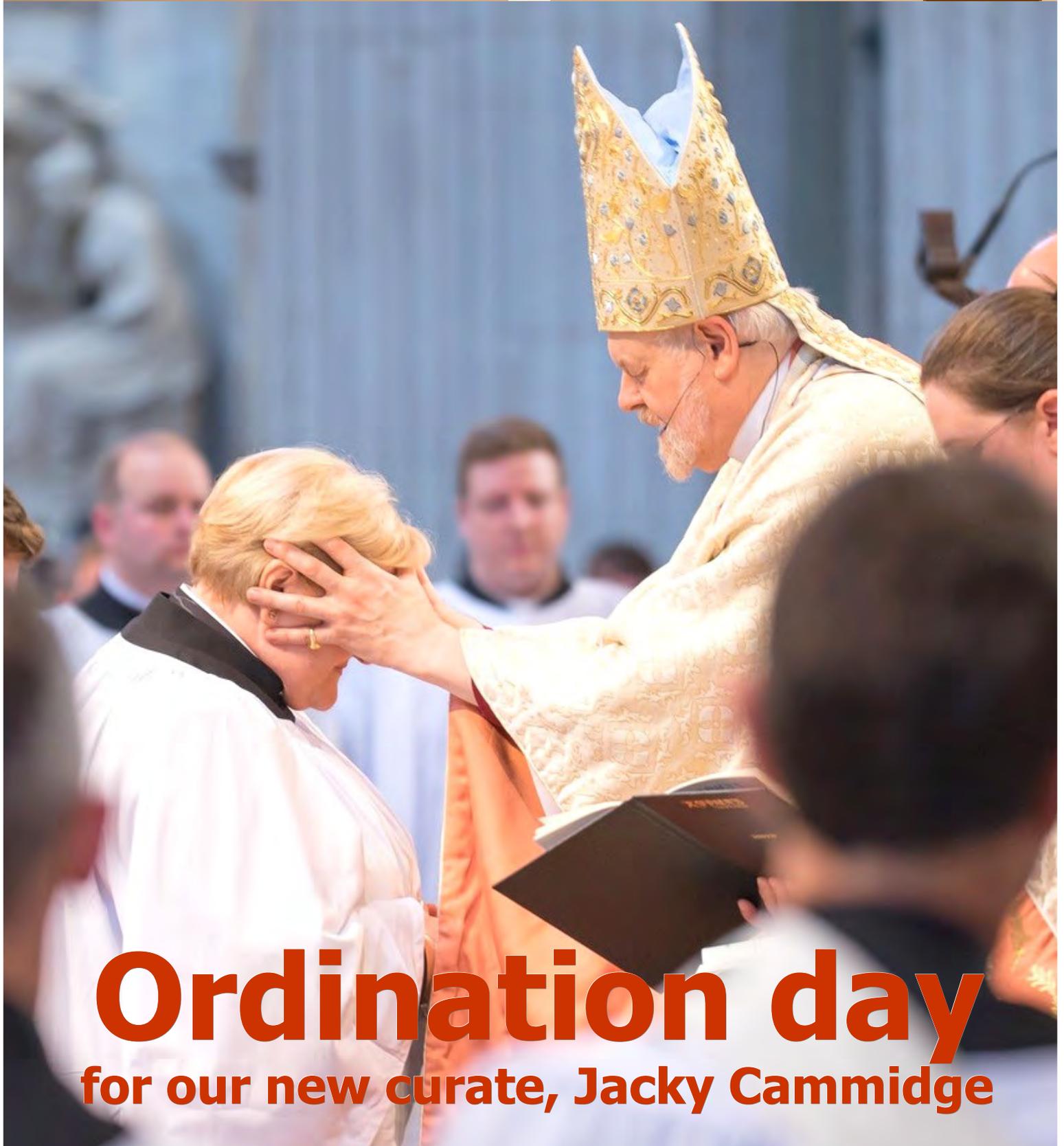


AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 2015

the spire

stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk

FREE please take a copy



Ordination day for our new curate, Jacky Cammidge

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Our Church

Registered Charity No 1129286

Clergy

Vicar

The Revd Peter Vannozi (pictured, right)
Peter was born in Hanwell in 1962, but owes his surname to his Italian great-grandfather. He was ordained in 1987. Peter is a Governor of Hampton Hill Junior School and a Trustee of the Hampton and Hampton Hill Voluntary Care Group (Greenwood Centre).
Telephone: 020 8979 2069
Email: vicar@stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk



Curate

The Revd Jacky Cammidge
Jacky was born in Abertillery, South Wales. She is a self-supporting minister, ordained in July 2015. During term time she runs one of two nursery schools owned by her family.
Telephone: 077 4677 0505
jackycammidge@stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk

Parish Office



Administrator

Jane Gibson
For all general enquiries and hall bookings. The office is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings.

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Email: office@stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk
Address: St James's Church, 46 St James's Road, Hampton Hill TW12 1DQ

Officials



Churchwarden

Nick Bagge
Nick is a former television journalist, now working at a local theatre.
Telephone: 020 8783 0871
Email: Nickbagge1@aol.com



Churchwarden

Penny Sewell
Penny is a retired hotel industry training officer; now a school reading volunteer.
Telephone: 020 8977 2844
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Treasurer

Don Barrett
Before retiring, Don worked at the Church Commissioners for England, who manage the Church of England's assets.
Telephone: 020 8979 3331
Email: donbarrett8@blueyonder.co.uk



Organist / Choirmaster

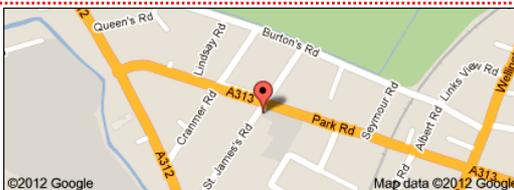
Mark Blackwell
Mark is an accomplished parish organist with 40 years of experience.
Telephone: 077 6814 6879
Email: Mark@mhrconsultancy.co.uk

SUPPORT US!

- The more **volunteers**, the more we can do
- Support us by **regular giving**, it's easy to do
- Leave a **gift in your will**, a lasting legacy

Finding us

St James's Church is on the corner of St James's Road and Park Road. There is ample parking in the road.



From the Editor...

This is proving to be another special year, both in our church and the country as a whole.

We have just celebrated the ordination of Jacky Cammidge, now our new curate, and look forward to her years working with us. On St James's Day we welcomed Bishop Stephen Platten, and for the first time for six years we held a Confirmation service in our church. There were six candidates.

On the wider stage we have celebrated 800 years since the signing of the Magna Carta, close to us at Runnymede, and there have been special services for the 200th Anniversary of the Battle of Waterloo, including one at St Paul's Cathedral.

We have also had the 100-mile cycle race, now an annual event and a positive outcome of the 2012 Olympics, and we have the Rugby World Cup coming to Twickenham. This will be great for rugby fans, but will take some coping with for local residents due to traffic control! We hope you enjoy this edition of **thespire** with articles by our vicar on Curacy and Rodney Taylor, in holiday mood, with his favourite coastlines.

Best wishes

Janet



thespire is published nine times a year for the Parochial Church Council of St James.

We make no charge for this magazine, but we hope that you will contribute towards the production costs to enable us to expand our important outreach across the parish.

If you are a regular reader please consider making an annual donation. Cheques should be made payable to **The PCC of St James** and sent to Spire Appeal c/o the Parish Office.

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NEXT ISSUE / COPY DEADLINE

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Come and worship with us!



Sundays

8am Holy Communion
9.30am Parish Communion
(11am on 27 September)

Sunday 2 August Trinity 9

Exodus 16.2-4,9-15; Ephesians 4.1-16; John 6.24-35.

Sunday 9 August Trinity 10

1 Kings 19.4-8; Ephesians 4.25-5.2; John 6.35,41-51.

Sunday 16 August Trinity 11

Proverbs 9.1-6; Ephesians 5.15-20; John 6.51-58.

Sunday 23 August Trinity 12

Joshua 24.1-2a,14-18; Ephesians 6.10-20; John 6.56-69.

Sunday 30 August Trinity 13

Deuteronomy 4.1-2,6-9; James 1.17-27; Mark 7.1-8,14,15,21-23.

Sunday 6 September

Trinity 14

Isaiah 35.4-7a; James 2.1-17; Mark 7.24-37.

Sunday 13 September Trinity 15

Isaiah 50.4-9a; James 3.1-12; Mark 8.27-38.

Sunday 20 September Trinity 16

Jeremiah 11.18-20; James 3.13 - 4.3,7-8a; Mark 9.30-37.

Sunday 27 September

Harvest Sunday

8am Joel 2.21-27; 1 Timothy 2.1-7; Matthew 6.25-33.

11am Psalm 8; Matthew 6.25-33.

4pm Harvest Evensong

Mondays-Fridays (not Tues)

9.15am Morning Prayer

Tuesdays

9.30am Holy Communion

The world in our hands



As summer moves to autumn, during the two months covered by this edition of *The Spire*, I am conscious of the way in which the seasons work in my particular part of planet earth. As I think will be true for all of us, they are a part of my own existence that I take for granted. One season follows another as sure as $1 + 1 = 2$. That's just how it is.

The great hymn *Great is Thy Faithfulness* takes it for granted that the regularity of the seasons, and the predictability of the natural order, reflects the faithfulness of God:

*Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon and stars in their courses above,
join with all nature in manifold witness,
to thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.*

In recent decades, though, the inevitability of the processes of nature have been called into question as people begin to realise the consequences of human action and inaction in relation to care of the planet.

In June, Pope Francis issued his encyclical letter *Laudato Si'*, the title taken from St. Francis of Assisi's opening words of his *Canticle (song) of Creation Laudato Si', Mi' Signore, Praise to you, my Lord*.

In contrast to the optimism of the hymn quoted above, Pope Francis's second paragraph is this:

This sister [earth] now cries out to us because of the harm we have inflicted on her by our irresponsible use and abuse of the goods with which God has endowed her. We have come to see ourselves as her lords and masters, entitled to plunder her at will. The violence present in our hearts, wounded by sin, is also reflected in the symptoms of sickness evident in the soil, in the water, in the air and in all forms of life. This is why the earth herself, burdened and laid waste, is among the most abandoned and maltreated of our poor; she 'groans in travail' (Rom 8:22). We have forgotten that we ourselves are dust of the earth (cf. Gen2:7); our very bodies are made up of her elements, we breathe her air and we receive life and refreshment from her waters.

Pope Francis views humans as having a particular role of stewardship in relation to creation, and cannot see a human person as no more than a consumer:

Christian thought sees human beings as possessing a particular dignity above other creatures; it thus inculcates esteem for each person and respect for

others.... Our relationship with the environment can never be isolated from our relationship with others and with God.

He comes down on the side of global warming as a phenomenon largely caused by human action, and is not uncritical of the prevailing economic order. Indeed, some of the greatest critics of the encyclical are those who seem a little naively to assume that economic growth and technological change always lead to improved lives for people.

The Pope's constant concern for the poor embraces some areas of our present policy. For example, he looks to smaller-scale farming and decisions made locally about sustainable development, rather than to large-scale corporate developments. This is in line with the work of organisations, both religious and secular, which are concerned with the developing world.

Yes, there are legitimate criticisms that can be made of Pope Francis's letter – perhaps he is a little too confident about the role of the state – but as an Anglican, I see immense value in his words for all people of good will.

Words are fine, but what of actions? It is easy to dismiss big aspirations, seeing the environmental challenges as too huge for any one person to make any difference. This will not do.

It might seem small, and it is, but taking such simple steps as consistently recycling, turning off lights, not leaving an appliance on 'standby', and so on, are within the capability of us all. It says: *I am not just a consumer.*

Similarly, choosing to buy Fairtrade where we can says also: *I am not just a consumer with no concern other than getting what I want as cheaply as I can.*

As a church, St. James's is committed to practical action in response to statements of Christian faith. We do not just take for granted the inevitability of the cycle of the seasons or anything else about creation. I concur with words of Pope Francis as his encyclical letter concludes:

God, who calls us to generous commitment and to give him our all, offers us the light and the strength needed to continue on our way. In the heart of this world, the Lord of life, who loves us so much, is always present. He does not abandon us, he does not leave us alone, for he has united himself definitively to our earth, and his love constantly impels us to find new ways forward. Praise be to him!

their work alive for us when he visited St James's in September.

The immense problem of internally displaced people continues to add a huge extra priority. The charity's summer appeal is for funds to cover the basic essentials of life for some of the million Syrians who have fled to Lebanon and registered as refugees there – a country roughly the size of Devon and Cornwall.

Last Advent, our Sunday school children supported the Olive

Tree Project to help Palestinian farmers. They did brilliantly and raised enough money to sponsor the planting of 20 olive trees.

For more information about the charity's work go to embrace.org

Charity Box Embrace the Middle East

Given the plight of so many people in the Middle East, St James's continues its support of *Embrace the Middle East* and will be sending £500 this year from the donations budget.

Embrace is a non-governmental, inter-denominational charity that aims to improve the lives of vulnerable and disadvantaged people across the region. It does this by partnering with local Christians who provide health, education and community development programmes to those in need – regardless of their faith or nationality.

Richard Jones brought much of

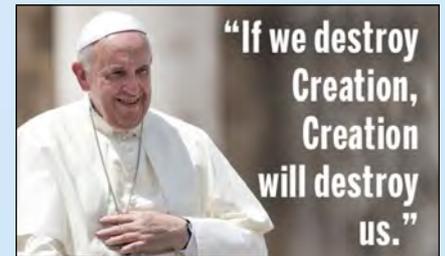


Thought & Prayer

Taking time to talk to God

Mankind v the earth

In the papal letter, Pope Francis included two prayers on the issue of climate change caused by human activities – one for believers of all kinds and one specifically for Christians.



A Christian prayer in union with creation

Father, we praise you with all your creatures. They came forth from your all-powerful hand; they are yours, filled with your presence and your tender love. Praise be to you!

Son of God, Jesus, through you all things were made. You were formed in the womb of Mary our Mother, you became part of this earth, and you gazed upon this world with human eyes. Today you are alive in every creature in your risen glory. Praise be to you!

Holy Spirit, by your light you guide this world towards the Father's love and accompany creation as it groans in travail. You also dwell in our hearts and you inspire us to do what is good. Praise be to you!

Triune Lord, wondrous community of infinite love, teach us to contemplate you in the beauty of the universe, for all things speak of you.

Awaken our praise and thankfulness for every being that you have made. Give us the grace to feel profoundly joined to everything that is.

God of love, show us our place in this world as channels of your love for all the creatures of this earth, for not one of them is forgotten in your sight.

Enlighten those who possess power and money that they may avoid the sin of indifference, that they may love the common good, advance the weak, and care for this world in which we live.

The poor and the earth are crying out. O Lord, seize us with your power and light, help us to protect all life, to prepare for a better future, for the coming of your Kingdom of justice, peace, love and beauty. Praise be to you! Amen.



More than a new

The new Bishop of Kensington



THE REVD DR GRAHAM TOMLIN, Principal of St Mellitus College, one of the largest theological colleges in the Anglican Church worldwide, is to become the new Bishop of Kensington in the Diocese of London.

St Mellitus has its headquarters in the Kensington area and Graham, pictured above left with the Bishop of London, the Rt Revd Richard Chartres, will continue to be involved in a new role at the college.

St Mellitus, where our new curate Jacky trained for ordination, was founded in 2007 by the Bishops of London and Chelmsford and in 2012 moved into its new home at St Jude's Church, Earl's Court. St Mellitus has 173 ordinands in training, and over 600 people taking its courses.

Dr Graham Tomlin said he was delighted with his new job: 'It is a privilege to be called to serve as a bishop in a growing and dynamic diocese, and an area which already has good momentum.'

Bishop Richard said: 'In his many publications and in his teaching in St Mellitus College, Graham has demonstrated a generous orthodoxy which combines depth with clarity. His whole ministry in a sense has been in support of the *local church* for which he has a passion.'

Graham trained for ordination at Wycliffe Hall and was a curate in Exeter. In 2005, he helped found St Paul's Theological Centre, which is now part of St Mellitus College. He is married to Janet and has two grown-up children. Graham succeeds the Rt Revd Paul Williams, now Bishop of Southwell and Nottingham, as Bishop of Kensington. He will take be consecrated as a bishop on 23 September.

■ The Revd Rob Wickham, Hackney Area Dean and Rector of St John at Hackney, is to become the new Bishop of Edmonton and the Revd Ric Thorpe, the Bishop of London's Adviser for Church Planting and Rector of St Paul's Shadwell, is to become the new Bishop of Islington.

Turing House welcomes pupils

A NEW SECONDARY school opens on 3 September in Teddington. Turing House School will spend up to three years at a temporary site next to Teddington Memorial Hospital, before moving to purpose-built premises.



The school is named after

Alan Turing, whose work cracking the German Enigma Code during the Second World War was the subject of a film, *The Imitation Game*, starring Benedict Cumberbatch, in 2014.

While many people know about this part in his life, they might not know that after the war he moved to Ivy House in Hampton High Street (there's a blue plaque on the house) and worked at the National Physical Laboratory in Teddington. There he began his ground-breaking work for the ACE computer in 1946, the earliest modern computer.

Turing House will initially have 100 Year 7 pupils, many from Hampton Hill Junior School and the surrounding area. We send our best wishes to all children starting school in September, especially if they are starting or moving to a new school.

Driving during Rugby World Cup

MOTORISTS ARE BEING advised to avoid the Twickenham area on match days during the Rugby World Cup. A section of the A316, which passes the stadium, will be closed to all traffic for up to seven hours, with diversions in place. Local roads will also be busy as drivers try to use alternative routes. For full details go to page seven.



As we welcome Jacky Cammidge to St James's as curate, Peter Vannozi demystifies some of the Church terminology

I was asked recently, 'So, are you a vicar or a priest?'. 'Both,' I replied. There was no follow-up question as I suspect my response had created confusion rather than clarity!

All walks of life have their own terminology. For example, anyone who has been around the world of education will know numerous sets of acronyms and experience them changing with great frequency.

The Church is no different, and confusion can happen. Before we even get to features of the Christian faith, the language of the Church in relation to its ministers can cause problems.

I have just used a term, 'minister', which might not be clear. After all, isn't it governments that have ministers?

English Church, but not everything.

At the Reformation, a time of great upheaval for Christianity, some countries saw a complete reshaping of the public and 'official' forms of leadership and service in the Church.

Some Christians no longer used a term like *priest* to refer to a specific form of service (ministry) in the Church – all Christians are *priests*, called to be a 'priesthood of all believers'. No elite group, no special authority. For others, there was still a distinct and identifiable group – *pastors* or *ministers* – but this was different from what had been the case.

In England, a visible, distinct, and public form of ministry was maintained. The Church of England referred still to its ordained ministers as deacons, priests and bishops, in line with the overwhelming majority of the Christian Church, then and now.

What's in a name?

Much was reformed, but aspects of what had been received from the past were retained.

So how do we distinguish now between Jacky the deacon, and Jacky the curate; or between Peter the priest, and Peter the vicar?

I make a distinction between what a person *is* and what they *do*. By ordaining a person (admitting them through the laying on of a bishop's hands and prayer to an order of ministry) a person *becomes* a deacon, priest or bishop.

This is what they *are* irrespective of whether they



The Revd David Bell with the former Bishop of Kensington, the Rt Revd Paul Williams

Some past curates



Freda

Julie

Debbie

I am writing this article as St. James's welcomes a new curate. Jacky Cammidge was ordained as a deacon on 4 July at St. Paul's Cathedral by the Bishop of London.

This is the fifth time in just short of 20 years that St. James's has done this. Jacky follows in the footsteps of Freda Evans, Julie Gittoes, Debbie Oades and David Bell, who recently left us to go to All Saints Church, Kingdon.

I just used some more Church-speak – *curate* and *deacon*. Just to add to this, Freda and Julie were *stipendiary*, but Debbie, David and Jacky are all *self-supporting*. Let me try to explain things a little.

Blame Henry VIII!

Back in 1533, Henry VIII declared the Church in England to be independent of the wider Catholic Church. Over the next couple of decades much changed in the

name for Jacky



are paid or unpaid, full-time in a post or part-time, retired or of working age.

What that ordained person then *does* is, if you like, their work as a vicar (a person in charge of a church or parish), a curate (a person assisting in a church or parish), a chaplain (if based in the armed forces, a hospital or school), and so on. So I am a priest, and my 'job' is to be the Vicar of St. James's. Jacky is a deacon, and her 'job' is to be Curate of St. James's.

The Church of England follows an ancient practice whereby a deacon is able to do many things, such as baptisms, weddings and funerals, but not everything, and can then be ordained priest after a year. So, God willing, Jacky will have the joy in a year's time of being able to preside at the celebration of Holy Communion, which a deacon is not able to do.

Training to be a priest

A more recent distinction has also arisen in how people are prepared for ordained ministry. At one time, they went to a residential college for their training – this was the case with me.

The past few decades have seen the formation of non-residential courses. Debbie Oades, David Bell and Jacky Cammidge all trained on non-residential courses. Like all-in training, they had a mixture of academic work to complete, and practical placements to undertake.

Jacky was based at St. Mellitus College in Earl's Court, which offers training for a whole range of different forms of Christian service. Jacky is 'self-supporting', not paid or housed by the Church, but giving her time freely.

An increasing number of women and men serve in this way. They are still ordained, what they *are* is what a deacon, priest or bishop always has been, but what they *do* might be quite different from times past. We now have 'pioneer ministers' who are not necessarily based in a church in a formal sense, but seek to work in new ways with people and communities.

Ordination of women

So some things have remained the same, others have changed. For the Church of England, a huge change was the ordination of women as well as men – as deacons in 1987, priests in 1994, and bishops in 2015. Many core tasks are not different – Sunday services to lead, baptisms, couples to marry – but how and where that happens, that is another matter.

The good news proclaimed by Jesus is still just that, 'good news', but how it is shared has to fit for purpose in each generation. Jacky is a self-employed nursery school owner, and brings to her new life and role rich experience from the world of work, and also family. This will inform what she is as a deacon and then priest, and what she does as a curate.

So are you also a *reverend*? Yes, but let's stop, before someone asks me what an *archimandrite* is!



The morning after ordination: Jacky's first Sunday at St James's as curate



Confirmations and celebrations

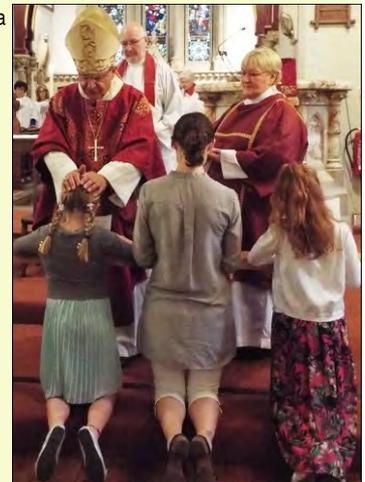
OUR ST JAMES'S DAY celebration this year was a very special occasion as six members of our congregation were confirmed during the service.

There was a large congregation to witness Bishop Stephen Platten confirming Emma Bagge, Lucie Glover, Mark

Hodgson, Susan Hodgson, Flora Swartland and Julian Temblett.

Bishop Stephen spoke of the many milestones in our lives, including baptism and confirmation, and also of pilgrimage, with particular reference to Santiago de Compostela, Spain, which is associated with St James.

Afterwards, the newly-confirmed members, their families and other members of the congregation enjoyed lunch in the garden. During the afternoon many people took the opportunity to climb the church spire, ring the bells and see the view on our annual open day.



Two weddings for church families



CONGRATULATIONS to two couples with close connections to St James's who recently married.

Anna Clarke, a member of our congregation for 15 years, who helped at The Ark, married **Andrew Hyde** at St. James's on 18 April, pictured left. The bride entered the church to the tune Highland Cathedral, played on bagpipes and organ, and the bagpiper also played outside the church as guests mingled following the ceremony. Anna and Andrew have now moved to Maids Moreton, Buckinghamshire.

Oliver Christie and **Lucy Newman**, pictured right, celebrated their marriage at St James's on 27 June. They both grew up in the local area (Lucy, daughter of Richard and Jane Newman, was baptised and confirmed at St James's); but although they attended the same infant and junior schools they only met when they were both working for a local marketing company. After the wedding ceremony, guests were transported by London bus to a reception in Kew Gardens, one of the couple's favourite places. Lucy and Ollie love Hampton Hill and are happy to have set up home locally.



VULTURE



SPARROW



EAGLE



QUAIL



PARTRIDGE



RAVEN



DOVE

Test your knowledge of the Bible and learn about some of the 10,000 of species of birds that inhabit our planet

Our churchyard and gardens are bursting with life at this time of the year — evidence of God's creation and the many creatures that inhabit our planet.

Do you ever find time to sit and gaze at the sky and share a sense of wonder at the enormous number of different birds there are?

They are different in size, colour, song, the habitats in which they live and are a wonderful example of the variety and richness of creation.

All birds have feathers and wings, most can fly, but a few can't and they are very ancient – one of the first birds, the archaeopteryx, lived some 150 million years ago!

God loves and cares for everything, even the smallest part of his creation.

Bible Bird Quiz

Can you answer these Bible questions all about birds? Match the birds to the questions by completing the boxes.

You won't find most of them in your garden though!

- Which bird didn't come back when Noah sent it out of the ark. (Genesis 7)
- Flocks of these birds fed the Israelites in the desert. (Numbers 11)
- Those who wait on the Lord will rise up with wings like. (Isaiah 40)
- The first bird Noah sent out of the ark. (Genesis 7)
- Saul hunted David like one of these birds in the mountains (1 Samuel 27)
- Jesus said this bird would be at a scene of desolation (Mathew 24)
- These birds cost 2p for 5. (Luke 12)

Answers: 1) dove; 2) quail; 3) eagles; 4) raven; 5) partridge; 6) vulture; 7) sparrow.

Our Sunday School, The Shell Seekers, meets in the hall from 9.25am during school terms, except for one Sunday in most months when there is an all-age service in church. We welcome new members. Come along for a trial visit and see just how much fun it can be.

RECIPE for LIFE with Griselda Barrett

Challah Bread



Challah is a special Jewish braided bread eaten on Sabbath and Jewish holidays. According to Jewish tradition, the three Sabbath meals (Friday night, Saturday lunch, and Saturday late afternoon) and two holiday meals (one at night and lunch the following day) each begin with two complete loaves of bread.

This double loaf (in Hebrew: *lechem mishneh*) commemorates the manna that fell from the heavens when the Israelites wandered in the desert for 40 years after the Exodus from Egypt, according to Jewish religious belief.

The manna did not fall on Sabbath or holidays; instead, a double portion would fall the day before the holiday or sabbath.

Sometimes, each single loaf is woven with six strands. Together, both loaves have twelve, which may represent each tribe of Israel. Other numbers of strands commonly used are three, five and seven. Occasionally 12 are used, referred to as a *Twelve Tribes* challah.

Ingredients

Makes one loaf, about 20 slices

- 1 tsp granulated sugar
- ½ cup lukewarm water
- 2 tsp dry yeast
- ½ cup vegetable oil
- ½ cup warm water
- ¼ cup granulated sugar
- 2 tsp salt
- 2 eggs
- 3½ to 4 cups all-purpose flour
- poppy or sesame seeds
- 1 egg beaten, with 1 tsp water

Method

- Dissolve sugar in 1/2 cup warm water in a large mixing bowl which has first been rinsed with hot water. Sprinkle yeast on top and let stand for 10 minutes. Stir to dissolve.
- Combine with oil, warm water, sugar, salt, eggs and half of the flour. Beat well. Stir in remaining flour. Dough should be sticky. Cover dough and



let rest for 10 minutes. Turn out onto a floured board and knead for 10 minutes, adding flour as needed.

- Round up in a greased bowl. Cover and let rise in a warm place until double in bulk, about 1 1/2 to 2 hours. Punch down, cover and let rise again until double, about 45 minutes.



- Divide dough into three equal parts. (If you want to make two smaller challahs, first divide dough in half, then divide each half into three equal parts.) Shape into strands. Place on a lightly greased baking sheet and braid loosely.



Fasten ends securely. Cover with a damp cloth and let rise until it has doubled in size. Brush with beaten egg yolk and sprinkle with seeds.

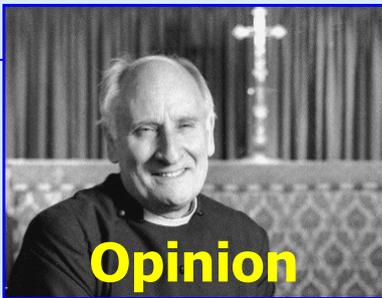
Bake at 200°C (400°F) or Gas 6 for 30 minutes, until golden brown. (If making two smaller challahs, baking time will be about 25 minutes.)



Slice yourself a piece and cherish the pillow-soft interior, simultaneously rich and slightly sweet. Challah is a bread that should be in everyone's repertoire.

Next Issue:

Coronation Chicken



Opinion

with Canon Julian Reindorp

BLACK CHURCH LEADER

The Anglican Church in America has chosen its first African American presiding bishop (following Obama's example?) Bishop Michael Curry of North Carolina was elected by a landslide. He follows the much appreciated first woman presiding bishop, Dr Katherine Schori, who was a marine biologist by profession and held a pilot's licence.

SELLING HOUSING ASSOCIATION HOMES

The Government's policy of extending 'the right to buy' to Housing Association tenants (with a considerable Government subsidy) announced weeks before the May election has aroused huge controversy both from professionals working in the sector and in Parliament.

By chance I watched on TV the debates in the House of Commons and in the House of Lords on this issue. In the Commons the debate was along party lines. The Lords were almost unanimously opposed to this Government housing policy. A leading Conservative peer said he had hoped that this policy would be quietly dropped after the election and that 'wiser counsels would prevail'!

Official figures show that for every nine council-owned homes sold through the initial scheme since it was first launched in 2012, only one new home has been created in their place.

POPE AND PALESTINE

Recently the Vatican signed a historic first accord with Palestine. The agreement covers the activities of the Church in parts of the Holy Land under Palestinian control.

Israel's strong opposition was countered by the Palestinian foreign minister saying the agreement enshrined Palestine's status as the birthplace of Christianity.

Paul Gallagher, the British Archbishop who is the Vatican's foreign minister, signed the agreement in the presence of the Mayor of Bethlehem.

US SUPREME COURT'S RADICAL DECISIONS

In the same month that the US Supreme Court rejected attempts to overturn the Obama care health plan for the poor, it also decided that gay people in every US state should have the right to marry. The White House was lit up in the colours of the rainbow to celebrate this decision.

HOW CORRUPT IS UK?

Corruption in Greece has been in the public eye over the debt crisis. A recent book has examined British public life looking particularly at the police, the armed forces, the banks, the press, parliament, and neo-liberal economic policies. David Whyte's book, bringing together 14 experts, suggests that the private sector has virtually taken over the public sector. A new moral compass has been established that judges everything according to the market. One fact, the mis-selling of private pensions, has cost individuals a collective £11bn, dwarfing all forms of street crime. One reviewer said the book revealed 'a network of state and corporate corruption...to rival any in the developing world'.

I'M A SCROUNGER!

Whenever I hear this word about benefit recipients I know that's me. Over half of the welfare budget goes to pensioners, only 3% goes to the unemployed. The Government estimates that less than 80p in every £100 is fraudulently claimed.

What's On

with Nick Bagge



Prudential Ride London

Sunday 2 August, all day, Richmond and Kingston areas

On this Sunday, some 24,000 amateur cyclists will tackle the Prudential Ride London-Surrey 100, a 100-mile ride on closed roads through London and Surrey.



Later that day, 150 of the world's best professional men will race against each other in the Prudential Ride London-Surrey Classic, an extended 200km version of the amateur route, live on BBC One. Both events start at Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, travelling out of the capital via Richmond Park and Kingston towards Surrey's stunning countryside and returning to London via Kingston before an iconic finish on The Mall.

The Prudential Ride London Handcycle Classic will start in Kingston at 08:30, prior to the first amateur cyclists arriving, and follow the inbound route back into London.

Richmond Park will be closed to vehicles all day. A number of bridges will also be closed. Roads will be closed at various times during the day, starting at 5am with some not reopening until 7pm. Roads affected in Richmond, Kingston and Hampton Court include: Chiswick Bridge, Clifford Avenue, Upper Richmond Road, Sheen Lane, Sheen Gate, Richmond Park will be closed to Kingston Gate, Queens Road, Kingston Hill, London Road, Cromwell Road, Queen Elizabeth Road, Sopwith Way, Wood Street, Horse Fair, Kingston Bridge and Hampton Court Road. More info: richmond.gov.uk/ride_london

NEW

Team Spirit: Rugby, Rowing and Beyond

Until 8 November, Orleans House Gallery, Riverside, Twickenham TW1 3DJ

With the 2015 Rugby World Cup at Twickenham, this exhibition brings sports stories to life and includes historic sporting equipment, objects, and photographs that will be displayed alongside their present day counterparts. These include team jerseys, historic racquets and sticks, along with a 2003 World Cup Rugby ball, WG Grace's Jubilee match Cricket ball, and even the bow of a boat. Admission free.

NEW

On the Edge: festival of live music

Saturday 22-Sunday 23 August, 1pm-late, Richmond Riverside

A free, two-day festival of live music and dance that will transport you to the far-flung regions of the globe. Bringing traditional beats and exotic music to Richmond, On the Edge is a great weekend of entertainment for the whole family.



Registers for June



Baptism

21 Matthew Edward Thomas Benneyworth, Hampton Hill

Weddings

17 Freddie Loveridge and Kathleen McCarthy, Hampton

17 Johnny Thomas Connors and Nan McCarthy, Hampton

26 John Nathan Ian Eric Mills and Amy Samantha Jones, Feltham

27 Oliver Hughes James Christie and Lucy Anne Emily Newman, Fulwell

NEW

Rugby World Cup: A316 closures

From Friday 18 September-Saturday 31 October



The Rugby World Cup comes to Twickenham this autumn. During match days at Twickenham Stadium the A316 will be closed to all traffic between Hospital Bridge Roundabout and London Road for **three hours** before the kick-off and for **two hours** after the match ends. Traffic will be diverted via the A305, but all local roads will be very busy so allow more time.

The **closures will be trialled** during the England v France match on Sat 15 August (from 5pm-11.45pm), and England v Ireland on Sat 5 September (11.30am-6.15pm).

Match day closures are as follows:

- Fri 18 Sep 4pm-11.45pm
- Sat 19 Sep 5pm-11.45pm
- Sat 26 Sep 5pm-11.45pm
- Sat 3 Oct 5pm-11.45pm
- Sat 10 Oct 1.45pm-8.30pm
- Sat 17 Oct 1pm-7.45pm
- Sun 18 Oct 1pm-7.45pm
- Sat 24 Oct 1pm-7.45pm
- Sun 25 Oct 1pm-7.45pm
- Sat 31 Oct 1pm-7.45pm



NEW

Open House London

Saturday 19-Sunday 20 September, various locations

Amongst the hundreds of buildings opened to the public will be Bushy House and gardens, open from 10am-5pm on the Saturday. Now part of the National Physical Laboratory, it was the residence of William, Duke of Clarence (later William IV) and his mistress Dora Jordan. openhouselondon.org.uk

NEW

Voices for Hospices

Sunday 27 September, 11am, Kempton Park Racecourse, Staines Road East, Sunbury on Thames TW16 5AQ

Come and join the Voices for Hospices Choir conducted by John Sutton, accompanied by the Vfh Sinfonia, as they sing *The Armed Man*. Rehearsal starts at 11.00am and the performance at 3pm. All proceeds in aid of local Shooting Star Chase hospices. Tickets £25 for singers, £10 for non-singers, children under 12 are free. Buy online at: vfchoir.com.

NEW

Harvest Sunday

Sunday 27 September, 11am, St James's Church

The 11am all-age service is followed by harvest lunch. Please make a note of the earlier than usual date in your diary. In the afternoon please come to a special **Choral Evensong at 4pm**.



'I'm sorry, but the holiday-relief vicar not tailoring their sermon to the parking restrictions isn't a valid excuse!'



Beauty that is shaped by nature's waves

Mariners are often reminded that the nearest land is immediately beneath them, almost wherever they are in the world. Deep water may mean long, heavy waves but is safer to navigate. But coastlines are beautiful and full of interest; however much closer observation and navigational skills are required. Seas can be short and choppy due to 'shallow water' waves shaped by the seabed. Coastlines mean views, harbours and beautiful scenery, often amazingly memorable, whatever the weather. Some 204 countries have a coastline, the longest being Canada at 202,000 km; whilst 45 countries are totally land-locked.

'Favourite' is so difficult, as not all are beautiful but all these are personally highly memorable for various reasons. With apologies for omission to San Francisco CA, Plymouth Sound, the Gulf, Taormina (Sicily), the Rock of Gibraltar and many others.

1 THE SOLENT Hampshire



To the west is the beautiful Beaulieu River, which is unspoilt as it is one of the only two privately owned rivers in England. For years we had our swinging mooring there, giving access to the Isle of Wight, the English Channel to the west and the north French coast to the south.

But more importantly to the east is the entrance to the natural Portsmouth Harbour. The engraving, above, dated 1799, shows Haslar Creek, the Royal Hospital Haslar in the centre, where I worked for many years, and Spithead beyond in the East Solent.

2 LOFOTEN ISLANDS Northern Norway



In the Arctic Circle, north of much of Greenland and Alaska, these islands are the 'winter playground' for the UK and NATO amphibious forces for training in arctic warfare. An ideal and very beautiful place for extreme weather training. Our return passage made less than 2 knots into a howling SW gale for more than 72 hours!

3 ASCENSION ISLAND Mid Atlantic



Ascension Island lies almost on the equator in the mid-Atlantic. A small but strategic place with an important RAF airbase (Wideawake), which was also the alternative landing site for the Space Shuttle! This photograph is taken atop Green Mountain, which is entirely lava but is becoming green as humus settles into the basalt and plants grow. Bathing is very dangerous due to sharks and trigger fish – similar to piranhas!

4 FALKLAND ISLANDS South Atlantic

The Falklands are a lonely collection of 778 islands (~1.2m hectares); only East and West Falkland are of any size. There are fewer than 3,000 people and 500,000 sheep – that is 170 sheep for every person. The ratio is 7 sheep per person in New Zealand.



The only trees survive in the protection of the Governor's garden. This is because of the SW wind which blows constantly from Cape Horn. An isolated place appreciated by those who find the social life of the outer Scottish Isles too overwhelming! Current charts are much more detailed and safer to use than this beautiful Dutch one of 1775.

5 HALONG BAY Northern Vietnam

This is an amazing collection of spiky islands in very deep water, but with superb places to moor up overnight in traditional vessels to view polychromatic sunsets and sunrises.



6 MILFORD HAVEN South Wales

At the mouth of the two Rivers Cleddau is an enormous natural harbour at the west end of Pembrokeshire where we have spent many happy holidays.



Dale at the western end is the real sailing centre facing the protected waters surrounded by the mostly disused refineries, though this is still the energy centre of the UK.



This Lewis Morris chart of 1748 shows its amazing extent and strategic significance.

7 GRYTVIKEN South Georgia



A lonely place. There are no permanent residents, but scientists from the British Antarctic Survey have two, small research centres, and there is a very small administrative centre, plus thousands of reindeer, introduced by the Norwegians in the early 1900s to provide food for the crews of their whaling ships.

There are also enormous numbers of very fish-smelly elephant seals and king penguins. Most beautiful in winter when the surrounding sea freezes and merges with the glaciers, but a place of much fascinating industrial and military history of the 18th-20th centuries.

8 KYRENIA Northern Cyprus



The only safe haven on the north (Turkish) side of the island. The entrance is tricky, but very beautiful, and the whole area is steeped in the history of all the civilisations that have passed through and left their mark.

9 JUNEAU Alaska



Alaska's capital is deserted in winter, but for five-to-six months in the summer up to six cruise ships a day berth and 15,000 passengers disembark to watch whales and bears, to eat and to buy gold. By 4pm the people are all gone and peace resumes.

A short flight in a float plane takes you to the foot of the Mendenhall Glacier to have a salmon barbecue and see the brown grizzly bears clear up afterwards.

The black bears stay mainly in the forest and the polar bears live in the north. Fresh, very tasty salmon abound!

10 RIVER THAMES London

The river has a very fine tidal coastline with magnificent views of London upstream from the Isle of Dogs. It makes an exhilarating passage in a narrow boat on a brisk flood tide before reaching the calm of the first lock at Teddington.



Canaletto captures the City in all its glory with a view of the river pageant for Lord Mayor's Day in c 1747-8.