

## On a journey together

We learn how to do something and then practise so we don't forget. It's often said that once you have learnt to ride a bicycle you never forget - that might be true but if you haven't ridden a bike for years you will probably be a bit wobbly if you try! Often we learn to do things in stages. Many of us probably started on a tricycle before moving on to a bicycle; possibly using stabilisers in order to help us build confidence before being able to discard them.

Sometimes we need props, tools or partners - can you imagine trying to cook a meal without any utensils or take part in a three legged race on your own?

### Special Events and Services

**Sunday 8 June**

**10.30am Family and Parade Service**

*With the help of Junior Choir  
Followed by the Parish Picnic*

**Sunday 15 June**

**6.30pm Choral Evensong**

Responses: Neary  
Canticles: Harwood in A flat  
Anthem: Hymn to the Trinity - Tchaikovsky

As Christians it is important that we have the tools and support that we need. We read the Bible to help us understand the stories and teachings of our faith. We may use other books to help explain to us what it means to be a Christian. We spend time with other Christians whether in church, Sunday school, bible study groups or just meeting for coffee and a chat. Knowing that we have the love, care and support of other Christians is important to us on our faith journey.

In May, after a preparation course, some of the young members of our congregation received the bread and wine at communion for the first time. They recognise that the faith into which they were baptised isn't just that of their parents and godparents but one which as they grow up is increasingly becoming their own. They wish to receive communion to help strengthen them and allow them to receive God's grace on a regular basis as they continue exploring their faith and what being a Christian means to them. As they continue to grow we pray that their understanding of faith will allow them as adults to come to Confirmation when they will confirm that faith into which they have been baptised for themselves.

**Rev Morag Finch**



**UNIS EN JÉSUS-CHRIST:** St Mary's welcomed visitors from St Francis of Assisi, Douai, in May. The French parishioners and Guides enjoyed a visit to Greenwich, a parish meal, hospitality from members of the congregation, and a service of joint worship.



## From the Registers

### Holy Baptism

We welcome into God's family:

- 17 Apr Sebastian Phillips
- 11 May Adah Wilcox
- 11 May Annabelle Lightbody
- 17 May Chiamaka Olumba
- 17 May Amarachi Olumba
- 18 May Megan Wright

### At Rest

We extend our sympathy to those who loved:

- |                 |        |         |
|-----------------|--------|---------|
| Anne Rundle     | 22 Apr | aged 74 |
| Dorothy Clift   | 23 Apr | aged 94 |
| Christine Ellis | 28 Apr | aged 96 |
| Allan Wells     | 29 Apr | aged 71 |

## Children Admitted to Holy Communion

We welcome to God's table:

- Alice Aldred
- Bethan Brown
- Alexandra Cousens
- Ashley Cousens
- Michelle Doa-Duque
- Sebastian Doa-Duque
- Lucy Hemsley
- Juliette James
- Raven Jones
- Lloyd Maurel
- Elliott Maurel
- Amarachi Olumba
- Chiamaka Olumba
- Kirsty Price
- Emma Rogers



15 children received communion for the first time on Sunday 18 May

# Remembering

### Christine Ellis

Christine was an active member of St Mary's for many years since her husband became our Organist and Choir Master in 1961.

She was born in Anerley in 1917. Despite poor health she did well at school, excelling particularly in Mathematics – an attribute which she was delighted to have passed on through the generations including to her great grandchildren.

In 1931 she met her future husband Leslie when he visited her home to see her father but he appeared not to notice her as she was only 14. However, love shone through: when she reached 20 they got together and were engaged a year later. In 1939 they married and were to have two children – Andrea and Roger.

In 1958 Christine began voluntary work with the Girl Guide Movement and in 1983 was awarded the MBE for her services to Guiding and the WRVS for which, on retirement, she was given a 30 year service medal.

From 1994 until her death Christine lived in Franklin House where she enjoyed the company and friendship of many other residents.

Immensely proud of her family, Christine kept up with modern technology and occasionally skyped James, Susan and their family in Australia: a source of wonder that she could see and talk to them 10,000 miles away.



## UNIS EN JÉSUS-CHRIST

**Above:** Rev Jane Peters, Abbé Jean-Marie Telle, Rev Morag Finch, Ven Dr Paul Wright, Rev Richard Finch

**Right:** Guides from Douai and Shortlands gather outside the church hall.

### Dorothy Clift

Dorothy was born in Yorkshire. Her father was the parish priest and her mother was a musician, artist and a great organiser of social events and daily life in the town.

In 1942, Dorothy qualified as a doctor at the University of Leeds. She met Arthur, the surgeon who became her husband, when they worked together in Oxford. They moved to Bromley in 1945 and worked for a short time at Farnborough Hospital. The family attended St Mark's Bromley, and later St Mary's Shortlands.

Dorothy devoted about 25 years mainly to supporting Arthur and caring for her family of six children. She then worked in family planning before moving to the dermatology department in St Bartholomew's Hospital. She greatly enjoyed learning about her patients' lives, convinced that skin conditions are much affected by people's emotions and experiences.

Through her retirement, and after Arthur died in 1990, Dorothy continued to care for her family and neighbours. She organised a weekly church service and a poetry reading group for residents at Durham House. She visited and helped the residents while gradually she became older than many of them.

Dorothy loved her home. In 1991, her daughter Cecilia and her family moved into the house and enabled Dorothy to stay there for the rest of her life, as she so much wanted to do.

Dorothy had many interests ranging from discussing developments in medicine and medical ethics and changing views about Christianity, to gardening, sewing and cooking. Dorothy is survived by five of her children, seven of her nine grandchildren and eight great grandchildren.

The family wish to express their gratitude for all the many kind words and thoughts, and the donations to Save The Children in her memory.



# Parish Picnic & Barbecue

Sunday, 8 June

in the church grounds following the 10.30am Family and Parade Service.

Bring your own picnic -  
barbecue food and refreshments available to buy.  
Bouncy castle and games for all the family.

**Come and join the fun!**

## Serving Shortlands

The Shortlands Residents Association (SRA) held its Annual General Meeting on 30 April at St. Mary's Church Hall. A packed Hall listened to a humorous and enlightening talk by the Mayor of Bromley, Cllr Ernest Noad. He recounted his life in politics but especially his last year as Mayor and as our local Councillor.

Many other local issues were discussed such as parking, the proposed school at the Kingswood House site, traffic increase, and the Street Scene pilot. All these issues are taken up by the SRA, on behalf of all local residents with the appropriate Council officials and our local Councillors.

Committee members were appointed but there are vacancies, especially for a Development Officer, so if you are interested in local planning or have expertise in that area and feel able to help, please get in touch!

If you would like to join the SRA, are interested in representing your road as a Liaison Officer, or to serve on the Committee please contact Ann-Marie Jefferys (0208 460 6030) in the first instance. We look forward to hearing from you!

*Ann-Marie Jefferys*

## Mission of the month

### JusB

JusB youth centre was started in 2003 by the family worker from St Mary's Church, College Road who met young people in Bromley who had nowhere to go, were not particularly interested in church yet needed support. They wanted somewhere to 'jusb themselves'.



JusB's mission is 'to serve young people by accompanying them through thick and thin on their journey to independence'. It encourages young people to support each other and be good ambassadors in their community.

Since its launch, the charity has done this in a variety of ways for thousands of young people aged 11-23 during term time and school holidays. These include advice and guidance to help find a job or stay on in education, a homework club and projects to help develop new skills like craft, cookery, urban music and video animation.

For more information, see the display board at the back of the church, visit the website [www.jusb.org.uk](http://www.jusb.org.uk) or phone 020 8464 2722.

## Looking back, looking forwards

Approximately 40 people attended St Mary's Annual Parochial Church Meeting on Sunday 27 April to look back at the year 2013.

Tim Dawson, the Treasurer, reported a financial surplus, but explained that this was unlikely to continue in 2014 as the church had been without paid clergy for half of 2013. Donations had decreased, which increased the challenge yet further: he asked everyone to review their giving commitment.

The meeting remembered Don Weekes, who had given faithful service to the church for many years, including his role as Assistant Treasurer.

Rev Morag Finch looked ahead to plans for 2014. She described faith as an ongoing journey: we need to be challenged in that journey, to see if we need to adapt or change.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) had met in February to identify the church's priorities for the coming years. There is a need to widen the number of people involved in planning and delivering St Mary's many activities, and we all share in the responsibility to seek and encourage people to help: no contribution is too small to make a difference.

The meeting heard that Sally Aldred and Catherine Bingham are currently taking part in a course for people who are not ordained as vicars. It is hoped that they will be able to help the PCC to develop the church's work in serving the local community bringing the love of God into the everyday lives of the people of Shortlands. Further work will look at how we can best use the church's buildings to do this.

Jan Boam and Keith Mills were newly elected to the PCC, and the meeting thanked those who were stepping down.

*Heather Wills*

## The Friends of St Mary's

invite you to a

### Fun Wine Tasting Evening

Come and test your skills and knowledge and have fun!

Date: Saturday 21st June

Where: St Mary's Church Hall

Time: 7.15 for 7.30 start

Tickets: £10 from the Church Office

Bring your own snacks



## Stay in touch!

To keep up with news from St. Mary's in between editions of SPAN, you can like our page on Facebook or follow us on Twitter – search for 'St Mary's Shortlands'.

Don't forget our website  
[www.stmarysshortlands.org.uk](http://www.stmarysshortlands.org.uk)



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**Every Sunday**

- 08.00 Holy Communion
- 10.30 Family Communion, except the first Sunday in the month in term time.  
During term time there are separate groups in the Church Hall for children aged 0-18. All Age Eucharist or Parade Service (1st Sunday in the month, term time).
- 18.30 Choral Evensong (3rd Sunday in the month)

**Every Monday**

- 17.00 Evening Prayers

**Every Wednesday**

- 10.00 Holy Communion

Further information about all services can be obtained from the Parish Office.

**PARISH DIRECTORY**

Vicar	Rev. M. Finch	8464 8065
	revfinch@btinternet.com	
Associate Priest	Rev. R. Finch	8464 8065
Associate Vicar	Rev. J. Peters	07531 617302/8460 5682
Reader Emeritus	Mrs. A. Gimson	8460 6494
Reader	Mr. P. Stotesbury	8650 3259
Pastoral Assistants	Mrs. S. Harrison	8464 0284
	Mrs. D. Speller	8466 1184
	Mrs. M. Westropp	8650 5178
Parish Administrator	Ms. N. Blake	8460 5682
Assistant	Mrs. E. Parker	8460 5682
Churchwardens	Mrs. A. Swatton	8650 1114
	Dr. D. Jefferys	8460 6030
Deputies	Mrs. P. Chase	8464 6188
	Miss A. Parks	8464 1157
	Mr. S. Clark	8464 0696
	Mr. D. Cooper	8460 0682
	Mr. B. Waring	07957 186027
PCC Secretary	Miss J. Rambridge	8650 0947
Treasurer	Mr. T. Dawson	8460 5884
Assistant Treasurer	Mr. R. Hogg	8290 0031
Organist & Acting Director of Music	Canon C. Tillotson	8460 7368
	Mr. N. Stoffel	8460 0063
Electoral Roll	Mr. J. Westropp	8650 5178
Stewardship	Mrs. S. Aldred	8460 3978
Junior Church		

**PARISH OFFICE Tel/Fax 8460 5682**

e-mail: office@stmaryshortlands.plus.com  
Open 9.30 am - 12.30 weekdays. Information regarding Baptisms and Weddings can be obtained during these hours.

**ST. MARY'S ORGANISATIONS**

Mothers & Toddlers	Mrs. J. Runicles	8650 4553
Mothers' Union Fellowship Group		
	Mrs. P. White	8460 9357
Friends of St. Mary's		
	Miss J. Rambridge	8650 0947
Scouts GSL (Fri)	Mr. C. Wood	8658 1825
Cubs (Mon)	Mrs. J. Garvey	8249 8785
Cubs (Tues)	Mr. J. Griffiths	07954 437658
Beavers/admissions	Mr. J. Westropp	8650 5178
For admissions to Rainbows, Brownies & Guides please tel: 08001695901 or go to <a href="http://www.girlguiding.org.uk/interested">www.girlguiding.org.uk/interested</a>		
Guides (Tues)	Ms. N. Keast	07516 650940
Guides (Fri)	Mrs. G. Dawson	8460 5884
Brownies (Mon)	Miss K. Higgs	8462 3285
Brownies (Wed)	Mrs. R. Kateswaran	8249 0984
Brownies (Thurs.)	Mrs. G. Attoh	07946 833576
Rainbows	Ms. W. Keeping	8466 1599
	Mrs. S. Tight	8460 8122
Pre-School	Mrs. P. Chase	8290 6704
		or 07960 988552
The 2WW's	Mrs. A. Heayberd	8460 9537
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Mission Chairman	Mrs. S. Shelton	8402 3299
Douai Link	Mrs. G. Dawson	8460 5884
Fair Trade	Mrs. C. Willatt	8313 0246

**LOCAL CONTACTS**

Cllr. E. Noad	8462 3295
Cllr D. Jefferys	07944 565455
(Email: david.jefferys@bromley.gov.uk)	
Highfield Infants' School	8464 7804
Highfield Junior School	8460 2597
Residents' Association	8460 4060
Shortlands Safer Neighbourhood	8721 2614

**SPAN INFORMATION**

Website	<a href="http://www.stmaryshortlands.org.uk">www.stmaryshortlands.org.uk</a>
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