

## July Letter

Dear Friends,

You will have noticed that during June, the first bible reading each Sunday morning has been from the Old Testament. I'm not sure why, (I haven't asked yet) but I like it as I have a soft spot for the Old Testament and I've been trying to work out why that might be.

Apart from some of the 'Bible stories' we were told years ago - Sampson and Delilah, Ruth and Boaz, David and Goliath, etc.- much of the OT is unfamiliar. Much of it is hard work; the Prophets seem so obscure, but then so do some of Paul's letters but at least we know his words. If we knew the prophets better we might recognise some of this prophecy when it is fulfilled in the New Testament. Undoubtedly, the people who came to hear Jesus knew their scriptures (the OT) almost as well as Jesus did, and countless references in his teaching allude to passages of scripture which we don't know and therefore can't fully understand.

I suggest that we may know more than we think. If we routinely read our bibles, we will often come across Old Testament passages that we are familiar with, because the words are used in New Testament settings, or are quoted in our regular liturgy. Knowing their context boosts their meaning and relevance no end.

A last thought. Could the Israel/Gaza conflict have an Old Testament root? We know that the Israelites were in recurring battles with the Philistines and Philistia is more or less where Gaza is today!

Try it sometime. It may surprise you.

*Patrick*

## JULY PARISH DIARY

|              |           |                                 |
|--------------|-----------|---------------------------------|
| Thursday 1st | 9.30 a.m. | Morning prayer                  |
| Friday 2nd   |           | Visit to Bingley Little Theatre |

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### SUNDAY 4TH FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

|               |           |                                |
|---------------|-----------|--------------------------------|
|               | 9.30 a.m. | Holy Communion & Junior Church |
| Tuesday 6th   | 7.30 p.m. | Adult tap dancing              |
|               | 7.30 p.m. | PCC in Choir vestry            |
| Wednesday 7th | 9.30 a.m. | Holy Communion at St. James's  |
|               | 6.15 p.m. | Cub Scouts                     |
| Thursday 8th  | 9.30 a.m. | Morning Prayer                 |
|               | 6.00 p.m. | Beaver Scouts                  |
|               | 7.30 p.m. | Scouts                         |

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### SUNDAY 11TH SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

|                           |            |                                |
|---------------------------|------------|--------------------------------|
|                           | 9.30 a.m.  | Holy Communion & Junior Church |
| Tuesday 13th              | 7.30 p.m.  | Adult tap dancing              |
| Wednesday 14th            | 9.30 a.m.  | Holy Communion                 |
|                           | 11.30 a.m. | Ings Way Lunch Day             |
|                           | 6.15 p.m.  | Cub Scouts                     |
| Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> | 9.30 a.m.  | Morning prayer                 |
|                           | 6.00 p.m.  | Beaver Scouts                  |
|                           | 7.30 p.m.  | Scouts                         |

|               |            |                                 |
|---------------|------------|---------------------------------|
| Saturday 17th | 11.00 a.m. | Coffee Morning & Table Top Sale |
|---------------|------------|---------------------------------|

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### SUNDAY 18TH SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

|                          |           |                                 |
|--------------------------|-----------|---------------------------------|
|                          | 9.30 a.m. | Parade Service & Holy Communion |
| Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> | 7.30 p.m. | Adult tap dancing               |
| Wednesday 21st           | 9.30 a.m. | Holy Communion at St. James's   |
|                          | 6.15 p.m. | Cub Scouts                      |
| Thursday 22nd            | 9.30 a.m. | Morning prayer                  |
|                          | 6.00 p.m. | Beaver Scouts                   |
|                          | 7.30 p.m. | Scouts                          |

|               |         |  |
|---------------|---------|--|
| Saturday 24th | 12 noon | Marriage of John Donald Michael<br>Henry and Julie Ann Kelly |
|---------------|---------|--|

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**SUNDAY 25TH 8TH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY/ST. JAMES**

|                |           |                               |
|----------------|-----------|-------------------------------|
|                | 9.30 a.m. | Holy Communion                |
| Tuesday 27th   | 7.30 p.m. | Adult tap dancing             |
| Wednesday 28th | 9.30 a.m. | Holy Communion at St. James's |
| Thursday 29th  | 9.30 a.m. | Morning Prayer                |

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**Junior Church**

After their hard work throughout the year our Junior Church children, leaders and helpers are taking a break over the summer. The last session will be on Sunday 11th July and they will recommence on Sunday 12th September - refreshed and raring to go! We would love to welcome new members to join our "regulars" so if you would like to be involved, or know of any children who might like to come along, please have a word with Fiona, the wardens or the Vicar.

**Christian Aid**

Sincere thanks to everyone who collected house-to-house and/or donated to our Christian Aid Week effort this year. Together we raised:

**£682.85**

which will go to help some of the world's poorest people to help themselves. You can read about some of the work in the Christian Aid News or online at <http://digitalcan.christianaid.org.uk>

**Church Warden**

Thank you to everyone who supported Eric and me on our admission as Church Wardens at St Michael's in Cottingley in May, and to all who sent their good wishes. It was a wonderful service - the 'wall' of sound when Christians sing together is awesome. Praise My Soul. Holy, Holy is the Lord God Almighty. The Servant King. We Have a Gospel to Proclaim. There were some profound and moving words as well.

Like every newly elected warden my first thoughts are 'What have I taken on here!!' How will I cope? Will I do a good job?  
(remember - I'm taking over from Patrick - a hard act to follow!!)

Among other things, I have promised to be a 'wise steward of our practical affairs and our buildings' (Thank you Patrick for passing on an amazing array of keys). And of course I must help in the 'communication between St Saviour's and the Bishop'. (Sensible time for the bish to retire!!)

David Lee, the Archdeacon of Bradford, gave the address and, as always when I have heard him preach, his message was simple and straight-forward - DON'T MISS THE POINT - don't always be engrossed in practical matters to the detriment of the spiritual. David reminded us all of a promise we made 'to ensure that all in the church are heard, whether eloquent or hesitant.'

So this is where I'm asking for your support. Talk to me, make sure I hear what you have to say, and make sure I act upon what you say. I have always believed that all my prayers are answered. However, not always in the way I expected them to be. So, join me on my new journey as church warden - as was said in the service 'Jesus Christ is shining through your life and service, so that others may see Him and be drawn to Him' How will I cope - with your support - and of course, as I said in May, 'with the help of God I will'.

*Kaaren Raistrick*

### **Spring harvest at Le Pas Opton France**

Le Pas Opton is a beautiful four-star holiday park set in the stunning Vendée region of Western France.

We spent a refreshing week there at the Spring Harvest camp site in May. Stuart and I had never been before and were not quite sure what to expect. Sarah and Helena had been before with their godparents. Sarah went last year and had such a good time that she wanted to go back this year. Since she was asking to go to a Christian campsite I thought we should support her. The thing that put me off was driving for two days to get there. We found a way round this; we flew to La Rochelle which, whilst not the nearest airport, flights fitted in with our dates.

What a lovely campsite. The nearest I can get to camping is a mobile home with plumbed toilet. The mobile home and facilities were good. It is quite

relaxing being on a campsite with other Christians. It doesn't matter if you don't see the teenagers for several hours because you can trust people. There were many ministers there with their families and it was easy to talk to people as you could always find something in common.

The groups for children were good. The morning groups were for every age. The teenager group started at 11am and Sarah and Helena could get up every day for this, we found. The evening group for teenagers started at 10.20pm and they thought this was brilliant. They made lots of friends and we didn't have to worry whether or not these were the right sort of friends. The leaders were good too; they were from the Moorlands college and had lots of enthusiasm.

Each evening we attended the worship in the big tent. It was songs and a sermon. The theme for the week was the Lord's prayer. It was very good. It was not in your face and you could opt in or out as you chose - no pressure.

All in all, a good week and I have a suspicion our children will want to go back again next year. That in itself is a good advert.

*Fiona Graham*

### **Volcano**

A recent letter that appeared in The Independent newspaper: "Following the recent interruption to air travel, I find myself out of pocket, due to what I am informed is an "act of God." To avoid future financial embarrassment, please could you recommend an atheist insurance company?"

### **No, not any**

The manager of the garden centre came out of his office to hear Jenkins, one of his most trusted assistants, saying to a lady customer: "No madam, we certainly haven't had any for some time, and who knows when we will get any."

When the customer had gone, the manager tackled him: "I heard that, Jenkins," he remonstrated, "and I must say that I am surprised at you. Never, never admit to a customer that we can't get them something. That's what we're here for. If it's out of stock, tell her you'll get it for her soon."

Now, what was it the lady wanted?"

"Rain," said Jenkins simply.

### **Learned at school**

"It's nearly time for the holidays," a father told his young son. "Tell me one thing you have learned at school this past term."

"Well, I learned how to say 'please' and 'thank you' in French."

"Heavens!" said his father. "That's more than you ever learned to say in English!"

### **Some miscellaneous observations:**

- Moving in the right circles is not the same as making progress.
- Egotist: a person who suffers from too much vitamin I.
- Duty: what you expect from other people. Oscar Wilde
- Discretion: when a husband is sure he is right and then asks his wife.
- Desk: a waste-paperbasket with drawers
- Woman's ambition: to be weighed and found wanting
- The trouble with these 'Do You Want Money?' adverts is that when you read them you always discover that you either have to work for it or mortgage something to get it.

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### **As fine silver...**

Malachi 3:3 says: "He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver."

This verse puzzled some women in a Bible study. They started wondering what this statement meant about the character and nature of God. One of the women offered to find out the process of refining silver and get back to the group at their next Bible Study.

That week, the woman called a silversmith and made an appointment to watch him at work. She didn't mention anything about the reason for her interest beyond her curiosity about the process of refining silver.

As she watched the silversmith, he held a piece of silver over the fire and let it heat up. He explained that in refining silver, one needed to hold the silver in the middle of the fire where the flames were hottest, so as to burn away all the impurities.

The woman thought about God holding us in such a hot spot, and then she thought again about the verse that says: "He sits as a refiner and purifier of silver." She asked the silversmith if it was true that he had to sit there in front of the fire the whole time the silver was being refined.

The man answered that yes, he not only had to sit there holding the silver, but he had to keep his eyes on the silver the entire time it was in the fire. If the silver was left a moment too long in the flames, it would be destroyed. The woman was silent for a moment. Then she asked the silversmith, "How do you know when the silver is fully refined?"

He smiled at her and answered, "Oh, that's easy - when I see my image in it."

If today you are feeling the heat of the fire, remember that God has his eye on you and will keep watching you. His aim is not to abandon or destroy you, but to refine you - until he sees his image in you.

### **The Pope and the Rabbi**

Several centuries ago, the Pope decreed that all the Jews had to convert to Catholicism or leave Italy. There was a huge outcry from the Jewish community, so the Pope offered a deal: he'd have a religious debate with the leader of the Jewish community. If the Jews won, they could stay in Italy; if the Pope won, they'd have to convert or leave.

The Jewish people met and picked an aged and wise rabbi to represent them in the debate. However, as the rabbi spoke no Italian, and the Pope spoke no Yiddish, they agreed that it would be a 'silent' debate.

On the chosen day the Pope and rabbi sat opposite each other. The Pope raised his hand and showed three fingers. The rabbi looked back and raised one finger. Next, the Pope waved his finger around his head. The rabbi pointed to the ground where he sat. The Pope brought out a communion wafer and a chalice of wine. The rabbi pulled out an apple. With that, the Pope stood up and declared himself beaten and said that the rabbi was too clever. The Jews could stay in Italy.

Later the cardinals met with the Pope and asked him what had happened.

The Pope said, 'First I held up three fingers to represent the Trinity. He responded by holding up a single finger to remind me there is still only one God common to both our beliefs. Then, I waved my finger around my head to show him that God was all around us. The rabbi responded by pointing to the ground to show that God was also right here with us. I pulled out the wine and wafer to show that God absolves us of all our sins, and the rabbi pulled out an apple to remind me of the original sin. He bested me at every move and I could not continue.'

Meanwhile, the Jewish community gathered to ask the rabbi how he'd won. 'I haven't a clue,' said the rabbi. 'First, he told me that we had three days to get out of Italy, so I gave him the finger. Then he tells me that the whole country would be cleared of Jews and I told him that we were staying right here.'

'And then what?' asked a woman. 'Who knows?' said the rabbi. 'He took out his lunch so I took out mine.'



**Saturday 17th July**

**Table Top Sale and Coffee  
Morning**

**11.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m.**

**Entrance £1**—*to include tea/coffee  
(stallholders free)*

**Come along and grab a bargain!**

**Cakes, books, raffle,**

**good-as-new clothing, crafts,**

**and much more—**

**including bacon butties on sale**

**throughout.**

## **Our PILGRIM PLACES: historic Christian sites in Britain : IONA**

*By Dr. Herbert McGonigle.*

Off the end of the Mull peninsula in the Inner Hebrides lies a small island, Iona. It is situated a mile from the mainland and is little more than three miles in length and one mile in width. While it is very likely that Ninian (died c.430) brought Christianity to southwest Scotland around the year 400, we have much better historical records for what happened at Iona. In 563 a boat arrived at the island bringing a group of monks from Ireland. They had braved the storms of the Atlantic Ocean and their arrival in Iona began a new chapter in the history of Scottish Christianity. Their arrival would also have important consequences for English Christianity.

The monks were led by Columba, who was born in county Donegal, in the northwest of Ireland, probably sometime in the 520s. By birth he was connected to Irish kings and he was schooled and trained in Celtic Christianity. Patrick had founded the Celtic faith in Ireland in the previous century and Columba was one of a number of outstanding monks and scholars that the Celtic Church produced. Although the details are uncertain, Columba became involved in controversy about biblical manuscripts with another Celtic scholar, Finnian, who headed a monastery at Clonard. If the traditions can be believed, this controversy led to a local war and soldiers were killed. Columba was judged to be in the wrong and he was forced into exile. With some fellow monks, he left Ireland by boat, bound for Scotland, and landed at Iona.

It was indeed a momentous event. Although there is evidence that Ninian had evangelised parts of southwest Scotland, the inhabitants of the country, the Picts, were pagans when Columba arrived. For the next forty years Columba and his monks travelled and preached and catechised and evangelised much of the south and west of Scotland.

Iona was their headquarters and Columba founded an abbey there. The little island was soon recognised as a centre both of Christian spirituality and Christian learning. In Columba's lifetime and in the centuries following, Iona, in spite of its isolation, became a place of pilgrimage. Columba and his monks established churches and monasteries, ordained priests and appointed monks according to the Celtic faith and customs they had learned in Ireland. © *Parish Pump*

## **A Village in Stitches**

As the Millennium approached, the folks of St. Barnabas', Heaton, along with countless thousands throughout the world, tried to think of a way to commemorate this historic event in a positive way, but in a way pertinent to them. A suggestion was put forward to create a small tapestry, celebrating the history of Heaton, to which all members of the congregation would be invited to contribute if they so wished.

No one could have foreseen the way that idea would grow, and grow ... and grow.

The 10th anniversary of the project was celebrated over the weekend of 18th-20th June 2010 and on show was the 53ft tapestry, comprised of 53 picture panels, 66 vertical border strips, 53 top borders, 53 bottom borders, 130 corner pieces and 2 border strips on the Participants' picture.

People from varying faiths, different communities, all parts of the country got involved and it has drawn to St. Barnabas' 133 different groups; has been "on tour" to various exhibitions; has been the subject of 73 talks to other groups and is still used by children of all faiths as a resource for history, religious education and design technology.

Its finest hour came in November 2001 when it won the National Tapestry Competition at the "YOURS" Live exhibition at the Bournemouth International Conference Centre— a fitting tribute to all who had the vision to create this massive project and the energy and enthusiasm to continue the good work!

It is well worth seeing if you get the chance—but most of the panels can be viewed at <http://www.fgco.com/tap/churches.htm>

## **11th July Benedict (c.480 – c.550) - author of the famous Rule**

Benedict was an abbot and author of the famous Rule that bears his name. Because of his Rule, Benedict is also the Patriarch of Western Monasticism, and Patron Saint of Europe.

Surprisingly little is known about his life: born at Nursia, Benedict studied at Rome, which he then left before completing his studies to become a hermit at Subiaco. After a time he was joined by disciples, whom he organised into twelve deaneries of ten. After an attempt on his life, Benedict moved on to Monte Cassino, near Naples, where he wrote the final version of his Rule.

Benedict's Rule is justly famous and respected: not only did it incorporate much traditional monastic teaching from revered monks like Basil, but Benedict went on to modify this in a way characterised by prudence and moderation within a framework of authority, obedience, stability and community life.

Benedict's great achievement was to produce a monastic way of life which was complete, orderly, and workable. The monks' primary occupation was liturgical prayer, which was complemented by sacred reading and manual work of various kinds.

Benedict's own personality shines through this Rule: wise, discreet, flexible, learned in the law of God, but also a spiritual father to his community.

Benedict's Rule came to be recognised as the fundamental monastic code of western Europe in the early Middle Ages. Because of his Rule, monasteries became centres of learning, agriculture, hospitality, and medicine. Thus Benedict came to influence the lives of millions of people.

## **The Queen's English**

An Academy of English is being formed by the Queen's English Society, to protect the language from impurities, bastardisations and the horrors introduced by the text-speak generation.

France has L'Académie Française, Spain the Real Academia Española, and Italy the Accademia della Crusca — august institutions that uphold the rules of their languages. English, however, has no such guardian against corruption and continuously mutates as new words develop, or fall out of use, grammar changes and the intricacies of punctuation go in and out of fashion.

The Queen's English Society, made up of professionals, academics and self-confessed pedants, has decided that an English Academy is long overdue. Its members hope to win official recognition, or even a Royal Charter for their academy.

The society says: “Other languages, French and Spanish for example, have supreme authorities that try, while moving with the times, to define what is good and acceptable usage and what is not. They do not stop the language from changing over the years, but they do provide a measure of linguistic discipline and try to retain valid and useful new terms, while rejecting passing fads. “English has never had any such academy. The 21st century is a bit late to start one ... but precisely because our language is so widespread — and also because there has been a dreadful devaluation and deterioration of education in our hectic, modern, digitalised world — we do desperately need some form of moderating body to set an accepted standard of good English.”

The academy is not shunning the modern world: it has a website ([queens-english-society.com](http://queens-english-society.com)). This provides access to dictionaries, points of grammar, comparisons between UK and US English, and a section for other English-speaking communities.

## **Visit to Bolton Priory**

Following last year's most successful and enjoyable visit to Bolton Priory, we have decided to repeat the exercise this year and will be setting out on Sunday August 22nd. More details will follow - but please make a note of the date.

## **90 CONGRATULATIONS 90**

Mrs. Marjorie Flood was 90 on June 12th and celebrated on her birthday with family, friends and the World Cup match!

Miss Emma Mortimer will be 90 on July 12th and plans to celebrate here at St. Saviour's on July 14th at our Lunch Day. Emma now lives at Dove Court on the far side of the city, but she hopes to meet friends here on the 14th.

Congratulations and all good wishes to Marjorie and Emma.

Father O'Malley answers the phone. "Hello, is that Father O'Malley?"

"It is"

"This is the Inland Revenue. Can you help us?"

"I can"

"Do you know a Ted Houlihan?"

"I do"

"Is he a member of your congregation?"

"He is"

"Did he donate £10,000 to the church?"

"He will!"

## July Roll of Remembrance

|      |                          |        |
|------|--------------------------|--------|
| 1st  | Katherine Harker         | (1978) |
| 2nd  | Irene Hammond            | (1982) |
| 3rd  | Marion Dixon             | (1999) |
| 5th  | Victor Surtees           | (1983) |
| 7th  | George S. Jones          | (1944) |
| 10th | George William Griffiths | (1980) |
| 11th | Sydney Ryan              | (1994) |
| 14th | Francis Lloyd            | (1981) |
|      | Priestley Waddington     | (1968) |
| 16th | Hannah Ayres             | (1991) |
|      | Gwendoline Perrie        | (2003) |
| 17th | Amy Metcalfe             | (1975) |
|      | Margaret Ann Singleton   | (1971) |
|      | Jack Birkby Sugden       | (1976) |
|      | Richard Hartley          | (2003) |
| 20th | Beatrice Alice Renton    | (1981) |
| 21st | Philip Chater            | (1969) |
|      | Tom Smith                | (1983) |
|      | James Ernest Newsome     | (1984) |
|      | John Wilkinson           | (1970) |
| 27th | Amy Chapman              | (1983) |
|      | Beatrice Chilvers        | (1992) |

**ST. SAVIOUR'S PARISH CHURCH  
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