In January, Bishop Christopher visited the Holy Land as the Church of England’s representative on the 2016 annual Coordination of Roman Catholic Bishops in Support of the Church of the Holy Land.

Bishop Christopher joined Roman Catholic Bishops from across Europe, North America and South Africa as they visited vulnerable Christian communities of Gaza, Bethlehem and refugees in Jordan.

They visited the small Christian community in Gaza, celebrated mass at the parish of the Holy Family, met with parishioners, visited the school of the Holy Rosary Sisters and various projects helping people to rebuild their lives following the most recent conflict in 2014.

In Bethlehem they celebrated mass and visited the Christian community of Beit Jala, who have lost land and livelihoods following land seizures and the building of a Separation Wall.

The focus of the remainder of the visit was Jordan and the refugees forced out of their homes by the ongoing conflict in Syria and Iraq.

The Holy Land Coordination was set up at the end of the last century to offer support to the local Christian communities of the Holy Land. At the end of the visit Bishop Christopher was one of the signatories of their statement which included the words:

“Here in this land holy to Jews, Christians and Muslims, we have been reminded during our visit of the Church’s enduring presence among the weak and vulnerable and those who are too often forgotten. We take away our experiences and the stories that we have heard, and we are determined to give a voice to the voiceless. You Are Not Forgotten.”

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The Venerable Danny Kajumba, Archdeacon of Reigate is to retire on 23 February 2016.

Having had periods of ill health recently he has decided to retire early to spend more time with his family.

He became Team Vicar in Horley in 1999 and was made Archdeacon of Reigate in 2001 and has served as national chair of the Committee for Minority Ethnic Anglican Concerns.

Commenting on the announcement the Bishop of Southwark said, “Danny Kajumba has been Archdeacon of Reigate for the last fourteen years. I am deeply grateful for his work both in his Archdeaconry and in the wider Diocese and Church of England not least in championing the place of minority ethnic people in Church and Society. “He will be a great loss to this Diocese, not least for the kindness and concern he has showed to so many; but I am glad for him and his wife Tina that they will be free to devote more time to their family’. The Bishop of Croydon commented: “Danny has been a thoughtful and compassionate Archdeacon seeking to ensure the flourishing of parishes and people in his Archdeaconry. He will be much missed”.

There will be a chance to say goodbye to Danny at his Farewell Service, which will be held on Tuesday 8 March at St Matthew’s, Redhill. The service will start at 7.30pm.

There will be a farewell collection for Danny. If parishes would like to contribute, cheques should be made payable to ‘South London Church Fund’ and sent to Heather Cassidy, Finance Department at Trinity House. Please mark cheques ‘Archdeacon of Reigate’ on the back.
Life in Community

I must admit that I have never felt drawn to live in community and I suspect that anyone who knows me at all well will realise that this is something about which to be very thankful. It seems to me that to be able to live in community is a great gift because it must mean that you have somehow learned to be gracious and to share and, well, whatever else it is that you have to do to live in community.

That at least is what I imagine although I suspect that the reality of living in community is rather different and that people still get irritated and frustrated by others and find it to be a real challenge sometimes.

The communities featured on our centre pages both offer short term commitments and give people a chance to think and reflect together about the way forward for their lives.

They offer people a time of discernment and of experiment - to see if they like living in community or working in a parish, helping in a school and so on - but they also offer a chance to think more deeply with others about what it means to live out the Christian faith today.

But it isn’t just religious communities that are important. We all need some sort of community or other in order to be able to flourish and to explore and grow. For some this happens best in their family relationships, for others it is in the communities that they form with friends and neighbours. Those we see regularly on our televisions screens and read about in our newspapers, who have found themselves displaced from their homelands, know all too well the cost of losing the communities they are familiar with and the feelings of safety that this engenders.

As you read the centrespread and other stories in this edition of the Bridge it is good to reflect upon what it means for us to be part of our local community - and of our community of faith - in order that we might each come to know more about how to share the Good News with those amongst whom we live and work.

Canon Wendy S Robins

The MARCH edition is due to be printed on 25 February and in your parish from the following Sunday.

Material for that edition must be with Wendy S. Robins at Trinity House by Monday 15 February.

Space limitations mean that we cannot guarantee to publish everything we receive and material may be edited. The editorial team will assume that all photographs submitted for publication come to us with the necessary permission for printing. So, please ensure that people are happy for their photographs to be submitted before you do so.

A form for permission for the use of photographs of children and adults who may be vulnerable can be found at www.southwark.anglican.org/wat/what/diocesan-policies-procedures

The Revd Jennifer Anand has been licensed as part-time Assistant Priest at St John’s Angel Town, to be an additional resource within the parish for the Revd Canon Rosemary Mallet who has taken on the additional role of Diocesan Public Policy Adviser.

She has been previously part-time Assistant Priest at St Hugh, Bermondsey.

The Revd Vieckie Sims, Chaplain of All Saints Milan, is to be the Archdeacon of Italy and Malta from the beginning of February.

She will be the first female Archdeacon in the Diocese of Gibraltar in Europe.

Vieckie was Priest in Charge and then Vicar of St Andrew’s, Coulson from 2005-14. She succeeds Jonathan Boardman (Team Rector, Catford and Downham from 1996-99).

Vieckie knows Italy well having lived in Milan for 20 years teaching English to Italian business people. At the church in Milan she played the organ and was churchwarden.

She studied at Cuddesdon Theological College before being ordained Deacon in 2002 and Priested the following year. She returned to Milan as Chaplain in 2014.

Three clergy from Nordic churches serving in Greater London were licensed as Public Preachers in Southwark Diocese by the Bishop of Woolwich in Southwark Cathedral in January.

This was according to the Porvoo Agreement and was of special significance as the service fell during the Week of Christian Unity.

They were: Jens Gronvold of the Norwegian Church at Rotherhithe, Michael Persson and Kristina Andreasson, Dean and Chaplain at the Swedish Church in London.

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Debt Centre opens in Thamesmead

Thamesmead Team Ministry have combined with other churches to set up a new CAP Debt Centre serving Plumstead, Thamesmead and Erith.

The centre, which was launched on 15 January at Bexley College by local MP, Teresa Pearce, is an ecumenical venture supported by Anglican, Methodist, URC, Baptist and independent churches.

The service that the centre offers is designed to enable people trapped in spiralling debt to become debt free. Negotiations with creditors are carried out by Christians Against Poverty from their base in Bradford, and the centre and its volunteers support the person until they are debt free.

The Revd Patrick Eggleston, Team Rector of Thamesmead, said: ‘We are delighted to have got this centre up and running. There is a real need for it in this area and it is wonderful to have done this as a collaborative venture with the other churches. We are also very pleased to be working in partnership with Christians Against Poverty and using their award winning service.

“We are also very grateful to the Church Urban Fund, the Woolwich Episcopal Area and the Diocese of Rochester for their financial support.”


Bishops meet halfway to bless the Thames

The Bishop of Woolwich and Bishop of London met in the middle of London Bridge for the annual Blessing of the River Thames in January.

Bishop Michael was joined by the Dean, Andrew Nunn, and members of Southwark Cathedral congregation.

Bishop Richard Chartres arrived in procession with the priests and congregation of St Magnus the Martyr in the City of London where he had celebrated Sunday Mass. They were joined by the Mayor of Southwark Dora Dixon-Pyle and Bermondsey and Old Southwark MP Neil Coyle.

The custom, which takes place on Baptism of Our Lord Sunday, follows the Orthodox custom of hurling a cross into water as a symbol of Christ’s baptism. Prayers are said for people and organisations who work on London’s river.

Photo: SE1 website
**From Kennington to Korea**

Michaelmas 1890 saw the arrival of the first Anglican missionary bishop on the shores of Korea.

Bishop John Corfe was supported in his mission by the parish of St John the Divine Kennington and it’s vicar Canon Charles Edward Brooke. A new religious order was also founded, encouraged by Brooke, to follow Corfe to Korea - the Korean Mission Brotherhood. This order later became the Society of the Sacred Mission (SSM).

The Bishop of Daejon, Moses Yoo, the Bishop of Assante Mampong (Ghana), Cyril Kobina Ben-Smith Fr Robert SSM & Canon Mark Williams at a social welfare project.

**125th anniversary**  
Before Christmas the vicar of St John the Divine, Canon Mark Williams and Father Robert SSM journeyed from Kennington to Korea for the 125th anniversary celebrations.

In Seoul they were greeted on their first day with a slap up lunch with the Primate, Paul Kim. The 125th anniversary Eucharist in Seoul Cathedral was a stately affair, with visiting bishops from many places including the US, Japan, Singapore, UK and Ghana.

But said Canon Williams, “The greatest privilege however was to travel around South Korea and meet Anglicans getting on with mission and ministry in their own areas”.

“A packed church in Jincheon we joined Sunday mass with young and old, and met Ban Ki-moon’s brother Moses who worships there. In Daejeon we saw an incredibly impressive work with disaffected young people, with the homeless and those affected by drug and alcohol addiction.”

“The church is reaching out to all corners of the community, trusted and funded by government to deliver social welfare projects.”

“Much of this work was negotiated over many years by a pioneer priest, Moses Yoo, who the Diocese of Daejeon elected as their bishop last year.

Busan, with less clergy and smaller congregations, also has a very mission-minded bishop, Onesimus Park, who is making a serious impact on the life of the church there, alongside long-standing and high quality work with the Mission to Seafarers in the port of Busan. “125 years on it is a privilege to see the blossoming of seeds planted by mission-minded catholic clergy who have gone before us, who had a zeal for the Gospel, and made real personal commitment and sacrifice.”

**Contrast**  
“However the thriving church in south Korea is in contrast to the desperate plight of those in the north. Before the Korean War, the Anglican presence was greater in the north than the south. But today Christians in the north have to practice their faith in secret; while in the affluent south the church is growing.”

The Diocese of Southwark has an estimated 30,000 Koreans living mainly in and around New Malden. Signalling the importance of Koreans in the life of our church, Bishop Christopher was invited earlier this year to become the Joint President with the Primate of Korea of the Korean Mission Partnership.

Bishop Christopher said: “In our Diocese we have the largest concentration of Koreans in any one place outside Korea itself.

“Let us make peace and reconciliation in Korea a focus for our prayer in Southwark”.

**+SSM Revival**  
The visit to Seoul was prefaced by a solemn Eucharist at Kennington with the clothing of two novices for SSM. Last Michaelmas there was a profession of a new brother, and there is hope of even more. This revival in SSM has also seen the focus at their mother house return to professed religious life, with the Well Community in Milton Keynes now to be St Michael’s Priory, the new life in the Society of the Sacred Mission.

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**A ‘Cut for a Cause’**

Rosemary Roper, a Reader and Mothers’ Union Member at St Luke’s, Eltham Park underwent a sponsored hair cut recently. She wanted to show her empathy and support for her daughter who, as a result of treatment for neuroendocrine cancer, is losing her hair.

She also wanted to raise awareness of the disease and to raise funds for the Neuroendocrine Tumour Patient Foundation, which supports sufferers and funds clinical research.

The dastardly deed was carried out by her husband Peter in the Church Vestry, in front of an audience of about 30 people on a Thursday morning, after the MU Corporate Communion service. Sponsorship by family, friends and St Luke’s congregation has raised over £800.

For further information visit the website – www.netpatientfoundation.org, or contact Rosemary by email at rj.roper@talktalk.net.

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**ACTION BY CHRISTIANS AGAINST TORTURE**

Imagine what it is like to be unjustly imprisoned and tortured.

ACAT is an ecumenical movement and a registered charity (no. 1072628). We are a campaigning organisation that takes up individual cases and situations in countries where torture, assassination and death threats are widespread and often hidden by ruling governments. ACAT seeks to make individual Christians in the UK and their Churches aware of one of the major evils of modern society. Remembering that Jesus himself was a victim of torture, we aim to involve Christians in its abolition.

*Our Patrons include – Cardinal Vincent Nichols, Bishop Declan Lang, Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Archbishop John Sentamu and Professor Lord David Alton.*

*You can help us by learning about our work, joining us in prayer, and sending appeals to governments and embassies. We run an annual Christmas Greetings campaign posting messages to those of any faith or none who have been unjustly imprisoned and often tortured.*

Even just a coloured greetings card is of enormous help to someone in a darkened cell.

A similar campaign at Easter focuses solely on Christian prisoners.

For information, materials and how to join us see [www.acatuk.org.uk](http://www.acatuk.org.uk), or email uk.acat@gmail.com.

Or write to us at 19 The Square, Knowle Park, Bristol BS4 2ST.
The egg that shares the Easter story

It's time to reclaim Easter!

Out of the 80 million Easter eggs sold in this part of the world every year, The Real Easter Egg is the only one which has an Easter story booklet in the box, is made of Fairtrade chocolate and makes a donation to charity from its sales.

To allow us to continue to make The Real Easter Egg, we need people to switch and buy. As Easter is very early this year, we need to communicate this as soon as possible. Don’t forget, delivery is free if you spend more than £45 and order by 1st March 2016.

So we need a champion to encourage people to buy directly from us. See below or have a look at the free resources at www.realeasteregg.co.uk

How you can help

We sell the Real Easter Egg in three ways: by people buying directly from us, from independent retailers and from supermarkets. The supermarkets, which are stocking the eggs, will only ever have about 12 eggs on display in any one store. So they would be simply overwhelmed by the demand from a typical church. Last year, hundreds of churches placed orders directly with us in quantities ranging from 12–1,000 eggs.

Direct sales are very important for our company to trade. So we hope you will join the campaign and encourage people to buy directly from us.

Tastes good and does good

The Real Easter Egg was launched in 2010. It was a real struggle as all the supermarkets turned it down at first. To date, we have sold more than one million eggs with 750,000 of these sent through the post directly to churches and schools. Not only has there been an increase in Fairtrade chocolate sales, but nearly £200,000 has been donated to charity.

How to order

Pay online by card

- The simplest way to pay is to visit our online shop at www.realeasteregg.co.uk

Payment by cheque

- Complete the form below and return to: The Meaningful Chocolate Company, 11a Eagle Brow, Lymm, WA13 0LP. Cheques payable to ‘The Meaningful Chocolate Company Ltd’.

Delivery Address:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title:</th>
<th>First Name:</th>
<th>Surname:</th>
<th>Tel. No. (Daytime):</th>
<th>Email:</th>
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<tr>
<th>Product</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Price</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Original (RRP £3.99)</td>
<td>A fresh new design. Includes the Easter story in the shape of a cross, a high quality milk chocolate egg (125g) and Yummy Bar (25g). Must be ordered from us in multiples of 6. Includes a donation to Traidcraft Exchange.</td>
<td>£3.99</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Edition (RRP £9.99)</td>
<td>Contains a high quality milk chocolate egg (200g), an olive wood holding cross keyring from Bethlehem, a cross shaped Easter story and an orange milk chocolate bar (80g). Not available in Tesco this year. Can be ordered in singles.</td>
<td>£9.99</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dark (RRP £5.50)</td>
<td>An egg made from premium dark Fairtrade chocolate (165g) with 3 dark chocolate squares (15g) and a cross shaped Easter story. Must be ordered from us in multiples of 6.</td>
<td>£5.50</td>
<td>6</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*There is a charitable donation for every 150g egg sold.

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NEW

Beautiful Easter story design

This year The Real Easter Egg range has had a makeover and each single boxed egg includes a unique copy of the Easter story in the shape of a pull out 37 cm high cross illustrated by Helen Cann.

Please note the Dark and Special Edition eggs are not being sold in supermarkets but can be bought from independent stores or ordered online.

Free delivery on orders over £45 and received by 1st March 2016.

*Free delivery on orders over £45 and received by 1st March.
The Sanderstead ADVENTure

Garages and shopfronts across Sanderstead Parish were turned into a live Advent calendar throughout December, using familiar Christmas carols and displays designed to convey the true meaning of Christmas. The ADVENTure Project, supported by Churches Together in Sanderstead, was based on an idea in Brighton (beyondchurch.co.uk) and also St Mary’s Church Oxted. Each evening one garage, porch or shop frontage was decorated and opened up for display - just like a live Advent calendar.

“We wanted to celebrate the season by doing something that’s never been done before in this area” said Penny Bird, project organiser. “We have an original and amazing story to share. It was absolutely free, and each evening was themed around a traditional Christmas Carol. The Project was a tremendous success. We got to know lots of people we hadn’t met before, who came to celebrate the Good News with us.”

The displays began on 1 December with a single candle against a blackout curtain, depicting light shining in darkness. The themes progressed throughout the month, climaxing on Christmas Eve with a manger scene including a mother and her three-week old baby.

“We didn’t have the kind of beach huts they used in Brighton,” said the Revd Jeremy Groombridge, Curate in the Sanderstead Team Ministry. “But our garages and shopfronts presented a tremendous opportunity to meet our neighbours and work together as a group of churches to spread the Good News.

The full set of pictures can be seen at www.sanderstead-parish.org.uk

A Calais shelter in Earlsfield

A shelter for refugees in the ‘Jungle’ camp at Calais stood in the garden of St Andrew’s, Earlsfield during Advent.

It was installed by a local initiative, ‘Just Shelter’, which was set up to provide robust shelters for some of the most vulnerable of the Calais refugees. St Andrew’s shelter gave people an opportunity to reflect on the refugee crisis, with images from Calais and a prayer-board on its walls. Local families and businesses used it for sponsored sleep-outs throughout Advent, which raised £10,000 to provide more shelters.

It also served as the backdrop for an outdoor nativity play, attended by some 300 people, reminding them that Jesus too was a refugee.

Walking for Syrian refugee children

On Thursday 17 December, 24 Year 6 children at Macaulay C of E School, Clapham, completed a five mile sponsored pilgrimage for Syrian refugee children.

The walk took the children from their school to Southwark Cathedral. Each child carried a balloon with an inspirational word of their choice printed on the side.

The wider school community gave them a ‘send-off’ at 9.15am and the journey was followed on Twitter the entire route.

The walk came about through discussions during RE lessons and following a whole school focus on the Christian value of generosity. The young people raised £878.30 through donations and sponsorship which they donated to Christian Aid.

The money raised will provide winter coats, gloves, hats, blankets, baby food and nappies for the refugee children during the harsh European winter ahead.

The children were met at Southwark Cathedral by Mr David Pollendine, representing Christian Aid, and then presented to the 800 strong congregation by the Dean who was leading the Cathedral’s annual Christmas Service Sing-In.

Amari Lake, who is photographed right presenting the cheque, described the experience as breath-taking and felt incredibly proud and honoured to be recognised for what they had done by so many people.

Kristina Carolino, another pupil involved said, “After the walk I felt that my sense of responsibility to the world is to share what I already have.”
Christ’s School Choir takes a bite of The Big Apple

A group of students from Christ’s School, Richmond are celebrating performing at the world famous Carnegie Hall in January. The Choir performed in “The Music of Karl Jenkins: A Concert For Peace”, sharing the stage with a number of internationally renowned performers and choirs.

The invitation to take part stems from the summer of 2015 when the Choir performed Sir Karl Jenkins’ Songs of Sanctuary with a professional orchestra.

Other recent performances have included Vivaldi’s Gloria, Mozart’s Ave Verum Corpus and Billy Joel’s And So It Goes. Formed ten years ago, the choir has performed at informal and formal concerts, school events, services and large scale choral and orchestral concerts.

Philip Wilson, Director of Music at Christ’s School described the visit as “…an amazing experience for all of the students involved - a just reward for all of the time and hard work these young singers have put in to perfecting their performance”.

The Revd Piers Golding

At Choral Evensong in Southwark Cathedral on Saturday 23 January; family, friends and colleagues gathered to give thanks for the life of the Revd Piers Golding.

Piers Golding was Vicar of Bermondsey from 1962 to 1993. He died at the end of 2014 but this was the first occasion that Andrew Thompson (his Godson) had been able to gather everyone together. Bishop Christopher read a lesson and gave the blessing at the end of the service.
**Life in Community** can

**In Lambeth Palace**

The Community of St Anselm has been established by the Archbishop of Canterbury and is based at Lambeth Palace. It draws together young Christians aged 20-35, from all over the world and any denomination or Christian expression. Membership is for one transformative year of prayer, theological reflection and service to the poor.

Anders Litzell writes:

Our members experience a year of shared life and spiritual formation that we hope will shape the rest of their lives, pursuing the grace to live lives of integrity in every sector of society. Each year, we hope that one third of the full-time resident members will hail from, and return to, less economically developed countries.

We also want there to be a strong component of young professionals from financial, commercial and service sectors for both the residential and non-residential modes of membership. The current, and first, year’s members hail from five continents and a wide range of denominations.

Our resident members move to Lambeth Palace for one academic year and fill thirty days with prayer, study and service to the poor – as well as the many practical aspects of a shared life; shared cooking, shared laundry and cleaning etc. Our non-resident members go on the same journey, but remain embedded in their workplaces, exploring what it is to become a people of prayer, steeped in the presence of God.

They are learning to live from that place of intimacy with our Father in Heaven in the space between two phone calls, in conversations and in making decisions and recommendations that are just and profitable; profitable in the richest, historical sense of that word – decisions that will benefit employers, employees, and society locally and globally.

This is an audacious vision, but this is the vision the Archbishop has for Christian life, living out the call and grace of Christ in all spheres of human activity, or in the words of the prophet Micah to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God. Somewhat counter-intuitively, humility is the key to achieving the greatest things. Humility before a God who is infinitely greater than the problems we are facing, who is infinitely more generous than we dare depend on, and who is infinitely more desiring of our heart’s affection than we have yet experienced.

Humility is saying to God “I can’t, but we can.” To pretend we are able to change the world in our own strength is pride. As we set ourselves apart from the need of God’s empowering grace. To pretend that, even with God’s grace, we are still unable, is pride because it elevates our perceived inability above God’s empowering call on our lives. Humility is acknowledging our inability and decision to stand in awe of God’s grace, to say with St Paul, regardless of the situation, I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

For the Body of Christ to become agents for transformation, every man, woman and child, is a God-sized vision, one that we cannot hope to fulfill by ourselves even in our own lives, and so the members of the Community of St Anselm give a year of their lives to be shaped into a people of prayer, because in prayer, in the transforming encounter with the Living God, we become what we are created to be.

In welcoming members from such a broad mix of economic backgrounds and Christian expression and traditions, we commit to making a shared journey of reconciliation utterly central to the life of the Community; our differences will both enrich and challenge our shared life. This, along with a focus on serving the poor and disenchanted, we hope, will be both an encouraging and valuable contribution from this Community to the wider Church.

It is a great joy for us to be working with a range of partners: our resident members spend two full days each week with the Chaplaincy team at Guy’s and St Thomas’ Hospital, the Larche Community in West Norwood and the Oasis Trust in Waterloo as well as with a home for alcoholics and a shelter for vulnerable women in North London. Our non-resident members are serving with an even greater range of partners right across Greater London. For me, personally, it is a tremendous joy that our Community has been so warmly embraced and welcomed by local churches and charities!

I am deeply encouraged by the lead that Southwark Diocese is taking in modelling growth initiatives and creating new space and momentum for Anglicans, Roman Catholics and other denominations. This centrepiece features two initiatives Diocese (although technically Lambeth Palace) which people aged 18 to 35 commit to sharing their time and talents in a community like the one being established at Lambeth. I’ve been brought up in the Anglican Church – although that’s quite a wide net. I think part of the premise of the Community is that our identity as followers of Christ is ultimately far more significant than that as Anglicans, Roman Catholics or any other particular church.

Philip, Resident Member, Belgium

I heard about the Community on the front page of the Financial Times! It sounded like a radical and exciting idea but it took me a little while to realise that it was something I wanted to do. The basic appeal was what it has attracted people to monasteries for centuries – to strip away the various distractions of life and make time for God. It’s easy for faith to slip into something incidental to our day-to-day lives; I see this year as a wager that if we put God at the centre of everything we do we will transform our actions and our lives. I have been surprised by the positive interest shown by both Christian and non-Christian friends in what I’m doing. However sceptical about Christianity they may be, most recognise the value of a time for retreat and reflection, and of doing this in a community like the one being established at Lambeth. I’ve been brought up in the Anglican Church – although that’s quite a wide net. I think part of the premise of the Community is that our identity as followers of Christ is ultimately far more significant than that as Anglicans, Roman Catholics or any other particular church.

I have received the gift of harmony, tolerance, coexistence in terms of worship; at home, as a leader, I have to keep very different styles of worship separate – some want incense, some want the smoke machine! – and so I will not mix them up, but coming here, with this diversity where we all worship together, it has taught me much about coexistence and harmony in worship. We worship one God together in one Spirit, regardless of how we do it.

George, Resident Member, East Africa

I wanted to apply because I had thought quite a bit about my faith but was looking forward to the opportunity to pray and to really try to live it out and let it sink in deeper. It seemed to take one year to really take my faith seriously would change the course of my life from there.

It’s been amazing to be here. It’s not what I thought it would be – but it’s been very, very rich. The prayer time is extraordinary and the time with community – it’s been some months since we got here – and we have gotten to know each other on a different level and started to get a feel for how we live with each other and cause each other to grow. Simply having two hours a day to pray to God, with God, on our own, is unreal and I’m not sure where I would get that outside of this year. And so I shoo up and trust that God is there as well – it’s such a gift.

The two days we spend in working alongside other local charities are a big contrast to the rest of the week – it feels like there are two different parts to the week that inform one another. We spend so much time in community to then go out and meet other people and see them in the hospital bed is a taste of life that we don’t always get in community, but informs all that we’re learning and praying about.

I was very certain that God was working through this whole process, and the power of prayer was very clear to me throughout my application process, and felt that God was leading this process any way that it would have turned out. The Year in God’s Time really begins when you start to apply, and that to me was a radical and exciting idea but it took me a little while to realise that it was something I wanted to do. The basic appeal was what it has attracted people to monasteries for centuries – to strip away the various distractions of life and make time for God. It’s easy for faith to slip into something incidental to our day-to-day lives; I see this year as a wager that if we put God at the centre of everything we do we will transform our actions and our lives. I have been surprised by the positive interest shown by both Christian and non-Christian friends in what I’m doing. However sceptical about Christianity they may be, most recognise the value of a time for retreat and reflection, and of doing this in a community like the one being established at Lambeth. I’ve been brought up in the Anglican Church – although that’s quite a wide net. I think part of the premise of the Community is that our identity as followers of Christ is ultimately far more significant than that as Anglicans, Roman Catholics or any other particular church.

I have received the gift of harmony, tolerance, coexistence in terms of worship; at home, as a leader, I have to keep very different styles of worship separate – some want incense, some want the smoke machine! – and so I will not mix them up, but coming here, with this diversity where we all worship together, it has taught me much about coexistence and harmony in worship. We worship one God together in one Spirit, regardless of how we do it.

George, Resident Member, East Africa

**Teaching in the Guard Room at Lambeth Palace**

**Comissioning by the Archbishop at Lambeth Palace**

**Cooking together In the Community’s Common Room**

**PHOTO: ESTELLE KIM-LIM**

**PHOTO: STEPHEN KENDAL**

**PHOTO: KEYRA KIM-LIM**

**PHOTO: STEPHEN KENDAL**

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In Ravensbourne Parish

Alice, Richard, Noah and Catherine

Noah:

"Since a young age, I have felt a call to serve others, and it was partly this desire that lead to me teaching secondary school Religious Studies and Philosophy for 3 years. Whilst I loved my time in the classroom working directly with the boys, I enjoyed much more the pastoral side of my job and hated the fact that I couldn’t spend as much time as I would have liked on this, due to planning, paper work, marking, data, meetings…"

"About a year ago I began to feel God nudging me to step out of my comfort zone and chosen career path, and do something to help build his kingdom on a more full time basis. Not being sure what shape I eventually wanted this to take (and I still don’t know!), I was attracted to the CEMES scheme due to the broad variety of experiences it offered. Being a northerns girl with long standing dreams of the big city, serving the pastoral needs of a varied community in London in an environment seemed like the perfect thing at the perfect time."

Richard:

"I never knew what a pastoral assistant was until my vicar suggested that I might like to be one. I had wrestled with the thought of priesthood for years, ever since becoming a Christian at university. But it was hard to know where to begin, and I ended up in one of the standard graduate careers, training, part-time, as a lawyer (albeit never fully qualifying), and specializing in crime. "It is often the case a vocation to priesthood," he told me, "is mistaken for a vocation to the grotty end of the bar."

This is now my second year as a pastoral assistant, after a wonderful time spent with the Company of Mission Priests in Walsall last year. London is of course very different from the West Midlands – "there is in London all that life can afford". But pastoral assistanting still remains the most enjoyable miscellaneous sort of job – one day making cardboard vestments for an assembly, the next visiting iranian refugees – but also one of the few where you can honestly say that people come first, as we try and make the most of this great opportunity to follow the Son."

Some of our recent activities:

- Assisting at ESOL, (English for Speakers of Other Languages) classes held in Holy Trinity
- GIFTED, which is a mentoring scheme for secondary school aged children set up this year in the Ravensbourne team.
- The "Gift" – a play about the journey of the three Magi to see the Christ child and involving some argumentative camels
- Richard has been working with the chaplain at a local secondary school and, with Alice and the chaplain, recently led a confirmation retreat for pupils at the Sisters of St Andrew's
- Messy Church – we had a particularly successful Christmas one with a delicious lunch cooked by Bo Liberg, our resident chef extraordinaire, who also created a huge pudding for the mass!
- Quaggy Development Trust youth clubs and lunch club
- Catherine has been co-ordinating the St John’s youth church programme and encouraging and enabling the young people involved to utilise their gifts more within the parish
- We spent an afternoon a week at Trinity House each working in a different department, which has been a great opportunity to learn more about the inner workings of a diocese
- Live Nativity with Vineyard Church with a real donkey, sheep and turkeys...
- Assemblies at local primary school
- On Sundays we start with a service over breakfast at Holy Trinity and then we share out between St John’s and the Ascension. There are also a number of services we attend during the week.

CEMES aims to contain study as well as practical experience so here in Southwark we are enrolled on the Bishop’s Certificate in Discipleship and the Mission Shaped Ministry course as well as doing bible study in-house.

We all come from very different church traditions so it can be challenging to find a style of prayer which feeds everyone spiritually but we’ve discovered a mutual enjoyment of commein which has become our house shared office.

In the first week of starting at Ravensbourne we were tasked with creating a sort of community rule. Though perhaps a bit early in the day given our heads were whirling with the newness of everything and we barely knew each other we came up with something that we still agree with five months on:

- Remembering our communities in prayer
- Building positive relationships on Christ the cornerstone
- Placing the needs of others at the heart of our ministry
- Creating an intentional community where each member flourishes and all are welcome. Joyfully!

We do end up spending a fair bit of time with each other between work and hanging out at home, which could easily spell disaster, but it has worked out surprisingly well so far, for a start we’re all still alive! This may be, at least in part, down to the very intentional way we entered into our shared life with a clear aim of building community.

We’re all here searching for what God is calling us to; we’re hoping to discover that something which God desires us to devote our lives to. And so we head at a rattling pace into Lent..."
The Revd Pattie Vigers
21 March 1931 – 26 November 2015

A Funeral Service for the Revd Pattie Vigers was held on the 18 December in St Michael’s Betchworth where she served as a non-stipendiary priest for 16 years. She died on 26 November aged 84.

Bishop Jonathan presided and the Service was full with family, friends, members from church congregations, and the local community. The service, a Eucharist, included church congregations, and family, friends, members from St Michael’s Betchworth where she served as a non-stipendiary priest for 16 years.

The Rector Carole Coslett writes: “We will miss her notes and letters written in her beautiful handwriting and her beautifully drawn cartoons when we have been to meetings together. We will miss her greatly, such a gentle soul who achieved so much without a fanfare of trumpets. “Pattie’s generosity, modesty and willingness to help in numerous ways will last for memories for all of us. Her contribution to village life cannot be exaggerated. May she rest in peace and rise in glory.”

Longest serving Reader?

Alfred Wood preached his final sermon in September at the Parish Communion in St. Margaret’s, Lee.

Retiring after 63 years he is believed to have established a Diocesan record and maybe even a national one.

During the service Marion Watson, the Woolwich Area Warden of Readers presented him with a Certificate of Service from the Bishop of Southwark, together with a twenty-five year service medal from the Bishop of Woolwich and a bouquet from the Readers Board.

The service was followed by a reception in the crypt and the Rector, Canon Dr. Alan Race summarised Alfred’s key achievements. These were embodied on a commemorative cake with a quatrefoil emblem, each quarter of which represented his many contributions to St Margaret’s and included his age (95), the number of years he had been a church member (75), the number of years he had been a Reader (63) and the number of sermons he had preached (753), not only in St. Margaret’s, but at over 50 other churches and chapels.

Photo above: Marion, Alan and Jenny Standage (another reader at St. Margaret’s) and Canon Alan Race.

Mortlake thanks Melita Massa

At the end of November, Mortlake with East Sheen parish said farewell to and thank you to Southwark Pastoral Auxiliary (SPA) Melita Massa.

Carole Graham writes: “For fourteen years she has been a wise and caring support to the clergy in a large and busy parish. It was therefore with great joy and appreciation that the parish thanked her recently for many achievements and in particular, her work with the Active Retired group”.

Beginning with sixteen parishioners it quickly grew to embrace the entire community, including people who did not attend church. Melita explains it is a fellowship – the volunteers and members of the Active Retired “have always acted as a group joining together to socialise rather than one group of people serving another”.

Impressed with the positive impact of the Active Retired in the community, in 2013 Richmond Council recognised Melita with Richmond Community Award.

Above: Melita with Revd Stuart Lee and Canon Dr. Nickson.

BAME Vocations Champion

Bishop Christopher has appointed the Revd Roxanne Hunte as the new Black Asian Minority Ethnic (BAME) Vocations Champion for the Diocese of Southwark. She will combine this with her role as Priest-in-Charge of South Norwood, Holy Innocents and South Norwood, St Mark.

The role of the BAME Vocations Champion is to encourage the increase and development of vocations to the whole range of ordained and licensed lay ministries from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic Anglicans across the Diocese of Southwark.

This will include initiatives such as BAME vocations conferences, roadshows and faith-based supporting deaneries and incumbents in the nurture and encouragement of BAME vocations.

Bishop Christopher says, “Roxanne brings great wisdom and clarity to this role and I am sure that she will continue to be a great asset to the Vocations Team. She seeks to help them to grow BAME vocations to all forms of ministry.”

The Revd Roxanne Hunte said, “I look forward to this additional role”.

St Swithun’s, Purley Christmas Parcel Scheme

Paul Sandford writes:

For over forty years, St Swithun’s Church, Purley has been providing and sending Christmas parcels to needy families and single people in other areas of the Diocese.

Using our Harvest Festival Service to gather groceries and money, we acquire more basic goods until Gift Sunday when the congregation give seasonal extras and home-made fruit cakes, toys and gifts. On the Monday the organiser compiles lists of the food to pack, and gives age and gender of the children so that the packers can try to match toys and gifts to the individual child.

The Christmas Parcel Scheme was initiated many years ago by one of our parishioners, Tony Covell. One of the early recipients of these was Bede House Association in Southwark which Tony had helped to set up in 1938. He was one of the original Trustees and on the committee and managing council for many years. Tony also served St Swithun’s in many capacities for a total of fifty six years.

The association with Bede continues but contacts with other charities over the years has widened our parcel giving including 86 children), filled 10 plastic cartons for homeless people, and wrapped 24 boxes of sweets/chocolates for distribution during a Nursing Home carol sing-song. For some recipients, our box is the only gift they get at Christmas.
Christ Church with St Philip, Worcester Park

“Some would describe themselves as Anglicans, some as Methodists, but most are simply Christians.” That was how the Revd Stephanie Nadarajah summed up the membership of Christ Church with St Philip, Worcester Park – an Anglican/Methodist Local Ecumenical Partnership.

In the beginning there were two churches – the Victorian Anglican parish church of St Philip’s and the 1930s-built Christ Church Methodist church. In 1976 shortly after St Philips celebrated its centenary, serious structural problems were discovered. Work on a new church and hall was begun and the congregation had moved into the parish hall for safety and St Philip’s was demolished. An invitation from the Methodists to use Christ Church for worship led in 1981 to a formal and shared scheme – where the two congregations worshipped separately but in the same building – and ten years later to a Local Ecumenical Partnership, where in effect the two became one. Their (excellent) website sums up the ethos far better than I could. “We now live and worship as a single community, sharing every aspect of church life including services, buildings and finance. In our worship and life together we seek to stay faithful to the traditions and practices of both denominations’.

The integration of the two denominations is now so seamless that most of the church members, especially those who have joined since the ‘merger’, see themselves as neither Anglican nor Methodist but a united church.

Governance of the church is in the hands of an Ecumenical Church Council, which (to a large extent) fulfils the roles of both Parochial Church Council and Methodist Church Council. Lay leadership is shared by two Anglican Churchwardens and two Methodist Stewards - and the clergy team consists of an Anglican Vicar, a Methodist Minister and an Anglican Assistant Priest. The Revd Stephanie Nadarajah has been the Vicar for just four months, having previously served in the Caterham Team. She is part-time, working Sundays and three weekdays. The Methodist Minister, the Revd Paul Timmis, divides his time between Christ Church with St Philip and Martin Way Methodist Church in Merton Park. The non-stipendiary Assistant Priest is Revd Carole Rowles.

Bryan Harris’s PARISH PROFILE

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Revd Stephanie Nadarajah

Revd Paul Timmis

Revd Carole Rowles
The Bishop of Newcastle the Rt Revd Christine Hardman, who was formerly the Archdeacon of Lewisham and Greenwich, with her supporters: Archbishop John Sentamu (also formerly of this Diocese!) and Bishop Christopher when she took her seat in the House of Lords on 26 January.

An Ethical Case for Electoral Reform - A Christian Response
Colin Buchanan
Grove Booklets £3.95

The way we elect MPs and local councillors is not something about which many people ever give much thought.

However the present system based on ‘first past the post’ may have some validity in the days when the political fight was between two parties. But in many constituencies this is no longer the case due to the growth in the number of political parties.

Colin Buchanan a past Bishop of Woolwich has been committed to changing the way we elect our representatives for many years.

This booklet outlines his case for a changed system based on ‘first past the post’ in many constituencies this was between two parties. But it is no longer the case due to the growth in the number of political parties.

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Colin Buchanan explains the different systems that might be used to bring voting into a more equitable and fairer system. A particular focus is the standard transferable vote (STV) in which candidates are given an order of preference by the voter. The candidate with the lowest number of votes cast has their vote transferred to the next candidate nominated by the elector. The problem is that politicians don’t want change to the status quo which would lead to a multi-party parliament.

The ethical issues are explored in detail and should be taken up by Christians. Elections to General Synod are by STV. It works well in this case and we should be prepared to encourage the use of good practice.

Terry Drummond

On 29 December a most unusual event took place at the Hyderi Shi’a Islamic Centre in Streatham.

Sarah Thorley and Rizwan Alibhai write:

Their senior citizens, in association with the South London Inter Faith Group and Faiths Together in Lambeth, invited Christians and others to join them for a Christmas-Milad lunch to mark the birthdays of both Jesus and Muhammad.

It was unusual because the Islamic calendar is a lunar one so the birthdays rarely coincide and unusual because we do not know of another such joint event taking place.

It was a lovely shared occasion starting with the Muslim afternoon prayer followed by a welcome from Vice President Abbas Dafoo, scriptural talks by Ebrahim Rashid and the Revd Alan Gadd and the singing of ‘We Three Kings’.

A quiz led by Aftaf Somji caused much discussion and laughter. Diana and Khadija, representing the Christian and Muslim communities, in a symbolic gesture cut a birthday cake in honour of Jesus and Muhammad. It was a joyful moment. Finally we were all treated to a delicious three course meal.

Also remarkable was that throughout, men and women were together, using both the mens’ and the womens’ prayer halls, with just a mobile separation screen during the actual prayer time.

Feedback from those who attended has been very positive.

Pupils from Al-risalah school visit church

St Augustine’s Tooting welcomed two groups of pupils from Al-risalah School to the church in November.

Al-risalah is an independent Muslim school based in the Tooting Islamic Centre.

Upper Tooting churches have built a relationship with the school through a number of activities. The Vicar, Andrew Davey has spoken at the school’s assemblies, and pupils have supported the interfaith prayers for peace event.

The visitors from the girls and boys sections of the school showed a lively and informed interest in the worship of their Christian neighbours, exploring the place of the scriptures and the centrality of the Eucharist.

The recently restored organ was demonstrated and pupils tried out the pulpit with great enthusiasm.

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How will you celebrate the Queen's 90th?

In her 2014 Christmas broadcast the Queen said: “For me, the life of Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, whose birth we celebrate today, is an inspiration and a challenge in my life. A re-model of reconciliation and forgiveness, he stretched out his hand in love, acceptance and healing. Christ’s example has taught me to seek to respect and value all people of whatever faith or none”.

It is one of the many recent references the Queen has made to her Christian faith. In 2016 people around the country and throughout the Commonwealth will gather in their communities to celebrate the Queen’s 90th birthday.

It will include:
• four days of celebrations in Windsor 12-15 May;
• a service of thanksgiving at St Paul’s Cathedral on Friday 10 June;
• the traditional trooping the colour ceremony on Saturday 11 June in Horse Guards Parade and
• a massive street party for 10,000 people on The Mall on Sunday 12 June.

The whole country is invited to join the celebrations in our own villages, towns or cities. HOPE is working in partnership with others to publish an illustrated, 64-page book focusing on the Queen’s Christian faith.

The Servant Queen - and the King she serves’ uses the Queen’s own words to draw out the central role of her trust in Jesus Christ, offering us all an inspiring, multi-faceted insight into a life well lived for others.

Copies will be available in bulk for £1.50 (plus p&p) for churches to give away as part of the celebrations for the Queen’s birthday. There will also be a special edition for schools with assembly ideas and lesson plans.

HOPE will also be supporting churches with ideas and resources to bring communities together including street-party planners, posters, invitations, bunting and service ideas and liturgy.

Start planning your local events now. Work with other churches to bring your whole community together and join with the Queen in praying for our communities, as she said in 2012, “that his example and teaching will continue to bring people together to give the best of themselves in the service of others”.

For more details visit: http://www.hopetogether.org.uk

Unity in diversity as Church leaders meet

Bishop Christopher was among the senior church leaders from different denominations who gathered to mark the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity on 21 January at Archbishop’s House next to the Roman Catholic Cathedral of St George’s in Southwark.

Meeting at the invitation of Churches Together in London (CTSL), these leaders represent the diversity and unity of South London’s churches.

Bishop Christopher offered a reflection at the invitation of Bishop Donnett Thomas, Chair of CTSL, and spoke about his recent visit to Jordan where he had met people who had fled their homes and were still journeying.

CTSL Ecumenical Officer, Claire Crowley said “It is a strong witness to fellowship between denominations to see this group of Christian leaders meeting with one another to pray, reflect, discuss and eat together at a time when unity, friendship and multilateral partnership, is crucial for our city and world”.

Churches Together in South London (CTSL) represents over 50 local ecumenical networks across 10 London boroughs south of the River Thames, and is one of 49 intermediary groups focusing on the Church’s life in this part of the world”.

For more information contact Pilgrimage People on freephone: 0800 6123423, email: info@pilgrimagepeople.org or visit www.pilgrimagepeople.org

Visit the Holy Land with Bishop Stephen Platten.

Bishop Stephen writes: “Join us as we walk in the footsteps of Christ. Visit the places of the Bible and deepen your faith as you share in this pilgrimage and learn more of his life. Meet with our Christian brothers and sisters who so need our solidarity and support in this part of the world”.

The pilgrimage takes place from 31 October to 7 November 2016 and the Cost is £1,600 per person sharing a twin/double room. The price includes direct flights, all transport, guiding and entrance fees, 4* hotel accommodation on a half-board basis, tips and gratuities.

For more information contact Pilgrimage People on freephone: 0800 6123423, email: info@pilgrimagepeople.org or visit www.pilgrimagepeople.org

The Parish Support Fund

In 2015 we implemented the Parish Support Fund, our new offerings based approach to funding mission and ministry in our Diocese.

We were encouraged that, in this first year, parishes pledged a total of just over £16m with many parishes being generous in what they offered. The next stage is to ensure that implementation continues to go smoothly and that pledges are met, while at the same time asking parishes to consider their pledges for 2017.

Parishes will receive information on the PSF in April and plenty of support is available to help parishes with the process of agreeing their pledge - ask via your Archdeacon or their PA if you would like help with this.

Once again, we will be holding a series of meetings about the Parish Support Fund to help parishes as we move into the second year.

Incumbents, PCC Secretaries, Treasurers, Churchwardens and anyone else interested are very welcome to attend. If you can’t attend the meeting in your Archdeaconry, you will be welcome on any of the other dates.

All meetings start at 7:30pm (with refreshments from 7:00pm) and will finish by 9:00pm.
Let's pray
February 2016
20th anniversary of Canary Wharf bombing

Agincourt
Your November issue featured an item on Henry V.
Some time ago my wife and I happened on a small museum near the battlefield of Agincourt. The Curator could scarcely contain her anger at the incompetence of the French King, who she thought was an idiot!

Elizabeth Fleetwood

Something to say?
Drop us a line - the postal & e-mail addresses are on page 2. Publication of a page 2. Publication of a page 2. A page 2.

St Paul’s Bicentenary ‘a very good year’

200 years ago on 24 September 1815
St Paul’s Church, Clapham held it’s first service on the current site.

Exactly 200 years later, they marked their bicentenary anniversary with a celebratory Eucharist – one of the last events of a year of celebrations.

Past incumbents and curates returned to be welcomed by today’s congregation and those who worshipped at St Paul’s during their tenure.

The Bicentenary year ended on Sunday 24 January 2016, the Patronal Festival and three young members of the congregation made their First Communion on the unique date.

There are still on-going projects and works to complete and St Paul’s has begun fundraising for the restoration of their organ. However, they can look back on all that they achieved in 2015 and say that it has been ‘a very good year’.

Photo: Bishop Christopher with the clergy and lay leaders at the service.

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St Paul’s Church, Clapham held it’s first service on the current site.

Exactly 200 years later, they marked their bicentenary anniversary with a celebratory Eucharist – one of the last events of a year of celebrations.

Past incumbents and curates returned to be welcomed by today’s congregation and those who worshipped at St Paul’s during their tenure.

The Bicentenary year ended on Sunday 24 January 2016, the Patronal Festival and three young members of the congregation made their First Communion on the unique date.

There are still on-going projects and works to complete and St Paul’s has begun fundraising for the restoration of their organ. However, they can look back on all that they achieved in 2015 and say that it has been ‘a very good year’.

Photo: Bishop Christopher with the clergy and lay leaders at the service.
**Prayer and Spirituality Opportunities**

Diocesan prayer and spirituality day
Awakening: Meeting the risen Jesus in daily life
Saturday 16 April 10am to 4pm in Southwark Cathedral Speakers: Margaret Silf and Bishop Christopher with a wide variety of workshops, prayer spaces and resources.
To register and for further details contact: Caroline Wakelam-Jones awaking@southwark.anglican.org Tel: 020 7939 9475

A Glimpse beyond the Veil: Praying with icons
An opportunity to understand icons and their origins more fully in order to be able to use them as an aid to prayer.
Tuesdays 2 & 9 February, 10.30am to 1pm in Trinity House Led by Sister Magdalene Lawler

Lent Retreat at Wythchot: Listening to the Song of the Heart
12 - 14 February. Cost £125
Led by Chris Chapman
How to lead a quiet day
These two sessions will move step by step through the process of planning and leading a quiet day.
1 & 8 March, 10.30am to 1pm in Trinity House Led by Chris Chapman Deeper into God: Prayer within the Carmelite tradition
We will consider how prayer, in its different forms, allows God to form and lead us, drawing on the writings of Teresa of Avila and John of the Cross.
Wednesday 20 & 27 April, 6.30pm to 8.30pm in Trinity House Led by Chris Chapman

With the Spirit as our guide: Exploring the ministry of spiritual direction
This session is aimed at those who wish to widen their understanding of this ministry, and explore opportunities for development within it Saturday 14 May, 10am to 1pm in St Matthew’s House, Croydon

Led by Chris Chapman

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**Ongoing**

† ZIMBABWE ANGLICAN COMMUNITY in Southwark meets monthly at St Mary, Newington – Shona Mass 2nd Sunday at 2pm. Mothers’ Union last Saturday 2pm

† 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.

† WARINGHAM – Water Aid lunches in St Ambrose Church Hall 12-1pm first Wednesday each month

† CHALDON - Church will reopen for Sunday teas on 3 April until 23 October. (3pm to 5pm)

† WESTMINSTER - Cathedral Interfaith Group 4 to 5pm, third Wednesday of the month in the Hinsley Room. All welcome.
In 2016 the group will study Pope Francis’s encyclical ‘Laudato Si’ Our care for our common home

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**February**

Wednesday 3 February

Thursday 4 February
CROYDON - Utopians Unltd presented Gilbert & Sullivan’s ‘Yeomen of the Guard’ 7.30pm at St Matthew’s Church. Tickets £10, children £5, under 5s free. Fund raising for Medicins Sans Frontieres. For further details or tickets contact Monica Jefford 01737 555996 or 07799 124508 or Email: sutherland18@hotmail.com

Friday 5 February
LE - Fish and Chip Supper with ‘Just a Minute’ 7.30pm at St Margaret’s Church Lee. More information from stmargaretslee@btinternet.com

Saturday 6 February
SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL - Great Eastern Japan Earthquake and Tsunami Memorial Service. 4pm. Sermon by the Bishop of Woolwich and address by Mrs Kei Ikeniumi of Nippon Sei Ko Kai (The Anglican Communion In Japan)

LE - Music at St Margaret’s. 7.30pm - Vanbrugh Ensemble Concert. Music by Mozart, Beethoven, Nielsen. Tickets £10 at the door (children free)

UPPER TOOTING - Towards a dementia friendly church - A morning sharing information, experience and theology in Holy Trinity Church, 9.30-1pm. Details from friendlychurch@holイトrinityupperooting.org.uk

COULSDON - Scottish Event with live music, dancing, refreshments 6.30 – 10 pm in St. Andrew’s Church Hall. Tickets £10, children £5, under £5 free. Fund raising for Medicins Sans Frontieres. For further details or tickets contact Monica Jefford 01737 555996 or 07799 124508 or Email: sutherland18@hotmail.com

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**March**

Friday 4 March
BROCKLEY - Women’s World Day of Prayer service at St Andrew’s URC at 7.30pm. ‘Receive children, Receive me.’ Prayers for the people of Cuba

LE - Murder Mystery Evening in the Crypt of St Margaret’s Church, 7.30pm. Tickets £10. More information from stmargaretslee@btinternet.com

Tuesday 8 March
STREATHAM - Martin Lawrence and friends - An evening of horn playing, terror and bliss at St Peter’s Church. 7.30pm – retirement collection.

Thursday 10 March
SHIRLEY - Utopians Unlimited present Gilbert & Sullivan’s ‘Yeomen of the Guard’ at St John the Evangelist Church, 7.30pm. Adm. £10 in advance: email stjohnshshirley@aol.com or £12 at the door.

REDHILL - Lunchtime Music at St Matthews. 1.20pm (refreshments available from 12.45. £3 donation invited. 3rd – Thornhill Ensemble 10th – Mariory Wind Quintet 17th – Recital Helen Hardwick - (Soprano) 31st – Flute Recital Gemma Emson-Jukes

Tuesday 15 March
REDHILL – Concert: 5pm. Tickets must be booked in advance £12 (registered disabled people & u/18s free). Tel: 020 8405 2172 Concert only: £5 (in advance or on the door)

SHIRLEY - Utopians Unlimited present Gilbert & Sullivan’s ‘Yeomen of the Guard’ at St John the Evangelist Church, 7.30pm. Adm. £10 in advance: email stjohnshshirley@aol.com or £12 at the door.

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Friday 26 February
LE – Fish and Chip Supper with ‘Just a Minute’. 7.30pm at St Margaret’s Church Lee. More information from stmargaretslee@btinternet.com

Saturday 27 February
FOREST HILL - Bonhoeffer Day 2016. “Who am I?” Identity, Exile and Belonging. Presentations, discussions and music. 2pm – 8pm at the Dietrich Bonhoeffer Church Dacres Road. To attend please register at parishoffice@bonhoefferchurch.org or call 0207 7944207 No charge.

TOOTING - Summerston 182 Walk (Tooting Section) 2pm from St Mary, Summerston.

WEST DULWICH - Concordia Chamber Choir concert of Spanish classical music. 7.30pm at All Saints’ Church. £12 at the door, or £11 in advance from www.concordiachamberchoir.co.uk.

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**Saturday 6 February**

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**Saturday 19 March**

† SANDERSTEAD HILL - Exhibition & Sale of Pictures by local artists at the URC Hall, 10am – 4.30pm. Proceeds to The Children’s Society. Admission 50p

† EARLSFIELD - Summerston 182 Walk (Earlsfield/Wandsworth Section) 2pm from St Mary, Summerston.

† ROTHERHITHE - RBCS Spring Concert, 7.30pm at St Mary’s Church. Handel’s Messiah. For more information visit www.rbcschoir.org.uk

† CHRYDON – Wandle Section) Choral Society sing Mendelssohn’s Elijah with The Derbyshire Singers. 7.30pm at the Fairfield Hall, Tickets: £15 to £30 (Inc. programme) from www.fairfield.co.uk or by phone on 020 8688 9291

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**April**

Saturday 23 April
† TOOTING - Summerston 182 Walk (Tooting Section) 2pm from St Mary, Summerston

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**May**

Music at St Margaret’s. Lee 7.30pm

Vanbrugh Ensemble Concert. - 7.30pm. Wednesday 11 May
Simon Standage with CM 90 - 7.30pm. More information from stmargaretslee@btinternet.com

Saturday 21 May
† EARLSFIELD - Summerston 182 Walk (Wandsworth Section) 2pm from St Mary, Summerston.

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**What's On**

Please send details of your events for MARCH ONWARDS to Trinity House by MONDAY 15 FEBRUARY

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**"Caring for the Whole Person"**

**The Bishop of Southwark’s Lent Call 2016**

Greetings cards
new way to support Lent Call

A new initiative to support the 2016 Lent Call is two packs of six attractive greetings cards.

They feature a selection of images from our Link Dioceses in Zimbabwe. The cards are left blank inside for your own message.

One set (above right) features images from the Simon of Cyrene School Chapel, Matabeleland, Zimbabwe. The other set (below) features our brothers and sisters in Link Dioceses in Zimbabwe.

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

*Caring for the Whole Person*

In his letter accompanying the Lent Call pack sent to all parishes and schools, Bishop Christopher writes: “For many years the Bishop’s Lent Call has raised money for projects both within our own Diocese and overseas. In 2015 we were able to give grants totalling nearly £80,000 to our Link Dioceses in Zimbabwe and to projects that work with people in our Diocese.

“It is so important that we each use Lent to prepare properly for our Lord’s passion, death and resurrection; reflecting prayerfully on our own lives and how best to live as God would want.

There are so many people in need in our world and this is our chance to help to do something for some of them. Please do think about how much you can give and how best to give it.

“This year, for the first time, we have included some ideas for activities that people might want to try in order to gather money to give to the Lent Call, these involve hunger lunches as well as other, more active, ways of raising money. Do give them a try”.

**Projects**

The theme for the 2016 Lent Call is ‘Caring for the Whole Person’. Projects from the Holy Land have been selected, some of which will be visited by the pilgrims on the Diocesan Pilgrimage which takes place during Lent 2016.

There are also projects from Zimbabwe and within Southwark Diocese which seek to look at caring for the whole person, including education, healthcare and employment.

Most people will give to the Lent Call through their church or school. However it is possible to give direct by text or online (details can be found here: http://bit.ly/LC16giving) as well as by cheque, which should be sent to Richard Coe at Trinity House.

The Lent Call pack includes information about all of the projects being supported; worship sheets for use in schools or Sunday Schools and material for use in sermons. Do follow our twitter feed (@southwarkcofe) as we will be adding extra material about the projects each week.

Bishop Christopher adds: “I hope and pray that they will encourage you to use Lent well and to give generously”.

Lent Call packs have been sent to all parishes and schools.

The materials can also be found at: bit.ly/1Tk6wOr

Additional resources will be publicised during Lent.

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Supporting projects in the Diocese of Southwark, the Holy Land and our link Dioceses in Zimbabwe

The Bishop of Southwark’s Lent Fund. Registered Charity No. 1075122