



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

REFOCUSSED

THE PARISH MAGAZINE OF
ST ETHELDREDA'S CHURCH
WITH ST LUKE'S CHURCH

September 2019



BISHOP'S
HATFIELD

Letter to the Parish from the Rev'd Penny Thomson on the Lord's Prayer ...

I wonder if you can say the Lord's Prayer by heart? OUR FATHER, WHO ART IN HEAVEN...

Many of us are probably of an age when the Lord's prayer was said each and every day as a part of collective worship at School Assembly, although sadly today, that is not the case. The Lord's Prayer is in fact the prayer that Jesus taught his own disciples in response to them asking him to teach them how to pray and so the words carry a special significance for those who recite them.

Jesus started his model prayer by addressing God as our father. The word father has been translated many ways – daddy, dad, pops, papa, abba – all affectionate, informal terms for a father who is loved and cherished, and who has shown in practical ways that he loves his child. Jesus in addition wanted to emphasise the communal nature of his prayer and so he started his prayer - OUR father. God is father to each of us individually, but he is also the father of all of us, showing his love equally for all his children. As we say the words of the Lord's Prayer we might feel encouraged to know that this prayer is being said by millions of Christians, every day, all around the world.

OUR FATHER, WHO ART IN HEAVEN. Jesus was very good at encapsulating ideas in short succinct sentences. This opening line from the Lord's Prayer assures us that God is the faithful, caring father of us all, but he is at the same time great and awesome and can be found in glory in heaven.

As we continue with the words of the Lord's prayer, we ask that the good benefits of following Jesus will be seen as his kingdom comes in. In Jesus' kingdom, the poor, the

weak, the helpless, the oppressed are helped and supported by those who love God. We ask God to give us each day, enough to live a kind and contented life. We seek forgiveness where we have wronged others and ask for help to forgive those who have wronged us, and not to hold grudges. Finally we ask not to be exposed to anything that might tempt us to act unkindly, or without love and compassion towards our neighbour.

Our Father,

*who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power, and the glory
for ever and ever.*

Amen

The ideas encapsulated in Jesus' Lord's Prayer can be valid for anyone in society today, since most of us aspire to be people who are understanding and considerate and merciful. Saying the LORD'S PRAYER each day can remind us of all those qualities that we hope we might show to others, as we live each day.

Parish of Bishop's Hatfield St Etheldreda with St Luke

Regular Services

St Etheldreda's Church

SUNDAY: 8^{am} Holy Communion BCP
9.30^{am} Holy Communion with Sunday School

3RD SUNDAY OF MONTH:

9.30^{am} All age Eucharist

TUESDAY: 9^{am} Morning Prayer

WEDNESDAY: 10^{am} Holy Communion

THURSDAY: 9^{am} Morning Prayer

7^{pm} Holy Communion or Compline

FRIDAY: 9^{am} Morning Prayer

St Luke's Church

SUNDAY: 11.30^{am} Holy Communion with Hymns

**CHILDREN'S
SUNDAY SCHOOL**

meets at 9.20^{am} on Sundays in term
time at 12 Fore Street (STEPS office)

September Weddings:

6th September—James Millard & Gemma Turner

21st September—William Smith & Hannah Dyball

September Baptisms:

6th September—John Squire

21st September—Skye Cosedge-Stannard &
Beck Cosedge-Stannard

Please contact Fr Darren to book your Wedding or Baptism
t: 01707 256638 e: frdarren@yahoo.co.uk

What's on in September in the Hatfield Team

SATURDAY 7th 8^{am}

Men's Breakfast— St Michael's & All Angels Church

SATURDAY 7th 10^{am}

Ramble leaving St Michael's & All Angels Church

TUESDAY 10th 7.30^{pm}

New 'Explore!' Course begins at St Eth's Church

SATURDAY 14th

Bike 'n' Hike

SATURDAY 21st 7^{pm}

Thelma & Friends in Concert at St Eth's Church

MONDAY 23rd 7.30^{pm} Installation & Licensing of

Rev Ruth Barr, St Mary's Church, North Mymms

TUESDAY 24th 7.30^{pm} Installation & Licensing of

Rev Andrew Gardiner, St John's Church, Sth Hatfield

THURSDAY 26th 11^{am}, 1^{pm}, 2.45^{pm}

Schools Concerts at St Etheldreda's Church

SATURDAY 28th 1^{pm}

Family Concert, Carnival of the Animals at St Eth's.

Tickets £12, under 18: £6

SUNDAY 29th 9.30^{am}

Harvest Festival at St Ethedreda's Church

SUNDAY 29th 2-5^{pm}

Young Musicians' Platform, Mid Herts Centre Music
& Arts—St Eth's—free entrance

Father Darren Collins, Team Rector

The Rectory, 1 Fore Street

Old Hatfield

Hertfordshire AL9 5AN

Tel: 01707 256 638

Email: frdarren@yahoo.co.uk

Parish Team Office

Open Saturdays: 9am – 10am

12 Fore Street

Old Hatfield

Hertfordshire AL9 5AN

Tel: 01707 260 800

Email: bhteamoffice@gmail.com

Refocused Editor: maryrathbone@icloud.com

Parish of Bishop's Hatfield St Etheldreda with St Luke : Registered Charity No.1152011
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Clouds and glimpses of glory

By Mary Rathbone, Lay Reader

David Adam, born in Northumberland in 1936, left school at 15 and worked for three years underground in the coal mines before training for the ministry. He was the vicar of a North Yorkshire Parish; Rector of Holy Island; and a Canon of York Minster. He is now retired.

Renowned for his books on Christian prayer, David likens prayer to avoiding low lying fog by climbing up to higher grounds. He encourages his readers to likewise, through prayer, rise above the daily challenges that we all face and encounter God and the great love that He has for us.

In his book 'Glimpses of Glory', David says; '*On some cloudy days the sun manages at sunset to drop*

beneath the clouds and flood the land with light, every pool and bend in the river picks up that light in a reflected glory.... likewise, glory does suddenly break into our lives, but we have to make the effort to see and experience it.'

In 'Traces of Glory', he says '*prayer is not a pleading with God but rather a uniting with him; it is not about manipulating the Almighty but rather co-operating with him. Prayer does not call God down, for he is already among us, but it does transform our awareness'*.

At St Eth's we, like David Adam, recognise that the regular practice of prayer can be transforming. So, we have been extending opportunities for mid-week prayer as listed in the righthand box..

Why not join us at any of these small services for an uplifting start to the day?

Or, as Rev'd Penny suggests on the front page, the daily practice of reciting the Lord's Prayer—is a great way of building a relationship with God.

MID WEEK PRAYER AND WORSHIP

TUESDAY 9^{AM} Morning Prayer
followed by coffee at Angie's Deli

WEDS. 10^{AM} Holy Communion

THURSDAY 9^{AM} Morning Prayer

FRIDAY 9^{AM} Morning Prayer
followed by refreshments
and light music at St Eth's

What's On at Hatfield House in September

26 SEPTEMBER - 29 SEPTEMBER HATFIELD HOUSE CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL

2019 sees the eighth Hatfield House Chamber Music Festival – Pour L'Amour de la Musique – celebrating French repertoire.

Curated by Artistic Director Guy Johnston, this year we welcome artists including Annelean Lenearts, Principal Harp of the Vienna Philharmonic, flautist Adam Walker, oboist Nicholas Daniel, clarinettist Julian Bliss, the Navarra String Quartet plus the Faust Chamber Orchestra and Hertfordshire Chorus for a grand finale.

For all ticket enquiries or a **BROCHURE** please contact the Festival Manager by emailing:

ruth@hatfieldhousemusicfestival.org.uk

More Info on all events:

www.hatfield-house.co.uk/events

t: 01707 287010

e: visitors@hatfield-house.co.uk

29 SEPTEMBER @ 8:00^{AM} - 5:00^{PM} THE STABLE YARD TUDOR LEGACIES- MEET THE SIX WIVES OF HENRY VIII

We are looking forward to welcoming back the Tudor Legacies—a living history group of Tudor enthusiasts.



Visitors will have the exciting opportunity to interact and engage with the six wives of Henry VIII.

Find out what it was really like to be married to one of history's most infamous kings...

Music report from St Eth's

By Jill Knight, Director of Music

Whilst most of you were experiencing a July heat wave in Hatfield, we were struggling to stand upright in blustery showers on the far west coast of Ireland. Advent, Christmas and next Easter at St. Eth's seemed a long way off both in time and space, but planning for the music in these services and other musical events at St. Eth's was already underway!

After a summer break our choirs will start again in September. The first rehearsal for the adults is on WEDNESDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER at 7.30^{PM} and Y.E.S! are starting the term with a training day on MONDAY 2ND SEPTEMBER at St. Mary's, North Mymms.

Sadly, we had to say goodbye to 3 members of Y.E.S! in July; Lewis and Jonah are moving with their family to Bangkok and Sam has gained a choral scholarship to St John's College, Cambridge. They will be greatly missed and we appreciate the time and talents that they have shared with us all at St Eth's. We wish them every success and hope that they will continue to enjoy their singing for many years to come.

We hope you have enjoyed our concert series at St Eth's so far this year. There is still plenty to look forward to, particularly with Thelma and Friends Concert on 21ST SEPTEMBER, followed by the Hatfield House Chamber Music Festival from 26th-29th. In particular, there is a wonderful Family Concert at St Eth's on SATURDAY 28TH SEPTEMBER at 1^{PM}, and on SUNDAY 29TH an opportunity to hear some of our young talented musicians playing a selection of chamber music in a free concert between 2-5^{PM}. Please take a look at the Festival Brochure or visit these websites for more details:

www.stetheldreda.org

www.hatfieldhousemusicfestival.org.uk

We always welcome new singers, though we currently have a waiting list for Y.E.S!, our junior choir. If you are interested in singing with us (adults or children) please contact me as soon as possible.

e: jill.jkmusic@gmail.com t: 01707 894949

Choral scholarship auditions

These were held at St Eth's in July for choristers who are RSCM dark blue award or above level and will be 12-18 years of age in the school year September 2019-20. This year, we appointed five choral scholars:

CHERYL JEYAKUMAR will hold the GARLAND CHORAL SCHOLARSHIP, donated by Judy Bird in memory of her sister.

SOPHIE GARWOOD will hold the STRATTON CHORAL SCHOLARSHIP, donated by Chris Stratton in memory of his father.

EVIE HARDING will hold the SNOWDON CHORAL SCHOLARSHIP, donated by Diane Snowdon in memory of her husband, John.

EMMANUEL NEHME will hold the SALISBURY CHORAL SCHOLARSHIP, donated by Lord Salisbury and his family at Hatfield House.

JESSICA HARDING will hold the ETHELDREDA CHORAL SCHOLARSHIP, donated by members of the congregation and community of St Etheldreda's Church, Old Hatfield.

Through the kind generosity of Miss Judy Bird, we have also been able to award a two year internship on our CHORAL DIRECTOR TRAINING PROGRAMME to CATRIONA STEWART to support her in her musical training, choral and organ studies.

These awards will be presented at St Eth's during our next 'All-Age service' on Sunday 15th September at 9.30^{am}. We will keep you updated on the progress of the scholars and the training scheme for all our young choristers. Thank you so much for donating to our fund to inspire, encourage and help to secure the future of choral and organ music at St Eth's for many generations to come.

Stanborough Lakes will not forget our visit in a rush !



“ ... at the end of the summer, we enjoyed a fantastic afternoon at Stanborough Lakes ... ”

Before Y.E.S.! left at the end of the summer, we enjoyed a fantastic afternoon at Stanborough Lakes with two teams making rafts from logs, rope and plastic drums and then attempting to paddle them across the lake and back. Everyone got wet but we had a wonderful time together!



Editor’s note: If only we could recreate here the energy generated by Y.E.S! on the day.

It was truly electrifying. The excitement reached its peak as the rafts were launched onto the water. With screams and squeals the teams clambered aboard. People who had been enjoying a quite time on the shore were then treated to the unexpected spectacle of a completely riotous raft race, including impromptu dips in the water. To this day, I am still not sure which team won!

England's Green and Pleasant Land

(from 'Jerusalem' by William Blake) By Jo Roscoe

This harvest time in churches up and down the country we will be singing the well-known harvest hymn 'We plough the fields and scatter'. So it has been for generations and we hope for many more years to come.

But we are given warning that unless we change our ways and begin to take better care of our environment, we will destroy these things we love so much. Do you remember a few years ago

farmers were using a very strong insecticide and weed killer? Our wildflowers died. Farmers stopped using this dangerous weed killer, and our meadows were full again of poppies, cornflowers and daisies, the hedgerows bloomed with primroses and violets. The Earth took a little while to recover but, as if in an act of forgiveness, recover it did.

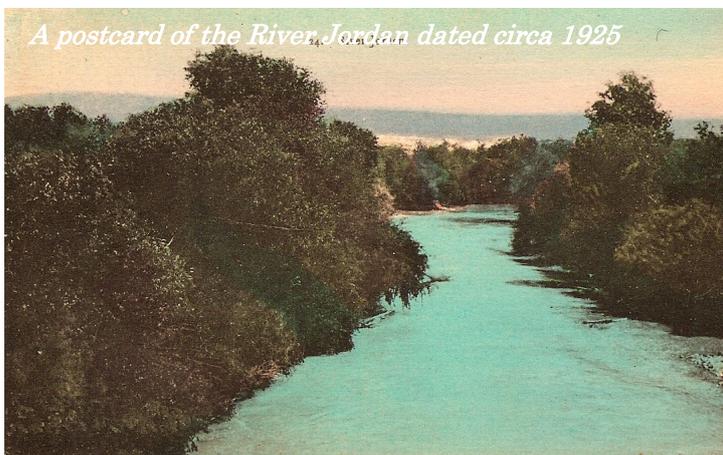
Now our seas are glutted with plastic waste. Our skies are

polluted with poisonous gasses. We have to change our ways and hope for forgiveness again from this wonderful earth that God has given us. In another context Jesus said 'Consider the lilies of the field': let us hope that we can continue doing just that.

Read Jonathan Fisher's hopeful message below, of how people are coming together to work on their mutual concerns about the sacred rivers of the world.

Sacred rivers and climate change: The Thames, Jordan, Indus and Ganges: Southwark Cathedral 2 July

By Jonathan Fisher



I attended this event because, in 2014, I had shared the platform with one of the speakers (Gidon Bromberg) at a UNECE workshop. I had presented my report on the benefits of transboundary water co-operation. Gidon then given an inspiring talk on his work for the River Jordan.

At Southward Cathedral, the presentation on the River Jordan was even more inspiring – being given by all three Directors of EcoPeace Middle East: Gidon (from Israel), Nada Majdalani (from Palestine)

and Abu-Taleb (from Jordan) and with Rabbi Jonathan Wittenberg in the chair. They showed the importance of the River Jordan to Christian, Jewish and Muslim faiths. They then reported graphically how the river has been severely degraded by excessive abstraction and pollution. But they outlined their ambitious Master Plan to restore the Jordan which they are promoting and pursuing although it requires great efforts by all.

Eco Peace Middle East involve the mayors and local communities in Israel, Jordan and Palestine collaborating positively in effective remediation measures that are improving water security and the quality of the Jordan and which help to build a much needed basis for peace in the increasingly difficult circumstances there. See <http://ecopeaceme.org>.

Fr Darren Collins is leading a group from St Eths to the Holy Land in 2020. Gidon has said that he would be happy to show them around the River Jordan and Eco Peace Middle East's great projects on the ground there.

Hatfield House Tennis Club

Another unique feature of our community By Jonathan Fisher

When we arrived in Old Hatfield, it was a great surprise to find one of the 27 real tennis courts in the country at our door step. The court at Hatfield House is on the left at the Fore Street Lodge. So I wandered up for an introductory lesson and have not looked back since, especially when Liz also joined. We have been welcomed by the friendly real tennis players at notable clubs in this country such as Petworth House and also in Australia, France and the USA where we have played.

The court at Hatfield House was built in 1842 for use by Lord Salisbury and his family and friends. Since 1955 the court has been leased to the Hatfield House Tennis Club, and members can play on it every day with other members or guests. There are friendly matches against other clubs which include a sociable lunch. These are open to players of all standards. Members can thus visit clubs such as Queens and at historic houses such as Hampton Court and Petworth House.

The Club's two professionals (Jon Dawes and James Law) are widely regarded as the best in the country. They offer members great advice and support. They are particularly good at encouraging new members and youngsters. Anyone is welcome to contact them for an introductory lesson (see details in the figure). The professionals can then help to arrange suitable games for you.

There is also an effective handicap system which means that anyone can beat anyone. Liz beat me in a club doubles handicap tournament; though at match point, a spectator was heard to joke 'What are you doing for dinner this evening Jonathan?' So wisely I duly lost that point.

Hatfield House Tennis Club

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“What are you doing for dinner this evening Jonathan?”

The Old Hatfield residents are challenging the club to a friendly match on Sunday 24th November from 11am – 4.50pm. All spectators welcome – as long as you support the residents!



HATFIELD HOUSE
Real Tennis Club

2nd instalment of Thelma Dummer's memoirs on being a church organist entitled: The Proper Organist ...

It is one thing just playing for a service every four weeks or so but quite different playing every week. For one thing, I have to think of something different every week to play before and after the service.

As I said previously, I had advised the vicar and other key members of the church that I wasn't an average organist and I didn't play organist's music, but they didn't seem to mind that fact. I did, however need to ask them if (a) that, within reason, they didn't mind what I played, and (b) that I would not be asked to play AMAZING GRACE which was my least favourite hymn, as I had played this so many times for funerals. This worked well until Richard left and a new vicar, Judith, took over but she didn't know about my feelings about the hymn.

One Sunday morning, I decided to play the tune that is used to introduce the programme THE VICAR OF DIBLEY. This was clearly the wrong piece to play because Judith waved an admonishing finger in my direction. After this a pact was made that if I didn't play that particular tune, then I would not be asked to play 'Amazing Grace'. A fair bargain.

There was another condition that I asked them to accept and it was this, that, due to a medical condition that prevents me from driving I would need to be transported to and from a church venue.

THELMA AND FRIENDS IN CONCERT

Thelma will be accompanied by a host of family and friends at her 18th concert at St Etheldreda's Church on Saturday 21st September 21st at 7^{PM}

All these provisos were agreed upon and all that was left was for me to get on with the job in hand and climb that jolly old organ stool. Here came a problem! Due to the fact that I am, in modern parlance, 'vertically challenged', I couldn't reach the foot pedals but I've got away without doing this. However, if I had chosen to use the foot pedals, I would have had to sit on the edge of the stool and risk falling off. Would I have been the first 'fallen organist'?

Latest scam calls in Hertfordshire: from www.owl.co.uk

BT telephone line problems:

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These scam calls can be reported directly to Action Fraud - www.actionfraud.police.uk or 0300 1232040 - please note any phone numbers the scammers ask you to call, as this may assist an investigation.

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Refocused—September 2019—Page 9

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A good home on offer to apples and pears

By Adrian Smith

Thank you very much to everyone who offered their excess of fruit last year.

I shall be making two barrels of mulled cider again this year for serving after the Nine Lessons and Carols service at Christmas.

If you have any unwanted apples and pears, please let me know. They will be put to excellent use!

Windfalls are great too.

Adrian

t: 01707 260615



Editor's Note: You can enjoy a glass of the mulled cider yourselves if you join us at the Nine Lessons and Carols service in December!

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