

All Saints Magazine



August 2015

Free

Letter from our Vicar

Dear Friends

As it is August the official church goes quiet. There are no scheduled meetings and often our offices are down to a few people. There are no major festivals either but there are some smaller ones. The 6th of August is the transfiguration, when Jesus goes up the mountain and is transformed into a white robed glowing saviour and Moses and Elijah appear there with him. A glimpse of God's glory to give the disciples hope as they then turn and face Christ travelling to Jerusalem, being arrested and ultimately crucified.

Throughout the gospels we have action bits and then there are downtime bits. This pause, where Christ reveals himself to Peter James and John, and times when Christ goes by himself to reflect and to pray, the times that the disciples and Jesus are just described as having every-day stuff happen, like eating, resting and sleeping. God tells us that sometimes we need to wait, we need to feed our bodies and our minds, we need to pray and just be. Like those disciples at the transfiguration we need to hold onto the glimpses of God's glory and just let them rest in our hearts while we wait on the Lord.

At the end of August we have Lammas tide which means originally loaf mass and was a blessing of the first fruits of the harvest. The first loaf was blessed and shared amongst the people.

So we have a time to rest and to wait upon God's glory and a time for giving thanks for the bounty of God's world

God Bless.

Annette



Traidcraft

Traidcraft has placed editorials in the July editions of the church press with a simple message – we're telling the Church and the wider community that we urgently need help. We need **your** help because the world's poorest small-scale farmers, struggling to feed and support their families, need **our** help.

Sound like a familiar plea? It should. It's the same message as when we first started our mission over 35 years ago – to practically apply the love and justice which lies at the heart of Christian faith to international trade, and so give the world's poorest farmers the opportunity to trade fairly and thrive.

Given we're about to publish our accounts which show a trading loss for the fourth consecutive year, we are taking the unprecedented step of trying to communicate directly with Church leaders and members, to try and reinforce the work that we and our supporters have been battling to do.

There are two general misconceptions. The first is that the Fairtrade battle is won. Chocolate, tea, coffee and many more products with the now familiar Fairtrade Mark are stacked high on our supermarket shelves. Something Traidcraft and our supporters can be proud to have helped bring about. However, it is a myth that the job is done. Unfortunately, injustice in trade and its resultant poverty is as much of a scandal now as it was 35 years ago, and right now we're still doing everything we can to tackle it directly.

The second misconception is that Traidcraft and Fairtrade are the same. They are not. Traidcraft is an independent trading company, with a linked development charity. We do not benefit from the sales of Fairtrade products in the supermarkets. Traidcraft trades with and supports the most vulnerable farmers and artisans (who could not cope with the demands or scale required by big business or the supermarkets.) We pioneer to bring new commodities into the fair trade arena. Our linked development charity runs projects developing peoples' potential to trade their own way out of poverty in their own countries; and we lobby big business and government for fundamental changes to the way trade works so that it benefits the poor. We believe this is the 'best of fair trade'.

But we urgently need help to *keep* doing it because despite the growth of total Fairtrade sales, we've seen Traidcraft sales significantly decline. Why? People are buying Fairtrade products from the supermarket and not from Traidcraft or its supporters. This means our original pioneering mission is now under serious threat.

Our plea is simple...

- Ensure there's a Traidcraft Fair Trader in your church, ***offer them as much support as possible and buy Traidcraft products through them.***
- Don't just serve refreshments with the Fairtrade Mark on, make sure they're from Traidcraft.
- Watch out for our Autumn "Show you care" campaign and place whole church orders at Christmas time

We hope our approach galvanises support. That's really all we're asking; for support. Together, we will continue to make trade fairer for the world's poorest producers who still desperately need our help.

If you already have a Traidcraft Fair Trader in your church please speak to them to see how you can help. There's more information about how to take action at www.traidcraft.co.uk/churchaction

Thank you for your ongoing love and support and please keep us, and those we strive to help, in your prayers.

Andy Biggs
Chief Executive

City of London Sheriffs Election

The "Livery assembled in Common Hall" to elect two Sheriffs on Midsummer's Day, at the Guildhall in the City of London.

It is normal for one of the Sheriffs to be an Alderman, who will hope to go on to become the Lord Mayor of London; and the other, sometimes referred to as the non-aldermanic sheriff, who has no further civic ambitions after completing his year at the Old Bailey, and that is how these candidates lined up.

The two candidates Alderman Charles Bowman and Dr Christine Rigden were unopposed and therefore elected.

All liverymen are eligible to attend Common Hall at Guildhall on Midsummer Day (24th June). Admission is normally by entry pass which are available on request from the Clerk (no charge).

Only liverymen clothed prior to May the previous year are eligible to vote, so when the election for the two sheriffs is contested, new liverymen are honour bound not to put their hands up! [The reason for the "more than 12 months" rule was to prevent liveries packing their membership at the last moment to get their favoured candidate elected.]

The office of the Sheriff is the oldest civic office in the City (older even than the office of the Lord Mayor itself).

Today Sheriffs have only nominal duties, but previously had important judicial responsibilities. They have attended the Justices at the Central Criminal Court Old Bailey since its original role as the Court for the City and Middlesex. The Sheriffs live in the court house complex during their year of service, so that one of them can always be attendant on the judges. In Court No 1 the principal chairs on the bench are reserved for their and the Lord Mayor's use, with the Sword of the City hanging behind the bench. It is an invariable custom that the Lord Mayor of London must previously have served as a Sheriff.

The Sheriffs' jurisdiction covers only the square mile of the City of London. The High Sheriff of Greater London covers areas of London outside of the City, which today incorporates parts of several old counties, most notably Middlesex.

Diary Dates for August 2015

Saturday 1st	3.00 pm	Wedding, Samantha Sheehan and Gary Kenyon
Sunday 2nd	10.00 am	Holy Communion with Father John Francis Friendship
	12.00 noon	Baptism of Millie Sophia Goldsmith
Tuesday 4th	TBA	Funeral of Jim Mailing
Thursday 6th	11.00 am	Holy Communion with Father Brett Ward
Sunday 9th	10.00 am	Holy Communion with Father John Francis Friendship
Wednesday 12th	10.30 - 12.00	Fair trade café
Thursday 13th	11.00 am	Holy Communion
Saturday 15th	2.00 pm	Wedding, Sarah Fancett & Daniel Jennings. Taken By Rev'd Dr. Jean Wadsworth
Sunday 16th	10.00 am	Holy Communion with Father John Francis Friendship
Thursday 20th	11.00 am	Holy Communion
Sunday 23rd	10.00 am	Holy Communion
Wednesday 26th	10.30 - 12.00	Fair trade café
Thursday 27th	11.00 am	Holy Communion
Sunday 30th	10.00 am	Holy Communion
	12.00 noon	Baptism of Billy, Stanley and Freddie Cook

Please check the weekly news sheet for any changes.

Parish Pump

100 Club

The 100 Club in July was won by Linda Cooper.

Baptisms

28th June, Kaycee Maree Cox

5th July, Danielle Marie Tinnion

12th July, Cody Hines

18th July, Erin Amarachi Odusola

26th July, Ivy Rose Christine Piper

26th July, Lily Olive Ann Walker

2nd August, Millie Sophia Goldsmith

Weddings

31st July, Claire Fraser Sage and Dean McGuinness

1st August, Samantha Sheehan and Gary Kenyon

15th August, Sarah Fancett and Daniel Jennings

Events

The family fun day on the 27th June was blest with glorious weather. The usual refreshments in the hall, with free games and activities in the grounds were well supported. Although not a fund raiser, £241.13 was made for the fabric fund. The clothes sale in church also raised £125 for church funds.

Farewells

On the 12th July we said our farewells to Jim and Joan Mailing, who had decided to go to a church nearer to home as Jim could no longer drive. It was therefore a shock to learn that Jim passed away on 16th July. (*See newsletter for funeral details*).

Future Events

Saturday 5th September—Woolwich area conference 9.30 to 4pm.

Saturday 26th September—All Saints Michaelmas Fair.

Sunday 27th September—Deanery Taize Service, All Saints 4pm.

October 11th—All Saints Harvest Festival.

November 1st—All Saints Day, patronal festival.

November 8th—Remembrance Sunday.

November 29th—Advent Sunday and our Christingle service.

Family Fun Day — 27th June

A steady flow of visitors enjoyed the many free attractions at the Family Fun Day. Here's a selection of what was on offer, hopefully more pictures next month.

Left: Ranger Guides enticing you to “Hook A Duck” for prizes.

Right: No Fun Day is complete without a free bouncy castle.



Bottom Left: The Churchwardens get into the Fun Day spirit.

Bottom Right: A member of the Choir and his “Star Wars” friends raise money in aid of Demelza House children’s hospice.



Servers

I was baptised by Father Norledge in 1947 but it was to be another 35 years before I attended All Saints again. I returned towards the end of Father Ted Wood's ministry, when women were not readily accepted into the church. My daughter was desperate to be a server but at each request was vehemently turned down.

Then in 1985 Chris Pullen arrived to take up his ministry at All Saints and things changed. With the help of Ken Mayhew, my daughter became the first female server in the history of All Saints, and I joined a few weeks later. Although being a server can be quite daunting it is also rewarding. There is a lot to learn, but taken slowly and thoughtfully it becomes second nature. Of course we wouldn't be human if we didn't forget something sometimes – like the Bible or lighting the Altar candles, but done with reverence, not panic, these mishaps can be rectified. Peter's tie once played 'Jingle Bells' at Midnight Mass, but we carried on as usual! It is a privilege to be a server and I hope to be able to carry on for a few more years. If anyone would like to join us, please speak to Annette.

The Church building tells its story.

Our churches are the places where stories are told and lessons taught in the very fabric of the building. They are filled with religious and historical meanings in pictures; signs and symbols; stone; paint; and stained glass. Some of the images inside come from the Bible, others from later stories of favourite saints and can often predate Christianity.

Our church was built in 1898 and the fabric reflects that period.

A recent visitor to All Saints of a different faith asked about the symbolism of the font and the significance of why it is positioned at the rear of the church. The following is the reply and a description:

The Font

The font is used for baptism and is usually placed at the rear of the Church, near the start of the central aisle, since this represents the Christian's journey through life towards God and the font therefore is placed at the start of the journey.

Our font* is shaped as an octagon, which was thought of as halfway to a circle (God) and a square (earthly things), so appropriate for an introduction to God. The base is of stone but has marble pillars and the inscription around the top of the font is Jesus words, "suffer little children to come unto me".

A wooden cover features curved decoration.

It became compulsory in 1236 for fonts to be covered, to protect any holy water from dust. Some fonts are lined with lead for this purpose.

*Our Font is a memorial, donated in 1898 by Mr. Smith "A local resident".

The current wooden cover has been in use since after the Second World War, as a replacement for the much larger, ornate and heavier original, damaged when, in August 1944, a V1 rocket blast destroyed the South Aisle roof from which it was suspended.

The font was moved to its current position from the South Aisle in the 1950's, when the current entrance porch was built and the main doors, behind the peace hanging, were blocked off.

Planned Giving

Planned giving is the name All Saints gives to its envelope giving scheme, which runs from August one year to July the next. Although you can join at any time during the year.

The aim is to encourage the congregation to give regular donations for the fundamental financing of the church, i.e. provision of a vicar and the cost of running weekly services.

The way it works is that each member of the congregation decides whether a weekly or monthly contribution would suit them better. Each participant is then allocated a number, so that your contributions remain anonymous. (The person who allocates the numbers does not count the contents of the envelopes. The people counting the contributions don't know who has what number.)

At the end of July/beginning of August, the weekly contributors get a box of numbered, date stamped, coloured envelopes, one for each week, and monthly contributors get twelve numbered, monthly stamped, brown envelopes.

It is then hoped that you will be able to contribute the same amount each week or month to enable the PCC to plan/budget for its expenditure.

If you find the envelope system inconvenient, it is possible for you to set up a standing order and make payments directly to the church's bank account.

We would also encourage anyone who pays income tax to consider "Gift Aiding" their contributions. This enables the Church to reclaim an extra 25% of your contributions, at no extra cost to you. In fact, if you are a higher rate tax payer, you can reclaim 15% of your contributions as well.

To join the planned giving scheme, set up a standing order, or make a Gift Aid declaration, please see Simon Garson, Gift Aid Secretary or Bob Avery Treasurer.

From the Archives – snippets from the August magazine of 1935, price twopence.

SERVERS

It was good to see so many Servers robed and sitting together in the Chancel for the Corporate Communion in July. It should not be necessary to plead that this may be kept up. We ought to see more Servers regularly present at the Eucharist. After all, it is a great privilege to serve at the Altar, and we naturally look to Servers to be leaders and amongst those who are setting an example. The Server who is only seen when he is actually “on duty” should not exist—there should be no such Server! Servers should not be content with coming to make their Communion; they ought to be seen regularly at the Sung Eucharist. The remark—sometimes heard—“Where are your Servers?” cuts deeply, and Servers should see to it that such a remark is never justified.

OVERHEARD

1. “Yes, I’m Church, and I like the Church of England Service, but I don’t agree with this Holy Communion”!

We seem to have an idea that of “this Holy Communion” Jesus said: “Do this in remembrance of Me.”

2. heard continually: “Yes, I’m Church, but I never go.”

Words fail us! Can anyone help?

There are no entries in the “Church Logbook” for August 1975.

We hope to provide “snippets” from the relevant month of 80 and 40 years ago.

