Holy Week, the liturgies of Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, and the Vigil and Service of Light on Holy Saturday.

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JOIN US THIS HOLY WEEK AND EASTER 2017 AT

ST PETER'S EATON SQUARE

PALM SUNDAY - SUNDAY 9TH APRIL

8.15am BCP; 9.45am Family Eucharist
10.45am Procession with palms and donkey
11.15am Sung Eucharist with the Passion Gospel
Music: Missa Petre ego pro te rogavi - Lobo; Deus, Deus meus - Isaac

MONDAY 10TH APRIL

12.30pm Said Eucharist: 7.00pm Said Eucharist with Meditation

TUESDAY 11TH APRIL

7pm A Concert of Sacred Music for Holy Week, with Meditation Music: François Couperin (1668–1733) - Leçons de Ténèbres Amy Haworth, dessus; Alice Gribbin, dessus; Andrew-John Smith, conintuo

WEDNESDAY 12TH APRIL

8am Said Eucharist; 12.30pm Said Eucharist 7pm Said Eucharist with Meditation

MAUNDY THURSDAY - 13TH APRIL

7pm Sung Eucharist with the Washing of Feet, the Stripping of the Sanctuary and Watch until Midnight Music: Missa Pange lingua – Josquin; O salutaris hostia – De la Rue

GOOD FRIDAY - 14TH APRIL

10am The Good Friday Story (worship for all ages)
12 noon The Liturgy of Good Friday

Music: Lamentations I - Tallis; Hear my prayer - Purcell

Adoramus te, Christe - Lassus; Crucifixus à8 - Lotti

HOLY SATURDAY - 15TH APRIL

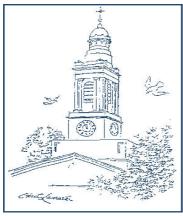
8pm The Easter Liturgy
with the Service of Light and the First Eucharist of Easter
Music: Missa Brevis, op.63 - Britten

EASTER DAY - SUNDAY 16TH APRIL

8.15am BCP; 9.45am Family Eucharist
11.15am Sung Eucharist

Music: Messe in G, D.167 - Schubert; Osterhymne, op.134 - Rheinberger

PARISH NEWS



The month of March began with intimations of Spring, and Ash Wednesday, which was marked (if you will excuse the pun) with Eucharists with the imposition of ashes at 8am, 12.30pm and then at a beautiful Sung Eucharist at 7pm. In addition, the school came for a very moving Eucharist, and all children, with some staff and parents too, received the sign of the cross. As a priest it is humbling to place ash on

the forehead of a small child, and we all began the season of Lent feeling grateful to have the chance to turn to the God who knows our frailty, beauty and innocence, as well as our failures and our sin. On Thursday the 2nd, a number of us were invited to be present as Nickie Aiken gave her address at the Westminster City Council leader's breakfast, and laid out her policies for the year ahead. We wish Nickie well in this important and challenging position.

On Friday the 3rd of March, we came together at St Peter's for the funeral of our much loved friend, Rosemary Bellman. Revd Julie conducted the service and other St Peter's clergy from the past were also present, including Fr Nick, who spoke movingly about Rosemary, Fr Desmond and Fr Alan, and Fr James Mustard. The service was followed by a family cremation ceremony and a reception at Rosemary and Ben's flat on Ebury Street. We will continue to miss Rosemary very much.

On Sunday 5th March new service booklets for Lent were introduced and we held our Operation Fish - Volunteering Sunday - and were reminded of the many practical ways in which we may contribute to the life of St Peter's. We were pleased that a number of people have come forward and offered

their help as a result of the day. Our Lent course began on Tuesday 7th and Wednesday 8th of March, following an excellent 'Churches Together' outline which encourages us to engage with different world faith traditions too. The following Sunday the youth group went out for pizza, with a record number of 27 people attending and the following Sunday they met again (meeting two weeks running to avoid Mothering Sunday) and Rachel Williamson came along to help to tie-dye T shirts, which was great fun.







Youth Group tie-dyed T shirts seem to echo the colourful traditions of Holi too.

Our Welcome Box team hosted another tea for refugee contacts in Revd Julie's flat on Thursday 17th, and many people came along for a very warm and supportive event. The PCC met on Monday 20th March, in preparation for the APCM after Easter, and the church's Quiet Day took place on Saturday the 25th: we were delighted to be welcomed at St Peter's, Bourne, and to have the day led so movingly by Revd Ron Swan. On Sunday the 26th

the clocks went forward to BST, and we celebrated Mothering Sunday, with the rose vestments of 'Refreshment Sunday' too.



Some of the refugees meeting in Revd Julie's flat

A new season of Eaton Square Concerts began on Thursday 30th, with a wonderful concert by Amy Dickson and Martin Cousin, sponsored by Grosvenor, at which the new concert staging (again, kindly sponsored in full by Grosvenor) and new concert lighting were used for the first time. The month drew to a close with a St Peter's School service in church for Holy Week.

Looking ahead, fliers are being distributed in the parish advertising our Holy Week and Easter services, and banners outside the church announce our worship to the community. We will soon be following in the footsteps of Christ towards the cross, and I warmly encourage you all to come to services in Holy Week if you can. On Palm Sunday we will process around the Square with Bayleaf the donkey, and there will be services each day and evening, including a Concert of Devotional Music, Couperin's Leçons des Ténèbres, on Tuesday the 11th at 7pm. We will be shining shoes for nothing in Victoria Station again on the afternoon of Maundy Thursday, and the full list of services for Easter is here in the Magazine. (*Page 10*)

After Easter the church will be closed for just two days, Monday 17th and Tuesday 18th March, and the Faith Discussion Group will continue again on April the 24th at the Vicarage.

PICTURE FOR APRIL

St George and the Dragon Carlo Crivelli c. 1470



READINGS FOR APRIL

Sunday, 2 April - 5th Sunday of Lent Passiontide Begins

Ezekiel 37: 1-14 Romans 8: 6-11 John 11: 1-45

Sunday, 9 April -Palm Sunday

Isaiah 50: 4-9a Psalm 31: 9-16 Matthew 27: 11-54

Thursday, 13 April - Maundy Thursday

Exodus 12: 1-4, 5-10, 11-14 Psalm 116: 1, 10-end John 13: 1-17, 31b-35

Friday, 14 April: Good Friday

Isaiah 52: 13-end of 53 Hebrews 10: 16-25 John 18: 1-end of 19

Saturday, 15 April: Easter

Eve

Genesis 1: 1-2, 4a

Genesis 7: 1-5, 11-18, 8: 6-18

9: 9-13

Exodus 14: 10-end; 15: 20-21

Romans 6: 3-11 Matthew 28: 1-10

Sunday, 16 April - Easter Day

Acts 10: 34-43 Jeremiah 31: 1-6 John 20: 1-18

Sunday, 23 April: Second Sunday of Easter

Acts 2: 14a, 22-32 1 Peter 1: 3-9 John 20: 19-31

Sunday, 30 April - Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 2: 14a, 36-41 1 Peter 1: 17-23 Luke 24: 13-35

FROM THE REGISTERS

BAPTISM

19 March - Zakiya Jokene

26 March - Harry Booth Albert Lu

Leticia Yang Liu Rocco Recordati

ST PETER'S WW1 MEMORIAL

2nd Lieutenant Evelyn Walter Copland Perry, 1890-1914,



was a pioneer British airman - he became the 130th person in the UK to learn to fly - and one of the first flying instructors

Evelyn was the only child of Walter Copland Perry, barrister and noted author, and his second wife Evelyn. They lived in 5 Manchester Square. Evelvn was educated at St. David's Reigate, Repton and Trinity College, Cambridge. He worked first at the Royal Aircraft Factory where he tested some of the early experimental machines.

Then he joined the Sopwith School of Flying in Brooklands. One of his trainees was Viscount Hugh Trenchard 'father of the Royal Air Force'.

Evelyn was asked to test an Avro biplane for the Portuguese army and while there, owing to engine failure, he made 'a wonderfully skilled forced landing in the Tagus without any injury to himself or his passenger or even getting their feet wet.' On returning to England Evelyn and his partner, a Mr. Beadle, made a small biplane which flew extremely well and was purchased by the Admiralty. Their next plane was a 'beautifully made' flying boat.

In 1913 Evelyn was gazetted 2nd Lt. Royal Flying Corps. (The Royal Flying Corps had been established in 1912 and six years later it merged with the Royal Naval Air Service to become the Royal Air Force.) The Corps was sent to France, ahead of the British Expeditionary Force. In August 1914 he wrote a letter home praising the fine aeroplane he had been given and telling of 'his extreme enjoyment of the flights he had taken thus far in his war service'. Then came death. Sadly Evelyn's plane was exchanged for a BE8. He and his co-pilot were among the last to take off from Amiens on August 16th. As their aeroplane climbed, it stalled, turned over on its side and fell to the ground



The BE8 in which Perry and Parfitt died

where it caught fire. Both men were killed. Aged 24 Evelyn was the first British officer to die in France in World War 1. He is buried in St. Acheul cemetery in Amiens and a memorial service was held at St. Thomas' church in Orchard Street, Portland Square (no longer there).

In 1918 this fatal accident was part of a major controversy over the attitude of the Royal Flying Corps to its pilots' safety. It was claimed that the BE8 aeroplane had a tendency to side-slip and nose-dive. However, although the BE8 was replaced, it was undecided whether the men's death was due to negligence, accident or pilot error.

Lt. Col James Cosmo Russell 1878-1917 DSO



James was born in Wollaton, Nottinghamshire, the elder son of the Rev'd H.C. Russell. His mother, before marriage, was the Hon. Mrs Leila Louisa Millicent Willoughby, daughter of the 8th Lord Middleton whose family has owned the Wollaton estate for nearly 600 years. James had six siblings. He went to Haileybury School.

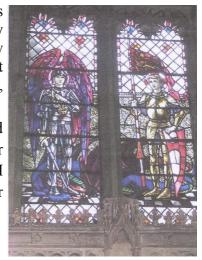
James was commissioned in the 4th. Hussars and in 1902 joined the Indian Army, serving in the 9th Battalion Hodsons Horse. He gained the rank of

major.

In WW1 he was attached to and commanded The Cameron Highlanders as Lt. Colonel. In 1916 he married Mary Catherine Clements, the daughter of the Rev'd Edward Mansfield Clements, rector of Barkston, Lincolnshire. The following year he was awarded the DSO.

James was killed in action and he is buried in Brandhoek New Military cemetery, near Ypres. His widow erected a memorial window in St Leonard's Church, Wollaton, Nottingham.

In the records of both Evelyn and James there is mention of their names being on our memorial but I have not been able to discover their connection with St. Peter's.



PHEOBE HILARY

The Reverend Prebendary Desmond Fillyer

is pleased to invite you to join him at

St Peter's Church Eaton Square, London SW1 on Saturday, 30th September 2017 at 11.00am

to celebrate the 50th Anniversary

of his ordination to the Priesthood on 29th September 1967 at a celebration of the **Koly Eucharist**

in honour of the Archangels Michael, Gabriel and Raphael Preacher: The Right Reverend Graham James, Lord Bishop of Norwich

R.S. V.P. (by 31st July 2017)

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All clergy are invited to concelebrate (alb and white stole), please advise

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College of the Resurrection Mirfield 1964-66

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by +Ronald Goodchild, Bishop of Kensington

Ordained Priest: St Paul's Cathedral by + Robert Stopford, Bishop of London

Curale: Parish of All Saint's Kanworth, London 1967-70

Chaplain: Liddon Kouse and William Temple Association and Assistant Priest Grosvenor Chapel, Maylair, London 1970-74

Vicar: Parish of St Peter Pimlico with Christchurch Westminster (St Peter's Eaton Square) 1974-2006

Area Dean Westminster, St Margaret's 1986-1992

Prebendary of St Paul's 200-2006 Emeritus 2007....

Permission to Officiale:

Diocese of Norwich 2006-13 Diocese of London 2013....



APRIL CALENDAR

This is the Church's liturgical calendar for the month ahead. It shows the holy days that we will be celebrating in common with other Christians throughout the world. In the right hand column is indicated the particular focus of our prayer each day at St Peter's. You might like to incorporate it into your own prayers even if you are unable to join us here.

Sa 1	Frederick Denison Maurice, Priest, Teacher of the Faith, 1872	For spiritual writers and teachers
Su 2	Fifth Sunday of Lent - Passion Sunday	For the Parish
M 3		For our school, children, families, staff and governors.
Tu 4		For peace and reconciliation in our world
W 5		For the Zacchaeus 2000 Trust
Th 6		For Her Majesty the Queen and the Royal Family
F 7		For religious communities
Sa 8		For refugees
Su 9	Palm Sunday	For the Parish
M 10	Monday of Holy Week	For the Church and the World in Holy Week
Tu 11	Tuesday of Holy Week	For the Church and the World in Holy Week
W 12	Wednesday of Holy Week	For the Church and the World in Holy Week
Th 13	Maundy Thursday	For all bishops, priests and deacons
F 14	Good Friday	Of the day
Sa 15	Easter Eve	Of the day

CALENDAR CONTD

Su 16	Easter Day	With thanksgiving for the
		resurrection of our Lord Jesus
		Christ
M 17	Monday of Easter	With thanksgiving for the
	Week	resurrection of our Lord Jesus
		Christ
Tu 18	Tuesday of Easter	With thanksgiving for the
	Week	resurrection of our Lord Jesus
		Christ
W 19	Wednesday of Easter	With thanksgiving for the
	Week	resurrection of our Lord Jesus
		Christ
Th 20	Thursday of Easter	With thanksgiving for the
	Week	resurrection of our Lord Jesus
		Christ
F 21	Friday of Easter	With thanksgiving for the
	Week	resurrection of our Lord Jesus
		Christ
Sa 22	Saturday of Easter	With thanksgiving for the
	Week	resurrection of our Lord Jesus
		Christ
Su 23	Second Sunday of	For the Parish
	Easter	
M 24	George, Martyr, Patron	For England and all its people
	of England c304	
Tu 25	Mark the Evangelist	For our willingness to proclaim
		the Gospel afresh in our
		generation.
W 26		For the Emergency Services
Th 27	Christina Rossetti,	With thankfulness for all which is
	Poet, 1894	beautiful
F 28		For our Prayer Board Requests
Sa 29	Catherine of Siena,	For teachers
	teacher of the faith, 1380	
Su 30	Third Sunday of	For the Parish
~ •	Easter	

23

AROUND THE CHURCH THE MOSAICS

Last month we looked at the mosaic in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, pointing out how it followed an established tradition of fine mosaics in St Peter's. Mosaics did not feature in Hakewill's original building in 1827; a painting of Christ crowned with thorns held the commanding position at the east end. However, after the extension of the church by the addition of a chancel, according to Blomfield's design, in 1872-73, mosaics designed by Salvatini were installed in 1878-79. The main three panels were in the arches on the east wall, behind the new high altar. The panel at the north side shows the mocking of Christ, with



Pilate giving judgement on one side of him, and a bored-looking rather Roman soldier on the other. The central panel shows the Transfiguration, with Christ standing between Moses and Elijah as in the gospel accounts. The southernmost panel showed the risen Christ with two disciples, older and a younger, at Emmaus, making himself known in the breaking of The work was bread done in vibrant colours. and with fine details Along the lower part of all three panels runs depiction of

representatives of all of the nine orders of angels, each with the

name and the appropriate symbols of the order. (If you can't remember the names of the orders, the hymn "Ye watchers and ye holy ones" helpfully lists them in an easily memorisable form.) Further mosaics, designed by Powells, were added in 1911 and mainly gold mosaics covered the walls and the west side of the arch into the sanctuary. There were two other panels – one on the north and one on the south side, the first showing Isaiah, predicting the birth of Christ and the other John the Baptist proclaiming the Lamb of God.

The east end was one of the parts of the church least touched by the fire of 1987, although the cracked stone of the pillars bears witness to the intensity of the heat. During the period when the church was roofless, such mosaics as had survived would have been at risk by exposure to wind and weather and to later building works. Therefore they were covered over with webbing and then with breeze block to protect them. It was with some trepidation that, with the church building fully repaired, the mosaics were uncovered. Astonishingly the three mosaics at the east end had survived intact. The north and south walls were more affected, with the panel showing Isaiah severely damaged and the John the Baptist panel showing moderate damage. In the areas of the walls visible in the damaged mosaics, the impressions of the old tesserae can be seen.

In the rebuilding of 1987-91, the church was restored to its Georgian proportions, with the new apse in front of the old chancel area. You can, however, still see what is left of the old chancel mosaics which now form the east wall of the sacristy. This is normally kept locked during the week but go and look there on a Sunday and you will be astonished by their continuing beauty and vibrancy, despite everything.

VALERIE SMITH

SHOE-SHINING IN VICTORIA STATION

The Transformation Group is organising a shoe-shining service in Victoria Station as an act of service and outreach to our community on MAUNDY THURSDAY

13 April 2017
from 1 30-3 30pm

from 1.30-3.30pm



All are invited to join us..

If you are interested in taking part please speak with Revd Julie.



FROM CATHERINE



Awake, awake, for we have New Life, with much love ...

Awake, my heart, to be loved, awake! awake! The darkness silvers away, the morn doth break, It leaps in the sky: unrisen lustres slake The o'ertaken moon. Awake, O heart, awake...

Awake, the land is scattered with light, and see, Uncanopied sleep is flying from field and tree: And blossoming boughs of April in laughter shake; Awake, O heart, to be loved, Awake, awake!...

I love this poem by Robert Bridges. It reminds me of how I feel on Easter morning, as though I have woken to a new land filled with light.

10 years ago, I received an Easter egg from my Godparents. Stuck onto the parcel covered in purple tissue paper, was a bright yellow cardboard label. On this little label, Rosemary, my Godmother had written "New life, with my love".

I've kept that little tag since.

It has travelled with me to the other side of the world and back again. For many years, I had it sitting on the mirror in my bedroom so that as I got ready in the morning it would be one of the first things I saw.

"New Life, with much love" for me, means so much. In many ways, I see this humble sentence as being the central message of Christianity.

It touched me the moment I saw it. Possibly quite accidentally, it has also been the advice I've needed during the ups and downs of life; reminding me of the hope we have in Christ.

Being Christian, through Jesus' passion, death and resurrection, we have new life, filled with the love of God.

Every single day, we have the opportunity to start again. To awake to a land filled with light. Awake to a new day, a new opportunity to think differently. To choose a new life filled with love, hope and faith. Our past is past. It is never too late to choose new Life, to trust in God's love and follow Christ.

For me, Easter morning feels different than any other morning. We awake to the news that He is risen, that all shall be well. My prayer is that this Easter season will be for you and for all you love, a time of new awakening.

I invite you all not only to awake this Easter morning as if waking into a new life filled with much love, but to keep that joy and message of reconciliation everyday of the year.

Catherine

Awake, O heart, to be loved, Awake, awake!...

OBITUARY FOR ROSEMARY ANNE BELLMAN



BeforAe I came to St Peter's I met with Fr. Nick Papadopoulos and he told me, 'when you go you must visit Rosemary for she is one of the most amazing people I have ever known.' And so, very soon after arriving, I went to see Rosemary in her lovely flat on Ebury Street. And I am very happy that I did. for she has touched my life in a special way.

As you all know Rosemary's life was full of drama and adventure. And so I'd like to highlight a few of these adventures. Rosemary was

born in North London into a theatrical family. She moved to Buckinghamshire during the war where her father worked. Tragically, her older brother Richard was killed in the war at the age 21. This devastated Rose for she adored him.

The family soon moved back to Hendon and Rosemary joined the WRNS. She worked in a branch of Bletchley Park and liked to tell how she was responsible for creating costumes out of net

curtains for their local productions. There is, in fact, a photograph there still today of Rosemary enjoying herself at one of their many post-production parties. Her experience in the WRNS led on to one of



Rosemary's later careers when she became a costume designer

with her partner Hilary Virgo. Rosemary and Hilary, who had a studio in Seven Dials in Covent Garden were constantly at work designing for a 1950's audience. And, as it was post-war Britain, there was little money available and Rosemary's skills with net curtaining came in handy.

Rosemary was involved in ballet, the theatre, and, of course, the world of costume design. And, it was through the theatre that



Rose met her husband Geoffrey. They were married in Switzerland and soon moved to South Eaton Place where they pursued their theatre career together. Rosemary enjoyed with wonderful life Geoffrey. travelling to the South of France and hosting great parties with people from the world of theatre and the arts. They also worked together for Granada television.

In the 1960's Geoffrey and Rosemary began to dabble in antiques and Rosemary began to paint. She was a

very talented artist, as those who have seen her paintings will

attest. Her painting, in fact, turned out to be quite profitable as she developed a whimsical romantic style that captivated many people and sold through many galleries. Ben was born in 1967, a wonderful gift to both Rose and Geoffrey. And Rose spent much of her time devoted to Ben, to his education and later to his career. Rose was deeply proud of Ben, of his strength of character and his determination even



when life was difficult. After Ben's accident she devoted

herself to his recovery, continuing to love and to support him right to the end of her life.

Rosemary spent the final two weeks of her life in hospital where she was visited by many friends and family. Although this was a difficult time for Rosemary it was also a time of blessing. Because through her many visits and the care she received from those she loved, Rosemary realized how much she was loved, how she had always been loved and how she will never be alone. During my last visit to see Rosemary I happened to notice the Bible on the stand next to her bed. And so, I asked her if she would like me to read something. I opened the Bible and discovered that she had written different verses, prayers and hymns on the inside cover over the years. I began to read a few of these passages that clearly meant so much to Rosemary. And, very soon an overarching theme began to emerge: Hope. Each verse or hymn that Rosemary had chosen said something about hope.

One passage in particular struck me because I think it encapsulates the hope for which Rosemary longed. It is from Psalm 103 and is what we said when we committed Rosemary to God

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy;
Slow to anger and of great goodness.
As a father is tender towards his children;
so is the Lord tender to those that fear him.
For he knows of what we are made;
He remembers that we are but dust.
Our days are like the grass;
We flourish like a flower of the field;
When the wind goes over it, it is gone;
And its place will know it no more.
But the merciful goodness of the Lord endures forever.

After reading these words together, Rosemary turned to me and asked, 'Do you really believe that God loves me and wants me to

be with him?' I looked at her and said, 'Not only do I believe it but I know it.' I gave her a kiss and left. I didn't know then that this would be the last time I saw Rosemary but I am grateful for this special moment we shared. For I saw a sign of the touch of God upon her, a momentary glimpse that, although outwardly wasting away, inwardly she was being renewed. Rosemary had made her peace with God and is now experiencing what it means that she will never be alone, that she now lives in the love of God.

JULIE KHOVACS

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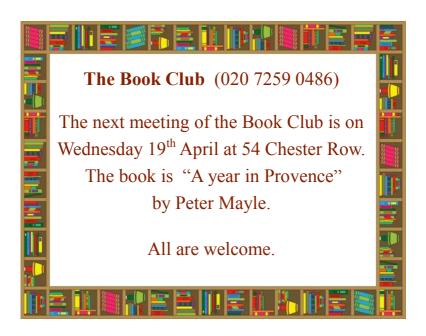
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CHILDREN'S PAGES

EASTER CROSSWORD

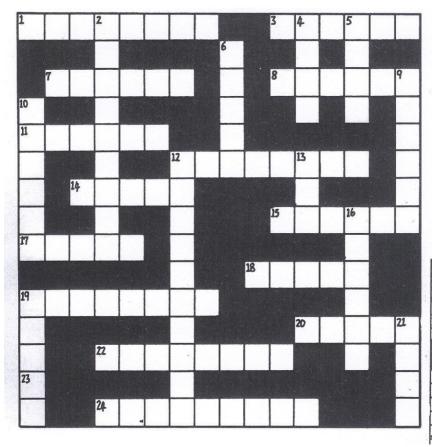
ACROSS

- 1. The high priest (8)
- 3. Missing for Jesus' first resurrection appearance to the Disciples in the upper room (6)
- 7. Pieces of silver Judas received (6)
- 8. These items of linen were lying in the empty tomb (6)
- 11. The Roman governor (6)
- 12. Means 'place of the skull' (8)
- 14. Peter denied Jesus this many times (5)
- 15. Carried Jesus into Jerusalem (6)
- 17. It was like drops of blood as Jesus prayed earnestly in Gethsemane (5)
- 18. He betrayed Jesus (5)
- 19. Name of the feast day when the last supper took place (8)
- 20. Jesus broke this at the last supper (5)
- 22. Released instead of Jesus (8)
- 24. Last supper eaten here (5,4)

DOWN

- 2. Home of the man who placed Jesus' body in his own Tomb (9)
- 4. Chief priests felt this for Jesus (4)
- 5. Girl who was this in the high priest's house asked Peter if he knew Jesus (4)
- 6. Who rolled away the stone of the tomb (5)
- 9. Jesus rose again on this day (6)
- 10. Taken with perfumes by the women to anoint Jesus' body (6)
- 12. Jesus arrested here (10)
- 13. Number of criminals crucified with Jesus (3)

- 16. Judas did this to Jesus to betray him (6)
- 19. Disciple who cut off the high priest's servant's ear at Jesus' arrest (5)
- 21. The sky was this as Jesus died (4)





RECIPE FOR APRIL

Spinach and Ricotta Filo Pie

(This Italian recipe for Torta Pasqualina is an Easter tradition in Italy)

Ingredients

- 300 fresh spinach
- 1 small onion, shopped
- 1 knob butter
- 350g ricotta cheese
- 80g grated Parmesan cheese
- 2 eggs
- 1 teaspoon ground nutmeg
- Salt and black pepper to taste
- 1 packet filo pastry
- 70g melted butted
- 6 egg yolks

Preparation method

- 1. Place the spinach in a frying pan over medium heat and cook until wilted. Drain, squeeze dry and chop finely.
- 2. Heat a knob of butter in the frying pan and add the onion. Cook until soft, adding the spinach for the last minute or two. Remove from heat and transfer to a bowl.
- 3. Once the spinach mixture has cooled slightly, mix in the ricotta, Parmesan, two whole eggs, nutmeg, salt and pepper.
- 4. Preheat the oven to 180C/Gas 4. Butter a 23cm tart tin or pie dish. Unwrap the filo and keep a damp cloth over the stack of sheets to prevent them from drying out whilst you work.
- 5. Lay a sheet of filo over the buttered dish. Brush lightly with butter, then top with another sheet of filo, at a slight angle to the first one. Continue in this manner, with up to 12 sheets, brushing between sheets and working clockwise to lay each at a sight angle to the previous sheet.

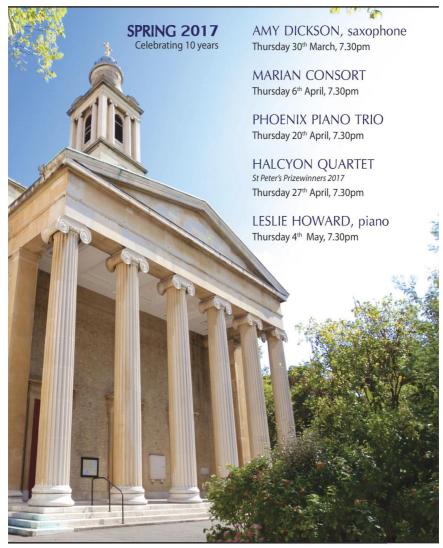
- 6. Tip the cheese and spinach mixture into the filo-lined dish. Spread out evenly. Using the back of a spoon, make six indentations in the filling, then place an egg yolk in each. Season each yolk with salt and pepper, then drizzle each with a bit of melted butter.
- 7. Take the extra filo hanging over the edge of the dish and fold it over to the centre to cover the filling. Bring each sheet of filo over one at a time and brush each one with butter. End by brushing the top of the whole pie with butter.
- 8. Bake at 180C / Gas for 40 minutes, or until the filo pastry is a dark golden brown. Remove and let cool slightly before slicing. Serve warm.



If you would like to share a favourite recipe, please send it to the Parish Administrator.



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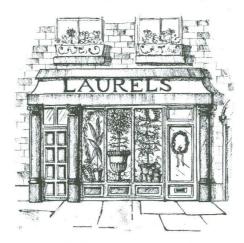


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Magazine compiled by Olivia Reed



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Sung Eucharist		11.15 a.m.
Daily	7	
Morning Prayer		7.30 a.m.
Evening Prayer		5.00 p.m.
Daily Eucharist		12.30 p.m.
plus Wednesdays		8.00 a.m.
Fridays at St Peter's School	*	9.10 a.m.
*during term time only		

For other acts of worship please see inside this magazine or on the Church notice boards



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Cover picture taken by Raana Khatabakhsh