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# The Spire

*The Parish Magazine*  
**CHRIST CHURCH**  
— Southgate —

## May 2019



6 May  
May Day Fair



11 May  
Parish Walk



30 May  
Ascension Day

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# ***Welcome!***

**From The Reverend  
Dr Chrichton Limbert  
Vicar of Christ Church Southgate**



Welcome to the Spire Magazine for May. The joy of a movable Easter means that we have just had Holy Week, with our wonderful and emotional journey with Jesus on his passion, trial, crucifixion and resurrection. We know that Jesus is risen, as the many small children – and a few non-small adults – who entered the empty tomb on Easter Sunday will testify. So many individuals and groups made exceptional gifts of their time and different talents to make this year's celebration truly memorable.

Unfortunately, the late Easter also means that we are in a bit of a rush to be ready for the 41<sup>st</sup> May Day Fair, which doesn't ever move. We are hoping for some great weather, which always helps swell the crowds. This year the charities we are supporting are very good ones, which we have direct personal links to, like Angela Parker and a number of others who help out regularly with the Barnet branch of Dementia Club UK. The other

charity, Farms for City Children, has a direct link with the Vicarage as our son Chris sings in St David's Cathedral choir, and regularly spends a day with groups of inner-city children – many of whom come from round here – staying on a nearby farm to give them an experience of rural life. Chris has written an article this month to give you more information about the work that they do.

As I said before, our successful Holy Week was enabled by the efforts of many individuals which added together to make one large whole. The same will be the case for the May Fair, where the individual efforts of many – either for weeks in advance or just for an hour or two on the day – will link together to make a wonderful large event, which is a positive piece of church outreach into the wider community, while supporting excellent charities. The idea of small things joining together is central to the teaching of St David,

who was keen to emphasise that we should not think that only big things make any difference. If we wait for the time and energy to tackle big things, they usually remain too daunting and out of reach. But doing small positive and loving things, such as showing patience, courtesy, perseverance and

generosity can transform a situation or relationship. So, we should all continue to do lots of little things which can and will all add up to an amazing amount of good. Have a wonderful May Fair day!

*Fr Chrichton*



Those of you who came to the Easter services on Saturday night and Sunday morning may have noticed a dome-shaped construction next to the children's corner. It was covered in hessian and had small flowering plants around it to give a sensory and tactile experience. This was Jesus's tomb and it was thought of and put together by Judith Limbert. Not content with this idea alone, she also decided it should be eco-friendly. A challenge indeed.

Those of you who crawled (well wriggled) in will have noticed that it was in fact cardboard (80 % recycled). It was marketed as an igloo by the company **Kideco** (see [www.cardboardtoys.com](http://www.cardboardtoys.com)) which sells eco-friendly toys. As we know, the hessian used as the cover, is a fairly coarse, woven fabric made entirely from natural fibres. The plants were all purchased locally. So everything in the garden, from the cardboard igloo base to the plants and flowers, was natural, recyclable and/or reusable.

Many of the toys Judith gets for the children's corner are made from wood or other natural materials. The paper is recycled and we do our

best to avoid plastic (although easier said than done). There are a number of books for all ages on caring for God's creation. All the toys and books are given much consideration, not only for their educational value but in terms of their eco-friendliness in line with our church's overall ethos.

The tomb was a great idea and a huge success. The younger members of our congregation who crawled in saw that the bench was empty. They were witness to the fact that our Lord's body was nowhere to be seen.

Learning through play is essential and healthy, and enabling the children to experience this fundamental part of our faith whilst having fun will hopefully help them to imagine the scene and in turn, assist their belief.

Having checked out the tomb myself, I assured Fr. Chrichton that our Lord Jesus Christ was definitely physically absent. Therefore, one can only conclude that 'He is risen indeed. Alleluia'.

*Sandra Anderson*

## Social Responsibility Committee Report

We are pleased to report that we have sent £1200 to the **Bishop's Lent Appeal**, *Modern Day Slavery*. This is the proceeds from the vicars quiz, a donation from Christ Church Association & Lent coffee money.

Preparations are now well under way for **May Day**. Bottles are arriving for our Tombola stall & we will look through the many books that have arrived for suitable ones to send to the empty library in Kenya. All we need now is some good weather & lots of customers.

The next **Lunch Fellowship** is planned for 8<sup>th</sup> May when Jean Thomas will be talking about the Friday Study Group's experience, helping at St Botolph's Shelter for the homeless. In the longer term, we have both a **Charities Lunch** and a **Lunch Fellowship** in June, on the 1<sup>st</sup> and the 12<sup>th</sup> respectively. The Charities Lunch will be aid of *Crossroads Care*. Full details of all these (times, venues and costs) can be found in "Out to Lunch".

*Hilary Meur for SRC*

## Muck and Magic Farms for City Children coming to St Davids Cathedral



St Davids Cathedral is very fortunate to be situated in a very picturesque location on the most western point of Wales. The only things between the Cathedral and the Irish

Sea are a few large farm fields. Most of these fields, as you look out to sea, belong to the Lower Treginnis Farm, one of the Farms for City Children locations. This setting is very far removed from the hustle and bustle that can be found near inner city schools, such as the schools local to us here in Southgate. This is why children coming from all over London and other big UK cities find St Davids to be an incredible new experience and one that the Cathedral has a major role in.

The charity Farms for City Children is fairly self-explanatory. They take small groups of children out of their inner city schools and put them on

a farm for a week. The children are expected to get involved in every part of running the farm. Every morning starts with mucking out and feeding the wide range of animals the farm has. What makes these trips so important and enjoyable for all involved is that for the children, especially those from London, this is often the first time they have come across farm animals in real life. The children and teachers regularly tell us that they are experiencing things that they have only read about and not seen for real before. It provides the children with an idea of life outside the city and a different form of hard work and enjoyment that can come without the need for the city or technology.

One of the activities alongside the farm work for the children is coming to visit the Cathedral. Because the farm is close to the Cathedral the children and teachers walk up to us along the coast path and get a feel for all the environments around St Davids. Once inside the Cathedral the children get involved in several activities which explain to them the history of the Cathedral and the idea of pilgrimage. It is always fascinating to watch their reactions as the group walks into the building. Some are immediately in awe of the space and are amazed by it. Once we start to

explain different parts of the building to them the sense of history often excites them.

When they are split up into groups, the choral scholars are responsible for taking a group into the Quire to explain the history of that part of the building and the role of music in the services. As part of this, the children try some group singing and wearing the robes, which always causes much amusement and enjoyment. We then go on to talk about other cathedrals and try and relate to places they might know such as St Paul's Cathedral and Westminster Abbey to give them a reference closer to home. We always try and relate things we show them back to examples at home. The best one was the comparison of misericords or "mercy seats" on our Quire seats being the medieval equivalent of the red rest seats at the local bus stop or at the end of each tube carriage.

It is always a great experience explaining to the students and especially the teachers how I ended up living in St Davids, when I come from around the corner to where they live and go to school. It makes a connection for them and shows them that you can end up in all kinds of



environments outside of London.

My first-hand experience of the effect of the Farms for City Children programme has given me a great understanding of the incredible work the charity is doing to broaden the horizons of inner-city children. Through taking them away from the city environment and giving them a week of hands on practical experiences away from technology they are giving these children a memory they will keep for a long, long time.

*Christopher Limbert*



## WHAT WE SING IN CHURCH

### *Hail the day that sees him rise*

(New English Hymnal, 130)

I expect we shall sing this Ascensiontide hymn on Ascension Day and as it is packed full of biblical references, I thought it would be a good idea to look at them. But to start off with, 'Alleluya' which is used as a refrain at the end of every line is a Hebrew phrase meaning 'Praise to God'.



The hymn uses the convention that heaven, the dwelling place of God, is up above the sky, and conflates the word 'heaven' with 'the heavens' meaning the sky. We know, of course, that cannot be literally true and

we must think of heaven in another dimension altogether. It's true however that Jesus' first disciples would believe that heaven was up there and would have seen Jesus rise at his Ascension. So, the first verse assumes that the Ascension takes this form.

Verse 2 is a reference to Psalm 24:

*Lift up your heads, O gates!  
and be lifted up, O ancient doors!  
that the King of glory may come in.  
Who is this King of glory?  
The LORD of hosts,  
he is the King of glory.*

This psalm would be sung by the people going in procession to the temple, perhaps carrying the Ark to the Holy of Holies. It is, therefore, very appropriate for Jesus assuming his rightful place at the right hand of God.

Verse 4 refers to the wounds of crucifixion,

which we know Jesus continues to carry for all time. He showed them to the disciples when he appeared to them after the Resurrection (John 20:20).

Verse 5 is a reference to St. Paul's letter to the Romans. It is Christ Jesus who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Also, it refers to Jesus telling the disciples that he goes to prepare a place for them: *In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?* (John 4:2-3.)

The term 'harbinger of human race' is referring to Jesus as the forerunner, the 'first born of the human race'. In Colossians 1:18, we read that: *He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything.* Here, St Paul tells us that Jesus is the first person to really be as God intended people to be.

The hymn ends with a prayer to our Lord asking that our hearts may rise to the heights to which he has ascended and that we might remain there with him forever.

Cathy Dallman

Image credit: Ascension of Jesus

[https://webplus.info/images/wpi.images/h\\_en\\_Ascension\\_of\\_Jesus.jpg](https://webplus.info/images/wpi.images/h_en_Ascension_of_Jesus.jpg)

**Hail The Day That Sees Him Rise**  
Charles Wesley      Robert Williams

1. Hail the day that sees him rise, Alleluia, Alleluia,  
There the glorious King, Alleluia, Alleluia,  
Sits, the heaven's Lord in glory, Alleluia, Alleluia,  
See, His throne stands at the right, Alleluia, Alleluia.

2. He sits on the throne of glory, Alleluia, Alleluia,  
Lift your heads, O gates, Alleluia, Alleluia,  
Let the King of glory come in, Alleluia, Alleluia,  
Who is this King of glory, Alleluia, Alleluia,  
The LORD of hosts, Alleluia, Alleluia,  
He is the King of glory, Alleluia, Alleluia.

3. He sits on the throne of glory, Alleluia, Alleluia,  
Lift your heads, O gates, Alleluia, Alleluia,  
Let the King of glory come in, Alleluia, Alleluia,  
Who is this King of glory, Alleluia, Alleluia,  
The LORD of hosts, Alleluia, Alleluia,  
He is the King of glory, Alleluia, Alleluia.

4. He sits on the throne of glory, Alleluia, Alleluia,  
Lift your heads, O gates, Alleluia, Alleluia,  
Let the King of glory come in, Alleluia, Alleluia,  
Who is this King of glory, Alleluia, Alleluia,  
The LORD of hosts, Alleluia, Alleluia,  
He is the King of glory, Alleluia, Alleluia.

## An “Ascension” moment!

I love words and what words can do, but there are some visual experiences that are so utterly stunning that you can never quite capture the heart-stopping brilliance in a written description.

Each of the appearances of Jesus to his disciples, after the crucifixion and the disappearance of his physical body from the tomb, must have been one of those moments. Each disciple will have been momentarily stopped in their tracks. Each will have had the clearest visual image left in their memory – but how could they ever hope to put that into words in such a way that anyone who was not there or anyone without sight could fully share that split-second, spine-tingling moment?

I had such a moment, years ago, one Ascension Day lunchtime. When I was working in central London, I used to go to the lunchtime mass at All Saints, Margaret Street. When the children were young, it was particularly handy to be able to do this. My preference on Ascension Day was the early morning service, followed by breakfast – I grew up with that, and it was a tradition we also had here in Southgate until quite recently. But sometimes, especially once the children had reached secondary school, with long journeys in various directions, or if I had an early class on my timetable, that just wasn't possible. The lunchtime service was the perfect alternative.

On this particular Ascension Day, it was pouring down. Torrential rain. And by the time I got to Margaret Street from my workplace near Warren Street, I was soaked. The flag-stoned courtyard outside the church was awash, and the church was full of wet people, wet footprints and wet umbrellas. We knelt on wet knees to pray. The celebrant that particular lunchtime was John Cullen (until recently the Vicar of St John's, Palmers Green), who was then the Director of the Institute of Christian Studies across the road from the church. (The ICS building is now the Fo Guang Shan Buddhist temple.) During the service, the rain stopped and by the time we left the church, twenty minutes later, the sun had come out.

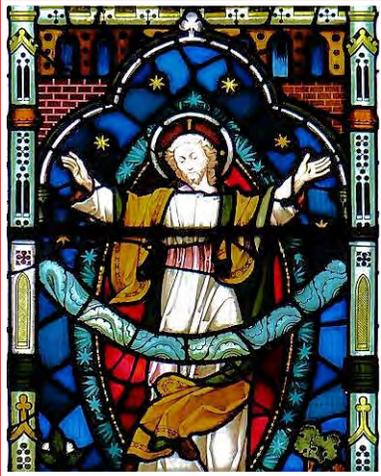
It's the custom in Margaret Street for the celebrant to pronounce the final blessing and zoom still fully-robed into the courtyard, ahead of the congregation, waiting to shake hands as you leave. No exceptions are made for inclement weather. Fr John, accordingly zoomed out into the lake...

When I emerged, myself, a few minutes later, the sun was glorious. Fr John was standing diagonally across the courtyard from the south door (Margaret Street has no north doors, sharing land as it does with the tightly packed business and commercial premises of WC1). He stood to the left of the gate and with the full radiance of the lunchtime sun shining down on him. But for an instant, it was not Fr John that I saw. I saw a blaze of white and sunlight which seemed to float above its own reflection in the wet flag stones. The whitest, brightest, most brilliant white I have ever seen in my life! I was totally shocked. In one heart-stopping moment, it was almost as if I was seeing the ascension – as if I was on that very hillside outside Jerusalem. It was like every children's bible illustration you have ever seen in your life – a figure, clothed in white, radiating streamers of light, seemingly above the ground – words cannot do it justice!

We shook hands, spoke briefly of the weather and made a joke about the brilliance of the vestments in the sunshine. But I felt truly blessed. And I still do.

*Patricia Ashby*

# Ascension Day Choral Eucharist Thursday 30th May



Join us at 8 p.m. for a  
Choral Eucharist to  
mark Ascension Day.  
The choir will sing  
Palestrina's Missa  
Brevis.

## NEWS FROM THE COMMITTEES IN MAY

Following the March meeting of the PCC, committee life in the parish was much quieter during April... for all, that is, except the May Fair sub-group of **Outreach** whose work geared up in speed and quantity as the May 6<sup>th</sup> deadline of the annual fair grew ever nearer. This group of people rightly deserve both our admiration and thanks – I hope they have received all the help and support we could give them. **Social Responsibility**, too, was active during the month and their activities are reported in full elsewhere in this magazine. Although not a direct sub-committee of the PCC, a meeting also took place of the **Parish Centre Management Committee** who are another group of parishioners to whom we owe a tremendous debt of thanks and whose hard work 'across the road' is often overlooked – without the vigilance and commitment of all members of the **PCM** team, the halls – fabric and lettings – would fall by the way. The **Resources** group (responsible for informing **Finance & Standing**) met, but at the time of writing, I have no news from **Plant & Fabric**.

The next meeting of the PCC is scheduled for the 21<sup>st</sup> of this month, with **Finance & Standing** meeting prior to this on the 9<sup>th</sup> and **Pastoral** meeting at the end of the month on the 28<sup>th</sup>.

*Patricia Ashby*

### Note from the Editors

April, with Easter, was a bit chaotic as far as preparing the Spire was concerned. But with everyone's help and good-will, all the pieces arrived – many, just in the nick of time! – and we were able to collate and print in time for the first Sunday of May.

To keep up variety and interest, is always good to have unusual and different articles. Do please send us pieces if you would like to be included – see our 'Style Guide' on p 15 or help with preparing your contributions.

Please send all copy for the June edition to [office@christchurch-southgate.org](mailto:office@christchurch-southgate.org) by **Tuesday 21 May, 2019**.

*Clare & Patricia*



Organised by  
Christ Church Southgate  
with the support of other  
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**Monday 6th May**  
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## Christchurch Association News

The Christchurch Association (CCA) provides a social centre for the parish, and runs the “Top Step Bar” which serves soft and alcoholic drinks upstairs in Church House.

We are a non-profit making organisation, and from time to time we make charitable donations from any excess funds that may have accrued. I am pleased to say that we have recently made the following donations:

- £350 to the Organ Appeal Fund
- £150 to the current Diocesan Lent Appeal in aid of Modern Day Slavery
- £100 to ALMA, the London Diocese Angola, London and Mozambique Association
- £100 to the Choir Venice Tour Fund

In February we welcomed the Bishop of Edmonton to deliver one of our series of Top Step Talks after Sunday Evensong. He gave an inspiring talk in which he linked two vastly different experiences (visiting Disney Land and being alone in the Sinai Desert) to two styles of prayer (Kataphatic and Apophatic). More recent events have included a Top Step Talk from the Hatters Explorer Scout Unit, the Six Nations Rugby Finale, a celebration of St. Patrick’s Day and an Indian Takeaway Meal.



Forthcoming events include:

- **Fridays 3<sup>rd</sup> May and 7<sup>th</sup> June from 6 pm to 11 pm:**  
The CCA Top Step bar opens early on the first Friday of each month. Call in at any time to enjoy complimentary **cheese and snacks** throughout the evening.
- **Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May – May Day Fair:**  
The CCA will be providing an outside bar serving Pimm’s, beer and some other drinks, and a full service in the Top Step Bar.
- **Saturday 15th June from 6.30 pm - CCA 40th Anniversary Celebration:**  
The CCA will have been in existence for exactly 40 years, and we will be celebrating with a Barn Dance and BBQ in Church House. This will be a family event for all the parish, and tickets (£10 for ages 12+, £7.50 for 5 to 11, under 5 free) will soon be on sale from Clive Woodhouse or the Parish Office.

The Top Step Bar is open on a regular basis as follows:

- **Sundays** from 7:30 to 10:30 pm
- **Wednesdays and Fridays** from 8 to 11 pm
- Early opening at **6 pm** on the first Friday of every month

*The CCA is a Registered Club with membership open to anyone who worships at Christ Church, lives in the parish or uses the church halls. Membership costs just £2 per year and new members are always welcome. Please contact Clive for more information or if you would like to become a member.*

*Clive Woodhouse (Chairman, Christchurch Association)*



# ***Parish Life in Pictures May 2019***



**We welcomed over 100 pupils from Walker School for their Easter Service. To thank them for all their work, making beds each week for our Night Shelter, we took this opportunity to stage a bed-making race!**



**Palm Sunday Procession**



**Images from Holy Week: Row 1 – The Garden of Repose; Row 2 – the Walk of Witness and lighting the new fire during the Easter Vigil; Row 3 – Easter Day eucharist, distributing eggs and wearing Easter bonnets; Row 4 – exploring the garden tomb and an Easter egg hunt.**

## JEZEBEL, AHAB'S WICKED QUEEN

Society in the Near Middle East was very fluid during the millennia covered by the Old Testament. Some nations were nomadic tribes, travelling wherever the grazing was best for their flocks. Others settled in city-states, usually with a fortified capital city controlling the area around them and worshipping their own version of a particular god, who nominated and sponsored a king to be in charge on his behalf. If the king was successful, the god was presumably pleased; if not, the king was in trouble. As well as conquests, there were links between the different nations through trade, treaties, intermarriage and other forms of daily living.

Over the ages, all nations try to retain their special identity by recounting tales of past heroes and national successes – the Greeks through the *Iliad* and *Odyssey*, the feats of Charlemagne in the early Middle Ages, ourselves with King Arthur, Agincourt, Trafalgar and Waterloo – and the Jews in the Old Testament were no different. They were held together as a nation by worshipping their own unnamed God, who would guide and support them, defeat their enemies possibly by miraculous means and give them peace and prosperity, providing they were steadfast in their belief and worship. Their stories are contained in the Old Testament narrative books – *Exodus*, *Judges*, *Samuel 1* and *2* and *Kings 1* and *2* – and some sections stand out as particularly well-written, dramatic and exciting to read. We relish tales of Moses, Samson, Saul and David, skipping sections where kings are mentioned briefly, often "having done evil in the sight of the Lord".

One of the most vivid sections is contained in *1 Kings* chapters 16-22 and *2 Kings* chapters 1-9, and describes the moral and religious struggles between the prophets Elijah and his successor Elisha; King Ahab of Israel, "who did more evil in the sight of the Lord than any of those

before him"; and his wife Jezebel, daughter of Ethbaal king of the Sidonians, a neighbouring state on the Mediterranean coast. As the names Jezebel and Ethbaal might suggest, the Sidonians worshipped the god Baal (the word means "lord" or "owner") who was influential throughout the area as a god of thunder, lightning and rain, nourishing the fertility of the land. The priests of Baal were invoking a god of thunder and lightning when they were trying in vain to ignite their sacrifice, in response to Elijah's challenge. Ahab began to worship Baal too, building him a temple and setting up an altar.

With her Sidonian background Jezebel must have found being married to the King of Israel very difficult. Presumably it was a political marriage. It was suitable for a princess to marry the king of a neighbouring state, but their backgrounds were completely different. Israel had a strange, ancestral God, unlike any other, a number of annoying prophets admonishing and foretelling doom, and no real respect for kingship. Until fairly recently it was a priest-led, tribally-based commonwealth.

When they finally settled in the land of Canaan, it was divided up between the twelve tribes of Israel, and each family was given a piece of land which belonged to themselves and their heirs in perpetuity. No-one could take it from them by force or purchase. Jezebel, on the other hand, came from an autocratic background. The ruler was an



absolute monarch. When Ahab fancied Naboth's vineyard and made him a fair offer for it which Naboth righteously refused, Jezebel's response was,

"Are you king or not? Just take it!" – which Ahab did. Throughout the narrative, Jezebel

tried to make her (possibly rather weak) husband behave like a proper king and assert himself. She was fiercely religious in her worship of Baal and tried hard to impose it on Israel. She was a strong personality and, as a result, she was loathed. She outlived Ahab and, after a power struggle among various would-be successors, the eventual winner Jehu raced up



to the palace to kill her as part of the mopping-up operation. She challenged him from an upstairs window and he called on some of the palace servants who threw her out to her death.

Afterwards Jehu ordered a funeral for her suitable for a princess, but scavengers had been at work and little was left of her.

If I had met Jezebel, I don't think I would have liked her very much. She was proud, autocratic and single-minded. However, I like to think that, when she comes before God in judgment, he will see someone brought up in an absolute monarchy, who was married off into a completely alien culture which she didn't understand or approve of, who did her best to support her husband as she thought fit, to make him the successful man that she thought he should be, who in those unenlightened days was faithful to her beliefs, and who met her inevitable death with great courage, putting on her best dress and makeup and defying her enemies; and that God, who sees into our hearts and judges by criteria which we cannot begin to comprehend, will treat her with the compassion, understanding and forgiveness which we hope will be extended to us all.

*Jill Holiday*

Image credit: Jezebel being thrown from the window  
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jezebel>

## Parish Walk Saturday 11th May



All are welcome to join us on our next Parish Walk in the Hertfordshire country side.

It will be a 7-mile walk starting at St. Paul's Walden, with a picnic lunch en route.

Please register your interest with Ronald Lo ( 07789933544)

### Spire Style Guide

- 9 pt Calibri Font
- No complex formatting (i.e. don't insert pictures into your text, etc.)
- Ideally not more than 400 words, unless this has been invited, or discussed in advance
- Photos should be sent as separate .jpeg files
- Respect Copyright – always cite sources if you have quoted text or reproduced images from elsewhere (internet, books, etc.) .

# PSALM

## Project for Seniors and Lifelong Ministry



Some of you will have spotted the “Good companions” workshop, advertised in the pew leaflet and at the back of church. This is being run by the **Project for Seniors and Lifelong Ministry** (PSALM) and everyone is welcome. PSALM is a 21<sup>st</sup> century ecumenical Christian organization based at St Pancras Church, near Euston Station. It’s also a registered charity. In the 2018 Annual Report it’s explained that:

PSALM’s core objective is to encourage a wider understanding of the benefits of ‘taking ageing and faith seriously’ and to draw on the resources of our faith to build resilience as we face the various challenges of growing older.

This is expanded on in the first edition of their Newsletter (published in April this year) which describes how they have been working for the past 14 years *with churches of all denominations and independent churches to enrich their ministry in relation to older people.*

PSALM’s regular workshop meetings – they hold three or four per year – bring together older (although not exclusively so!) people from all over London. They are informative and informal get-togethers with speakers and activities covering a huge range of issues affecting all of us as we grow older. Workshops are held in the church hall in Lansbury Street, just across the road from the East steps down (on your left as you exit the station building) from the Euston Station forecourt. They are timed to enable travel outside of the rush hour, running usually from around 11 am until mid-afternoon.

PSALM’s outreach doesn’t stop at workshops, though. They offer lectures and seminars both in central London and in the suburbs in response to invitations from groups, organizations and parishes. Quite recently, some of you will remember that Anne Morisy came to Christ Church from PSALM to run a workshop for us on ministry for older people and those with memory or dementia concerns. Ann is one of PSALM’s very experienced and qualified core team of three, working alongside Ann Wright and Claire Pinney.

PSALM’s focus is to address anything of *interest and concern to people over 60, those approaching retirement, or anyone with an interest in ageing and spirituality.* But you don’t have to be 60 to join in – people of all ages are welcomed. Individual annual membership is only £6 and it guarantees you a 20% discount on the price of events. If you are unsure, why not try out a workshop at the non-member price of £10? If you would like more information, please ask – I will do my best to provide this. The new website can be accessed at [www.PSALM.org.uk](http://www.PSALM.org.uk) .

PSALM’s 2019 Annual Lecture last March was given by the Ven. Chris Skilton, Archdeacon of Croydon in the Diocese of Southwark, who observed of the church in the context of aging and faith that ‘It takes ten to twenty years to change the ethos and values of an institution – so we’d better start now!’ We’ve started at Christ Church, but together we can take this forward and do even more.

*Patricia Ashby*

## PRAYER OF THE MONTH

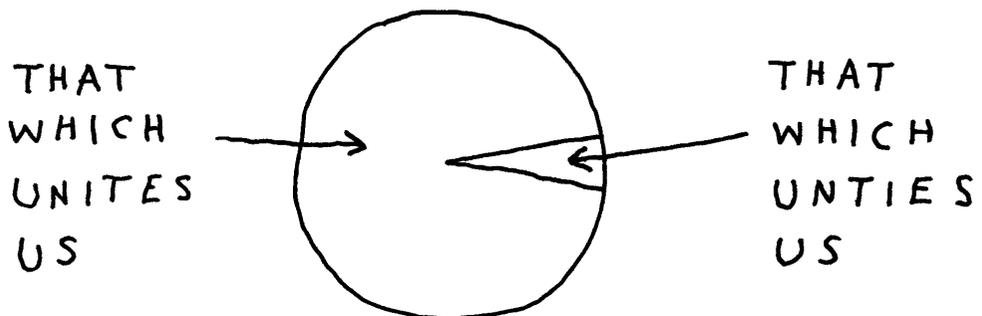
The month of May means many different things to many different communities around the world. In the 18<sup>th</sup> century, Jesuits in Rome added May to the Catholic monthly devotional calendar, celebrating the Blessed Virgin Mary – the mother of God, who sorrowed for the loss of her son. For Buddhists, the world over, May this year marks the 24<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the abduction by the Chinese of Gedhun Choekyi Nyima, the then 6-year old Panchen Lama. Different stories and different times, but both with a family, a child and a faith at their heart... and lives destroyed by religious intolerance.

And still today, families are torn apart by faith – quite recent communist repression of Christianity which could lead to family members turning each other in to the authorities, Chinese families torn apart today by forced Muslim re-education, cult-followers denouncing families and parents, the pressured conversion to Islam of children of Malaysians Hindus, and the resurgence of violence in Northern Ireland, claiming the life of Lyra McKee...

May, then, seems a good time to turn our prayers to the restoration of relationships, and to religious tolerance and the end of faith-based persecution and slaughter. We can pray:

Source of Many Names,  
 The words we use to honour You are different and diverse.  
 Help us see that beneath all these differences  
 We are all connected.  
 Allow us to see beauty in our religious diversities,  
 And show us ways to honour each other,  
 No matter which way we choose to connect to You.  
 Let acceptance among all people of all faiths  
 Be cherished as a great virtue. *Amen.*

[Prayer adapted from  
<https://prayersmantrasspirituallyrics.wordpress.com/2011/03/05/prayer-for-religious-tolerance/>]



## The Electoral Roll

With a final total of 215 names on the new Electoral Roll when it was published on 7<sup>th</sup> April, we did well (although we can never afford to sit back and rest on our laurels!). I know that many of you are interested in the Electoral Roll and the numbers, but also that many will have been unable to attend the Annual Meetings held on the 30<sup>th</sup> April. By way of drawing a line under the recent flurry of activity, then, the following is my report to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on the year's work – work to which you have all, in one way or another, contributed:

Unlike the small increase during 2017-18, complete renewal of the Electoral Roll at the end of the 2018-19 period has seen a small decrease in the numbers. First and foremost, however, we are welcoming 47 new people into our midst, attending services on a regular, frequent (or less frequent) basis. This in itself is worth celebrating and I very much hope that they will feel very happy here and that they will choose to stay with us. Their number almost neutralizes the loss of individuals from the previous Roll, in fact. After removing the names of the deceased, of those who are known to have moved away from the parish, and those who have simply drifted off our radar (who have not been seen and with whom I have been unable to make contact either by letter, email or phone) – a total of some 57 names from the 2017-18 Roll – the new Roll is very close to the previous one. The number of individuals on the Electoral Roll for Christ Church, Southgate, in April 2019 is 215, recording a drop of just 10 names from the total of 225 reported in April 2018.

As you know, our continued viability as a parish church with our own Vicar and buildings is contingent upon a robust Roll of individuals. As I have said elsewhere, if you know people who attend Christ Church with some degree of regularity who might like to be included on our Electoral Roll, do please mention this to them. Names can be added at any time, swelling the numbers reported annually to the Diocese. I am always happy to receive new forms.

(Update: since 7<sup>th</sup> April, I have already received two more forms... the total is already increasing!)

*Patricia Ashby, Electoral Roll Officer*

## OUT TO LUNCH!

### Charity Lunches

Held on Saturdays in Church House,  
12 for 12.30. £5.00

(Main course & dessert, a glass of wine or  
fruit juice, followed by tea or coffee.)

All proceeds to a good cause.

Everyone welcome – Come and support us!

1 June  
20 July  
5 October  
30 November

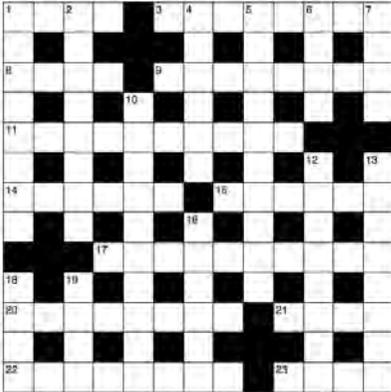
### Lunch Fellowship

Held in church – 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the  
month, following the 11 o'clock service.  
Sandwiches + dessert. Followed by a raffle,  
with a talk, quiz or a discussion.

Everyone welcome – Come and join us!

8 May  
12 June  
10 July  
14 August

# MAY CROSSWORD



**ACROSS**

- 1 Infant (Luke 2:12) (4)
- 3 Luis must (anag.) (8)
- 8 What Jesus called the devil (John 8:44) (4)
- 9 'My God, my God, why have you — me?' (Matthew 27:46) (8)
- 11 Anglican form of church government (10)
- 14 'Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like —' (Isaiah 40:31) (6)
- 15 Ministers of religion (6)
- 17 Make stronger (1 Thessalonians 3:13) (10)
- 20 Devoutness (1 Timothy 2:2) (8)
- 21 The father of Jesse (Ruth 4:22) (4)
- 22 Pool where Jesus healed a man who had been an invalid for 38 years (John 5:2) (8)
- 23 '[Jesus] said to them, " — here and keep watch"' (Mark 14:34) (4)

**DOWN**

- 1 Follower of Christ (Acts 16:1) (8)
- 2 One of the punishments endured by Paul (2 Corinthians 6:5) (8)
- 4 Soldiers (Exodus 14:9) (6)
- 5 Scholarly study of melody, harmony and rhythm (10)
- 6 'I am God, and there is none — me' (Isaiah 46:9) (4)
- 7 'And how can they preach unless they are — ?' (Romans 10:15) (4)
- 10 Favourable reception (1 Timothy 1:15) (10)
- 12 Hip orbit (anag.) (8)
- 13 End of life (Isaiah 22:14) (5,3)
- 16 'About midnight the sailors — they were approaching land' (Acts 27:27) (6)
- 18 He married Jezebel (1 Kings 16:30–31) (4)
- 19 'According to your great compassion — out my transgressions' (Psalm 51:1) (4)

**APRIL 2019 SOLUTIONS**



**PARISH DIRECTORY****Parish Office**

*Open on Wednesdays and Fridays 10 a.m.—1 p.m. and 2.30—5 p.m.  
Please phone beforehand if you have any special requests or needs.  
N.B. Notices for the Sunday pew sheets should reach the Office no later than  
10 a.m. on a Friday. If possible, please e-mail them.*

*Mail* 1 The Green, London N14 7EG  
*Phone* 8886 0384  
*Email* office@christchurch-southgate.org  
*Website* www.christchurch-southgate.org

**Clergy**

*Vicar* The Reverend Dr Chrichton Limbert  
*Address* 1 The Green, Southgate, London, N14 7EG  
*Phone* 8882 0917  
*Email* frch138@btinternet.com

*Associate Priest* The Reverend Hazel Miall  
*Address* 85 Conway Road, Southgate, London, N14 7BD  
*Phone* 07980 740587  
*Email* hazelmiall@btinternet.com

**Lay Readers**

Cathy Dallman, 4 Greenacre Walk, Southgate, N14 7DB 8886 5918  
Jackie Anderson 8245 0305

**Churchwardens**

Clare Boulton, 321 Gladbeck Way, Enfield, EN2 7HR 8367 5961  
Catherine Harvey, 1 Ruby Road, Walthamstow, E17 4RE 07872 493556

**PCC**

*Secretary* John Macrory 8440 3258  
john@macroryward.co.uk  
*Treasurer* Clare Boulton (as above)  
*Stewardship* Michael Meur, 136 Green Dragon Lane, N21 1ET 8360 2362

**Music Department**

*Director of Music* Richard Brain 07979 850546  
music@christchurch-southgate.org  
*Assistant Director  
of Music* David Hinitt, 19 Mercia Rd, Baldock, Herts, SG7 6RZ 07734 209662  
*Treasurer* Ian Winton, 7 Foxgrove, N14 7EA 8882 3680

<b>Sacristan</b>	Peter Holiday, 61 Arnos Grove, Southgate, N14 7AG	8886 4126
<b>Sidesmen</b>	Judith Lo	8882 3335
<b>Sub-committee Chairs/contacts</b>		
<i>Outreach</i>	Clare Boulton (as above)	
<i>Plant and Fabric</i>	Catherine Harvey (as above)	
<i>Social Responsibility</i>	Jackie Anderson (as above)	
<i>Resources</i>	Ronald Lo	8882 3335
<i>Pastoral</i>	Cathy Dallman (as above)	
<b>Electoral Roll Officer</b>	Patricia Ashby	8886 2528
<b>Parish Magazine "The Spire"</b>		
<i>Editorial Team</i>	Copy to be sent to the Parish Office (see above)	
<i>Treasurer</i>	Hilary Meur, 136 Green Dragon Lane, N21 1ET	8360 2362
<b>Flower Arrangers</b>	Contact the Parish Office (see above)	
<b>Parish Centre/Church Halls</b>		
<i>Chairman</i>	Philip Miall, 85 Conway Road, N14 7BD	8882 6738
<i>Secretary</i>	Clare Boulton (see above)	
<i>Lettings</i>	christchurchparishcentre@gmail.com	
<i>Treasurer</i>	Michael Meur (as above)	
<b>Christ Church Association Bar</b>		
<i>Contact</i>	Clive Woodhouse, 41b Osborne Road, N13 5BT	8882 0014
<b>Friday Coffee Morning</b>	<i>Every Friday morning 10.30 a.m. – 12.15 p.m. in Church</i>	
<i>Contact</i>	Hilary Meur (as above)	
<b>Lunch Fellowship</b>	<i>Usually on 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday in the month at noon in Church</i>	
<i>Contact</i>	Cathy Dallman (as above)	
<b>Waterfall Group</b>	<i>1st Tuesday 8.30 p.m. – informal women's meeting</i>	
	Frances Wyatt	8361 5379
	Glenys Rodway, 14 Dawlish Avenue, N13 4HP	8882 5970
<b>Scout Group</b>	The Reverend Hazel Miall, <i>Cubs</i> Stephen Smith, <i>Group Scout Leader</i>	07980 740 587 8882 0991
<b>Bellringers</b>	<i>Practice held Wednesdays 7.30 p.m.</i>	
<i>Captain</i>	Martin Sutcliffe, 46 Brookdale, N11 1BN	8368 1974
<b>Bridge Club</b>	<i>Thursdays 7.30 p.m. – 10 p.m.</i>	
<i>Secretary</i>	Jean Jobson, 26 New River Crescent, N13 5RF	8882 5619
<b>Young Fogeys</b>	<i>For the active and retired, though you need not be either!</i>	
<i>Contact</i>	Jean Thomas, 1 Bramford Court, N14 6DH	8882 8133

## MAY 2019 CALENDAR

MAY		Day	Eucharists	Other Services	Liturgical Colour
Wednesday	1	Philip and James, Apostles	11am (said)	8.30am (Morning Prayer) 5.30pm (Evening Prayer)	Red
Thursday	2	Anthanasius, bishop, teacher of the faith, 373	12.30pm (said)	8.30am (Morning Prayer) 5.30pm (Evening Prayer)	White
Friday	3			8.30am (Morning Prayer) 5.30pm (Evening Prayer)	White
Saturday	4	English saints and martyrs of the Reformation Era	9am (said)	8.30am (Morning Prayer)	White
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Easter 3</b>	<b>8am (said); 10am (sung)</b>	<b>6.30pm Said Evening Prayer</b>	<b>White</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>(May Day Fair)</b>		<b>3pm Choral Evensong</b>	<b>White</b>
Tuesday	7			5.30pm (Evening Prayer) 7.30pm (Healing)	White
Wednesday	8	Julian of Norwich, spiritual writer, c.1417 Rogation Day	11am (said)	8.30am (Morning Prayer) 5.30pm (Evening Prayer)	White
Thursday	9		12.30pm (said)	8.30am (Morning Prayer) 5.30pm (Evening Prayer)	White
Friday	10			8.30am (Morning Prayer) 5.30pm (Evening Prayer)	White
Saturday	11		9am (said)	8.30am (Morning Prayer)	White
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>Easter 4</b>	<b>8am (said); 10am (sung)</b>	<b>6.30pm Choral Evensong</b>	<b>White</b>
Monday	13				White
Tuesday	14	Matthias the Apostle	7.30pm (said)	5.30pm (Evening Prayer)	Red
Wednesday	15		11am (said)	8.30am (Morning Prayer) 5.30pm (Evening Prayer)	White
Thursday	16	Caroline Chisholm, social reformer, 1877	12.30pm (said)	8.30am (Morning Prayer) 5.30pm (Evening Prayer)	White
Friday	17			8.30am (Morning Prayer) 5.30pm (Evening Prayer)	White
Saturday	18		9am (said)	8.30am (Morning Prayer)	White
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>Easter 5</b>	<b>8am (said); 10am (sung)</b>	<b>6.30pm Choral Evensong</b>	<b>White</b>
Monday	20				White
Tuesday	21	<i>Helena, protector of the Holy Places, 330</i>	7.30pm (said)	5.30pm (Evening Prayer)	White
Wednesday	22		11am (said)	8.30am (Morning Prayer) 5.30pm (Evening Prayer)	White
Thursday	23		12.30pm (said)	8.30am (Morning Prayer) 5.30pm (Evening Prayer)	White
Friday	24	John and Charles Wesley, evangelists, hymn writers, 1791 and 1788		8.30am (Morning Prayer) 5.30pm (Evening Prayer)	White
Saturday	25	The Venerable Bede, monk, scholar, historian, 735; <i>Adhelm, bishop, 709</i>	9am (said)	8.30am (Morning Prayer)	White
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>Easter 6</b>	<b>8am (said); 10am (sung)</b>	<b>6.30pm Choral Evensong</b>	<b>White</b>
Monday	27				White
Tuesday	28	Rogation Day <i>Lanfranc, monk, archbishop, scholar, 1089</i>	7.30pm (said)	5.30pm (Evening Prayer)	White
Wednesday	29	Rogation Day	11am (said)	8.30am (Morning Prayer) 5.30pm (Evening Prayer)	White
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>Ascension Day</b>	12.30pm (said) <b>8pm (sung)</b>	8.30am (Morning Prayer) 5.30pm (Evening Prayer)	<b>Gold</b>
Friday	31	Visit of the Blessed Virgin Mary to Elizabeth		8.30am (Morning Prayer) 5.30pm (Evening Prayer)	White



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