

Flower Festival 'In the Footsteps of Jesus'



A Flower Festival will take place at St. Mary's, Shortlands from 3 - 5 July. Co-ordinated by Marian Parr and assisted by local flower arranging groups and florists, it will depict the places Jesus visited. The theme is entitled 'In the Footsteps of Jesus'.

Programme

Friday, 3 July: open from 10.00am - 6.00pm

8.00pm: Choral Evensong. Preacher - The Archdeacon of Tonbridge

Saturday, 4 July: open from 10.00am - 6.00pm

11.00am: St. Mary's Pre-School sing

12 noon: The Junior Choir of Bishop Challoner School

2.00pm: Highfield Infants' School Choir

3.00pm St. Mary's Choir Club

Sunday, 5 July: open from 12 noon - 6.00pm

8.00am: Holy Communion

10.30am: Family Eucharist at which the Uniformed Organisations of Shortlands will parade

3.00pm: Organ Recital by Frank Roddy, Organist and Director of Music

6.30pm: Songs of Praise. Preacher - Canon Arthur Quinn

Parish Picnic & Barbecue, Fun & Games

Sunday, 14 June

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

Bring your own picnic, or barbecue food and
refreshments available to buy.

There will be a toddler play area, and many fun games for adults
and children.

Come and enjoy the Shortlands community!

Antiques, Collectables and Promises Auction

Saturday, 20 June

in the Church Hall from 2.00pm to 5.00pm

(viewing 10.00am to noon)



From the Registers

Holy Baptism

We welcome into God's family:

26 April Harry Smith

26 April Barney Taylor

At Rest

We extend our sympathy to those who loved:

6 May Eric Foxwell, aged 77

Interment of Ashes

12 April John Greenwood



Remembering

Eric Foxwell

Eric grew up in Barnet and was an only child. He completed his national service at Melton Mowbray. Following in his father's footsteps he worked for the Mirror Group for some 40 years. He married Eileen in 1959 and they had 3 children, Neale, Elaine and Julie.

Eric was a lively member of the community of Shortlands, enjoying back in the 1970s, many years as a football coach with the cubs, scouts and the choir. Under his leadership St. Mary's choir won the Choir Cup Final!

He loved sport and played racquet ball and tennis. He was totally involved with his 10 grandchildren. Their home in Kingswood Road was a place of welcome and hospitality.

A large congregation attended his Service of Thanksgiving at Beckenham Crematorium, which was conducted by Canon Paul Miller, prior to cremation.

Douai weekend



A group of 24 Guides, Young Leaders and Leaders accompanied the 26 parishioners that went to Douai with an exciting programme for the Saturday evening. An invitation had been received from a group of Guides camping in the grounds of a chateau at Givenchy-le-Noble, about an hour's drive from Douai. The theme of the camp was the royal courts of Europe, and we were asked to portray one of these - so we all dressed up as characters from the court of Henry VIII. We enjoyed a meal of couscous which they had cooked on a wood fire, followed by home-made cakes our Guides had brought to share with them as dessert. The evening ended with French and English Guides singing songs together around the campfire, a great example of international Guiding friendship showing how we all belong to the same world-wide family. The Guides then swapped email addresses and Facebook details before we returned to Douai for our sleepover with French Guides from another group who were not involved with the camp.

The two things which made the biggest impression on the English Guides were the fact that the "toilettes" in camp were simply "a la nature", ie find a friendly bush, which was a new experience for most of them! Also the would-be illegal immigrant who stowed away under our coach hanging onto the drive shaft at Cite Europe in the hopes we were returning to the UK. He emerged when we arrived in Douai, covered in oil and very disappointed to have travelled all that distance in the wrong direction!

Parishioners were hosted in various homes with wonderful French hospitality and we shared on the Sunday in an impressive Mass at which Canon Paul gave the Address. This was followed by lunch in the local school during which we enjoyed another gastronomic feast with plenty of French wine!

'Our link grows ever stronger and we have so many good friends in Douai' commented Canon Paul.

Past the 150, heading to 200!



Canon Paul recently conducted his 150th and 151st baptisms since becoming Vicar of St. Mary's in 2001.

Pictured left are Claire and Neil Smith who were married at St. Mary's in 2006 and now, having had their first child Harry, brought him for baptism.

Pictured right are Dawn and Matthew Taylor who brought their third child Barney for Baptism.

'It is always such a joy to receive children into the Christian Church by baptism and to welcome them into God's great family,' commented Canon Paul.

If you would like more information about how to arrange a baptism at St. Mary's, please contact Janet Fiddeman in the Parish Office on 020 8460 5682.



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Churchwardens Elected



At the recent Annual Parochial Church Meeting Ann Parks and David Jefferys were elected as Churchwardens.

Ann now begins her 4th year of office and David begins his 1st; SPAN caught up with him and asked him how he felt to be elected:

'It is an honour and privilege to be appointed as a Churchwarden and to help St. Mary's to bring the love of God into the lives of all who live in Shortlands.

I am 56, a doctor, and live in the parish with my wife Ann-Marie (a member of the choir and a Pathfinder leader) with two children at university.

I have had a varied career, having been a cardiologist, professor of medicine, senior civil servant, agency chief executive, government adviser and non-executive director. Currently I am a senior vice president for a major life science company, and a member and chairman of various boards and a university external examiner.

In my spare time, I am passionate about sport, more watching than playing today, but I still ski, and play golf at Shortlands. I can also be seen jogging around the parish or walking our large golden retriever, Holly. I also enjoy the theatre, cinema, water colour and oil painting.

Recently I was selected as a candidate for the council elections in Clock House ward.'

Chorister of the Year



The Chorister of the Year Award was recently made on the occasion of the Friends of St. Mary's Annual Service of Choral Evensong. Rachel Tillotson, the current Head Chorister, was nominated by Frank Roddy, Organist and Director of Music at St. Mary's.

The Award is made annually by the Friends and consists of a Medallion and a cash award for scholastic use.

Pictured from left to right are Frank Roddy, Rachel Tillotson and Robin Hogg (Chairman of the Friends).

Canon Paul appointed Area Dean of Beckenham

The Bishop has announced that Canon Paul Miller is to be the next Area Dean of Beckenham in succession to Canon Mike Porter who is retiring.

He will be Licensed by the Archdeacon of Bromley and Bexley, The Venerable Paul Wright, at a Service of Choral Evensong on Thursday, 16 July at 8.00pm at St. Mary's Shortlands, which will be followed by drinks.

Pre-School awarded ICAN

In March St Mary's Pre-school Shortlands was awarded ICAN Early Talk Accreditation. This means that the pre-school meets the standards set for promoting the development of speech, language and communication in children and shows good practice in identifying and referring children with speech, language and communication difficulties.

"I am very proud of the hard work all the pre-school staff put in to enable us to achieve this standard" said Pat Chase, the pre-school leader. "Two assessors spent an entire morning watching and listening to the staff as they interacted with the children, and a large portfolio of evidence was put together."

The pre-school is currently full, with 83 children on the register, and has a waiting list.

Palestinian Musician Heads for London



A Palestinian musician, Basel Zayed, will commence his training in London in September to become Palestine's first music therapist. Born in Jerusalem, where he still lives, Basel, when qualified, will return to work at the SOS Children's Village, Bethlehem.

Basel recently visited Shortlands whilst he was in London for his auditions and popped into St. Mary's Annual Parochial Church Meeting. He introduced himself and then played the oud, a Middle Eastern instrument. He was warmly received.

He has been offered places at both the Guildhall School of Music and Nordoff-Robbins Music Therapy Centre. Commenting on these offers, Canon Paul Miller said: 'Basel has done amazingly well to be offered places at these prestigious training schools, and we are delighted for him! It's a really exciting project.'

Pictured with Basel is Claire Tillotson, herself a music therapist who, with Canon Paul Miller, is coordinating the Project to sponsor Basel for his training. The training fund was launched over Christmas 2007 by the Bishop of Rochester.

**The Parish Church
of St. Mary,
Shortlands**



Link Parish
St. Francis of
Assisi, Douai, France

WORSHIP

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 2½-14.
- 10.30 All Age Eucharist or Parade Service (1st Sunday in the month, term time).
- 18.30 Evening Service

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

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Vicar	Canon P. Miller	8460 4989
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Stewardship	Mr. J. Westropp	8650 5178
Junior Church	Mrs. F. Bratt	8460 6947

PARISH OFFICE Tel/Fax 8460 5682

e-mail: office@stmaryshortlands.plus.com
Open 9.00 am - 12.30 weekdays. Information regarding Baptisms and Weddings can be obtained during these hours.

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Residents' Association	8460 4060
Shortlands Safer Neighbourhood	07920 233848

SPAN

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