

St Mary's Bedfont



Lighting of the Jubilee bonfire 2012

Emagazine



June
2021



The Vicar writes

From June the liturgical colour in church is mainly green, as we move into what is called ordinary time. For most of the year so far we have been in particular church seasons. Initially we were in the Christmas season, then Epiphany. Lent soon followed, then Passion-tide and Holy Week. Easter stretched to Ascension

Day and then Pentecost and Trinity Sunday.

Now, apart from some isolated Saint's days, we are in "ordinary time" until the end of October. Our altar frontal and my stole will be green, as opposed to white, purple or red.

Ordinary doesn't mean boring, however, we will have bible readings that tell longer stories and give ongoing accounts of Jesus' life and teachings. Green is the colour of growth and development, both in nature and for us in church. We trust and pray that we will be having more services in church and also be encouraged to sing together.

From the simplycatholic.com website: At its etymological root, the word "ordinary" has a rich meaning, far beyond the usual understanding of humdrum, commonplace or everyday. The word has its source in a Sanskrit, or Indo-European, word, which entered into Latin as the verb *orior*, meaning to rise up, to be stirred up and to grow. The word for "east" in Latin, *oriens*, conveys the same rich meaning: It indicates the rising of the sun. Hence, Ordinary Time is, for Christians, the opportunity to allow the Lord to stir up our faith, to allow our spirits to rise and to grow in our spiritual life.

The colour green brings this meaning to the fore, since it is a colour that evokes life and growth.

We pray that these next few weeks and months may be a time of growth and development as we hopefully emerge from some of the influences of Covid and find what God's new life in 2021 is like.

With every blessing,

Philip



Perhaps he's heard that we're losing our churchwarden

Holy Days for the month of June

9th June Ephrem the Syriac, prolific hymn writer

Here is a saint for you, if you have ever been touched by the words of a song.

Ephrem the Syriac was born 306AD in Nisibis, Turkey. Baptised in 324, he joined the cathedral school in Nisibis, where it was soon obvious that he had an outstanding gift for writing both music and lyrics.

Ephrem would have agreed with St Paul about the value of using music to express our faith in God. In an age of widespread illiteracy, he saw that hymns could be powerful carriers of orthodox Christianity, even when sung by uneducated people.

And so Ephrem wrote – and wrote. His poetry was so powerful, and his melodies so evocative, that soon his hymns were spreading far and wide across the Roman Empire. And wherever they went, his hymns took the Christian gospel along with them.

Some of Ephrem's hymns were written to refute heretical ideas, while others praised the beauty of the life of Christ. To Ephrem, everything around us could become a reminder of the presence of God, and thus an aid to worship.

Ephrem became the most prolific and gifted hymn-writer in all of eastern Christianity. His hundreds of hymns influenced the later development of hymn-writing in both Syriac and Greek Christianity.

Ephrem was also a well-respected Christian theologian and writer, always keen to defend orthodoxy from the widespread heresies of the time. Ephrem stressed that Christ's perfect unity of humanity and divinity represented peace, perfection and salvation.

After Nisibis fell to the Turks in 363, Ephrem fled to Edessa, where he continued to work. But plague struck the city in 373, and while nursing others with the plague Ephrem finally died of it himself on 9th June. But his music lives on - more than 500 of his hymns still survive today.



After months of lockdown, the Sunday procession probably needed some practise.

News Digest



HOSPITAL VISITS Philip would be pleased to learn of anyone in hospital or at home who would like a visit (if allowed). Please let him know, as he has no other way of finding out. Thank you.

We have received a letter from Storehouse thanking us for our food donations.

Elaine Hitchcock and her family wish to thank everyone for all the kindness shown to them following the recent death of David. Our condolences continue to go out to them, and to Mary Congdon and her family following John's death.

Jackie Barker is moving. Many of you know Jackie not just for haircuts but also for her work with the Junior Church, the Bible Book Club, and fund raising including dog shows. She has now moved to be closer to her family but wanted everyone to know that she will miss St Mary's and will be back to visit us all.

To be confirmed

Please pray for Chinwe Anumnu, Kyra Brewerton-Scott, Luca Di Falco, Scott Herschell, Damola Ilori, Noah Martin, Jack Sturgeon, Doreen Terry, Madhuranga Wisidagama, Lorraine Wright as they prepare to be confirmed by Ric, Bishop of Islington at St Mary's on June 6th.

Church email list. If you would like to be included on the church email list for regular updates, please let Philip know.

We had our **Annual Meeting** on May 23rd. At this meeting Church wardens and PCC members are voted in. The **results** from yesterday are

Church Warden-	Mrs Joan Broughton
Church Warden Emeritus -	Mr William Jinks
Elected to PCC -	Chris Salter and Bill Jinks

Philip thanked everyone for all their help and support over the last year and he was hopeful that St Mary's could gradually return to normal soon.

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Operation Christmas Child

Fill a Shoebox 2021

This year we would like to make filling a shoe box for Operation Christmas Child a community event and host a day at St Mary's Church where everyone can come and fill a shoebox. How does this work? From now to end of October items can be bought, knitted, handmade or anything in between and we will collate them through St Mary's Church ready for the big day. The aim is to make this wonderful experience open to everyone with donating items throughout the next 5 months, every bar of soap or comb counts to another joyful child. And on the day everyone is welcome to come along to fill a shoebox with the items donated, bring the family make it an event to remember. Our aim is to complete at least 100 shoeboxes this year.

Age groups for packing shoeboxes are 2-4, 5-9 and 10-14 and item ideas are shown on the next page. A box is filled with something for hygiene, something to wear, something to play with, something to learn with and something to love.

If you can knit or crochet items like scarves, hats, soft toys (using the appropriate filling), hand puppets, or if you can sew drawstring or tote bags, hair scrunchies, pencil cases (zipped/button/press stud). If you can make Friendship bracelets they would be gratefully received.

Great bargains can be picked up. Over the past few weeks, I have bought/seen stationery sets reduced to 50p, notebooks from 40p. 4 packs of coloured pencils, tennis balls, yo-yo, skipping ropes etc. from the £1 shop. Online shopping: a football and pump from £8. 2 pairs of gloves from Primark £1

A suggested donation of £5 per filled shoebox is essential to the project, it covers thousands of amazing volunteers that run shoebox collection centres and also encourage supporters to pack shoeboxes. Whilst our centres are sometimes free or a reduced rental, there are expenses like electric, heat etc. Our distribution is by land, sea or sky and some of these costs are also included. Transport by land is often lorries going back to various countries empty, so OCC only pay for fuel.

Donations for transport cost can be either completed on line and the bar code handed to the St Mary's Church OCC co-ordinator this will enable you to track a box to it's destination. Make a cash donation to the OCC co-ordinator for transport, or if you feel you are unable to purchase items for the boxes a cash donation can be made for these as well.

Sue Brewerton

St Mary's Church OCC co-ordinator

07895193630

Gift Suggestions



TOYS

- Doll
- Stuffed animal or toy
- Small musical instrument (such as a harmonica or recorder)
- Small foam football or tennis ball
- Deflated football and pump
- Finger puppets
- Slinky
- Etch A Sketch
- Skipping rope
- ~~Play-doh~~ (you could add plastic cookie cutters as non-sharp utensils to use with it)
- Small puzzles
- Costume items to play dress-up, such as crowns and costume jewellery
- Plastic toys and toy figures
- Yo-yo
- Small Frisbee
- Small kite



HYGIENE ITEMS

- Comb
- Hairbrush
- Toothbrush
- Flannel
- Bar soap (packaged and/or in a container)
- Reusable plastic containers: cup, water bottle
- Non-liquid lip balm
- Compact mirror
- Nail Clipper & file
- Stick deodorant



SCHOOL SUPPLIES

- Pencils
- Small manual pencil sharpener
- Ruler – Home Bargains do a folding 12" @79p
- Eraser
- Coloured pencils
- Pencil Case
- Crayons
- Felt Pens
- Colouring pads
- Colouring books
- Picture book
- Notebooks
- Glue stick (Do not include liquid glue)
- Small adhesive tape
- Watercolour paint set (Finger paint palette, paint brushes, paper)
- Chalkboard and chalk
- Geometry set
- Pre-inked Stampers



OTHER ITEMS

- Hat/scarf/gloves
- Sunglasses
- Small handbag/purse
- Hair bows/clips/ribbons
- Friendship bracelets
- Make-it-yourself craft items or kit
- Binoculars/Solar powered torch
- Laminated decorative pictures with looped ribbon attached as a picture hanger.
- Small backpack or drawstring/Tote bag
- Small Sewing kit & ribbon
- A personal note and photo

St Mary's Church Bedford & Riverside Vineyard – Storehouse collaboration

St Mary's Church has a multi-faceted Outreach Project – Guides/Scouts affiliation, Darby & Joan, work with the Women's refugee, Operation Christmas Child – shoe box appeal and our support of the Vineyard church Storehouse/Food bank.

With the church closed for so much last year and the increased call on the food bank St Mary's didn't shirk it's dedication to helping others. However, with people not going to the shops as much & the church not being open, donations have taken on a new form – monetary, where a kind parishioner has donated to the cause. This was then passed to me and working with a member of the Storehouse team (Doug Neal my brother-in-law) using the list of suggested donations and with knowledge of what is and more importantly not donated we were able to purchase all of the below. We concentrated on making up bundles of personal hygiene products, and then household items & even some food.

I received a thank you letter from the Storehouse Project, it was addressed to me at work as I combined two generous donations and was able tick off a number of items. The item needed on a week by week basis is updated on the website of Storehouse:- <https://www.riversidevineyard.com/donate>

We are currently looking for a couple of volunteers to help us take the generous donations left in the box in the porch, if you are willing to help please contact either myself, Kate (one half of the flower team) or the Vicar then we can draw up a fair rota so as to share the load, much appreciated.



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Historic Racing Cars – MG (Post-WW2)

Part of a series on old racing cars by Robert Ingham, who took the photographs within the past few years.

Following WW2, MG put the T-type Midget back into production with multiple minor improvements, as the 'TC'. It proved very popular in America, perhaps due to returning US service personnel having enjoyed driving similar cars while in Britain. Just over 10,000 were produced between 1945 and 1950. Although there weren't works entries, some cars were modified for racing, including at the 1949 and 1950 Le Mans 24H. At the latter, one finished 18th overall, and 2nd in class.

The 'TD' introduced in 1950 was much modified mechanically, but with similar styling was by now looking distinctly old-fashioned. Few of these seem ever to have been raced in Britain, although a heavily-modified version, 'EX.172', did so at Le Mans in 1951, where it broke down with engine problems after 9 hours.

A completely new car – the MGA - was introduced in 1955, although the streamlined bodywork was derived from that of 'EX.172'. The engine was based on the new 1,489 cc BMC 'B series' with twin carburettors. A trio of prototypes was raced at Le Mans in 1955 with a best finish of 12th (5th in class). This was another strong seller, with over 58,000 made.

A high-performance version of the MGA was built between 1958 and 1960. It had an engine enlarged to 1,588 cc and fitted with double overhead camshafts, hence the name of 'Twin-Cam' (as car 144). It also had disc brakes on all 4 wheels. Examples were raced widely, including at Le Mans in 1959, 1960, and 1961. The only finish was 12th (1st in class) in 1960. Production was terminated because the engine proved to be unreliable.

Further models of the MGA continued to be produced, including with a new 1,622 cc engine variant.



The all-new MGB was introduced in 1962, with the engine further enlarged to 1,798 cc. As usual it was a 2-seater roadster with an optional hardtop (see car 152). This was always used when racing, as it reduced drag as well as slightly improving safety. Examples were raced at Le Mans in 1963 (12th and 1st in class), 1964 (19th and 6th in class), and 1965 (11th and 2nd in class), all driven by rally expert Paddy Hopkirk.



The MGB GT with its fixed roof was introduced in 1965, with a number of mechanical changes. Production continued until 1980. Some were raced in period (but not at Le Mans), and are sometimes raced currently.

The MGC had a 6-cylinder 2,912 cc engine, and many mechanical changes. It was introduced in 1967, but was poorly received and production ended in 1969.

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Sermon Notes

April 25th

Not taking God's name in vain, and hallowing it, means learning more and more who God is and what he is like:

to dispel our wrong ideas about him.

The Lord is my Shepherd, therefore, I lack nothing

May the Spirit help us to understand this amazing truth and show it forth in our lives.

Our minds are what control us and how we live,
so we meditate on this truth and our minds will come to believe it and direct our lives accordingly.

Life without lack– book by Dallas Willard

May 2nd

Do not let your hearts be troubled

“How to Pray: A simple guide for normal people” by Pete Greig

I am the way, the truth and the life - Jesus

May 16th

Bethany – Mary is a disciple at Jesus' feet, Jesus is gently turning the world upside down.

Lazarus is bought back from the dead – Jesus comforts the disturbed and disturbs the comfortable.

Mary anoints Jesus, showing her devotion, She worships Jesus for all he is worth.

Jesus ascends – giving the disciples the task of bring his repentance and forgiveness to all the world,
starting in Jerusalem.

Tom Wright – For all God's Worth

May 23rd Pentecost

the Holy Spirit – Advocate, Comforter, Testifier to the Truth

convicts and convinces us of our sin and Jesus' righteousness

helps us to be witnesses and not counsel for the prosecution (even against ourself) or the judge

helps us to make progress and learn/experience ever more on our journey through life

Listen to “Good Good Father” by Chris Tomlin &

“Build my life” by Pat Barrett

Warren Wiersbe – Be Transformed

William Barclay – Daily Study Bible John Vol. 2

There is more – Brian Houston

Memories of Father John Congdon

As we have all mourned the loss of John I was reminded of what a blessing he and Mary have been to us in the St Mary's family. I first got to know John through the little bible study group that was the precursor to our bible book club. He was an amazing scholar but also had the gift of being able to communicate biblical truth in a simple way that we could understand. Later I got to know both Mary and John because of our love of music as well as the Lord.

When I first got ill, it was John that made sure that I got communion. He would cycle to me after the service sometimes Mary would join him and we would not only share the eucharist but also pray for St Mary's. It made sure that I still felt a part of the family.

Ever since then, both John and Mary have continued to keep an eye on me even when they have both been struggling. For a while John would do my recycling. He was that sort of practical Christian who cared for body and soul.

Most of us will remember the blessing that he used as a benediction:-

God give you more than I can ever think or ask

God use you far beyond the sounding of your task

God lead you further than the vision yet can see

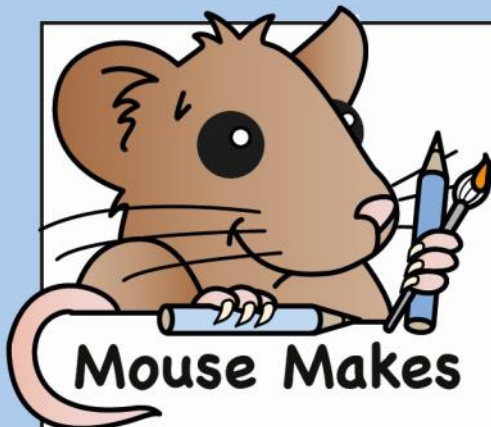
God mould you day by day more perfectly

God bless you, bless you in the way he seeth best

God bless you that each life you touch may be blessed

I think that describes John and how he lived his life. Rest well with the Lord, John 'thou good and faithful servant'.





JESUS HEALS

Who was the first person Jesus healed?
John 4:46-54

Who did Jesus heal from fever?
Mark 1:29-31

How was the the paralysed man brought to Jesus?
Mark 2:1-12

Jesus **healed** and made the...

SICK	ABLE
DEAD	WALK
BLIND	FORGIVEN
DEAF	ALIVE
CRIPPLED	SPEAK
SINNER	MOVE
MUTE	SEE
PARALYSED	WELL
DISABLED	HEAR



Where did the demons ask Jesus to send them when he drove them out?
Mark 5:1-20

How long had the man by the pool been disabled?
John 5:1-15

What did Jesus say made the woman well?
Matthew 9: 20-22



"There are **many** things that Jesus did. If every one of them were written down, I suppose the whole world would not have room for the books that would be written."
John 21:25

How many men were healed from leprosy?
Luke 17:11-19

What did Jesus heal Bartemaus from?
Mark 10:46-52



Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead, how many days had he been buried?
John 11:1-45



St. Mary's Bedfont
Church Floodlighting

giftaid it

I/We wish to sponsor the floodlighting on[date]

Wording required on notice board:

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Enclosed is a donation [£10 per night] of £

[Cheques to be made payable to "St. Mary's PCC".]

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By signing this form you consent to your data being held and processed by St. Mary's.

It will not be shared with other organisations, except as required by law.

Tick here if you consent to being contacted by us regarding future events and services.

Signature: Date: / /202....



Neighbourhood Watch

In one small rural village the local vet also led the local Neighbourhood Watch group. Late one night the phone rang, and his wife answered. An agitated voice inquired, "Is your husband there?"

"He is, but tell me, do you need him as the vet or the Neighbourhood Watch?" the wife asked.

"Both!" was the reply. "We can't get our dog's mouth open, and there's a burglar in it!"

Good Samaritan

A Sunday school teacher was telling her class the story of the Good Samaritan. She asked the class, "If you saw a person lying on the roadside, all wounded and bleeding, what would you do?" A thoughtful little girl broke the hushed silence, "I think I'd throw up."

The Lord is my Shepherd

A Sunday School teacher decided to have her young class memorize one of the most quoted passages in the Bible - Psalm 23. She gave the youngsters a month to memorise the short Psalm. Little Richard was excited about the task - but he just couldn't memorise things very well.

On the day that the children were scheduled to recite Psalm 23 in front of the congregation, Richard was very nervous. When it was finally his turn, he stepped up to the microphone and said proudly, "The Lord is my Shepherd, and that's all I need to know."

Friend?

Arriving at church to attend a wedding, a formidable looking lady in a large hat was greeted by the usher. "Are you a friend of the groom?" he ventured.

"Certainly not," she said indignantly. "I'm the bride's mother."

Curate

As the enthusiastic curate was preparing to move on to his first church as a vicar, a parishioner asked him what he thought had been his main contribution to the life of the church. He replied: "People here didn't know what sin was until I came."



CHURCH FLOODLIGHTING

The church's floodlighting was instituted in 1999, being paid for by a grant from the Millennium Floodlighting Trust allied to a number of generous donations from local residents and businesses.

Floodlighting Saint Mary's is an excellent way to remember departed relatives and friends, or to celebrate birthdays, marriages, anniversaries, indeed anything special to you. Your details will be published on the church notice board and in our Parish Magazine, unless requested otherwise.

22nd May Alfred Brighton, Dad, Thinking of you on your birthday, love Pat, Roy, June, Ann, Charlie, Dave, Diana



Funerals

We pray that the departed may have rest, light and peace in Christ

- 10th May John Congdon, 90, St Mary's
13th May David Hitchcock, 68, St Mary's
28th May Katie Payne, 42, St Mary's

Please send your articles for the next Magazine to the editorial committee

June Nash, Joan Broughton, and Philip Smith

by

Wednesday 16th June

16th East Road

J.nash@sky.com

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