

## **A HAPPY AND MEMORABLE OCCASION**

After three years of intensive preparation (of which he writes later in this magazine) - and all this on top of more years of study before he was admitted as a Reader - Seymour Harris was made a Deacon in St. Paul's Cathedral on 21 September. He was one of sixteen; in addition, there were also eleven Deacons receiving the Order of Priesthood (the remarkable names of some of these came sonorously through the speakers: Peter Tabernacle, a fellow-student with Seymour on the Southwark Ordination Course; Martin Israel, teacher of pathology, but better known to many of us as a teacher of meditation and prayer). The Cathedral was packed to the doors; some could see and hear everything that happened, others (even with tickets supposedly admitting to specially reserved places for family and friends) were not so fortunate. Scattered among the large congregation were at least seventy of us from Hampton Hill, and most of these, with friends from further afield, afterwards availed themselves of Seymour and Dawn's gracious invitation, and went back to a sumptuous meal - a real agape - in their house and garden.

It is a pity that there is so much in the Form and Manner of Making Deacons and of the Ordering of Priests that is archaic, a relic from former times. For instance, the Bishop reminds the Deacons: 'It appertaineth to the office of a Deacon . . . . . to search for the sick, poor, and impotent people of the Parish, to intimate their estates, names, and places where they dwell, unto the Curate, that by his exhortation they may be relieved by the alms of the Parishioners, or others . . . . .'. This comes from days centuries before the Welfare State, when the Poor Law was very primitive, and the Deacon had to be Social Worker, Welfare Officer, and Community Care Representative rolled into one. There are so many people who regard the Church as a museum-piece - and indeed the Church often seems to go out of her way to give just this impression - that it is unfortunate that on great occasions like this we have to use a service that has not yet been rescued from its medieval strait-jacket. But though the service cries out for the attention of the Liturgical Commission and for wise revision, great and noble conceptions which are undated and unaffected by the passage of time do still come through: the high importance and dignity of the Apostolic Ministry, and the dedication and prayerfulness required of those admitted to these weighty offices within it. And the preacher reminded all of us how necessary it is that we should constantly pray for those who exercise this ministry and pastoral care among us, and as they encourage and build us up, so should we help them by going out to them in friendship, gratitude and love.

On September 28, in Sheffield Cathedral, Raymond Draper, who was also nurtured in this parish, will be ordained Priest. After a year's hard work, he and Gillian have now moved into the house, much more convenient for the parish, in which they hoped to begin last year: 225 Prince of Wales Road, Sheffield S2 1FB.

## **THE SOUTHWARK ORDINATION COURSE**

The course was started in 1960 as a means of training men for the ministry without taking them away from their secular occupations. From the beginning most students have entered the full-time parish ministry on ordination, although as in my case an appreciable number have remained in their employment. This will be the first year in which a majority of those ordained from S.O.C. will not be on the church payroll.

In 1960 S.O.C. was in the position of having to prove itself to those brought

up in the tradition of the full-time theological college, and there were those who needed convincing that there was any comparison between the two. Now this form of training is fully accepted, and whilst theological colleges are closing down or amalgamating, other courses of the Southwark type are opening or being planned. At summer school this year we met Dr. Raymond Selby, principal of the North-West Ordination Course. Based in Manchester, the course operates from various centres in the North-West. He told me that he has two pharmacists joining in September, one of them a colleague of mine from Boots.

Academically, S.O.C. is based on the University of London Diploma in Religious Studies, and in addition to the four subjects required for this, examinations are held in Christian Doctrine and Christian Ethics. This means that for the two winter terms for three years students attend two classes per week at Southwark. In the summer term there are courses following a three-year cycle in World Religions, Church History before 1800, and Liturgy.

The residential parts of the course are at Wychcroft, the Southwark Diocesan Training Centre near Bletchingley, Surrey. Seven weekends are involved between September and March each year, and a two-week summer school in May. Wychcroft is the home of S.O.C. and here we really get to know each other in a relaxed atmosphere. The domestic arrangements are admirably supervised by Alex, the Warden, and his wife Connie. This year for the third year in succession the final year summer school has been split, and we spent a week at Mirfield, the home of the Community of the Resurrection, in September.

Reflections? A thoroughly enjoyable three years. Grateful thanks for the support and understanding of a wife who has coped with regular absences, disrupted holidays, and study for three years. (Wives are involved as far as possible, and they have their own weekend at Wychcroft in each year in addition to three one-day conferences. This year for the first time they joined us for a weekend marriage preparation.) Relief that whilst enjoyed, the three years are now over. Gratitude for the opportunity to join in what was a really first class group of men from many different social and academic backgrounds and a variety of different occupations and age range. Anticipation of further areas of service within the parish and beyond which ordination will open up.

S.D.H.

## THE AUXILIARY PASTORAL MINISTRY

For a number of years now it has been obvious that before long the Church would be facing a crisis caused by a shortage of clergy. The number of men coming forward has been declining for many years, and replacement has not kept pace with wastage due to death, retirement and other causes. A further factor which has more recently given reason for concern is inflation. Under the present system, assuming that sufficient men offered themselves, it is very doubtful whether the Church could pay them a stipend. In view of this situation a great deal of thinking has gone into the future needs of the Church in terms of numbers of clergy, and one of the outcomes of this has been the so-called Auxiliary Pastoral Ministry. No one thinks that this is a satisfactory title, but no alternative has been suggested that is really acceptable, and so for the time being this is the official designation for clergy who are not on the payroll of the Church, who accept responsibility for their own accommodation and earn their livings in secular occupations.

It should be made clear that these are not 'part-time priests'. Priesthood is not an occupation, but more a state, like being married. A priest is a priest

whether he is engaged in specifically Church work, or whether he is working at a machine in a factory. He does not cease to be a priest when he walks out of the Church and takes off his dog-collar. We have for long been used to the idea that most priests are employed as parish clergy, although many have also been involved in the teaching profession, but there is no reason at all why they may not be employed in other areas, and this is the situation with those entering the A.P.M. Among those with whom I trained were a number of teachers, a surveyor, an insurance-broker, a male nurse, a barrister, a printer, the assistant secretary of a professional society, and a British Railways engineer. All these will retain their jobs after ordination. It should also be said that the A.P.M. is not a second-class priesthood, but as it expands will consist of the same kind of mix that is found in the full-time parish ministry. All will share in the same priesthood, whether they are on the Church payroll or not, but among both groups will be found those who stand out as showing particular gifts in ministry. The form of selection and training for both groups is in fact identical and we all start from the same position.

Dr. Ramsey, in "The Christian Priest Today" reminds us that the Apostles visited Churches, appointing presbyters in them. He says that in those days it is inconceivable that they were paid professionals as the resources would just not have been there. He suggests that "those we call auxiliaries today belong most truly to the apostolic foundation". I do not think that we can do without paid clergy whose full-time job it is to minister to the parishes, but perhaps in the future there will be many more auxiliaries to act as a bridge to the world.

S.D.H.

## NEWS FROM SOUTH AFRICA

The Rev. Tom Stanton spoke after Evensong on Sunday, September 21, about the work at the Njwaxa project in South Africa to which St. James's sent £50 last year. He thanked the parish for the most welcome donation which had been spent on repairing the roof of the centre, and providing benches, tables and cupboards. He described developments at the centre, the decision to try and make a go of leatherwork, the difficulties involved, the shortage of equipment, the search for markets for the products, of which he brought some samples to show us. He underlined the advantages of a self-help scheme of this kind, rather than more direct help; but the extreme poverty of the people and the fact that there is no encouragement of this sort of project by the Government made it hard. He added that when he left Alice, the parish of which until lately he had been Rector, the project was running at a loss; it had, however, been linked up with a local organisation, Black Community Projects, and much valuable experience had been gained.

He spoke movingly about the iniquity of the migrant labour system which perforce requires the men to leave the homelands and seek work in the mines or the big cities; the women and children are left in extreme poverty. This whole system results in the deliberate breaking up of the family structures; and this is among a people where family and community ties are all-important. Few of us will forget the speaker describing the child taking a bite from an apple, and then handing it on to the next child so that he can have his bite, and so on to the next. Also with a sweet, the child has a few sucks, then passes it on to his friend for him to have a go. Things in a community, and in the homelands in South Africa there are very poor communities, must be shared.

H.M.S.

## **THE WEEK OF PRAYER FOR WORLD PEACE**

The Hampton and Sunbury Council of Churches is holding its next United Service on Sunday, October 19, at 6.45 p.m. at St. Mary's Church, Hampton.

This Sunday occurs in the Week of Prayer for World Peace, October 19 - 26, and at the kind invitation of the Vicar of St. Mary's, Monsignor Bruce Kent, an authority on World Peace, is coming as guest preacher.

Monsignor Bruce Kent has worked among students of London University, and until lately was a member of the Catholic Chaplaincy at the University. He is now Secretary of Pax Christi, the Roman Catholic International Movement devoted to Peace. He is often to be heard on the Radio talking on Roman Catholic issues and world peace. He has travelled in India and Bangladesh, and in the Far East. He was present at Kyoto, Japan, when the first Conference of World Religions and Peace was held in 1970, at the invitation of the Japanese, and where representatives of all faiths confirmed their fervent and united desire for world peace. The Second Conference of World Religions and Peace was held in Belgium last year. Monsignor Bruce Kent has been the moving spirit in the Committee in this country which is following up these important moves.

During the Week of Prayer for World Peace the Vigil of Prayer for Racial Harmony occurs. This is being held this year, in conjunction with the Teddington Christian Council, at 8 p.m. at St. Francis de Sales Church, Wellington Road, Hampton Hill, on Tuesday October 21. Our theme will be how minority groups intergrate into our British scene, and yet wish to preserve their own cultures; we are hoping to have a preacher and members of a Chinese Methodist community with us, and some members of a Roman Catholic Polish community. There will be a service, in which we hope our Chinese and Polish friends will join; this will be followed by refreshments, and following this there will be a vigil of prayer for 2 hours.

An additional service of great interest in this Week of Prayer for World Peace will be held on Saturday, October 18, at 3 p.m. at Westminster Cathedral, Victoria St., London. This will start the week off as it were. The preacher at this service will be the Rev. Eric Gallacher, an eminent Methodist minister from Belfast.

H.M.S.

### **HAMPTON CHORAL SOCIETY**

Dear Mr. Brunt,

I was interested to read in a recent edition of the Richmond & Twickenham Times that you had a band of some 25 members interested in enjoying singing.

The Hampton Choral Society is keen to attract new members and we shall be delighted to welcome any member of the group who would like to take up singing on a regular basis. Our conductor, Francis Deacon, has just completed 21 years with the Society, and he is only too pleased to encourage anyone to sing - we do not expect to have all trained singers - and it is surprising what can be achieved.

We rehearse at the Thames Valley College on Tuesdays from 7.45 p.m. recommencing on 22 September. Our next performance consists of Haydn's Third (Imperial) Mass and other works, and will be at St. Mary's Church, Hampton on 25th October 1975.

Further information on the Society may be obtained from Miss Judy Terry our Secretary, who lives at 19 The Grove, Teddington. (977 6407)

We should be most grateful for any publicity you feel able to give the

Society, which has, of course, visited St. James's on occasions in the past.  
Finally, may I say that I recently saw a copy of your Parish Magazine and thought that it was a really excellent production both in content and lay-out.

Yours sincerely,  
(signed) R.J. Hogan - Publicity Officer.

### MICHAELMAS DANCE

Normally we ask one of our guests to write up our social events, but on this occasion I am doing it as a member of the Social Committee, partly as a penance for my own doubts about the success of the dance beforehand, and partly to make sure that due recognition was given to that small band of ladies who did so much of the work on the day.

Any thoughts that all would not be well were quickly dispelled once the band were in full swing and by the time the interval arrived a very jolly dance was under way. The refreshments then served can only be described as magnificent, helped down by some very palatable wine and beer.

The second half of the programme was even more enjoyable and it was with reluctance that we joined in Auld Lang Syne to bring to a close a wonderful evening.

Finally, apart from the usual sincere thanks to all those who helped in organising the event, particular mention must be made of the ladies who not only organised the refreshments but also worked so hard on the day preparing the hall. Without them our enjoyment would not have been possible. H.E.S.

### LOOK OUT, LOOK OUT, THERE'S A HUMPTY ABOUT !

Well - Hello, all you cognoscenti and connoisseurs of the fine arts ! If you've been looking for that extra little something in your lives recently, then Y.P.F. has just the thing for you - a star-studded (well I'm in it anyway) Christmas Pantomime - Humpty Dumpty ! It tells the story, in three acts, of the wicked Humpty Dumpty who, having fallen off the wall in the land of Bunkum, demands to be put back together again - much to everyone's consternation, because it is impossible ! Scattered throughout the performance, like gems studded in a piece of glittering jewellery are solos, duets, choruses, and a fairy ballet ! Many thanks must go to the main perpetrators, Martin Edmonds and Roger Severn, the director and producer respectively, and all others involved, for all the work and time that they have given in getting the show on the road. The end of the road comes on Saturday, December 13 (a worryingly ominous date ! ) at 2.30 p.m. and again at 7.30 p.m. Tickets priced 40p. (20p. children fourteen and under) can be obtained from G. Brown, 44 St. James's Road, and M. Brittain, 13 Cranmer Road. (Hurry while stocks last ! ) All we need now is an audience.



P.K.

**Y. P. F. NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT !**

## THE WELCOME SERVICE

September 14 saw the first of the new services that will from now on be held on every second Sunday in the month, at 4.30 instead of Evensong. The next one will take place on October 12. They are called Welcome Services, and it is sincerely hoped that they can live up to their name, warmly welcoming people into the place set aside primarily for the worship of God. Not only into the place, but into the community of those who feel at home in God's house. The welcome naturally extends to these latter, but also to those who feel that traditional forms of service with a set liturgy do not enable them to come into any relationship with God. By virtue of its timing and simplicity it also seems particularly suitable for families with young children. Not that simplicity implies that its message is aimed at children, but their parents can feel more at ease bringing them to a shorter service without particularly long prayers and with a lot of music. Immediately after the service there is an opportunity for discussion or just meeting others over some refreshments.

The services will be arranged by different people each time, so that the first one is only a rough guide as to what we can expect in the future. Also people's comments are welcome to enable the organisers really to reach those people they want to address. To me this beginning was very meaningful indeed. The community hymn-singing at the start was worship and recollection of God's deeds for us in music. Some short prayers, that expressed basic Christian realities, a reading, and an address which again brought us all back to something very basic about Christian teaching. We all need to learn about God and Jesus again and again, and it seems to me that it is appropriate for Welcome Services to restate fundamental truths.

This time we were reminded that the Gospels, the four accounts of Christ's work on earth, are not a biography of the man Jesus. They were written down long after his death, to interpret to people living then experiences they had through taking his teaching seriously. Through the power of Jesus and the Holy Spirit their lives were being changed, they could do impossible things. What was true a few decades after Christ's death is just as true today, many hundred years later. If we take Jesus seriously, he can change our lives too.

Hilde Bucknell.

## SOCIAL COMMITTEE

### Remember - Remember!

The next event we are looking forward to is the ever-popular fireworks party in the garden of Laurel Dene on Saturday, November 8. The splendid firework display will be followed by warming goodies, and as always it should prove to be a happy family occasion. Make sure you secure your tickets early.

R.B.

## CUB SCOUT CAMP 1975

The weather was marvellous - the road empty - we were off to visit the Cub Camp at Normandy near Guildford. This was the first Camp for two years, so a new experience for all the boys. Twelve Cubs, a few Brownies and Scouts, and numerous helpers, were spending a week here. A new outdoor swimming pool has recently been built - unheated of course but in such glorious weather this is not a real disadvantage, and the boys thoroughly enjoyed the games in

the water and the swimming.

Wednesday was the parents' visiting day and we were entertained for an hour with games, sports and races and for a further hour by a Swimming Gala. Everyone joined in everything with great enthusiasm and gusto. A Cake Competition was judged by an unbiased mum and the entries were highly individualistic and much decorated. Tea and the cakes disappeared rapidly and then everyone sat and talked - later there was talk of a camp-fire - much rehearsing having been done but it was time to go - a wonderful day and a week that the boys should all remember.

Thank you to Akela, Skip, Hathi, Kim and all the many other helpers and supporters who did so much to make the week such a success. When my son returned on the Friday I swear he had grown an inch.

H.T.

### OTHER SCOUT GROUP NEWS.

As some of you might have read we have brought a temporary hut which, subject to planning permission, we hope to erect on the Triangle. This will be used for small projects which cannot be allowed in the Parish Hall, also will be a useful asset for Bonfire Parties, Barbecues etc., but we are still searching for permanent headquarters.

On quite the wettest Sunday of the summer we held our annual Sponsored Walk. We invited the Brownies and Y.P.F. to also take part and about 116 walkers braved the rain and checked in at the 18 gates round Bushy Park. 10% of the money will be given to Hampton Hill Old People's Welfare Committee and the rest will go to each organisation's funds.

**Disco - Buffet - Dance :** On Saturday, October 25. This is being held at the Hampton Hill Cricket Pavilion in Bushy Park. Tickets £1 inclusive can be obtained from:-

Mr. L. Lambert 979-9254

Mrs. J. Stewart 979-9349

**Change of Leadership :-** Michael has now succeeded his father as Group Scout Leader, who has now retired after many years of service. An appreciation of the devoted work of Stanley Childs will appear in our next issue.

### DEANERY INTERCESSION LIST

October

26

St. John Baptist, Hampton Wick.

November

16

St. Augustine of Canterbury, Whitton.

23

St. James, Hampton Hill.

## SOME DATES TO NOTE

### October

- 12 Two Sunday School Departments reopen: Junior (W) 09.20; and Rectory (School) 14.30; instead of Evensong, WELCOME SERVICE at 16.30, followed by light refreshments.
- 13 10.30 Editorial Board (75 St. James's Avenue); 20.00 Stewardship Committee (81 Burton's Road)
- 15 19.30 U.S.P.G. Festival Eucharist (Christ the King, WC1)
- 16 20.00 Prayer Meeting (69 St. James's Avenue)
- 18 SAINT LUKE'S DAY: 07.30 Holy Communion
- 19 - 26 WEEK OF PRAYER FOR WORLD PEACE
- 19 No Evensong here, but UNITED SERVICE at St. Mary's, Hampton, at 18.45
- 21 20.00 VIGIL OF PRAYER FOR RACIAL HARMONY (St. Francis de Sales)
- 22 07.30 Holy Communion; 20.00 Prayer Meeting (75 Burton's Rd); 20.00 Properties Committee (18 St. James's Road)
- 23 20.00 Parochial Church Council (W)
- 25 20.00 Scout Group Dance (Pavilion)
- 28 SS. SIMON AND JUDE: 07.30 Holy Communion; 20.00 Wayside Project Training Session (W)
- 30 20.00 Prayer Meeting (69 St. James's Avenue)

### November

- 1 ALL SAINTS' DAY: 07.30 Holy Communion
- 5 14.30 Mothers' Union: Branch A.G.M. (W); 20.00 Prayer Meeting (75 Burton's Road)
- 6 08.45 Holy Communion (St. Anne's Chapel, L.E.H.S.)
- 7 20.00 To sing YOUR FAVOURITE HYMN - for the love of it (Church)
- 8 SAINTS OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND: 07.30 Holy Communion; 14.30 Mothers' Union: Jumble Sale (Hall); 18.00 FIREWORKS PARTY (Laurel Dene)
- 9 REMEMBRANCE DAY: Sunday morning arrangements as usual; instead of Evensong WELCOME SERVICE at 16.30

## BAPTISMS

### August

- 24 Jonathan Charles Williamson, 57 Burton's Road
- 31 Veronica Alice Kendon, 150 Wordsworth Road, (at the Parish Communion)

## MARRIAGES

### August

- 30 Andrew Philip Robinson to Jeanette May Ball

### September

- 7 John Arthur Simpson to Siobhan Bellingham  
David\*Walter James to Paula Jean Higgins