



Parish News

**Including news
from St Philip's**



September 2020

Welcome to another edition of our Parish Magazine, which now also includes occasional news and contributions from St Philip's.

Please send material for the October

issue to

Sigrid Pain

sigridjcp@gmail.com

or

admin@boltonparishchurch.co.uk

Parish Church Schools

Canon Slade School, Bradshaw Brow BL2 3BP

Headteacher: Karen Sudworth

Tel: 01204 333343

Bishop Bridgeman Primary School, Rupert Street BL3 6PY

Executive Principal: Canon Jill Pilling

Headteacher: Hafsha Hafeji

Bolton Parish Church Primary School, Chadwick Street BL2 1JN

Headteacher: Angela Worthington

Tel: 01204 333433

Chris writes...

Dear friends,

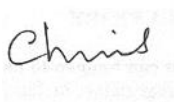
It was a great relief to us all when, early in July, the lockdown regulations were relaxed, allowing us to meet together once again for public worship in church. Things are not as they were though – no singing, no exchange of the peace and receiving communion in one kind only.

Without going over old ground, there will always be those who in these situations say “too little, too late” and others who say “over reaction”. Whatever your view, I wonder if these weeks and months give us a fresh realisation of how important receiving the sacrament of the holy communion in its fullness really is to us. It’s often the case that we take everyday things for granted and only realise their significance when they’re not there. Similarly, several people have felt there is something missing in not exchanging a handshake at the peace (others though are glad of its absence!) – though in the past we might have given little thought to its significance.

I wouldn’t advocate removing something just to make us appreciate it. However, I would like to challenge you to reflect on the past months, particularly on how the absence of something so spiritually important as receiving communion in both kinds has made you more aware of its significance in your life of faith.

Our whole lives are gifts from God and the sacraments are important signs of His continued love for and commitment to us. Whatever practices have been or may be necessary to safeguard our physical health, we must surely be eternally thankful for the privilege of sharing in communion with the Lord Jesus and for all He has done to make it possible.

With love and best wishes,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Chris". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

Some readers will already know Gary Anderton who usually worships at St Philip's and is now in training for ordination. As his training progresses, you can expect to see Gary at the Parish Church as well as at St Philip's.

Who? Me?

There are times in life that can shape us and our world view. These brief moments help to form the blueprint of how we engage with the rest of the world. It could be an act of kindness when really needed or perhaps a lightbulb moment after reading a book. In my life there have been several, but for me, one of the most important was an occasion I don't even remember; a moment I was present for but unable to participate in.

As a baby there were serious concerns for my health, and at what must have been a very frightening time for my parents, they called in the hospital chaplain. That evening in Townley's, I was baptised and welcomed into the Body of Christ. As the newest member of our church family that day in August 1978, I was to regain health and strength and am here today to share the Good News.

Knowing God has always been with me has impacted on my life in so many different ways. That defining moment at the hospital placed me on a lifelong path of wanting to understand more about that which we all receive so graciously, God's love.

Since a young child, I believe God has been calling me to ordained ministry, and after several years of responding with "Who? Me? Are you sure?" I answered. "Here I am Lord".

With the support and discernment of the church, I am now studying at the All Saints Centre for Mission and Ministry. Working full time and studying can at times be difficult, but a friend once reminded me, "*Jesus died for you; what can you do for him?*"

I am currently in my second year of a three-year course as an ordinand, and have been blessed with a placement in my home Parishes of St Philip's and Bolton Parish Church. I'm thrilled to be working alongside the great ministry team and hope to serve and to walk alongside you on your faith journey.

I do hope to see you all soon,



Gary

Ordination to the priesthood of Revd Ian Hepburn

As many readers will know, Ian was to have been ordained priest on 27th June and to have presided at the eucharist for the first time on 28th June. Like much else, the COVID-19 lockdown resulted in the ordination service being postponed.

Ordinations have now been rearranged and the priests will be ordained on Sunday 4th October in three different churches in the diocese, one of which is Bolton Parish Church. Ian will be ordained alongside two other deacons at 6.00 p.m. but unfortunately, as the numbers present will be limited to 30, we cannot invite members of the congregation to share in this service.

However, we will hold a celebration service on Monday 5th October at 7.30 p.m. at which Ian will preside for the first time. This will be a joint parishes service and we hope that as many people as possible from the Parish Church and St Philip's will be able to join us for this great celebration.

Canon Jill Pilling

On Sunday 16th August, we were delighted to announce that the Bishop of Manchester has invited Jill Pilling to become a Lay Canon of Manchester Cathedral. As well as her 'day job' as Chief Executive Officer of the Bolton and Farnworth Church of England Primary Multi Academy Trust, Jill also serves as churchwarden at St Philip's and is a member of the Bolton Deanery and Manchester Diocesan synods and of the Bishop's Council. Jill is also a vocations adviser, contributing to the discernment of vocations to lay and ordained ministries in the diocese.

The Bishop of Manchester, in consultation with the Dean of Manchester, is able to appoint 12 lay canons and 28 clerical canons all of whom are termed 'Honorary Canons' of the cathedral. There are also canons who are part of the cathedral staff (three in the case of Manchester Cathedral) and these are termed 'Residentiary Canons'.

It is indeed an honour to be given this title and an honour for our parishes as Jill's appointment brings our collection of canons to four (Chris in 2007, Kenneth Newport in 2016 and John Walsh in 2019).

Again, we offer our huge congratulations to Jill and thank God for Jill's significant and highly valued ministry amongst us.

Calendar for September 2020

- 1 Tuesday 12.15 Holy Communion (Common Worship)
- 3 Thursday Gregory the Great, bishop, teacher of the faith, 604
12.15 Holy Communion (Common Worship)
- 6 Sunday Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity**
07.45 Prayer Locker — online
8.00 Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) online later in the day
11.00 Parish Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
18.30 Evening Prayer (Common Worship)
- 7 Monday 19.30 Meditation Group, Friends' Meeting House
(every Monday; no Thursday meetings at present)
- 8 Tuesday Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary
12.15 Holy Communion (Common Worship)
- 10 Thursday 12.15 Holy Communion (Common Worship)
- 12 Saturday Heritage Weekend, 10.00 to 16.00
- 13 Sunday Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity**
07.45 Prayer Locker — online
8.00 Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) online later in the day
11.00 Parish Communion (Common Worship)
18.30 Evening Prayer (Common Worship)
- 15 Tuesday Cyprian, bishop, martyr, 258
12.15 Holy Communion (Common Worship)
- 17 Thursday Hildegard, abbess, visionary, 1179
12.15 Holy Communion (Common Worship)
- 20 Sunday Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity**
07.45 Prayer Locker — online
8.00 Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) online later in the day
11.00 Parish Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
18.30 Evening Prayer (Common Worship)
- 22 Tuesday 12.15 Holy Communion (Common Worship)
- 24 Thursday 12.15 Holy Communion (Common Worship)
- 27 Sunday Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity**
07.45 Prayer Locker — online
8.00 Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) online later in the day
11.00 Parish Communion (Common Worship)
18.30 Evening Prayer (Common Worship)
- 29 Tuesday **Michael and All Angels**
12.15 Holy Communion (Common Worship)

New Lecturer and Associate Vicar appointed

On 12th July, we were able to announce that the Revd Ian Hepburn has been appointed as the next Lecturer and Associate Vicar at Bolton Parish Church.

The Lecturer is nominated jointly by the Vicar and Hulme Charity Trustees and presented to the Bishop to be licensed to this post. All involved were unanimous in the view that Ian should be invited to take up this post and we are delighted that he has accepted. He will be licensed and welcomed by the Bishop of Bolton and Archdeacon of Bolton on Monday 30th November at 7.30 p.m.

Wearing of masks

You will know by now that we are required to wear masks in shops and various other places. The Church of England and Manchester Diocese have advised that masks should also be worn during church services, and at BPC and St Philip's we will follow that guidance.

Certain people are exempt from mask-wearing. If you come in without a mask, we won't be asking any questions but we may guide you towards a seat in a designated area of the building where you can be comfortably separate from other worshippers. We will have a supply of masks for anyone who forgets!

Many of us find it more difficult to hear if we can't see the speaker's mouth. For this reason, the clergy will not wear masks when they are presiding or preaching, but they will for the rest of the time.

The Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

The Collect

O Lord, we beseech thee, let thy continual pity cleanse and defend thy Church; and, because it cannot continue in safety without thy succour, preserve it evermore by thy help and goodness; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

2021 update

Like so much else, our plans for celebrating the 150th anniversary of the church's consecration in 2021 have needed to be revised in the light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The 2021 Steering Group reported to the PCC in July that, following careful consideration, we have decided to move the celebration from the calendar year 2021 to a year running from June 2021 to June 2022. This will allow more time for planning and, importantly, for the necessary fundraising for some of the events. Key events planned so far include:

10th January 2021 11.00 a.m.

Bishop of Manchester to preside and preach

19th – 26th June 2021

Music festival week featuring a range of concerts

27th June 11.00 a.m.

11.00 a.m. Celebration Eucharist

29th June 7.30 p.m.

St Peter's Day Service at which the preacher will be The Very Revd Matt Thompson, Dean of Birmingham.

25th September

150th Anniversary Dinner

29th April – 2nd May 2022

Flower Festival

There are many other events planned and we are determined that the difficulties of this year will not detract from our thanksgiving for the gift of our wonderful church building and community.

Prayer of preparation for 2021

The prayer below has been produced to help us to prepare for the 2021 celebrations. Card copies of the prayer are available on request.

Lord God, we give you thanks for the church in this place. For the building which for almost 150 years has stood in faithful witness, being founded on rock which has been a site of Christian worship for centuries past; and for your people who meet here, grounded in the faith of your Apostle Peter, whom Christ called to be the rock on which He would build His Church. Grant, we pray, continuing blessing on the work of your church in this town. Amen

Sermon preached by the Vicar at Evening Prayer on Sunday 26th July.

Acts 12:1-17

"... we haven't just invented church divisions in the last ten years or so; and there never was a golden age for the Anglican Communion... or for the wider church of God"

Words from the former Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams in his presidential address at the Lambeth Conference in 2008 – words that remind us that controversial issues have beleaguered the church throughout its history. The existence of the Church of England itself, the formation of the Methodist Church and the development of some of our forms of worship are themselves products of tensions between various groups who claim to be custodians of the truth in their generation.

Not only has the church survived doctrinal differences, it has survived other blows along the way – financial, sociological and ideological – such that it has needed time and again to return to its first principles of what it means to be the church of Jesus Christ in its age. This was never more true than in the time of that first generation of Christians whose life is recorded in some part by St Luke in the Acts of the Apostles.

In his records, Luke has been listing one marvellous conversion after another – 3000 on the Day of Pentecost, the Samaritans, the Ethiopian eunuch, Saul of Tarsus, the Gentile centurion Cornelius.... The list goes on. The word of God seemed to be spreading outwardly in concentric circles from Jerusalem and Luke is now about to describe the first of the great missionary journeys of the apostles. THEN the church experiences a huge and serious setback in the unlawful killing of James and the imprisonment of Peter – both of whom were apostles and key leaders in the Jerusalem church. Although Luke is able to go on and describe the miraculous release of Peter, this must all have seemed like a huge setback for the early church – one leader executed and another imprisoned – would they survive it all?

The hands behind this reign of terror were those of Herod Agrippa I – grandson of Herod the Great – THE King Herod! Like his uncle Herod Antipas who had known and tried Jesus, this Herod sought to curry favour with the Jews and at the same time preserve Roman peace, and what better way than to dispose in different ways of two key Christian leaders.

Why it was that James was executed and Peter imprisoned we shall never know though it is worth reminding ourselves in passing that Jesus had prophesied that both James and John would drink his cup.

GOD'S PLAN AND HEROD'S WORK

The situation looked extremely bleak – even hopeless. There appeared to be no possibility of escape for Peter and what could the small and frightened community of believers do against the armed might of Rome?

The rest, as they say is history and is there in Acts 12 for us to read. The imprisoned Peter was released by the activity of an angel, we read. Whatever you believe about angels, we cannot escape from the fact that on about 15 occasions in his gospel, Luke refers to supernatural angelic beings and there is already evidence from Acts of divine intervention through a heavenly agent. In short, the angel who Luke describes as bringing release for Peter was something or someone beyond another human being.

What we have here though is more than an exciting account of Peter's release from prison. What we have is a shining illustration of how, even in the face of adversity, even when things seem to be taking a turn for the worse, God's rescue plan is worked out in, through and for his faithful people.

The young and spiritually immature church must have been bereft at the loss in different ways of Peter and James. Yet God had now delivered Peter from prison and in doing so, not only freed him to continue his ministry of spreading the good news of Jesus but dealt a blow to Herod's plans and to all who would oppose the spread of the gospel.

Perhaps we can be encouraged for this as we ponder the future of the Anglican Communion in the light of the divisions that have beset it over the years. As

the Archbishop said, we haven't invented division in this generation and, by implication, we have survived it in others.

Through this contrasting of the destructive power of Herod and the saving power of God we are reminded of how the pendulum of church history has swung between expansion and opposition, growth and shrinkage, advance and retreat but always with the assurance that the powers of death and hell will never prevail against Christ's church since it is built securely on the rock. God is greater than all of our councils and commissions, our plans and our purposes and, whatever assails His church, it – we – are too valuable to Him to be lost.

From Laura Bagley

As we write these lines, we are all too aware of the massive changes you have made to adapt over the last few months. We know things are slowly moving towards a new normal and appreciate the complex scenarios you are all faced with.

Back in March, Urban Outreach quickly adapted services and joined with Bolton Council and the Bolton Family to provide food for those who were struggling as a result of the pandemic. We are currently providing for around 1,000 households a week, feeding approximately 2,500 people

Even with all the challenges that people have faced, we have been amazed at the generosity our town has shown. At Urban Outreach we believe that everyone can make a difference to another person. One act of kindness, one word of encouragement, one act of generosity can change another person's life for the better. If everyone did one thing, it would make a significant difference. That is the Power of One.

As we approach harvest time, we take a moment to be thankful for what we have and to remember those who are struggling and to respond through giving to the need that is around us. The Power of One means that we can give one item, one tin, one packet, one box of cereal – just one thing – and be confident that we have played a part in making a difference to someone else.

For more information, please contact the office on 01204 385848 and speak to Laura Bagley or a member of the admin team.

Harvest Festival

This year's harvest festival service will be on Sunday 27th September at 11.00 a.m. As with everything else, there will be changes this year, but we will be collecting food for Bolton Humanitarian Aid (Urban Outreach) where the need is greater than ever.

A list of foods being collected is included below. You can leave donations in the grub tub in church.



Please use this list as a guide to what we need to help make up our food parcels. Items highlighted with * are what we need the most. For food safety/quality reasons, please don't donate any bakery products or items that require refrigeration or freezing.

Food pantry Items

Tinned soups (Any)

*Tinned minced/corned Beef

*Tinned stewing steak

*Tinned meat/chicken stews

*Tinned meat/chicken curry

Tinned veg curry

*Tinned ham/*meat pies

Tinned fish (any)

Tinned carrots/*peas

Tinned mixed vegetables

*Tinned tomatoes

*Tinned potatoes

*Instant mash

Dried or microwave Rice

Dried pasta

Cuppa soup

Small cooking oils (max 200 ml)

Cooking sauces (jars)

Gravy granules and cubes

Herbs & spices, salt & pepper

Tomato purée

Pickled beetroot, onions or cabbage

Salad cream/tomato/brown sauce

Coffee powder

Instant hot chocolate

Long-life fruit juice (1 ltr or similar)

*Cordial

*Long-life milk

Tinned sweet pie fillings

Tinned sponge puddings

*Tinned fruit (any)

*Instant custard powder

Tinned custard

Rice pudding

Sugar

Biscuits

Baking products

Flour (plain & self-raising)

Angel Delight

Evaporated milk

Trifle mixes

Jellies

Cleaning Equipment

*Large food bags

Antibacterial spray

Dish cloths

Bleach, toilet cleaner

Toiletries

Shampoo and conditioner

Toothpaste, toothbrushes

Toilet rolls

Baby wipes, *nappies (all sizes, especially size 4 upwards)

Fresh Fruit and Veg

Apples and oranges

Carrots, greens and potatoes

Salad items (not containing 'use by' dates)



Fred Partington RIP

We were all saddened to learn of the death of Fred Partington in Abafields Care Home on 22nd August. Fred had been associated and worshipped at Bolton Parish Church for many years. He had served the church in many ways including as Verger on Civic Sunday, opening and closing up the Hall, particularly for evening meetings when he would be on hand for many hours, and tending the hall garden. This was probably nearest his heart and he was particularly sad when failing health meant he had to give up this work.

Due to the current restrictions a family funeral service took place at Overdale Crematorium conducted by Rev Moira Slack who had been a regular visitor to Fred and his late wife Joyce in their home at Lancaster Close.

We remember Fred and his family in our prayers.

Heritage Weekend 12th and 13th September

The current restrictions mean that Heritage Weekend will take a very different form.

The Church will be open on Saturday 12th between 10.00 a.m. and 4.00 p.m. for informal visits. During the day, as well as displays of the history of the church we hope to have audio/video presentations on bell ringing and some exciting high level drone films both inside and outside the building. Amongst other things you will be able to see close-up films of the flags and standards in the south aisle and the high level clerestory windows in the chancel.

Hand-bell ringing and organ and music recitals will take place during the day.

Sadly we will not be able to do tower tours or provide refreshments this year but hope that the variety of things on offer will in part make the day worthwhile.

On Sunday the church will be open from 12 noon until 4.00 p.m. for informal visits.

A one-way system, social distancing and hand sanitising will be necessary.

Miles in Their Shoes

I've committed to walk 50 miles by the end of August (as my contribution to a team effort) to help charity Kids Club Kampala that supports deprived children. Covid-19 has made a bad situation worse in Uganda so more funds are needed to provide more food parcels in addition to the charity's other support work.

There's more detail on my JustGiving page:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/trevor-whillas>

If you can help, any donation would be greatly appreciated, and an excellent motivator for all of us trying to complete this challenge.

If you prefer, I can accept your donation and add it to the online fund for you.

Trevor Whillas

I've now completed the 50 miles target I had for charity fundraising. Since I'm contributing to a team effort, I'll still be walking more miles for the time being, so any further encouragement (and donations) are welcome.

Team Kids Club Kampala

This summer, Team Kids Club Kampala has been travelling 5,567 miles from the middle of the UK (our office in Birmingham), to our office in Kampala, Uganda (remotely of course!) over the course of 10 weeks.

Over the past few months, we've been working tirelessly to provide vital support to children and their families in Kampala's slums. From increasing our safeguarding presence, to creating temporary food banks in our classrooms, our support has become a lifeline to so many – especially as communities face the detrimental effects of being in lockdown.

Kids Club Kampala exists to help vulnerable children survive and thrive in the slums of Uganda. If you're born in a slum in Kampala, you may face many challenges. The slums are very crowded, and you won't have running water. You may be living in one room with the other five members of your family, and you may be surviving on one meal a day.

Kids Club Kampala run projects that serve over 4,000 children per day, in 18 slums in Kampala. We run education projects, feeding projects, income-generation projects for parents, build toilets and hand-washing facilities, and we are community-led, meaning we listen to what the needs of the communities are, and what they want the solutions to be. We work to meet children's immediate basic needs, as well as bringing about sustainable long-term solutions to create opportunities for communities.

Bolton Parish Church Online

Email: admin@boltonparishchurch.co.uk

Website: www.boltonparishchurch.co.uk

Details of services, events, newsletters, magazines, important updates etc.

Facebook: www.facebook.com/boltonparishchurch

Official Church Facebook page, with news, photos, and archive of online services and prayers

Facebook: www.facebook.com/MusicAtBoltonParishChurch

News about music, with photos, details of musical events and videos of choir and organ

Twitter: [@StPeterBolton](https://twitter.com/StPeterBolton)

Instagram: [boltonparishchurchimages](https://www.instagram.com/boltonparishchurchimages)

Photos of Bolton Parish Church

CHORAL SCHOLARSHIP



The Clergy and Wardens of Bolton Parish Church invite applications for CHORAL SCHOLARSHIPS from September 2020, ideally from school-age pupils from years 11 to 13, although other applicants will also be considered.

The value of each scholarship will be £500 p.a., and the successful candidates will have the opportunity to sing in an expert adult choir, with a large cathedral-style repertoire.

For further details, and to apply, contact Michael Pain, Director of Music c/o Bolton Parish Church Office, Silverwell Street, Bolton BL1 1PS 01204 522226, or email michaelpain18@gmail.com.

Flower News

On Sunday 6th August, the “Chain of Flowers” which links members of the Church of England Flower Arrangers’ Association finally took place, having been reorganised from the usual date in June. It was good to be one of the churches now open.

A large vase arrangement of glorious summer garden flowers in pink, white, lilac and blue was placed by the lectern. Next to the pulpit was a pedestal in the same colours.

In place of the usual council meeting held in London in early September, and the AGM which was to be at Birmingham Cathedral, we shall be participating via Zoom!

In commemoration of VJ Day, a pedestal of white, red and blue flowers was arranged at the Far Eastern POW Association memorial in the north aisle. The pedestal by the pulpit was created using green chrysanthemums, red carnations and roses, and garden foliage.

Throughout August, the Altar arrangements were white carnations and alchemilla.

There have been changes made to some of our activities and events in the coming months and years, and more details will be available as soon as possible. The Charity Flower Day which was to be held here on Saturday 21st November has been postponed for the time being. The Flower Festival as part of the 150th anniversary celebrations has been rescheduled for May 2022. However, the demonstration to be given by Alison Cooper in church at 2 p.m. on Saturday 20th November 2021 as part of the celebrations is booked. Sadly, for the moment our “Can We Blossom” Manchester Diocese flower arranger meetings have had to be suspended.

With grateful thanks for the kind comments received about the return of flowers in church.

Flower team



Planned giving

When you come to church, please remember to bring your filled planned giving envelopes. If you would like to make your regular giving by standing order (and thank you so much to those who have recently set up standing orders and those who have been doing it that way for years) the account details you need are:

Parish Church

Account Name: Bolton Parish Church PCC Stewardship.

Sort Code: 16-00-06

Account Number: 11816952

St Philip's

Account Name: St. Philip's Parochial Church Council.

Sort Code: 77-02-04

Account Number: 00017505

Used Postage Stamps

During lockdown I sent three large packages of postage stamps each weighing about 1 kilogram to RNIB (Royal National Institute of Blind People). Thank you for your efforts - please continue to bring your used stamps, leaving approximately 1 cm all round each stamp.

By collecting stamps and sending them to RNIB, we can help to break down the barriers that stop people with sight loss living life to the full.

All stamps are accepted: new or used, first or second class, foreign, first day covers, presentation packs or albums. Stamps are sold by weight and the RNIB raises £20 per kilogram of stamps.

Christine Walsh

HILDA BRANDWOOD RIP

The funeral service for Hilda Brandwood took in Church on 25th August. The service was conducted by Rev Moira Slack and Hilda's daughter, Hazel paid tribute to her mother. Due to current restrictions attendance was limited so for the benefit of those who could not attend we reproduce the following extract from Hazel's eulogy.

Bolton Parish Church has played a major role in mum's life. She has attended since she was a teenager and was a member of The Guild of Youth. Their meetings and activities took place in the old school hall, which at the time was just across the road. They played badminton, went on excursions to the seaside, enjoyed Christmas parties and had their own amateur dramatics group. I was lucky enough to discover some programmes from that time. During Holy Week in 1946, they performed a Passion play called "The Iscariot". Whilst scanning the cast list, I saw that the part of Claudia, wife to Pontius Pilate was played by Hilda Bostock. Then, two other names jumped out at me; The Angel of the Passion was played by Vera Howarth and the part of James was played by Alan Bailey. They are my Godparents and I am delighted that they are here today.

Mum's role in the church never faltered and she was a lifelong member of The Mothers' Union and The Churchwomen's Guild. She sat on the Parochial Church Council for many years and could always be found washing up and brewing copious quantities of tea in the kitchen at the many bazaars, fetes and flower festivals that have taken place at here Bolton Parish Church. In her younger days she was also a bellringer.

Once again, her love of music came to the fore and she enjoyed listening to the anthems and pieces sung by the church choir. She was word perfect on the Ancient and Modern Hymn Book. The church organ here is renowned and mum loved hearing it being played in all its glory. She supported its restoration many years ago at the time of her Golden Wedding Anniversary. She requested that in lieu of presents, donations should be made to the organ restoration fund. It is therefore important that the organ should be played today, despite the fact that we are not permitted to sing along to it. The Toccata from Widor's Symphony for Organ No. 5, to be played at the end of the service, was a special favourite of hers.

Stained glass windows

In July, we looked at two of the three of the stained-glass windows in our church that are originally from the old church. We now turn to the third, which is on the east wall of the Lady Chapel.

This window, by William Wailes, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, was originally placed in the chancel of the Old Church in August 1850, by public subscription, in memory of William Bolling. It is of three lights, with six medallion figures fringed and ornamented, in small niched arches. Each light represents two pictorial subjects referring to the life of our Lord, either as a child himself, or in connection with children.

In the lower tier, Jesus is shown as disputing with the doctors, in subjection to his parents at Nazareth, and going up with his parents to Jerusalem at the age of twelve.

The upper tier represents Jesus encouraging his disciples to suffer little children to come unto Him, placing a little child in the midst of His disciples, and a group of worshipping children under the protection of three guardian angels. Each of these pictures consists of several figures, under elaborate canopies, and beneath them is the Scripture reference to each subject, in old English characters: (1) "All that heard him were astonished at his understanding" (2) "He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was subject to them" (3) "When he was 12 years old they went up to Jerusalem, after the custom of the feast" (4) Suffer little children to come unto Me, for of such is the kingdom of heaven" (5) "Except ye be converted and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven" (6) "In heaven the angels do always behold the face of my Father"

Pretty borders surround the lights, and the traceried openings in the head are filled with an elegantly arranged floral device in very brilliant glass. The pictorial subjects were, it is said, selected with especial reference to the unceasing personal interest Mr. Bolling took in the Sunday Schools connected with the Parish Church.

A large oblong brass plate on the south wall bears the inscription, in Gothic characters "This window was raised by public subscription, in memory of William Bolling, of Darcy Lever Hall, Esquire, a justice of the peace, a member of parliament for this borough, a friend to the children of the poor, and an ornament to his native town. Born A.D. MDCCLXXXV. Died MDCCCXLVIII. Them that sleep in Jesus shall God bring with him."



Details from the choir stalls



Hymns and hymnwriters

By schisms rent asunder, by heresies distrest

The Church's One Foundation was written in what was a period of theological controversy and turmoil for the Church during the early 1860s, triggered by the writings of John William Colenso, Bishop of Natal. Colenso had been a brilliant Mathematics scholar at St John's, Cambridge and after some years as a schoolmaster at Harrow and Tutor at St John's, Cambridge, he went on to study theology. In 1853, he was appointed Bishop of Natal in South Africa at the age of 39. In 1861, his writings expressed critical views of the historicity



John William Colenso

of parts of Scripture and questioned some articles of the Christian faith. In *First Lessons in Science*, he explained Charles Darwin's theory of evolution and Charles Lyell's view that all features of the earth's surface are produced by physical, chemical, and biological processes which act over long periods of geological time. This was followed by *The Pentateuch and the Book of Joshua Critically Examined*. What he basically said here was that these first five books of the bible were post-prophetic forgeries.

In England, there was strong opposition to Colenso and his works. A large number of bishops sent him a letter calling for him to resign on the grounds that his views were not compatible with his ordination vows. England was swept by bitter controversy about the affair – but there was also humour: Samuel Wilberforce is reported to have said that “the Mathematical Bishop could not forgive Moses for having written the Book of Numbers”. In Punch, Archbishop Longley wrote:

*My dear Colenso
With regret,
We hierarchs in conclave met,
Beg you, you disturbing writer,
To take off your colonial mitre.
This course we press upon you strongly
Believe me, yours most truly,
Longley.*

Although Colenso had the support of white Colonists, the Archbishop of Cape Town deposed him from his bishopric. However, Colenso lodged a legal challenge, which was successful and he was able to continue ministering among the people.

Meanwhile, Samuel J. Stone, a young curate in Windsor, felt compelled to come to the defence of the Christian faith and did so by writing *Lyra Fidelium; Twelve Hymns on the Twelve Articles of the Apostles' Creed* which was published in 1866. "The Church's One Foundation" was his hymn on the article "the holy catholic church, the communion of saints."

The first verse is beautifully crafted from Ephesians 5, 24-6

Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything. Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; that he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word.

The third verse refers to the Colenso storm, but can also be applied to other areas of the church's history. Stone then steers the hymn towards an optimistic conclusion.



An older Samuel Stone

Samuel John Stone was born on 25 April 1839 at his father's rectory in the parish of Whitmore in Staffordshire. His father was a Hebrew scholar and a botanist alongside his clerical work. Samuel was educated at Charterhouse and Pembroke College, Oxford. Ordained in 1862, he served a curacy in Windsor, a position he held until he joined his father in ministry at St. Paul's, Haggerston, London, in 1870. He succeeded his father as vicar in 1874, where he remained until 1890 before taking up his final post at All Hallows-on-the-Wall in London. In addition to his collection of hymns, Stone's publications include *Sonnets of the Christian Year* (1875), *Hymns* (1886), and *Iona* (1898). He served as a member of the committee that prepared *Hymns Ancient and Modern*. His *Collected Hymns and Poems* were published posthumously. Stone died on 19 November 1900.

The Tune

Composed by Samuel Sebastian Wesley, the tune Aurelia was first published as a setting for “Jerusalem the Golden” in *Selection of Psalms and Hymns*, 1864. Though opinions vary concerning the tune's merits (Henry J. Gauntlett once condemned it as “secular twaddle”), it has been firmly associated with Stone’s text since tune and text first appeared together in the 1868 edition of *Hymns Ancient and Modern*.



Around the same time, Sir Henry Baker was also moved to come to the defence of the Bible with his hymn *Lord Thy Word Abideth*.

1. Lord, thy word abideth,
and our footsteps guideth;
who its truth believeth
light and joy receiveth.

4. Who can tell the pleasure,
who recount the treasure
by thy Word imparted
to the simple-hearted?

2. When our foes are near us,
then thy word doth cheer us,
Word of consolation,
message of salvation.

5. Word of mercy, giving
succour to the living;
word of life, supplying
comfort to the dying!

3. When the storms are o'er us,
and dark clouds before us,
then its light directeth,
and our way protecteth.

6. O that we discerning
its most holy learning,
Lord, may love and fear thee,
evermore be near thee!

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From the Lectionary – 17th September, Hildegard, abbess, visionary, 1179

Hildegard was born in Bermersheim in 1098, the tenth child of a noble family. At the age of eight, she was sent to the Benedictine Abbey of Disibodenberg as part of the custom of dedicating a tenth child (a tithe) to the church. Over the years, Hildegard committed herself to the renewal of religious life, eventually founding a monastery on the hill of Rupertsberg, near Bingen, where she moved with twenty sisters. In 1165, she established another monastery on the opposite bank of the Rhine – she was Abbess of both. Her visions of light deepened her understanding of God and creation, sin and redemption. “Hildegard’s visions caused her to see humans as ‘living sparks’ of God’s love, coming from God as daylight comes from the sun,” wrote Fr. Don Miller. Hildegard composed several dozen musical works and wrote many books on topics ranging from theology to science and medicine. After falling ill in late summer 1179, Hildegard died surrounded by her sisters at the monastery of Rupertsberg on 17 September.

In 2012, Pope Benedict XVI declared St. Hildegard a doctor of the Church. He began his proclamation as follows:

A “light for her people and her time”: in these words Blessed John Paul II, my Venerable Predecessor, described Saint Hildegard of Bingen in 1979, on the occasion of the 800th anniversary of the death of this German mystic. This great woman truly stands out crystal clear against the horizon of history for her holiness of life and the originality of her teaching. And, as with every authentic human and theological experience, her authority reaches far beyond the confines of a single epoch or society; despite the distance of time and culture, her thought has proven to be of lasting relevance.

Glance at the sun,
See the moon and
stars. Gaze at the
beauty of the green
earth. Now think.

Humanity, take a good look at
yourself. Inside, you have heaven
and earth, and all of creation. You
are a world – everything is hidden
in you.

There is the Music of Heaven in
all things and we have
forgotten how to hear it until
we sing.

The soul is not in the
body; the body is in
the soul.

Everything that is in the heavens, on earth, and
under the earth is penetrated with
connectedness, penetrated with relatedness.

Sayings of Hildegard



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