

JUNE 2014

the spire

stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk

FREE please take a copy

Pentecost

The Holy Spirit
explained

Church on the move

Service changes
during new central
heating work

Garden of Eden

A year in the life of our churchyard

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Our Church

Registered Charity No 1129286

Clergy

Vicar

The Revd Peter Vannozzi (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.
Telephone: 020 8979 2069
Email: vicar@stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk



Curate

The Revd David Bell
David was born in Skipton in 1952. He is a self-supporting minister, ordained in June 2012, and working during the week in events sponsorship management.
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Parish Office



Administrator Nickie Jones

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

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Officials



Churchwarden

Carole Greville-Giddings
Carole has a background in social work, helps run The Ark, and is a chorister.
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Email: carole.g-g@hotmail.co.uk



Churchwarden

Nick Bagge
Nick is a former television journalist, now working at a local theatre.
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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

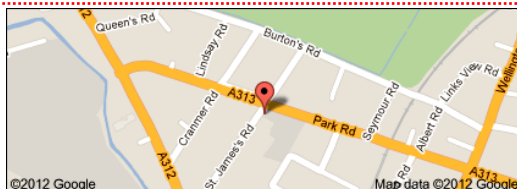
Samuel Draper
Sam joined St James's in October 2010, after graduating from the Royal College of Music.
Telephone: 020 8892 4957

GET INVOLVED

- 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

Firstly, thank you to everyone who has so far responded to our Spire Appeal. The figure to date is **£2500** which is tremendous. There is still time to donate. The details are below and there are spare copies of the Gift Aid form in church. Please sign this if you pay tax as we can reclaim a further 25p for every £1 you give us. Your response also shows the committee that you appreciate not only the content but all the hard work which goes into each issue — it is quite a commitment at times.



This month's centrespread features our churchyard. We are so lucky to have such a lovely space surrounding the church, even more so over recent years since the council took over the maintenance and cleared the undergrowth and all the wild flowers have emerged. Ros and her husband John have a real passion for it.

We hope you are enjoying the back page articles on favourite things. This is proving very popular with both writers and readers and we have lots of interesting offerings to come.

Best wishes

Janet

Janet Nunn



the**spire** 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.

STORIES, FEATURES

If you have any ideas or would like to write for the magazine, contact Janet Nunn.

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AROUND THE SPIRE

If you have any news, please contact Susan Horner.

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WHAT'S ON

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Prill also compiles the Young Spire page.

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NEXT ISSUE / COPY DEADLINE

The July issue will be published on 29 June. All copy must be with us by **Tuesday 3 June**.

Credits

PRODUCTION

Design Nick Bagge

Proofreaders Susan Horner and Dick Wilde

PUBLISHING

Printer Justin Hollingsworth 020 8686 4481

the**spire** magazine is printed on paper that is sourced from well-managed forests, as laid down by the Forest Stewardship Council.



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Come and worship with us!



Sundays

8am Holy Communion
9.30am Parish Communion

Sunday 15 June

Trinity Sunday All-age service
Isaiah 40.12-17,27-31; 2 Corinthians 13.11-13; Matthew 28.16-20

Sunday 1 June

7th Sunday of Easter

Acts 1.6-14;
1 Peter 4.12-14; 5.6-11;
John 17.1-11

Sunday 22 June

1st Sunday after Trinity

Genesis 21.8-21; Romans 6.1b-11;
Matthew 10.24-39

Thursday 5 June

Ascension Day

9.30am Holy Communion

Sunday 29 June

St Peter and St Paul

Acts 12.1-11; 2 Timothy 4.6-8,17,18;
Matthew 16.13-19

Sunday 8 June

Pentecost

Acts 2.1-21;
1 Corinthians 12.3b-13;
John 20.19-23

Mondays-Fridays (not Tues)

9.15am Morning Prayer

Tuesdays

9.30am Holy Communion

Chalk and cheese?



How can you govern a country which has 246 varieties of cheese?

Charles de Gaulle (1890-1970) spoke these words when President of France, and his time in office, 1959-69, saw much dispute, change and clamour. In the end, he resigned because he could not effectively govern France, though, as a cheese lover, I would see its many varieties in France as a great blessing!

De Gaulle was, I guess, making a point about the problems of diversity or, rather, its perceived problems. For some, a diverse society is exciting. For others, it is frightening. To be honest about my own bias, as the great-grandson of an Italian immigrant who came to the UK in the 1890s, I feel predisposed towards diversity. It would seem odd to me to be anything else. Yet, in whatever country we may live, a changing society can be profoundly threatening. Old certainties seem to be undermined, ways of life impermanent, and a new landscape is created full of potential places to trip up.

If we think that this is new, we are wrong. Each generation seems to like to believe that their experience is how things have always been, yet it is not the case, though the rate of change today in an area such as technology has perhaps accelerated the pace of change more generally.

Two very different saints

This month sees a Christian festival celebrating two men who knew quite a lot about change, and who both had to struggle with diversity. Ss Peter and Paul are remembered on Sunday 29 June.

Peter was one of Jesus' original group of 12 apostles. A fisherman, Peter left all behind to follow Jesus. In the gospels he is often impetuous, though, equally, often wrong. He promises everything to Jesus, but denies him three times. Yet after Jesus' resurrection, Peter emerges as a prominent figure in the early Christian community. Later, tradition has it that Peter ended up in Rome, and there was crucified, but upside down, as he did not believe himself worthy to die in the same way as his Lord.

Paul was very different. An educated Roman citizen, a Pharisee, Paul was not a follower of Jesus during his earthly ministry. Paul was the apostle to the gentiles, Peter apostle to the Jews. Paul wanted to throw open the doors of the Church to people of every race. Peter was more cautious, at first. Paul articulated and formulated aspects of the Christian faith as we

Charity Box Church Urban Fund

The Church Urban Fund is the Church of England's response to poverty in this country, working in partnership with Christians and dioceses who feel called to put their faith into action.

From night shelters and breakfast clubs, to foodbanks, family support and debt advice, churches and community groups supported by Church Urban Fund are tackling poverty – thereby living out the vision of the Revd Canon Paul Hackwood, Chair of Trustees, that every church is called to be a transforming community.

Since it started in 1987, it has invested £70 million to help local churches in the most deprived areas of our country,



now know it. Peter was the rock on which the Church was built. Since early in the Church's life, the two saints have been linked together on 29 June, which tradition holds to be the day of their martyrdom in AD 64.

Both men knew the impact of change in their lives. Each personally changed direction, and began to live with insecurity and uncertainty. Their respective views of God and the world were challenged. Yet out of the anxiety and struggle was formed a community that accepted difference, and did not draw racial boundaries for membership.

Showing us the way forward

Today the Church struggles as much with difference as it ever has, and is, in this respect, affected by the societies in which it is present. Often the Church lags behind a changing society — it can be right that it does this.

Uncritical acceptance is not what the Church should be about. It must, in the critical spirit of S. Paul, always be free to comment on the prevailing ethos of the day. Peter and Paul together show that a monochrome Church is not how it should be.

If a part of the Church becomes wedded, for example, to a particular brand of nationalism and cannot stand apart from it, it has been absorbed by a prevailing culture.

The Acts of the Apostles, and Paul's Letter to the Galatians, show the edginess of the relationship between Peter and Paul, and also in the early Christian community, struggling to find its way. That edginess is still there today, yet these two saints show a way forward.

Peter and Paul's linkage on 29 June says to me something about people having to live and grow together within the community of the Church even if they do not understand each other, like one another, or really have much mutual sympathy.

They share a common humanity, and a local church that excludes is not one that understands what it is for. A church that is concerned to be inclusive can be a beacon in the wider community, and work with all of goodwill in that community, to open doors for people to live more fully.

Christians will want, clearly but respectfully, to present Jesus as the way to the fullest life possible, yet always work in partnership with people who do not share their faith.

So, can you govern a country which has 246 varieties of cheese? Perhaps not easily, but 29 June, Peter and Paul's day, reminds us of the gift of God-given difference, and how that can work to enrich the Church. More than that, to enrich society.

seeking to help the most marginalised people transform their lives. In London, over £8 million has supported 800 projects.

The effectiveness of its *Near Neighbours* programme was highlighted earlier this year when the government pledged additional funding of £3 million. The programme enables people from diverse communities and different faiths to improve their local neighbourhoods together. Start-up funding has already delivered many small grants from £250-£5000.

The Church Urban Fund's website has excellent short video clips that convey its impact, so please do spend some time looking at it. When you combine goodwill and good people you can do amazing things. ■ www.cuf.org.uk



Thought & Prayer

Taking time to talk to God

Peter and Paul

Collect for Ss Peter and Paul

Almighty God, whose blessed apostles Peter and Paul glorified you in their death as in their life: grant that your Church, inspired by their teaching and example, and made one by your Spirit, may ever stand firm upon the one foundation, Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.



From educationforjustice.org

Creator of all races and ethnicities, help us see that a diverse community is the way to deepen our lives and to know you more deeply.

Guide us to see that entering into a vital and just relationship with others who are different from us is the way to make ourselves whole.

Guard us from fear of the other, from the fear that our own security is threatened if we become truly willing to make a place at the table for all.

Open us to live out what we profess to believe: that our true security is in you and in your call to justice and peace, that we are a part of your global family, that, because of your Incarnation, the human dignity of everyone is sacred, And that we are constantly called to conversion and inclusive community.

We pray that you help us recognize any forms of racism in our hearts, and in our legal systems and social structures. Forgive us our sins of exclusion. Heal our souls and spirits. Ground us in compassion for all through your grace. Help us take the steps you call us to take to build a more just community, where difference is respected and where we can all join hands and rejoice in the common good. Through the mercy of God, we pray.

Amen.



Local and National stories

Church on the move this summer

WORK BEGINS in July to replace our church central heating system. This involves replacing our ageing boilers with new, energy-efficient models, and installing new pipework and radiators in the church.

This is a major project and means that from 27 July to 4 October we will not be able to use the church for services. The church office will not be affected.

To keep disruption to a minimum all services will be in the Fitz Wygram Church Hall. With space limited, two Sunday services will take place: at 9am and 11am.

Tea and coffee will be served between the services, at about 10am, to enable everyone to meet up, whichever service they attend.

We would ask for your patience during this period of change. If you find the service you attend is busy, you may prefer to switch to the other one. In time we expect numbers attending both services to settle.

Using the hall will mean some changes to the normal service, and we will need your help setting out the chairs for the first service and putting them back after the second.

Holy Communion on Tuesdays and Morning Prayer on the other weekdays will be in the upper room of the hall, using the side entrance opposite the vestry door. There will be more details in the next issue.



Four new members join the PCC

THE ANNUAL Parochial Church Meeting took place on 6 April, and received various reports on different aspects of church life. Nick Bagge and Carole Greville-Giddings were re-elected as churchwardens for the coming year. David Taylor, Laurence Sewell, Ros Daly and Alan Cammidge were elected to the Parochial Church Council and Lesley Mortimer, Ann Peterken and Moya Meredith Smith to the Diocesan Synod. Thank you to those who continue to serve on the PCC, to Linda Webb and Stuart Richardson who came to the end of their terms, and to Jane Gibson who served as PCC secretary for three years.

Alwyne Loyd dies, aged 94

ALWYNE LOYD, who worshipped at St James's Church for nearly 45 years, died on 10 May, aged 94. For much of that time Alwyne was a steward at Hampton Court Palace's chapel. He was fascinated by Henry VIII and his dramatic storytelling made him especially popular during school trips. Alwyne's funeral was being planned as we went to print.



Garden of Eden



Flowering cherry tree

The churchyard at St James's is somewhere to escape from the demands of everyday life; to find a tranquil spot to sit and admire the explosion of colour all around. Nature gets a helping hand from John and Ros Daly, whose passion for the churchyard involves long hours.



*You will go out in joy
And be led forth in peace;
The mountains and hills
Will burst into song before you,
And all the trees of the field
Will clap their hands.*

Isaiah 55:12

where the trees grow freely and every nook and cranny of the ground beneath our feet is filled with an astonishing array of plants and flowers at every time of the year.

In the early 16th century the religious reformer Martin Luther said: 'God writes the Gospel not in the Bible alone, but also on trees, and in the flowers and clouds and stars', and one only has to spend a little time walking quietly through the churchyard to catch a glimpse of Luther's meaning.

Through the bare months of winter tangled twigs and empty briars show the bones of life which we know will burst into greenness once the seasons turn.

From late January snowdrops suddenly appear in their thousands; green and white nodding heads of perfect blooms. Then the early crocuses, violet and soft yellow, push through the

This verse from the prophet Isaiah expresses the delight and power of God's presence in nature and here, in Hampton Hill, there is a particular piece of unspoiled land, right on our own doorstep, where we can go to find that same phenomenon.

By this I don't mean Bushy Park, for all its beauty with its seas of grasses and trees neatly trimmed by the grazing deer; rather, I'm talking about the natural wildness of our own churchyard, at St. James's,



Primroses

HAMPTON DEANERY — MAKING A DIFFERENCE

A helping hand for the homeless

FEBRUARY'S deanery synod meeting had a very good session on the various community services that are offered by our neighbouring churches in Hampton Deanery. They will be shared in this column over the next few months.

The **Social Needs Drop-In** at St Stephen's Church, Twickenham, provides a meal together with practical and pastoral support for homeless and vulnerable adults.

It has been active for many years and currently meets at 6pm every Thursday, with many of the 35-45 guests coming from quite far afield.

The purpose of the project is to affirm the God-given worth of every person by creating a safe, welcoming, family atmosphere in which guests feel accepted and can relax over a meal, play board games or participate in literacy and art groups. Guests are encouraged to pray for each other and discuss the Scriptures. In addition to the weekly sessions there are film nights and an annual trip to the seaside, both of which seek to encourage a sense of community. The Christmas meal is very popular and almost 100 guests were served last December. The project would like to expand and volunteer help is always welcome. Contact the Revd Ron Bushyager at ronbushyager@st-stephens.org.uk



for us to enjoy



Cyclamen

grass and leaf mould. At the same time the small pink flowers of Herb Robert poke discreetly through the young nettle tips and the soft purplish heads of Red Dead Nettle appear.

Look closely and you will see the green heart-shaped leaves of Lesser Celandine emerging to flower in April with their shining butter yellow blooms.

There are also the feathery plumes of Queen Anne's Lace and the still furled dark green leaves of Lords and Ladies rising up from the cold earth.

The snowdrops fade by late February, but clusters of wild primroses are already coming into flower and here and there the dark blue of slender Grape Hyacinths. Harder to see are the patches of violets in the open places under the trees, purple, deep mauves and even white ones adding their beauty to the woodland floor.

Clumps of tall, golden daffodils and gentle narcissi add their colours to the show through March while self-seeded cyclamens form a breath-taking carpet of colour by the large yew tree. All the while, the green swords of bluebell leaves are growing taller, reminding us of the myriads of flowers still to come.

Near the cedar on the east side of the church is a drift of May-flowering Narcissus Pheasants Eye, planted to mark the church's 150th Anniversary in 2013. The bulbs of this particular species were first brought to England in the 12th century by a knight returning from the Crusades.

Once the bluebells have died back and before the Solomon's Seal comes into flower, Richmond Council cut the grass and will do so again two or three times throughout the year, but the churchyard is also cared for by volunteers from the parish.

A brave group from our Properties Committee sally forth when they can to keep unwanted encroaching tree seedlings in check and to tame the burgeoning ivy that provides nectar for insects and berries for birds at times when little else is available for wildlife to feed on.



Crab apple

Personally I like to potter, removing fallen branches, picking up litter and tending what I can, particularly in the Garden of Remembrance where there is a comfortable bench, not far from the Lych Gate, where anyone who wishes can take time to sit and enjoy the tranquillity there.

It's a place where I always feel a sense of peace, of calmness and stillness, a chance, perhaps, to feel something of God's presence in the beauty round me.

There are some 80 trees in the churchyard. Most are natives, but some are 'exotics' like the Ginkgo biloba or 'Maidenhair tree', a survivor from 250 million years ago. Most impressive are the English Oak at the start of the path that leads to St. James's Avenue, the magnificent Copper Beech near the Garden of Remembrance and a statuesque triple-trunked lime in the perimeter hedge behind the War Memorial.

There are also hollies, cherry plums, sweet bay, elders, walnut, sycamore and pines to name but a few. Two commemorative trees of note are a contorted willow near the wrought iron gates to Park Road and a new Prunus 'Pandora' which, despite its still tiny size, was a sea of blossom in March.

Spring isn't the only time of year when the trees provide spectacular colour. The Canadian Maple, behind the War Graves, turns a glorious red in autumn, as does the Sweet Gum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*) near the hall kitchen window.

Another tree that will give pleasure for years to come with its crimson blossom and deep red fruits is the crab apple 'Royalty' at the cross pathways beyond the Vestry. Kindly given by Squires Garden Centre, it was dedicated by Bishop Paul at Harvest Festival in 2013, again to mark St. James's 150th Anniversary.

Sadly three of our mature beech trees became infected by fungus in recent years. Two were felled by the council and one came down in a gale. While it was being sawn up a group from our Sunday school, the Shell Seekers, were able to count 127 visible annual growth rings in the trunk.

Walking under the trees at St. James's always has the potential to inspire us and give an insight into the wonder of God's creation — perfectly captured in this verse from the 19th century poet Henry Longfellow:

Into the blithe and breathing air,

Into the solemn wood,

Solemn and silent everywhere

Nature with folded hands seemed there,

Kneeling at her evening prayer!

Like one in prayer I stood.

Around the SPIRE with Susan Homer

Some good news for the Wichi



ST JAMES'S greetings to the Wichi people in northern Argentina are accompanied by an excellent response to our Lent Appeal. In total, £2100 has been collected, which should cover the printing costs of 700 hymn books in the Wichi language. Our mission partners, David and Shelley Stokes, are delighted and send their thanks for the generosity of everyone who contributed. It was lovely to welcome them to St James's during their home leave and we wish them well as they return to Argentina on 12 June.

Improve your computer skills

HAMPTON BAPTIST CHURCH, Bethany Chapel, Beards Hill, Hampton, TW12 2AQ is running a weekly computer club for older people in partnership with Age UK Richmond. Volunteers help people with laptops and iPads on Tuesday mornings, 10.30am-12.30pm. Classes are free. For more information email info@ageukrichmond.org.uk or telephone 0845 601 1149.

Cake sale buys school folders

OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL, the Shell Seekers, held a cake sale on Mother's Day and decided to give the takings to Tools with a Mission (TWAM) for school folders. They raised enough to fill 20 folders with pens, paper and will be presenting these in church on 22 June ready for despatch. There will also be a chance for members of the congregation to provide extra folders.

Don retires from commissioners

OUR CHURCH TREASURER, Don Barrett, retired on 30 April from his job as Manager, Bishoprics & Cathedrals at The Church Commissioners for England, who manage £5bn of assets for the Church of England. Don held the post for nearly six years. Prior to that, he worked for BP Exploration, at various locations around the world. We wish Don well.



Former Laurel Dene gardener dies

RAY OLIVER, formerly of Hampton Hill, passed away peacefully on 9 April at the age of 89 after a long illness. Ray was head gardener at Laurel Dene for many years and his wife Brenda was Brown Owl of our Brownie Pack before they moved to Jaywick, Essex. We send our sympathy to Brenda, her sons John and Philip and her grandchildren.

Organising Christian Aid Week

THANK YOU to everyone who distributed and collected envelopes during Christian Aid Week, and particularly to Elizabeth Wilmot and Linda Webb for the overall organisation. We will give the total raised in our next issue.

Churchyard poppies to remember



ST JAMES'S WILL be joining with churches and schools across the country in growing poppies as an act of remembrance for the centenary of World War One.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, urged all parishes to help make the country awash with the flowers 'to help us to remember the terrible events of the World War One and as a sign of our hope in Jesus Christ for peace in the future'.

The Shell Seekers will be given the job of sowing the seeds.



Our Happy Birthday!

Pentecost is regarded as the birthday of the Christian church, and the start of the church's mission to the world

When is Pentecost?

Pentecost happens seven weeks after Easter, ten days after Ascension Day. It is celebrated on the Sunday which falls on the fiftieth day after the Easter festival.

What does 'Pentecost' mean?

The name Pentecost comes from the Greek word *pentekoste* which means *fiftieth*.

Why do we celebrate Pentecost?

At Pentecost, Christians celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit, which is the third person of the Trinity of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

The Story

Pentecost remembers the story of the Holy Spirit being given to Jesus' disciples so that they could spread the message of Christianity.

The apostles were celebrating a Jewish harvest festival called Shavuot when the Holy Spirit descended on them.

A wind blew through the house where the disciples were and flames rested on their heads. When the disciples spoke they found themselves speaking in foreign languages and people of all nationalities could understand them.

People passing by at first thought that they



must be drunk, but the apostle Peter told the crowd that the apostles were full of the Holy Spirit.

The birth of our Church

Pentecost is recognised as the birthday of the Christian church, and the start of the church's mission to the world.

The apostle Peter preached a sermon which resulted in 3,000 people becoming believers.

Pentecost is also called Whitsuntide. Whit Sunday is a favourite day for baptism. It is thought that because people are often baptised dressed in white, Whit Sunday was probably originally known as *White Sunday*.

The church colour for Pentecost is red, the colour of fire, and therefore of the Holy Spirit. Red is used at services which focus on the Holy Spirit like baptism, confirmation and ordination.

The frontal on the altar, the altar cloths, the pulpit fall and the Bible bookmark are changed to match the colour of the priest's robes.

A joyous occasion

Pentecost is a happy festival. Hymns sung at Pentecost take the Holy Spirit as their theme, and include:

- *Come down O Love Divine*
- *Come Holy Ghost Our Souls Inspire*
- *Breathe on me, Breath of God*
- *O Breath of Life, Come Sweeping Through Us*
- *There's a Spirit in the Air*
- *Spirit of the Living God, Fall Afresh on Me*

Where in the church?

The symbols of Pentecost are those of the Holy Spirit, including:

- Flames
- Wind
- The breath of God
- A dove.

These three pictures each show a dove. Can you find them in the church?



RECIPE for LIFE with Griselda Barrett

St Peter's Fish



Tilapia were one of the three main types of fish caught in Biblical times from the Sea of Galilee, a large freshwater lake in Israel. At that time they were called *musht*, however they are commonly called *St. Peter's Fish* now.

The name comes from the story in the Gospel of Matthew about the apostle Peter catching a fish that carried a coin in its mouth, though the passage does not name the fish:

'...go thou to the sea, and cast a hook, and take up the fish that first cometh up; and when thou hast opened his mouth, thou shalt find a shekel: that take, and give unto them for me and thee.' (Matthew 17:27)



About a million Christian pilgrims visit Israel every year. The dish is a common sight at restaurants along the banks of the Sea of Galilee, often served with French fries. The Ein Gev restaurant alone serves more than 300,000 fish dinners every year.

A good alternative fish for this recipe is John Dory, known in French as *San-Pierre* (St Peter).

One footnote to this story happened in October 2013. A million tilapia were introduced to the Sea of Galilee, where fish stocks had been falling dramatically because of drought, over-fishing and increased extraction of water.

They aren't intended to simply boost the sea's stocks. The fish act as 'biofilters', boosting biodiversity and balancing the ecosystem by clearing out toxins caused by a type of weed

that happens to be tilapia's favourite food. Some 300,000 silver carp were also added. All the fish are being raised in pools at a kibbutz farm on the shore.

Ingredients

Serves 4

- 4 Tilapia fillets (or John Dory)
- 4½ tbs cold, unsalted butter
- 100 ml dry white wine
- 100 ml vegetable broth
- 1 tbs freshly-squeezed lemon juice (½ lemon)
- 2 tbs capers
- 2-3 tbs chopped fresh flat-leaf parsley
- Salt and freshly ground pepper

Method

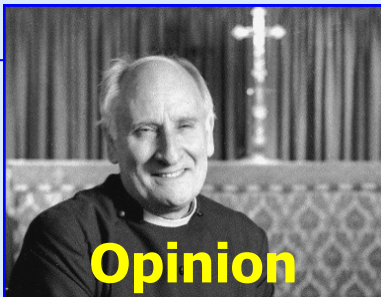
1) Lightly season the fillets with salt and pepper. Melt 1½ tablespoons of butter in a frying pan and cook the fillets in batches until cooked through, about 2-3 minutes per side, adding more butter if needed. Transfer to a plate and loosely cover with foil to keep warm.

2) Add the wine, broth and lemon juice to the pan and reduce by half (this should take about 2-3 minutes). Remove from the heat and whisk in the remaining 3 tablespoons of cold butter, then stir in the parsley and capers. Serve the sauce over the fillets.



Next Month:

Lamb, shallot and date tagine



Opinion

with Canon Julian Reindorp

CELEBRATING WOMEN

In May it was 20 years since the first women were ordained in the Church of England, and there were celebrations all over the country. They joined their colleagues in the Methodist, United Reformed and Baptist churches, the Salvation Army and others where women had been in leadership for decades.

St James's has hugely benefited from their ministry. Freda Evans, now an honorary canon and parish priest in Birmingham, and Julie Gittoes, now a canon at Guildford Cathedral, began their ordained ministries here; Debbie Oades, now team vicar in Southampton, was a curate here, and Jacky Cammidge, from our congregation, is in training for ordination.

FAITH AND POLITICS

'We don't do God,' said Alistair Campbell. 'Religion makes bad politics'. Gordon Brown and Tony Blair spoke about their faith and over Easter David Cameron spoke again about his faith: 'I'm evangelical about Christianity.'

Faith is often a powerful motivation for politicians. Of course, our natural cynicism can set in, but as Margaret Thatcher said, 'You cannot have the fruits of Christianity without its roots.'

Interestingly, the leaders of other faiths welcome the role of the Church of England in national life.

POOR MADE POORER

A report from Oxfam suggests the welfare cuts have pushed 1.75 million of the UK's poorest households deeper into poverty. The Trussell Trust, a Christian-based organisation and the largest food bank network in the UK, say that more than 900,000 people received food parcels in 2013/2014, up by 163% on the previous year.

It is this evidence and the experience of thousands of parish clergy that caused Cardinal Vincent Nichols to say recently that, while the need to reduce spending on benefits is widely accepted, the present policies have now destroyed even the basic safety net. This was echoed by 40 Anglican bishops and 600 church leaders.

The welfare system has become increasingly punitive, often leaving people with nothing to live on for days on end if they fail to fill in a form accurately. A House of Commons committee found that some people with disabilities had to wait months for their benefits to come through, and so became reliant on payday lenders.

CHURCH TOO OLD?

A recent report suggests that without the age profile of the Church of England changing, the church will be 10% of its current size by 2057.

The crisis is not shrinking attendance, but the age of our membership. How open we are to change and how much time we give to nurture the faith of children and young people are among the key issues.

There are new forms of church emerging, including Cafe Church, Messy Church and churches which meet in schools, pubs or out in the streets.

BAR OR PULPIT

A recent government survey suggested that clergy (salary £21,000) came top in their 'happiest jobs' category and publicans (salary £25,000) came bottom. However, salary levels affected some results. Second happiest were chief executives with £130,000+ and among the least happy were bar staff and carers, who earn around £7000.

What's On

with Nick Bagge



Hampton and Hampton Hill Carnival

Saturday 7 June, 12.30-4pm, Nursery Green, The Avenue, Hampton TW12 3RG

Profits from the fete go to The White House Community Association and the stallholders' individual causes. There will be games, exhibitions, displays and food and drink available.

Teddington Choral Society

Saturday 28 June, 7.30pm, *Songs on an American Theme*, Waldegrave School for Girls, Main Hall, Fifth Cross Road, Twickenham TW2 5LH

The summer concert will feature stirring American music. Tickets £12 in advance (concessions £10), £14 on the door. Available from Albert's Music Shop, Heath Road, Twickenham TW1 4BN, telephone 020 8977 5986.

Hampton Hill Playhouse

Sunday 29 June-Saturday 5 July, *My Boy Jack*, Hampton Hill Playhouse, 90 High Street, Hampton Hill TW12 1NZ

An amateur production of David Haig's stirring World War One play. Rudyard Kipling is determined that his under-age son John should enlist. The result of Kipling's actions will haunt his family for the rest of their lives. Tickets £14 (£12 members). Box Office 0845 838 7529 or go to teddingtontheatreclub.org.uk.



Hampton Hill Summer Festival

Saturday 5 July, 12-5pm, various locations along High Street Organised annually by the Hampton Hill Traders' Association, more details will appear in our next issue.

Concordia Voices

Saturday 5 July, 7.30pm, *Summer Concert*, St John the Divine, St John's Road, Richmond TW9 2PE

Tickets £12 (concessions £10) on door or £10 (£8) in advance from Concordia Voices members, or by emailing secretary@concordiavoices.org

Hampton Hill Association

Sunday 6 July 2014, *Al Fresco Lunch*, 99 Uxbridge Road, Hampton Hill

If you enjoy living in Hampton Hill and care about its future, why not join the association? It costs just £5 and you can also enjoy social events and trips. The membership secretary is Linda Brignall, 5 Howard Close, Hampton. On Thursday 21 August the association will be



visiting Highclere Castle, near Newbury, Berkshire, where



ITV films *Downton Abbey*. This is will be a popular outing, with limited spaces, so book now by telephoning Ingrid Carnaby on 020 8287 3244 or 079 3646 9104.

NEW

Car-free Sunday!

Sunday 6 July, St James's Church, Hampton Hill Please try to arrive at church on foot, pedal cycle, or shared car, if you can, as we put the environment first.

NEW

St James's Day Service and Open Day

Sunday 13 July, 11am, St James's Church, Hampton Hill, followed by lunch



Our annual festival begins with a service at which we welcome back as preacher our former curate, the **Revd Canon Dr Julie Gittoes**, now residentiary canon at Guildhall Cathedral.

After the service, lunch will be served in the vicarage garden. The church will re-open from 1pm-3pm, giving parishioners and visitors the chance to climb the tower and ring the bells.

NEW

TW12 Jazz Festival

Sunday 3 August, 12.30-10.30pm, Hampton Hill Playhouse, 90 High Street, Hampton Hill TW12 1NZ

Last year's inaugural festival was a sell-out, so book early. Performers include Gwilym Simcock, one of the most gifted pianists and imaginative composers on the British scene. Tickets £20-£30. Go to tw12jazzfestival.co.uk

WW1 Centenary Battlefields Trek

Wednesday 17-Sunday 21 September, Ypres, Belgium

Join the Royal Star and Garter on this five-day trek to Ypres Salient to mark the centenary of the start of



World War One. The journey provides a unique perspective, walking between the prominent battle sites of the Ypres Salient, often tracing the line of the Western Front itself. To take part you will need to raise £1450 in sponsorship. For full details email events@starandgarter.org or call 020 8481 7684.

Registers for March and April

MARCH

- Baptisms**
- 16 Benjamin Andrew James Rothwell, Hampton Hill
 - 16 James Lawrence Richard Phillips, Hampton
 - 20 Olivia Rose Frost, Hanworth
 - 30 Matilda Rebeca Linda Berryman, Feltham
- Wedding Blessing**
- 20 Duncan Frost and Laura Attridge, Hanworth
- Funerals**
- 4 Helen Elizabeth Sandlan, 50, Teddington
 - 13 Ivy Elizabeth Higgins, 99, Hampton Hill
 - 18 Holly Frances Davies, 36, Hampton Hill
 - 27 Margaret Elizabeth (Betty) Redman, 97, Hampton Hill

APRIL

- Baptisms**
- 13 Leah Rose Bilson, Feltham
 - 20 Esme Winifred Disher, Hampton Hill
 - 27 Erica Anita De Castro, Chessington
- Wedding**
- 5 David Andrew Birks and Clare Dawn Burnell, Walton-on-Thames
- Funerals**
- 1 Diana Mary Gilmour, 94, Hampton Hill
 - 7 Cecilia Audrey Harvey, 93, Stanwell
 - 14 Gladys Alice Eady, 93, Hampton Hill
 - 16 Phyllis Helen Wenn, 73, Hampton
 - 23 Patricia Marion Edith Lambert, 88, Hampton Hill

Vicar's View



'Whilst I appreciate the thought, would whoever it is stop tweeting, "So far, so good..."?'



Face-to-face with beautiful masterpieces

My initial reaction was to choose the paintings that I most admire, like Picasso's *Guernica* and one of Hockney's paintings of Yorkshire landscapes through the seasons, recently exhibited at the Royal Academy. Then I considered the size of the reproductions on this page and realised that justice could not be done to these very large works of art and decided that portraits might work better.

It has always fascinated me that the seven billion inhabitants of this planet each have a face made up of the same basic features and yet none is exactly the same, and what arrangement of these features deems a person to be beautiful and others less so? These are just some of my favourites.

1 VENUS (detail from Mars and Venus) Sandro Botticelli 1445-1510 National Gallery, London

This is not a portrait as such, but surely one of the loveliest faces ever to be painted. The whole painting shows



Venus, the Goddess of Love, with her lover Mars, the God of War. Mars is asleep and unarmed while Venus is awake and alert, meaning that love conquers war, or love conquers all. Botticelli was born in Florence and worked at the height of the Renaissance. He won early recognition for his talent and from 1481-2 he was in Rome painting frescos in the Sistine chapel.

2 HEAD OF A GIRL Johannes Vermeer 1632-1675 Mauritshuis, The Hague, Netherlands



Also known as the *Girl with the Pearl Earring*, the painting was immortalised by Tracy Chevalier in her book of the same name, and the 2003 film based on the book. Our

family would visit my Dutch grandmother in The Hague, and would go to the gallery regularly and this painting has a significant place in my childhood memories.

The image is a *tronie*, the Dutch 17th century description of a 'head' that was not meant to be a portrait, rather a painting of an unidentified person.

Only 36 of Vermeer's paintings remain, painted over a 20-year period, and mainly of domestic scenes.

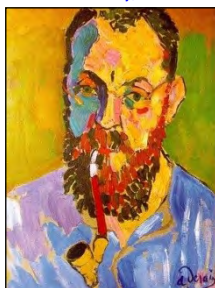
3 PORTRAIT OF A MAN Vincent van Gogh 1853-1890 Rijksmuseum Kroller-Muller, Netherlands

Although he started drawing as a child, van Gogh only made the decision to become an artist in his late twenties,



and produced most of his best known works in the last two years of his life. He spent some time teaching in England (he lived for a while in Isleworth) before becoming a missionary in Belgium, where he started to sketch the local people. His early work used very sombre, earthy colours, but following his move to Arles he began to use vibrant colours and developed his unique bold and frenzied style. This portrait was painted in Arles, where he lived with Paul Gauguin. His work commands the highest prices now, but he only sold one picture in his lifetime.

4 PORTRAIT OF HENRI MATISSE Andre Derain 1880-1954 Tate Gallery, London

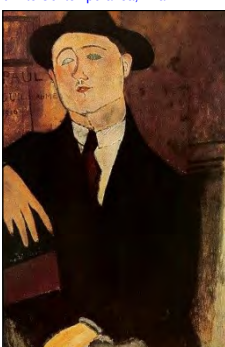


This work was made during a holiday in the fishing port of Collioure in the South of France, where Matisse and Derain painted portraits of each other.

Influenced by Matisse, Derain began to use strong, vivid colours with small brushstrokes to convey light and shade, and this radical use of colour led the art critic Louis Vauxcelles to dub their works as *Les Fauves*, or 'the wild beasts', marking the start of Fauvism. While in London he painted scenes of the Thames and Tower Bridge, which remain his most popular works.

5 PAUL GUILLAUME Amadeo Modigliani, 1884-1920 Civico Museo d'Arte Contemporanea, Milan

Modigliani went to Paris in 1906 where he was influenced by the work of Lautrec and Cezanne, primitive art and African sculpture. It was sculpture which absorbed him



but the dust caused problems with his lungs and he had to give it up. He applied many sculptural effects to his work especially the characteristic elongation of the head and nose, and the long neck on sloping shoulders. Paul Guillaume was a French art dealer and was one of the first to organise African art exhibitions.

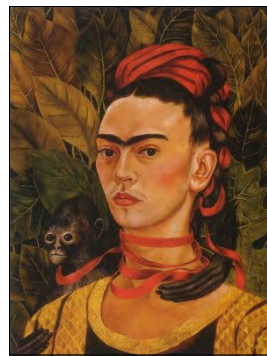
6 HEAD OF A WOMAN Pablo Ruiz Picasso 1881-1973 Tate Gallery, London



For me Picasso was a genius of 20th century art and one of the most important artists in the history of Western art. He was not just a painter, but a sculptor, draughtsman, graphic and stage designer, and ceramicist. He had a prodigious talent and by the time he reached his early twenties he had mastered classical drawing and painting and was ready to explore and experiment with his talent to the full. I love the simplicity of the line work in this portrait which tells you all you need to know about this face.

7 SELF PORTRAIT WITH MONKEY Frida Kahlo 1907-1954 Private collection

Seriously injured in a bus accident at the age of 15, Kahlo spent long periods when she was bedridden and she filled her time teaching herself to paint. Of around 140 paintings created, 55 are self portraits and many reflect unhappy episodes of her life. Influenced by indigenous culture, she used bright colours, symbolism and has a primitive style.



Although in Mexican mythology the monkey is the patron of dance and also a symbol of lust, in this self portrait she portrays it as a tender creature with its arm placed protectively around her neck.

8 GIRL WITH BERET Lucian Freud 1922-2011 Manchester City Galleries

This is not typical of Freud's work as most of us know it, but is very typical of his early work. I love the brutally frank portraits of his later work too, but this is such a sensitive painting.

Freud said, 'I've always wanted to create drama in my pictures, which is why



I paint people. It's people who have brought drama to pictures from the beginning. The simplest human gestures tell stories.' Born in Berlin, the son of Jewish parents, the family moved to London in 1933 to escape the rise of Nazism. He was a grandson of Sigmund Freud, and elder brother of the broadcaster Clement Freud.

9 PORTRAIT OF ERIC WILLIAMS MC Sir Stanley Spencer R.A 1891-1959 Stanley Spencer Gallery, Cookham, Berkshire



Again, this painting is not typical of the artist's work as most might know it, and perhaps that is why I like it so much! Spencer lived and worked in the

village of Cookham for the majority of his life and many of his paintings were of religious subjects, interpreted in the context of Cookham. He decorated Burghclere chapel, and was an official war artist from 1940-1.

10 MICK JAGGER Andy Warhol 1928-1987 Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts

Like Frida Kahlo, Warhol spent long periods of his childhood in bed and filled his time drawing and collecting autographed cards of film stars. He began his career as a commercial artist and used such techniques in his work. In the 1960s he was one of the main exponents of the US Pop Art movement and became a cult figure of the time. He loved celebrities and painted many of them including Marilyn Monroe, Elvis Presley and Elizabeth Taylor.

