A Man of Many Gifts and Talents

On 8 March over 250 family, friends, special guests, colleagues past and present and members of churches across the Reigate Archdeaconry gathered at St Matthew’s Redhill to say farewell to the Archdeacon of Reigate, Danny Kajumba, on his retirement.

The Venerable Chris Skilton writes:

In his welcome Bishop Christopher reminded the congregation of Danny’s ministry at local, Diocesan, national and international level; he presided at the Eucharist, for which Danny had chosen the hymns and Bishop Jonathan preached.

In his sermon Bishop Jonathan paid tribute to Danny’s ‘wisdom and canny business sense’ and ‘his infectious joy and enthusiasm for the gospel’. He suggested that the extent and wide range of Danny’s ministry was clearly the reason that he had so many different mobile phones!

Continued on page 3

Bishop Michael to be Bishop of Lichfield

The Rt Revd Dr Michael Ipgrave OBE, MA, PhD, the current Bishop of Woolwich, has been named as the new Bishop of Lichfield.

Bishop Michael (57), will be the ninety-ninth Bishop of Lichfield, in a line going back to St Chad in the seventh century. He succeeds the Rt Revd Jonathan Gledhill, who retired last year.

He assumes responsibility for one of England’s largest Dioceses, leading an episcopal team with the Bishops of Wolverhampton, Stafford and Shrewsbury.

Bishop Christopher said: “I rejoice that Bishop Michael Ipgrave has been appointed to the See of Lichfield. He will bring to this new role a heart for mission and a humble, gentle, yet purposeful manner which will be a blessing to the people of Lichfield Diocese.

“Bishop Michael is much loved in the Diocese of Southwark and especially in the Woolwich Episcopal Area. He will be much missed and we will pray for him as well as for the parishes and people of his new Diocese”.

Bishop Michael studied mathematics at Oriel College, Oxford, and trained for the ministry at Ripon College Cuddesdon, Oxford. He was ordained Deacon in 1982 and Priest in 1983 in the Diocese of Peterborough.

After a period as Inter Faith Relations Adviser to the Archbishop’s Council and Secretary of the Churches’ Commission on Inter Faith Relations, he became Archdeacon of Southwark and especially in the Woolwich Episcopal Area. He will be much missed and we will pray for him as well as for the parishes and people of his new Diocese”.

Bishop Michael has written extensively on interfaith issues, religion and human rights. His wife, Dr Julia Ipgrave, is a Senior Research Fellow in the Department of Humanities at Roehampton University.

He is likely to be formally translated (elected) during the Summer and installed in the Autumn.
Walking the Way of the Cross along the Via Dolorosa in Jerusalem earlier in Lent was a powerful experience (see this month’s centrepiece on P.7-9 on the Diocesan Pilgrimage).

Journeying with Jesus through Lent, Holy Week and Eastertide, whether in our parishes or in the Land of his birth, is set in the context of a world getting on with its daily business.

For our band of pilgrims this journey – in the bustling of commerce, onto the roof of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre - took us through the agony of Holy Week and led us to the foot of the Cross of Calvary.

For us all the opportunity to journey together and to give thanks to God for Jesus’ life, death and resurrection lies at the heart of our Christian pilgrimage.

Holy Week is a time for reflection and preparation and it is good to think about the many encouragements that are happening daily in our Diocese.

At Pentecost last year I launched Hearts on Fire – Sharing God’s Good News in the Diocese of Southwark blog - and in the past ten months we have had at least one blog a week telling us about the wonderful work that is happening here in the Diocese as we serve the people of South London and East Surrey.

People from different parishes and Deaneries and with different roles have written compellingly about the way that they see God at work among us and I have been struck once again by the amazing diversity of things that are happening in the Diocese.

Bishop Christopher writes:

We have heard about exciting work in our schools, of our chaplains in prisons and in hospitals, of parish initiatives that are bringing hope to people who are facing difficulties of one sort or another.

The work that our churches have been undertaking with refugees has been particularly moving as we show God’s love in practical ways.

But there is also the regular work with winter night shelters and Street Pastors, not forgetting the vision of the Battersea to the Barrier Scheme (see last month’s centrepread!) and so much more in the daily life of our parishes.

I am particularly grateful for giving various as once again we have sought to raise money to support projects in the Holy Land, Zimbabwe and here in the Diocese.

The Lent Call blog has enabled us to tell more stories concerning the projects which we are helping to support and to have videos of the work that is happening here and in other parts of the world as we show God’s love by ‘Caring for the Whole Person’.

Here in the Diocese of Southwark we have good reason to be thankful to God.

As we move on through Easter, mindful of all that God has done for each of us in Jesus Christ, may we all give thanks and take our part in sharing God’s Good News with others.

I wish you a Blessed and Joyful Easter.

Christopher Southward
‘A man of many gifts and talents’

In his sermon at Archdeacon Danny Kajumba’s Farewell Service on 8 March, Bishop Jonathan put particular emphasis on Danny’s example and encouragement to those called into the church’s ministry from black and minority ethnic communities. He challenged the Church to ‘sing new songs’ in our culture called into the church’s and encouraged to those emphasis on Danny’s example Service on 8 March, Bishop Danny Kajumba’s Farewell In his sermon at Archdeacon ‘A man of many gifts and talents’ Bishop Christopher read a message from Bishop Wilfred for a new, more diverse people of working, new songs of faith need to do “to learn new ways had been a sign of what we courageously ministry which Danny’s pioneering and had suffered long periods of ill-health and he paid tribute to their example of dependence on God’s strength through these times. He recognised that “As was the case of the present Archbishop of York the murderous regime of Idi Amin which drove him and Danny from Uganda made that country poorer and this country richer by their service and witness to the love of Christ. We thank God for them.” Bishop Christopher movingly invited Danny and his wife Tina to stand alongside him as the Peace was shared enthusiastically around the church. During the administration of Holy Communion the congregation were able to listen to music expressing the diversity of the church – Danny’s niece Dorothy Nakwumbe Magoye sang two gospel songs, the young people from St Jude’s Thornton Heath sang ‘Beautiful One’ and St Matthew’s choir sang ‘Christ Has No Body Now But Yours’ by David Ogden.

At the end of the service, Danny read words of farewell: “On the 6th day of May (2001), I was installed as Archdeacon of Reigate. I have, with God’s help and to the best of my abilities, exercised this trust, accepting its privileges and responsibilities. As I relinquish this ministry, I pray for you that you may be built up in Christ and continue to proclaim his good news to the world.”

Presentations were made, by Bishop Jonathan, paying tribute to Danny’s work in the Croydon Episcopal Area and on behalf of the local Croydon team and then by Bishop Christopher on behalf of the senior staff and the wider Diocese, recognising Danny’s many gifts and skills, brought to bear in the service of the gospel in the course of his wide-ranging ministry. Bishop Christopher conferred on Danny the title ‘Archdeacon Emeritus’ and gave him and Tina his blessing.

The celebration changed key and moved venue to the Parish Hall, beautifully decorated by members of the local church team with floral displays picking out the colours of the Ugandan national flag. As food, drink and conversation flowed, guests were treated to music and song from Africa from the ‘Ganda Boys’ – who had stopped off for the evening on their way to perform in concerts in India in front of 30,000 people. As well as singing they spoke of the way in which Danny had mentored them when they came to the UK as refugees with no parents and that they owed a great deal of their success to Danny’s wise oversight and care.

In a short speech Danny challenged all those present to take the opportunity to mentor a young person to help them to make a difference to their lives. He also asked all those present to keep in touch with him – and said he would know that if they did not, they had just come for the evening to ensure that he really had gone!

Bishop Christopher thanked everyone for their part in making the evening such a successful and good occasion. We said our goodbyes to a courageous, peaceable and wise friend whom it had been a joy to know in his time in Southwark. We wish Danny and Tina a long and fruitful retirement.

Bishop Jonathan’s sermon and Bishop Wilfred’s letter can be found on the Diocesan website.
The Diocesan Synod met at St John’s Waterloo on Saturday 12 March and the Revd Greg Prior opened the Synod in prayer.

Notices and Announcements followed and Bishop Christopher announced that he had appointed the Revd Joshua Rey as his new Chaplain. Joshua will take up his role in May. He expressed his gratitude to Peter Haddock who has been his Acting (Lay) Chaplain and who, he said would be staying on in a part-time capacity. Peter received a round of applause.

Bishop Christopher also said that he was pleased to welcome back Vasantha Granadossa who had accepted his invitation to become a member of Synod as one of the Bishops’ Nominees. Bishop Christopher welcome those who were attending Synod for the first time and it was noted that the cards being sold in aid of the Bishop’s Lent Call were available at the Synod for the first time and it was noted that the February 2016 meeting of the General Synod resolved that amending Canon 34 be made promulgated and executed.

This amending Canon is intended to strengthen the church’s position on safeguarding. A new Canon 30 requires there to be a safeguarding officer in each Diocese and allows Bishops to require people to undergo a risk assessment. The amending Canon also prevents clergy not authorised to minister from vesting. The Canon will not all come into force immediately but will be brought in in stages.

**Presidential Address**

Bishop Christopher then gave his Presidential Address which spoke about Bishop Michael’s appointment, the Venerable Danny Kajumbu’s retirement, the new Public Policy Department and the pleasing financial situation of the Diocese as well as the new Diocesan structures. The full address can be found at: http://bit.ly/13sXFb0

Following the Presidential Address Bishop Christopher moved the motion standing in his name concerning the appointment of a new Bishop of Woolwich.

The motion which Synod was asked to pass expressed the Synod’s ‘support for the Area System as currently operated and requests the Bishop of Southwark to notify the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Dioceses Commission of his proposal to appoint to the See of Woolwich’. Seven spoke in the debate and then the motion was overwhelmingly passed (see facing page).

**Parish Support Fund update**

Ruth Martin, the Diocesan Secretary, then gave an update on the Parish Support Fund. She spoke of the move from the Fairer Shares system to a pledge based system noting that the scheme is based on generosity and each parish decides what they can give. She told Synod that 80% of Diocesan budget goes to the payment of clergy and housing them. So far, she said, only four parishes had not delivered a pledge and only about ten parishes have not yet given anything. She added, however, that she was confident that they will do so.

In speaking of the Scheme she noted the importance of considering how best to empower Deaneys to play a greater role, making them viable centres of mission and ministry. Transparency will be critical in this, she said. Ruth Martin went on to explain that only 29% parishes are self-financing. There are some who cannot become self-financing but we need to focus on changing this balance in order that we can fund other important initiatives, she said.

The Synod was then invited to discuss in groups how we can encourage parishes to continue to be generous and how we can communicate our needs more effectively. Following the discussion nine offered feedback.

**The work of the Public Policy Department**

The Revd Dr Canon Rosemarie Mallett in her role as the Diocesan Public Policy Adviser gave an update on the work of the Public Policy Department. She explained the staffing and structure noting that the objective of the Department is to ‘Advise and Resource the Diocesan Bishops and Parishes on the issues of Social Concern facing our communities: Parishes, Clergy and Lay People’.

She told Synod of the four focused themes that the Public Policy department will be considering in this, the Jubilee Year of Mercy. These are housing justice and homelessness for the first quarter; migration, migrants, refugees and asylum seekers from April to June; poverty from July to September and imprisonment and detention in the final quarter of the year. Each quarter they will produce resources for reflection and action and Revd Canon Dr Rosemarie Mallett.

Below, The discussion groups & above; Ruth Martin

**Evangelism Task Group**

Capt. Nicholas Lebev gave an animated report about his first meeting of the General Synod which took place in February speaking particularly about the report on the Evangelism Task Group. He urged Diocesan Synod to embrace the Report and mentioned the Church Army resource, which is being pilot tested in some churches in the Diocese.

Nicholas spoke of the work in groups in which one of the things they discussed was how they came to faith and how important it is to tell stories and look at new ways of sharing our faith.

**Hearts on Fire**

Bishop Christopher then introduced the debate on ‘Hearts on Fire: a vision for Mission in the Diocese of Southwark’, saying that the paper which had been circulated looked at what it meant for us to be people who had hearts on fire with love of God.

Bishop Jonathan introduced the paper saying that the material was taken from Bishop Christopher’s introduction to the Strategy for Ministry to celebrate what is already happening in the Diocese. She spoke too of the London Mayoral elections and of the EU referendum.

Rosemarie had a display of prayers written by children on some of the issues that she had mentioned and closed her presentation with one of them.

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includes a section on the five life as God’s people and now the Bishops will be having with for the conversations which vision will provide a framework worked on by the Diocesan document and had been motion in which Synod was Bishop Christopher put the back in writing on this. and groups were asked to feed aspects of what we are doing and to reflect on the different Departments.

**The See of Woolwich**

The Diocesan Synod meeting on 12th March 2016 passed unanimously the following motion moved by Bishop Christopher: “THIS SYNOD expresses its support for the Area System as currently operated and requests the Bishop of Southwark to notify the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Dioceses Commission of his proposal to appoint to the See of Woolwich.”

Following the appointment of The Rt Revd Dr Michael Ipgrave to the See of Lichfield, the Bishop of Southwark will be following the national guidelines in seeking to appoint a new Bishop of Woolwich, when the See becomes vacant in June. This will include drawing up a Role and Person Specification with the assistance of a small Advisory Group. There will also be a formal period of consultation in due course.

In the meantime Bishop Christopher is grateful for the correspondence he has already received and invites anyone who has thoughts or reflections concerning the appointment of a new Bishop of Woolwich to write to him, in confidence, at Trinity House or to email him on bishop.southwark@ southwark.anglican.org

**Pilgrimage to the Holy Land, led by Bishop Stephen Platten.**

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For more information please contact Pilgrimage People on freefone: 0800 6123423 or email: info@pilgrimagepeople.org

**Is ‘Trev the Rev’ English Rugby’s oldest newly registered player?**

Trevor Jacquet, Church of England Chaplain at Belmarsh Prison, signed registration forms for Charlton Park RFC on 31 January. No big news there, except that it happened to be just three days before his 60th birthday.

Is he the oldest player to register to play for a club at this level?

Charlton Park this season have been undergoing an injury problem in the front row, particularly at tight head prop since last year’s club captain Terry Read left, encouraged by the club, for Blackheath and seven tight head props suffered injury.

Trevor made his first team debut against Brighton on 13 February. He had been helping to shove opponents around in the second and third teams, and still played in the City League with high-standard players, so he knew what he was doing.

He coaches Blackheath Ladies at a Rocks time, as well as finding time to be a Primary School Chair of Governors and President of the Chaplains’ Union.

He first played first team rugby in the 70s, and has come up against Tim Rodber, Rory Underwood, John Gallagher, Martin Offiah and Andy Ripley. One of his former opponents from schooldays is Tim Bryan, ex Oxford University and Harlequins centre, who is now the Prison Chaplain at HMP Wandsworth.

Nowadays Trevor admits he still loves playing, particularly with his son at Charlton Park, “but recovery takes a little longer”. His careful healthy eating regime includes an “addiction to chocolate and biscuits”.

Now Park’s opponents know about him, and you can’t miss him with his white hair and pony-tail, he is feted in true rugby tradition wherever Charlton Park play, and particularly once it becomes clear that he is not to be patronised.

Trevor is amazed by the attention he is getting.

In these times of ‘professional’ amateur rugby he is recognised as a welcome return to the old days when loyalty to one’s club and rugby values are held up as ideals worth having.

He stresses the importance of reliability, emphasising to the ‘younsters’ that you don’t cry off except for real emergencies.

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There is no cost, but places must be booked. For more information, contact: Rev Dr Mark Garner 020 8392 3501 mark.garner@roehampton.ac.uk www.roehampton.ac.uk/Colleges/Whitelands-College/
Building a mixed-economy and missional parish in North Peckham

The Revd Ian Mobsby (Part time Priest-in-Charge, St Luke’s Camberwell and part time Woolwich Episcopal Area Parish Mission Enabler) writes:

The North Peckham Estate became infamous in the UK as the place where gangs killed Damilola Taylor. As with many city centre housing estates, things changed for a time, but with the economic slow down and many cuts, things have become challenging for those who live there.

For the last couple of years the parish church has also struggled with a long interregnum, and like many churches in this situation it went into ‘survival mode’ - in effect shifting from being a parish church to becoming a congregational church disconnected from its context.

The PCC and leadership were acutely aware that St Luke’s needed to change and needed fresh leadership to help bring that change. And so in September 2015 the Church took a risk, and employed a new Priest in Charge, who is unapologetically missional and sacramental in orientation and focus.

We began with a listening exercise in the late summer and autumn, to explore what the Holy Spirit might be saying.

As a result a New Monastic Missional Church plant was launched at St Luke’s. Four former members of the Moot Community moved from the City of London to help found a New Monastic Community in the Clergy House, with a pattern of prayer and service.

This has already grown to 15 members, and it is hoped that this will engage in mission with the spiritual and not religious people who have moved into the area.

Of even more importance is the need to focus on youth, and for a fresh expression of church to young people with the spiritual and not religious people who have moved into the area.

In September 2015 the Church went into ‘survival mode’ - in effect shifting from being a congregational church disconnected from its context.

For example, the Church determined that not only will North Peckham Estate, we are connected with many statutory and voluntary organisations and we are determined that not only will St Luke’s stay, but that the church will increasingly seek to develop mission and ministries with the DNA of the gospel for the sake of local people.
The history of pilgrimages is a long one. People undertake them today in all sorts of different ways. Some people make a pilgrimage to a place of religious significance or to make a pilgrimage to a particular place.

They can be prompted by all sorts of reasons: sometimes it is an anniversary of something, or maybe there is an opportunity to join with others to walk the Pilgrim’s Way or make a pilgrimage together to a particular place.

Some of these are religious sites or they may be places such as the Botanical Gardens in Oxford which was a favourite haunt of Lewis Carroll and is now a place where his devotees will go.

So, you will often hear about people walking the Canterbury pilgrims way or making a pilgrimage to Holy Island or – as we will see in this centrepread – to the religious sites in the Holy Land.

No two pilgrimages are the same even if, by chance, the route is identical.

Those who become pilgrims will be in a different place and time on each different occasion and the group of people that make up the pilgrims will change and, thus, so will be the insights and the experiences of the group.

The following pages give an insight into the Diocesan pilgrimage to the Holy Land which took place early in Lent this year.

One of the highlights of almost any pilgrimage to the Holy Land is likely to be the Via Dolorosa – the pilgrim journey through the Stations of the Cross in the souk and within the walls of Jerusalem. Since the late 15th century, this has consisted of a journey through fourteen points in the last part of Jesus’ earthly life, death and resurrection.

This journey which commemorates traditionally took place in Jerusalem but as the Crusaders realised that this was a spiritually enriching journey which would not be possible for everyone to do.

So, they brought the idea back home and people now follow the way of the cross in their own churches using images placed in their churches or on stones outside the church. This helps people to engage with the story of Jesus’ death and resurrection and can be incredibly moving pilgrimage which does not take you far from home.

But, as well as places to visit one of the really important things is meeting with the people who are in the places of pilgrimage.

On the Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Holy Land we were privileged to meet a lot of people who are living out their Christian faith in that most holy of places. But, this is not always easy especially as the Christian population of the Holy Land is only about 2%.

But, meeting Giovanni Anwar and Dr Waldy Kerry gave us a real insight into the amazingly committed work that Christians are doing in very difficult situations for the whole community.

Both Dean Hosam Naoum and the Revd Canon David Longe spoke of the Christians in the Holy Land as the ‘living stones’ who share their faith through social concern in the Holy Land. There are schools and hospitals and rehabilitation centres and other social projects all run by Christians who seek to share God’s love through the work that they do in the community.

Without these ‘living stones’ so much would not happen and it is absolutely extraordinary to see the Anglican church working with other Christian denominations and other faith groups to try to bring good news to this troubled land.

As we journeyed around the holy sites in the Holy Land we met Christians and others who cared for the sites and who sought to share their faith with others as a way of helping with some of the social difficulties with which they are confronted.

As we journey through Easter it is good for us to think about what it might mean for us to be ‘living stones’ in the places in which we find ourselves.

What does it mean to be ‘living stones’ in the Diocese of Southwark in South London and East Surrey?

Those of us who have returned from the pilgrimage have lots to consider and to remember.

We will do this through the photographs and journals that we have kept and through talking with those with whom we journeyed and made new and strengthened relationships.

For some this was a first pilgrimage; others travelled with the Bishop and the Dean in 2015. No matter who they were this was an opportunity to travel with Jesus through bits of his life, death and resurrection.

It has changed us all, it may be that we do not yet realise how, but as time goes on we will become more aware of all that we have experienced.

There are many opportunities to be part of a pilgrimage to the Holy Land but if you would like to travel with the Bishop and the Dean and then look out for the adverts for the next Diocesan Pilgrimage which will be 19-26 February 2018.

Martin Swindlehurst, one of the Pilgrims, was inspired by the places visited on the pilgrimage to write these verses:

**Pit of Darkness**

Darkness, Thick, Impenetrable
Almost feel it
What is down there?
What fears await?
Alone, Abandoned, Denied, Betrayed
Agony, Sacrifice, Death awaits
Greater than any fear
Your will not mine
Light will return,
Darkness will not
But the price is great
Could we pay?
Week as we are?
He did
He paid for us,
Once for all
Never again
need we fear
The pit of darkness

**Land of Walls**

Tall, White and grey
Razor wire, Guards, Guns
Two people trapped
Cut off,
Family, Friends
Split apart,
Restricted
Imprisoned
Life continues.
As it must
Faith sustained
Battered and bruised
Not defeated
Day 1 - at the airport
Over 80 pilgrims prepare to board the flight from London to Israel - saying ‘hello’ to people whose names we have yet to discover and who we may never have seen before. It’s one of the joys and strangenesses of pilgrimage that you begin to feel that you have known all your life people whom you have actually only ever really seen for a few days. Real friendships can be forged and renewed.

Day 2 - Jerusalem
The first time that I walked down the Mount of Olives, the Way of the Cross, I was disappointed and surprised and then full of wonderment. I had not expected it to be tarmac or to see cars on it. We even saw a traffic jam. Nevertheless it is an extraordinarily moving journey.

The day starts with a visit to the Pater Noster church where it was special to see people taking photographs of the places in their own languages. Saying and reflecting on the Lord’s Prayer surrounded by the prayer in so many other languages helped us to realise its universal importance.

Around the corner from the church, we were confronted by a wonderful panoramic view of Jerusalem. It is really possible to imagine Jesus looking down on the city and weeping for all that he saw there.

Down the road and into Dominus Flevit (the ‘teardrop’ church), we walked through the Garden of Gethsemane and the third, St Peter’s, is thought to be the site of the High Priest Caiphas’ House. At St Peter’s we went down into the crypt - where it is believed that St Jerome produced what we call the Vulgate version of the Bible. We walked through the Grotto beneath the Church of the Nativity and the star marking Jesus’ birthplace.

The grotto beneath the Church of the Nativity and the star marking Jesus’ birthplace.

The Lord’s Prayer in many languages at Pater Nostra church

Day 3 - The stations of the Cross
After Morning Prayer in St Anne’s church we set off towards the Ecce Homo arch. In the courtyard the pilgrims were divided into four groups to walk the Stations of the Cross. Each group set off along the Via Dolores in the bustling souk. Each had a large cross which different members carried during the walk.

As the Pilgrims progressed through the stations they gradually made their way up the hills upon which Jerusalem is built to the roof of the Holy Sepulchre Church where they said the last five stations amid the cell like rooms of the Orthodox monks who live there.

Then we made the short journey across the souk to the Church of the Redeemer, where Bishop Christopher helped us to feel the experience of the stations of the Cross. He reminded us that we need to hold the pain of the crucifixion and the joy of the resurrection in tension. ‘Jesus was spared nothing in his suffering and passion for us and we too are aware of the nature of that suffering having made our own spiritual journey this morning.’

After lunch we continued our walking tour of the Old City making our way to the Dormition Abbey via King David’s tomb. Here, and later at the Western Wall we saw the separation of men and women for prayer and in each instance the space for the men was much bigger than that for the women.

From the tomb we went into the Upper Room. There the Dean reminded us that ‘It was the Upper Room that was the place of the Last Supper and to which the frightened disciples returned after the death of Jesus. It was in this room that Jesus appeared and Thomas had his doubts challenged. It was from this room that the disciples left for the mount of the Ascension and to where they returned as the apostles.

“The Lord's Prayer in many languages at Pater Nostra church

Mary’s Tomb at the Church of the Assumption

The cave of St Jerome

Day 4 - Bethlehem
The day began early for some of the pilgrims as Bishop Christopher led a trip to the Holy Sepulchre. The day is built to the roof of the Holy Sepulchre. At the Damascus Gate we passed to gaze at the moon and the morning star, Venus - a special moment.

The city was asleep as we wended our way to the Holy Sepulchre. We gathered round the Bishop for a reading from the Bible and then separated to make our own devotions. I went first to see the rock of Calvary. After that I wandered I found the caves at the back of the Holy Sepulchre. I ventured in and imagined the angels on Easter morning telling the women Jesus was not there - another very special moment.

As we returned to the hotel at 6.40am the city was just waking.

After breakfast we headed off to the Shepherd’s Field to experience an open air Eucharist. The Dean presided and preached and, because of where we were, he focused around the Christmas story. It is hard to get your head around singing Christmas hymns in the sun, in the open air in February. The Dean loves Christmas and said he was in the perfect job because the Cathedral have about 45 carol services each year.

Back on the bus we headed to Bethlehem to the Church of the Nativity, that most holy of places where Jesus is believed to have been born. You enter the church through what is known as the humble door – so-called because you have to bend down to get through it.

The church is undergoing major rebuilding with scaffolding everywhere. It was surprisingly empty - fewer pilgrims are coming to the Holy Land at the moment, presumably because of the security situation. So we were able to go straight into the Grotto and see the star that marks the place of Jesus’ birth.

We then headed to the nearby Roman Catholic church where St Jerome’s Caves are in the crypt - where it is believed that St Jerome produced what we know as the Vulgate version of the Bible.

The day ended early for some of the pilgrims as Bishop Christopher led a trip to the Holy Sepulchre. Susan Wheeler writes: “Up at 5.15am and out of the hotel at 5.30 for a walk to the Holy Sepulchre. At the Damascus Gate we passed to gaze at the moon and the morning star, Venus - a special moment. The city was asleep as we wended our way to the Holy Sepulchre. We gathered round the Bishop for a reading from St John and then separated to make our own devotions. I went first to see the rock of Calvary. After that I wandered I found the caves at the back of the Holy Sepulchre. I ventured in and imagined the angels on Easter morning telling the women Jesus was not there - another very special moment. As we returned to the hotel at 6.40am the city was just waking.”

After breakfast we headed off to the Shepherd’s Field to experience an open air Eucharist. The Dean presided and preached and, because of where we were, he focused around the Christmas story. It is hard to get your head around singing Christmas hymns in the sun, in the open air in February. The Dean loves Christmas and said he was in the perfect job because the Cathedral have about 45 carol services each year.

Back on the bus we headed to Bethlehem to the Church of the Nativity, that most holy of places where Jesus is believed to have been born. You enter the church through what is known as the humble door – so-called because you have to bend down to get through it.

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Pilgrimage
February 22-29) led by
Bishop Christopher and Andrew Nunn

At St George’s Cathedral
Hosam Nosaam, and the Archbishop. To be able to say the evening office with pilgrims from the Diocese where I was ordained and served was deeply moving. Christians in this region are a minority: their presence is precarious and precious. Please keep the Living Stones in your prayers.

Day 5 - Nablus and Ramallah
For the first time, the group’s two coaches set off to different places. The Jerusalem bus headed to Nablus to visit St Luke’s Hospital and the Emmaus bus set off to the Episcopal Technological and Vocational Training Centre in Ramallah - two of the projects supported by the Bishops Lent Call this year.

Both buses visited Jacob’s Well and the church that has been built over it. It was one of the most beautiful churches that I had ever seen. The clean light walls had enormous beautiful icons on them and it was huge and light and airy. Everyone was bowled over by the church which was rebuilt and restored through the patience and persistence of Fr Justins Mamlus, a Greek Orthodox priest, and Jamaal Sarhain, a Muslim from a nearby refugee camp, who worked together for 30 years to transform the church ruins into a peaceful, inspiring sanctuary. In the crypt we listened to the story of the Samaritan at the well. It is still a working well and we were all able to drink the water or bless ourselves with it and take some home in little bottles.

The visit to St Luke’s Hospital was very interesting. It was founded in 1900 by the Revd Christian Fallscheer, a Church Missionary Society missionary. Nowadays it is suffering because newer, more modern hospitals are attracting those who can afford to pay for their care and whose fees help to enable St Luke’s to care for the poor. St Luke’s Hospital is run by the Christian community for all people of all faiths in Nablus and the surrounding areas and is a hospital of great importance to the living stones in the Holy Land.

What one coach of Pilgrims visited the St Luke’s Hospital in Nablus, the other coach headed to Ramallah to visit the Episcopal Technological and Vocational Training Centre.

Sarah Habeeb, wrote: “The Vocational Training Centre for Boys and Girls was established in 2001. The centre is run by a team of volunteers and funded through the Lent Call. The centre runs a Hotel & Management School, Ballet School, Computer School, housekeeping courses, etc.”

Christine Spurway said: “Driving to Ramallah through the outskirts of Qalqilya and seeing the pain of the suffering Palestinian people was a deeply moving experience that brought tears to my eyes.”

Later that day the pilgrims transferred from Jerusalem to Galilee. For some Pilgrims this was their first ever glimpse of Lake Galilee, for others it was a much anticipated return.

Irene and Peter Wolstenholme renew their marriage vows

Day 6 - Jesus’ parish
The Pilgrim’s journey on Saturday was in, as the Dean described it “Jesu’s parish”. The day began with the drive to the Mount of the Beatitudes. Where Jesus is believed to have preached the Sermon on the Mount, the words from Matthew’s Gospel are on stones all around the grounds. It is a peaceful place with breathtaking views of the Lake.

A short drive took us to Capernaum and the site of Peter’s House - and of the remains of the Temple with an extraordinarily shaped church built over them.

We celebrated the Eucharist in the open air at Mensa Christi - a beautiful place with its stone altar surrounded by the amphitheatre style seats.

Bishop Christopher said: “It was at this place that the irascible Peter was three times asked to declare his faith - three times because he denied Jesus three times. But it is rare too that Peter is called in a rather wonderful way as Jesus tells him that he will be the rock upon which the church is built. You too are the rock upon which the church is built”.

After lunch (on the Golan Heights) we went a short distance to Caesarea Philippi and the site of the Hermon Springs – the waters that feed the River Jordan – where we all renewed our baptism vows. After this there was time to wander into the caves above the water and to mingle with the local families who were picnicking on the Sabbath, to buy and eat an ice cream and to shop (again) before heading back to the coach for the journey back to the hotel.

Day 7 - Nazareth
The day began with a visit to the Greek Orthodox Church in Nazareth. It was good to share briefly in their worship, to see where Mary’s Well would have been and to be able to bless ourselves with the water. Then on to Christ Church (Anglican) and a lively, very welcoming, if not huge, congregation. Saying our prayers jointly in two languages and yet almost always finishing together, brought home the significance of the Anglican Church worldwide and of the Anglican Communion.

After lunch, it was time to head to the Basilica of the Annunciation. The Basilica is quite magnificent but I suspect that it is one of those buildings which you love or you hate. It is an example of buildings of membership of the Church worldwide and of the Middle East.

From the Basilica we headed to Joseph’s Church built in the site of what was believed to be the carpenter’s shop. Here is a beautiful peaceful church with (according to tradition) various parts of the carpenter’s shop in what is now the crypt.

Later at a church built on the site of the first miracle, Irene and Peter Wolstenholme renewed their marriage vows.

Their wedding took place 24 years ago on 29 February, but it seemed good to renew their vows here in the Church which commemorates Jesus changing the water into wine at the wedding in Cana.

Day 8 - the journey home
The last day began with a dawn (6.30am) Eucharist by the Sea of Galilee, at the request of the Pilgrims.

We then started the journey home by sailing across the lake of Galilee - a beautiful and truly memorable last act of a pilgrimage.

As we reached the middle of the lake, the engines were cut and we were astounded at the peace and the silence as we simply drifted. It was time to hear a Lake of Galilee reading and sing a hymn before setting off to Ein Gev where the coaches were waiting for us.

We were anointed by the Bishop for our continued pilgrimage of faith and hope and love, and the Dean gave us each a cross to help us remember all that we had learned.

This pilgrimage has helped me to think again about how groups of people get to know each other and by sharing with each other become less afraid. It has helped me to think again about what it means to live faith and to seek to share it.

It has helped me to think again about how we can and should each work to bring peace in our own place no matter how small that place may seem. It has most especially helped me to know for certain again that we need to pray for the peace of Jerusalem and for the peace of our world.

Matthew’s Gospel - on the Mount of the Beatitudes
Renewing baptismal vows beside the River Jordan
The final day Eucharist beside the Lake of Galilee
A special Mothers’ Day

On Sunday 6 March Mothers’ Day was celebrated in a very special way at St Matthew's St Jude, Brixton when the Mothers’ Union and the Sunday school children took an active role in the service.

This included a performance by the children of the story of “The Giving Tree” - a tale of giving and receiving love - which was well received by the congregation.

The MU branch is a group of mothers from various countries in the world, whose aim is to make life a little better for those in need.

They meet once a month on a Saturday morning, to learn and share skills like pattern cutting, knitting and crocheting.

They are also planning to host coffee mornings and a ‘Spring Dinner Event’.

Photo (top right): In their special head wraps for the day are MU members (left to right) Janice, Cynthia, Jackie, Pat, Margaret, Bim, Alice and Pam.

At St John the Baptist, Old Malden, Mothers’ Union members Kate Ansell, Jill Barker, Janet Jeal, Faith Bowers, Janet Eggitt, Beth Owen, Joyce Smart, Monica Drake and Pauline Armour have been serving up frugal lunches to raise money for the Bishop’s Lent Appeal.

Mothering Sunday at Holy Saviour Croydon had an unexpected flavour...

Greetings cards for sale

On sale this year for the first time are two packs of six attractive greetings cards, featuring a selection of images from our Link Dioceses in Zimbabwe. The cards are left blank inside for your own message.

They cost just £4.99 per pack (including p&p) and are available in the Cathedral shop, on-line at www.southwark.anglican.org or from Communications and Resources at Trinity House (Tel: 020 7939 9400).

Why not buy a stock for sale in your church?
Putney Team Ministry

When you have two churches in a parish, there’s a tendency to assume a ‘senior’ and a ‘junior’ partner. The fact that one is a medieval church in a prominent location and the other a Victorian building on the edge of the common (built for the servants of the gentry who worshipped at the medieval church) could encourage that assumption.

But that is history and today St Mary’s and All Saints who make up the Putney Parish Team are equal partners, with a shared mission and ministry, a common worship style and virtually identical congregations.

St Mary’s Church is in the north east corner of the parish, where the High Street meets Putney Bridge. There’s been Christian worship on the site since at least the 13th century. Elements of the present building date from the 15th and 16th centuries. The church was rebuilt and enlarged in the 19th century and rebuilt again in the 20th century, following an arson attack.

During the 1982 restoration the altar was moved to the north side of the church with the pews replaced by chairs on three sides around the dais. An enclosed area at the east end caters for parents with young children during worship and as a meeting space. There is also a balcony on the south side. Entrance to the church is via a two-storey glass-faced extension with, on its ground floor, the Putney Pantry - a popular café open every day from 8am to 6pm, managed by a professional chef and staff.

In the south-west corner of the church is a permanent exhibition devoted to the Putney Debates of 1647 when Cromwell and his New Model Army Council met in St Mary’s to discuss the nature of democracy and the kind of society that they wanted to see emerge from the civil war. Other names associated with St Mary’s over the years include Samuel Pepys, Charles Dickens and Nicholas Wolf, 16th century Bishop of Ely and son of a Putney shopkeeper who built a chantry chapel at St Mary’s.

A mile west of St Mary’s, on Putney Common is All Saints Church. It was built in 1874 to serve the community of West Putney - arts and crafts church with exceptional stained glass windows. It was the result of a collaboration between the architect George Street, and designers Edward Burne-Jones and William Morris - and their shared determination that the servants of the gentry should also have an inspiring place in which to worship. There was at one time a third church in the parish, St John’s. Closed down in the 1970s it was sold to the Roman Catholic Church where it took on a new lease of life as a Polish language church. The proceeds helped pay for the restoration of St Mary’s.

Indeed, by the 1980s the congregation at All Saints had also dwindled and when the Vicar left the church was considered for closure. However, the congregation ‘rebelled’. With two of their number licensed as Readers, regular worship was maintained and the situation was turned around sufficiently to justify the appointment of a new Vicar in 1992 – and it has gone from strength to strength ever since.

Worship at both churches is described as ‘liberal catholic’ which in practice means Eucharistically centred. They now employ a Parish Assistant and Youth Minister to maintain and develop that work.

The 13,000 population is a veritable league of nations with people from all over Europe and a major contingent from the USA (the new US Embassy will be in the summer of this year). And they are all represented among the two congregations.

The Team Rector is the Revd Canon Alison Newby, (below) She told me “Our mission is to be Church for the whole community of Putney. And so our worship is traditional Anglican, which suits people from an enormous range of backgrounds in our ministry we seek to find and meet the different needs of our community, whether that is a parent and toddler group or a winter night shelter for the homeless”.

With usually three services in both churches every Sunday it’s a busy life for the clergy team – Alison, who mainly looks after St Mary’s and Christopher Eyden the All Saints-based Team Vicar. There is a curate, Laura Pawcett, but she’s currently on maternity leave and so the help of retired Canon Richard Truss is very welcome. They also have Tom the youth minister and three readers who all are involved in worship and supporting other activities.

We are an inclusive church – we aim to be an open and welcoming presence for all communities.

Amongst the ‘non-liturgical’ activities are ‘Theology in the Pub’ – which is nowadays mainly an older men’s group so a new meeting opportunity is being set up for younger people. Aware that there are parents who for one reason or another are on their own they are also looking at get togethers after church on Sundays and outings to bring them and their children together for mutual support.

Through Parish Action, a group set up to raise awareness of social issues and take practical action, they also work closely with a local women’s refuge and with families through Home Start and support the education of orphans in Zimbabwe. Hundreds of people step through the glass doors and into Putney Pantry every week but of course the challenge is to get them through the doors of both churches.

Those doors are always open with a team of people offering a welcome, information and prayer support. The parish also runs regular adult enquirers courses which are usually full and lead to confirmations or renewal of faith – and ongoing membership of the two churches.

Finally, I asked – what are the challenges?

“It is a welcome problem but we find it difficult to deal with the number of new people who come through our doors,” said Alison. “We have ‘welcome’ strategies – tea parties, drinks events and so on – to bring them into the life of the churches. But with 360 on St Mary’s electoral roll and 250 on All Saints, it’s difficult to really get to know everyone and there are people who prefer the anonymity which a large congregation can offer”.

And of course, with two churches to maintain, both ‘listed’ and historically important in their own way, finance of course is a challenge.

“There were some problems following the recession and budgets were very tight. But we are now in surplus. Some 70% of our income goes to the Diocese under the Fairer Shares scheme and we will maintain that giving under the new Parish Support Fund. But we hope in time that we may have more left over to maintain and expand our work within the Putney Community”, she said.

Putney Team Ministry

Episcopal Area: Kingston
Archdeaconry: Wandsworth
Deanery: Wandsworth
Patron: Dean & Chapter of Worcester Cathedral

Churches:St Mary’s, Putney High St, SW15 2JZ
Built: 15th century
rebuilt 9th & 20th centuries
Architect: (1882) Ronald Sims
Listing: grade 2
All Saints, Putney Common SW15
Built: 1873 - 74
Architect: G E Street
Listing: grade 2

Contact: Revd Canon Alisa B Newby c/o Parish Office, St Mary’s Church, Putney. Tel: 020 8788 4414
E-mail: parish.admin@ putneyputney.co.uk
Website: www.parishofputney.co.uk

Mothering Sunday at St Mary’s with Youth Minister Tom Dumbell and the children leading intercession

Mothering Sunday at All Saints - with music and actions by the Treblemakers
The Revd Ellen Eames (School Chaplain) reports:

The group visited the Diocese of Asante-Mampong, where Mark was made a canon of Mampong Cathedral last year together with Canon Angus Aagaard from the North Lambeth Team.

The Bishop of Mampong, Bishop Cyril Ben-Smith, used to worship in the North Lambeth Parish and visited St Gabriel’s College on a trip to the UK last year.

The main purpose of the trip to Ghana was to establish a link between St Gabriel’s College, a Church of England secondary school in the Diocese of Southwark, and Ejuraman Anglican Senior High School in the Diocese of Mampong.

The parish of St John the Divine has been supporting Ejuraman School for the past year as part of their mission giving, and working towards a partnership between the two schools.

St Gabriel’s and Ejuraman will work together to improve teaching and learning, and to enable students and staff to learn about school and culture in a different part of the world.

The St Gabriel’s College teachers and chaplain stayed at Ejuraman School. They spent time with the Headteacher and teaching staff, discussing what both schools would like from the link. They discussed swapping ideas for teaching and learning which can be shared through the partnership.

They also had open and frank conversations, recognising some of the cultural differences between the schools and areas in which both schools have much to learn from each other.

Ejuraman School serves a rural, agricultural area with a predominately Muslim community. The staff are very committed to supporting students and staff from both schools to work collaboratively, planning children’s activities for week plus outings, talks and lectures.

As sister schools in the worldwide Anglican Communion they share an inclusive Christian ethos, both schools serving young people in the local community, regardless of faith or background. Staff and students in both schools are already excited about the opportunity of working together.

The team wishes both schools many years of working together.

Left to right: Ejuraman staff: Assistant Headteacher Ms Mary Boakye, Senior Housemaster Mr Amponsah, School Chaplain Fr John Danso with Saint Gabriel’s staff: Head of Humanities, Craig Adams, Assistant Principal, Terri Roach, Head of Blue Learning Community, Kay King discusses advanced mathematics with Ejuraman students.

Could you help manage a Croydon Day Centre?

Director of Music

Come and help us extend our musical worship. St Anselm’s is a diverse, friendly, family-orientated and active urban ministry in Kennington, London. We are seeking a Director of Music who will:

- Be an excellent organist and choral leader, directing all musical content at our Sunday Holy Communion services
- Have the vision and passion needed to develop a creative yet feasible approach to growing our existing adult, junior and gospel choirs
- Be fluent in the traditional canon of liturgical music but interested in incorporating other styles (gospel and Taizé, for example) at our Communion and other services

Salary: £6,000

Application form and full details from Parish Administrator, Tertia Goulbourne on 0207 735 3403 or e-mail: anselm.nlp@btconnect.com Ref: TBAPR

http://www.northlambethparishandcircuit.co.uk

Application deadline: 12 noon Monday 4 April 2016

To advertise your vacancy in The Bridge (in print and on-line) call 01474 854503 or email: kcppress@btinternet.com

This post is subject to DBS clearance.
MORSHEDA NEEDS YOU
to pass a bucket around

Floods have destroyed Morsheda’s home again and again, forcing the family to flee. Once, as the rushing waters rose, she had to put one of her children in a cooking pot and cling to it as it floated down the river.

Change the story at caweek.org

We believe in life before death
You cannot fail to realise that this month, on St George’s Day (23 April), we commemorate the 400th anniversary of the death of William Shakespeare, a resident in what is now the Cathedral parish and, perhaps, the greatest dramatist the world has seen.

One of the privileges I have as Dean is to live next door to the Globe Theatre.

The company from there have taken Hamlet on tour around the world - Globe to the Globe - a two year journey with the play to every country in the world. That momentous journey will end back in our Diocese and back on Bankside.

In Hamlet it says in Act I, scene 2 “Thou know’st it is common; all that lives must die. Passing through nature to eternity”. Shakespeare doesn’t write very much about religion but religion was the context in which he wrote.

He was a child of those early years of the Reformation and knew the Prayer Book and the Bible in English. It is thought that he would have heard the great Bishop Lancelot Andrewes, who is buried in our Cathedral, preaching and one wordsmith would have recognised the skill of the other. But what I particularly love about the Bard is that all life and all reality is in those plays.

Yes, even the greatest Englishman had to die, death is the common thing that binds us all together.

But we believe, as he seems to have done, that we pass from ‘nature to eternity’ and the good things that we have done will continue to bear fruit and enrich lives – just as William Shakespeare does.

Almighty God, we pray that we, with this our brother, and all other departed in the true faith of thy holy name, may have our perfect consummation and bliss, both in body and soul, in thy eternal and everlasting glory. Amen.

(From the Prayer Book of 1604 as would have been used at Shakespeare’s funeral)

The Very Rev Andrew Nunn, Dean of Southwark

Please follow me on Twitter as I offer a prayer each morning so that you can join me in Morning Prayer. Go to @deansouthwark

Christ’s School is outstanding

Christ’s School, Richmond, has been rated Outstanding in a recent SIAMS inspection.

The Inspection, by the National Society of Anglican and Methodist Schools, which examines the distinctiveness and effectiveness of Christ’s as a Church of England school found that the School “through its distinctive Christian character, is outstanding at meeting the needs of all learners”.

The Inspection gave special recognition to the ‘exemplary pastoral care in the school stating that ‘the Christian ethos of servant leadership ensures that every individual student and adult is nurtured to fulfil their God-given potential’.

Commenting on the report, Helen Dixon, Headteacher, said, “this reflects the hard work that everyone involved with the school puts in on a daily basis to ensure that our three core values of peace, justice and love shape a harmonious community within which students can develop into mature and responsible adults”.

She added “as a school we are highly ambitious, continually striving for excellence for our whole community, therefore we are delighted that this report represents another step on our journey to achieving this”.

Holy Trinity

Open Day

A good crowd of local people enjoyed Holy Trinity, Upper Tooting Open Day on 5 March. Talks and displays explained the work the church does with the homeless, those living with dementia and those recovering from mental illness. Users of the three halls staffed stalls and answered questions. Free yoga and children’s drama classes encouraged new interest and visitors also enjoyed refreshments, lunches and tours of the church.
**ON ONGOING**

† **ZIMBABWE ANGELIC COMMUNITY in Southwark meets weekly on Monday at St Mary, Newington – Shona Mass Second Sunday at 2pm. Mothers’ Union last Saturday 2pm.

† **JAPANESE ANGELIC CHURCH (South East London)** meets Sundays at 3.30 pm on 22 May, 29 May, 26 September and 27 November at St Hugh’s Church, Crosby Road, Bermondsey. Contact jacob.selondon@ ntlworld.com

† **HACKBRIDGE – Taizé at All Saints at 7pm on the first Sunday every month.** 40 minutes of prayer through singing and silence, followed by coffee/tea and discussion.

† **WARLINGHAM – Water Aid lunches in St Andrew's Church Hall -12.1pm first Wednesday each month.

† **CHALDON – Church is open for Sunday teas on 2 April until 23 October.** (3 to 4.30pm.)

† **TATSFIELD – Teas served every Sunday 3-5 pm at St Mary’s Church until 23 September.

† **WESTMINSTER – Cathedral Interfaith Group.** 4 to 5pm, third Wednesday of the month. Everyone welcome. Contact Pauline of the poet. www.st-barnabas.org.uk

† **LAMBETH PALACE OPEN DAYS 2016**

Lambeth Palace has the oldest continuously cultivated garden in London, and is open to the public on the first Friday of the month from April to October 12 noon to 3pm. All welcome! Entry £5 for adults, children free. Information from http://www.archbishopoflondon.org.uk/visit-the-lambeth-palace-gardens.html

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**MAY 2016**

FRIDAY 1 APRIL

**REDDHILL – Lunchtime Music at St Matthew’s**

Thursday at 1.10 pm (refreshments at 12.45).

7th – Violin Recital - Lara Caister (Violin) & Alan Brown (Piano)

14th – Oboe Recital – Chloe Barnes

21st – Bassoon Recital - Daniel Emson-Jukes

28th – Chalumeaux Quintet (Clarinet & Saxophones)

£3 donation invited.

† **LAMBETH PALACE OPEN DAY 12-00-15:00.** Entry is £5 for adults, children free. Enjoy spring at Christ Church: magnolias, flowering cherries, euphorbias and ceanothus.

**WEDNESDAY 6 APRIL**

† **CATERHAM – “Munch With Music” at St John’s Church**


**SATURDAY 9 APRIL**

† **BUCKLAND – “Tolkien’s Middle Earth” A Scenic Model Showcase**

at Buckland Reading Room, 10-4 pm with refreshments in aid of Syrian refugees.

Suggested donation £2.50. Children under 12 free. Details on the website: www.stmarythevirginbuckland.net

**TUESDAY 12 APRIL**

† **PURLEY - Is faith a delusion? Why religion is good for your health.**

A talk by Prof. Andrew Sims, Emeritus President of the Royal College of Psychiatry. Christians in Science meeting 7pm at Christ Church. Free event - open to everyone – light refreshments. More information from Joyce Perkins. joyceperkins@gmail.com

**TUESDAY 12 APRIL**

† **STREATHAM – Boxwood and Brass at St Peter’s Church**

7.30pm. Retiring collection in aid of the church organ fund.

**SATURDAY 16 APRIL**

‡ **RAYNES PARK – Tallis: Spem in Allium.**

Wimbledon Chamber Choir 40th Anniversary concert. 7.30pm St Matthew’s Church. Tickets £10: www.wimbledonchamberchoir.org.uk

Thurs 21 – Fri 22 April

† **ROEHAMPTON – “Gerard Manley Hopkins in Roehampton and London”**

A pick-and-mix 24-hour event at Whitelands College, Uni of Roehampton, exploring less well known periods in the life and work of the poet. www.hopkinsociety.co.uk/ forthcoming-events. html or Alan Smith on 01925 268500.

**SATURDAY 23 APRIL**

‡ **TOOTING - Summerston 182 Walk (Tooting Section)**

2pm from St Mary, Summerston Road. Free entry.

‡ **BLAKEHEATH – Shakespeare Celebration at Church of the Ascension, Dartmouth Rd.**

4pm Art workshop; 6pm Concert; 7pm supper. Admission free.

**SATURDAY 20 APRIL**

‡ **ELTHAM – Spring Serenade at the Greenwich Youth Band**

7.30pm at St Luke’s Church, Westmount Road. Tickets £8 (conc £6) at the door or from Normans Music 32 Well Hall Road. Interval refreshments.

**MONDAY 2 MAY**

‡ **CELEBRATING SPRING’.** Join us for the annual Faith in the Countryside Group’s walk through the beautiful East Surrey countryside, visiting churches en route. Details from Ann Wright. E-mail: wright@btinternet.com Tel 01293 821322.

‡ **BUCKLAND – Plant Sale plus Afternoon Tea and Cake.**

- 2 pm Buckland Reading Rooms

**FRIDAY 6 MAY**

† **LAMBETH PALACE OPEN DAY - 12.00-15.00.** All welcome. Entry £5 for adults, children free. See the historic 1556 facade and its magnolias, fl owering cherry, magnolias, fl owering cherries, euphorbias and ceanothus.

‡ **MUSIC AT ST MARGARET’S, LEE 7.30PM**

**SATURDAY 7 MAY**

‡ **EAST DULWICH - Organ recital by John Webber, Director of Music.**

11.00a.m. Music by Buxtehude, Bach, Langlais and others. All welcome! Tea and coffee available. Retiring collection.

**SUNDAY 8 MAY**

‡ **PURLEY – St Swithin’s Charity Plant Sale 9am to 12.30 in Church Hall, Grovelands Road.**

Charity plant sale offering a wide range of annuals, perennials and patio plants, tomatoes, vegetable plants and much more!

**SATURDAY 14 MAY**

‡ **SOUTHFIELDS – Putney Choral Society concert**

7pm at St Paul’s Church, SW19 6EW. Faure’s Requiem and Poulenc’s Gloria.Full orchestra and professional soloists. Tickets £16 (Concs £13) inc refreshments & programme. Contact Shirley 07969 209245, or buy at the door.

‡ **MOTSUPUR PARK – Holy Cross Church Spring Market.**

2-4pm in Church Hall, Adela Avenue. Cakes, books, bric-a-brac etc. Adm 50p

**SUNDAY 21 MAY**

‡ **EARLSFIELD - Summerston 182 Walk (Wandle Section)**

2pm from St Mary, Summerston.

‡ **BETCHWORTH – Organ Recital at St Michael’s Church**

7pm. Margaret Phillips (International Concert Organist)- the Second Anniversary Recital on the new Kenneth Tickell Organ. Tickets will on sale from 1 April 2016 from St Michael’s church.

‡ **CROYDON – Spring Fair, South Croydon Day Centre for the Elderly**

(rear of St Peter’s church). Wool, bric-a-brac, cakes, books, bacon bunnies, tea and coffee. Entry free.

**SATURDAY 27 MAY**

‡ **EAST DULWICH – Organ recital by John Webber, Director of Music.**

11.00a.m. Music by Buxtehude, Bach, Langlais and others. All welcome! Tea and coffee available. Retiring collection.

**SUNDAY 28 MAY**

‡ **BLACKHEATH – Shakespeare Celebration at Church of the Ascension, Dartmouth Rd.**

4pm Art workshop; 6pm Concert; 7pm supper. Admission free.

**MAY**

**SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL**

Guided Walks starting from the Cathedral

Friday 22 April 11am Shakespeare’s Southwark

A fascinating tour of Bankside and the Southwark Church and his friends knew so well. (90 mins.)

£7 per person

Saturday 23 and Sunday 24 April 10.00am – 10.30pm

The Complete Walk - Shakespeare’s Globe Screenings of a short film for each Shakespeare Play along the South Bank.

**FRIDAY 6 MAY**

† **LAMBETH PALACE OPEN DAY - 12.00-15.00.** All welcome. Entry £5 for adults, children free. See the historic 1556 facade and its magnolias, flowering cherries, magnolias, flowering cherries, euphorbias and ceanothus.

‡ **MUSIC AT ST MARGARET’S, LEE 7.30PM**
Bishop Christopher invites you to join him at the Diocesan Pentecost Service

A Celebration of Mission
Southwark Cathedral
Sunday 15 May
at 6 pm
Preacher: Canon Stephen Hance

- Come and be inspired
- Hear stories from churches
- Pray for mission and evangelism
- Share in vibrant worship

It began when a letter from a firm of American lawyers dropped into the church letter box and St Augustine’s discovered that they were the recipients of a legacy for the ‘beatification of the inner sanctum’.

Mario and Elsie Grano had married at St Augustine’s in 1944. He was an Italian born GI stationed at the camp on Plough Lane, she was a local Tooting girl.

After furthering his education in Brighton they returned to the USA where he became an international accountant.

They obviously kept fond memories of the church in which their vows were made but their legacy came as a complete surprise.

After much discussion the Church Council decided to use the funds to commission three icons: the Visitation, St Augustine of Canterbury and Christ on the Cross.

The icons were created by leading iconographer Peter Murphy.

In ‘The Visitation’ Mary is portrayed as the singer of the song of God’s justice; ‘Augustine’, a missionary from Italy, is shown (left) as the bearer of the image of Christ; ‘Christ on the Cross’ (shown far left being blessed by the Bishop), proclaims Jesus the King of Glory.

The icons were blessed by Bishop Christopher on Passion Sunday, 13 March.

The Bridge - in print, in your parish... and on line at www.southwark.anglican.org/thebridge