



All Saints Parish Paper

MARGARET STREET, LONDON W.1

MAY 2008

£1.00

VICAR'S LETTER

The Goldsmiths' Company is organising an exhibition called "*Treasures of the English Church*". It begins at the end of this month and features gold and silver ware dating from 800 to 2000. Among the exhibits is one of the chalices designed for All Saints by William Butterfield and still in use today.

Another of the treasures of All Saints is not so movable: the great wall panels on the north wall which have recently been revealed in their splendour after the removal of generations of grime. One of the figures depicted is St Laurence. He is the one close to the Lady Altar, wearing a deacon's dalmatic and holding a gridiron: the instrument of his martyrdom. He was martyred during the persecution initiated by the Emperor Valerian in 257. The persecution was directed principally at the clergy and prominent laypeople. During such persecutions, the authorities were particularly keen to lay their hands on the sacred books and vessels of the Church; in part because of their monetary value, but also because of the reverence believers had for them. The Nazis would later take great delight in desecrating the beautifully ornamented scrolls of the Law kept in synagogues.

The tradition is that the prefect of Rome demanded that Laurence hand over the treasures of the Church. In response, he assembled the poor and the sick, to whom,

as archdeacon, he had distributed the Church's charity, and presented them to the prefect, saying, "*These are the treasures of the Church*".

The artistic treasures of the Church come under attack from more than one quarter; not just by pagan persecutors. Christians of an iconoclastic bent would prefer that we whitewash over St Laurence and the rest. Images are condemned as idols. Their ideal is the reformer Zwingli's church in reformed Zurich, stripped bare of any distraction from the Word. That kind of aesthetic Puritanism has its latter day adherents. To them, the visual usually means little more than the projection of words onto a screen. A more thoroughly incarnational faith, expressed in a building like All Saints, thinks of a God who can use such things of creation and human creativity as the means of grace. This is not the same as saying that all religious art is good or worthy of its subject. There is a good deal of kitsch about and evangelicals seem as prone to it as Catholics.

Some argue that in a generation dominated by MTV and the like, only fast-moving video images and simple music communicate. If I was a Reformed theologian of the Word, I would be as worried by this development as any Catholic. Its capacity for the ephemeral tends to trivialise the Gospel.

Religious art has often been seen in the

west, even by its defenders, as little more than visual aids; picture books for the illiterate. That is true but does not really go far enough. Books are not just sources of information to be read off and applied. Some books are just this but others communicate knowledge and truth in more subtle ways which require more careful attention; needing to be read over and again, reflected on, chewed over, learned by heart. This is how Catholic Christians see scripture. So we read it aloud and we set its words to music and sing it. We read it and act it in the drama of the liturgy. Such a method is not productive of knockdown arguments but it can allow us to penetrate deeper into the meaning of the words. In a similar way, good religious art requires contemplation which itself requires time to allow it to unfold its mystery.

Critics often demand that the Church sell its treasures and give the money to the poor. This is a voice we need to take seriously. There have been times in its history when the Church has not got the balance right. We need to ask if we are getting it right.

But art and care for the poor of this world

are not mutually incompatible. There is a snobbery which assumes that the poor neither want nor appreciate beautiful things. It is true that many who lack the confidence bestowed by wealth or education can be put off by the snobbery of artistic establishments; the kind of aestheticism that gets the aesthetic a bad name. This does not mean that they are all insensitive philistines. I am struck frequently by the way in which people who boast neither wealth nor education appreciate the architecture and music and worship of All Saints. There is a liturgical snobbery too; one which can be just as off-putting to the outsider. It seems to place a premium on the camp and fussy at the expense of the ordered and reverent beauty of the liturgy. In a world where much “culture” is trivial and impoverished, for the Church to dedicate time, energy and money to the arts in worship and the communication of faith is not to forget the poor but to combat a poverty which is spiritual as well as material.

Yours in Christ,

Alan Moses

“ALL FOR MHAIRI’S WEDDING”

A good proportion of All Saints migrated east to St Botolph’s, Bishopsgate, on Saturday April 12th for the wedding of Mhairi Ellis and Michael Adam. Mhairi is the administrator there and the galleries are big enough to hold the choir of 57; our regulars supplemented by a great host of past singers. One of the voices was Alan Kimbrough who had flown over from Dayton, Ohio, for the occasion and fulfilled an ambition of thirty years to sing in the All Saints Choir.

The celebrant of the Mass was Canon

John Farrant of St Mary-le-Strand (Michael’s church) and the officiant at the marriage was Fr David Paton, Master of the Royal Foundation of St Katherine, sometime member of All Saints and more recently Rector of St Botolph’s and Area Dean of the City. The preacher was Fr Sean Finnegan of Our Lady Queen of Peace, Adur Valley, a friend of the bride from university days in St Andrews.

The servers were provided by All Saints with Cedric Stephens as Master of Ceremonies and Tony Hawkins coming

out of retirement to act as thurifer. The bell-ringers included our own Janet Drake.

The bride looked breath-taking in a magnificent old gold costume designed and made by Adey Grummet, formerly a soprano at All Saints. It was sad that Adey had to be in Leeds to sing in an opera that day but her husband Fr Kevin Scully would at least be able to relay to her some of the countless admiring comments. The outfit was topped off with a tiara made by Jennifer Snapes who is one of our current sopranos.

It is not known whether the bride was wearing something borrowed, but the officiating clergy were: vestments from All Saints.

The Gospel was the Marriage at Cana in Galilee and the communion wine was Wedding Wine from Cana. The bride and groom met on pilgrimage to the Holy Land.

Paul Brough directed the singers; more a choral society than a choir. Andrew Arthur played the organ, assisted by James Grainger. The choir of All Saints sang the Mass setting and the psalm and were joined by the others for the anthems. The entrance hymn was “Sing praise to God who reigns above” sung to Michael Fleming’s tune “Palace Green” with a descant composed for the occasion by Norman Caplin. The groom, not to be outdone, wrote the words of one of the communion hymns:

*O love, friendships, living treasures,
Wedding banquets, living pleasures,
Wonders mysteries divine,
Waters turning into wine;
Cana, waiting for the fire,
Eager thirst and great desire,
Finding favour in Thy sight,
Finding love and high delight.*

*Bring lyres, lutes and clashing cymbals,
Bring harps, trumpets, pipes
and hymnals;*

*Pray that fire of love divine
Will turn water into wine;
Earthly joy beyond all measure,
Miracle of heavenly pleasure;
Praise in thanksgiving and song,
Praise still, when the wine is gone.*

Inspired by Thomas Traherne’s ‘Desire’ and Psalm 150.

The massed ranks of the choir came into their own for the singing of ‘Spem in alium’ by Tallis and the ‘Easter Hymn’ from Cavalleria Rusticana by Mascagni.

MORE MUSICAL NOTES

Associate Director of Music and Assistant Organist

After auditions and interviews on the afternoon of Sunday March 30th, Henry Parkes was appointed to the post of Associate Director of Music. He will join us September 14th when Andrew Arthur has moved to his new post as Director of Music at Trinity Hall, Cambridge. Henry has been organ scholar at both St George’s Chapel, Windsor, and Christ Church, Oxford. He is studying for a Ph.D. in mediæval music at Cambridge. We look forward to welcoming him among us. Our farewell to Andy will be on Sunday September 7th.

Old Choristers Evensong

On Easter Saturday a group of former choir boys assembled at All Saints to rehearse and sing Evensong. This was to mark the 40th anniversary of the closure of the school. The choir was directed by one of their number, Louis Halsey. One of them, Richard Dibley, is a member of the congregation. The gentlemen asked to be

excused genuflections but while their knees might be a bit rusty, there was nothing wrong with their voices. Refreshments were served in the Parish Room after the service. In the days of the school, this was the refectory. Commemorative photographs were taken in the church.

Lady Day

Since the Vicar became Priest-in-Charge of the Annunciation, we have joined parishioners there for our principal

celebration of Lady Day. Once again we were welcomed warmly and entertained royally. Our thanks to the people of the Annunciation for their hospitality.

The Blessing of a Marriage

The marriage of Henry Woolley and Hayley Williams was blessed at All Saints on Friday March 27th. Henry is the nephew of Martin Woolley, now a resident of No 8, who led the prayers.

Treasures of the English Church: Sacred Gold and Silver 800 - 2000

An exhibition by the Goldsmiths' Company
under the patronage of the Archbishop of Canterbury
At Goldsmiths' Hall, Foster Lane, London EC2V 6BN
30 May – 12 July
Monday to Saturday 10.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.
Free admission

Among the exhibits is one of William Butterfield's chalices for All Saints.

All Saints Church Crawl — Visit to St Giles-in-the-Fields

3.00 p.m. on Sunday May 18th, Trinity Sunday
With talk by the Rector, Dr Bill Jacob, Archdeacon of Charing Cross,
on the church and "Being High Church in the 18th Century".

DIARY DATES

Thursday 1 May — ASCENSION DAY

6.30 p.m. High Mass

Preacher: The Revd Dr Graham Tomlin, Dean of St Mellitus College.

Tuesday 6 May

11.30 a.m. Low Mass of Thanksgiving (with hymns) for the life of **Mary Bishop** who died in January. Followed by refreshments. *All are welcome.*

Wednesday 7 May

7.00 p.m. *School of Worship 2007-08 THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST*
Breaking of the Bread and Holy Communion

Thursday 8 May

7.05 p.m. HOLY HOUR led by Fr Gerald Beauchamp

Sunday 11 May DAY OF PENTECOST

Christian Aid Week 11-17 May

Christian Aid Gift Aid envelopes will be distributed with the service papers on Sunday 11 May for your donation to this annual appeal.

PARISH RETREAT: The retreat will again be held at St Francis' House, Hemingford Grey, this year on **16th - 18th May**, the weekend of Trinity Sunday. It will be conducted by Canon Peter Clark, who recently retired after 25 years as Vicar of Christchurch and St Stephen, Battersea. If you have not yet registered for the retreat and would like to come, or if you know someone else who would, please will you contact Martin Woolley at m.g.woolley@btinternet.com

Trinity Sunday, 18 May

3.00 p.m. Visit to St Giles-in-the-Fields for a tour and talk by Archdeacon Bill Jacob.

Thursday 22 May — CORPUS CHRISTI

6.30 p.m. High Mass and outdoor Procession of the Blessed Sacrament

Preacher: The Vicar

Walsingham: National Pilgrimage

All Saints will be running a coach again to the Walsingham National Pilgrimage on **May 26 (Bank Holiday Monday)**. The event will include a Concelebrated Mass in the Abbey Grounds, Sermon (*Preacher: The Rt Revd John Ford, Bishop of Plymouth*), Procession round the village, and Benediction in the Shrine Gardens. Those who have been in previous years will tell you that this is a very enjoyable occasion, whatever the weather!

The total cost will be about £20 (including admission). Please speak to Ross Buchanan (Telephone: 020 7221 1312) if you would like to know more or to reserve a place on the coach, which leaves All Saints at 7.30 a.m. returning around 8.30 p.m.

Walsingham Parish Pilgrimage — All Saints' 2008 parish pilgrimage to Walsingham, led by Fr Gerald Beauchamp, will be from **Friday 4 to Sunday 6 July**. Please let Ross Buchanan know (Telephone: 020 7221 1312) as soon as possible if you would like to come, or if you would like to find out more.

Looking further ahead:

The Oberammergau Passion Play September 6th 2010. Brochures and booking form are now available in church or from Jean Castledine (*Telephone: 020 8858 3508*).

LENT APPEAL

Thank you to all who supported the 2008 Lent Appeal. £1,784.89 has been raised to date. The money will be divided between our three Mission projects (Church Army Hostel for women in Marylebone, West London Day Centre and Fr Fermer's work in Brazil, a USPG project) and the Bishop of London's Lent Appeal in aid of ALMA.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL FOR APRIL TO DECEMBER 2007 (Part I)

Administrative Information

The Parish Church of All Saints, St Marylebone, is situated in Margaret Street, in the West End of London, in the City of Westminster. It is part of the Diocese of London within the Church of England.

The correspondence address is All Saints' Parish Office, 7 Margaret Street, London W1W 8JG. The Parish Administrator is Mr Dennis Davis.

Bankers: National Westminster Bank Plc, Great Portland Street Branch, PO Box 2027, 125 Great Portland Street, London W1W 6AX.

Auditor: Civvals, Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors, 5th Floor Marble Arch House, 66 - 68 Seymour Street, London W1H 5AF.

Inspecting Architect: Colin Kerr Esq. BA B.Arch, Dip Cons (ICCRUM), Molyneux Kerr Architects, Unit 14, 112 Tabernacle Street, London EC2A 4LE.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC)

The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. The PCC is a charity excepted by Order from registering with the Charity Commission. The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules.

There are two charities which are connected with the All Saints' PCC. **The All Saints' Church Marylebone Choir and Music Trust Fund**, which has as its object to maintain and promote the performance and appreciation of church music in Marylebone, and in particular at All Saints. **The All Saints Foundation** which includes among its objects the maintenance and repair of the Parish Church of All Saints.

Both charities can be contacted at the correspondence address.

Churchwardens

Mr J. Forde Mr C. Self

Parochial Church Council

The Revd A. Moses Vicar (Chairman)

The Revd I. Aquilina ** Assistant Priest - until 15/08/07

The Revd G. Beauchamp Assistant Priest - from 01/12/07

Mr J. Forde Churchwarden Mr C. Self Churchwarden

Dr D. Thomas * Hon Secretary Mr P. Hartley Hon Treasurer

Mr R. Buchanan Miss J. Castledine Mr S. Cooper Mr D. Craig *

Mrs J. Drake - from 29/04/07 Mr M. Duckett - resigned 29/04/07

Miss M. Ellis Mr P. Faithfull Miss H. Foxhall Forbes - resigned October 07

Mr A. Hargreaves-Smith *** Miss C. Hodgetts

Mrs E. Lyon - until 29/04/07 Mr I Marsh - from 29/04/07

Miss F. O'Neil Mr R. Oram Mr K. Postance Mr G. Prince

Mr C. Swift ** Miss P. Thompson Mr C. Williams Mr M. Woolley *

Mr F. Williams - until 29/04/07 **Mrs J. Windham - from 29/04/07**

* Deanery Synod Representative

** Member of London Diocesan Synod

*** Member of General Synod

Standing Committee

The Revd A. Moses (Chairman)
Mr J. Forde Miss J Castledine (until 29/04/07) Dr D. Thomas
Mr C. Self Mr P. Hartley Mr K. Postance (until 29/04/07)
Mr C. Swift Miss P. Thompson (from May 2007)
Mr R. Buchanan (from May 2007)

Electoral Roll Officer Miss C. Burling
Senior Sidesman Mr K. Postance
Assistant Secretary Mr R. Buchanan

Mission Committee

The Revd A. Moses (Ex-Officio) Mrs J. Drake (Chairman) Mrs C. Brown
Miss F. O'Neil Mr G. McKee Mr C. Self

Catering Committee

The Revd A. Moses (Ex-Officio) Mrs J. Drake
Miss C. Hodgetts Mr C. Self

Health and Safety Committee

The Revd A. Moses (Ex-Officio) Mr C. Self (Chairman)
Mr R. Buchanan Mr M. Duckett (until April 2007) Mr C. Williams
Mr Q. Williams (from November 2007)

Restoration Committees

Fund Raising:

The Revd A. Moses (Chairman) Dr H. Bramma
Miss C. Black Mr R. Clark Mr J. Forde
Mr P. Hartley Mr P. Hunter Miss Z. Willems

Publicity:

The Revd A. Moses Miss F. O'Neil (Chairman) Mr M. Cullingford
Miss R. Hirst Mr W. James Mr N. Mayhew-Smith

Events:

The Revd A. Moses Mr C. Self (Chairman) Mr S. Cooper
Mrs J. Drake Miss M. Ellis Miss C. Hodgetts
Miss R. Leggett Mr J. North Mrs S. North

The Electoral Roll

The Number on the Roll on December 31st 2007 was 218.

At the 2007 Annual Parochial Church Meeting, a completely new Electoral Roll was presented, which numbered 199, made up of 178 members of the old roll

and 21 new members. Since then there has been a slow, but steady increase in those joining the Roll. As well as being a 'working' document for the parish, the Roll also determines our representation on the Deanery Synod, and in December we were informed that for the next three year period

(June 2008 to May 2011), All Saints is to have four representatives on the Synod, elections to take place at the 2008 Annual Meeting.

The Council would like to thank the Electoral Roll Officer, Kate Burling, for her sterling work in keeping the Roll up to date, particularly important in a parish such as ours.

Health and Safety

The council continues to give consideration to major health and safety risks that it may face in any of its activities, and seeks to ensure that systems are in place to mitigate them. This responsibility falls within the remit of the Health and Safety committee and following concerns raised about the storage and safety of the large ladders, currently kept behind the 'grill', the Committee is planning to undertake a safety audit early in the new year. A deep clean of the kitchen is also planned for 2008. The Council is pleased that the committee continues to be vigilant on our behalf in all matters of health and safety.

Finance and Stewardship

The ongoing financial position of the parish is an agenda item at all meetings of the Parochial Church Council and its Standing Committee. We are very fortunate in having as our Treasurer Patrick Hartley, who has a firm grasp of both the day-to-day financial position and the wider picture, and is able to communicate the sometimes complex movement of funds clearly to others. Unfortunately, this year, for the first time in recent years, there is a year end deficit on unrestricted funds. This only reinforces the point made in previous years by Patrick, that income has to increase year on year at least in line with rising expenses, if we are to remain

on a firm financial footing. The PCC has to ensure that it has sufficient reserves to be able to meet any unseen expenses, and an inability to break even during the year means that valuable reserves are reduced. In view of the emerging financial position and the fact that there is a new electoral roll, the Council took the decision that a Stewardship Campaign should be mounted in 2008. Preparations for this are now underway.

The Treasurer has provided the following brief statement on the financial affairs for the year ending December 31st 2007:

“The financial results for the year show that the PCC had a deficit on unrestricted funds of £11,536, as against a surplus in 2006 of £8,831, which is disappointing.

“The principal factors affecting the movement in 2007 from surplus to deficit are a slight decrease in the overall level of congregational giving and a significant reduction in the net amount of rental income received. Whilst I anticipate that rental income will be higher in 2008, there are still significant works to be undertaken to No 8 and it will not be until 2009 that we can anticipate receiving a full return from this important source of income for the PCC. Fortunately, pledges of financial support have been received from both the All Saints Foundation and the All Saints Club towards the cost of these works, although it is likely that the PCC will still have to bear a proportion of the costs.

“It was expected that the level of tax reclaims would be down for 2008 as a result of the introduction of a new 20% basic rate of tax, from April 2008. The Chancellor, however, no doubt with an eye on the political capital to be gained from it, has left the rate at which tax can

be reclaimed by charities at 22% for the time being. For this we are thankful to Mr Darling.

“Giving by the congregation towards regular costs amounted to £209,000 representing a decrease of nearly £5,000 on the previous year. Whilst this is broadly in line with the previous year, if All Saints is to continue to remain on a reasonably firm financial footing, then the congregational giving will need to increase in 2008 to keep in line with the annual increases in the Common Fund contributions, choir and music costs and costs generally.

“PCC expenditure was largely kept under control, with a modest increase of approximately £2,000. The largest increase was £5,000 in relation to the Common Fund and it is worth pointing out that there is a further significant rise in 2008. The other significant area of expenditure is the choir and music costs. Their level decreased in 2007 and I am thankful both to the Director of Music for his control of this, and also to the Choir and Music Trust Fund who contributed £30,066 to the overall choir and music costs of £73,890.

“As in 2006, there was a surplus on restricted funds of £149,240 (2006: £137,513) leaving a balance of £406,028 (2006: £256,788). The majority of the restricted funds relate to contributions received towards the Restoration Appeal and are currently on deposit with the CBF Church of England Deposit Fund.

“As All Saints is not a rich church and has limited reserves, if our finances are to remain in a relatively healthy state, then congregational giving will need to increase, and to this end, I would ask you to give generously in the 2008 Stewardship Campaign.”

It is the wish of the Council to place on record our thanks to Patrick for his sterling work in keeping abreast of our ever changing financial position. Also our thanks to Dennis Davis, the Parish Administrator, for the valuable assistance he gives Patrick, especially in connection with the Income Tax reclaims.

In last year’s report we commented on the fact that the Hon Treasurer had been acting Administrator of both the All Saints Foundation and the Choir and Music Trust Fund. We can now report that both Trusts now have new Administrators, Mr Damon Brash for the Foundation, and Mr Paul Faithfull for the Choir and Music Trust Fund. We wish them both well.

We continue to thank the Trustees of both Trusts for their continuing diligence in their duties to support the work of All Saints, and the Trustees of the Cinderford Charitable Trust for their continuing support of our organ scholar.

Thanks also to Priscilla Oakeshott who organises the ‘Pennies into Pounds’ collecting boxes in aid of the Foundation. Although the sums raised are not large, it is a very simple way of contributing on a regular basis to the work of the Foundation.

Restoration Projects

The South Aisle Screen

At the beginning of the High Mass on Sunday October 7th 2007 (Dedication Festival and Friends day), the new screen in the south aisle was dedicated in memory of Helen Clayton in thanksgiving for all she contributed to the life of All Saints, not least during her time as Churchwarden, and it was good that her nephews John and Tim were able to be with us. Our architect, Colin Kerr, who designed the screen, was

also able to be present. The screen was paid for by the All Saints Foundation, on the basis of a significant legacy, which just about covered the cost. The old screen has found a new home in the Church of St Peter-le-Poer in Friern Barnet. According to the Parish Priest, Fr Bruce Bridgewood (in a letter to the Vicar) ‘it looks as if it had been designed for the space it now occupies’. The question as to where to locate the figures from the old screen is as yet unresolved, as finding a suitable place at All Saints where they can be placed, free from the risk of damage, is by no means easy.

The Crib Figures

The restoration and repainting of the crib figures was completed in time for Christmas. They now are as bright as they must have been when they were first made, and it is good to know that, barring any accidents, they will need no further work for many years.

The Paschal Candle

Work on the refurbishment of the Paschal Candle has also been completed, and the result is astonishing.

The Pall

Lovinia Miller (who died on November 28th 2007) worshipped at All Saints whenever she was in London, visiting Stephen. It was her wish that the pall should be restored, and this is now being done in her memory. It was appropriate therefore that the initial stage had been completed so that it could be used at her requiem. It will be returned to Somerset for completion of the work early in 2008.

Vestments

No new vestments have been acquired this year, and as is usual, minor repairs

have been done in house. Inevitably, with the high level of usage of many of the vestments, the time comes when ‘repairs’ are no longer possible. Currently there is some concern over the state of the gothic green High Mass set, which had to be fairly heavily repaired some time ago. If further damage occurs, it may not be possible to repeat the process, and we only have one other green High Mass set.

Without the aid of generous donors, many of the smaller restoration projects, and the replacement of worn out vestments would not be possible, as we do not have dedicated funds for this work. The Council is therefore very grateful to all those who regularly year by year give so generously to enable us to carry out these necessary projects.

The Major Restoration Project

The three committees have each continued to work towards the goal of raising the money needed for the project to be undertaken.

The publicity committee seeks to ensure that as wide an audience as possible is made aware of the Appeal, and the ways in which it can be supported. To that end on July 17th Mr Tim Waterstone gave a presentation to local businesses about the Appeal and ways in which it could be assisted. Although not a large number of people attended, useful contacts were made.

The Events group continued to oversee the ‘happenings’ designed to be enjoyable, but to make a significant contribution to the Appeal. Major events have been the Choir Gala concert on May 11th (£2,260), the Slovenski Octet on June 1st (£650), a return of the very popular Ad Hoc Opera on June 15th (£780), and Shushanik Queen of Armenia — a dramatic reading of the play

by J.E. Fairweather on June 29th and 30th (£225).

However, by far the most ambitious was the Buxtehude Marathon on December 22nd when Andy Arthur (our assistant organist) played the complete organ works of Buxtehude. Not only did Andy complete this challenge, of his own devising, but raised between £6,000 and £7,000 for the Appeal. Just to have completed the task was a great achievement, but to have raised that much money for the Appeal was extraordinary. The Council congratulates him on this unique achievement and thanks him for donating the proceeds to the Appeal.

Whilst the money from members of All Saints and their friends continues to flow into the Appeal on a regular basis, the amount we have received from Charitable Trusts and Grant Giving bodies has not matched expectations, and this must be a disappointment to Dr Harry Brama, who has put so much of his time and expertise into the work. There is intense competition for the money that these sources can provide, unfortunately that is a fact of life at present. Consequently, it became very clear to the Council during the summer that it was unlikely that funds sufficiently large enough to enable the project as a whole to proceed would be in place by the time that it would be necessary to commence the pre-project works. It was therefore decided at the September meeting, that rather than wait until sufficient funds were available for the whole project, a start should be made with the money we already have. It was agreed that the first phase of the work should comprise the high level work and hopefully also the west window. The Architect was therefore instructed to draw up a costings plan for works which

could be done within the funds currently available. This was received in time for the November meeting. Unfortunately, because of the need for both internal and external scaffolding, the costs for the west window would be too great for it to be included in Phase I, but in compensation, all the work on the south aisle would be. The Council agreed the plans and work is now going ahead with the production of the necessary paperwork to obtain a Faculty, and to be able to start the tendering process.

It is anticipated that the work will commence in the summer of 2008, and take approximately 26 weeks. High level scaffolding will need to be in place during this time but it is hoped that the church will remain in use throughout.

In the meantime, the Council decided that a ‘morale booster’ would be in order and decided that the ‘non mission projects’ portion of the Festival Appeal should go to the cleaning of the remaining tile panels on the north aisle, together with the one on the west wall, and if possible the Ascension panel over the arches. The need for more substantial scaffolding meant that the latter could not be done, but all the others were, with spectacular results and many details, particularly on the one under the west window, which have been obscured for years were revealed. Their cleaning has also shown up how very dirty the surrounding walls are.

Mission

One of the recurring themes during the Council’s discussions on the Restoration Project was that although we have a duty to restore and maintain the church, it should not be seen as an end in itself, but rather as a means to advance the mission of All Saints. Mission can be seen in many ways, but the two essential elements must

always be, the spread of the Good News of the Gospel (which we sometimes take for granted) and helping those who are less fortunate and less well off than ourselves.

The Mission committee continues to oversee activities which enable us to fulfil the second of these elements. We continue to support specific projects, The Church Army Hostel in Marylebone, and the West London Day Centre luncheon voucher scheme. As was suggested in the last Annual report, St Cyprian's Theological College in Masasi ceased to be an USPG project, and so the committee had to find a replacement. Following a suggestion by David Craig, and endorsed by the Mission Committee, the Council agreed to support the work of Fr Richard Fermer in Brazil, (an USPG backed project). Fr Fermer is no stranger to All Saints having lived in All Saints House in the past. As Fr Fermer will produce regular newsletters about his work we should be able to feel more part of the project than we have been able to with our twin parish in Angola. Little information has been forthcoming, possibly as a result of the illness of the Bishop, and it was agreed that the twinning arrangements should be suspended for the time being, but we maintain our links with ALMA, through Glenn McKee. In addition to our commitment to the specific projects outlined above, All Saints contributes every year to the collections made in Christian Aid Week (£222 this year).

The mission committee also organises carol singing in and about Oxford Street before Christmas in aid of our ongoing projects. This took place on Thursday December 20th, and although less well attended than usual, was enjoyed by those present, and still generated about £100 for the mission projects.

This venture not only generates money

for the Mission projects, but serves to remind the local area (as do the two outdoor processions of Palm Sunday and Corpus Christi) of our existence in their midst.

The Council wishes to thank the members of the Mission Committee for their continuing efforts on our behalf.

After a successful first visit in 2006, Card Aid requested a return in 2007, and so for the second year, the parish room was turned into a Christmas Card Shop in the weeks before Christmas. Not only does the church benefit financially from the arrangement, but the presence of All Saints is made known to a wider public. The Council would happily agree if Card Aid were to request a return in 2008.

Teaching and Preaching

During the year we have continued to enjoy the very high standard of preaching to which we are accustomed, both from the home team and our many visiting preachers. As usual there are too many to mention by name, but we thank them all for the time and trouble they take in the preparation of their sermons, and hope that they enjoyed their visits to us. Many sermons are reproduced in the Parish Paper, giving an opportunity to re-examine at leisure their themes and ideas. The Vicar's monthly letter in the Parish Paper is also an excellent teaching tool, covering as it does such a wide range of current and sometimes controversial topics.

The long running School of Worship, the inspiration of Fr Aquilina, continued during the year, initially completing the series on various aspects of Christian worship, past and present, but from October onwards changing from a series of distinct topics to an exploration of the Liturgy of the Eucharist. This series continues until June 2008.

In addition to formalised teaching, many benefit from individual teaching and instruction.

The wisdom and knowledge of the All Saints ‘home’ team is not only reserved for the Parish, but is spread wider, by regular preaching engagements elsewhere.

Deanery Matters

Although the Deanery Synod only meets infrequently, it is still the forum where the constituent Parishes can inform each other of significant events in their lives and discuss problems. Matters which come down from the higher synods are discussed, and visiting speakers inform the Synod on various topics of interest and relevance to the Church in London. Members of the Clergy of the Deanery meet regularly.

David Craig, Dilys Thomas and Martin Woolley remain All Saints representatives until May 31st 2008. Christopher Swift remains a member of the House of Laity of the London Diocesan Synod and Aiden Hargreaves-Smith a member of the General Synod of the Church of England.

It is both good and essential that members of the All Saints family should be involved with the life of the church beyond its gates, not only in the official bodies of the Church as those mentioned above are, but in the life of local parishes.

In addition to being the Vicar of All Saints and Area Dean, Fr Alan is Priest in Charge of the Annunciation, Marble Arch. The Council appreciates his work in that Parish, and we are pleased that the two congregations are able to join together at various times during the year.

Visitors

All Saints continues to attract visitors from all parts of the world, both organised groups, and individuals. Apart from the

groups from the Gregorian Association, the Elgar Society and the Victorian Society, who come regularly each year, amongst the diverse groups we have welcomed this year have been The British American College, the University of Notre Dame, and the “Dilettante” group, with our Architect, Colin Kerr. All Saints was also the venue for a Memorial Organ Club recital for Colin Goulden on November 17th.

London Open House Weekend was held on September 15th and 16th and a large number passed through our doors, this despite the church being open 365 days a year.

Many individual visitors come to All Saints, some for the architecture, many for the peace and quiet, a place to rest and pray, and some out of curiosity. Many a time people passing have been heard to say ‘I didn’t know there was a church there, I must go in and have a look round.

Unfortunately some of our visitors are not as welcome as those mentioned above, as there is a small group (well known to the Clergy and others) of ‘Gentlemen of the Road’, who frequent the church. In the summer, the moat area of the basement was taken over by a pair of drug addicts, and it was only the persistence of Mrs Moses and Joanna that eventually saw them and their indescribable possessions being removed. Members of the Church Watch team, as well as being able to assist our genuine visitors, do act as a deterrent for some if not all of the less welcome visitors, but the Council would ask members of the congregation to be vigilant and if they see anything or anyone suspicious, to report it to the Clergy, Churchwardens or member of the Council. Despite the obvious risks, the Council still believes that it is important that the church should be open from 7.00 a.m. to 7.00 p.m. *To be concluded in the June Parish Paper.*

4 EASTER, 2008 — HIGH MASS

“The people devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.”

Yesterday, a large part of All Saints, Margaret Street, went east as we took ourselves off to St Botolph’s, Bishopsgate; “all for Mhairi’s Wedding” in the words of the old Scots’ song. Such is the devotion of this congregation, that while many fainter hearts would have said that they had done quite enough religion for one weekend and awarded themselves a long lie-in on this Sunday morning, most of us seem to have made it back to be here in church this morning.

A wedding day is a celebration, a joyful occasion but only the beginning of a lifetime of loving commitment; something to be worked at, laboured at day by day, as our preacher yesterday said.

In the Acts of the Apostles, Luke moves from his account of the excitements of the Day of Pentecost, the outpouring of the Spirit on the Church, to speak of the ongoing, the day-to-day life of that transformed community of believers. It was not a matter of dreary routine, any more than a marriage should be. The life of this community, the Church, was distinguished by the quality of the relationships within it. **“All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need.”**

Commentators sometimes say that Luke is giving us a rather idealised picture of the infant Church; it can’t have been that good! Many a hard-bitten veteran of the parish ministry might well agree with them. In fact, Luke will go on to demonstrate that it was not always that good. That said, should we not ask whether our world-weary cynicism

does not contribute to an inability to see the transformative power of the Spirit of the risen Christ at work?

After the service yesterday, with its combination of well-ordered liturgy, breath-taking music and the obvious delight of their families and friends in the gift of Michael and Mhairi’s love for each other, Theresa and I were talking to our friend, the Area Dean of the City for whom Mhairi works in one of her day jobs. Jeremy, who comes from a charismatic evangelical background, said, quite genuinely, **“You Catholics do these things so well!”**. I was about to say something diplomatically ecumenical when my wife simply said **“Yes, we do!”**.

- He might have meant simply that we put on a better show. True as that might be, he meant something much deeper and more perceptive than that.
- She might have been making a sweeping claim for the superiority of anything and everything that goes under the label “high church”, but those of you who know her will be quite aware that she wasn’t.

The passage from Acts we heard last Sunday emphasised Baptism as a sign of the activity of the Spirit of God. Our passage today places a similar emphasis on the Eucharist, mentioning the **“breaking of the bread”** twice. It is listed with **“the apostles’ teaching and fellowship”** and **“the prayers”** as significant and vital activities within the life of the new-born Church. It might be argued that this is primarily a reference to the disciples’ habit of eating their meals together, an activity in

which text says they engaged. Yet it is clear from other passages in the New Testament that references to ordinary meals contain thinly veiled statements about the Eucharist and there is no reason to doubt that this is meant here. The Eucharist joins Baptism as one of the observances that characterise the distinctive nature of the life of the Church. One is the sacrament of our incorporation into the life of Christ; the other the means of grace by which we grow in that life.

Each day, Luke tells us, the disciples worshipped in the Temple. They were all, or almost all Jews, so they were affirming their sense of continuity with God's saving rôle in the life of Israel in the past and their sense of respect for the written record of God's redemptive activity; what we call the Old Testament. The equivalent for us is the faithful preaching and teaching of the apostolic witness in the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments and summed up in the Catholic Creeds.

But also, each day, they worshipped in their homes in the specifically Christian sense in the Eucharistic celebration. And it was celebration; their mood was one of thanksgiving and joy. Having accepted the old, they also embraced the new. Praise and prayer over the bread point to a very special communion with God as well as with one another, a holy communion, the heart of Christian worship. The transformation of their lives was expressed both in their worship and in their relationships with their neighbours.

An interest in the Eucharist, tempting as it might be for us, is not the only thing we should focus on in this passage. The sense of awe that permeated the lives of the disciples not only bound them to the object of that awe, the God who raised Jesus from the dead, but bound them also to one another.

This awe is the same **“fear of the Lord”** which Proverbs says is the beginning of wisdom. It is that wisdom which the Psalmist says is the beginning of a true understanding of our ourselves in relation to the rest of creation (Psalm 33: 8). But here, it means an appreciation of God's ability to change human life decisively and permanently. The wonders and signs done by the apostles are mentioned not to inflate the importance of these men as miracle-workers, but as evidence of the life-transforming power of God's Spirit.

The apostles' teaching is not just about having a correct set of ideas. Their fellowship is not just about belonging to the right religious club, having priests with the right kind of orders and valid sacraments. These things are important and they have a special value as means of grace on which we can rely when we have to endure hard times in the life of the Church. They help us survive the ministry of less than good shepherds and the personality cults of others who are regarded rather too highly for anyone's good. They are God's gifts as much as the more obviously exciting ones mentioned in the New Testament and sometimes preached as the exclusive marks of proper Christians. The Spirit is the one who brings order out of chaos; holy order.

Matthew Duckett, one of our ordinands, has been conducting a survey on attitudes to evangelism among regular worshippers at All Saints. He tells me that the returned questionnaires are sitting on his desk looking at him reproachfully while he gets on with an essay with a more pressing deadline. What does today's passage say to us about evangelism? How might it help us in evaluating the mission of this church.

What stands out is that the mutual love and concern witnessed to in Acts could not be

contained within the bounds of the Christian community but overflowed to those outside, catching up others in their appeal. The amazing growth of the young Church is not seen by Luke as an end in itself, but as the result of the combined energies of God's Spirit and of the affections of the members of the young Church for one another and for those outside their fellowship. Evangelism flowed out of the Church's sharing of the story of resurrected Christ, as in Peter's Pentecost sermon. But the text makes quite clear that this successful evangelistic effort was a by-product of their energies. It was important, but it was not the primary focus of the early Christians' concern. They did not devote themselves to evangelism, but to teaching and fellowship, to worship and to acts of caring. The growth of the church was generated out of these activities by the Spirit of God.

Two people embarking on a married life together must expect to be changed by the gift and practice of love. As we engage in these central activities of the Christian community, these marks of the Church, these gifts of the Good Shepherd, **"the shepherd and guardian of our souls, to his flock"**, we must expect to be changed too. How much we are being changed is demonstrated by the impact we have on others. While there are lies, damned lies and statistics, the fact that the Lord is adding to our numbers or not is an indicator of the quality of our common life.

100 YEARS AGO

The Parish Paper contained both a long tribute to the Revd George Holden who had died in March after only three years at All Saints, and a letter from the Vicar-designate, the Revd H.F.B. Mackay, a former curate of the parish whom the Bishop of London had called, with exemplary speed, to be the new Vicar.

*My dear Friends,
You have learnt that the Lord Bishop whom for some years I have served as Chaplain to the Diocesan Deaconess' Institution, has summoned me from Oxford to undertake the charge of All Saints. The Bishop is bringing me home. The church in which a man celebrated his first Eucharist and preached his first sermon, the parish in which he began to teach the children and minister to the sick and dying, must be to him what no other spot on earth can be, and in all the seventeen years which have gone by since I left you, my love for All Saints and my enthusiasm for its traditions have never lessened. But as I think of the past six weeks my heart is full of sadness. I never met Mr Holden until he came to All Saints and I not afterwards see him very often, but from the first moment we met I was conscious of being extraordinarily attracted to him, of feeling a singular degree of sympathy for him. I have never cared so much for a man I have known so little, and with a deep reverence for all that he was, and thank God is, and for all that he did at All Saints, I come to take up the unfinished tasks of an honoured friend, praying that some portion of his spirit may be mine. I cannot be to you yet what Mr Holden in those three short years came to be. I know that some of the qualities in him which you loved most I do not yet possess. But the secret of Mr Holden's power with you was simply that he gave himself unreservedly to our Lord to be his instrument toward you. He put his delightful personality and his remarkable gifts wholly at our Lord's disposal, and our Lord used his servant and spoke to you in him and through him. In this I can try to follow him, and by God's grace, and with the help of your prayers and sympathy, I will try.*

You will not wish me to speak to you

now of our future. God has laid a great sorrow upon you... And he has called me from a work which has become varied and absorbing, at a moment which humanly speaking is very inopportune. Twelve years of work in connection with a university may have given a man material to bring with him to London, but they have also probably left him some ineptitudes for parochial life. You must be patient with me while I am mastering what I have to learn. Our immediate task is to carry on the work just where Mr Holden laid it down, and as far as possible by his methods and in his spirit. We must "study to be quiet". If God bless our efforts developments will come but we cannot forecast them, the future is altogether in the hands of God.

I am thankful to be able to tell you that Mr Arundell and Mr Andrewes have consented to stay with me. You greatly appreciate their ministry, and the common sorrow you have experienced, and the responsibility and strain which they are bearing so ably and courageously have united them very closely to you... The nervous and mental strain which the work of All Saints entails, when it is adequately done, is very great. We remember how it told on Mr Whitworth, who gave every moment of his life to it with entire devotion. We saw how it told on Mr Holden. Before every other claim which the work makes on its supporters must rank the duty of furnishing it with a full complement of priests."

Mackay was to have a long and distinguished ministry at All Saints, remaining here until 1934. Much of what will appear in this section of the Parish Paper for a long time to come will come directly or indirectly from him.

A.M.

SUNDAYS AND SOLEMNITIES MUSIC AND READINGS

THURSDAY 1 MAY ASCENSION DAY

HIGH MASS AT 6.30 p.m.

Processional Hymns: 109 (ii; Ascension refrain; omit Easter vv 5 - 7), 130 (omit *)

Introit: Viri Galilæi

Mass: Messe Solenelle — Langlais

Lessons: Acts 1: 1 - 11

Psalm 47

Ephesians 1: 15 - end

Hymn: 135

Gospel: Luke 24: 44 - end

Preacher: The Revd Dr Graham Tomlin,
Dean of St Mellitus College

Creed: Credo II

Anthem: Ascendit Deus — Philips

Hymns: 133, 134, 271

Voluntary: Præludium in D, BuxWV 139
— Buxtehude

● SUNDAY 4 MAY EASTER 7 (The Sunday After Ascension Day)

HIGH MASS AT 11.00 a.m.

Entrance Hymn: 132

Introit: Exaudi

Mass: Missa 'Ascendo ad Patrem'
— Palestrina

Lessons: Acts 1: 6 - 14

Psalm 68

1 Peter 4: 12 - 14, 5: 6 - 11

Hymn: 349

Gospel: John 17: 1 - 11

Preacher: Mr Matthew Duckett, Ordinand
Anthem: God is gone up — Finzi
Hymns: 302, 322, 296
Voluntary: O Lamm Gottes, unschuldig,
BWV 656 — Bach

SOLEMN EVENSONG at 6.00 p.m.

Psalm: 47
Lessons: 2 Samuel 23: 1 - 5
Ephesians 1: 15 - end
Office Hymn: 128
Canticles: Service in A — Stanford
Anthem: Cœlos ascendit hodie
— Stanford
Preacher: The Vicar
Hymn: 332

SOLEMN BENEDICTION

O Salutaris: Hutchings
Hymn: 131
Tantum Ergo: Hutchings
Voluntary: Andante tranquillo (from
Sonata No 3 in A major)
— Mendelssohn

● SUNDAY 11 MAY THE DAY OF PENTECOST (WHIT SUNDAY)

HIGH MASS AT 11.00 a.m.

Entrance Hymn: Hail! Festal Day!
Introit: Spiritus Domini
Mass: Missa 'Dum complerentur'
— Victoria
Lessons: Acts 2: 1 - 21
Psalm 104
1 Corinthians 12: 3b - 13
Hymn: 139
Gospel: John 20: 19 - 23
Preacher: The Vicar
Anthem: Come, Holy Ghost
— Attwood

Hymns: 143, 419, 137
Voluntary: Improvisation on 'Veni
Creator' — Paul Brough

SOLEMN EVENSONG at 6.00 p.m.

Psalms: 67, 133
Lessons: Joel 2: 21 - end
Acts 2: 14 - 21
Office Hymn: 136
Canticles: Magnificat — Marenzio
Nunc Dimittis — Tone iv
Anthem: Dum complerentur dies
Pentecostes — Palestrina
Preacher: Fr Gerald Beauchamp
Hymn: 142

SOLEMN BENEDICTION

O Salutaris: Anerio
Te Deum: Solemn Tone
Tantum Ergo: Asola
Voluntary: Adagio — Bach

● SUNDAY 18 MAY TRINITY SUNDAY

HIGH MASS AT 11.00 a.m.

Entrance Hymn: 148 (omit*)
Introit: Benedicta sit
Mass: Missa 'Princeps Pacis'
— Lloyd Webber
Lessons: Isaiah 40: 12 - 17, 27 - end
Psalm: 8
2 Corinthians 13: 11 - end
Hymn: 466
Gospel: Matthew 28: 16 - 20
Preacher: Fr Gerald Beauchamp
Creed: Credo III
Anthem: O beata et gloriosa Trinitas
— Palestrina
Hymns: 147, 298, 159
Voluntary: Improvisation on 'Gloria tibi
Trinitas' — Paul Brough

SOLEMN EVENSONG

at 6.00 p.m.

Psalms: 93, 150

Lessons: Isaiah 6: 1 - 8

John 16: 5 - 15

Office Hymn: 145

Canticles: Service in F — Dyson

Anthem: I saw the Lord — Stainer

Preacher: The Vicar

Hymn: 343

SOLEMN BENEDICTION

O Salutaris: French Chant

Hymn: 146

Tantum Ergo: Arnold

Voluntary: Prelude — Harris

THURSDAY 22 MAY CORPUS CHRISTI

HIGH MASS AND PROCESSION OF THE BLESSED

SACRAMENT AT 6.30 p.m.

Entrance Hymn: 296

Introit: Cibavit eos

Mass: Missa 'Ego flos campi'
— Padilla

Lessons: Genesis 14: 18 - 20

Psalms 116

1 Corinthians 11: 23 - 26

Hymn: 483

Gospel: John 6: 51 - 58

Preacher: The Vicar

Creed: Credo II

Anthem: O sacrum convivium — Tallis

Hymns: 300, 305, 306

Motet during Ablutions:

Ave verum corpus — Mozart

Processional: 521, 271, 272, 307

Tantum Ergo: 268 (R; part 2)

Voluntary: Toccata and Fugue in D
minor — Bach

● SUNDAY 25 MAY

TRINITY 1

HIGH MASS AT 11.00 a.m.

Entrance Hymn: 333

Introit: Domine, in tua misericordia

Mass: Credomesse — Mozart

Lessons: Leviticus 19: 1 - 2, 9 - 18

Psalms 119: 33 - 40

1 Corinthians 3: 10 - 11,

16 - end

Hymn: 490

Gospel: Matthew 5: 38 - end

Preacher: Fr Gerald Beauchamp

Anthem: O sacrum convivium

— Guerrero

Hymns: 206, 409, 484

Voluntary: Jesus Christus, unser Heiland,
BWV 665 — Bach

SOLEMN EVENSONG

at 6.00 p.m.

Psalms: 18: 1 - 20

Lessons: Amos 9: 5 - end

Ephesians 6: 1 - 20

Office Hymn: 150

Canticles: Service in G — Jackson

Anthem: Jesus dulcis memoria

— Francis Pott

Preacher: Fr Gerald Beauchamp

Hymn: 355

BENEDICTION

O Salutaris: Harry Brama (No 2)

Hymn: 456

Tantum Ergo: Harry Brama (No 2)

Voluntary: Fanfare — Leighton

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CALENDAR AND INTENTIONS FOR MAY 2008

1	ASCENSION DAY	THANKSGIVING FOR	THE ASCENSION
2	Ss Philip and James, Apostles	Those in need	
3		Society of All Saints Sisters of the Poor	
4	✠ THE 7th SUNDAY OF EASTER (Sunday after Ascension Day)	OUR PARISH AND PEOPLE	
5		The homeless	
6		The unemployed	
7		Our Diocese	
8	Julian of Norwich	Unity	
9		Those in need	
10		Chronically sick and disabled	
11	✠ THE DAY OF PENTECOST (Whit Sunday)	OUR PARISH AND PEOPLE	
12		Christian Aid Week	
13	r Requiem (8.00 a.m. only)	The departed	
14	ST MATTHIAS, THE APOSTLE	Friends of All Saints	
15	v for Unity	Christian Unity	
16	<i>Caroline Chisholm, Social Reformer</i>	Those in need	
17		The Parish Retreat	
18	✠ TRINITY SUNDAY	OUR PARISH AND PEOPLE	
19	St Dunstan	The House of Bishops	
20	Alcuin of York	Religious	
21	<i>Helena, Protector of Holy Places</i>	Holy Places	
22	CORPUS CHRISTI	THANKSGIVING FOR	
		THE EUCHARIST	
23		Those in need	
24	John and Charles Wesley	Teachers of the Faith	
25	✠ THE 1st SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY	OUR PARISH AND PEOPLE	
26	St Augustine, First Archbishop of Canterbury	Archbishop of Canterbury	
		Hospitals	
27		Scholars	
28	<i>Lanfranc</i>	Unity	
29		Those in need	
30	Josephine Butler, Social Reformer	Those in need	
31	THE VISIT OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY TO ELIZABETH	Walsingham	

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, 8.00 a.m. this month

v — a Votive Mass



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