

# Newslink



**St Faith's Church, Great Crosby  
Parish Magazine**

**May 2015**

# Worship at Saint Faith's



## **SUNDAY SERVICES**

**11.00 am** SUNG EUCHARIST and Children's Church

Holy Baptism by arrangement

**6.30 pm** 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Evensong (traditional)

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Evensong (modern) and Benediction

## **WEEKDAY SERVICES**

### **The Daily Office**

**Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday:** 9.00am: Morning Prayer

**Tuesday:** 6.30pm: Evening Prayer; **Thursday:** 8.00am: Morning Prayer

**Friday:** 6.00pm: Evening Prayer; **Saturday:** 9.30am: Morning Prayer

### **The Holy Eucharist**

**Tuesday:** 7.00pm; **Friday:** 6.30pm; **Saturday** 10.00am

*Please see the weekly online bulletin for full details and any variations.*

## **SACRAMENT OF PENANCE AND RECONCILIATION**

The Clergy are available by appointment to hear confessions or to talk about any matter in confidence. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is always available in preparation for Christmas and Easter and at other advertised times.

## **HOME VISITS to the sick and housebound and those in hospital**

If you, or someone you know, are unable to get to church and would like to receive Holy Communion at home, the Eucharistic Ministers are happy to undertake this - please call 928 3342/07976 901389 to arrange this, or to arrange a visit to someone in hospital or at home.

## **IN A PASTORAL EMERGENCY**

Please telephone as for home visits, or a member of the ministry team.



## **From the Ministry Team**                      **May 2015**

Dear Friends

This May the spiritual door lies open before us – the beautiful lilac blossoms blowing their heady scent towards us. We step forward with faith and hope, trusting in God. Always, we put ourselves in His hands, praying for protection and blessings.

The general election, with all its questions and uncertainties will come and go. Then a new chapter in our nation's life will begin. The House of Bishops have reminded us already, in their pastoral letter (February), of the importance of using our vote. Their advice to consider the common good to guide our intentions is positive and gives us pause for thought.

The glorious liturgical feasts in May are in abundance – Ascension and Pentecost. The transformative nature of these feasts remind us, as God's people, of the ultimate victory over death and the promise of Resurrection.

Starting on Tuesday 19th May – the 'Think Abouts' at 7.30pm will focus on 'Holy Catholic and Apostolic: What does it mean to be Anglican and Catholic?' – a series reflecting on Catholic identity in the Church of England and its distinctive gifts.

This has the potential to bring a new understanding to the distinct and special mission of St Faith's in Waterloo and to focus hearts and minds on the way ahead. The excitement of spiritual journeying for us in this, as we look to grow together in faith and mission should build in its momentum through the coming weeks and months.

With Love and Blessings,

**Paula**



# Sparkling Spring Music at St Faith's

St Faith's Saturday recital series began on 25<sup>th</sup> April with music from 'The Little Big Band' - students from Merchant Taylors' Boys School, who took us back to the era of Glenn Miller with foot-tapping jazz numbers. Other newcomers to the 2015 Recital Series include harpist Ellie Gaynard, South-Liverpool based cellist Jonathon Stone, and St Faith's very own Musical Director Robert Woods, who will direct two concerts of vocal music, 'Robert Woods and Friends' on 2<sup>nd</sup> May, and his madrigal choir, Mostly Madrigals, on 18<sup>th</sup> July. Some well-known and loved performers also return to St Faith's this year, including The Cantilena Singers, locally-based baritone Ian Dunning and the St Nicholas Singers.

These informal recitals allow professional and amateur performers to showcase their talent in a supportive and informal environment, in the beautiful acoustic and setting of St Faith's Church, Crosby. Admission is free, though donations to the Church are invited.

Refreshments are available, and many people from the local community and beyond come to the recitals to listen to the music, enjoy the ambience of St Faith's, and meet friends for a snack or light lunch. Welcome back, if you're a regular – if you've not been before, do come and enjoy half an hour of lunchtime music in a relaxed atmosphere, meet friends, in the beautiful surroundings of St Faith's. The Church is open from 11am-1pm. Recitals begin at 12 noon and last about 30–40 minutes.

Saturday 25th April	The Little Big Band
Saturday 2nd May	Robert Woods and Friends (song recital)
Saturday 9th May	St Nicholas Singers
Saturday 16th May	Colin Porter and Joe Wakefield (Organ Recital)
Saturday 23rd May	The Cantilena Singers
Saturday 30th May	tba
Saturday 6th June	tba
Saturday 13th June	The Crosby Gilbert & Sullivan Society
Saturday 20th June	Clare Hyams (mezzo-soprano)
Saturday 27th June	Ellie Gaynard (harp)
Saturday 4th July	Jonathan Stone (Cello)
Saturday 11th July	Liverpool Festival Choir
Saturday 18th July	Mostly Madrigals
Saturday 25th July	Melanie Harvey (violin)
Saturday 1st August	The Cantilena Singers
Saturday 8th August	Ian Dunning (baritone)





## 100 Club Winners for March

1 173 Betty Coigin £150; 2 137 David Jones £100; 3 146 Avis Port £50

## From the Registers

*Chris Price*

### 'Don't Mention the War!' – the saga continues ...

As **1943** begins at St Faith's, the ship sails on, with little or nothing to suggest that the second World War is reaching a critical phase in the wider world outside our walls. J.S (John Schofield) and S.S. (nothing sinister – just Sidney Singer) sustain the daily pattern of worship. Your scribe has just spotted that, whereas John Brierley had logged 'Mattins', Mr Schofield prefers 'Matins' – a distinction which escapes this writer.

These days the early Sunday communion attracts between 40 and 70, with more on major feasts. Numbers at the main 10.45 service are spasmodically logged: they vary between 140 and 190, with more on big occasions. Evensong attendance is rarely if

ever accounted for, but the overall impression is of a small decline in Sunday attendances. Daily eucharists are all now at 8 am and more fully logged. Communicant numbers are invariably in the range of 3 – 8, but, interestingly, there are often two or three more present and non-communicating – something we would rarely find today.

Lent sees the reappearance of the Thursday afternoon Women's Services, taken by assorted visiting clergy (including J.M.Buckmaster) and attracting some hundred or so women. The vicar offers Wednesday evening Compline and Address, with 30-50 attending. There were six services on Good Friday, ending with 'Sacred Music' at 7 pm. Easter numbers held up well, with 305 communicants and 555 attendees in total. Ranging further ahead, it is interesting to note that total attendances the following Whitsunday were as many as 584.

The hypnotic succession of entries for May, June and July is broken by a rare and unique entry on Thursday 8th July: 'S.S. unable to get to church owing to flooded road'! He is more or less in residence at church during that September, however, with J.S.'s initials missing for nearly a month.

The 1943 Patronal sees little made of the Day itself (October 6th, of course), but a flurry of red the following Sunday in the Octave. There are nearly 500 in church, and three visiting clergy. One of these appears at first sight to be J. Machinery, but is probably Mackinlay. Thereafter the ordered sequence of daily worship runs to the year's end, where the vicar logs the 1943 communicant total as 5,689: another small increase.

**1944** kicks off with the traditional Circumcision services; then from January 14th to February 12th S.S. alone signs in. Mr Schofield's variable health is a matter of record, and this may well have been the cause. Little of note in the year's early months, until Holy Week, when H.M. (Mark) Luft takes three daily Complines. Easter Day comes as a surprise: over the 8 services there are 312 communicants but no fewer than 731 alleged attendees. Laus Deo!

Through the spring and summer period there is no break in the pattern, few if any visiting signatures and little variation in the attendances. This writer's doubtless familiar obsession with the 'No. Of Coins' column in this service register surfaces again. It is now again clear that at this stage this latter column is used to record the attendance figures for Sundays, but not weekdays. Why this should be remains one of life's mysteries, as of course does the heading itself: was there no record of paper money kept...?

Moving on to the autumn, a bold signature stands out. On September 17th, the preacher at evensong is one H. Wilde. No puzzle as to who this is, since he appends

'Late Tristan da Cunha'. A long way to come for one service: no wonder he is 'late' (sorry!). Mark Luft presides at Harvest Thanksgiving a week later, when the evensong preacher is Joseph F (for French) Parker. A few days later 'S. Faith's Guild' pops up for a weekday evening service. Then it is time for the Patronal Festival, and the Octave Sunday, although merely termed as Trinity XVII, sees 240 communicants and a healthy 517 attending, 154 of them to hear J.M.Buckmaster preach at Festal Evensong.

Sunday attendances are rather more frequently logged again now for some reason: on two successive November Sundays we see 40 and 76 at the early celebration, 73 and 198 at the 10.45 and 136 and 96 at Evensong.

Christmas Eve is labelled 'Eve of Nativity': there are 167 at the Festal Evensong and Blessing of the Crib, then 252 attending the 11.30 am (midnight) Sung Eucharist. The year ends quietly with 5,723 pencilled communicants recorded: another small increase, and a tribute to the sustained and faithful efforts of the parish clergy.

**1945**, the last year of the war, opens quietly. S.S. holds the fort for two weeks in February, entering service details himself. This even includes recording 'Quinquagesima' rather than the house style of 'QUINQUAGESIMA'. Of such things are the archivist's day made, especially when he spots a similar lower case downgrading of 'First Sunday in Lent' – and not even in red!

A few days before this dreadful lapse, John Brierley returns to take a women's Service; the following week Bishop Clifford Martin of Liverpool does the same honours.

Most register pages at this period are devoid of visiting priestly signatures, but the pages from February 26th are different. In the space of a month we have James C. Knowles, Stanley Bundy, Walter E Harston (I think) Morris, E.O.Hughes, W.W.Wilson (possibly) J.V.Culkey ('Waifs and Strays'), H.P.Barsley, and D.N.Spofford. But the prize goes to the episcopal presence at a confirmation on the evening of Tuesday March 13<sup>th</sup>. This is 'John R. Weller, Bishop in Argentina'. Wikipedia tells us that this post also included the Falkland Islands. How many attended is not recorded, but at the collection the princely sum of £8.2.6 was raised for 'Missions'. Soon it is Easter, and the recorded total communicants is 359 (312 the previous year) and attendances 736 (731 last year). Of interest is the total of 27 communicants at the sung eucharist, where normally, because of the fasting interdict, there would have been but one or two. Whatever the reason, they would all have seemed in generous mood and appreciative of their clergy: the Easter Offering, still a 'perk' of the priests, came to £43.15.1. Good old Google tells us that this would be some £178 today – a happy note to leave the register, and the priests, for this month.



# Chrism Eucharist 2015

Sue has supplied the Bishop of Liverpool's Maundy Thursday Address to the Diocesan clergy



Here are some of the things I think about when I think about the sacred oils.

The world is charged with the grandeur of God;  
It will flame out, like shining from shook foil;  
It gathers to a greatness, like the ooze of oil  
Crushed...

These lines of Gerard Manley Hopkins are the first thing I think about. And the oil in the vessels, the ooze of oil crushed, one of the richest materials known in the Bible's time, but in the olive it's no use, the olive must be crushed.

And thinking of this I think of you and of your ministry, and the cost of your ministry to you, of being there for people, and open to people, and facing the pain and injustice of the world with your people, and so I think of these oils and I think of you crushed, and of the crushed people of Palestine from where these oils came, and of the wonder of the world God loves so much and yet it's broken, and of your choice to give your lives, to stand in the place where your heart is bruised and crushed.

And I think of a guy I knew in my last Diocese, he is a farmer, his family has farmed the land there since the thirteenth century, he is a gentleman farmer and a Deputy Lieutenant but Jesus had captured his heart and so he got ordained as a self-supporting minister and each week he travels down the way to Stevenage and he serves the people of Stevenage in their poverty and their brokenness and worships with them each week and visits and loves them; he's over 70 now, and he serves as curate there to a vicar who is a socialist and a union man, and between them in their diversity and their unity they speak of the Kingdom for the poor, and they spend their life so it shouts with the Gospel: anyway this guy's name is Teddy, and thinking of Teddy whom I know I think of you whom I'm coming to know.

Then I think about the Bible, about the scriptures we heard. So in the epistle I remember that the God who said "Let light shine out of darkness" has shone in our dark hearts. And that we're always carrying in the body the death of Jesus. And that it's a kingdom conferred on the little ones.

And I long for and pray for a bigger church that makes a bigger difference, more people knowing Jesus, more justice in the world, and as I slowly come to know you, I see it coming to be, I see what you can do in every place to work with the Spirit of

God so that our dark world may indeed be transformed, by this Church holding the most precious treasure in clay jars, the light of Christ shining through our brokenness and our cracked glory.

And then I think of a licensing when I was a curate in Newcastle, an inner-city parish, the church was packed and it felt very good and we all felt strong but then a stone was thrown against the window and I thought, “we’re not very strong without God, there are not many of us here”. But we sang confidently nonetheless, because we were not without God.

So I think of ministry and the spending of lives, and I think of you and I think of our God who spoke this word of hope.

And then I think of these three vessels of oil.

So I think of the oil for the anointing of the sick and dying.

I think of distributing olive oil to Christians in Body Shop bottles in my parishes, working class parishes, in a furniture town, and in an overspill town. So that our people could take them home and use them informally to pray for the sick. I think of these believers and what John Wimber said when he was told that his teaching was too basic, all milk and no meat, he said “The meat is on the street”. And of St John when he said that those who do God’s will shall know the doctrine.

I used to say to our ministry teams that the only qualification was that they should know God and like people. Know God a bit, I said, and like people a lot.

One of the team in our church near Southampton was called Mike, he was a rough man, I’ve spoken of him before to some of you, a musician and a pastor, a rough man crippled with arthritis and anger, but people would invite him into their homes when he visited them and when he prayed in church he would always say “Thank you Lord for life. It’s so good to be alive”.

Anyway he died quite suddenly, of a heart attack, and I went to the hospital in the middle of the night with my sacred oil, to pray with his family and to pray with his body and to say goodbye, to anoint his body for burial.

I think of him now free from all pain. And what sort of a church we might be if all the people of God, all who know God a bit and like people a lot, might be praying for the sick and seeing God bring healing, not all the time, of course not, but still if you don’t do it you never see it. A bigger church full of those who will one day be healed, bringing healing in the meantime to those around them, doing it so they might see it, I think of that.

And then I think of the oil for the signing with the cross at baptism.

I think of my niece and her partner, both women, and their firstborn child. They had a civil partnership and then they had a baby. Having a baby made them think again about things and they wanted to know God and to have their child blessed, and they went to their local church, it was a Church of England church and they were warmly welcomed and it was my privilege to baptise the boy there and anoint him, and the parish laid on a great spread afterwards. And then they moved north and the local Church of England church would not welcome them because they were gay and unashamed, so they went elsewhere and it was the local Roman Catholic church that welcomed them and there they are still, living out the promise of that anointing in the growing life of their sons, God not leaving them without a welcome in His body.

And then I think of the oil of chrism.

I think of a Confirmation a couple of weeks ago in Wigan Parish Church, with Bishop Cyril, a huge Confirmation with lots and lots of candidates, the church heaving with people, and I was confirming with the left hand and anointing with the right and there were so many, no matter how much we tried to dry my hand with a cloth I got more oil on me than on the candidates, it was running under my sleeve and to my elbow, running like the oil on Aaron in the psalm, no matter how much blessing you try to give, more flows on you in return, the gift of ministry to the minister, messy church, liquid church, fragrant church, runny church.

These are some of the things I think about when I think about the sacred oils.

And I think too of what we can do when we're afraid, there are not very many of us here, so easy to be afraid when fear comes like a stone against the window. So easy to take oil and use it to cool and harden or to heat and hate.

So easy then to turn away from healing and welcoming and blessing and to go for lubricating oil, to become technicians of the machine of the church, making things run smoothly, dodging the truth, living in a dream and in a fog, letting people's disagreements slip past each other, no friction, no warmth, a cold slick machine, we should say no to that, that's not what we're for, there's a new commandment.

So easy too to turn away from healing and welcoming and blessing and to go for boiling oil, taking this rich truth and using it to hurt others, defensive, pouring out anger so as to wound, no communication, no love, a hot furious righteousness, let's say no to that too, that's not what we're for, there's a new commandment.

And so again I think of us, God's ministers here, baptised, authorised, ordained.

Surprised, broken, little ones. Responding to the extraordinary call to take this richness and to use it for healing, welcoming and blessing. Promising once again today to be devoted. Promising once again to be filled with zeal for his house. Witnessing to life beyond all disappointment. Committing ourselves today.

And at the end I think of Jesus. Jesus who it says in Hebrews was “anointed with the oil of gladness beyond his companions”. Gladness, exultant joy: the joy of John the Baptist in the womb in Luke 1, the joy of the disciples in Acts 2, eating together with glad and sincere hearts. That was his mark.

Jesus, who this week we remember heavy laden and crucified, who was a man of sorrows but who never preached sorrow, because with him the watchword was always “do not be afraid”. At the end I think of him.

The world is charged with the grandeur of God;  
It will flame out, like shining from shook foil;  
It gathers to a greatness, like the ooze of oil  
Crushed...



## **The Revd Canon Joseph P. Cassidy**

BA, MA, STB, MDiv, STL, PhD, DTh, FRAI, FRSA, FICPD

***St Faith's founder and benefactor, Douglas Horsfall, endowed what was then a theological college at Durham, and the College was established as patrons of the living of our church. Despite changes in status and function, St Chad's remain our patrons, and we share the sorrow at the sudden death of their gifted Principal.***

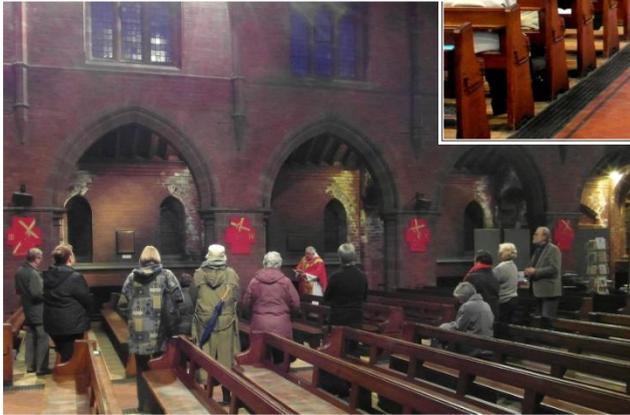
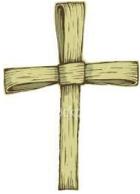
It is with huge sadness and considerable shock that Durham University announces that the Revd. Canon Dr Joe Cassidy, Principal of St Chad's College, died suddenly on Saturday 28th March. Joe had a heart attack on Friday 20th March, was in hospital for a few days and was discharged on Monday 24th March. He had appeared to be making a good recovery at home and was in good spirits, looking forward to returning to work in six weeks.

Joe was a proud Canadian and deeply formed by his fourteen years as a Jesuit priest, which included time in Jamaica and Nicaragua where his lifelong passion for social justice was shaped. He moved to England in 1992, became an Anglican priest in 1996 and was appointed Principal of St Chad's College in 1997 at a time when the college was in a parlous state and on the brink of bankruptcy. Joe is widely credited with saving St Chad's and transforming it into a solvent and happy community, and one of the most applied-to colleges in the University. He has been a robust supporter of the Durham collegiate system and a perceptive member of the University's Senate.



## Holy Week and Easter Gallery 2015

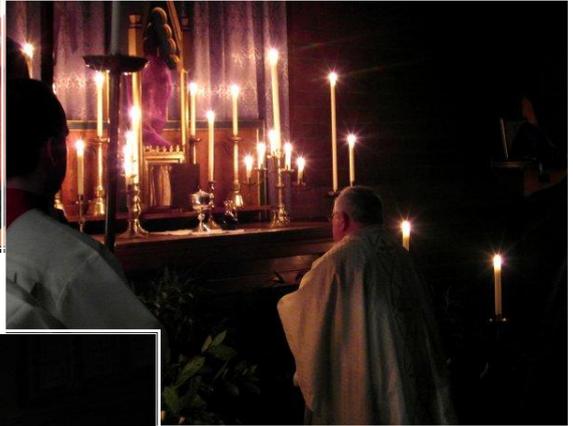
Palm Sunday started the week with palm-blessing and people-sprinkling in the hall, then a short wet walk to church. Behind the palm-decked nave altar the Great Crucifix is in place above the High Altar.



### Monday of Holy Week

... was marked by the traditional procession round the fourteen Stations of the Cross, ending in the Chapel of the Cross with the eucharist.





## Maundy Thursday

The symbolic washing of the feet is followed by the walk to the Lady Chapel, decked out as the Garden of Gethsemane, and ablaze with candles for the watch until midnight.

## Holy Saturday

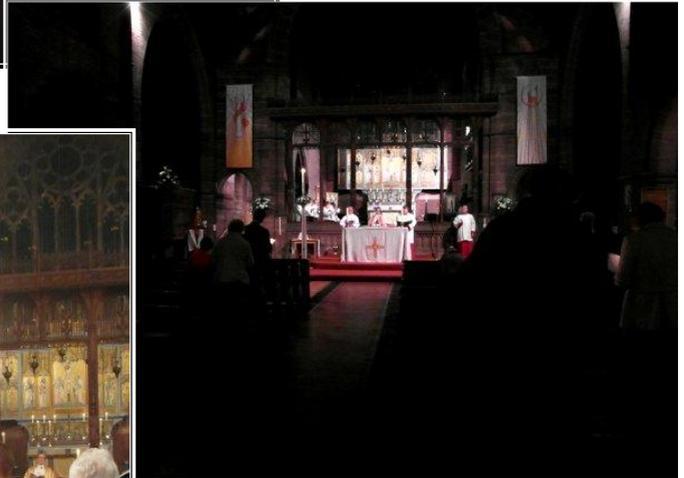
Following the solemn devotions of Good Friday, the church is made ready for the glory of Easter with flowers, and the Easter Garden is built and decorated beneath the pulpit. This year saw the new cross, made for us by Mike Carr, and decked with a crown of thorns and the traditional grave clothes of the resurrection





## Easter Eve

The paschal candle is (eventually – it was a rather windy night!) lit from the New Fire and borne into church. After the Vigil readings in darkness, the resurrection is proclaimed with noise and light, and Sue takes the opportunity to sprinkle all and sundry.





## Easter Day

The church is revealed in its Easter glory for the Sung Eucharist. The clergy relax with easter eggs at the back of church..



*Above, the choir sing Easter Day Evensong at the end of a memorable week.*

*Right: back a few weeks, the Amadeus choir sing in St Faith's to raise money for the ongoing work of the Waterloo Partnership with ebola victims in Waterloo, Sierra Leone.*



Joe had a formidable intellect and was an accomplished scholar and brilliant teacher. His many degrees were a source of pride to Chad's students. Nationally, he was a trustee of numerous boards and much in demand as a spiritual director, retreat leader, guest lecturer and preacher.

In Durham, Joe was an ex officio member of the Theology Department and a non-residentiary canon and council member of Durham Cathedral.

The Very Revd. Michael Sadgrove, Dean paid personal tribute to Joe:

'His prodigious energy ('always in the fast lane', someone said of him), his practicality, his capacity to solve problems, his sheer appetite for hard work were all important aspects of his leadership of St Chad's. But most important, I think, were his personal and spiritual qualities. If you ask Chad's students and alumni what they will remember 'Papa Joe' for, you will hear a lot about his humane wisdom, his personal warmth, his quick-witted love of repartee and his intellectual liveliness. (He thought and spoke fast: you had to keep up.) And you will also hear about his belief that a higher education institution like a Durham College should – indeed, must – be a living community of human beings in which people care about one another so that everyone can flourish. This was the kind of College he set out to shape at St Chad's. I'm sure I am not alone in thinking that in this project, he was brilliantly successful'

He was a remarkable Principal of St Chad's for nearly eighteen years. Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife Gillian and their three children.

**Ray Hudson**

Acting Vice-Chancellor



## **How well do you know our Church?**

*A quiz about the fixtures and fittings of St Faith's*

All the locations below are to be found within the main body of the church and choir. Some are easy: others may need more close study, including looking at labels around the church and the appropriate pages on the church website (the Virtual Tour will be helpful). The wording of a few is designed to intrigue, or possibly just irritate...

Here are the first 15 – the second batch, and the answers to this lot – will follow in due course, and also be published in Newslink. If anyone finds any errors in these questions, I'm sure they will let me know.

1. **Where and why is the archiepiscopal porker?**
2. **Where is there one toe short?**
3. **Where is there a 'typo' in a window?**
4. **Where is a saint anticipating an upside-down crucifixion?**
5. **Where can you find a Gay doctor?**
6. **Where might you find two circular fireworks?**
7. **Where do two angels look the wrong way?**
8. **Where is there one 'S' missing on a repeated monogram?**
9. **Where uniquely is there an 'S.' instead of a 'St.'?**
10. **Where can you find the name of a bishop's father?**
11. **Where can you find 'Elcum' – and why?**
12. **Where can you see the work of Salviati of Venice?**
13. **Where is a young man's name recorded twice, once incorrectly spelt?**
14. **Where is something designed by the architect of Liverpool Cathedral?**
15. **Where is there a running dog, and what does it signify?**

*Chris Price*



# Notwithstanding

In the course of his sermon the minister asked anyone who had never sinned to stand up. To his amazement an elderly gentleman promptly got to his feet.

‘Are you sure you’ve never sinned?’ the minister enquired. ‘Oh yes, I’ve sinned, sure enough,’ the man replied. ‘I’m standing up on behalf of my wife’s first husband!’



## A Reflection for Pentecost

The readings for the feast of Pentecost are full of contrasts. When people had one language they used it to make a name for themselves. On the day of Pentecost there were many languages but one theme: the mighty works of God. On Sinai God came down in fire and smoke and the people dared not approach the mountain. In the upper room tongues of fire rested on the heads of the apostles, not to burn but to illuminate, not to destroy but to enlighten. In the Gospels we hear Jesus saying to those he is leaving that he will come back to them. Through the Spirit, whom the Father will send to them, they will know the truth: know the relationship of Jesus with his Father; know that the Father loves them, know that together they will come and make their home with those who love the Son and keep his word.

Wind and fire, love poured into our hearts like water on soil that is parched and cracked: symbols of the Spirit at work within us, “hiddenly, secretly, like leaven working heaven.” Yet Archbishop William Temple warned that when we say, “Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire”, we had better know that we are about. “If we invoke him it will be to do God’s will, not ours. We cannot call upon him to use omnipotence for the supply of our futile pleasures or the success of our futile plans. If we invoke him, we must be ready for the glorious pain of being caught by his power out of our petty orbit into the eternal purposes of the Almighty.”

Mark Frank, Prebendary and Treasurer of St. Paul’s in the seventeenth century, also remind us that no place is exempt from the wind of the spirit; “It finds St. Matthew at the receipt of custom and blows him out of a publican into an Apostle. It blows St. Peter and St. Andrew out of their boat to the stern of the Church of Christ ... No place so remote but can reach; none so private that it can find; none so strong but it can break through... and none so bad, but some way or other it will vouchsafe to visit.”

We are to be witnesses to this power of the Spirit. We may not have to proclaim our faith in words, but we cannot flee from what we are: witnesses by our lives to God's mighty works. We are to witnesses to his marvellous work of creation when at the first the Spirit moved over the primeval chaos, a creation which is now in danger from our selfish and reckless exploitation of the earth's resources. We are to be witnesses to the yet more wonderful work of God's new creation in the Incarnation as we see in Jesus the Spirit at work in our humanity, showing us what we can be like in terms of self-giving love. We are to be witnesses to that love in so far as, open to the Spirit, we are ready to be changed into loving people." See how these Christians love one another" was first said, not in sarcasm as so often today, but as the truth.

On the evening of the first Easter day, the risen Lord breathed on his disciples and said: "Receive Holy Spirit". He gave them the power of forgiveness, a power to set men free; to heal them. In recent years we have been witnessing a renewal of the healing ministry of the Church. Sometimes there will be dramatic signs of the Spirit at work to heal, but he also works gently in the hidden recesses of the heart to bring peace, shalom, which is wholeness in the fullest sense.

An oft used and favourite invocatory sacristy prayer of Fr William Hassall's before mass was one I still pray today:

**'Come, Holy Spirit, and fill the hearts of your faithful people and kindle in them the fire of your love.'**

*Fr Dennis*



## **Funny You Should Say That**

**From Christian Crackers**

The new vicar hadn't been in the parish long, when he needed his car servicing. He said to the garage owner, 'Keep the cost down. I am only a poor preacher.'

'I know that,' replied the garage man. 'I heard you last week.'

## Table Sales

**The Table sales are back on the third Saturday of most months in St. Faith's Church Hall. The remaining dates for 2015 are:**

**May 16th**

**June 20th**

**September 19th**

**October 17th**

**November 21st**



The sales start at 10.00am and run until 1pm. Admission cost 30 pence for adults and children are free. Money raised from the table sales fund refurbishment of the church hall AND have lead to organisations such as Slimming World booking the hall on a regular basis. Regular rentals of the hall mean regular income for church.

Even if you don't visit the table sales, could you put up a notice for us, or post the details on your facebook page? Could you tell friends or neighbours? A regular visitor to our table sales now attends music recitals at St. Faith's, so what started out as a table sale has turned into something more. We know we have a superb church hall, but so many people still don't know we exist!

Refreshments are served at the table sales as well, so why not drop in for a tea or coffee? If you've any items to donate or would like to book a table to sell things yourself please see Ruth, Christine or Corinne.

## Waterloo Group Council

I'm writing hot off the press, really – just about to go on my post-Easter break, having been to the Waterloo Group Council Meeting this morning.

There were representatives from all four Waterloo Anglican Churches there, and the atmosphere was constructive and positive. In the first part of the morning, we followed up from the first meeting in formulating a common task for the four Churches – and five areas were identified:

- The stipendiary clergy are looking at how to make what already exists legally, i.e. a Group Ministry Team, into a bit more of a practical reality.

- We already attend one another's services to some extent, but we are also looking at planning something together for all four churches – probably in an evening. Watch this space!
- One group is working on something already under way – how we, as Churches, can support isolated and elderly people in Waterloo.
- Another is looking at working with young people – and in particular, Messy Church amongst the four churches. The starting point for this is the next Messy Church at St John's on the last Saturday in April, to which all are welcome.
- A third group is looking at communications, and has undertaken to produce, once a month, a newsletter showing events and services in all four churches.
- Last – but very importantly – there is a group looking at our common prayer life. This group has also undertaken to pray for the process of developing our common life as God's people in this place.

Mid way through the morning, the Bishops' Planning Officers, David Burrows and Rob Williams came and talked us through the options for pastoral reorganisation in this area – how we can get back to two stipendiary clergy in a way that best enables the future mission and ministry of God's church hereabouts. More details of that very soon – and it is a discussion that I hope everyone will be involved in eventually – but the PCCs need to engage with it to begin with, so please be patient. However, I can say that David managed to digest what I know from experience is pages and pages of legal documents – into one side of A4 – a remarkable feat! We were especially grateful that David came...on his birthday. (Yes, we did sing Happy Birthday!).

In fact, it is likely to be Rob that becomes most familiar to us, as he is the Bishops' Planning Officer for the Liverpool, as opposed to the Warrington, Archdeaconry – though they work closely together. We are likely to keep them busy for a while as they come to PCCs and also possibly to congregational meetings as we all consider the process. This is just the start – but as I said when the Waterloo Group was first mooted – the aim of all this is to imagine what God is calling us to in the terms of the mission of the Church. Bishop Paul has also written about his vision for the Liverpool Diocese in his paper to the Diocesan Synod last month, 'Fit for Mission.' The Synod affirmed the paper warmly, and Bishop Paul would like it to be discussed as widely as possible.

**Sue**



# Services Support Group News

At our March meeting we heard more news from Padre Simon Farmer and his team about their work with the Ebola victims in Sierra Leone. Simon has been sending email reports to Rev George Perera, which give an insight into how hard things are out there and how much they value our help both materially and spiritually.

Simon and his team are based in Kerrytown and because of how rapidly Ebola can be spread, the soldiers and medical staff do not leave their quarters except to work, so any communications from family and friends are so very important. Unfortunately a member of Simon's team, a nurse, very sadly contracted Ebola and had to be flown back to England for treatment. Happily she has made a recovery and is now out of danger: a huge relief to all who know and love her.

One of the biggest problems arising from this disease is the large number of orphans it leaves, all of which have to be fed and cared for. It is easier to buy food and supplies locally rather than send them out to the children with the possibility of it not reaching its destination. Hence the reason for the cake sale I held at the end of March and because of which we have been able to send £170 to Simon for the purchase of food for the local orphanage in Kerrytown.

In order to raise this amount of money a large number of cakes were baked by many people, so a huge thank you from me goes to Irene, Mary, Jackie, Fiona, Audrey, Linda and any others I have forgotten. Also many thanks to all those who so generously bought the cakes and enjoyed them, not caring about the amount of calories they consumed! There were also some very generous donations from a number of people, so thank you to you too, you have all helped to bring some comfort to some of the orphans of Ebola.

Another happy footnote was told to us by Rev George Perera, who is Padre to the Army Cadets. He was taking a service at the Easter camp and as most of the cadets don't have a Bible with them and in these enlightened times Bibles cannot be given to the Cadets, but stacks can be placed on a table and the Cadets can be invited to take one if they would like one. All those who have served in the forces know that you have to queue for everything and these have to be orderly queues! And this is what the Cadets did, formed an orderly queue and most of the Bibles were taken! A truly heart warming tale that Bibles are still popular with young people which many may not realise.

*Eunice Little*



# **St Faith's Ordinands: John Edwin Bebb**

John Edwin Bebb was one of many people called to serve the ministry who enjoyed strong links with St. Faith's. His name is recorded on several occasions in registers of services at St. Faith's, first appearing in the summer of 1934 and then in Lent, 1937. Dorothy Carter, a much-loved late member of St Faith's, wrote in a 1980 church magazine article of some of her past memories. In this she recalled John Bebb as being one of several men called to the ministry from St. Faith's.

John was born on the 21<sup>st</sup> November 1913 in Clapton, London. His parents, Frank and Kathleen had married in 1908. Family circumstances brought John and his elder brother to Liverpool where they were educated at The Liverpool Institute. He graduated in Theology from St John's College, Durham in 1935.

We cannot be certain of how John became associated with St. Faith's; it is unlikely that he lived in the area as he attended The Liverpool Institute. It might be possible that Canon John Brierley, one time vicar of St. Faith's and who, from 1934 had been on the Patronage Board of St. Chad's College, Durham, may have first introduced him to St. Faith's.

He was ordained a deacon at Liverpool Cathedral 20<sup>th</sup> December 1936. There is a record of a John Bebb having conducted several marriages at St. Thomas, Seaforth between 1936 and 1937. In 1937 John was licensed to St. John and St. James, Litherland, where he served as curate until 1940. It was during this period that John provided Compline at St. Faith's during Holy Week.

There appears to be a blank in his working life between 1940 and 1945. It's possible that he may have had some involvement in the war effort but he was evidently busy in other ways as in 1940, he married Joyce Tilley in Durham, later having two children; Dorothy and Peter.

We next pick up his ministry in 1945 following his induction as vicar of St. Mary, Lower Ince, Wigan, that year. Early on in his ministry a newspaper reported of his going down the local coalmine to experience for himself the harsh working conditions of miners, "I dug coal myself," he said afterwards, "but I would not fancy doing it for eight hours at a stretch."

John held several incumbencies over the following decades at churches spread across the country from the Solway Firth (Christ Church, Silloth), to the Isle of Wight (also named Christ Church). He also taught Religious Studies at a school. John finally retired after a full and active career to the Lake District in 1983. He died aged 89 on the 27th October 1993 in Kendal, in his beloved Lake District.

*John Woodley*

*(With grateful acknowledgement to Peter Bebb and Anne Gilbert)*

# The Parish Directory and Church Organisations



## **VICAR**

The Revd Dr Susan J. Lucas, The Vicarage, Milton Road, Waterloo, L22 3XA  
Tel 0151 928 3342; 07976 901389. Email [revsue85@icloud.com](mailto:revsue85@icloud.com)

## **PARISH OFFICE**

32 Brooklands Avenue, L22 3XZ . 0151 928 9913

Parish Administrator: Wendy Trussell; email: [sfsmparishoffice@btinternet.com](mailto:sfsmparishoffice@btinternet.com)

## **ASSISTANT PRIESTS**

Fr. Dennis Smith, 16 Fir Road, Waterloo. L22 4QL. 928 5065

Revd Denise McDougall, 27 Mayfair Avenue, Crosby L23 2TL. 924 8870

## **READERS**

Mrs Jacqueline Parry, 21 Grosvenor Avenue, Crosby. L23 0SB. 928 0726

Miss Paula O'Shaughnessy, 30 Curzon Rd, L22 0NL. 286 2764 / 075823 19440

## **READER EMERITUS**

Dr Fred Nye, 23 Bonnington Ave, Crosby L23 7YJ Tel 924 2813

## **CHURCHWARDENS**

Ms Brenda Cottarel, 6 Lawton Road, Waterloo. L22 9QL. 928 4275

Mr Rick Walker, 17 Mayfair Avenue, Crosby. L23 2TL. 924 6267

## **ASSISTANT CHURCH WARDENS**

Mr Bill Dagnall, 14 Duddingston Ave, Crosby. L23 0SH. 928 4997

Mrs Christine Spence, 52 Molyneux Road, Waterloo. L22 4QZ. 284 9325

## **TREASURER**

Mr David Jones, 65 Dunbar Road, Birkdale, Southport PR8 4RJ. 01704 567782

## **PCC SECRETARY**

Mrs Lillie Wilmot, Flat 7, 3 Bramhall Rd, Waterloo L23 3XA. 920 5563

## **DIRECTOR OF MUSIC**

Mr Robert Woods, [robertwoods1986@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:robertwoods1986@hotmail.co.uk). 07847 251315

## **GIFT AID SECRETARY**

Mr Rick Walker, 17 Mayfair Avenue, Crosby. L23 2TL. 924 6267

**TUESDAY OFFICE HOUR:** 6.30 – 7.30 pm (wedding and banns bookings)

Mrs Lynda Dixon, 928 7330

## **SACRISTAN**

Mrs Judith Moizer, 1 Valley Close, Crosby. L23 9TL. 931 5587

## **CHILDREN'S CHURCH**

Sunday 11.00 am in the Church Hall. Mrs Angie Price: 924 1938

## **VULNERABLE ADULTS OFFICER**

Mr Gareth Griffiths, 6 Lawton Road, Waterloo. L22 9QL. 928 4275

## **CHILD PROTECTION OFFICER**

Mrs Linda Nye, 23 Bonnington Avenue, Crosby. L23 7YJ. 924 2813

## **VULNERABLE ADULTS OFFICER**

Mr Gareth Griffiths, 6 Lawton Road, Waterloo. L22 9QL. 928 4275

## **BAPTISM BOOKINGS**

Mrs Jackie Parry. 928 0726

Mrs Brenda Cottarel. 928 4275

## **BEAVER SCOUTS**

Thursday 5.00 – 6.15 pm Mike Carr. 293 3416

## **CUB SCOUTS**

Thursday 6.30 – 8.00 pm. Mike Carr. 293 3416

## **SCOUTS**

Thursday 8.00 - 9.30 pm. Mike Carr. 293 3416

## **RAINBOWS**

Monday 4.45 - 5.45 pm. Geraldine Forshaw. 928 5204

## **BROWNIE GUIDES**

Monday 6.00 - 7.30 pm. Mary McFadyen. 284 0104

## **CHOIR PRACTICE**

Friday 7.30 pm - 8.45 pm.

## **MAGAZINE EDITOR and WEBSITE MANAGER**

Chris Price, 17 Queens Road, Crosby. L23 5TP. 924 1938



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*'Come, as of old, like fire'*