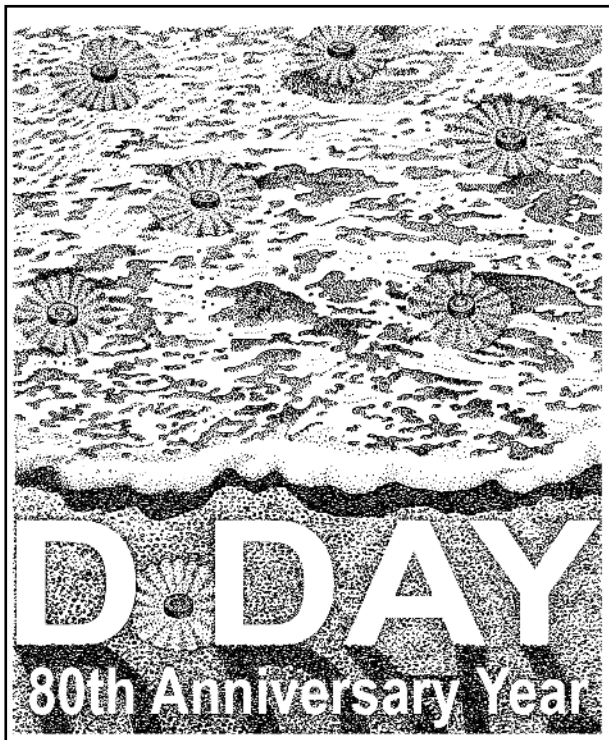


PEWTALK

£1

November 2024



EAST & WEST TILBURY AND LINFORD PARISH MAGAZINE

Parish web site: www.stcatherinesthurrock.org.uk

BITS AND PIECES

100 Club - One of our young Church members made the draw on October 5th. The winner was another youngster, Miles the Grandson of Rose.

It's lovely that we have had two young winners this year. Remember there is only one more draw this year before the first £50 Draw and eight more draws in 2025.

Norman

The Tearfund Big Quiz Night - on October 19th was a real 'fun' event with a good selection of subjects and, this year, with no technical 'glitches'. After the first 3 rounds there was only one point between the teams but eventually the 'Fab 6' moved into a 4 point lead over their nearest rivals with 'Now you see her' and 'Chocks away' tied for second place. Hoping for a better result next year 'Agatha Quiztie' completed the field. On the night £258.50 was raised for the Tearfund and £33.50 for St. Catherine's (to contribute to the heating and lighting). Many thanks to all who supported this excellent cause. Together with the harvest donations Norman, our Treasurer was able to pay £318.50 to Tear Fund for the most urgent situation/ pressing need.

The coffee morning at St. Francis took place on Saturday 26th October and although, at the time of writing (the afternoon of the 26th) we do not have a financial result those that attended enjoyed the occasion. The result of the raffle is. 1) 552 - toiletries 2) 579 toiletries 3) 542 wine 4) 596 Scarf 5) 581 Black Magic 6) 600

chocolates 7) 560 purse and all the prizes were claimed.

Our Blythswood shoeboxes - will be packed at the 'Worshipping Together' service on Sunday 3rd November and we hope that they will be collected in the following week. If you are making up your own boxes please arrange for them to be at St. Catherine's on that Sunday as we would have to take them to Gillingham if we miss the pick-up.

Our Thurrock foodbank - distribution centre continues to be busy with clients almost every week. Although the harvest donations of food from churches and schools have increased the stock at the warehouse there continue to be some shortages. If you wish to donate food the current needs are in the weekly newsletter (to be found on the church gates or on our website) and any food can be left at St. Francis on Wednesday between 10.30am and noon or Thursday between 11am and 1pm. It can also be left at St. Catherine's on a Sunday morning.

November is - the time of year for remembering loved ones departed and those lost to warfare. The various services are noted in Revd. Michèle's reflection and the calendar. We would love to see you either in church or at the Bata memorial - or both.

Open the book - the Bible Society's programme for the introduction of the Bible stories in schools has new subject matter from this term and the team at Woodside Primary Trust are getting to grips with it. For more information speak with Chris or Kim.

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



'They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:

Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.

At the going down of the sun and in the morning

We will remember them.'

Words I am sure that will be very familiar to anybody who has ever attended a Remembrance Service. Indeed they now form part of the Exhortation that leads us into the two minutes silence. The 'Ode of Remembrance', is just one verse from a much longer poem "For the Fallen" written by *Laurence Binyon*. It was first published in *The Times* in September 1914 and written to commemorate and honour the British war dead at that time. Now it is read as a tribute to all the casualties of war since that time on.

And 'remembering' is very much the theme we follow in the church at this time of year and as we make our way through the month of November. We observe All Saints Day on the 1st November, All Souls' Day on the 2nd November, Remembrance Sunday on the 10th November and then Remembrance Day on the 11th November. All of these significant days sit closely together and allow us time to be still and silent just for a little while.

I think most people would agree that our days and society are full of noise. In our homes, in the shops, at school and in the workplace noise is a constant. But as we come to these special dates in November silence comes and we have the opportunity to remember, give thanks and think about how we treat each other. We remember those who gave their lives in the line of duty and we remember too those known only to us.

On **Sunday 3rd November at 3pm** we will be holding our annual **All Souls Service of Memorial and Thanksgiving** for loved ones passed. This is a service open to all on the journey of grief and bereavement (*whether recent or sometime ago*) and will consist of Bible readings, poems, hymns and words of reflection. We will also read out the names of our loved ones and there will be an opportunity for you to light a candle in their memory. Tea and cake will follow the service.

On **Sunday 10th November**, there will be the parish '**Act of Remembrance**' at the Bata Memorial. The service will begin at **11am** and I would suggest arrival by 10.45am. This is a wonderful opportunity for generations young and old to come together to remember those who paid the ultimate sacrifice and for those who continue to do so today.

As we approach this season of Remembrance and recall moments of war and conflict in the past we hold before God those nations who are currently 'in battle' with their neighbours. At present there seems to be no peaceful resolution or end in sight to the wars taking place between Russia and Ukraine or Israel and Palestine. *Let us trust that the prayers of many and the work of world leaders*



trying to keep peaceful resolutions on the table bring light and hope in these times of great darkness.

*However you choose to observe this season of remembrance may you know God's peace.
'At the going down of the sun and in the morning ~ we will remember them.'*

Every Blessing to all,

Revd. Michèle



**All Souls
Service of Memorial and Thanksgiving**

**St Catherine's Church
East Tilbury**

Sunday 3rd November 2024 at 3pm

A special service for all those on the journey
of grief and bereavement.

The service will include a Bible reading,
poems, hymns and prayers.

Everyone will have an opportunity to light a candle in memory
of loved ones and spend some time in quiet reflection.

The service will be followed by refreshments, and a chance to
talk with others who have shared the service.

**For further details contact
Revd Michèle Marshall
On 01375 671754 Email: mjmarshall@fastmail.co.uk**

Cub Scouts at St. Catherine's

The Cubs asked if we could sleep overnight at Catherine's church, for our 'Essex Challenge', to sleep in a unusual place.

On the night there were 3 Leaders, 16 Cubs, 1 Young Leader and a Scout and Scout leader visited us on the Friday evening

We started our evening with Revd. Michèle, explaining about the church and she told the story of when Jesus disciple, Peter, slept on a boat,

The Cubs brought something to give to the food bank, as a offering for staying in the church, Revd. Michèle explained a little about what happened to our donation.



Revd. Michèle went on to explain that normally we would have nice warm bed and houses, We were shown a picture of a homeless man, where the artist had drawn on the wall to make it look like his bedroom.

We then challenged the Cubs to draw something on paper, that would look like their wall if they lived on the street,

We worked in two groups to put up a tent in a unusual place (in the church), we thought about the stained glass window and what



our one might look like, and did some brass rubbing,

For our supper we had hot dogs and cake, made by one of the parents.

The Cubs asked Revd. Michèle lots of questions about the church before settling down and watching a couple of DVDs.

By 1.30am all the Cubs where asleep and even the leaders managed some.

We started to wake up at about 6.30am, and saw how the chancel stained glass window was lit up by the morning light.

Once all our stuff was packed away we had pasties for breakfast.

We went for a little walk to the radar tower. And back round to the back gate of the church, where we looked at the different graves, seeing if you could find the youngest person. (One of the Cubs found one and at home spoke with their family and it proved to be one of there family members). While walking in the churchyard one of the Cubs noticed that a certain 'Colin Guest' (one of the leaders present) had been involved in planting the 'Millennium' Yew tree and we talked about the Commonwealth war grave of 'R Currie',



Then the parents arrived to take the Cubs home, and thanked Revd. Michèle as they left.

East Tilbury Nyali Cubs

Georgina Mabel Blackbond - R.I.P.

Sadly after a long illness Gena died in late September. Always known as Gena (née Noakes) she was a member of one of East Tilbury village's best known families. Many of us remember her parents George and Mabel and her Aunties Sally and Lucy. Sally lived in a house opposite the Methodist Chapel and Lucy the Postmistress in the Post Office a few doors up from the Chapel. George was one of the local boys who joined Bata and went to Czechoslovakia in the 1930s to learn shoemaking. A village character he left Bata and worked as a Carpenter. Regular attenders at St. Catherine's, the family were always involved in Church life George served as Churchwarden and, being in the building trade laid the foundation and supervised the erection of the St. Francis building. Gena went to the village school and was one of the early pupils at Hassenbrook before joining Thames Board Mills. Gena's brother Billy born when Gena was about nine years old, died when still very young and the Sanctuary lamp now in the side chapel is dedicated to his memory. Gena married one of the Bata College boys John Blackbond a Lincolnshire lad. They were blessed with two children Lindy and Simon and Grandchildren. This year they celebrated 64 years of marriage. John and Gena attended St. Catherine's regularly with the family and worked growing plants, making fat balls etc. for the Christmas events to raise funds for the Church.

Personally, I will remember and miss Gena's familiar smile and her sense of humour. May she Rest In Peace.

Norman

Everybody. Somebody. Anybody. and Nobody

This is a little story about four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody, and Nobody.

There was an important job to be done and Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it.

Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it.

Somebody got angry about that because it was Everybody's job.

Everybody thought that Anybody could do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it.

It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done,

Does this ring true in any organisation that we may belong to?Ed



The Finisterre 'Pardon'

Sheila and I have visited Finistere (The end of the world) in Brittany a number of times and as driving around we have seen posters etc. referring to a Pardon at a local Church.

This year we decided to find out a bit more about the custom. I spoke to Karine the receptionist at our site who we have known for many years and speaks excellent English. She explained that The Pardon is a special Sunday when the Church encourages the people in the Parish to apologise to God and their friends and neighbours for any wrong words and deeds. They pledge in a church service to try to be more caring and considerate. Karine added that every four years it is a special Pardon and Procession when

the Bishop visits and parishes in the locality come with their banners to join in the festivities. We decided to go down to the Church and watch the Procession. The service in the Church and the grounds was in progress and we sat outside on benches in the sunshine. We tried to follow the service and the young man sitting next to me ensured that I stood up at the appropriate time. I later discovered that he was carrying a banner as the representative of his Church in Quimper. The Procession went through the village and down to the beach where the Bishop blessed the sea the fishermen and the Parish. Everybody then joined in a celebratory picnic.

A good way to clear the air and start as friends to work together for **good** and the local Church.

Norman

What issues most concern us?

In a recent article for The Tablet, the international Roman Catholic newspaper, its lobby correspondent listed a number of things that seem to most concern the UK at the moment, and which therefore indicate the challenges facing the new Government.

She listed, in no particular order: *Breakdown of the justice system and overcrowding in prisons; social care and the NHS; planning and housing; defence in a troubled world; help for the poor and vulnerable and disabled; climate change; education; the asylum system and immigration; Brexit and its aftermath; the water industry; economic equality and the economy; and scandals of the Post Office, Windrush, Grenfell and the victims of contaminated blood.*

As the New Testament instructs Christians to pray for their civic leaders, (1 Timothy 2:2), the list may be useful in guiding our own public and private prayers for the nation.

What does 'cosy crime' have to show us? - By Rachel Smith

Richard Osman, game-show-host-turned-best-selling novelist, writes books in the genre called 'cosy crime'.

In these stories, a murder has been committed and a sleuth sets out to discover whodunnit. But this isn't gritty noir. There's usually a pleasant rural setting and an amateur detective, and the bloodless murder is rarely dwelt upon. Most importantly, there's a satisfying conclusion in which the mystery is solved, and justice is served. Osman even speaks about the 'humour and warmth' in his writing – terms not commonly associated with crime.

In a world full of violence, where headlines and TV series alike feature unfathomable crimes, perhaps it's little wonder we're drawn to their cosier counterparts. Osman's stories, and those like them, offer us a version of reality in which order defeats chaos, mysteries can be solved, crimes are met with punishments, and justice triumphs.

It is, of course, God's ultimate justice that motivates our desire for stories that provide resolution. We all long for the perfect combination of comfort and vengeance – and this can only come from the God who hates wrongdoing and loves justice (Isaiah 61:8).

Osman's heroes are a group of pensioners living in an upmarket retirement village. So cosy crimes show us that even the least of us can be part of putting things right.

Few of us will become sleuths, but we can all embed ourselves in our local communities and, through attentiveness, prayer, and discernment, recognise areas of injustice. Indeed, we are both the agents and the beneficiaries of God's plan to bring good news, freedom, restoration, and joy to our world (Isaiah 61:1–6).

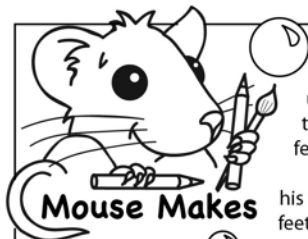
So, this Christmas-tide, can you slow down and pay attention long enough to see what's really bothering that friend, colleague, or neighbour? When you read the news headlines, will you pray for justice and mercy to triumph? Or perhaps humour and warmth could change the tone of a conversation this week. In each of these situations, you're living as a sign of God's kingdom – a kingdom that is far from cosy, but that meets the deepest cravings of our crime-consumed culture.

Keep a close eye on your phone and bag

It is something we all dread on holiday – that someone will rush by us, grabbing our phone or bag on the way.

But now it is time to beware of thieves at home, as robberies here have recently hit a 10-year high. More than 200 people a day are falling victim to phone or bag snatch thefts in England and Wales. That is double the rate of even last year. Police say that the dramatic increase in snatching phones is fuelled by the money that can be made in re-purposing and selling them in the UK and overseas.

The problem has prompted government action. Diana Johnson, the policing minister, is calling on tech and phone firms to ensure that any stolen phones can be quickly, easily and permanently disabled. That would prevent them from ever being re-registered for sale on the second-hand market.



"DO AS I HAVE DONE FOR YOU."

The disciples had met with Jesus in an upper room to share a meal together, but there were no servants to wash their dusty feet. Jesus got up from the table, took off his outer clothing, wrapped a towel around his waist and began to wash the disciples' feet just like a servant would do.

Then Jesus said:

*"Do you understand what I have done for you?
Now that I, your Lord and Teacher have washed
your feet, you also should wash one another's feet.
I have set you an example, that you should
do as I have done for you."*



READ

the story in
John 13:1-17



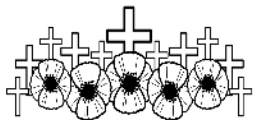
By washing his disciples' feet, Jesus showed that as God's people we are never too important to serve and care for others.

S C L O T H I N G S
N U N D E R S T A N D T
G S W I P E T E R E W R
W D A U A S E R V A N T A E H M
A O R P S C L E A N X O T X O A
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C H O S E N F S
F E A S T

JESUS
DISCIPLES
PASSOVER
FEAST • SUPPER • MEAL

PETER
SCRIPTURES
LORD • TEACHER
SERVANT • MASTER

GARMENTS • CLOTHING • TOWEL • WAIST • WATER • BASIN • WASH • FEET • WIPE
CLEAN • UNDERSTAND • OTHERS • EXAMPLE • DO • LOVED • CHOSEN • BLESSED



PARISH DIARY FOR NOVEMBER

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

2 Nov	Church cleaning at St. Catherine's	10.00am-noon
3 Nov	4th Sunday before Advent 'Blythwood Shoebox' service at St. Catherine's All Souls Service of Memorial & Thanksgiving at St. Catherine's	10.00am 3pm
4 Nov	P.C.C. Meeting at St. Francis	2pm
6 Nov	Mid-week Communion at St. Francis <i>Then the community support 'drop-in'</i>	10.00am 10.30am-noon
7 Nov	Foodbank at St. Francis	11.00am-1pm
10 Nov	3rd Sunday before Advent - Remembrance Sunday <i>Act of Remembrance at the Bata Memorial</i> <i>(gather from 10.30am)</i> Holy Communion at St. Catherine's	11.00am 3.30pm
13 Nov	Mid-week Communion at St. Francis <i>Then the community support 'drop-in'</i>	10.00am 10.30am-noon
14 Nov	Foodbank at St. Francis	11.00am-1pm
17 Nov	2nd Sunday before Advent Worshipping Together at St. Catherine's Café Communion at St. Francis	10.00am 3.30pm
20 Nov	Mid-week Communion at St. Francis <i>Then the community support 'drop-in'</i>	10.00am 10.30am-noon
21 Nov	Foodbank at St. Francis	11.00am-1pm
24 Nov	Sunday next before Advent Holy Communion at St. Catherine's	10.00am
27 Nov	Mid-week Communion at St. Francis <i>Then the community support 'drop-in'</i>	10.00am 10.30am-noon
28 Nov	Foodbank at St. Francis	11.00am-1pm

What bishops do?

We were celebrating the 100th anniversary of our church, and several former pastors and the bishop were in attendance. At one point, our minister had the children gather at the altar for a talk about the importance of the day. He began by asking, "Does anyone know what the bishop does?"

There was silence. Finally, one little boy ventured: "He's the one you can move diagonally."

Life Events during October

Baptism

27 October

Valentina Celine Bryan

Weddings

None

Committal of ashes

None

Funeral & Burial

24 October

Georgina Mabel Blackbond

William 'Pat' Doyle - R.I.P.

Sadly Pat Doyle passed away on the 17th October. I had not known Pat as long as many others who would remember him as the level crossing gate keeper at East Tilbury station from 1981 to 1996 when the gates were automated.

However, I had come to know him and his beloved wife Valerie when they attended the Wednesday morning service of Holy Communion at St. Francis. Over the years I became one of Valerie's I.T. support staff as she pursued her various hobbies on her computer. After her death in June 2020 I continued to help Pat with some of his little problems and I believe that we became real friends.

Pat also was a real supporter of Pewtalk. Not only did he act as the magazine's distributor in Northumberland Road where he recruited several new subscribers over the years, but he was also the subject of a couple of his wife Valerie's contributions.

Since Valerie's death Pat has been living on his own and, until recently, seemed to take care of himself very well. I remember him telling me on one occasion that he still prided himself that he would always make sure that he was washed and shaved before going out or opening the door to visitors. He did however admit that it took longer each day!

Kim and I will miss our chat at the door as we delivered Pewtalk to him each month and personally I will miss the technical challenges posed by my friend; from simply untangling a 'phone cord to replacing a satellite dish antenna!

Chris Ford



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

The Rectory

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Stanford-le-Hope

Essex, SS17 0QA.

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email: mjmarshall@fastmail.co.uk

The Usual Service Pattern

- ♦ 1st & 3rd Sunday's, 10am at St. Catherine's 'Worshipping Together'.
- ♦ 1st Sunday's, 3.30pm at St. Catherine's 'Holy Communion'.
- ♦ 3rd Sunday's, 3.30pm 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 Pewtalk

22nd November 2024

20th December 2024

20th January 2025