

"Oh we just do the normal service" is the remark which all too often greets the unsuspecting visiting priest when asked to lead worship in another church. My heart always sinks when I hear it because one churchwarden's "normal" is another churchwarden's "extraordinary". So I tease out "now what do you mean by normal? Do you use the Book of Common Prayer or the Alternative Service Book?" "Err, the Green One", comes the reply. Yet worship is our most important human activity, if, by worship, we mean reflecting God's 'worth-ship' in every part of our lives - in all we say and do, at church, at home and at work. The way in which we worship God must reflect, inform and challenge our worship of God in the rest of our lives. To better enable this, new service orders will be introduced throughout the Church of England at Advent 2000. These new services are called **Common Worship**.

When the Church of England was trying to stamp its own theology and worship in every parish of the realm it did so through the Acts of Parliament which sought to enforce uniformity. The "King James Version" of the Bible was authorised by law and the Book of Common Prayer dictated the only forms of worship which could be used. Some people may think that this should never change. Others think that the 16th century understanding of God has nothing to say to our 21st century picture of God. Certainly the uniformity, which the Book of Common Prayer envisaged, has completely shattered. If we were to keep to the Book of Common Prayer we would have no hymns in Church, no harvest festival or carol service, no mothering Sunday or Christingle services, no Easter vigil or informal services.

The point surely is that although God never changes our understanding, insights and communication with God do change. Therefore our worship must be adapted to facilitate such changes. Hence, the gradual introduction of a variety of services which we now accept as quite normal. The Alternative Service Book (1980) had from its outset a limited shelf life. It was originally authorised for ten years and General Synod then extended this until 2000. This limited period was because the Church became aware of the pace of change in our society and didn't want words used in worship to become fossilised once again. There were also some very specific reasons why change was deemed necessary and the new **Common Worship** arrangements reflect these.

- *"Common Prayer" needs to move from meaning imposed uniformity to local flexibility within strong recognisable Church of England worship.*
- *New thinking about the nature of Christian Baptism, the use of the Bible in worship and the rooting of mission and pastoral care in worship.*
- *New supplementary material needs to be consolidated (eg. The seasonal material used in Lent, Holy Week and Easter).*
- *Some parts of the ASB (1980) are weak. The funeral service is poor. In places ASB language is pedestrian or even 'committee-speak' and its language throughout is not gender inclusive.*

Common Worship will not be published as a single book but in several volumes. It

will also be available on the Internet and CD ROM. We at St. James's have already had two sessions to look at the process of change and at the material. A working group has been set up to consider material to be used at Parish Communion. On Saturday October 14th, 9.30am - 1pm we are having an open meeting for all parishioners at which we will present draft orders of worship. For us, who have already introduced locally made service cards, the use of seasonal material and the Revised Common Lectionary the changes will be less marked at Parish Communion. But there will be changes!

If you would like to know more, please ask. If you would like to contribute to the process of making changes to our worship, please let me know. **Common Worship** is what we do together as the Body of Christ in this place, so we need to participate fully in the best worship we can offer. God is worth nothing less. I look forward to your involvement in making the change.

Brian Leathard



Birmingham 1998, Cologne 1999, Okinawa 2000
website www.jubilee2000uk.org

This month, from 21st - 23rd July, world leaders will meet for the G8 Summit at Okinawa in Japan.

The argument for debt relief as a necessary, but not sufficient, step towards poverty reduction has been won. UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan, says in his Millennium Report: *"Let us, above all, be clear that, without a convincing programme of debt relief to start the new millennium, our objective of halving world poverty by 2015 will only be a pipe dream."*

There is real concern that this Summit will merely rubber stamp the promises made last year in Cologne and the high profile statements issued subsequently by Bill Clinton and Gordon Brown. Promises have to be kept and already their implementation has fallen behind schedule. And the Cologne deal covers under half of the debt that the Jubilee 2000 campaign says needs to be cancelled to really make a difference. Further enhancement is essential.

As we are not able to go to Okinawa, churches throughout our area are joining, together in marking the Summit weekend. **There will be an ongoing vigil of prayer in churches throughout the region during 21st - 22nd July, and two ecumenical services:**

Thursday 20th July, 8pm, at St. Augustine's Church in Whitton

Friday 21st July, 9pm, at St. Mary Magdalene Church in Richmond

Please support these events. Information is available in church and you can also talk to me.

Ann Peterken

FROM DEACON TO PRIEST

As far as most people are concerned, if you are an Anglican and wear a 'dog collar' that means you are a vicar. But it's not quite as simple as that. The first step in the world as an ordained person is as a deacon and that is what I have been for the past year. Most people serve as a deacon for a year before being ordained as priest; enabling them to get to know the parish and to observe the vicar carrying out his role, while assisting him in different ways. There is the particular task of helping with administering communion and in leading the worship of the people. Unusually, I worked full time at a church in Fulham for the three years while I was training, so I had experience there in all areas of my work, apart from preaching.

Moving to any new area is full of the unknown! This year has presented me with a wonderful opportunity to get to know an entirely different congregation and to meet other Christian communities in a completely new part of the Diocese. Much to Brian's disappointment, I haven't found it necessary to learn to ride a bike but instead, I've experienced the walking delights of the area and visited dozens of parishioners along the way tasting a wonderful array of different recipes of lemon cake (and others). There have been opportunities to try out different liturgies (was the Brownies' Pet Service the highlight I ask!), to experience the informal service's band!, to help people prepare for confirmation, to teach and to meet people on a one to one basis to discuss issues of spirituality and faith.

So what does the future hold as a priest? We are called by God to work with the bishop and our fellow priests, as servant and shepherd among the people. Just as Jesus sent out the 12 disciples, so the Bishop sends us to a particular parish, as his representative and as a stranger, to care for the people committed to our charge, to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal.

It may seem strange to some people that we go as strangers to an unknown area but there is a specific reason in that it ensures that the local Christian community faithfully follows the Church's agreed teaching on matters of doctrine and worship. It is not unusual therefore for a new priest to have a prophetic role, bringing fresh vision and inspiration to the community.

When the Bishop lays his hands on candidates, he is empowering us with the Holy Spirit to act as stewards of the mysteries of God, to celebrate the sacraments of Holy Communion, of baptism and marriage, and to pronounce God's forgiveness.

Baptism empowers each of us with a vocation to be part of the body of Christ and we confirm our willingness to this at confirmation. Perhaps it is in the communion service where we most clearly see the separate roles of priest and people. The blessing of bread and wine can only take place if there is both a priest and a congregation; the priest to say the words and the congregation to repeat the "Amen". No "Amen" and there can be no Eucharist. Priest and congregation have their distinctive and necessary roles at the Eucharist so that together we make up the Body, with Christ at the Head.

Jesus was clear that He had received authority from God to further God's purposes on

earth and was able to delegate responsibility to his disciples. As priests, delegation is an important aspect of our leadership too and it is only in this way that the church community is enabled and liberated to participate in serving the mission of God in the world.

We are called by God to embody the life of Jesus, to speak his words, give his blessing and supremely, in the celebration of Holy Communion, to bring together the whole community of Christians to be the Body of Christ in the world. It is a life-long commitment and demands one's all. The stole worn around the neck represents the bar of the cross Jesus carried and is a constant reminder to us that all that we do as priests, all that we are, comes from the Cross.

The Good Shepherd must always be the pattern of our calling; we need to go where we are sent with a heart that is open to the call and the often unexpected direction of the Holy Spirit, and in the late Michael Ramsey's words, "to be with God with the people on your heart".

Freda Evans

Freda's First Eucharist

**Freda will celebrate her first Eucharist with us
on Wednesday 5th July at 8pm**

There will be drinks in the hall afterwards

St. James's Day - Special Collection

The collection taken at the Parish Service on St. James's Day will be donated to Jerusalem 2000. The Archbishop of Canterbury has given his support to this millennium appeal for the Anglican Diocese of Jerusalem, which covers a large area of the Middle East. The slogan for the appeal is *£1 can make all the difference*. This is a particularly appropriate collection for St. James's Day as our Patron Saint was the leader of the Church in Jerusalem.

PARISH PROM

Brian hopes to organise a group to attend a Prom Concert -
probably in July.

If you would like to go, look out for a notice in Church
or let Brian know

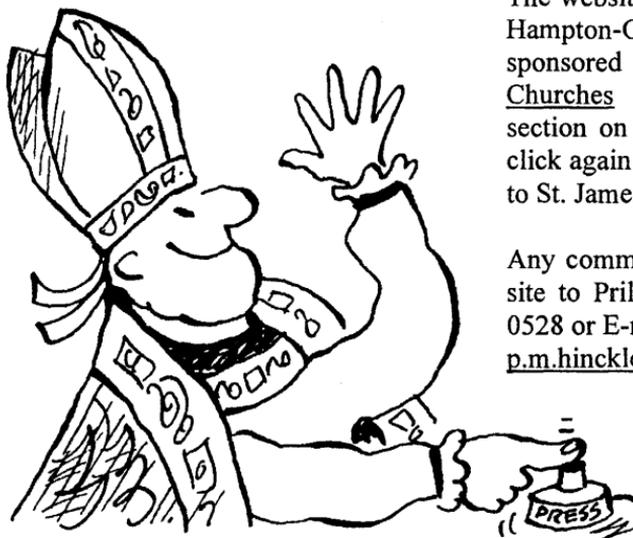


Proclaiming the Good News in the 21st Century

The Official Launch of the St. James's Website

**by Michael, Bishop of Kensington on St. James's Day, 23rd July
in church, following Parish Communion**

Any member of our community is very welcome to attend the Service (at 11.00) and/or the Launch (at approx. 12.15). The site will be explained and you will be able to explore the pages in it yourself. It is hoped that webmaster John Inglis and cartoonist Gordon Stowell will be able to join us.



The website can be accessed via the Hampton-Online website which has sponsored our own site. Click Churches in the Local Services section on the home page and then click again on the word website next to St. James.

Any comments or queries about our site to Prill Hinckley, (phone 8979 0528 or E-mail p.m.hinckley@blueyonder.co.uk).



Christian Aid 2000

A very sincere and heartfelt thank you to all the thirty members of the congregation who carried out the house-to-house collection for St. James's this year. We have, so far, reached a total of £2176 which, together with the £954 raised at the recent DIY Messiah organised by Geoffrey, makes a grant total of £3130.

The amount received by Christian Aid from Churches Together Around Hampton is £10,870 - a great result!

And here is a general thank you letter from Rwanda

Margaret Taylor

Dear Friend

The start of a new millennium is a natural time to be thinking ahead, to be moving on from what is past and to focus instead on our plans and hopes or the future. That is why I am really pleased that Christian Aid Week 2000 has been about children because it is children that make our future. But even as they make the future, children also have to live with the past. In Rwanda, where I come from, genocide has left of 200,000 orphans and as many as 300,000 children living in households with no parents or adults. In circumstances such as these it will be children who make the future for Rwanda, children like Angelique. Although not an orphan herself, she is, with her brother John, helping to boost the family income by working on a small plot of land and growing crops to sell. John was trained on the Social Transformation Programme, run by the Diocese of Kigeme and supported by Christian Aid. Without your efforts in Christian Aid Week, programmes like this would not be possible. I would like to thank you for everything that you do.

Yours sincerely

Rt Revd Norman Kayumba

Christian Aid
We believe in life before death

ST JAMES'S DAY
SUNDAY 23RD JULY 2000

11am Parish Service (the only service that day)
at which Bishop Michael will preach and inaugurate
our new Website!

Followed by a Shared Lunch
At 2pm A Parish Treasure Hunt

Please come to celebrate our Patronal Festival

thank you

MARGARET ROBINSON

We first met Margaret when we moved into the newly-built "Boundaries", and she came to deliver the Parish Magazine - and in doing so, to give us, as newcomers, a warm and friendly welcome. During the forty-odd years since then, we have seen her continuing to exercise that welcoming warmth in many ways, all of which involved service to this local community.

When St. James's Young Wives group outgrew that title and became the Tuesday Club, Margaret took on the Chairmanship, being also a leading spirit in Teddington Townswomens Guild. Came the formation of the Community Care Group, and Margaret would regularly be on duty in the Bookshop, where coffee and a chat provided companionship to many.

Her job in the Hallmark cardshop, now defunct, enabled her to meet a wider circle, always with that kind and cheerful interest which were so characteristic; qualities which she was to bring to her voluntary job at the reception desk at Teddington Hospital, where patients could be sure of a warm and sympathetic greeting - in a job she found rewarding, and was still doing at the time of her death.

Although not of late years a regular worshipper at St. James's, Margaret took a keen interest in Parish matters, and particularly in the Churchyard and the Garden of Rest, about which she cared deeply, and which despite a painful infirmity, she tended over many years.

A local, who knew her only as "Margaret" said recently "she always had time for others, a chat and a kind and cheerful word". In today's increasingly busy and materialistic climate, perhaps that's not a bad epitaph.

We all offer our deepest sympathy to Bill; to Diana, Richard and Lindsay; and to her many grandchildren and great-grandchildren, in whom she took great and loving pride

Ruth and Jack

STEAMER TRIP

Tuesday 11th JULY, 2000



Depart, KINGSTON LANDING STAGE,
(Rear of John Lewis store) at 7.15pm

Music provided by the Steve Simpson Duo

Raffle and Bar on board
Tickets £15 including supper
All proceeds to R.N.L.I.

TEL: 8892.3272 * 8287.7438 (Jill) * 8241.7599

ALMA - Angola, London & Mozambique Association **"Partners in Mission"**

Shortly after our return to the U.K. in April, Ann Peterken approached me to ask if I might be interested in taking on the role of Parish representative for ALMA. Although I have read up a little on the association I'm still not quite sure what is involved here, nevertheless I would like to introduce myself as the new rep for St. James', Hampton Hill! I have never been to any part of Africa but I hope perhaps my recent travelling experiences in South America will stand me in good stead. Ann and I attended a service at St. Mary's Sunbury followed by a meeting with a representative from Niassa in Mozambique who talked to us about the situation there and ways that we can help. Rose also joined us at St. Paul's on 14th May for a service in 'Celebration of ALMA' where the Bishop of London acknowledged our Partnership in Mission by conferring upon Bishop Dinis of Lebombo an Honorary Canonry of St. Paul's Cathedral Church. It was such an uplifting experience with some wonderful singing by the Angolan Seraph choir.

ALMA, was launched at a service in St. Paul's in July 1998 forming a link between the dioceses of London, Angola and Mozambique with the aim of working and praying together for peace and justice. Anglican congregations are growing rapidly in these spiritually rich countries and the people look to the church as a responsible body to help them build new lives. Two things particularly caught my eye when reading about the association. Following years of war and natural disasters Mozambique is probably the poorest country in the world with a staggeringly high world debt and we look to the Jubilee 2000 campaign to help them here. Secondly, Bishop Dinis of Lobombo writes that more than six years after the end of the war ". . . about 1,000 bridges are still with land mines. The reason is that it is too expensive to de-mine bridges. The danger is there with us." This leads to death and terrible injuries and there are not enough hospitals or supplies to treat the amputees. Many hospitals, schools, railways and churches were destroyed during the war and with no money to rebuild them a vicious circle arises. The war in Angola continues to drag on. Your supporting the campaign for a worldwide ban on land mines and/or the Jaipur Limb Campaign would help. I will put some leaflets and further information in the church for you all to take a look at. They need money of course but they also need our prayers so everyone can help!

A Partnership Prayer by The Rev Dinis Salomao Sengulane;

God our Father
The source of all gifts,
Give us humility to receive,
honesty to ask and generosity to give,
in order to bring each other up to your honour and glory.
We ask this through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour.
Amen

Elizabeth Wilmot



Welcome back to the Wilmot family, Dennis, Elizabeth and Henry from their year away in South America. It is good to see them in the congregation again. Elizabeth has already returned to the fray, having taken on the role as our representative on the Angola Mozambique Association.

We remember all our young people who have been taking exams over the last few weeks. Now the hard work is over we wish them a well deserved summer break before getting the results!

We are delighted that Stuart, Geoffrey and Chrissie are now all home from hospital and are recovering well.

Congratulations to Isabel Burd from the choir on the birth of her baby Adam Richard.

Our very good wishes to Kim Duller and Jonathan Smith who were married at St. James's on 25th June, and whose son, Rudi, was baptised at the same service. What a lovely family occasion!

We also look forward to welcoming Frances Beaumont, daughter of Clive and Marie, into the family of Christ when she is baptised at Parish Communion on Sunday 9th July. Frances is a member of our Young Church.

Holiday reading list

Stuck for something to read on holiday? We thought it would be nice to have some suggestions as you stare blankly at the bookshelves in WH Smith! Here are some of ours but **we would very much like to have others to include in our August edition.**

- Anything by *Dorothy Dunnett*. She writes fabulous, well researched historical novels, particularly about trade - silks, tea etc. They are amazingly detailed and beautifully written.
- Anything by *Penelope Lively* - particularly *Cleopatra's Sister* or her childhood biography *Oleander, Jackaranda*.
- A one-off by American writer *Gail Godwin* called *Father Melancholy's Daughter*. A beautiful book about a young girl coming to terms with the loss of her mother, lovingly written with wonderful descriptions of life in a small American town and its church community. (Beware, nothing else she has written is as good.)
- *Why do buses come in threes?* by *Rob Eastaway and Jeremy Wyndham*. An entertaining and very readable look at the hidden mathematics of everyday life which you don't have to be a mathematician to enjoy.

Editorial Committee

FROM THE MAY REGISTERS

Baptisms

- 7 Alexander James Glover, 85 Laurel Road
21 Oliver James Nicholson Gillett, 57 Stourton Avenue, Hanworth

Weddings

- 6 Christopher Taylor and Kristina McWinnie
Paul Clark and Natasha Curran

Funerals

- 2 Ernest Higgins, 4 Ringwood Way
26 Michael Swain, 17 Dean Road

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DATES TO NOTE JULY

- 2 09.30 **Informal Service with Holy Baptism**
15.00 **Ordination of Priests - including Freda - at St. Mary Abbot's, Kensington.** All are welcome to attend.
- 3 St. Thomas the Apostle
20.00 **PCC**
- 5 20.00 **Freda celebrates the Eucharist for the first time**
Do try to attend this very special day
- 6 19.00 **Richmond Music Trust: Schools' Concert at St. James - All welcome**
20.00 **Churches Together Around Hampton**
- 11 St. Benedict, 550
14 John Keble, Priest and Poet, 1866
15 St. Swithin, Bishop of Winchester, 862
16 **Hampton Hill Junior School Fete from 12 noon**
18 Elizabeth Ferard, Founder of Deaconess Community in Church of England, 1885
19 St. Gregory, Bishop of Nyssa, Teacher of the Faith, 394
20 St. Margaret of Antioch, Martyr, 4th C
20.00 **Jubilee 2000 Service at St. Augustin, Whitton**
- 22 St. Mary Magdalene
23 St. James the Apostle - our Patron Saint
11.00 **The Bishop of Kensington celebrates St. James's Day with us and, launches the St. James's Website, followed by lunch and treasure hunt.**
- 26 Anne and Joachim, Parents of Mary
27 Brooke Foss Westcott, Bishop of Durham, Teacher of the Faith, 1901
29 Mary, Martha and Lazarus, Companions of our Lord
31 Ignatius Loyola, Founder of Jesuits, 1556

COPY DATE FOR AUGUST MAGAZINE: 10TH JULY