

Church of The Good Shepherd Newsletter

May 2008

10p where sold

This year the month of May begins with Ascension day, the fortieth day after Easter, the day in which the church celebrates the Ascension of Jesus into heaven. My old bishop, the bishop of Kensington, used to tell an apocryphal story about what happened when Jesus got into heaven. A rather forward angel asked Jesus what provisions he'd made to continue his work on earth. "I have left my friends to carry on my work," said Jesus. "What if they let you down?" asked the angel. "If they let me down," said Jesus, "I have made no other provisions." The sharing of the Good News of the Kingdom of God is left down to us. Of course we are not on our own, in May we also celebrate the feast of Pentecost when the Holy Spirit was poured upon the believers, fulfilling the promise Jesus made to his disciples(John 14: 15-21).

So this year May reminds us that as disciples of Christ we are called and empowered for mission. And we will have opportunities to put our faith into practice, as well as having some fun! On Sunday 4th May, we are all invited to St Andrew's church in Chesterton for service of worship and prayer at 8pm. On that day all the churches in Cambridge are being encouraged to cancel their evening services and come together to pray for their local community. Also we will be looking at how we can get involved in outreach projects over the summer within our local community as part of the Hope 08 project. Another practical expression of our faith is Christian Aid week, which begins on Pentecost Sunday 11th May, with a Soup and a roll lunch, and a very special interview. Then there is a quiz on Friday 16th, which would be a good opportunity to invite friends and

neighbours, culminating in the 'Krazy Kar Wash' on Sunday 18th May. Also on the 18th May there is a BBQ at the vicarage to celebrate 25 years of our link with our friends in Etterbeek, and a chance to look to the future and how we are to develop the link.

All in all the 'Merry month of May' looks like it will be a busy and fun one, with a focus on the community around us as well as those across the seas. As we engage with those around us let us remember our calling to sharing the good news – and as St Francis, in another favourite quote from the Bishop of Kensington, said:

"Preach the gospel, use words if you must."

David Maher



And he departed from our sight that we might return to our heart, and there find Him. For He departed, and behold, He is here.

St. Augustine

PARISH DIRECTORY

Vicar	Rev. David Maher	351844
Honorary Assistant Curate	Rev. John Polkinghorne	360743
Reader	Linda Dean	328658
Churchwarden	Iris Brown	565956
Churchwarden	Henry Disney	359396
PCC Chairman	Rev. David Maher	351844
PCC Vice Chairman	Henry Disney	359396
PCC Secretary	Fiona Blows	329822
PCC Treasurer	Coral Hatley	313619
PCC Electoral Roll Officer	Lilas Davison	354300
Altar Linen	Finsetta Cummings	352757
Amnesty International	Audrey Disney	359396
Assistant Treasurer	Bill Elsey	357622
Assistant Treasurer	Jim Bass	363156
Book of Remembrance	Monica Shipp	353734
Chalice Bearers	Bill Elsey	357622
Chantry Book	Tom Shipp	353734
Child Protection Co-ordinator	Ruth Banger	234409
Children's Society	Ruby Leyshon	352151
Children's Work	John & Alison Phillips	502969
Christian Aid	Simon & Clare Redfern	740513
Church Cleaners	Monica Shipp	353734
Church Hall Bookings	Ruby Leyshon	352151
Church Heating	Horace Giles	359001
Coffee Makers	Irene Langley	367964
Coffee & Rolls	Fiona Blows	329822
Director of Music	Dorothy Holliday	234409
Events Co-ordinators	Eva Hutson	574070
Events Co-ordinators	Ruby Leyshon	352151
Events Co-ordinators	Evelyn Walker	364067
Flower Arrangers	Iris Brown	565956
Flower Arrangers	Jeanne Elsey	357622
Friends of Etterbeek	John & Elizabeth Lamont	565559
Good Shepherd Players	Liz Collinson	01954 251377
Good Shepherd Players	Ruth Banger	234409
Health & Safety Officer	Peter Covill	729573
Historic Churches Cycle Ride	Ros Lund	565303
House Group	Terri Barringer	424584
Insurance Secretary	Joe Fletcher	351107
Intercessors	John Lamont	565559
Jimmy's Night Shelter	Ann Callear	357694
Lesson Readers	Lilas Davison	354300
Monday Club	Eva Hutson	574070
Newsletter Editor	Ruth Banger	234409
North Cambridge Area Deanery Synod	Rhodri James	357607
North Cambridge Area Deanery Synod	John Phillips	502969
North Cambridge Council of Churches	Ruby Leyshon	352151
North Cambridge Council of Churches	Michael Lovell	
Pastoral Care Co-ordinator	Linda Dean	328658
Planned Giving Secretary	Lilas Davison	354300
Registrar of Planned Giving Envelopes	Tom Shipp	353734
Rural Development Movement	Henry Disney	359396
Sacristans	Ian & Else Catchpole	474540
Servers	Bill Elsey	357622
Sidesmen & Sideswomen	Iris Brown	565956
Sidesmen & Sideswomen	Henry Disney	359396
Sound System	John Lamont	565559

READINGS FOR MAY

Sundays and holy days

- 4 SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
Acts 1: 6-14
1 Peter 4: 12-14; 5: 6-11
John 17: 1-11
- 11 PENTECOST
Numbers 11: 24-30
Acts 2: 1-21
John 20: 19-23
- 18 TRINITY SUNDAY
Isaiah 40: 12-17, 27-31
2 Corinthians 13: 11-13
Matthew 28: 16-20
- 25 FIRST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY
Leviticus 19: 1-2, 9-18
1 Corinthians 3: 10-11, 16-23
Matthew 5: 38-48

Wednesdays

- 7 Acts 2: 1-21
John 20: 19-23
- 14 2 Corinthians 13: 11-13
Matthew 28: 16-20
- 21 1 Corinthians 3: 10-11, 16-23
Matthew 5: 38-48
- 28 Romans 1: 16-17; 3: 22b-28
Matthew 7: 21 - 29



REGULAR SERVICES IN MAY

- Sundays 8am Holy Communion
10am Parish Communion
- Mondays 9.30am Morning Prayer
- Tuesdays 9.30am Morning Prayer
- Wednesdays 9.30am Holy Communion
- Thursdays 9.30am Morning Prayer
- Fridays 9.30am Morning Prayer

The Church will be closed on the two Bank Holidays –May 5 and May 26.

SPECIAL SERVICES IN MAY

8 o'clock service at St. Andrew's, Chesterton on May 4. See separate notice

Service of Healing and the Laying on of Hands with Prayer at 6 pm on May 18

Admission of new churchwardens at The Good Shepherd on Saturday May 10 at 10am

Choral Evening Service for Whit Sunday at 6pm on Sunday May 11 (N.B. the date in the draft Church calendar is wrong).

EVENTS IN MAY

Sunday May 4 12 noon, Sunday Lunch Club in the Church Hall.

Christian Aid week commences May 12 (see separate notice on next page).

Family afternoon at St. Laurence's Church 2-4pm on Saturday May 17.

Etterbeek BBQ at the Vicarage on Sunday May 18.

Plant and Book Sale in the Church Hall on Saturday May 24 10.30 – 12 noon. (Note changed date).

MEETINGS IN MAY

PCC meets at 7.45pm on Monday May 19.

Pentecostal Christian Aid Week 2008 11th - 17th May

As Pentecost Sunday this year coincides with Christian Aid Week, churches are being encouraged (by Archbishop Rowan Williams, no less!) to celebrate the work of Christian Aid as an expression of the unifying and transforming work of the Holy Spirit. Each year, thousands of churches of many differing denominations, and hundreds of thousands of individuals, raise money and awareness, to challenge global poverty. Small local actions added together can bring far-reaching changes. For example, emergency help was sent recently to Kenya, to assist displaced persons, and to Bangladesh following the hurricane last November that killed 3000 people. In Zimbabwe, Christian Aid partners have an extensive drought recovery programme, are combating HIV and are also key supporters of NGOs working for good governance. Fighting injustice through challenging trade policies and corruption within governments and businesses, and speaking out on behalf of the most vulnerable, is another essential aspect of Christian Aid's work.

So what will we be doing during Christian Aid Week?

Pentecost Sunday, 11th May Homemade Bread and Soup Lunch 12 noon in the church hall. £5 per person; children free. If you can, please sign up in the church to say you are coming but it's OK to just turn up!

Quizaid Friday 16th May, 7pm A quiz night in the church hall! £2 per person/children free. Donations for refreshments (all fair-trade). Come as a team, or join a team on the night. We are hoping other North Cambridge Churches will come and take part, so come on, let's show them we're the best!

Sunday 18th May during coffee. COGS KIDs Krazy Kar Klean. - sign up before or after church. Have your car cleaned while you have coffee and biscuits! Only £3.

Street collecting. Sign-up sheets will be on the tables in church at the end of April and envelopes ready for posting through letter-boxes in May. If you want to find out more about what this entails, please speak to Simon or me or find another regular collector.

Prayer cards, which also contain a message that can be sent to Gordon Brown calling for more effort on climate change, will also be in the pews; please take and use!

Let's look forward to enjoying a great week of fund-raising.

Clare and Simon Redfern



It's never too late

The first day of school our professor introduced himself and challenged us to get to know someone we didn't already know. I stood up to look around when a gentle hand touched my shoulder. I turned around to find a wrinkled, little old lady beaming up at me with a smile that lit up her entire being. She said, "Hi, handsome. My name is Rose. I'm eighty-seven years old. Can I give you a hug?" I laughed and enthusiastically responded, "Of course you may!" and she gave me a giant squeeze.

"Why are you in college at such a young, innocent age?" I asked. She jokingly replied, "I'm here to meet a rich husband, get married, and have a couple of kids..."

"No, seriously" I asked. I was curious what may have motivated her to be taking on this challenge at her age. "I always dreamed of having a college education and now I'm getting one!" she told me.

After class we walked to the student union building and shared a chocolate milkshake. We became instant friends. Every day for the next three months we would leave class together and talk. I was mesmerized listening to this 'time machine' as she shared her wisdom and experience with me.

Over the course of the year, Rose became a campus icon and she easily made friends wherever she went. She loved to dress up and revelled in the attention bestowed on her by other students. She was living it up.

At the end of the semester we invited Rose to speak at our football banquet. I'll never forget what she taught us. She was introduced and stepped up to the podium. As she began to deliver her prepared speech, she dropped her three by five cards on the floor. Frustrated and a little embarrassed she leaned into the microphone and said, "I'm sorry I'm so jittery. I gave up beer for Lent and this whiskey is killing me! I'll never get my speech back into order so let me just tell you what I know." As we laughed she cleared her throat and began, "We do not stop playing because we are old; we grow old because we stop playing. There are only four secrets to staying young, being happy, and achieving success. You have to laugh and find humour every day. You've got to have a dream. When you lose your dreams, you die. We have so many people walking around who are dead and don't even know it! There is a huge difference between growing older and growing up. If you are nineteen years old and lie in bed and don't do one productive thing, you will turn twenty years old. If I am eighty-seven years old and stay in bed for a year and never do anything, I will turn eighty-eight. Anybody can grow older – that doesn't take any talent or ability. The idea is to grow up by always finding opportunity in change. The elderly usually don't have regrets for what we did, but rather for things we did not do. The only people who fear death are those with regrets."

At the year's end Rose finished the college degree she had begun all those years ago. One week after graduation Rose died peacefully in her sleep. Over two thousand college students attended her funeral in tribute to the wonderful woman who taught by example that it's never too late to be all you can possibly be.

Supplied by Bill Elsey



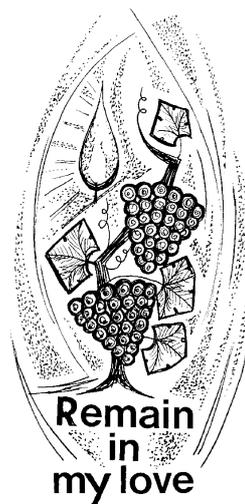
You are never alone

(This poem, by David Prowse, was given to my mother and she has found it very comforting. I hope you do too.

Ruth)

When the walls that surround you are silent,
And solitude weighs like a stone,
As you search for a shoulder to lean on,
Remember, you're never alone.
When loneliness lowers its shadow
And the voice that you hear is your own,
Though nobody seems to be listening,
Remember, you're never alone.
When each face in the street is a stranger
And the path that you tread is unknown,
Be guided by faith and conviction,
Remember, you're never alone.
Whatever the doubts that assail you,
However your dreams may be blown,
Make courage your constant companion,
Remember, you're never alone.

God is always there.



Jimmy's (Latest News)

You may have read in the local paper that Jimmy's has recently received a large grant. Please do not think this means they no longer need our help – the grant is solely to update their buildings, not to care for their guests. They need our gifts and prayer support as much as they ever did. Please continue to help.

Ann Callear

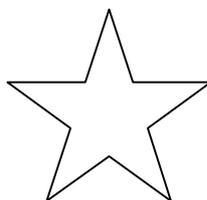
From the Parish Registers

Holy Baptism

March 23

Annie Cannell

171 Campkin Road



Good friends are like stars ...
You don't always see them,
but you know they are always there.

NEWS FROM OUR FRIENDS

I recently heard from Carina and thought you would like to know how she is getting on in Oxford.
Editor

I had a busy Easter with family coming to me just before Easter and then us all travelling to my parents for the weekend. Tiring but very joyful. I love all the yellow spring plants and find I cannot frown at a daffodil!

I find myself occupied with decorating at home and challenges at work. Both are very rewarding at the moment and I am so pleased to be happy and settled. This week I am painting my living room (the wallpaper having yielded remarkably easily!) and I shall soon be a pro at decorating!

I try to visit the Good Shepherd website once a month to read the newsletter and find out what's going on. It reminds me of you all and some of what you are doing. I find the letters from both David and John very insightful and enjoy using the prayers through the month!

I am slowly getting used to my new church, though I miss you all terribly. The vicar is lovely and has been very welcoming, although it has taken me some time to ask for help finding my feet. We have a mixture of Communion services, Morning Prayer and lay led services on Sunday mornings with Communion in the evening if it was not in the morning - I have not really worked out the routine yet! There are quite a lot of more modern hymns and worship songs with which I am not familiar and as the choir does not sing with the volume or quality of the Good Shepherd choir it will take a while to learn! We recently had a lovely *Songs of Praise* service with favourite hymns, poems and readings that was very enjoyable. I have been surprised how different two churches can be and slightly disappointed that it has not been easier, but I can see I'm making progress and am starting to find a place.

Carina Lobley

Plant and Book Sale

Our next Plant and Book Sale will take place in the Church Hall between 10.30am and 12 noon on **Saturday May 24**. This is one of the major fund raising efforts of our Church year so please start preparing for it. We need books to sell – so turn out any unwanted ones – and we need plants to sell – so if you are green fingered get growing!

This is a big opportunity to raise money for the Church **and** clear your own shelves. Books can be brought to the office any morning of the week before the Sale, plants will be better brought at the end of the week, preferably on the day!

We are depending on you to bring us items to sell, so please help.

Ruby Leyshon, Eva Hutson, Evelyn Walker

What did this Easter mean to me?

It was a time of sadness and a time of joy. Throughout Lent my thoughts had been of what was to come. I was with Jesus – imagining what he must have felt as he knew what was to happen. Maundy Thursday I went to Church and my thoughts intensified throughout the service. Friday the nails pierced *my* hands and the agony of Jesus' mother pierced *my* heart. Saturday I waited for Sunday and I felt the peace of Sunday morning when Jesus appeared to Mary Magdalene. I knew the risen Christ is with me always.

Ruth Reid

This Joyful Eastertide!

I was delighted to be able to attend all the Holy Week services in the run up to Easter this year culminating on the Easter Day service.

The Maundy Thursday service was very moving and memorable. It was pleasing that we had to keep widening our circle and adding more chairs, as more people came than were expected. I found David's address very helpful. We were asked consider which of the disciples we identified with. I'm sure, like David, we could all put ourselves in Peter's place – adamant that we would always stand up for Our Lord, but also often finding ourselves reluctant to do so.

I always find Good Friday difficult – it has a strange aura and sometimes it is made worse by the fact that my birthday falls on that day. Fortunately, that was not the case this year. John's meditation on the Passion was very helpful and there was a supportive feeling as we all sat round I the circle together.

I would like to thank all those involved in the preparation of services this

We had great fun on Easter Eve, making a joyful noise with our percussion instruments in anticipation of the next day. Then on to Easter Day, when, having battled through the snow to get to church, I have to say it did seem rather more like Christmas! However, it was all worth it to enjoy a hot cross bun and coffee with friends before the service and, of course, the joyful Easter service itself.

How very blessed we are to be able say: "He is risen indeed!"

Liz Collinson

This Easter

This is the first time for some years I have been able to follow through all the main Easter week services and I found it a wonderful experience. It was a very moving Maundy Thursday evening – whether you had your feet washed or not, it made you stop and think – and then there was Good Friday afternoon. This was for me a real time apart; quiet, reflective and with magnificent hymns which have inspired believers for very many years. Saturday evening's service started quietly and then had an outburst of joy at the Resurrection and we all celebrated with shakers and bells. At all these services we sat in the round and shared communion with one another. And then we came to Easter Day. And what a day! Thick snow was falling when we set out, but the warmth of the welcome from late staying 8 o'clockers and early arriving 10 o'clockers made up for the terrible weather as we enjoyed breakfast together. And then we celebrated Easter together at the joyful Communion Service with much loved hymns.

I feel this year I have followed the story through *for myself* and trust that I will take the joy of Easter with me in the year ahead.

Ruth Banger

Easter 2008

We remember Easter 2008 with circles.

Circles have a warmth that flows all round from one to another, and from Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, we, who formed those circles, experienced a very positive fellowship among us.

The breaking of the bread (real bread) on Maundy Thursday and then communicating each other, was one of the highlights of that most enjoyable and thought provoking Service.

On Good Friday instead of the usual, long Liturgy, we had a reading, a Hymn based on that reading, and then an explanation of the reading from John, followed by a period of meditation and reflection, all very sincere and extremely well thought out, a very positive experience for all present.

Easter Day found some of the 10am Congregation joining the 8am Worshippers for a breakfast of Hot Cross Buns, Marmalade, Coffee or Tea, which was well attended and greatly enjoyed, in spite of the inclement weather.

The Worship that followed had Hymns that we knew, a Sermon, and a Service that we greatly enjoyed, and which brought us together, and also brought into focus the true message of Easter.

Bill & Jeanne Elsey

I found the Good Friday afternoon event particularly helpful.

Henry Disney

Thoughts about Easter.

On Easter Morning it was heart-warming to see the church once again beautiful with flowers, in celebration of the joyful news that Christ is indeed risen. However there was also the stark black cross, a reminder of the days leading up to the first Easter Day and the services which commemorated those days.

On Palm Sunday the meditation in words and music leading us through the Stations of the Cross was extremely moving and the meditation on Good Friday, led by John Polkinghorne, reflecting on the human weaknesses and misunderstandings which led to Christ's Crucifixion was a powerful reminder of our human frailty.

But now it was Easter Day and our services joyfully celebrated that Christ indeed is risen. After the 8a.m. service the simple breakfast shared with those arriving for the 10a.m. service was a lovely experience joining us together in the happiness of the day.

Margaret Handley



Breakfast in Church at Easter

The early risers who like to go to the 8am service have coffee and rolls once a month after communion and David suggested that we should include members of the ten o'clock congregation in this on Easter Sunday.

We spent some time deciding who would bring what and how many kettles, plates and cups we would need, so that we were fairly sure nothing could go wrong. It was therefore a bit of a shock on Easter Sunday to wake up to snow, and have more snow fall during the eight o'clock communion. When we looked out at the white roads and pavements we wondered if anyone would turn up.

We set the table of goodies up at the side of the Church and waited. At first a few cold and snowy people struggled in, but before long there was quite a little crowd of us, eating the hot cross buns and Easter biscuits. It was very pleasant and fun and we managed to talk to people that we do not see very often.

Fiona Blows



JOHN 11:27



'THE COMPASSIONATE, THE MERCIFUL'

A man has a mind that's asleep
Or else that's beset with a heap
Of fears he believes
He only receives
As harvests of sins he must reap.

His lack of a sense of relief
Derives from a crazy belief
That God won't forgive
And makes him relive
All acts whose recall is his grief.

But Christ, who arose from the dead,
Had preached of forgiveness instead;
And love is the way
That God will display
His mercy, His wine and His bread.

Henry Disney

The Chairman and Trustees of Cam-mind
have pleasure in inviting you and your guests to a

THANKSGIVING SERVICE

In Great St Mary's Church, Cambridge.
on Saturday May 17th 2008 at 3pm.

**Preacher: The Lord Bishop of Ely, Dr Anthony Russell,
President of Cam-mind.**

Cambridgeshire Mental Welfare Association Limited

The service will celebrate 100 years of continued support to
those with mental health issues in the Cambridge area
Tea, coffee, celebration cake and biscuits will be served after the service

RSVP: Brian Payne JP., 7 Churchfield Way, Wisbech St Mary, Cambs., PE13 4SY or
email paynewsm@btinternet.com, by May 3rd 2008.

Newsletter Review

It is now two years since I agreed to edit the Church Newsletter and I think it is time we looked at where we are now.

First, a very big thank you to everyone who has contributed over the past two years and to those who quietly distribute copies each month. Our circulation of printed copies is now in excess of 150 each month and that is due to the quality of the material you send me. I know that through the Newsletter we get in touch with a lot of people who would otherwise not be contacted. Our Newsletter also goes on to our webpage and I know past members look with interest to see what is happening at The Good Shepherd (see Carina's letter on page 7 of this issue).

So what am I asking of you now? Nothing stands still, and if we are to continue to have an excellent Newsletter, we must see how we can improve what we do.

Frequency

We publish an edition each month so that we can include that month's

readings and church events. Is this the right frequency?

Cost

We charge a nominal 10p per issue but break even because all our costs are "in house" i.e. I duplicate it on our own photocopier and Margaret Handley (a very big thank you there) collates the copies each month. Do you agree with the cost?

Layout

Largely the layout is in two columns with the size and style of font you see before you. Is this what you want?

Contents

You know the range of material we cover plus the regular items. Is there anything you want omitted/included?

Anything else

I guarantee that every suggestion will be carefully considered and I really do want your replies – negative or positive. It is **OUR** Newsletter which is part of our offering to God. We owe it to Him to make it the best we possibly can.

Ruth Banger (Editor)

IN THE CHURCH HALL

THE MONDAY CLUB Monday 2.30 - 4pm	Maureen Carter	369996
THE GOOD SHEPHERD CUBS Monday 6.30 - 8pm	Charles Brown	07720 441123
LINE DANCING Tuesday 10.15 - 11.45am	Mrs B Wright	426517
KEEP FIT 50+ GROUP Tuesday 2.30 - 4pm	Mrs V Ford	870711
THE GOOD SHEPHERD RAINBOWS Tuesday 6.15 – 7.15pm	Miss Rachel Marsh	574520
CARERS & SUFFERERS OF DEMENTIA Wednesday 10 – 12 noon	Jo Hughes	0776 6058767
THE 18th & 25th GOOD SHEPHERD BROWNIES Wednesday 6 - 7.15pm	Mrs Pat Marsh	574520
THE CAMERA CLUB Wednesday 7.30 – 9.30pm	C.N. Hall	350516
GUILDHALL RETIRED MEMBERS CLUB 2 nd Wednesday of the month 2 - 4pm	Yvonne Wisbey	523549
ROYAL BRITISH LEGION 3 rd Wednesday of the month 2.30 - 4.30pm March to November	Mary Glasscock	155 Minerva Way CB4 2TZ
T G W U 4 th Wednesday of the month 2 – 4pm	John Drake	244030
CAMBRIDGE INSTRUMENTS PENSION FELLOWSHIP 3 rd Thursday of the month 10am - noon	Mr Richard Luff	424027
THE GOOD SHEPHERD BEAVERS Thursday 6.15 - 7.15pm	Alan Leader	563233
CHURCH TODDLERS' CLUB Friday 9.15 – 11.30am	Linda Dean	328658
TAI CHI Friday 2 – 3pm	Mike Tabrett	503390
THE SUNDAY LUNCH CLUB 1 st Sunday of the month noon – 1.30pm	John & Elizabeth Lamont	565559

TO BOOK THE CHURCH HALL

Please ring 352151
(evenings)