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The Spire



Celebrating Chrichton and Hazel's 10 year anniversary of ordination

June and July 2022

Pentecost

The Parish Magazine of
CHRIST CHURCH
— Southgate —



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Welcome!

From The Reverend Dr Chrichton Limbert Vicar of Christ Church Southgate

Welcome to the Pentecost edition of Spire magazine, which has come out just in time for the Platinum Jubilee celebration weekend. We are about to have our special Matins service from the original service order sent to every church in 1953 to use on the Sunday before the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II. The music will all be pieces that have been used at coronation services in the past including 'I Was Glad' by Parry, and the Vaughan Williams arrangement of 'All People That On Earth Do Dwell', that were sung in Westminster Abbey in 1953. The booklet also has many special prayers for the different ceremonial parts of the coronation itself and prayers for the Royal Family, the nation, and the church. One of them is a special prayer for those who were being ordained into Holy Orders in the same season. Here it is...

O Lord Jesu Christ, who at thy first coming didst send thy messenger to prepare the way before thee: Grant that the ministers and stewards of thy mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready thy way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at thy second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people

in thy sight, who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

This is a perfect way of introducing the other big celebration that is up-coming at the start of July. Paul Ellerby is being ordained as Deacon on July 2nd in St Paul's to join us as our Curate on Sunday 3rd, in a special service, where Bishop Chris Foster will preach, as it is the tenth anniversary of Hazel and I being ordained Deacon.

I've been thinking about just how many links there are between the four people in that sentence. When Chris Foster was Vicar here at Christ Church, Hazel was one of his churchwardens. Bishop Chris then went on to be Bishop of Hertford, where he confirmed our three children (Beatrice, Sam and Christopher) and then became my "Sending Bishop" when I went forward for ordination (and confirmed me for good measure).

Once I had started Ordination training on North Thames Ministerial Training Course at St Georges Shadwell, Hazel and I met when we were in the same group ("The Grumpy Old

Men” – Hazel was an honorary member!) as the course became part of St Mellitus College.

Once we were both ordained (Hazel at St Paul’s and I at St Albans), I became a Curate at All Saints, Leighton Buzzard and Hazel stayed here at Christ Church. Hazel tipped me off that Fr Peter was leaving as I was looking for a job – and here I am, living in the same Vicarage and writing in the same study as Bishop Chris.

The connections now also include Paul, who

trained at St Mellitus as well, and is the CEO of McCabe Pilgrimages, who we are using for our Oberammergau trip in August. Meanwhile Bishop Chris has also used the same company for his pilgrimages. And they say the Church of England is a broad church!

Please come and join us for the special day in July at 10am on the 3rd and see if we can find any more connections!

Every blessing

Fr Chrichton

Spire subscriptions

If you would like to receive future issues of The Spire, please complete the subscription renewal form enclosed, or available at the back of Church, and return to Hilary Meur.

Don’t forget you can also pick up editions in person at Church.

Note from the Editors

Welcome to the Pentecost edition of the Spire! In June we celebrate the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee and in July it’s the turn of our own ministers – Chrichton and Hazel – who mark the ten-year anniversary of their ordination. Our warmest congratulations to them!

This edition reflects on Christ Church’s past, from Coronation memories to an interview with Ian Winton, who celebrated 50 years singing in the choir last year (although the in person celebration was postponed until this year!). Graham Cook also writes on celebrating in other churches and suggests this could be a regular feature – a super idea and we hope more people will share their experiences.

Thank you to all our contributors, from those who shared their views from the pews to those who wrote an article.

Once again, Walker the Christ Church Mouse is hidden somewhere in the pages... can you spot him? His hiding place from last edition is revealed in the Children’s Corner.

Our next edition will cover August and September, so if you have thoughts on summer, harvest, or any other topic, put pen to paper! Copy for this is due **Wednesday 20 July** - reach us on christchurchspire@gmail.com - we’d love to hear from you!

Freya and Imogen



DAILY HOPE a free phone line offering music, prayers and reflections as well as services from the Church of England. Available 24 hours a day on **0800 804 8044**

New Life in the Park

As we gradually return to a way of life we are more used to, I am so pleased to see that the creatures around us have been able to do the same.

There have been many Holy people who have appreciated animals among them St. Francis, who is portrayed in our Church's stained-glass window surrounded by animals. The Vicar of Dibley was persuaded to have her pet service, and only this week I was asked to bless a puppy dog.

I am very fortunate to live very close to Conway Rec. and most days I walk through it to check on the animals in the pond. A couple of years ago the locals were very sad to learn that a visiting heron had died in the park. It had obviously got tangled up in a plastic bag. My neighbour buried it in the park. The school children from St Monica's school were especially sad, as many of them walk through the park on their way to and from school. The children were made aware at school of the death of the heron and the dangers of litter, especially plastic bags, not only to world pollution but to the local inhabitants of 'our' pond.

I am very pleased to say that this year a new heron has adopted our little park as its home. It is getting quite bold and yesterday was in our neighbour's garden, eyeing up their chickens.



Many of us during lockdown came to appreciate the wonders of nature. The bird songs, we could hear so clearly, the fish and ducks in the pond etc. that carried on with their lives as though nothing was amiss. We got into the habit of going on daily walks. We learnt to acknowledge others out walking and, socially distanced of course, we passed the time of day and chatted a little. With God's help there is nothing to stop us continuing to chat to our new acquaintances, even past Mental Health Awareness week.

With the new Heron in our park, I am aware that some aspects of life are returning to what they were, but let's build on what we learnt during lockdown, which is that it's still alright to acknowledge people we pass in the park, and maybe even talk and listen.

Hazel Miall

When faced with a choice and unsure which way to go, try this Ignatius method of discernment: prayerfully imagine yourself at the end of your life and consider.... 'which choice would I wish I had made?'

Pentecost

He who does not know God the Holy Spirit cannot know God at all. - Thomas Arnold

On that long ago first morning of Pentecost, Jerusalem was crowded with thousands of visitors, for it was one of the most popular feast-days in the Jewish calendar – the Feast of Firstfruits, looking forward to the wheat harvest.

In one small room of that great city, a small group of people who had followed Jesus were praying. There was nothing else for them to do: Jesus had died, He had risen, and He had ascended, promising to send them ‘a Comforter’. They were left alone, to wait at Jerusalem. And so, they waited – on Him, and for Him.



They were not disappointed, for that morning the Holy Spirit fell upon that small room, and transformed those believers into the Church, Christ’s body here on earth. Pentecost was not the first time that the Holy Spirit came to the world – throughout the Old Testament there are stories telling of how God had guided people and given them strength. But now His Spirit would use a new instrument: not just isolated prophets, but the Church, His body on earth.

Parish Pump

Views from the Pews



This month we asked:

What is one of your favourite memories of Christ Church?

Going on the St. Cuthbert’s Way pilgrimage.

Pat Hawkins

Peter’s wonderful funeral service when everyone came out smiling.

Jill Holiday

Cricket tea served in support of the Church Times Cricket Final at the Walker Cricket Ground.

Anna

Being married here on 4th October 2014 to my lovely husband Paul.

Sandra Anderson

Winston the puppy giving the choir a bark of approval as they sang Vaughn Williams.

Richard Brain

A wonderful camel head processing round church in the great fun of the pop-up nativity, with such a welcome for grandchildren, an angel and a shepherd always employable, with the donkey on wheels getting a trip round!

Apologies - we couldn’t make out the name for this one

The joyous chaos of the pop-up nativity!

Kate Carroll

Coronation Memories From Our Congregation



(Trigger alert:
Loss of beloved doll!)

Just after my third birthday I climbed onto the front seat of our Bedford truck clutching Hotty, my new Ginnie plastic doll.

Tremendously exciting - we were going to the Cinema in Arusha to see a picture about the Coronation of Princess Elizabeth, filmed by Pathe News in the famous City of London, fairy tale dresses and a coach and horses. My Mummy told Hotty and I a bit about it on the journey.

I was interested to see London as my parents had lived there before they came to Africa. The cinema was in a roundish building with tiered tippy seats. I think the walls were canvas. As we climbed up to our places, I clutched Hottie firmly by the hand and we settled down together to watch. It was a long film - horses and the coaches and lots of people in uniforms and the Princess in a dress with a long train and putting on the crown - I remember most of it until just after the crown bit when I realised Hottie was missing. Calamity and panic and grief!

Frantic feeling between the seats and in the tippy bit and Mummy's lap and Daddy's lap - I got under the seat and peered down. There was no proper floor of course just a plank, the ground was very far down in the pitch black. I was firmly extracted. Shouting to alert the audience to the tragedy, I had to yell very loudly that I had LOST HOTTY!! There was a bit in the film with a Sceptre, maybe a Mace and an Archbishop - he had a Mitre on

- my poor patient mother valiantly tried to divert my attention with this interesting information. People around were going "SHUSH" - the cinema was packed so we couldn't get out.

It didn't end well. Without me, Daddy and a staff member with a torch did go, so they said, to search underneath the tiered seats balanced on scaffolding at the spot beneath ours but apparently there was NO sign of HOTTY. One of my earliest memories.

Angela Parker

May 23rd was my wedding day. That evening John and I set off for Cornwall (by train - we had no car then!) for our honeymoon on the rugged coast of North Cornwall. We were at Treyarnon for a fortnight which meant we were there for the coronation. The hotel manager announced to the guests, with great pride, that he had purchased a television set so we could all watch the televised events of the day. The news was met with oohs and ahhs and claps and smiles all round.

The day arrived, damp and grey, and the TV set up, we all settled down to watch. What we saw was a snow storm! After what seemed like hours a sort of grainy picture appeared, black and white, of course. Snacks were brought round from time to time. After hours of squinting at this quite small picture, we felt we had to go for a walk, rain or not. Crashing waves, rain and a brisk walk gave us a quick recovery.

Memories of that day are still clear after 69 years.

Jean Thomas

An Interview with Ian Winton

Ian has been singing with Christ Church choir for over 50 years!

THE SPIRE

When did you first join the choir?

IAN

I started in the choir on 23 April 1971. Older members of the congregation may recall Michael Hoeg as Assistant Organist. We went to the same school and Michael was also Assistant at my local church in Baldoc where I sang in the choir. I am very glad that he encouraged me to try out for Christ Church Choir.

THE SPIRE

What's the biggest change you've seen at Christ Church in that time?

IAN

Two areas in which huge changes have taken place, sometimes with opposition but rightly in my view, have been the position of women and the focus of Sunday morning worship.

I joined a choir of men and boys who sang at Matins and Evensong. The ladies choir who then sang at Eucharist were, unofficially, sort of "second league". Now of course we have a choir with excellent ladies, together with our super girls and boys, singing at the Eucharist service on Sunday mornings.

So the focus of Sunday morning worship has moved very much towards the Eucharist, and of course we also have an Assistant Priest, and a team of Lay Ministers who show clearly what women have to offer.

THE SPIRE

As we prepare to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee, what can you remember of the Silver Jubilee Service?

IAN

I have a truly terrible memory - but an excuse, too. When the Silver Jubilee was

formally marked, I was away on holiday with family. So I remember nothing of the details of that service, but I do remember beacons being lit etc in Scotland.

THE SPIRE

What's your favourite service to sing at?

IAN

This is a difficult question, because I love all choral services. Evensong, with a full choral setting, is a beautiful event. If I am not at Christ Church for some reason, I do want to get to Eucharist somewhere if I can. But I guess for singing, Evensong wins by a short margin.

THE SPIRE

Do you have a fond or funny memory of Christ Church to share?

IAN

I don't think I can easily pick out a particular memory to recall. It seems to me that excellent choir people, over the years and right up to today, have talents for making good music and for laughing a lot. I have just found it enormous fun and a really a great privilege.



Celebrating at Other Churches



I was inspired to submit this article by the recent pieces written about celebrating at other churches when away from home. I wondered if this could become a regular feature covering recommendations or unusual experiences which would inspire others as the world starts to open up again.

In the past year we have only holidayed in the UK and have taken the opportunity to attend services at a range of churches. Last summer, we had a week in Pembrokeshire, Wales for some coastal walks and beach fun. While there we visited St David's Cathedral and attended the main Sunday service. As the Limbert Family know well, it is a beautiful and, in our opinion, understated cathedral in an amazing location. It was a lovely service with some wonderful singing but unfortunately, no Limbert Junior was there that weekend!

We also had a break in the Highlands of Scotland and while up there visited two Scottish Episcopalian churches, both of which were amazing and very different. In Bachory, we attended the main Eucharist at St Ternan's. The congregation was so lovely and intrigued at meeting us as visitors to their church. We were amazed that so many of the congregation were English relocated to the Highlands, but on reflection, we should not have been as the church is aligned to the Church of England. The hymns were accompanied by a local Lord playing the organ in a very original style!

Our second service was in a lovely suburb of Aberdeen at St Mary's which was the pro-cathedral of the diocese as the main Cathedral was under repair. We went to the 8am service and got to sit in the choir stalls as the congregation was only 4 - of which the Cook Family represented 75%! The vicar was amazing, preaching without any notes and chatted with us after for ages about his life as ex-military and having worked in parishes in the Orkneys where he confirmed the congregations up there were still more English than Scottish.

In the Autumn we had a short break in Northumberland and attended a very nice service at the attractive St Aidan's Church at Bamburgh Castle. Finally, a couple of weeks ago we decided to go to the main Eucharist at Canterbury Cathedral. There was about 200 in the congregation, but we all got to sit in the quire and the Dean of the Cathedral preached. We joined the regulars in the Chapter House for coffee and biscuits after the service and got chatting to a retired priest from the Cathedral. He was very generous with his knowledge and explained that there is a team of priests resident at the Cathedral to carry out all the services.

I hope others are inspired to visit some of the locations or share their own experiences, we have always felt welcome wherever we have visited, and hope others do when they visit our beautiful church.

Graham Cook

The vicar had technical problems with the sound system one Sunday. Instead of starting the service as usual with 'The Lord be with you', he said: "There's something wrong with the microphone." Not hearing this, the congregation responded: "And also with you."

Choir tour to St Nicholas Basilica

Saturday 16 – Sunday 17 July 2022



By Richard Brain, Director of Music

The Choir is off on tour to Europe again! We have been invited to sing at the Basilica of St Nicolas in Amsterdam, The Netherlands. The tour will see the Adult Choir singing for Choral Evensong at 5pm on Saturday 16 July and then for Choral Mass on Sunday 17 July at 10.30am. The Sunday service will be extra special as it is due to be broadcast on the Dutch public broadcaster, KRO-NCRV, which specialises in religious broadcasting.

Designed by Adrianus Bleijs (1842-1912), St Nicolas Basilica was built in the Neo-Baroque and Neo-Renaissance style and is the principal Roman Catholic church in Amsterdam. When built, the church was called St. Nicholas inside the Walls (i.e. inside the Amsterdam City wall), the oldest part of the Amsterdam defence works. The church was elevated to Basilica status in 2012.

Although a Roman Catholic church, St Nicolas Basilica has a tradition of singing an English language BCP Choral Evensong on Saturday afternoons stretching back over the last two decades. The development of the music programme at St Nicholas was developed by the former Director of Music, the Northumberland born Organist and Conductor Michael Hedley (1951-2020). The tradition has been continued by the current Director of Music, Dr Giles Brightwell, whom I had the pleasure of working with when he was Director of Music at St Mark's Hamilton Terrace here in London and I was a member of the choir.

Our Choir will be taking a challenging and rewarding programme to Amsterdam

including singing movements from Ralph Vaughan Williams Mass in G minor.

I selected this Mass setting to coincide with the 150th anniversary of Vaughan Williams' birth, who was born in Down Ampney in Gloucestershire in 1872.

Many parishioners will notice that a lot of Vaughan Williams is being featured in our services at Christ Church this term. The Mass in G minor is considered a landmark piece as it was the first Mass to be written in a distinctly English style since the Sixteenth Century (the era of Thomas Tallis and William Byrd), channelling a polyphonic textural style and a modal tonality. This was very different to Choral Communion settings of his contemporaries, and of any music written for the Anglican Eucharist in the previous three centuries. Vaughan Williams dedicated the Mass to his friend Gustav Holst and The Whitsun Singers, and although first performed as a concert work, its intended purpose was for use within the liturgy.

Our full repertoire list for the tour can be found opposite and if you are interested in following the choir to Amsterdam, please do let me know.

Photo from Wikipedia



Choral Evensong at St Nicholas Basilica Amsterdam, Saturday 16 July, 5pm

Introit: We Wait for Thy Loving Kindness
McKie

Responses: *Smith*

Psalm: 15

Office Hymn: The God of Abraham Praise

Canticles: Second Service *Gibbons*

Anthem: O God, Thou Art my God *Purcell*

Hymn: O Love divine, how sweet thou art

Dismissal: Naylor

Choral Mass at St Nicholas Basilica Amsterdam, Sunday 17 July, 10.30am

Kyrie: Mass in G minor *Vaughan Williams*

Gloria: *A Dutch Merbecke type work*

Credo and Sanctus: Plainsong

Offertory: O Nata Lux *Tallis*

Angus Dei: Mass in G minor

Vaughan Williams

Motets:

O sacrum convivium *Tallis*

Ave verum corpus *Elgar*

John Rutter pens new work after Ukraine invasion

John Rutter, the composer very familiar to us all at Christ Church, has written a new choral work in response to the invasion of Ukraine. Funds raised from 'A Prayer for Ukraine', are going to the Disasters Emergency Committee's Ukraine appeal.

Rutter explained: "How can a composer respond to a global tragedy? I suppose by writing music: like everybody I have been shocked and dismayed by the events of recent days.

"The first thing I wanted to do was write music that would respond in my own way. I went to a late-night service in my old college chapel where they sang a setting of a lovely Ukrainian prayer, so having encountered the Ukrainian text, on Thursday I wrote my own music. I hope the meaning of the text will resonate in people's hearts."

The words of the piece, which are originally in Ukrainian, translate into English as: "Good Lord protect Ukraine. Give her strength, courage, faith, and hope. Amen."

He added: "I hope it speaks in terms which reach out to the Ukrainian people in their hour of need."

Listen to the new work at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2bx4QFxfW2s>

Source: Parish Pump



A journey of a thousand miles begins with trying to find a place to park your car near the church.



What We Sing in Church

'Come Holy Ghost' New English Hymnal No.138

This is a very ancient hymn known by its Latin title as 'Veni Creator Spiritus', and as well as being sung at Pentecost, it is also sung at Confirmations, Ordinations and the Consecration of Bishops. The version we sing is a translation of the Latin by John Cosin, who was the Bishop of Durham in the 17th Century after the Restoration of the Monarchy.

The hymn is thought to have been written by Rabanus Maurus in the 9th Century, who was a Frankish Benedictine monk who was Archbishop of Mainz in Germany and a theologian. It seems to have been used widely in the church ever since. I expect we will sing it at Pentecost.

The hymn starts with an invocation to the Holy Spirit to be with us all or with those about to be Confirmed, Ordained or Consecrated. The second line 'lighten with celestial fire' refers to the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the Disciples at Pentecost in the form of tongues of fire. The verse goes on to ask the Holy Spirit for his sevenfold gifts.

This originates from Chapter 11 of the book of Isaiah which is a prophesy of the coming of the Messiah 'A shoot will come out of the stump of Jesse'. Isaiah lists six gifts of the Spirit to which the church added a seventh. The enumeration of the gifts was probably by St. Thomas Aquinas. The gifts mentioned by Isaiah are Wisdom, Understanding, Counsel (Right judgement), Fortitude, Knowledge and Fear of the Lord. To these the church added Piety. These are certainly gifts for which we need to pray.

The second verse asks the Holy Spirit to give

us his 'comfort, life and fire of love'. This refers to the Spirit sometimes being called the 'Comforter'. The name for the Spirit 'the Paraclete' can be translated as 'Comforter' as well as 'Advocate'. The prayer for life and fire of love links with him being known as the Lord of Life and Love. And we also ask for his vision to restore our 'blinded sight'.

The third verse of the hymn asks for the protection of the Holy Spirit from the sins which will always attack us - 'our soiled face' and also from external foes. The hymn ends in a doxology with emphasis on the unity of the Trinity and praying that we may know that in our hearts.

It's interesting to note that although this hymn is well over a thousand years old and has been used throughout that time, it is so relevant to our present needs.

Cathy Dallman



Your Pilot Speaking

The seatbelt sign.
Turn, climb and bank.
A swan takes off, a seagull lands,
A smooth grey heron homeward bound.
Surplice sleeves just flex and float,
Richard flies the music round the choir.

The faintest breeze ignites the air
Sparked notes on chords reflecting light,
Deftly caught by deeper voices,
Echo, rally, boxing hare
Back and forth between the stalls.
Sounding off the Gothic walls -

Take off and landing choreographed,
No bounce or thud,
The crotchet wheels just smoothly glide,
Glissando
Rallentando
Stop.

By Iona Penn May 2022

My Beautiful Life in Thee My Sacred Lord Jesus Christ



'Beautiful, isn't He?' was a song once. I have been listening to Premier Christian radio - it was indispensable to me during the lockdown. They preach, sing, worship and have lovely services on Sunday.

We have been back in Church and singing for a while now. I pray for the chancel floor near the altar to be mended please dear Jesus, then we will be able to worship on our knees at your sacred altar. I have supported this by funds as well as prayer.

'Put on the gospel armour – each piece put on with prayer! The helmet of salvation, the breastplate of God's approval, God's righteousness – the shield of faith, the sword of the spirit. The belt of truth, the shoes speeding me on to the Gospel of Peace!' God's words from the Bible, of course – how wonderful! Do read Ephesians as I have quoted here. Please remember always that Jesus loves us – to Him be the Glory!

Lynda Corcoran

And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity

How to Help in Ukraine Continue to donate as much as you can to the Red Bucket appeal in church to support the Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC) appeal. We have sent over £1,400 so far and the total is growing.

Two local charities The Ark and Cooking Champions feed struggling families, the homeless and refugees. They are asking for small packets of pasta, rice, tinned vegetables, crisps, a meal in a tin, curry, mince & onion, Fray Bentos pies etc. They are very grateful for our continuing contributions

Food Bank Collection A reminder that we are always happy to collect non-perishable food and other items for the foodbank in Enfield. The collection point is just inside the door at the back of church to the left.

Used Postage Stamps A reminder to never throw a used stamp in the bin again! Cut them off with a 1 cm border (just cut the corner off the whole envelope if the stamp is stuck right at the edge) and leave them at the back of the church for collection. Our stamps continue to provide a modest but valuable revenue for the RNIB and is much appreciated.

A young curate who had just been ordained stepped in to take the sermon at very short notice, because the vicar was ill. At the end of the sermon, he explained apologetically: "At such short notice I'm afraid I just had to rely on the Holy Spirit. Next week I hope to do better."



Parish Life in Pictures

April and May 2022

Palm Sunday



Maundy Thursday and Good Friday



Easter Saturday

Our Easter windows were decorated by families in our congregation!



Easter Sunday

Easter Sunday



Welcoming Paul Ellerby as our new curate

Celebrating Ian Winton's 50 Years with the Choir



The Pilgrimage from Norwich Cathedral to Walsingham



Services at Christ Church - All Welcome!



Pentecost and Platinum Jubilee Celebrations



Sunday 5th June, 11 am

Special Choral Matins with the original 1953 service order featuring special Coronation music by Parry, Stanford, Handel and Vaughan Williams, followed by a family picnic at the Vicarage. Bring you own food and drink – 1950s themed dress optional!



Special Service

Sunday 3rd July, 10 am

Join us to welcome new curate Paul Ellerby and to celebrate Chrichton and Hazel's 10 year anniversary of ordination.

Bishop Chris Foster will preach at this service.

Weekly Services

**Sunday 8.00 am
10.00 am
6.30 pm**

**Said Eucharist
Choral Eucharist
Evensong ***

Tuesday 7.30 pm

**Said Eucharist
(Healing on First & Third week)**

Thursday 12.30 pm

Said Eucharist

*** Choral Evensong on the following Sundays in June and July:**

12th June, 19th June, 26th June, 3rd July, 24th July



Children's Corner

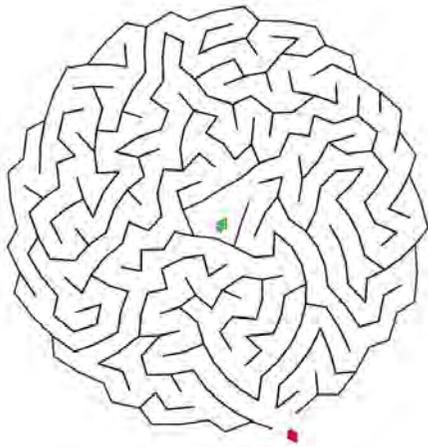
Pentecost

Jesus promised us that after He had died, God would send the Holy Spirit to live inside His people.

Why don't you colour in the disciples receiving the Holy Spirit on the first Pentecost?



Solve the maze



Find the mouse!

Did you find the mouse in the last edition? He was hiding by the stamps on page 21.

Walker the church mouse has escaped again! What a naughty mouse he is.

See if you can find him hiding somewhere in this magazine.

I had a ploughman's lunch the other day. He wasn't very happy about it.

A Cheshire vicar has two cats. Their names are Ancient and Modern – because they are both hims.

Baker's trade bread recipes on a knead-to-know basis.



Leviticus confirmed it - Rob's pullover was an abomination

News from the Committees



When you read this update, it will already be well over a month since the most recent meeting of the **Parochial Church Council** (the PCC). Much of the news is therefore rather 'old news'. But it is at meetings of the PCC that most of the news from the Committees gets aired, and for many of us it will still be interesting to see an update – not everything gets talked about by everybody, all the time! Sometimes, then, old news is still new news.

As seems usually to be the case, some of the most relevant items were topics mentioned in the **Vicar's Report**. This time, Fr Chrichton noted that Holy Week was almost back to 'normal' and confirmed the success of this year's Lent programme, mentioning especially the very interesting series of sermons on Women of the Passion and the weekly stations of the cross (using the plaques carefully restored by Mick Meur). It was also here that we heard the first whisper of our new curate – and as we now all know, Paul Ellerby will be joining the clergy team this coming July.

Other news came from **Plant & Fabric** (P&FC) which this time reported that the application for a faculty to enable repair of the chancel floor has now been submitted... watch this space! (Granting faculties is a very slow process!) And less major news from P&FC included hearing that it had been arranged for the garden gate to be fixed during May and that replacement door knobs were on order for the choir vestry (to be fixed 'in house' by the Chair herself or by Fr Chrichton, as soon as they arrived).

More news came in the Treasurer's **Finance** report. The less welcome news was that the recent, major, 'one off' repair of the listed, boundary wall was largely responsible for a deficit of between £25K and £26K in the current year's finances. Day to day finances,

however, were in a better position with a deficit of approximately £1K, some of which had already been made up thanks to generous donations over Easter. The PCC also heard from the Treasurer that new tenants were being sought for our Oakfield Road property, and we approved the annual accounts (prepared by Anthony Croft Ezekiel Ltd) in readiness for these to be presented to the APCM at the end of May.

News from **Social Responsibility** can, as always, be read elsewhere in this magazine, and **Eco & Care Creation** continues – *inter alia* – to plan and care for the garden, making a visible and very welcome difference thanks to the hard work of the Friends.

Patricia Ashby

Christchurch Association News



The Christchurch Association (CCA) provides a social centre for the parish and runs the "Top Step Bar", serving soft and alcoholic drinks upstairs in Church House. We are now able to take contactless payments as well as accepting cash.

The CCA Top Step bar opens early at 6 pm on the first Friday of each month, with complimentary **cheese and snacks** available through the evening. The next occasions are Fridays 3rd June and 1st July.

I am delighted to announce that the **Top Step Talks** will resume on **Sunday 12th June**, when we will welcome Bea Limbert to give a talk entitled "I'm sorry you feel that way" – My Career in Visitor Experience (so far)! Bea is an art historian who has worked in a number of venues that are open to the public, and this promises to be an entertaining evening with her favourite anecdotes. The bar will open at 7:30 with the talk starting around 8 pm.

On **Saturday 18th June** at 8 pm I will present a **Waterloo Wine Tasting** in the Walker Hall. This day will be the 207th anniversary of the eponymous battle and the event will feature 10 wines from England, France and Germany. Tickets are priced at £25 per person and must be reserved no later than 12th June. Please contact me if you are interested.

The date of our next Friday Foodie evening will be published in early June; these events are now doubling up as charity fundraising evenings.

The Top Step Bar is open on a regular basis as follows (except during August):

- 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)

SRC Report

Our collection for the Disasters Emergency Committee DEC is on-going and so far has raised over £1400. This is helping the people of Ukraine.

During Lent we raised money for the Diocese of London Lent Appeal and £500 has gone to support the work focusing on raising awareness around issues of mental health and wellbeing for adults and young people, along with domestic abuse.

As I write we are in Christian Aid week and donations are beginning to come in. We have envelopes and a bucket in church.

Sunday coffee is going well, and members of the congregation are enjoying a drink and a



biscuit while socialising. Friday coffee returned in May. Please call into church on a Friday morning and have a chat

between 10am to 12pm. Proceeds from both are for Grief Encounters.

The cost of living has continued to rise, and more and more families are struggling, so we continue to donate non-perishable food and toiletries to the food bank, Cooking Champions and The Ark. St. John's are also helping a family in much need – they have a girl of 4 years and a boy of 2. They require clothes, nappies 6+ and other basic necessities.

Our stall in church continues to bring in a

few pounds and we will try to keep it well stocked as there are a few groups of visitors booked to look at the



windows and there will be Open House in September. Preserves, books, cards and small gifts are our best sellers. If you have anything saleable, please let me know. Many thanks.

Last year we ran a St. Swithun's Fundraiser and have decided to run it again this year. ShelterBox is our chosen charity and you can find full details **on page opposite** and at <https://www.shelterbox.org>

We cannot continue to give without your generous contributions. We are very grateful for your support as are the charities that we are supporting.

Hilary Meur
Tel.02083602362
Email ccsoces@gmail.com

St. Swithun's Fundraiser

Proceeds to ShelterBox



*St. Swithun's day, if thou dost rain,
For forty days it will remain.
St. Swithun's day, if thou be fair,
For forty days 'twill rain na mair.*



Legend has it, that if it rains on St Swithun's day, it will rain every day for the next 40 days!

We are going to test that theory at Christ Church again this year while pledging money for
ShelterBox

On or before St Swithun's Day, Friday 15th July, we are asking you to choose to donate for:

Either every day that is WET
Or every day that is DRY
for the following 40 days

Simply choose WET or DRY and pledge a daily amount e.g. £1 or 50p, or a sum of your choice, to pay if rain falls or doesn't on Christ Church Southgate until Wednesday 24th August.

There will an official rain gauge to measure the actual rainfall on the church building.

Although last year my husband Mick chose WET and that cost him £22 he has decided to stick with WET.

I am therefore choosing DRY!

We will publish weekly the official days of rain on the website, in the notice sheet and in the weekly newsletter.

Whatever the truth of the legend of St Swithun, we are so privileged in London to have all the day to day facilities that we require. Please join in to raise some funds to help provide emergency shelter and aid items to families who have lost their homes to conflict or disaster.

Please let us know your intentions so we can keep a spreadsheet and predict the total amount of money raised. Register your details; name, WET or DRY and daily donation by leaving me a phone message on 020 8360 2362, or with a written note in church, or at our email address: ccsocrates@gmail.com

Many thanks, *Hilary Meur*

Stewardship

Mick Meur,
Stewardship Recorder



My report this month starts with news that donations for the first few months of 2022 are holding their own, but this is tinged with a note of caution. Up to the end of April the overall increase in giving is 5% which would normally be very healthy. However, inflation is already running at a higher level than this with predictions of even more to come in the foreseeable future. Much of the increases is due to donations by our Web facility and I thank the generosity of the donors concerned.

Those of you that come to Christ Church will notice that we have started putting the blue Gift Aid envelopes in the pews once again. However, this does not mean that we are starting to pass the collection bags round or have an offertory procession as we used to in the past. When I was at work we used to say “cash is king”, but many shops and businesses have moved away from cash and this means that many people are no longer in the habit of using it to pay for everyday transactions. Despite that, I am hoping the presence of the envelopes will act as a reminder to those parishioners not in our regular stewardship of our need for offerings to Christ Church. The early signs are promising, the contactless machine is available at all services and help on how to

use it is on hand. It can be used not only for donations but also for purchase of goods from the stall and the glass merchandise on display on the left as you walk into church.

Upon receipt of the monthly statement from the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) I noted that, as predicted in last month’s edition of *The Spire*, that the inflationary increases for those signing up to that had increased more than previous years. I thank those that accepted the annual increase even though it was larger than usual. I would encourage those awaiting their annual review to agree to the amount advised by the PGS whenever possible. The church’s costs have risen quite markedly in the past few months, especially on the energy front and every little helps to ameliorate this.

The best way forward to regularly contribute to the work of Christ Church is to join our Stewardship Scheme and to sign up to regular payments via the PGS. If you need any information to help you decide how to make regular donations please let me know. It is now really easy to join the PGS, see opposite.

My telephone contact details are in the Directory at the back of *The Spire*, and my email address is mikestatistics@gmail.com

Longest overdue library book has been returned - 313 years late

If you have ever been late in returning a library book, take heart: the 1704 copy of *The Faith and Practice of a Church of England Man* was recently handed back to Sheffield Cathedral. A handwritten inscription inside reads: “This Book belongs to ye Lending Library in Sheffield Church 1709.” It left the library just over 300 years ago.

Sheffield Cathedral’s Reverend Canon Keith Farrow said that the family of a deceased woman who lived locally had asked in her will for it to be returned. “Now it’s come back home. It’s a joy to have this little jewel back in the cathedral.” With overdue fines of 50p a day, librarians could have charged the family more than £54,000 for the book - which itself is worth about £300. The canon joked: “We might have got a new roof or something. But I did promise I wouldn’t charge them.”

Source: Parish Pump

HOW YOU CAN HELP!

Please consider joining the Parish Giving Scheme now, this can be set-up easily over the telephone. All you needed to do is make one call to their dedicated helpline number 0333 002 1271.

When calling please quote our parish code 230623352
or online using the following link:

<https://www.paritygiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/southgate-christ-church-london/>

Or scan the QR code below on your smartphone or tablet



Friends of Christ Church Garden: Caring for Creation



When we formed this group, we began to think about possible gardening projects that would benefit others and be fun for us. Growing vegetables was high on our list. We needed to find a site, assess the soil and choose vegetables that would not be too labour intensive and relatively easy to grow, this being our first attempt.

Under the expert guidance of Jenny, one end of a rose bed was cleared (the roses having been relocated) ready for planting and a concrete trough, uncovered after clearing undergrowth. We think this might have originally been a horse trough.

We've now planted potatoes, radishes, lettuces, parsnips and carrots. We have two pots of herbs and we have been given a small current bush, but until we get the fruit, we're unsure of what it is! I'm a very amateur gardener but I honestly think that growing vegetables is wonderful; preparing the soil, planting the seeds, making sure they're watered, watching the shoots come through and doing whatever nurturing needs to be done to assist growth.

When we finally have our produce, we'll decide how it can be used or distributed and look at lessons learned from growing our first vegetables at church.

This is just one of the exciting projects that we have planned and that the gardening team would love to share with others. Gardening can provide time out from the daily stresses and strains of life. It can calm us and has many benefits for our mental health. If you'd like to join us and come along to one of our gardening mornings, please get in touch.

God created this beautiful world, and we can enjoy looking after it.

Sandra Anderson

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

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

Lay Readers

Cathy Dallman, 4 Greenacre Walk, Southgate, N14 7DB	8886 5918
Jackie Anderson	8245 0305
Sandra Anderson	07947 027265
Amy Li	via the office

Churchwardens

Clare Boulton, 321 Gladbeck Way, Enfield, EN2 7HR	8367 5961
Kate Carroll, katecarroll1@aol.com	07974 437966

PCC

<i>Secretary</i>	Caroline Robertson	8886 0384
	office@christchurch-southgate.org	
<i>Treasurer</i>	Clare Boulton (as above)	
<i>Stewardship</i>	Michael Meur, 136 Green Dragon Lane, N21 1ET	8360 2362

Music Department

<i>Director of Music</i>	Richard Brain	07979 850546
	music@christchurch-southgate.org	
<i>Organist</i>	Kate Macpherson	
<i>Associate Organist</i>	David Hinit	
<i>Treasurer</i>	Ian Winton, 7 Foxgrove, N14 7EA	8882 3680

Sacristan	Vacancy	
Sidesmen	Judith Lo	8882 3335

Sub-committee Chairs/contacts

<i>Outreach</i>	Fr Chrichton Limbert (as above)	
<i>Plant and Fabric</i>	Kate Carroll (as above)	
<i>Social Responsibility</i>	Vacancy	
<i>Resources</i>	Ronald Lo	8882 3335

Electoral Roll Officer	Patricia Ashby	8886 2528
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Parish Magazine “The Spire”

<i>Editorial Team</i>	Freya Carroll and Imogen Cooper Copy to be sent to christchurchspire@gmail.com	
<i>Treasurer</i>	Hilary Meur, 136 Green Dragon Lane, N21 1ET	8360 2362

Flower Arrangers	Contact the Parish Office (see above)	
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Parish Centre/Church Halls

<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)	

Christ Church Association Bar

<i>Contact</i>	Clive Woodhouse, 41b Osborne Road, N13 5BT	8882 0014
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Friday Coffee Morning

	<i>Every Friday morning 10.30 a.m. – 12.15 p.m. in Church</i>	
<i>Contact</i>	Hilary Meur (as above)	

Lunch Fellowship *Usually on 2nd Wednesday in the month at noon in Church*

<i>Contact</i>	Cathy Dallman (as above)	
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Scout Group	The Reverend Hazel Miall, <i>Cubs</i>	07980 740 587
	Stephen Smith, <i>Group Scout Leader</i>	8882 0991

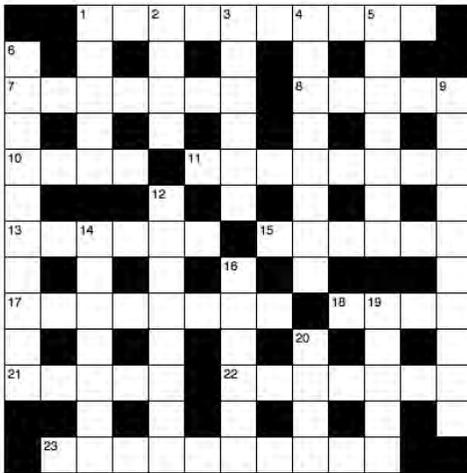
Bellringers *Practice held Wednesdays 7.30 p.m.*

<i>Captain</i>	Martin Sutcliffe, 46 Brookdale, N11 1BN	8368 1974
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Young Fogeys *For the active and retired, though you need not be either!*

<i>Contact</i>	Jean Thomas, 1 Bramford Court, N14 6DH	8882 8133
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JUNE CROSSWORD



Across

- 1. Evil (Genesis 6:5) (10)
- 7. Musician called for by Elisha when he met the kings of Israel, Judah and Edom (2 Kings 3:15) (7)
- 8. The request that led to the institution of the Lord’s Prayer: ‘Lord, — us to pray’ (Luke 11:1) (5)
- 10. ‘We are hard pressed on every —’ (2Corinthians4:8) (4)
- 11. Fraud (2Corinthians6:8) (8)
- 13. ‘His troops advance in force; they build a siege ramp against me and — around my tent’ (Job 19:12) (6)
- 15. Where Rachel hid Laban’s household gods when he searched his daughter’s tent (Genesis 31:34) (6)
- 17. ‘Now about spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be —’ (1 Corinthians 12:1) (8)
- 18. Nomadic dwelling (Genesis26:25) (4)
- 21. ‘As for man, his days are like —, he flourishes like a flower of the field’ (Psalm 103:15) (5)
- 22. Or I live (anag.) (7)
- 23. Those guilty of 1 Across (Romans13:4) (10)

Down

- 1. ‘God so loved the — that he gave his one and only Son’ (John 3:16) (5)
- 2. ‘Away in a manger, no — for a bed’ (4)
- 3. Mob ten (anag.) (6)
- 4. ‘Each — group made its own gods in several towns where they settled’ (2 Kings 17:29) (8)
- 5. Began (Luke 9:46) (7)
- 6. Speaking very softly (John 7:32) (10)
- 9. Workers Ruth joined when she arrived in Bethlehem with her mother-in-law Naomi (Ruth 2:3) (10)
- 12. Put in jail (Acts22:19) (8)
- 14. Aceturn (anag.) (7)
- 16. Discharge (Acts21:3) (6)
- 19. ‘All these — come from inside and make a man “unclean”’ (Mark 7:23) (5)
- 20. ‘Let us rejoice and be glad and — him glory!’ (Revelation19:7) (4)

APRIL SOLUTION

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e-mail:

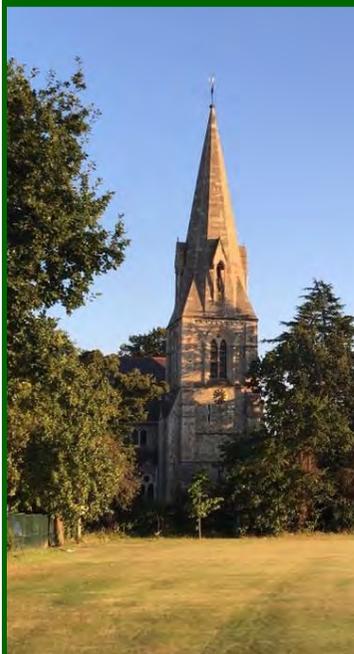
martina@macroryward.co.uk

or

margaret@macroryward.co.uk

Macrory Ward is one of the sponsors of the annual May Day Fair

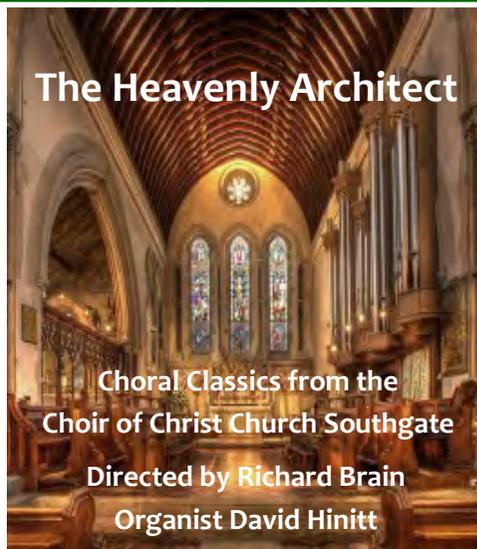
**Christ Church Southgate
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Where everyone is welcome**



Christ Church Southgate is an Eco-Church, we have recently achieved the Silver Award.

We are committed to caring for God's earth in the different areas of our life and work and are actively working to reduce our environmental impact

"We believe in inclusive Church – church which does not discriminate, on any level, on grounds of economic power, gender, mental health, physical ability, race or sexuality. We believe in Church which welcomes and serves all people in the name of Jesus Christ; which is scripturally faithful; which seeks to proclaim the Gospel afresh for each generation; and which, in the power of the Holy Spirit, allows all people to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Jesus Christ."



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