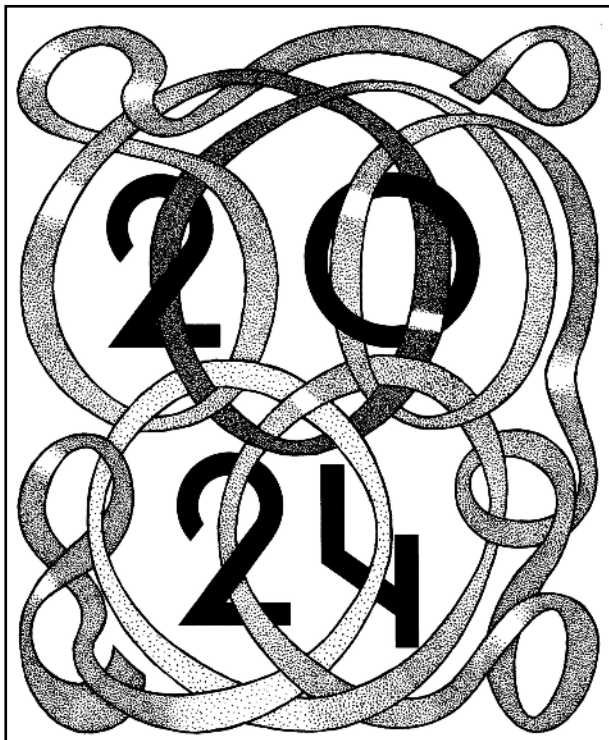


PEWTALK

£1

July 2024



EAST & WEST TILBURY AND LINFORD PARISH MAGAZINE

Parish web site: www.stcatherinesthurrock.org.uk

BITs AnD PiECes

The June 100 Club draw was made by Rev. Michèle after the morning service on Sunday 2nd. The winner was Barbara Osborne a first time winner. Mark and Barbara bought the tickets late last year from their Pewtalk deliverer.

The major prize of £50 which completes the 2023-2024 100 Club will be drawn on July 6th.

Tickets (£10 for the year) are now available either from myself, via Pewtalk, or from your usual contact. Please support the 100 Club if you can and if you have friends and family beyond the congregation who may be interested in helping the Church in this way please do encourage them.

Hopefully we can increase on the current total of 60 members .

Norman

What is it that they say "you have to be in it to win it!".....Ed.

Valerie and I would like to thank everyone for their condolences on the sad passing of my dearly loved brother Joe. The church has brought us much comfort in dealing with my sad loss. Thank you all again

Les & Val Schwarz

The digital giving project is moving forward and on Wednesday 19th June our CollecTin was collected at a training session given in Chelmsford. During the session the young women training us revealed that she never carries cash and if she gets any tries to get rid of it as soon as possible. This means, for

her, that if she cannot make a donation or pay for something using her card or mobile 'phone then she simply leaves and goes elsewhere. This seems to be an increasingly common situation which is why we now have three ways of donating to the work of the parish without cash. Our on-line giving page can be accessed from our web-site, from our 'a church near you' entry, by using a 'QR' code or now by using our contactless donation tin which will usually be available in St. Catherine's when the church is open. We are very grateful to the Diocese and the national Anglican church for their help and support with this project.

The 80th anniversary of the D-Day landings was celebrated on the 8th June with the lighting of the beacon at Coalhouse Fort at 9.15pm. Prior to that, from 7.30pm St. Catherine's church was open for folk to have a time of quiet reflection, to listen to a recording of the memories of some of those that were involved and to look at a display of related documentation which had been organised by Dave Bowling and the WELCOM forum. Sadly Rev. Michèle was unwell and unable to take part but Rev. Fiona Smith of the Linford Methodist church led the prayers at the beacon lighting.

Remember, remember we have a general election on Thursday July 4th and as many people have fought for the right to vote in the past - perhaps we should!

A prayer for all those affected by sickness and ill-health

Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy. Sustain and support the anxious, be with those who care for the sick, and lift up all who are brought low; that we may find comfort knowing that nothing can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.



Reflections from The Rectory

By the time you read this article things in the UK may have changed or be about to. I speak of course about the General election on the 4th July. The possibility of change is within our hands as we each decide who to vote for.

In the lead up to the General Election each political party has tried to charm us with their campaigns and manifestos. They have made promises and bold statements. They have spoken of policies that will change our lives and make things better. The headlines are:-

From the Conservatives: Clear plan; bold action; secure future.

From the Labour party: Change.

From the Liberal Democrats: For a fair deal.

From the Green Party: Real Hope, Real Change.

From Reform: Our Contract with You.

Many today are disillusioned with politics and politicians. They promise much but we feel they deliver little. And we may well be asking ourselves will anything change whoever wins the election? Will anything ever get better? Could there ever be a time when politicians learn to work together for the greater good rather than arguing and scoring points against one another? Is there a model that those in positions of leadership and authority could follow?

As I spent time reflecting on this my thoughts were drawn to the 'manifesto' or 'mission statement' of Jesus at the start of his ministry. Soon after Jesus was baptised in the river Jordan he is sent out into the wilderness to think, to pray, to focus on all that he has been asked to do by his heavenly father. He has been given the task of becoming the visible face of the invisible God.

Whilst in the wilderness the devil tries to set him off course, promising him power and authority if he will give up his soul and worship the devil instead. Jesus, as you might expect stands firm. The story continues as follows:

Jesus returned to Galilee powerful in the Spirit. News that he was back spread through the countryside. He taught in their meeting places to everyone's acclaim and pleasure. He came to Nazareth where he had been raised. As he always did on the Sabbath, he went to the meeting place. When he stood up to read, he was handed the scroll of the prophet Isaiah. Unrolling the scroll, he found the place where it was written,

God's Spirit is on me;

*he's chosen me to preach the Message of good news to the poor,
Sent me to announce pardon to prisoners and
recovery of sight to the blind,
To set the burdened and battered free,
to announce, "This is God's time to shine!"*

He rolled up the scroll, handed it back to the assistant, and sat down. Every eye in the place was on him, intent.' (Luke 4:14-20)

Jesus had a clear plan; he took bold action; he wanted to secure the future for all who believed and trusted in God. Jesus was not afraid to bring about real change which meant a fairer deal for everyone. In Jesus there was and is Real Hope, Real Change. And the contract between Jesus and you - is lifelong and everlasting. Jesus does not break His promises!

When Jesus was asked which was the greatest commandment he said, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength." The second most important commandment is this: "Love your neighbour as you love yourself." There is no other commandment more important than these two."

(Mark 12:30-31)

Perhaps if we were all prepared to follow these words of wisdom, irrespective of which political party wins the election and governs us, the world would be a better, kinder and loving place.

Every Blessing to all, *Revd Michèle*

Have you ever thought about trees?



Hello, my name is Kim Ford. I am the Parish Safeguarding Officer for St. Catherine's and St. Francis.

As safeguarding officer I have to do training. This week I was doing a leadership training course and for this particular session (which was part two having done part one earlier), we had to think about what has influenced our values and beliefs regarding safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults. It was suggested that it could be a special place something in nature some scripture or a piece of art. As I was thinking about this, my mind thought immediately of trees as they are all different. Some are small, some big. Their colours are all different and sometimes as you're walking or driving through the countryside you see the different shades of green, but basically green, there's dark green, light green, various greens. Some trees will flower with beautiful blossom in the springtime, some bare fruit and some nuts but they are all trees. I started thinking that this is just like us human beings. We are all different. We are different sizes, different colours, different genders and nationalities, we may have disabilities - we are very diverse just like trees. We are also unique. No two people have the same fingerprints or DNA, so we are extraordinarily special. No matter what continent we are from we are all made in God's image and are loved and cared for by him whether we know him or not. So, my safeguarding course is certainly making me think and I thought that I would share my thoughts with you. I wonder what thoughts might occur to you.

Blessings

The Churchyard



This spring has been particularly difficult for the team of volunteers that maintain the churchyard at St. Catherine's. The wet weather particularly, has meant that the grass has grown very quickly and we have not been able to use our mowers as they just get clogged with the mowings. However, with the help of the probation service's 'Community Payback Team' we have been able to get the churchyard into a pretty good state by the end of June.

What is not often appreciated, and surprises many visitors, is that it is the parish that is responsible for the care and maintenance of the churchyard. As it is the church's property, Thurrock council have no responsibility for it (*although they do look after the West Tilbury churchyard as it is 'closed'*) and the church receives no funds from council or the government. This is why we rely on our volunteers and the payback team. If you would like to help, we would be very happy to see you either on the first Saturday of the month between 10am and noon or during our monthly tea afternoons. Of course if you do have a grave in the churchyard, you are very welcome to look after the area around it. Please remember that we have to mow between the graves and no vases etc. should be left either in front or behind headstones as these can cause damage to equipment and our volunteers.

It also helps if, when you are tending graves, you remove any dead flowers / decoration and take it home with you.

That's enough on grass and keeping the churchyard tidy but what else happened in June? Well we had to deal with a wasp (or was to a bee) colony in the north wall of the chancel.



During the first Community Payback Team's visit we believe that the sound of the trimmers and mowers disturbed the occupants of the nest and they swarmed out of it much to the consternation of the team members who were naturally concerned about being stung. Since the churchyard is visited on a regular basis by members of the public the matter had to be dealt with before someone was hurt. But what to do? By one of those strange quirks of life only a couple of

weeks before Kim and I had a bee colony set up residence in the hazel tree in our front garden. By browsing the Internet I made contact with a local bee keeper who came and collected swarm a couple of day later. Back to the problem in the churchyard. Through the contact that I had made I was put in touch with another bee keeper who was also a registered pest controller. As the colony was in the stonework and too high to reach safely it was destroyed - a shame but just one of those things that has to be done.

Chris Ford

Readers may remember that the monies raised at our Pancake evening and the Lent lunches was donated to the Friends of The Holy Land. Norman King, our treasurer, recently received a newsletter from them and from which the following extracts have been taken.

1. "You may have seen that H B Cardinal Pizzaballa made a courageous visit to Gaza last month, the first international figure to visit Gaza since the war began. He spent 4 days staying at the Holy Family Catholic Church and ministering to their needs; he also visited the Orthodox Church of St. Porphyrios nearby and spoke at length with Archbishop Alexios. Fr. Gabriel Romanelli accompanied the Cardinal and was therefore able to finally return to his parish along with two Sisters of Charity to provide more relief.

Our C.E.O., Brendan Metcalfe was in Jerusalem at the time of this visit and was able to gather first hand some of the news and conditions from the Cardinal's visit and around Israel and the West Bank which is helping to guide our work now."

2. "A research study has been published by Fr. Fadi Diab, Rector of St Andrew's Anglican Church, Ramallah and St. Peter's Anglican Church in Bir Zeit and Chairman of FHL's local committee that guides our work.

"The study reveals that the war in Gaza and rapidly deteriorating conditions in the West Bank have had traumatic effects on children, youth and adults."

The report provides an insight into the impact of the war on Palestinian Christians in the West Bank. While the world's media is focused on Gaza, there is little reporting on the conditions for our brothers and sisters in the West Bank, which have been described as the worst in living memory.

We get monthly updates from our office team and committee in addition to commissioning research such as this, which helps us ensure our projects are targeted to meet the needs actually reported by the community. Hence Friends of the Holy Land is uniquely placed to help. We have planned follow up research across the whole of the West Bank for later this year."

If you would like to find out more we are directed to their website at:
www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk

I believe that there is no one lovelier, deeper, more sympathetic and more perfect than Jesus – not only is there no one else like Him, but there could never be anyone like Him.
–Feodor Dostoevsky

Sea Sunday – 14th July

Look around your home. How much of the contents of your bedroom, kitchen, living room and even garage came to you over the seas, via the great merchant ships? What would your home be like without them?

Yet when did you last give a thought to the people who bring them to you?

It is a curious fact that seafarers are one of the most important, and yet invisible, people groups in our society. We depend on them to bring us more than 90% of the world's goods and fuels, yet we rarely even remember their existence.

It suddenly makes Sea Sunday seem a very good idea: an annual opportunity to give thanks for the 1.89 million seafarers of the world, and to pray for their personal well-being. For going to sea is a lonely occupation. It separates families for up to nine months on end. It is also one of the world's most dangerous occupations, with physically demanding work as well as the threat of piracy, shipwreck and even abandonment.

So this Sea Sunday, let's pause and give thanks to God for the seafarers of the world. Let's remember how their work so enriches our lives. Let's pray for them, for their families, and let's support the organisations that offer them care and support through their chaplaincy work.

One such is The Mission to Seafarers, which has Seafarers Centres in 50 countries, and offers not only practical support such as access to Wi-Fi and a place to relax, but also emotional and spiritual aid through its ordained Port Chaplains, who are constantly visiting the ships.

It is good to know that we have a local Seafarers' Centre in Tilbury Docks run by the Queen Victoria Seamen's Rest (QVSR) charity and whose work is supported by volunteers from several churches in Thurrock.....Ed

Remembering the faith of Eric Liddell – 100 years ago at the Paris Olympics

The 2024 Paris Olympics (26 July – 11 August) will soon be here. It was 100 years ago this summer, also at the Paris Olympics, that a young science student at Edinburgh University, Eric Liddell, ran an astonishing race that caught the imagination of millions worldwide.

Liddell had been born in China in 1902, to Scottish missionaries there. Early on, he had made a deep commitment to Jesus Christ, and sensed he was being called to spend his life in serving others. But Liddell was also an outstanding sportsman, playing rugby for Scotland before settling on athletics.

When he was chosen for the Paris Olympics, he expected to run his preferred 100m. But then came the news that the race would be run on a Sunday, and Liddell refused. Quickly, he trained for the 200m and 400m. He took bronze at the 200m, but no one expected much from him at the 400m. Instead, he won, and even broke the world record in the process.

After the Olympics, Liddell felt God calling him to his life's work. He went back to China, to teach in a Christian college. As the Second World War loomed, he sent his wife and children home, but stayed on himself. By 1943 Liddell was confined to a brutal prison camp, where he shone among the fellow prisoners – encouraging them, teaching Bible classes, and praying for both his fellow inmates and the prison wardens. Deeply malnourished, his health failed and in 1945, just months before the war ended, he died, aged only 43.

In 1981 his story was made into the Oscar-winning film *Chariots of Fire*.

The June meeting of ther PCC

The Parochial Church Council met at St. Francis on the 3rd June.

As it was the first meeting of the newly elected council there were a number of formalities and appointments to be dealt with. After reviewing the annual meetings it was noted that the Archdeacon's Visitation service (where the newly appointed Churchwardens are sworn in) was set for 3rd July at All Saints, Belhus Park at 7pm with Chris, Les and Revd. Michèle required to attend.

The following appointments were then made unanimously by the members.

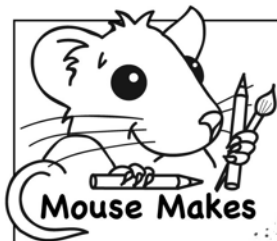
Lay Vice Chair	Chris Ford
P.C.C. Secretary	June Schroeder
Treasurer	Norman King
Electoral Roll Officer	Valerie Schwar
Parish Safeguarding Officer	Kim Ford
Independent Examiner as approved at the APCM	Peter Chandler
Standing Committee	Revd. Michèle, Chris Ford Les Schwar, Norman King

The meeting then agreed to co-opt Julie Guest to the P.C.C.

Those members of the congregation that had offered to act as sides people were agreed and the meeting went on agree to adopt and implement the House of Bishop's Safeguarding Policy ' Promoting a Safer Church'.

The Churchwarden's report was received and it was agreed to replace the kitchen water heater at St. Francis as it had failed and was judged to be beyond economic repair. It was noted that the Community Payback Team would be working in ther churchyard on 17th June and that Chris, Kim, Les and Valerie would be collecting the Digital Giving CollecTin in Chelmsford on 19th June. The treasurer's report that Norman had prepared was accepted in his absence and there was nothing to report on the Electoral Roll or Safeguarding matters.

Revd. Michèle then gave her review of recent church life and after agreeing that we would meet again on 22nd July the meeting closed with the Grace



How many days did the Lord tell Joshua to march around the city of Jerico?

Joshua 6:3



What did the priests carry that were made from rams' horns?

What was carried along behind the priests?

The _____
Joshua 6:4

Joshua 6:4



On the seventh day how many times did they march around Jerico?

Joshua 6:6



Who was saved from Jerico along with her family?

Joshua 6:17

READ
the story in Joshua 5:13-6:27

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JERICO • LORD • JOSHUA • ISRAEL • KING • PRIESTS • GUARD
CAMP • MARCH • AROUND • DAYS • WALK • ONCE • BLOW • HORN • SOUND
DAWN • SHOUT • CITY • WALL • FELL • FLAT • FIRE • BURN • DESTRUCTION



PARISH DIARY FOR JULY

*All services and events may be changed in the light
of any new developments.*

*Please see our weekly newsletter for the latest
Information. It can be found on our*

Website: www.stcatherinesthurrock.org.uk

3 Jul	Mid-week Communion at St. Francis <i>Then the community support 'drop-in'</i>	10.00am 10.30am-noon
4 Jul	<<<<<<< General Election Today >>>>>>> Foodbank at St. Francis Linford W.I. Meeting at St. Francis	11.00am-1pm 2.00-4.00pm
6 Jul	Church cleaning and churchyard tidy up at St. Catherine's	10.00am-noon
7 Jul	6th Sunday after Trinity 'Worshipping Together' at St. Catherine's Baptism at St. Catherine's Holy Communion at St. Catherine's	10.00am 12 noon 4.30pm
10 Jul	Mid-week Communion at St. Francis <i>Then the community support 'drop-in'</i>	10.00am 10.30am-noon
11 Jul	Foodbank at St. Francis Deanery Synod meets at St. Peter's and St. Paul's, Grays	11.00am-1pm 7.30pm
14 Jul	7th Sunday after Trinity Holy Communion at St. Catherine's	10.00am
15 Jul	Bible Study and Fellowship group at St. Francis	10.30am-noon
17 Jul	Mid-week Communion at St. Francis <i>Then the community support 'drop-in'</i>	10.00am 10.30am-noon
18 Jul	Foodbank at St. Francis	11.00am-1pm
21 Jul	8th Sunday after Trinity 'Worshipping Together' at St. Catherine's Baptism at St. Catherine's Café Communion at St. Francis	10.00am 12 noon 4.30pm
22 Jul	P.C.C. Meeting at St. Francis	2.00pm
24 Jul	Mid-week Communion at St. Francis <i>Then the community support 'drop-in'</i>	10.00am 10.30am-noon
25 Jul	Foodbank at St. Francis	11.00am-1pm
28 Jul	9th Sunday after Trinity Holy Communion at St. Catherine's St. Catherine's open afternoon and churchyard clean-up	10.00am 2.00-4.00pm
31 Jul	Mid-week Communion at St. Francis <i>Then the community support 'drop-in'</i>	10.00am 10.30am-noon

Life Events during June

Baptism

None

Weddings

2 June James Samuel Reason and Ellie Grace Ridley

Committal of ashes

11 June Alice Mabel Lowther

Funerals

28 June Martha Lorimer Maclardy at Basildon Crematorium

Burial

None

Some news for Canon Paul Robinson

Just to let you know my new address. Since Carol and I married last November we've been commuting between our two houses and doing various DIY and other work on them. But we've now done all that so I've let mine out and our new home is at Carol's house - 19 Shaw Moor Avenue, Stalybridge. Cheshire SK15 2RB. My 'phone & email are still 07704 452425, canonrobinson@outlook.com.

We hope you are all well. We keep busy especially with our church where Carol is Churchwarden and I now have been authorised by the Bishop of Manchester to help at services.

We celebrated D-DAY at our church (Christ Church Friezland, which is in the Saddleworth area of the Pennines near Oldham) - I have gone back to bell ringing and we rang for the commemoration and apparently were the only church in Greater Manchester to do so!



If you would like to support the work of the parish and the churches of St. Catherine and St. Francis, this QR code will take you to our 'Give A Little' donation page.

The Priest in charge

REVD. MICHÈLE MARSHALL

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Stanford-le-Hope

Essex, SS17 0QA.

Telephone: 01375 671754

email: mjmarshall@fastmail.co.uk

The Usual Service Pattern

- ◆ 1st & 3rd Sunday's, 10am at St. Catherine's 'Worshipping Together'.
- ◆ 1st Sunday's, 4.30pm at St. Catherine's 'Holy Communion'.
- ◆ 3rd Sunday's, 4.30pm at St. Francis informal Service of Holy Communion (Café style).
- ◆ 2nd, 4th & 5th Sundays 10am at St. Catherine's Holy Communion.

Wednesday 10.00 a.m. Holy Communion at St. Francis

For Baptisms, Weddings or Funerals please contact Revd. Michèle Marshall

Our Churchwardens

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St. Francis Centre

The centre is available for hire at very reasonable rates. To discuss availability please contact Sheila King at:-

sheila.kingbookings@outlook.com

Copy Dates for Pewtal

24th July 2024

22nd August 2024

22nd September 2024