

St Peter's Eaton Square



**December 2016 &
January 2017**



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CONTENTS

Vicar's Newsletter	Page 2
Christingle	Page 5
Picture for December	Page 6
Parish News	Page 7
Carol Singing in Victoria Station	Page 10
Christmas Cards	Page 11
From Julie	Page 12
St Peter's Christmas Charities	Page 13
Readings for December & January	Page 15
From Catherine	Page 16
The Book Club Meeting	Page 18
The book Club	Page 19
St Peter's WW1 Memorial	Page 20
December Calendar	Page 22
St Peter's Advent and Christmas Services	Page 24
January Calendar	Page 26
Saint for December - Gregory of Nazianzus	Page 28
From the Magazine December 1916	Page 34
Eaton Square Concerts	Page 36
Children's Page for December	Page 40
November Photographs	Page 41
Children's Page for January	Page 42
Common Fund 2016 and 2017	Page 43
Eaton Square Concerts Programme - Spring 2017	Page 44

VICAR'S NEWSLETTER



2016 is drawing to a close, and what a year it has been in our world. The Olympic Games was a high point, but many of us are still wrestling with difficult emotions about the vote for Britain to leave the EU, and the results of the US Presidential election, both of which have led to conflict and ill feelings, division within communities and considerable uncertainty, anxiety, and unhappiness. I have thought how wonderful it might be to turn the clock back - to go back to how it was last year. But clocks do not go back and I am reminded of Edward Fitzgerald's translation of the Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam, where it says:

“The Moving Finger writes; and, having writ,
Moves on: nor all thy Piety nor Wit
Shall lure it back to cancel half a Line,
Nor all thy Tears wash out a Word of it.”

Khayyam was a Muslim and a Sufi. Although he is now famous for his poetry he was firstly a mathematician and a musician who

wrote the Rubaiyat at the end of a life dedicated mostly to the study of algebra. Born in Iran in the middle of the 11th Century, he managed to live for over 80 years through turbulent times, and experienced persecution for his religious beliefs, which forced him to flee to Turkmenistan to continue his work.

The lines above refer to the story of Daniel at the court of Belshazzar which we know from the Book of Daniel, Chapter 5. Many of the stories about Daniel in Babylon, including the account of Belshazzar's feast, were familiar in Muslim literature too and Daniel is revered in Islam for teaching obedience to the one true God. At a drunken banquet King Belshazzar brought out the sacred vessels looted from the Temple in Jerusalem. The passage in Daniel Chapter 5 says that,

The king and his lords, his wives, and his concubines drank from them. They drank the wine and praised the gods of gold and silver, bronze, iron, wood, and stone. Immediately the fingers of a human hand appeared and began writing on the plaster of the wall of the royal palace, next to the lampstand. The king was watching the hand as it wrote. Then the king's face turned pale, and his thoughts terrified him.

Daniel was eventually brought to translate the writing:

So from God's presence the hand was sent and this writing was inscribed. And this is the writing that was inscribed: mene, mene, tekel, and parsin. This is the interpretation of the matter: mene, God has numbered the days of your kingdom and brought it to an end; tekel, you have been weighed on the scales

and found wanting; peres, your kingdom is divided
and given to the Medes and Persians' ...

That very night Belshazzar, the Chaldean king, was
killed. And Darius the Mede received the kingdom.

Kingdoms rise and fall, and the moving finger reminds us that there is no going back, yet in the midst of what is terrifying and bewildering we must trust that God remains changeless, and his purposes are for eternity. A thousand years before Omar Khayyam, Jesus was born in Bethlehem, into a world as tormented and conflict filled as that of Daniel, of Khayyam, or of today. Into the confusion and the upheaval of nations Jesus came to bring the light of God's own redeeming presence. Into the brokenness of the world came the healing of God. Into the violence and warfare of clashing powers came the infinite power of love, vulnerable, innocent love, the Christ child.

He was not born in a palace, not in the centre of empire. God came to the place where he was most needed, born to a normal, poor young woman in a dead-end place, with borrowed baby equipment, and under a violent threat to their lives which drove them from their country as refugees into Egypt. These salutary facts remind me that most of the world's people are little bothered by Brexit or even the US Presidential election - most are too busy trying to make a living, to support their loved ones, to find enough to eat and drink each day to be worried much about the upheavals of history. They know that whoever is in charge they will remain poor, and washed this way and that by the forces of hate and greed. It is to these people that Jesus came, and he is with us in the vulnerable love of each fragile human heart and in each fragile human life.

As 2017 begins we may have some anxieties about what lies ahead both politically and economically, but despite that, we remember that Christ came to be God with us, to be present in our joys and our despairs. And if we are in any way a part of the messy and dangerous world of economic and political affairs, our first responsibility is not towards our own security but towards the poor of the earth, God's children, whom we are called to serve in the name of Christ. We hope and pray that it will be a good year for them, as well as for each of us.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Ralph

Christingle

A service of light for all the family
followed by refreshments



Sunday, 4 December
2016

4.00pm

St Peter's Eaton Square

PICTURE FOR DECEMBER

Eglantyne Jebb

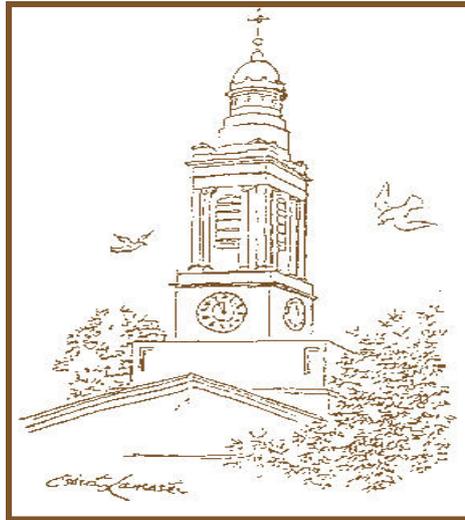
25 August 1876 - 17 December 1928



A British social reformer and founder of the Save the Children organisation.

“All wars, whether just or unjust, disastrous or victorious, are waged against the child”

PARISH NEWS



The month of November always begins with those first dark winter nights, and the celebrations All Saints and then a Sung Eucharist for All Souls Day, when we remember those who we love but see no longer. On Sunday the 6th of November Fr Ralph had the privilege of preaching at the main Eucharist at St Paul's Cathedral, and then he and Revd Julie along with Catherine Cowie were away on a three day retreat with clergy and Pastoral Assistants from St Matthew's, Westminster and St Dustan's, Stepney, in the depths of rural Sussex. On their return, they were delighted to take part in the Open Day at St Peter's School, welcoming prospective parents.

On Thursday the 3rd we enjoyed the penultimate Eaton Square Concert of the autumn, with a beautiful performance of JS Bach and GF Handel from the Vasari Singers, sponsored kindly by the Goring Hotel. On the following Thursday we were enchanted by the playing of Katherine Bryan, accompanied by Tim Carey, at another beautiful concert, this time sponsored by Grosvenor. The fascinating concert featured arrangements of iconic pieces for solo violin, arranged for the flute. Do look out for the exciting programme for the New Year.

Remembrance Sunday was marked with an act of Remembrance on the portico, and two brief services led by Revd Julie and Catherine in Victoria Station. The preacher at the Sung Eucharist

that morning was Judith Richardson, now in her second year of Licensed Lay Ministry training, who spoke movingly about loss and remembering. That night the Youth Group met and did some singing with Fiona Hymns, and then some Meditation with Catherine Cowie, which everyone enjoyed.

On Thursday the 17th November, St Peter's welcomed the Spanish Institute (Instituto Cervantes London) for an outstanding concert of classical Spanish guitar. Saturday the 19th was the day on which we held our American Thanksgiving Dinner and Quiz night, and about 70 people gathered for a truly memorable celebration, with outstanding food, a mind-expanding quiz and lots of fun, all to raise money for the Samaritans. On Sunday the 20th, our busy weekend continued as we celebrated the Feast of Christ the King, and also our Stewardship Sunday - if you have not received a stewardship pack already in a white envelope, or by email, please speak to Fr Ralph, and please would everybody return your reply forms. At the Sung Eucharist we were delighted to baptise Albert Taylor, and we also launched our beautiful range of Tateossian bracelets for Saakshar too, which will continue to be available through the Christmas and New Year period if supplies hold out - please consider them for Christmas presents as 30% of the £120 purchase price will go to Saakshar's work with slum children in Delhi. The launch of the bracelets at the Tateossian store in Sloane Square is on Tuesday 29th at 6pm. Advent Calendars continued to sell strongly in church, and Christmas cards went on sale too, for just £5 for a pack of 6.

Confirmation Classes began for children at St Peter's School in Y5 or older, on Monday the 21st of November. And all of St Peter's School came to church on Wednesday the 23rd November for their annual House Singing Contest, where children from the four houses (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John) compete in three performance categories. Mr Ridley compered the happy event, and Ralph and Julie were the X-Factor style judges. The children were very excited, and the singing was all lovely.

Advent Sunday falls on November the 27th, and our Advent Carol Service is all set to be as beautiful as ever, and the Youth Group will follow it with a party. The Faith Group meets to read and discuss the birth narratives of Jesus on Monday the 28th of November and then three charity concerts take place that week too: on Wednesday 30th we welcome Heathfield School; on Thursday 1st December the charity Kids for Kids hold their Christmas fundraising concert, with special guests including Joanna Lumley; the following evening the Friends of Columbia charity concert takes place in the church. On Saturday the 3rd we hope that everyone makes their way to St Peter's School for their Christmas Fair.

The Second Sunday of Advent, December 4th, is the day of our Christingle Service for children and families at 4pm, on behalf of the Children's Society - come along! The PCC will meet on Monday December the 5th, and on Tuesday morning the 6th of December, the Knightsbridge Kindergarten hold their nativity play in church. The following evening we welcome the charity United Response for their Christmas concert.

The Third Sunday of Advent is Gaudete Sunday, when we wear rose vestments... In the Family Eucharist we will enjoy the children's delightful nativity play, and that afternoon Drummond Twort will be baptised, the Youth group will meet and Alcoholics Anonymous will hold their moving Christmas Carol Service in church too. The Anonymous carols will be followed on Monday the 12th by the carol service for the Chartered Institute of Taxation, and on the 13th by the Whitehall Choir Christmas Concert. On Wednesday and Thursday St Peter's School will enjoy their Nativity play in church, and on Thursday afternoon members of the church and school will be singing carols at Victoria Station in the afternoon, from 1-3pm, while the Oriana Choir sing their Carol Concert in church the same evening. Sunday the 18th is the fourth Sunday of Advent, and in the evening is our own church Christmas Carol Service at 6pm. The School's Carol Service will be on Tuesday morning, December 20th, and on the 21st we will host a party in the Parish Hall for the Caxton Youth Club. Our Christmas services will be

as last year, with a Crib Service on Christmas Eve at 4pm, Midnight Mass at 11pm and normal (Sunday) services on Christmas morning.

The week after Christmas the church will be closed, until January 1st, when we will have Parish Eucharist at 10.30am. Further ahead in January, the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins on January 18th, and the high point will be our Confirmation service on Sunday the 22nd, at 10.30am.

Throughout the last few months, Revd Julie has been coordinating volunteers who have been making welcome boxes for refugees and visiting them, and others who visit The Passage each fortnight. Revd Julie speaks about this elsewhere in the Magazine.

Ralph



**Please meet at Victoria Station for
CAROL SINGING
on**

**Thursday 15 December 2016
from 1.00-3.00pm**

**St Peter's School Choir
will join us from 2.00-3.00pm**

**We will be handing out mince
pies as a way of celebrating the
Christmas season with the
community.**

CHRISTMAS CARDS



We are once again producing a beautiful Christmas card; cards are available from Church. By popular demand, this year's card will be a smaller size but just as beautifully printed as last year, and the design features a detail from one of the windows in the Verger's Vestry, of an angel playing a harp. At just £5 for a pack of 6, all the proceeds will go to our Christmas charities.

FROM JULIE



Last week many of us at St Peter's enjoyed a Thanksgiving dinner and quiz.

Growing up in America I have always loved Thanksgiving: the festivities, the time with family and, of course, the food. And, above all, Thanksgiving is a time to give thanks. Rowan Williams writes, "When we say thank you to God we connect our own experience with God as Giver. We say that what has happened to us is somehow rooted in

the gift of God. And Jesus, in his life and in his death, connects the darkest places of human experience with God the Giver; as if he is saying that even in these dark places God continues to give, and therefore we must continue to give thanks." And the joy of giving thanks to God leads quite nicely to the season of Advent

Advent has arrived and with it Christmas has already come all around us. Ready or not we are already celebrating Christmas at Carol Services, in churches, schools, the shops or outside in the cold. At these occasions, and whenever we can, we're telling and re-telling the story of Jesus in Bethlehem. We re-tell the Jesus story which is old, old but forever new. And we do this in many different ways. Sometimes it's through giving a reading or singing a song. Other times it is by participating in a Nativity play as we will here at St Peter's on the 11th of December. The story of Christmas stands the test of time. We love to tell about the birth of Jesus, to proclaim that the Saviour of the world has come. But what does this means in terms of everyday, ordinary people?

On the third Sunday of Advent we will remember the life of John

the Baptist who points us to Jesus, to his ministry of salvation and forgiveness. And, John the Baptist was sent by God to proclaim this message for ordinary people, 'Prepare the way of the Lord. Make His path straight.' The image of the straight path would have been clear to the people listening. When a king was about to come into the land, the roads would be cleaned up and straightened in preparation for his arrival. So now, John is telling the people to prepare themselves for the arrival of the Lord in a way similar to how they would prepare the roads for a coming king.

And of course we soon discover that Jesus is this king the people have been waiting for. And this is very good news of Christmas. It is good news for us because we are invited to participate in the story. The message 2000 years ago and for us today is that Jesus, the Son of God, the Saviour of the world has come to shine his light in the darkness of our world.



PLEASE SUPPORT ST PETER'S CHRISTMAS CHARITIES

This Christmas season St Peter's is supporting a local, national and international charity. Our local charity is **Caxton Youth Organization**, supporting children with learning difficulties in our local area. Caxton Youth Organisation has been working with young people from different communities in Westminster since 1948. They work to advance the education and social development of young people with disabilities, resident in the City of Westminster, and to develop their social, educational, citizenship and life skills. We will be hosting a Christmas party for the youth club in our parish hall on Wednesday the 21st of December.

St Peter's is also supporting the national charity **Centrepoin**t, the UK's leading youth homelessness charity. Centrepoin't's focus is on helping at-risk young people into employment and accommodation. They provide shelter, counsellors, health supporters and job placements. Their supporters, volunteers and ambassadors play a large part in helping to create real change and giving homeless young people a future.

And finally, we are supporting the national Anglican charity **USPG Syria**, working with refugee children in Lebanon. As the Syrian political crisis continues, large numbers of Syrian children are missing out on an education, including thousands of refugee children living in countries neighbouring Syria. In Lebanon – where there are at least 1.14 million Syrian refugees – USPG has teamed up with Embrace the Middle East to provide basic education to Syrian refugee children, alongside other practical support, such as food distribution. Your donations to the USPG Rapid Response Fund Syria Appeal will help set up schools for Syrian children that will use the Syrian curriculum and utilise teachers from among the refugee population.

Additionally, donations from the Christingle service on the 4th of December will support the work of the **Children's Society** with disadvantaged children in the UK. The mission of The Children's Society is to 'fight for change so that disadvantaged children have better lives.' They do this through nurturing children in early years, strengthening families through advice and support, providing basic needs for destitute families, campaigning for the needs of children, particularly around the areas of debt and poverty.

Thank you for your support and may you have a blessed Christmas.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Julie Khoo". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

READINGS FOR DECEMBER & JANUARY

Sunday, 4 December: Second Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 11: 1-10
Romans 15: 4-13
Matthew 3: 1-12

Sunday, 11 December: Third Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 35: 1-10
James 5: 7-10
Matthew 11: 2-11

Sunday, 18 December: Fourth Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 7: 10-16
Romans 1: 1-7
Matthew 1: 18-25

Saturday, 24 December: Christmas Eve

Isaiah 9: 2-7
Titus 2: 11-14
Luke 2: 1-4

Sunday, 25 December: Christmas Day

Isaiah 52: 7-10
Hebrews 1: 1-4
John 1: 1-14

Sunday, 1 January: Naming and Circumcision of Jesus

Galatians 4: 4-7
Luke 2: 15-21

Sunday, 8 January: Epiphany

Isaiah 60: 1-6
Ephesians 3: 1-12
Matthew 2: 1-12

Sunday, 15 January: Second Sunday of Epiphany

Isaiah 49: 1-7
1 Corinthians 1: 1-9
John 1: 29-42

Sunday, 22 January: Third Sunday of Epiphany

Isaiah 9: 1-4
1 Corinthians 1: 10-18
Matthew 4: 12-23

Sunday, 29 January: Presentation of Christ in the Temple

Malachi 3: 1-5
Hebrews 1: 14-end
Luke 2: 22-40

FROM CATHERINE



Pilgrims

I have been really enjoying our adult confirmation class, where, over the past few months we have been working our way through the Pilgrim course. Pilgrim is an innovative and inspiring programme, not only for those new to the Christian faith, but experienced enquirers too. It approaches the great issues of faith, not through persuasion, but through active participation in a pattern of contemplation and open discussion in the company of a small group of fellow travellers.

We are preparing for The Bishop of London's visit to St Peter's on Sunday 22nd January, when both our adult and our younger candidates will be confirmed.

Confirmation marks the point in the Christian journey at which you affirm for yourself the faith into which you have been baptised and your intention to live a life of committed discipleship. This affirmation is confirmed through prayer and the laying on of hands by the confirming bishop. The Church also asks God to give you power through the Holy Spirit to enable you to live in the way of Jesus.

In the excitement of preparing and looking forward to this special day in January, I've been reminiscing about my own experience of confirmation.

For me, and for my friends and family, my confirmation was a very special day. It was the day that I openly acknowledged my commitment to live my life in the love of God.

One of my favourite liturgical parts of our Baptism and Confirmation service is the invitation to the whole congregation to openly profess their own faith. This gift of acknowledgement not only inspires our collective fellowship as the One Body, but it is an inward gift, for ourselves and for God. Professing our faith to ourselves can sometimes be even harder than an outward profession.

A Pilgrim (from the Latin peregrinus) is a traveller, one who is on a journey to a holy place. I love how during the baptism and confirmation of others, we are all invited, as fellow travellers, to profess our faith and journey as pilgrims together.

In celebration of my own confirmation, I was given an old book by my godmother, Rosemary. 'The Golden Thread', by Dorothy Boux, is a multi-faith book containing words of hope for a changing world. There are extracts not only taken from The Bible, with Psalms and passages from The Gospels, but also from some of the greatest poets, theologians and spiritual guides. Contributors range from the Song of Solomon to Tolstoy, from St Francis of Assisi to Native American Chiefs, and The Koran.

As we enter into Advent, with Christmas and the New Year just around the corner, I would like to share with you all one of my favourite extracts from 'The Golden Thread'.

'And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year:

'Give me a light that I may tread safely into the

unknown'. And he replied:

'Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God.

That shall be to you better than a light and safer than a known way.'

Minnie Louise Haskins

This new year, the uncharted land stretching ahead, offers us a bewildering variety of paths. Some of us choose the highways, others the lanes and footpaths, but in reality we are all travelling together, Pilgrims together, and sooner or later we will reach our single destination. I pray that in the year to come, all races, nations and religions combine in peace, with a chord based upon one key note, our common humanity, which holds us in a single bond of harmony.

May this Christmas bring peace into our lives and love into the lives of this world, so we may all travel as Pilgrims together, bringing the harmony of God's true kingdom into the new year ahead.

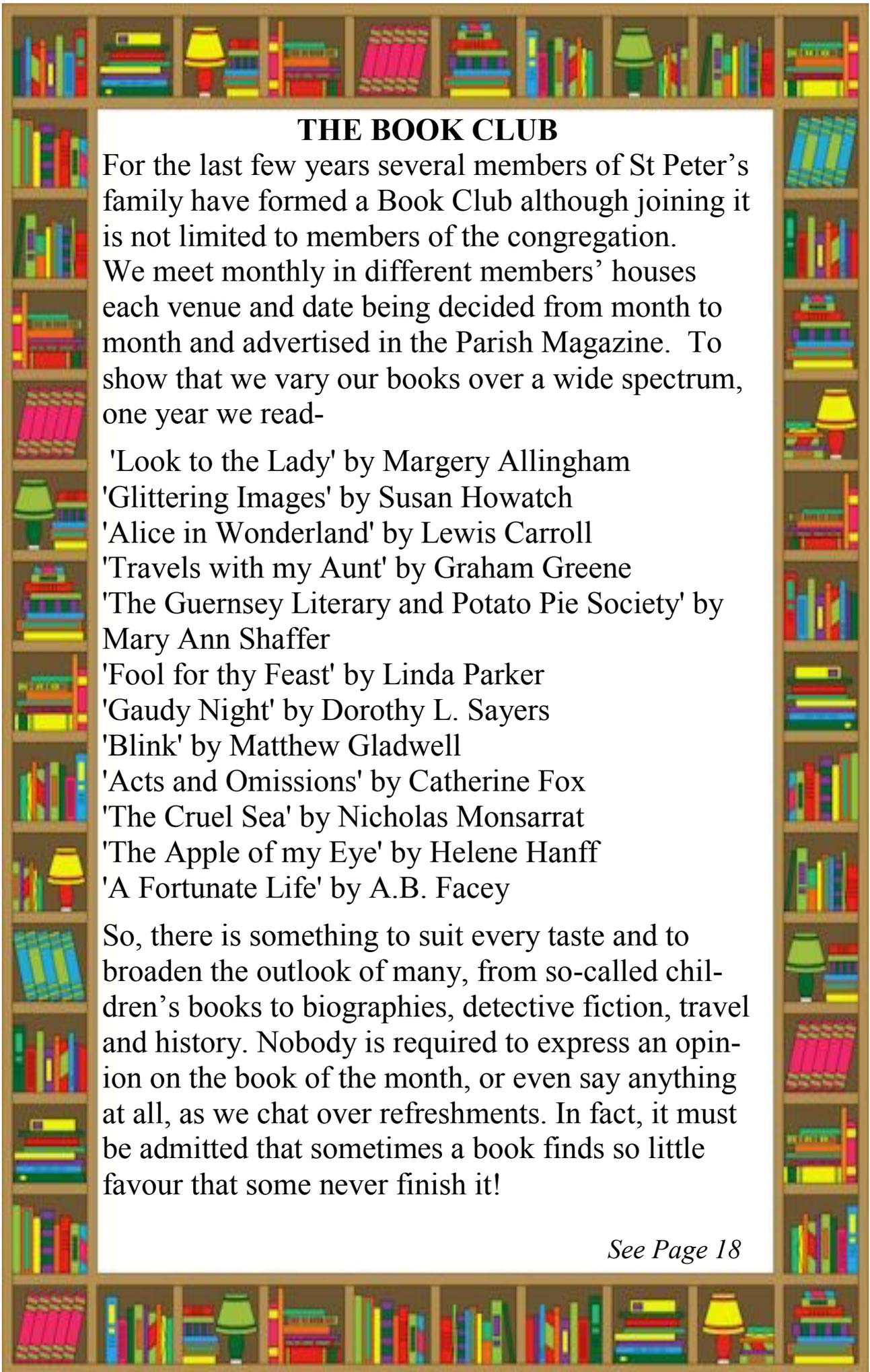
Catherine

The Book Club

The next meeting is on
Monday, 12 December at 7.00pm
at 25 Hugh Street - 020 7259 0486

The book chosen is
'The Country Child'
by Alison Uttley





THE BOOK CLUB

For the last few years several members of St Peter's family have formed a Book Club although joining it is not limited to members of the congregation. We meet monthly in different members' houses each venue and date being decided from month to month and advertised in the Parish Magazine. To show that we vary our books over a wide spectrum, one year we read-

'Look to the Lady' by Margery Allingham
'Glittering Images' by Susan Howatch
'Alice in Wonderland' by Lewis Carroll
'Travels with my Aunt' by Graham Greene
'The Guernsey Literary and Potato Pie Society' by Mary Ann Shaffer
'Fool for thy Feast' by Linda Parker
'Gaudy Night' by Dorothy L. Sayers
'Blink' by Matthew Gladwell
'Acts and Omissions' by Catherine Fox
'The Cruel Sea' by Nicholas Monsarrat
'The Apple of my Eye' by Helene Hanff
'A Fortunate Life' by A.B. Facey

So, there is something to suit every taste and to broaden the outlook of many, from so-called children's books to biographies, detective fiction, travel and history. Nobody is required to express an opinion on the book of the month, or even say anything at all, as we chat over refreshments. In fact, it must be admitted that sometimes a book finds so little favour that some never finish it!

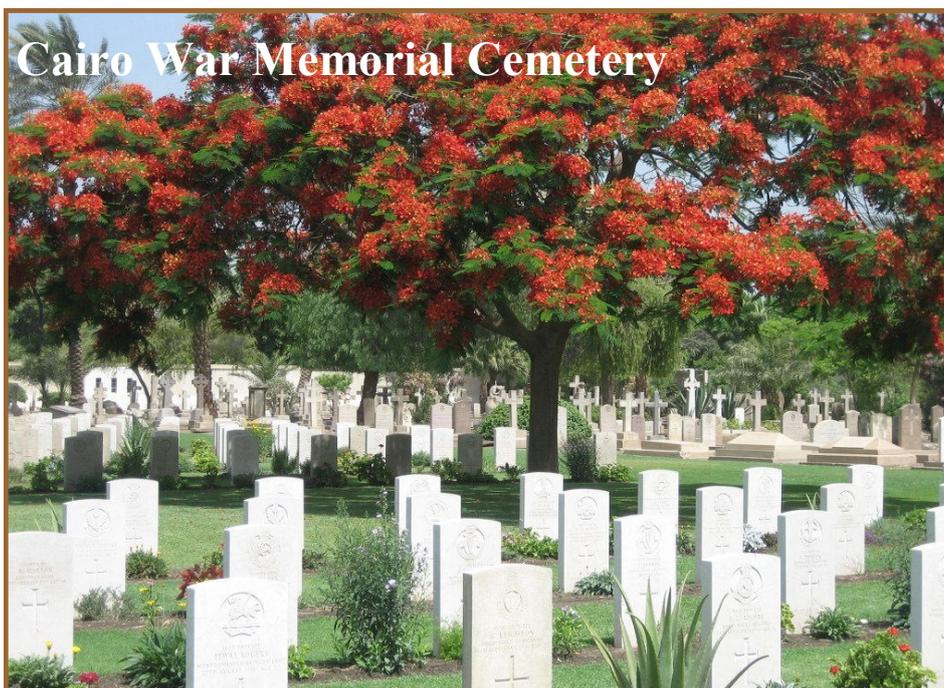
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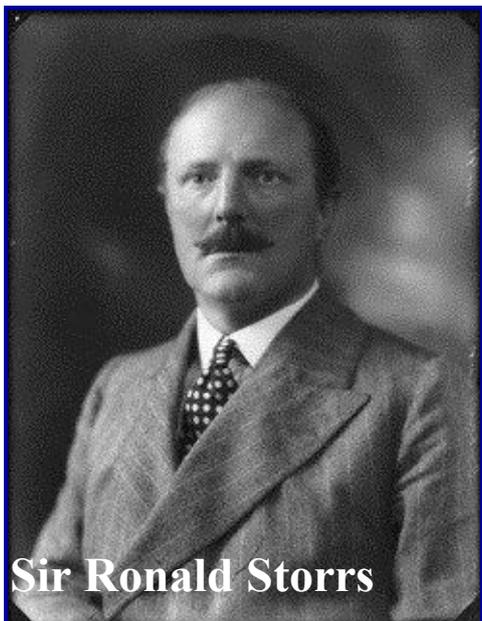
ST PETER'S WW1 MEMORIAL (ON THE PORTICO)

Lieutenant Henry Arthur Clowes (1867-1916) is, I think, the 'Henry Clowes' on the memorial as he married in Chelsea and his son was born there.. His father was Samuel Clowes MP for Leicestershire. Henry married Louisa Lucy Littleton in 1899 and their main home was Norbury Hall, Ashbourne, Derbyshire, where he owned the Norbury, Roston and Cubley estates. They had three sons and three daughters.

Henry went to Eton. In 1886 he joined the Worcestershire Militia and two years later he was commissioned in the 1st Life Guards reaching the rank of captain. After retiring he was gazetted to the 1st. Staffordshire Yeomanry with the honorary rank of Lieutenant Colonel. In 1908 he was appointed Sheriff of the county of Derbyshire. He was a noted sportsman, enjoying angling and deer stalking.

In WW1 Henry accompanied the Staffordshire Yeomanry in foreign service. He died in Egypt of enteric fever, aged 48. He is buried in the Cairo War Memorial Cemetery and there are memorials to him in Norbury and in Little Cubley.





Sir Ronald Storrs

Henry's widow, Louisa Lucy, later married Sir Ronald Storrs, the distinguished Orientalist, who was a friend of Lawrence of Arabia and instrumental in raising the Arab revolt. More relevant for us, he was the eldest son of John Storrs, the vicar of St. Peter's from 1883-1913. His brother Francis Storrs is named on our war memorial and I have already written his story.

Louisa Lucy was one of the nine children of Rear-Admiral the Hon. Algernon C. Littleton and his wife Margaret. Her youngest brother Captain Cecil Littleton (1890-1917) is also on our war memorial. He lived with his family in 5 Warwick Square and he went to Cheltenham college. In 1913 he married Brenda Hewitt and in 1915 their daughter Diana was born.

Cecil served with the Cameron Highlanders. He died from wounds received in action in 1917 and he is buried in Aubigny Communal Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France.



PHOEBE HILARY

DECEMBER 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.

Th 1	Charles de Foucauld, 1916	For those who live alone
F 2		For our Prayer Board requests
Sa 3	Francis Xavier, 1552	For those working in local retail
Su 4	The Second Sunday of Advent	For the Parish
M 5		For the PCC
T 6		For the Churchwardens
W 7	Ambrose, bishop, teacher of the faith	For all called to lead worship
Th 8	The Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary	For children
F 9	<i>Ember Day</i>	For our Prayer Board requests
Sa 10	<i>Ember Day</i>	For vocations
Su 11	The Third Sunday of Advent	For the Parish
M 12		For the victims of abuse
T 13	Lucy, Martyr at Syracuse, 304	For victims of persecution
W 14	John of the Cross, poet, teacher of the faith, 1591	For all spiritual guides
Th 15		For all who work at Victoria Station, and rail users
F 16		For our Prayer Board requests

CALENDAR CONTD

Sa 17	<i>O Sapientia</i>	For our growth in wisdom
Su 18	The Fourth Sunday of Advent	For the Parish
M 19	<i>O Radix Jesse</i>	For the homeless
T 20	<i>O Clavis David</i>	For the Metropolitan Police
W 21	<i>O Oriens</i>	For the Caxton Youth Club
Th 22	<i>O Rex Gentium</i>	For inter-faith relations
F 23	<i>O Emmanuel</i>	For our Prayer Board Requests
Sa 24	Christmas Eve	In thanksgiving for the Incarnation of the Son of God
Su 25	CHRISTMAS DAY	In thanksgiving for the Incarnation of the Son of God
M 26	Stephen, Deacon, First Martyr	For the Parish
T 27	John, Apostle and Evangelist	For our continual formation by the Gospel
W 28	The Holy Innocents	For all in authority
Th 29	Thomas Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury, Martyr, 1170	For the Archbishop of Canterbury
F 30		For the Church's mission agencies
Sa 31	John Wyclif, Reformer, 1384	In thanksgiving for the blessings of 2016

Please note that requests left on our Prayer Board will now be prayed at the 12.30pm Eucharist every Friday.

ST PETER'S EATON SQUARE

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



We warmly invite you to join us to celebrate

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

In addition to our regular Sunday services we have special services during this holy time, including our Parish Carol Service on 18th December, Family Crib Service and Midnight Mass on 24th December, and our celebrations on Christmas Day.

www.stpetereatonsquare.co.uk - Registered Charity No. 1133033

Celebrate Advent and Christmas with us at
ST PETER'S EATON SQUARE

NOVEMBER

SUNDAY 27TH NOVEMBER - ADVENT SUNDAY

8.15am BCP; 9.45am Family Eucharist; 11.15am Sung Eucharist
Music: Missa Sancti Dominici - Fischer; Kyrie, BWV236 - J. S. Bach
Komm Jesu, Komm, BWV229 - J. S. Bach

6pm Advent Carol Service - Beautiful music and readings for Advent

DECEMBER

SUNDAY 4TH - ADVENT 2

8.15am BCP; 9.45am Family Eucharist; 11.15am Sung Eucharist
Music: Missa Mon coeur se recommend à vous - Lassus
Übers gebirg Maria geht - Eccard; Directed by Peter Phillips

4pm Christingle Celebration

SUNDAY 11TH - ADVENT 3

8.15am BCP; 9.45am Family Eucharist with Nativity Play; 11.15am Sung Eucharist
Music: Missa Inter vestibulum - Guerrero; Alma redemptoris mater - Guerrero

TUESDAY 20TH

9.30am in Church - St Peter's Eaton Square CE Primary School Carol Service

SUNDAY 18TH - ADVENT 4

8.15am BCP; 9.45am Family Eucharist; 11.15am Sung Eucharist
Music: Messe - Hindemith; Es kommt ein Schiff geladen - Reger

6pm Parish Christmas Carol Service

SATURDAY 24TH - CHRISTMAS EVE

4pm Christmas Crib Service for children and families; 11pm Midnight Mass
Music: Messe de minuit, H9 - Charpentier; For unto us a child is born, HWV56 - Handel

SUNDAY 25TH - CHRISTMAS DAY

8.15am BCP; 9.45am Family Eucharist; 11.15am Sung Eucharist
Music: Missa Puer natus est - Tallis; Verbum caro factum est - Sheppard

JANUARY

SUNDAY 1ST - THE NAMING OF JESUS

8.15am BCP; 10.30am Parish Eucharist

SUNDAY 8TH - THE EPIPHANY

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

Our Christmas collections will be donated to three charities: Caxton Youth Organisation (supporting children with learning difficulties in this area), Centrepoint (a youth homelessness charity in London) and USPG Syria (helping Syrian refugee children in Lebanon).

JANUARY 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.

Su 1	The Naming and Circumcision of Jesus	For the Parish in the Year of our Lord 2017
M 2	Basil the Great and Gregory of Nazianzus, Bishops, Teachers, 379 and 389	For the bishops of the Church
T 3		For St Peter's Church Primary School
W 4		For all returning to work
Th 5		For Syria
F 6	(The Epiphany moved to Sunday 8 th)	For Prayer Board Requests
Sa 7		For the Standing & Resources Committee
Su 8	The Epiphany	In thanksgiving for the revelation of Christ to all nations, and for the mission to all people.
M 9	The Baptism of Christ	For all those baptised at St Peter's
T 10	William Laud, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1645	For the parish staff
W 11	Mary Slessor, Missionary, 1915	For the PCC
Th 12	Aelrex of Hexam, Abbot of Rievaulx	For men and women in the monastic life
F 13	Hilary, Bishop of Poitiers, Teacher of the Faith, 367	For our Prayer Board Requests
Sa 14		For the charity Centrepont

CALENDAR CONTD

Su 15	The Second Sunday of Epiphany	For the Parish
M 16		For the charity USPG
T 17	Antony of Egypt, 356	For the charity The Passage
W 18	<i>Beginning of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity</i>	For the unity of Christians: the Anglican Communion
Th 19	Wulfstan, Bishop of Worcester, 1095	For the unity of Christians: the Roman Catholic Church
F 20	Richard Rolle of Hampole, Spiritual Writer, 1349	For our Prayer Board Requests
Sa 21	Agnes, Child Martyr at Rome, 304	For the unity of Christians: the Churches of the Reformation
Su 22	The Third Sunday of Epiphany. Parish Confirmation	For the Parish and those being confirmed
M 23		For the unity of Christians: The Orthodox Churches
T 24		For the unity of Christians: the new Churches
W 25	The Conversion of Paul	For our continual conversion to Christ
Th 26	Timothy and Titus	For mission
F 27		For our Prayer Board Requests
Sa 28	Thomas Aquinas, Priest, Philosopher, Teacher of the Faith, 1274	For those who have taught and formed us
Su 29	The Presentation of Christ in the Temple	For the Parish
M 30	Charles, King and Martyr, 1649	For those whom we find difficult to love
T 31		For parents

SAINT FOR DECEMBER

Gregory of Nazianzus (Γρηγόριος ὁ Ναζιανζηνός c. 329 – 25 January 390), also known as Gregory the Theologian or Gregory Nazianzen, was a 4th-century Archbishop of Constantinople and theologian. He is widely considered the most accomplished rhetorical stylist of the patristic age. As a classically trained orator and philosopher he infused Hellenism into the early church, establishing the paradigm of Byzantine theologians and church officials.

Gregory made a significant impact on the shape of Trinitarian theology among both Greek- and Latin-speaking theologians, and he is remembered as the "Trinitarian Theologian". Much of his



theological work continues to influence modern theologians, especially in regard to the relationship among the three Persons of the Trinity. Along with the brothers Basil the Great and Gregory of Nyssa, he is known as one of the Cappadocian Fathers.

Gregory is a saint in both Eastern and Western Christianity. In the Roman Catholic Church he is numbered among the Doctors of the Church; in Eastern Orthodoxy and the Eastern Catholic Churches he is revered as one of the Three Holy Hierarchs, along

with Basil the Great and John Chrysostom.

Gregory was born of Greek parentage in the family estate of Karbala outside the village of Arianzus, near Nazianzus, in southwest Cappadocia. His parents, Gregory and Nonna, were

wealthy land-owners. In AD 325 Nonna converted her husband, a Hypsistarian, to Christianity; he was subsequently ordained as bishop of Nazianzus in 328 or 329. The young Gregory and his brother, Caesarius, first studied at home with their uncle Amphylokhios. Gregory went on to study advanced rhetoric and philosophy in Nazianzus, Caesarea, Alexandria and Athens. On the way to Athens his ship encountered a violent storm, and the terrified Gregory prayed to Christ that if he would deliver him, he would dedicate his life to his service. While at Athens, he developed a close friendship with his fellow student Basil of Caesarea and also made the acquaintance of Flavius Claudius Julianus, who would later become the emperor known as Julian the Apostate. In Athens, Gregory studied under the famous rhetoricians Himerius and Proaeresius. Upon finishing his education, he taught rhetoric in Athens for a short time.

In 361 Gregory returned to Nazianzus and was ordained a presbyter by his father, who wanted him to assist with caring for local Christians. The younger Gregory, who had been considering a monastic existence, resented his father's decision to force him to choose between priestly services and a solitary existence, calling it an "act of tyranny". Leaving home after a few days, he met his friend Basil at Annesoi, where the two lived as ascetics. However, Basil urged him to return home to assist his father, which he did for the next year. Arriving at Nazianzus, Gregory found the local Christian community split by theological differences and his father accused of heresy by local monks. Gregory helped to heal the division through a combination of personal diplomacy and oratory.

By this time Emperor Julian had publicly declared himself in opposition to Christianity. In response to the emperor's rejection of the Christian faith, Gregory composed his *Invectives Against Julian* between 362 and 363. *Invectives* asserts that Christianity will overcome imperfect rulers such as Julian through love and patience. This process as described by Gregory is the public manifestation of the process of deification (theosis), which leads to a spiritual elevation and mystical union with God. Julian resolved, in late 362, to prosecute Gregory and his other Christian critics; however, the

emperor perished the following year during a campaign against the Persians. With the death of Julian, Gregory and the Eastern churches were no longer under the threat of persecution, as the new emperor Jovian was an avowed Christian and supporter of the church.

Gregory was ordained Bishop of Sasima in 372 by Basil. Basil created this see in order to strengthen his position in his dispute with Anthimus, bishop of Tyana. The ambitions of Gregory's father to have his son rise in the Church hierarchy and the insistence of his friend Basil convinced Gregory to accept this position despite his reservations. Gregory would later refer to his episcopal ordination as forced upon him by his strong-willed father and Basil. Describing his new bishopric, Gregory lamented how it was nothing more than an "utterly dreadful, pokey little hole; a paltry horse-stop on the main road ... devoid of water, vegetation, or the company of gentlemen ... this was my Church of Sasima!" He made little effort to administer his new diocese, complaining to Basil that he preferred instead to pursue a contemplative life.

By late 372 Gregory returned to Nazianzus to assist his dying father with the administration of his diocese. Following the death of his father in 374, Gregory continued to administer the Diocese of Nazianzus but refused to be named bishop. Donating most of his inheritance to the needy, he lived an austere existence. At the end of 375 he withdrew to a monastery at Seleukia, living there for three years. Near the end of this period his friend Basil died. Although Gregory's health did not permit him to attend the funeral, he wrote a heartfelt letter of condolence to Basil's brother, Gregory of Nyssa and composed twelve memorial poems dedicated to the memory of his departed friend.

In 379, the Antioch synod and its archbishop, Meletios, asked Gregory to go to Constantinople to lead a theological campaign to win over that city to Nicene orthodoxy. After much hesitation, Gregory agreed. His cousin Theodosia offered him a villa for his residence; Gregory immediately transformed much of it into a church, naming it Anastasia, "a scene for the resurrection of the faith". From this little chapel he delivered five powerful discourses

on Nicene doctrine, explaining the nature of the Trinity and the unity of the Godhead. Refuting the Eunomion denial of the Holy Spirit's divinity, Gregory offered this argument:

‘Look at these facts: Christ is born, the Holy Spirit is His Forerunner. Christ is baptized, the Spirit bears witness to this ... Christ works miracles, the Spirit accompanies them. Christ ascends, the Spirit takes His place. What great things are there in the idea of God which are not in His power? What titles appertaining to God do not apply also to Him, except for Unbegotten and Begotten? I tremble when I think of such an abundance of titles, and how many Names they blaspheme, those who revolt against the Spirit!’

Gregory's homilies were well received and attracted ever-growing crowds to Anastasia. Fearing his popularity, his opponents decided to strike. On the vigil of Easter in 379, an Arian mob burst into his church during worship services, wounding Gregory and killing another bishop. Escaping the mob, Gregory next found himself betrayed by his erstwhile friend, the philosopher Maximus the Cynic. Maximus, who was in secret alliance with Peter, bishop of Alexandria, attempted to seize Gregory's position and have himself ordained bishop of Constantinople. Shocked, Gregory decided to resign his office, but the faction faithful to him induced him to stay and ejected Maximus. However, the episode left him embarrassed and exposed him to criticism as a provincial simpleton unable to cope with intrigues of the imperial city.

Affairs in Constantinople remained confused as Gregory's position was still unofficial and Arian priests occupied many important churches. The arrival of the emperor Theodosius in 380 settled matters in Gregory's favor. Gregory was subsequently enthroned as bishop of Constantinople at the Basilica of the Apostles.

Theodosius wanted to unify the entire empire behind the orthodox position and decided to convene a church council to resolve matters of faith and discipline. Gregory was of similar mind. In the spring of 381 they convened the Second Ecumenical Council in Constantinople, which was attended by 150 Eastern bishops. After the death of the presiding bishop, Meletius of Antioch, Gregory was selected to lead the Council. Hoping to reconcile the West with the

East, he offered to recognize Paulinus as Patriarch of Antioch. The Egyptian and Macedonian bishops who had supported Maximus's ordination arrived late for the Council. Once there, they refused to recognise Gregory's position as head of the church of Constantinople, arguing that his translation from the See of Sasima was canonically illegitimate.

Gregory was physically exhausted and worried that he was losing the confidence of the bishops and the emperor. Rather than press his case and risk further division, he decided to resign his office: "Let me be as the Prophet Jonah! I was responsible for the storm, but I would sacrifice myself for the salvation of the ship. Seize me and throw me ... I was not happy when I ascended the throne, and gladly would I descend it." He shocked the Council with his surprise resignation and then delivered a dramatic speech to Theodosius asking to be released from his offices. The emperor, moved by his words, applauded, commended his labour and granted his resignation. The Council asked him to appear once more for a farewell ritual and celebratory orations. Gregory used this occasion to deliver a final address and then departed.

Returning to his homeland of Cappadocia, Gregory once again resumed his position as bishop of Nazianzus. He spent the next year combating the local Apollinarian heretics and struggling with periodic illness. He also began composing *De Vita Sua*, his autobiographical poem. By the end of 383 he found his health too feeble to cope with episcopal duties. Gregory established Eulalius as bishop of Nazianzus and then withdrew into the solitude of Arianzum. After enjoying six peaceful years in retirement at his family estate, he died on January 25 in 390.

Gregory's most significant theological contributions arose from his defence of the doctrine of the Trinity. He is especially noted for his contributions to the field of pneumatology—that is, theology concerning the nature of the Holy Spirit. In this regard, Gregory is the first to use the idea of procession to describe the relationship between the Spirit and the Godhead: "The Holy Spirit is truly Spirit, coming forth from the Father indeed but not after the manner of the Son, for it is not by generation but by procession, since I must coin

a word for the sake of clearness." Although Gregory does not fully develop the concept, the idea of procession would shape most later thought about the Holy Spirit.

He emphasised that Jesus did not cease to be God when he became a man, nor did he lose any of his divine attributes when he took on human nature. Furthermore, Gregory asserted that Christ was fully human, including a full human soul. He also proclaimed the eternality of the Holy Spirit, saying that the Holy Spirit's actions were somewhat hidden in the Old Testament but much clearer since the ascension of Jesus into Heaven and the descent of the Holy Spirit at the feast of Pentecost.

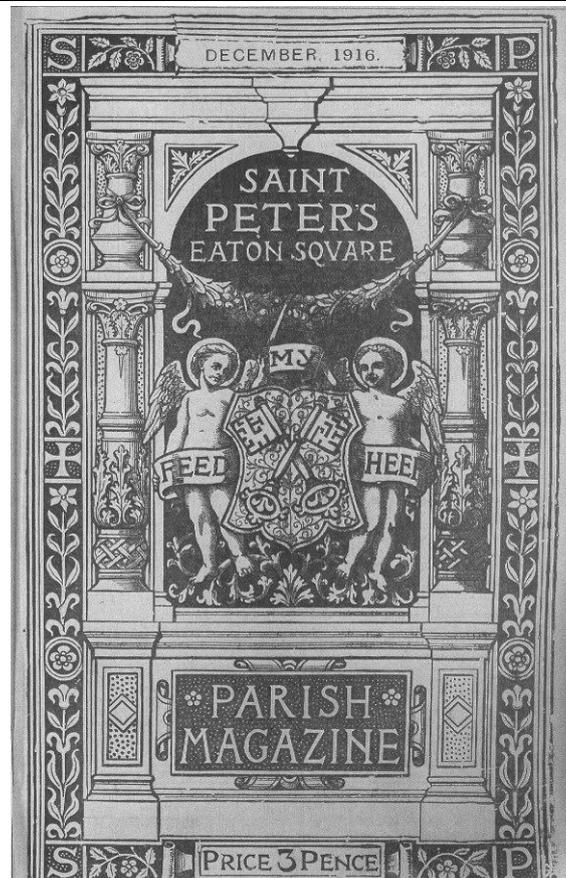
Following his death, Saint Gregory was buried at Nazianzus. His relics were transferred to Constantinople in 950, into the Church of the Holy Apostles. Part of the relics were taken from Constantinople by Crusaders during the Fourth Crusade, in 1204, and ended up in Rome. On November 27, 2004, those relics, along with those of John Chrysostom, were returned to Istanbul (Constantinople) by Pope John Paul II, with the Vatican retaining a small portion of both. The relics are now enshrined in the Patriarchal Cathedral of St. George in the Fanar in Istanbul (the seat of the Ecumenical Patriarch of the Orthodox churches).

Comment:

The life of this saint witnesses to a period when Christianity was defining itself against other religious movements (e.g. the Hysystarian movement, which took elements from both paganism and Judaism) and also working out in more depth the implications of its central beliefs. Dogma that is sometimes seen, in our somewhat intellectually fuzzy times, as an attempt to make a simple faith very difficult, actually developed from examining possible different interpretations of the nature of God and of the Incarnation, discarding those that did not seem to do full justice to, or misrepresented, what had been revealed and more fully defining those that more closely embodied the truth.

Saint chosen by Richard Carter and commented by Valerie Smith

FROM THE MAGAZINE -
DECEMBER 1916



The new works at St Peter's started free of debt, and with mattresses (already much used), blankets, cooking apparatus to the good. Work has now commenced on a more ambitious scale. Thirty five iron bedsteads were purchased, and some 50 rough pillows were kindly contributed by Mr and Mrs Payne. The buffet was provided with a gas stove, and suppers and breakfasts provided at a moderate cost.

The increasing demand for accommodation, urged specially by the General, emboldened me to inquire at Messrs. John Wood & Son if there was any chance of the premises adjoining being lent to us for which they were agents. I am happy to say, that my appeal was not in vain - in fact, I am getting the reputation of a professional beggar - and I received the intimation that these premises would be granted to me personally, under certain conditions, for the period of the war and three months after, at a

peppercorn rent and free of taxes. As the property is valued at £200 a year and taxes £60, this is a very noble and generous gift by the Trustees of the Argus Properties, Ltd.

We wish to add one word of appeal to Lady Trotter's statement. The care of the sailors and soldiers passing through London has an especial claim upon us, seeing Victoria Station is in our Parish. We should all wish to feel that the Church was the first to welcome them on their return from the Front, and the last to send them forth to a work from which, God reward them ! So many do not return.

Comment:

Last month's comment referred to an initiative from St Peter's, led by Lady Trotter, to house soldiers and sailors passing through Victoria on their way to or from the front. This extract focuses on the move from Pickford's warehouse in Wilton Road to St Peter's Institute in Eccleston Street East, which was accomplished with such careful planning that those staying there were able to move straight from the first to the fully equipped second without any interruption. Along with the increase in the premises came the desire to involve the whole parish as a special war work and a further expansion allowed a doubling in the number of beds and the provision of bathrooms. If you are interested in the social involvement of St Peter's in this era, there is a full history of the church available from the bookstall, price £3.

Extract chosen and commented by Valerie Smith

EATON SQUARE CONCERTS

It is always difficult to plan and be confident that our efforts will turn out as intended. For the 20th season completing ten years of producing extraordinary chamber music, we made great efforts to achieve ‘something special’, however, we could not be assured of the results we hoped to achieve. We should not have been concerned, for the autumn 2016 season just finished was in all respects the most successful season of Eaton Square Concerts presented to date. From brilliant individual performances and remarkable programming to increased audiences and ticket sales, we exceeded our fondest hopes, not to mention achieving the best financial result ever. We now have the daunting task of having to build on these record results.

Fitzroy Quartet

Piatti Quartet

The opening concert of the season on 13th October celebrated winners of the St Peter’s Prize, awarded annually to the most accomplished and promising string quartet at the Royal Academy of Music. The Fitzroy Quartet, the 2016 winner, performed two works in the first part of the concert: Hayden’s String Quartet in G major, Op. 77 No. 1; and, Beethoven’s String Quartet in F minor, No. 11 Op. 95. The two contrasting works provided ample scope for the quartet to demonstrate its technical mastery and subtly nuanced style. Our own David Strange has described the Fitzroy as a “wonderful quartet”, and the audience was clearly delighted with the performances. After the interval the Piatti Quartet, winners of the 1911 St Peter’s Prize and the 2015 Wigmore Hall International String Quartet Competition, joined the Fitzroy musicians in a memorable performance of Mendelssohn’s inspired Octet. During the interval there was a reception to mark the special contribution that the Royal Academy of Music has made in creating and nurturing so many fine string quartets, most particularly the nine winners of the St Peter’s Prize to date.

Artea String Trio

The trio presented an adventuresome and challenging programme

on October 20. The first part of the evening included three lesser known gems: Schubert's String Trio in B flat, D. 471; Sibelius String Trio in G minor, JS 210; and, Insight for String Trio, composed by Dobrinka Tabakova, who was present and received directly the appreciation of the audience for her delightful and sophisticated composition. The major work of the evening was Bach's Goldberg Variations, arranged for string trio by the famous Russian violin virtuoso, Dmitry Sitkovetsky. Originally written for harpsichord, the Goldberg Variations are considered one of the pinnacles of Bach's creativity. The inventive transcription for string trio allows an audience to experience more clearly the complex harmonies and inventions of the very densely composed series of variations through the use of three distinct 'voices'. The trio performed the work with an almost great attention to detail and technical mastery, that illuminated the structure and its components with delicacy and ease, while maintaining an unspeakable reverence for the original masterpiece. The concert was generously supported by The Hari, formerly known as the Belgraves Hotel.

Artur Pizarro

In his October 27th recital the Portuguese virtuoso transported the audience back to the Age of Grand Pianism at the end of the 19th century. His supreme technical mastery never distracted from the charm of the melodic line or the romantic sweep of the composers' intent in his programme of works by Schubert, Brahms and Kreisler (trans. Rachmaninov). The details were graceful, even burnished, but the emotional heart of the works Pizarro played was always paramount. His unexpected encore was an arrangement for piano of the waltzes from *Der Rosenkavalier*, a sparkling gem! The concert was sponsored by the Victoria Business Development District, the first institutional sponsor of Eaton Square Concerts, which made its initial commitment to support our concerts, before our series had begun.

Vasari Singers

The Vasari Singers returned to our series on November 3rd with a magnificent programme of Bach Motets combined with contrasting

works by Handel. The rarely heard four motets for double choir were impressively performed, but it was the two pieces by Handel that left an indelible impression on the audience. The exuberant setting for Dixit Dominus, supported by the Brandenburg Sinfonia, was sung, as a Barry Millingan wrote in the Evening Standard, “with exhilarating verve and brio”, filling St Peter’s with glorious harmonies. The most outstanding part of the concert, however, was the absolutely stunning performance of Vo’ far Guerra, an arrangement for harpsichord of the battle aria from Handel’s 1710 opera Rinaldo. The most demanding passages of martial themes and daring improvisations were played with incredible panache by the renowned harpsichord virtuoso David Wright. His playing of the work with such speed and facility literally left the audience amazed. The concert was supported by The Goring Hotel.

Katherine Bryan

The 100th concert in the Eaton Square Concerts series and the finale of our 20th season had to be something special, even extraordinary. It was in all respects! Katherine Bryan is an unusually gifted musician, who not only communicates with her instrument, but also with her intelligent and charming person. Her programme, derived mainly from her recent CD of transcriptions from the violin entitled ‘The Silver Bow’, contained a range of familiar, even popular works, but also included the Poulenc Flute Sonata commissioned for the great flautist, Jean-Pierre Rampal. Throughout the evening Katherine Bryan displayed a technical supremacy and musical sensibility that was breath-taking (pun intended). Her playing of the extremely demanding Poulenc so impressed a friend, who also plays the piece, that he called her performance ‘beyond brilliant’. Several members of the audience commented that her concert was ‘among the best, if not the best Eaton Square Concerts’, they had attended. She was ably accompanied by Tim Conway, who has established a reputation as a specialist in flute and piano music.

The evening was sponsored by Grosvenor, whose support over the years has meant so much to Friends of Music. Grosvenor hosted a reception jointly with Friends of Music for their guests and our Friends before the concert and during the interval. The reception

featured a specially baked 10th anniversary cake.

Looking forward

As noted previously, our celebration of the first ten years of Eaton Square Concerts will continue into the coming year, when Friends of Music's actual 'birthday' occurs. In addition to programming outstanding artists and beautiful music for the delight of our audiences, we are planning some improvements to enhance audience enjoyment and comfort. Plans are near completion for the construction of a moveable stage, which will extend the space in front of the Holy Table to create a area 24 feet wide and 12 feet deep level with the Sanctuary (approximately 11.5 inches above the floor of the nave), which will be able to accommodate a piano quintet or a chamber group of up to eight musicians. When used during a concert, the musicians will be more easily seen and heard, improving what is already one of the finest chamber music venues in London. The stage will make the church space more usable by a wider range of groups, including our school, for concerts and theatrical events. Friends of Music will donate the structure to St Peter's in appreciation of the support we have received from the parish.

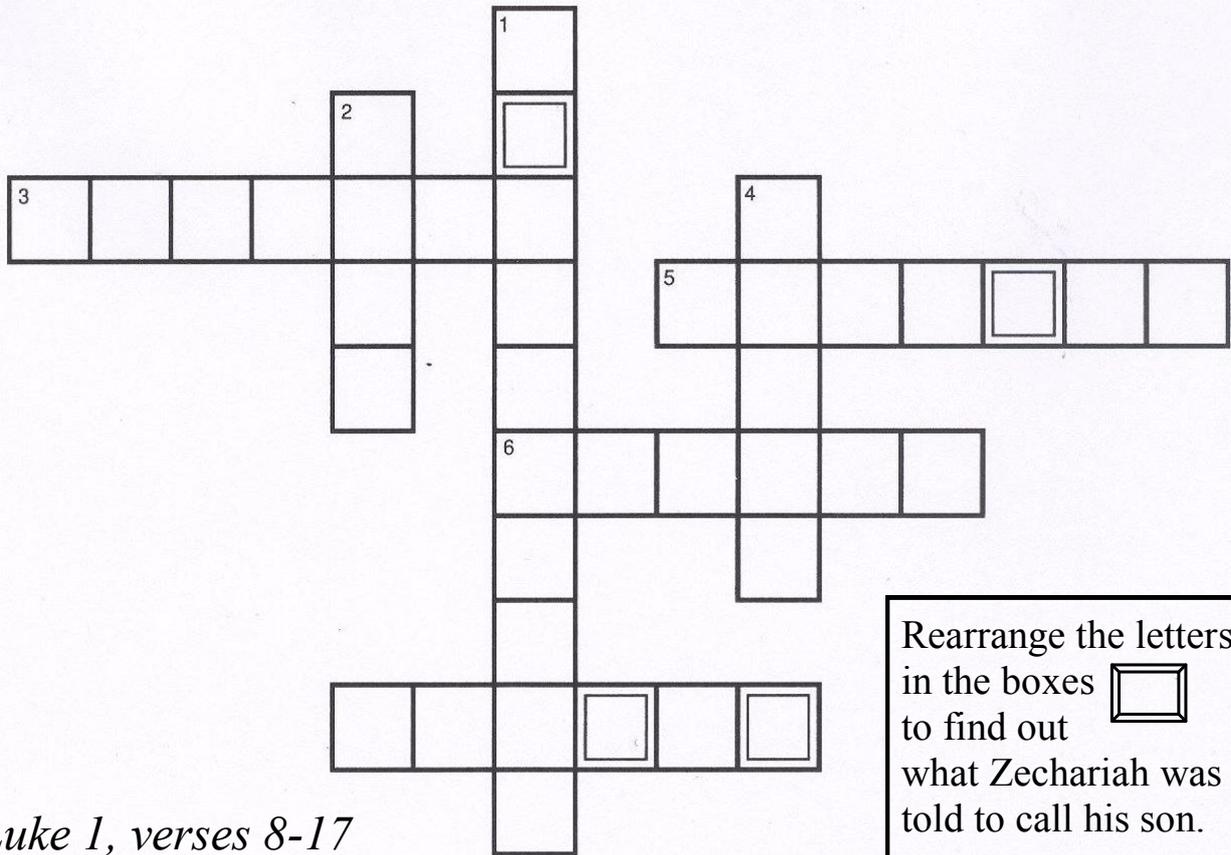
In addition, we have experimented with some lighting possibilities and are planning to add lights, which will not only make it easier for the musicians to see and be seen, but the proposed new lighting arrangements will focus on the performance area, allowing for the dimming of the ceiling lights in the nave to create a desirable dramatic effect.

If we still have funding after these two important projects have been completed, we intend to purchase more cushions with the hope that we will make them available to our audience without charge. We appreciate that the pews can become uncomfortably hard during a concert, and we would not want creature discomfort to diminish the enjoyment of the wonderful music programmed in Eaton Square Concerts.

CARL ANTON MULLER HON ARAM

CHILDREN'S PAGE FOR DECEMBER

Zechariah and the Angel - Read Luke 1: 5-25



Rearrange the letters
in the boxes
to find out
what Zechariah was
told to call his son.

Luke 1, verses 8-17

ACROSS

3. What was the angel's name?
5. What was Zechariah burning?
6. What was Zechariah's job?
7. Which prophet would Zechariah's son be like?

DOWN

1. What would Zechariah's son be filled with?
2. What would Zechariah's son not be allowed to drink?
4. What appeared to Zechariah?

NOVEMBER PHOTOGRAPHS



Act of Remembrance on the Portico



Thanksgiving Dinner and Quiz

The First Christian Martyrs



1. Who was the first Christian martyr? (Acts 7: 54-60)
2. Who held the cloaks for those who carried out the stoning (Acts 7: 58)
3. Why was Saul on his way to Damascus, when he was blinded? (Acts 9: 1-2)
4. What great discovery did Peter make, after his encounter with the Roman Captain Cornelius? (Acts 10: 34-43)

COMMON FUND 2016 AND 2017



November 2016

Dear Colleagues

Common Fund 2016 and 2017

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich. 2 Corinthians 8:9

We write first of all to thank you very much indeed for the contributions to Common Fund which have been made during the course of this year. As we approach the year end almost all parishes in the Area have contributed up-to-date and we are once again likely to receive the full amount that was pledged at the beginning of the year, if not exceed that figure. Thank you, and all those in the churches who raise money and manage it, for all that you do to make this possible.

During the Common Fund round earlier this year we asked the Area to attempt to move both to cover costs as a whole, and to make a significant contribution to poorer parts of the diocese. The archdeaconry has pledged an increase of common fund of just over 4% which is a great response. In the City Deanery almost every parish has either offered a 10% increase or exceeded costs. In Westminster the increase overall has been very significant. Thank you all!

We hope that as we continue to work together to release resources in our corner of London we will be able both to increase our own activity locally, and even more to support those less fortunate than ourselves elsewhere. Thank you for all that you have done and are doing, and we look forward to continuing to work with you.

Yours in Christ

Fr Luke Miller

The Ven Rosemary Lain-Priestley



EATON SQUARE CONCERTS

WORLD CLASS CHAMBER MUSIC IN THE HEART OF LONDON

SPRING 2017

Celebrating 10 years

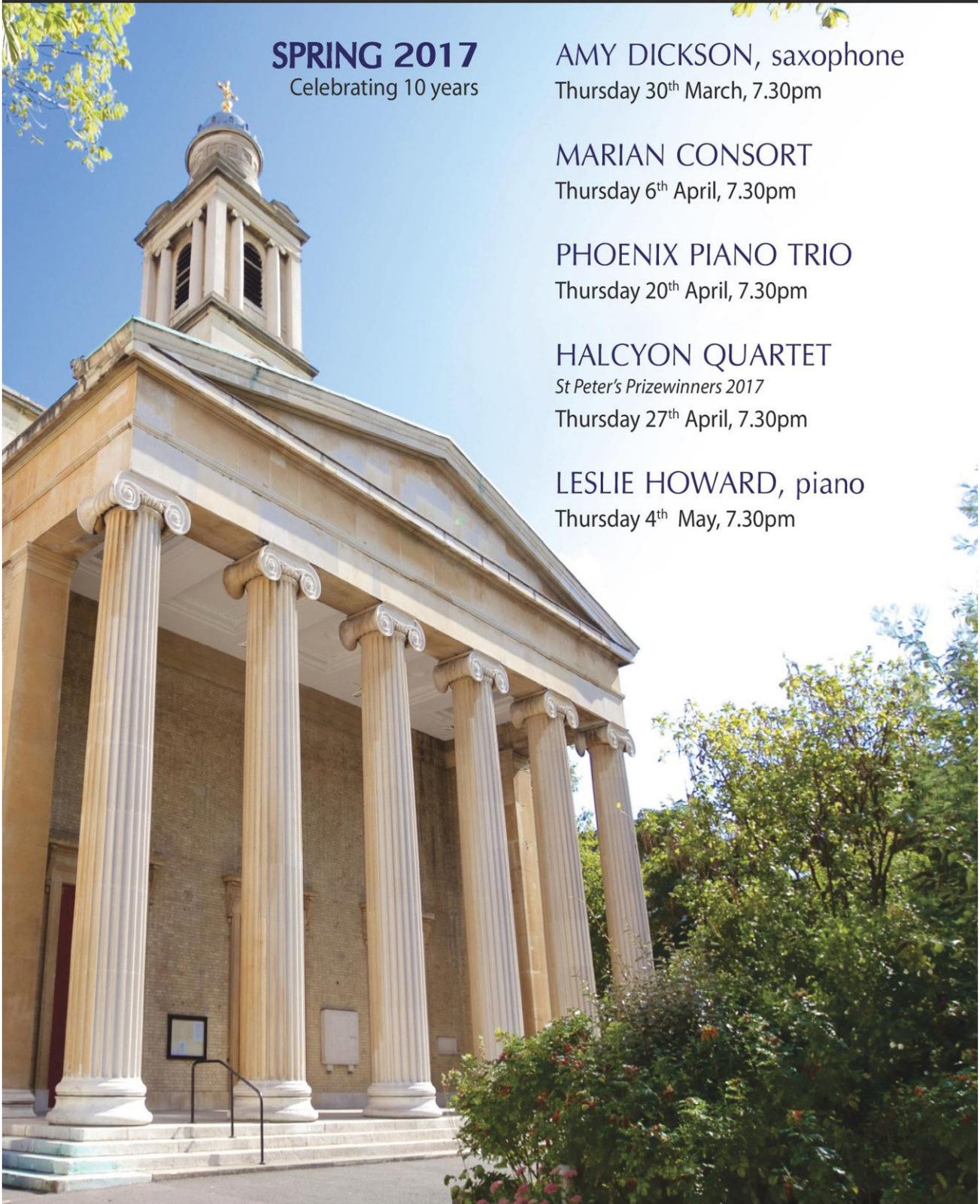
AMY DICKSON, saxophone
Thursday 30th March, 7.30pm

MARIAN CONSORT
Thursday 6th April, 7.30pm

PHOENIX PIANO TRIO
Thursday 20th April, 7.30pm

HALCYON QUARTET
St Peter's Prizewinners 2017
Thursday 27th April, 7.30pm

LESLIE HOWARD, piano
Thursday 4th May, 7.30pm



COMPUTER PROBLEMS? ASK NIK!



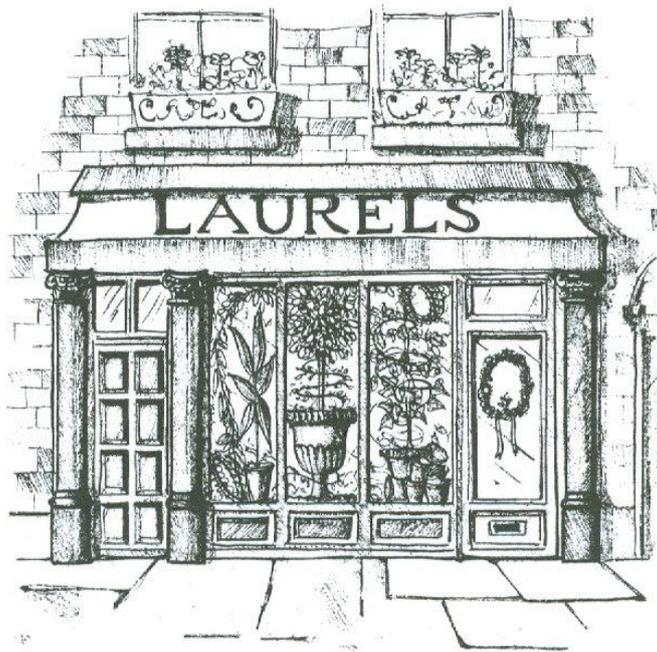
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Jim Glen
Jake Goedhuis
James Gourlay
Ever Gutierrez
Sian Jarvis
Raana Khatabakhsh
Artemis Kassi
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Laura Propert
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Valerie Smith
Katherine Stephens
Graham Taylor
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Linda Childs
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Philip Course
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Rosa da Silva
020 7821 1809
Judith Evans
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Jim and Claire Glen
020 7821 8671
Ever Gutierrez
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John Hilary
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Phoebe Hilary
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Peter and Elizabeth Ho
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Nancy Wood
020 7730 5877
* Also Diocesan Synod

Standing Committee

Chair: the Vicar

Resources Committee

Chair: Jim Glen

Worship Committee

Chair: the Vicar

Parish Revenue Group

Convenor: Katherine Stephens

Communications & Media Group

Convenor: Sian Jarvis

Young Formation Group

Convenor:

Adult Formation Group

Convenor: the Assistant Priest

The Outreach Group

Convenor: Revd Julie

Hospitality Co-ordinator

Laura Cook

Safeguarding Officer

Vivien Reed
07956 310 764

Children's Advocate

Artemis Kassi
020 7932 0133

Parish Magazine Editor

Phoebe Hilary
020 7259 0486

Bible Reading Fellowship

Please contact the Parish Office
for more information

Rotas:

Family Eucharist Servers

Jim Glen
020 7821 8671

Family Eucharist Readers

Laura Propert
07831 434 680

Family Eucharist Refreshments

Raana Khatabakhsh
07742 521 650

Sung Eucharist Welcomers

Graham Taylor
07779 269 351

Sung Eucharist Drinks

Judith Richardson
020 3268 0055



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Worship at St Peter's

Sundays

Holy Communion	8.15 a.m.
Family Eucharist	9.45 a.m.
Sung Eucharist	11.15 a.m.

Daily

Morning Prayer	7.30 a.m.
Evening Prayer	5.00 p.m.
Daily Eucharist plus Wednesdays	12.30 p.m. 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



**St Peter's Church
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Cover picture taken by the Vicar