



All Saints Parish Paper

MARGARET STREET, LONDON W.1

JULY 2007

£1.00

VICAR'S LETTER

Last month's Parish Paper had no letter from the Vicar. As the Churchwardens explained in their substitute epistle, this was because I had been taken into hospital with severe abdominal pain before I could write it. Instead of preparing to travel to Chichester to preach in the cathedral I found myself in Accident and Emergency at University College Hospital.

There I found myself answering the first of many litanies of questions: how bad was the pain, had I been travelling abroad recently, what had I eaten, how much did I drink? (One doctor seemed to harbour a suspicion that this cleric must have the same drinking habits as TV's Father Jack of Craggy Island Parochial House.) I was warned that emergency surgery might be necessary, so Fr Leo Vasquez, the assistant Anglican chaplain, appeared with commendable speed to anoint me. However, a battery of tests, scans and x-rays proved inconclusive and I was sent upstairs to a ward and put on painkillers and antibiotics, as well as being forbidden to eat anything or drink more than the occasional sip of water. While our daughter Joanna kept me company, Theresa went off to inform those who needed to know — not least the Dean of Chichester — that I was out of action.

There followed a week in which my temperature went up and down but

otherwise things seemed to mark time. Each morning a group of doctors would appear at the foot of my bed, conduct another interrogation and give my protesting abdomen another physical examination. The man in charge would then shake his head and say, "This is a bit of mystery". Now this is the kind of thing I expect a preacher to say on Trinity Sunday, but not what I was hoping for from the medical profession. After a week, a professor appeared to examine the mystery and ordered all the tests to be repeated. This time my gall bladder was identified as the source of the trouble and late in the afternoon of the next day a doctor, with an ultrasound machine to guide his aim, inserted a syringe which looked big enough for a horse, into my side, through my liver and into the gall bladder to drain off the infected bile. I "began to amend" almost immediately and that evening was able to sit up in bed reading Evening Prayer and the daily paper. I had been quite incapable of reading anything for a whole week. A move to a new bed by a south-facing window on the 9th floor afforded me a panoramic view across London. I could see the dome of St Paul's floodlit by night or lit by the rising sun behind it in the early morning. Standing by the window, I could point out the spire of All Saints to anyone who asked where I lived.

After a few more days, I was allowed home with a supply of painkillers and

dressings for the drain in my side which continued to drain bile from my gall bladder. When a district nurse from the Soho Health Centre came to change the dressing for the first time, she was ushered up to the Vicarage by Dennis Davis and immediately asked me where the patient was. I replied that I was the patient. Her confusion was because my date of birth had been put down on her form as the 3rd of November, 1907. She was expecting a 99 year old. I knew I was not looking at my best but I did not think I was that bad.

So what have I learned from this experience, apart from all that I will ever need to know about the human gall bladder? This was only the second time in my life that I have been in hospital. The first was when I had my tonsils removed at the age of 35. It occurred to me then, and again now, that it is a salutary experience for clergy who are so often ministering to the sick, to be on the receiving end; to not be in control of things, to be uncertain about what is happening to you, anxious about the outcome of it all, dependent on others for your needs, ministered to rather than ministering. All this can help make a priest more able to sympathise with others in their weakness. Dependence on others while sick in hospital is a parable of our dependence on the grace of God; a sacrament of our need of others in the whole of life. This is something we too easily forget when we are healthy and strong and feel that we are in charge of our own destinies.

The combination of pain and painkillers, lack of food and the infection, meant that I was quite unable to concentrate enough to read. This was where the value of prayers and passages of scripture known by heart was proved again. I could say

these, especially during the night when sleep was disturbed by things going on in the ward. There was too the strength that comes from knowing that I was being prayed for by so many people in so many places as the flow of cards and messages testified each day. They are still coming as people in the All Saints diaspora hear the news. Fr Ian Davies 'phoned yesterday from Hollywood. He too, I had discovered just before being laid low, had been ill. He is now recovering after treatment from malignant nodules in his thyroid gland. He rather cheekily asked for a piece of my gall bladder as a relic! I think he must be getting better.

The hospital chaplains and our Archdeacon showed themselves adept at the brief pastoral visit. The churchwardens and Drs Michael Duggan and Stephen Miller also came for short visits. The Bishop of Edmonton popped in for a few minutes after he had been celebrating a confirmation in the hospital chapel. Apart from them and members of my family, I was kept in strict purdah. At that stage, I had a tendency to fall asleep on people after about five minutes! The Bishop of London sent a message but stayed away because he had a virus which he did not wish to add to my troubles. He came to the Vicarage after I had come home and presented me with an icon of Our Lady of Kazan. After I had been freed from the "Nil by Mouth" discipline, it was a great joy to be able to receive Holy Communion together with Theresa. Those words from the Marriage Service, "in sickness and in health", had often been in mind. I supplied the sickness, Theresa did much of the rest.

We are all prone to complain about the NHS, and certainly some of its administration still seems rather creaky,

but I cannot speak too highly of those who looked after me day and night; many of them from countries where the level of healthcare we take for granted is inconceivable. One night I lay awake as a squad of junior doctors and nurses wrestled with a young drug addict on the other side of the bay who was determined to resist, verbally and physically, all their efforts to help him. Meanwhile, in the bed next door, an old gentleman with multiple problems was being treated for the latest, a collapsed lung. It all seemed like an episode of ER. The next morning, my elderly neighbour was breathing normally again. The young man, having been refused the methadone he wanted, got up and walked out, presumably to find a fix somewhere else. It is not only the patients who have to practice patience in hospital.

Since I came home, I have managed to wean myself off the strong painkillers so am feeling much brighter. Indeed people say that I am looking very well. Perhaps I should practice looking pale and wan, lest sympathy evaporate. I have been managing to get to church most days, usually for the evening Mass. I missed High Mass on Ascension Day and could only watch the Corpus Christi procession from the Vicarage windows. On Sunday 10th, which was the 30th anniversary of my ordination, I came to High Mass and sat in the congregation — something I have been enjoying doing. It's a healthy reminder that the ordained are first of all members of the laity, the priesthood of all God's people, and not members of some separate caste. It has been good to be able to talk to people after services, something I always think of as a vital part of our ministry here at All Saints. However, I realised after the Sunday, that I was quite tired afterwards.

So, what happens now? At the beginning of July, I see a consultant at UCH about having my troublesome gall bladder removed. As yet, I have no date for the operation. The Bishop and Archdeacon are insistent that I take enough time off over the summer to recuperate from all this, so it looks as if I will not be back on duty until September. There are only two dates which I am determined to keep: one is to preach at Tony Halton's ordination to the priesthood on June 29th at St John's, Hendon. The other is our farewell to Fr Aquilina, Claudia, Domenico and Maria on August 15th. Meantime, I am having to learn to "possess my soul in patience". I am getting a lot of reading done including some tomes which have been looking reproachfully at me for a while. Parishioners and friends have also kept me supplied with books I might not otherwise have thought of.

All Saints is not one of those parishes which only have services on Sundays. It has more services and confession times than any other parish church in the diocese, so covering the Vicar's absence is easier said than done. So, I am very grateful to all those who have worked at short notice to organise that cover over the past weeks and for the remainder of the summer. Both our own clergy and priests from other parishes have taken on a share of the burden. The churchwardens, Fr Ivan, and Dennis Davis have done sterling work in organising all this. Cedric Stephens has been a stalwart in opening the church at 7.00 a.m. when no one else was available. I am delighted that Fr Allen Shin, who knows All Saints so well and is so well known here, will be with us after Fr Aquilina has gone on holiday.

Yours in Christ,
Fr Alan Moses

FR JOHN GASKELL

It was ten years ago that Fr John Gaskell moved into one of the flats at No. 8 Margaret Street. He was returning to the parish where he had been a curate in the time of Fr Kenneth Ross.

He is now 79 and some time ago he told me that the time had come to consider his future. He applied for a place at Morden College in Blackheath and has been admitted. This means he need have no anxiety about his future care.

Over the last decade he has made an enormous contribution to the life of All Saints. There has been his ministry in the confessional where many have found him a wise counsellor. We have profited from his preaching which has combined theological depth, intellectual stimulation, wide culture, mastery of words and his distinctive sense of humour. There can be few preachers who have his mastery of comic timing. His simple presence, his willingness to spend time to talk and listen to people after services — a vital part of our ministry here — has been an incalculable blessing. He will be greatly missed as a member of the resident community here at All Saints. However, we are not losing him entirely as he is going to remain on the weekday Mass and confessional rota, coming up to All Saints once a week.

AM

DIARY DATES

Friday 22 - Sunday 24 June Annual Parish Weekend Pilgrimage to Walsingham

The Cell of Our Lady of Walsingham and All Saints
led by Fr Ivan Aquilina.

FR CLIFFORD JONES: A GOLDEN JUBILEE

Fr Clifford was a resident here in Fr Hutt's time and since then has remained a familiar and loved face to many here and to other parishes in which he has helped out. He celebrated the 50th anniversary of his ordination as a priest on June 16th with a Sung Eucharist at the Savoy Chapel.

LENT APPEAL

The 2007 Lent Appeal raised £2,391 and was shared between the Bishop of London's Lent Appeal "*Take the shackles off my feet so I can dance — Seek freedom around the world*" and our three Mission projects. Thank you to all who supported the Appeal this year.

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

£882 was raised at All Saints for this annual appeal. We thank those who gave their support.

RESTORATION APPEAL

The magnificent **Gala Concert** on 11 May in aid of the Restoration Appeal raised £2,260. Our grateful thanks to all who supported it, and helped in any way, but especially to Paul Brough, Andrew Arthur and the Choir who very generously gave of their services for the Appeal.

At the time of writing the Appeal stands at around £632,000.

Friday 29 and Saturday 30 June

- 7.00 p.m. **SHUSHANIK Queen of Armenia** A Play by J.E. Fairweather
A Dramatic Reading in the Parish Room
She alone stands between the freedom of Georgia/Armenia and the yoke of the Persian Empire.
Admission £5, including a glass of wine.
In aid of All Saints Restoration Appeal.

Sunday 1 July

- 6.00 p.m. **Solemn Evensong and Benediction** — Our visiting preacher is
Prebendary Bill Scott, The Queen's Chapel of the Savoy.

Monday 16 July *Cell of Our Lady of Walsingham and All Saints*

- 6.30 p.m. **Low Mass** with commissioning of new Cell Leadership Team.
7.00 p.m. Meeting of the **Parochial Church Council** in the Parish Room.

Sunday 22 July

- 6.00 p.m. **Solemn Evensong and Benediction** — Our visiting preacher is
Fr John Barrie, Vicar, St Mark's, Hamilton Terrace.

Wednesday 15 August **THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

- 6.30 p.m. **High Mass** *Preacher:* Fr Ivan Aquilina
Music: Missa Brevis in B flat — Mozart;
Ave Maria — Mendelssohn
We bid farewell to Fr Ivan who leaves us today to take up his appointment as Vicar of St John's, Sevenoaks in September.

August 22nd - 29th 2007 A Pilgrimage to the Holy Land with Fr Ivan Aquilina, organised by McCabe Pilgrimages. Brochures are available at the back of Church or from Fr Ivan.

15 and 16 September — London Open House Weekend

All Saints will be participating as usual.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR 2006 - 2007 — Part II

The continuation of the Report presented to the Annual Parochial Meeting on Sunday April 29th 2007.

Visitors

Happily, All Saints still attracts visitors from across the world, it would be a very sad day if we no longer did. Reading the comments in the visitor book, it is obvious

that many who come into the church find it a haven of peace and beauty compared to the hectic life outside its walls. In addition to those individuals who come, we welcome many organised groups. Some like the Gregorian Association, the Elgar Society and the Victorian Society visit on a regular basis, but for others, like the Principal, staff and students of the Theological College of

the Anglican Church in Hong Kong who came to Evensong on May 14th, it is a once only visit. All Saints once again took part in the Open House Weekend in September, and despite the fact that we are open daily from 7.00 a.m. to 7.00 p.m. attracted a good number of visitors. The courtyard continues to be a popular place for people to sit and relax, and the Council notes with satisfaction the fact that it has again won first prize in the Public Buildings category of the Westminster in Bloom Competition. Congratulations to the gardeners. As we said last year, Guy Pritchard looked after the courtyard for many years and won many awards, so it was fitting that a new bench in the courtyard was dedicated to his memory on the first anniversary of his death. The Council still believes that keeping the Church open from 7.00 a.m. to 7.00 p.m. outweighs the obvious risks.

Catering

All catering at All Saints is undertaken under the auspices of the Bar Management Committee, but the organisation and provision of refreshments is the responsibility of the Catering Committee. With the number of events now being organised in aid of the Appeal, the occasions on which refreshments are required has increased. Regular refreshments provided include those in the Courtyard on Sunday mornings, followed by Sunday lunch in the dining room. These are very popular but do rely entirely, as does all catering here, on the availability of volunteers. During the Christmas season there are several times when mulled wine and mince pies are the order of the day, and the provision of these has become a very professional affair. The Council notes with pleasure that on certain 'high days', normal catering was supplemented with rich offerings from both

Vicarage and Number 6. On Christmas Day, there is Christmas cake made by the Vicar's mother, on Mid-Lent Sunday the Vicar's traditional simnel cake, and on Easter morning Maltese Easter cake. New volunteers are always very welcome to join those already involved in the catering and 'training' is provided if necessary. Please contact one of the team if you think you can help.

The council wishes to acknowledge with thanks the time and effort all those connected with the provision of refreshments put in to this essential part of the life of the parish.

Major Services and events

It is not possible to comment on all the major services/events which happen during any one year, and everyone will have their own list of those which have made a particular impression, but there are some which must be included.

Holy Week and Easter are obviously the most significant period of the Church's year, and at All Saints it is always a very special time for all.

Fr Aquilina again led the parish pilgrimage to Walsingham over the weekend of April 28th - 30th and just a month later, many from All Saints joined with members of St Matthew's, Westminster, to attend the National Pilgrimage. This year there was, however, a difference, well actually two differences. On the Friday morning four members of the congregation, Richard Hyslop, Venetia Jackson, Janet Williams and Nicola Iles set out to cycle to Walsingham. They were sponsored to raise money for the Shrine's 75th Anniversary Appeal to improve facilities. We are glad to report that their training paid off as they all made it without too many ill effects, and raised a considerable sum towards the

Appeal. On the Sunday afternoon, a team of All Saints servers set out for Norfolk, as we had been asked to provide the servers for the Pilgrimage Mass. The Celebrant was to have been Bishop David Hope, but unfortunately he was indisposed and unable to attend. Subsequently it became known that he was having to relinquish his post as Parish Priest of Ilkley, and the Vicar sent him an appropriate message on behalf of All Saints.

Also in May was the Parish Retreat at Hemingford Grey, conducted by Fr Peter McGearry, no stranger to us here at All Saints.

On Ascension Day (May 25th) we welcomed back to All Saints Bishop Michael Marshall, as celebrant and preacher at the High Mass. It was also the occasion of the Confirmation of Paul Greenhalgh, Suzanne Sisako Ntow, Heide Maura Ronani and Nicholas James Thomson and the reception into the Church of England of Alun and Carol Ford.

We have a very friendly relationship with the Buddhists at 84 Margaret Street, and this was emphasised by the invitation to the Vicar to attend, with the Lord Mayor of Westminster, and others, the celebrations of Vesak — the birthday of the Buddha, the highpoint of the Buddhist calendar.

On July 5th, our architect, Colin Kerr, came to All Saints to give a presentation on the planned restoration entitled 'All glorious within'. It was a memorable evening and as one person was heard to remark, 'it does not matter how often one spends time just looking around you in All Saints, you see something new every time'. We thank Colin for showing us new ways in which to look at our wonderful church.

In August The Vicar represented the parish at the dedication and opening of the new buildings at the Oxford Convent of the All Saints Sisters of the Poor.

The Feast of Dedication and Friends Day was on October 1st, when the preacher was the Bishop of Huntingdon. We hope that the Friends who were able to be with us enjoyed the day, and would like to thank them for their continuing support both financially and by their prayers. Mrs Juliet Windham continues as Secretary of the Friends and we thank her for her efforts in keeping in touch with these very valuable members of the family of All Saints.

All Saints Festival 2007 was, as usual, a very busy and beneficial time for all. The Vicar had as usual gathered together an impressive list of visiting preachers, and they did justice to the occasion. As in previous years, the Director of Music had 'found' a new setting of the Mass for All Saints Day itself, this year, the 'Mass for Double Choir' by the mid-twentieth century Swiss composer, Frank Martin. The Festival Appeal raised some £6,000 and was divided equally between our Mission Projects and the Restoration Appeal. An enormous effort goes into the Festival by many people in All Saints, from all the various 'departments' and without them the Festival would be a very low key event. Our thanks go to all concerned.

There are relatively few parishes in central London which have Sunday evening worship, and All Saints is almost certainly the only parish which maintains a weekly service of Choral Evensong and Benediction. Concern had been expressed over the future of Evensong and this led the Vicar to preach on Evensong at Evensong

on January 14th. There are two Sundays in the year when the normal Sunday evensong is replaced by a special service, Advent Sunday and the Sunday nearest to the Epiphany, when there is a carol service appropriate to the season. Generally these are well attended, often by people who do not regularly come on Sunday evenings.

In common with many other city centre parishes, there is something of an exodus from All Saints during the Christmas period, but there are always enough of the regulars around to ensure that the Festive Season is celebrated in true All Saints fashion. It is always good to welcome the visitors who join us.

The regular round of pre-Christmas Carol Services was held — The University of Westminster, The Wells Street Family Court, and our own lunchtime carols, followed by mulled wine (organised by Janet Drake), as well as carol singing in the parish. The Christmas tree this year seemed to be rather taller than usual and posed a bit of a problem to those decorating it, but a good effect was the outcome.

As was mentioned earlier in this report, the new crib was blessed at the Midnight Mass, and has been much appreciated.

On January 21st a group of some thirty people from All Saints went on a visit to the restored St George's, Bloomsbury, that magnificent church by Hawkesmoor. The Rector, Dr Perry Butler, gave an excellent guided tour and spoke of the historical background to the building of the church. He also shared some cautionary tales from their experience of a restoration project. It is hoped that another visit may be possible in the near future.

The Cell of Our Lady of Walsingham and All Saints has continued to grow during

the year, and regular, well-attended Cell Meetings, with interesting speakers, have been held, but the most memorable meeting arranged by the Cell must be that held on February 28th entitled '*There's something about Mary...*' an Ecumenical insight. The speakers were Dr Michael Nazir-Ali, Bishop of Rochester, and Monsignor Donald Bolen of the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity, with the participation of the All Saints Choir, Fr Philip North, Priest Administrator of the Shrine and other guardians. The Church was full, with over 300 people present. There were thought-provoking addresses from the speakers and a question and answer session, all ably Chaired by Mr Clive Wright OBE.

The evening concluded with an excellent buffet, provided by the Cell.

The meeting was reported in the *Church Times*.

Thanks go to all involved in making the evening such a success, but in particular to Fr Aquilina for the overall organisation, Cedric Stephens for marshalling the volunteer helpers, and Fr John Rick III for securing funding for the event.

It is good that All Saints is able to host such an evening.

People

Although we are blessed with a wonderful Church building, it is only the people associated with it that make it a living whole, without them, All Saints would be at best a museum of past glories, so as is usual, the remainder of the report will be about the people of All Saints.

Firstly we congratulate those members of the congregation who have had significant birthdays during the last year, in particular Dr Harry Brama, who celebrated his 70th

in November. His new anthem, 'I will go unto the altar of God' was performed for the first time at the High Mass on Sunday November 12th. Lily Caplin celebrated her 80th on March 30th, and treated us to home-made birthday cake after the High Mass on Palm Sunday.

Marjory Duce, who celebrated her 90th on August 5th first started worshipping here in the time of Dom Bernard Clements, and until very recently was one of our stalwart band of readers at High Mass.

Sister Jean Margaret celebrated the golden jubilee of her profession in the All Saints Sisters of the Poor on October 16th, and she was given a card signed by many of her friends here at All Saints offering her our congratulations and continuing prayers.

Our congratulations also go to Clive Wright, (the chairman of SPCK) a regular at the 8.00 a.m. Mass during the week, on his award of an OBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours list, for his services to business ethics, and to Pat Phillips, another regular weekday worshipper, on her award of an MBE in the New Year's Honours List for her work with SPCK.

From the Registers we note:

Baptisms: Thomas Wallace Phillips, Isobel Violet Waters, Jack Rivier Parsons and Tabitha Katherine Mary Crawford.

Weddings: Olivia Katherine Lacey and Adam Christian Toms.

Deaths: Philip Cranmer, Henry Ewer, Valerie Hargreaves-Smith, Justin Harvey-Kelly, Robert Lacey, Betty Little, Nigel Mayhew, John Monk, Thomas Partridge, Richard Routledge, Sister Elizabeth May, Geoffrey Stephens, Mavis Symes, David Welch, Colin Wesley, and Charles Whittle.

Philip Cranmer was long associated with All Saints, having been a chorister here and a patron of the Choir and Music Trust Fund. Cedric Stephens and Alan Reynolds were able to attend his funeral in his home parish in Sussex and a Memorial service was held at All Saints on October 19th.

Henry Ewer was a Churchwarden during the Incumbencies of Bishop Michael Marshall and Fr David Sparrow. Even after he had moved to Alkerton near Banbury on his retirement, he kept in touch with All Saints, becoming a member of the Friends. It was fitting therefore that Bishop Michael Marshall was able to come and give the address and celebrate at the Requiem held here for Henry on September 13th. In his opening remarks he called Henry a faithful and loving 'layman' of the Church of God, a comment with which no one who knew him would disagree.

Richard Routledge was one time server, Sub-Deacon and Member of the Parochial Church Council, and as his son Jonathan wrote in the service sheet for Richard's Funeral, All Saints had a very important place in Richard's life. It was good that Philip and Yvonne Harland were able to journey to Dorset to be at his funeral. Charles Whittle was a former chorister and John Monk a former server.

Sister Elizabeth May, of the All Saints Sisters of the Poor, will be remembered by many, as for a long time she was one of the resident Sisters at All Saints House, 82 Margaret Street. Eventually, she became frail and was looked after, firstly at the Convent in Oxford and at the end of her life at St John's Home. Although she always spoke her mind, and as the Vicar said in his address at her Funeral, did not suffer fools gladly, even Vicars of All Saints, she will be missed as a very genuine person, and

as one who remained true to her calling no matter what the difficulties.

David Welch and his twin brother John were much loved members of the All Saints family, and known to many customers at Mowbrays (sadly, no longer at the end of the street, but at Hatchards bookshop Piccadilly), where they worked for many years before their retirement. Illness meant that they had to give up their home near Fitzroy Square, and everyone was pleased that they were able to move to St John's Home at the All Saints Convent in Oxford. Unfortunately, David was not to enjoy his new surroundings for long, as a stroke led to his admission to hospital and ultimately his death.

The Music Department

The Director of Music, Paul Brough, together with Andrew Arthur, Associate Director of Music, and our organ Scholar

and the members of the choir, continue to provide music of exceptional quality at all the varied services here at All Saints. At the beginning of 2006 we said farewell to Nick Hewlett, who had been a loyal member of All Saints Choir for over 5 years. We wish him well for the future. His place has been filled by Alastair Putt, and we hope that he finds singing here fulfilling. Simon Jacobs, our organ scholar 2005 - 6 left us in the Autumn to be replaced by James Grainger, both of whom have left their 'mark' on the music at All Saints. Happily, we will not have to bid James farewell just yet, as he is staying with us for a second year.

As we know, in addition to the regular services, the Choir are frequently required at additional times, often at quite short notice. They also undertake other 'duties' and are currently preparing for the gala concert in May, and soon will be recording a new CD, this time of Christmas music.

To be concluded in the August Parish Paper.

THE SERMON BY MR MATTHEW DUCKETT, ORDINAND, AT HIGH MASS ON TRINITY SUNDAY 2007

*Proverbs 8: 1 - 4, 22 - 31; Psalm 8
Romans 5: 1 - 5; John 16: 12 - 15*

✠ In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Sir Isaac Newton did not believe in what I have just referred to, and what the Church celebrates today: the Most Holy Trinity, one God in three Persons. Newton was one of the great thinkers of the Age of Reason, that great flowering of scientific discovery and exploration of nature, and he held that the universe could be understood and explained by observation interpreted through logic and reason. There's nothing

wrong with that in itself, of course; it is the foundation of modern science. But there can be a flaw in it if people think that human reason is sovereign, and nothing beyond its reach is knowable. Newton did, in fact, believe in God, but not the Trinity; he deduced that something must have created the universe and set it into motion: a First Cause; a Prime Mover. Observation and reason could take him that far. But this Deity seems remote and impersonal, operating on a vast scale, unlikely to be interested in petty human affairs.

Sacred Scripture tells us a different story. The reading from Proverbs that we have

just heard comes from that genre of Jewish writing in which the figure of Divine Wisdom appears, a Personification of the creativity of God. The Divine Wisdom loves the detail, rejoicing over all God's works, on a cosmic scale from the heavens to the fountains of the deep, but also "delighting in the sons of men", lingering in the paths and the gateways so you can't avoid bumping into her. Moreover, the Divine Wisdom speaks: "To you, O men, I call". God makes himself known, not only through the creation, in ways we access by our senses and observation; but also directly, by revelation, which we access by faith. These two ways of knowing God are not contrary to one another, but they exist each in its proper sphere; in both, God shares the love and delight He has in all He has made.

Revelation goes beyond what we can ourselves observe and deduce. It is a gift; it is God "delighting in the sons of men", making Himself known gratuitously, out of love and delight, because He longs to share Himself with us. And God's revelation of Himself reaches its fullness in Jesus, the Word of the Father dwelling among us. In today's reading from John's Gospel Jesus speaks of the intimate relationship between Himself, the Father and the Holy Spirit. All that the Father has belongs to Jesus, and the Holy Spirit will take that and declare it to His disciples, guiding the Church into all truth.

This is part of the long discourse of Jesus at the Last Supper, which occupies five chapters of John's Gospel and is full of Trinitarian references: the Father in the Son, and the Son in the Father, and the Holy Spirit sent from the Father by the Son. In this discourse of Jesus God is revealed not as a

lone monarch but as community, dynamic and interpenetrative, the three Divine Persons, one God, dwelling in each other in the unity of infinite and eternal love.

As Jesus promises in today's Gospel, the mystery of the Trinity is revealed in its fullness to the Church by the Holy Spirit, but not simply as the supreme piece of information *about* God. Rather, it is *invitation*. At the conclusion of His Last Supper discourse Jesus prays for His disciples that they may be one in Him, as he is in the Father. He is saying to the disciples, to His Church, in effect, "this is what I want to share with you, because this is what I want you to share with me". God in Jesus opens up the heart of His love and reveals Himself as Trinity because he longs for humanity to enter in and participate in His Divine life.

How wonderful that is! And how can we respond to such a tremendous and wonderful invitation? We go to him who made the invitation, to Jesus. Above all, we go to Him in the Holy Eucharist. It is no accident that this revelation of the Trinity is given at the Last Supper, the first Eucharist. The great themes of Trinity, Incarnation and Eucharist are interwoven through John's Gospel, and they converge and unite in Christ: the Eternal Word who is equal with the Father is also the Word made flesh and is also the bread come down from heaven for the life of the world.

So you see, the Eucharist is a Trinitarian mystery: in it God the Son is truly present, offering eternally to God the Father His perfect sacrifice of love and praise; in it God the Holy Spirit in his creative power changes bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Christ, and changes us too,

transforming a multiplicity of diverse persons into a new creation, the Church. For the Church, also, is the Body of Christ; in the Eucharist we become what we receive. The 39 Articles tell us that sacraments are “effectual signs of grace”, they bring about what they signify. In the words of the great theologian Henri de Lubac the Eucharist is “the sacrament of the unity of the Church”, that is, the Eucharist actually makes this Church which is both unity and diversity. Eastern Orthodox theologians even speak of the Church as the Icon of the Holy Trinity, because in the Church humanity is drawn into this mystery of unity and plurality which is an image of the Divine life.

In sharing in the life of the Holy Trinity through the Eucharist the Church also shares the mission of the Divine Persons. We are not called to contemplate the Trinity in a state of idleness and inertia; we have a Gospel to proclaim, a task to perform. At the end of John’s Gospel Jesus says, “As the Father has sent me, even so I send you”. The mission of the Church comes not from any human agenda but from the initiative and heart of God; as the Father has sent the Son, even so the Son sends the Church, a continuation of his movement of love into creation until the end of time.

We see this, too, in the Eucharist; we call it the Mass, a word whose root is “sending”; at the end of Mass we are sent: “Go in the peace of Christ”. That doesn’t mean, “Go away, it’s all over, have a nice week”. It means, “Go, *bearing* the peace of Christ”. Go out into the world. We go from the altar to our homes, to our workplaces, to all our engagement with the world, as the Church, the Church of the Eucharist, to be the image of the Holy Trinity, to

form communities of love and justice and peace. We do this so that all the world may be drawn into and find its fulfilment in the life of the Holy Trinity, revealed to us in Jesus Christ our Lord.

And we do it in the name of Him who is one God in three Persons, ✠ Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

SUNDAYS AND SOLEMNITIES MUSIC AND READINGS

● SUNDAY 1 JULY TRINITY 4

HIGH MASS AT 11.00 a.m.

Entrance Hymn: 439 (i)

Introit: Dominus illuminatio mea

Mass: Orgelsolomesse — Mozart

Lessons: 1 Kings 19: 15 - 16, 19 - end
Psalm 16

Galatians 5: 1, 13 - 25

Hymn: 420

Gospel: Luke 9: 51 - end

Preacher: Fr Ivan Aquilina

Creed: Credo II

Anthem: Let all mortal flesh keep
silence — Bairstow

Hymns: 358, 294, 485

Voluntary: Toccata in F, BuxWV 156
— Buxtehude

SOLEMN EVENSONG at 6.00 p.m.

Psalm: 60

Lessons: Genesis 27: 1 - 40
Mark 6: 1 - 6

Office Hymn: 150 (S)

Canticles: St Paul’s Service — Howells

Anthem: O pray for the peace of
Jerusalem — Howells
Preacher: Prebendary Bill Scott, The
Queen's Chapel of the Savoy
Hymn: 244

BENEDICTION

O Salutaris: Howells
Hymn: 313
Tantum Ergo: Howells
Voluntary: Ciacona in C minor,
BuxWV 159 — Buxtehude

● SUNDAY 8 JULY TRINITY 5

HIGH MASS AT 11.00 a.m.

Entrance Hymn: 433 (v 6 Descant
— Gray)

Introit: Exaudi Dominine
Mass: Mass in G — Poulenc
Lessons: Isaiah 66: 10 - 14
Psalm 66: 1 - 8
Galatians 6: 7 - 16
Hymn: 353
Gospel: Luke 10: 1 - 11, 16 - 20
Preacher: Fr Ivan Aquilina
Creed: Credo III
Anthem: If God be for us — Handel
Hymns: 383 (ii), 416 (ii), 484 (T 167)
Voluntary: Tuba Tune — Lang

SOLEMN EVENSONG at 6.00 p.m.

Psalms: 65, 70
Lessons: Genesis 29: 1 - 20
Mark 6: 7 - 29
Office Hymn: 150 (R)
Canticles: Collegium Regale — Wood
Anthem: Beati quorum via — Stanford
Preacher: Fr Christopher Pearson
Vicar, St Agnes, Kennington
Hymn: 482 (T 462)

BENEDICTION

O Salutaris: Laloux
Hymn: 300
Tantum Ergo: Laloux
Voluntary: Diapason Movement
— Walond

● SUNDAY 15 JULY TRINITY 6

HIGH MASS AT 11.00 a.m.

Entrance Hymn: 478 (V 4 Descant
— Birch)

Introit: Dominus fortitudo
Mass: Cantus Missae
— Rheinberger
Lessons: Deuteronomy 30: 9 - 14
Psalm: 25: 1 - 10
Colossians 1: 1 - 14
Hymn: 453
Gospel: Luke 10: 25 - 37
Preacher: Fr Ivan Aquilina
Creed: Credo II
Anthem: Insanæ et vanæ curæ
— Haydn
Hymns: 305, 374, 381 (v 4 Descant
— Caplin)
Voluntary: Allegro maestoso
(Sonata in G) — Elgar

SOLEMN EVENSONG at 6.00 p.m.

Psalms: 77
Lessons: Genesis 32: 9 - 30
Mark 7: 1 - 23
Office Hymn: 150 (S)
Canticles: Service in A flat — Harwood
Anthem: Os justi — Bruckner
Preacher: Fr Neil Bunker
Hymn: 373 (T 376)

BENEDICTION

O Salutaris: Paul Brough
Hymn: 308
Tantum Ergo: Paul Brough
Voluntary: Prelude — Harris

● SUNDAY 22 JULY ST MARY MAGDALENE

HIGH MASS AT 11.00 a.m.

Entrance Hymn: 174
Introit: Gaudeamus
Mass: Missa Brevis
— Andrea Gabrieli
Lessons: Song of Solomon 3: 1 - 4
Psalm 42: 1 - 10
2 Corinthians 5: 14 - 17
Hymn: 486
Gospel: John 20: 1 - 2, 11 - 18
Preacher: Fr Neil Bunker
Anthem: Cantate Domino
— Monteverdi
Hymns: 282, 323, 345
Voluntary: Præambulum in G — Lübeck

SOLEMN EVENSONG

at 6.00 p.m.

Psalm: 63
Lessons: Zephaniah 3: 14 - end
Mark 15: 40 - 16: 7
Office Hymn: 174
Canticles: Service in A — Arnold
Anthem: Lord for thy tender mercy's
sake — XVIth Century
Preacher: Fr John Barrie, Vicar
St Mark's, Hamilton Terrace
Hymn: 223 (ii)

BENEDICTION

O Salutaris: Byrd
Hymn: 242
Tantum Ergo: Byrd
Voluntary: Voluntary in G — Boyce

● SUNDAY 29 JULY TRINITY 8

HIGH MASS AT 11.00 a.m.

Entrance Hymn: 410
Introit: Suscepimus
Mass: Missa Brevis Sancti Joannis
de Deo — Haydn
Lessons: Genesis 18: 20 - 32
Psalm 138
Colossians 2: 6 - 15
Hymn: 342 (T 178)
Gospel: Mark 5: 21 -end
Preacher: Fr Ivan Aquilina
Anthem: Exultate Deo — Palestrina
Hymns: 481 (T 462), 487 (T 447)
418 (v 8 Descant — Caplin)
Voluntary: March on a theme by Handel
— Guilmant

SOLEMN EVENSONG

at 6.00 p.m.

Psalm: 88
Lessons: Genesis 42: 1 - 25
1 Corinthians 10: 1 - 24
Office Hymn: 150 (R)
Canticles: Service in B flat — Stanford
Anthem: Jesu, the very thought of thee
— Bairstow
Preacher: Fr Neil Bunker
Hymn: 245

BENEDICTION

O Salutaris: French Chant
Hymn: 255
Tantum Ergo: de Séverac
Voluntary: Folk Song
— Armstrong Gibbs

ALL SAINTS PARISH PAPER

Subscription Rates:

12 issues inc. postage and packing:

UK £13.00

Europe (Airmail) £16.50

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The Revd John W. Rick III 020 7637 9367

Parish Administrator:

Mr Dennis Davis 020 7636 1788 / 9961

Fax: 020 7436 4470

e-mail: AStsMgtSt@aol.com

Sundays Low Mass at 6.30 p.m. (Sat), 8.00 a.m. and 5.15 p.m. Morning Prayer 10.20 a.m. HIGH MASS and SERMON at 11.00 a.m. SOLEMN EVENSONG, SERMON and BENEDICTION at 6.00 p.m.

Monday to Friday Morning Prayer at 7.30 a.m.

Low Mass at 8.00 a.m., 1.10 p.m. & 6.30 p.m.

Confessions from 12.30 - 1.00 p.m. & 5.30 p.m.

Evening Prayer at 6.00 p.m.

Saturday Morning Prayer at 7.30 a.m.

Low Mass at 8.00 a.m. and 6.30 p.m.*

(* First Mass of Sunday)

Confessions 5.30 p.m.,

Evening Prayer 6.00 p.m.

Confessions are also heard by appointment

020 7636 1788

Instruction in the catholic faith as taught by the Church of England can be obtained on application to any of the priests, who will also give help in preparing for the sacraments.

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CALENDAR AND INTENTIONS FOR JULY 2007

1 ✕ THE 4th SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY	OUR PARISH AND PEOPLE
2	Chronically sick & disabled
3 ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE	Christians in India
4	Counsellors
5 v for Unity	Christian Unity
6 <i>Thomas More and John Fisher</i>	Those in need
7 v of Our Lady	Walsingham
8 ✕ THE 5th SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY	OUR PARISH AND PEOPLE
9	Altar servers
10 r Requiem (1.10 p.m.)	The departed
11 St Benedict of Nursia	Friends of All Saints
12	Unity
13	Those in need
14 John Keble	Vocations
15 ✕ THE 6th SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY	OUR PARISH AND PEOPLE
16 <i>St Osmund</i>	(&ALMA*)
17	Parochial Church Council
18 <i>Elizabeth Ferard</i>	The homeless
19 St Gregory and his sister Macrina	The Sacred Ministry
20 <i>Margaret of Antioch; Bartolome de las Casas</i>	Unity
21	Those in need
22 ✕ ST MARY MAGDALENE	Holidaymakers
23 <i>Bridget of Sweden</i>	OUR PARISH AND PEOPLE
24 v for Peace	The Diocese in Europe
25 ST JAMES THE APOSTLE	Peace of the world
26 St Anne and Joachim	Persecuted Christians
27 <i>Brooke Foss Westcott</i>	Unity
28	Those in need
	Society of All Saints Sisters
	of the Poor
29 ✕ THE 8th SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY	OUR PARISH AND PEOPLE
30 William Wilberforce	Social reform
31 <i>Ignatius of Loyola</i>	Spiritual Directors

Please note:

All Friday Masses are 'for those in need' — intercessions from the board inside church are used on these days.

r — Requiem — the monthly Requiem, 1.10 p.m. this month

v — a Votive Mass

*ALMA — the Angola, London, Mozambique Diocesan Association.

15 July is ALMA Sunday.



Set and Printed by
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