# THE SERVER

THE QUARTERLY MAGAZINE OF THE
GUILD OF SERVANTS OF THE SANCTUARY

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# GUILD OF SERVANTS OF THE SANCTUARY

affiliated with the Scottish Guild of Servers and the Order of St Vincent, America

**Objects of the Guild**

*To raise the spiritual tone of altar servers*

To promote a conscientious performance of the duties of altar servers

To encourage more frequent attendance at the holy eucharist, in addition to times of duty.

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# THE SERVER

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**WINTER 1992**

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## EDITORIAL

### ONE MAN'S VIEW

Before you receive this issue we shall know the latest views of the General Synod on the Ordination of Women to the Priesthood Legislation. It will be one of the tasks of the Guild of Servants of the Sanctuary to pick up the pieces and try to ease the hurt in chapters, parishes, Deaneries and Dioceses and to understand where the Holy Spirit is leading.

On another issue too, we seem to be members of a Church which has largely lost its way and which has forgotten the parable of the 'Unjust Steward'. 'No servant can be the slave of two masters: he will either hate the first and love the second, or treat the first with respect and the second with scorn. You cannot be the slave both of God and of money' (Luke 16.13. JB)

The Church of England seems to have become the slave of money and appears only to be willing to work within the finances which it can see to be available. There seems to be no trust in the Holy Spirit to ensure that the work will be done and the worker will be paid. How much of the money coming in these days is being spent on centralised Dicesan or General Synod Bureaucracy which would be more profitably spent at the grass roots? More and more meetings, more and more committees, more and more reports, more and more paper, more and more waffle and less and less forwarding of the Kingdom of God—or so it seems to me.

The Southern Dioceses are supposed to be restricting their numbers of clergy, in accordance with the so-called Sheffield Formula, so that the Northern Dioceses can be more fairly served. The theory was that many ordinands were unwilling to go to work amongst 'those black satanic mills'—most of which have now disappeared in any case—but the present evidence is that the Northern Dioceses are cutting staff because there is no money to pay them—so what use is the Sheffield Formula? Did it all go wrong in the post-war period when the Church decided to pay a wage which was on a par (bearing in mind the accommodation etc) with reasonable managerial salaries? Was it now all too easy that it failed to attract the S Francis's?

I have little doubt that many laity have been disappointed by the general equalisation trend which took their Easter & Whitsun offerings and converted them into Diocesan funds. This has probably been another cause of financial loss.

To crown it all there is the published Leslie Francis evidence that the unpriesting of a community by pluralities and unions of benefices leads to a fall in church attendance and church income—a vicious circle!

Please pray that, with the intercessions of Our Lady and the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we may be led from our flounderings back to firm ground.

All the Officers and Councillors wish you all a Very Happy and Blessed Christmass and New Year.

Raymund JM Waker

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## THE GUILD CHOIR

The choir is still in need of committed Tenors and Basses. The Secretary, Bryan Chilton, would be very glad to hear from interested members of the Guild. You will find his address and telephone number on the inside front cover of *The Server*.

Chapter Treasurers please note that all cheques should be made payable to the Guild of Servants of the Sanctuary and not to individuals.

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## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday, April 17th, 1993 at S Mary Magdalene, Paddington at 2.30 pm.

**Agenda**

Opening Prayers
Apologies
Minutes of AGM of April 25th, 1992 (to be taken as read having been printed in *The Server*)
Matters Arising
Annual Report for 1992 (to be taken as read having been printed in *The Server*)
Financial Statements—General & COF
Candidates Ordination Fund Report
*The Server* Report
The Warden's Address

To confirm the General Council's Elections
*a*. The Warden
*b*. Chaplain-General
*c*. COF Chaplain
*d*. Secretary-General
*e*. Treasurer-General
Appointments: Deputy Secretary-General, COF Secretary, *The Server* Editor, Distributor
Group Elections Statement
Festivals 1993 (not yet in *The Server*)
Roll Call
AOB
The Blessing

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## CHANTRY BOOK

**DECEMBER**
David Hayes

**APRIL**
John Moir

**JUNE**
Ron Paddock

**JULY**
Reginald Corrick

**AUGUST**
Maurice Calthrop Brunsden, priest
Chris Edmondson, priest
William Hayes
Charles D Hickman
Donald Hodge, priest
Michael O'Sullivan
Vivien Ryder, priest
Ralph Scott

**SEPTEMBER**
Jack Pearce
Kenneth Pinder

**OCTOBER**
Ronald Mitton

## R.I.P.

**Ronald Mitton**

Brother Ron died peacefully in Chesterton Hospital, Cambridge after 2½ years of a debilitating illness. Even before that time ill health had prevented him from attending too many chapter meetings but in earlier days he had been a committee member and a faithful server at S Andrew in Cherry Hinton and latterly at S Andrew in Stapleford.

The chapter was represented at his funeral service at Stapleford where his vicar, Father Fisher, spoke warmly of Brother Ron's faithful service as a server and church member.

**John Moir**

John had an unexpected severe heart attack and died in hospital on Sunday, April 12th. He had been ill for some considerable time. He had a triple heart by-pass operation several years ago and suffered from severe depression symptoms which grew steadily worse. He finally withdrew into a shell from which he rarely emerged. His wife, Tessa, is to be greatly admired for her constant care and devotion.

He was largely responsible for the formation of the S Thomas More chapter. He was, for many years the senior server at SS Peter & Paul, Wantage.

Happily he was able to receive the Sacrament on the Thursday before he died. A large congregation, together with many of his fellow servers, attended his funeral on Maundy Thursday.

**Michael O'Sullivan**

Bro Michael O'Sullivan, Secretary of the SS Felix and Fursey chapter, Bury St Edmunds, died in the early hours of Tuesday, 2 June, after a short but distressing illness. An illness borne with fortitude and Michael's wry good humour.

Michael was born in Fulham in 1928 and came under the influence of Fr Dick Chamberlain at S Peter's church whilst still a boy. At the same time he became involved with the Scout movement with which he was associated for all of his life, being District Commissioner for the Breckland District of Norfolk at the time of his death.

After National Service in the RAF Michael joined the Metropolitan Police, serving there with distinction (he held the Queen's Police Medal) until his retirement in 1977. He then joined the Department of Transport as a Senior Traffic Examiner, a move which brought him to East Anglia and to S John, Bury St Edmunds.

Throughout his life, God, serving and service were of paramount importance to Michael and S Peter, Fulham; Holy Redeemer, Clerkenwell and S John the Evangelist, Bury St Edmunds were all privileged to have Michael on board as a server and PCC member.

Michael understood order, discipline and written rules but none of these were allowed to get in the way of his personal relationships. He loved debate and disputation but no matter how heated these became there was never any malice or hard feeling allowed to remain once matters had been resolved. His great good sense saved many potential disastrous decisions being made.

His High Mass of Requiem was celebrated at S John Bury St Edmunds by Fr Simon Pettitt, assisted by Fr Norman Shellock and Fr John Davies (Branch chaplain) and was attended by some 300 people representing the organisations with which Michael had been associated.

**John Pearce**

Brother Jack died on August 3rd, after a long illness, aged 78. 'A Requiem Mass and Funeral Service was held at S Barnabas Church, Tunbridge Wells on August 7th and was performed with full Catholic ceremonial before a large congregation of his many friends and members of his family. The Celebrant was the Revd Fr Newton Howden, the Altar Party and Acolytes being all members of the Guild of Servants of the Sanctuary of S Stephen chapter, Tunbridge Wells.

When Jack was just six years old he became a boat boy at S John, Maddermarket in Norwich. He served there until ultimately he became the Master of Ceremonies. In fact his whole life was involved with the church, first with the one in Norwich and later in many others and upon retirement he became Sacristan and Verger at Pembury until he came finally to S Barnabas in Tunbridge Wells; where he became Secretary and Treasurer of Server's Guild of S Stephen's chapter and a most steadfast worshipper and friend to many, for his knowledge of church ceremonial was second to none.

Jack was a printer by trade becoming finally, a lecturer in the London College of Printing, a position he held for eighteen years. When war broke out in '39, he gave up his work as Night-Overseer and joined the Air Force. He flew almost 90 missions over Germany as a rear-gunner in Lancaster bombers. On the last of these he was shot down (May 1944) but managed to parachute into Germany. He was eventually rescued by the Under-ground Movement and smuggled through France, from whence he journeyed on foot over the Pyrenees into Spain before finally reaching England via Gibraltar.

It was during his early days in Norwich that Jack became interested in Walsingham, his memoirs of Our Lady's Shrine going back to the time of its restoration by the then incumbent of S Mary, Fr Hope Patten, whom Jack knew personally. He was a faithful devotee and continued to make annual pilgrimages to the Shrine until illness prevented him from travelling.

The day before he died was a Sunday and Jack attended worship at the Sung Mass at S Barnabas as usual and where, as always, he joined with the 'Whole Company of Heaven' in praise and thanksgiving to his God. He will be sorely missed and remembered with affection, after a varied and interesting life in the service of many.

**Vivien Ryder, priest**

Father Vivien died suddenly whilst on pilgrimage in Bruges with a party from Little S Mary in Cambridge. He had only been a member of the chapter of S Etheldreda in Cambridge for a short time but he had endeared himself to our members with his cheerfulness, despite ill-health, and his willingness to play the organ at Guild Services if needed.

He was also a much loved member of the congregation in the Shingay Group of Parishes in Cambridgeshire and a great friend of the servers at Melbourn where he lived.

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

1993

**JANUARY**

9 Southwark Diocesan Servers Festival
Southwark Cathedral, Noon—Concelebrated Eucharist
3 pm—Guild Office, Sermon & Procession

**APRIL**

17 EASTER FESTIVAL & AGM
S Mary Magdalene, Paddington, W2, Noon—High Mass
2.30 pm—AGM in church, 4.15 pm—Guild Office, Procession and Benediction

**MAY**

6 Easter Area Annual Festival

31 National Walsingham Pilgrimage

**JUNE**

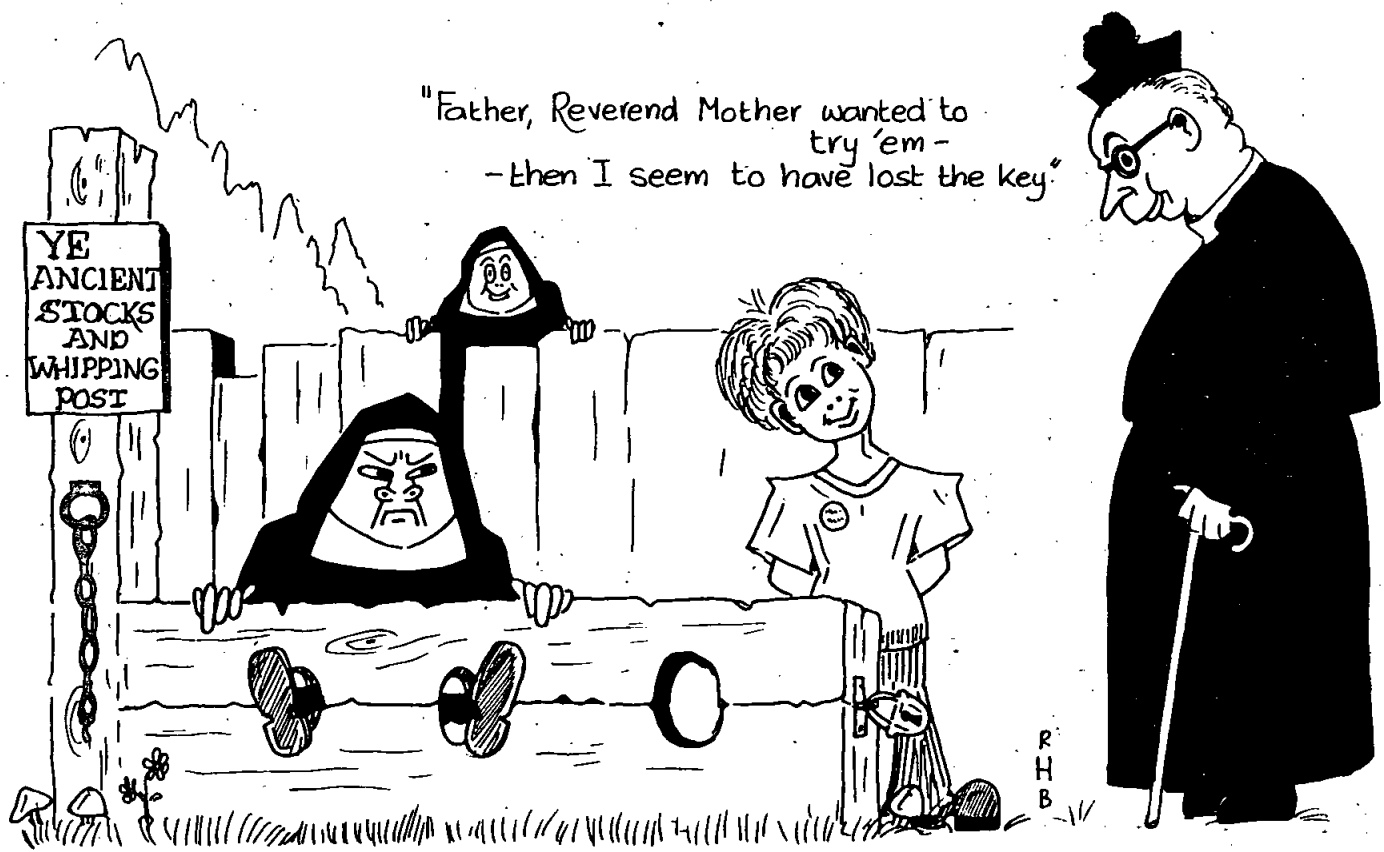
12 Group 11 Festival
S Mary, Fairford, 3.30 pm Corpus Christi Procession & Sermon
Preacher: The Rt Revd Peter Ball, CGA, Bishop of Gloucester.
Refreshments, Guild Office.

17 London Area Corpus Christi Festival, Westminster Abbey
7.30 pm—other details later

26 Glastonbury Abbey Pilgrimage
Noon—Concelebrated Eucharist
Principal Concelebrant & Preacher: The Rt Rev Alan Chesters, Bishop of Blackburn
3.30 pm Procession to Abbey for Solemn Evensong
President & Preacher: The Rt Revd Peter Firth, Bishop of Malmesbury.

**SEPTEMBER**

11 Lichfield Diocesan & Midlands Area Festival
Lichfield Cathedral—Noon—Solemn Eucharist
Celebrant: The Bishop of Gloucester (The Rt Revd Peter Ball, CGA)
3.00 pm—Solemn Guild Office & Procession


"Father, Reverend Mother wanted to try 'em - then I seem to have lost the key."
YE ANCIENT STOCKS AND WHIPPING POST
RHB

## ABOUT GOD–(15)–*"His only Son"* –(c)– OUR LORD

**The Revd Canon W H Barnard**

Familiar use of words often leads to forgetfulness of their meaning or origin. This is certainly true with the word "LORD". The *Jew's name for God* was Yahweh (used in the new Jerusalem Bible—or 'Jehovah' in the Authorised Version): but it was felt this name was too sacred a thing to be *read* out and "Lord" was substituted. It gradually acquired the meaning of someone who was more important than yourself. Sons addressed fathers in this way; servants their masters; wives even called husbands 'my lord'! Perhaps you know the story of the boy in buttons who, carefully coached to address the bishop staying at his house when awakening him next morning and asked, "Who's that?", was to reply, "The boy, my lord", was confused and flustered and said, "The lord, my boy" by mistake!

Our ideas in a democratic 20th century state have changed from those of BC Jews and to refer to someone as 'my lord' no longer implies that we are their slave which it certainly did mean for the first Christians. The point is that *to refer to Jesus Christ* as our *Lord means He OWNS US*. He redeemed us, ie bought us, and so we belong to Him. We are, or should be His slaves in the sense that sheep belong to the farmer whose mark they carry. We were marked for Christ our Lord at Baptism with the sign of the Cross. When we stray into danger, our Lord, who knows each one of us by name, calls and searches for us. Maybe, like the shepherd who sends his sheep-dog to round up straying sheep, which are barked at in a rude kind of way, our Lord may send His clergy to 'yap' at lost Christians and rescue them through sermons etc. The clergy, when they do this, are, like sheep-dogs, acting under their owner's orders and not making up the rules though, also like the sheep-dog, they may enjoy doing it occasionally!

But you see none of us can live our lives just wandering around and getting into all kinds of dangers and difficulties. Our Lord sometimes has to save us in spite of ourselves. A human soul fallen into sin can only be saved through God's grace. To call Jesus our Lord recognises this fact. *He* owns us and cannot bear to lose us. How sad if we refuse his Help and disown our Lord. Better if we ask (in Patrick Appleford's words)—"Lord Jesus Christ, I would come to you, live my life for you, Son of God. All your commands I know are true, your many gifts will make me new, into my life your power breaks through, Living Lord."

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## FESTIVALS

### Lichfield Servers' Festival

Another well attended Servers' Festival was held in Lichfield Cathedral on Saturday, 12th September when the Cathedral was again full. Robed servers and clergy processed to their places for the Solemn Eucharist which was celebrated by the Bishop of Dudley, the Right Reverend Tony Dumper who was assisted by Guild chaplains Fr John Oakes of S Martin, Wolverhampton and Fr Michael Brain of S Edmund, Dudley. The sermon was preached by the Dean of Lichfield, the Very Reverend John Lang who also gave a Welcome. The Cathedral was again full in the afternoon for the Guild Office and Procession when the preacher was the Bishop of Dudley. The festival concluded with a procession which finished outside the Cathedral where the final Blessing was given.

The festival was first held in 1956 as a Lichfield Diocesan Servers' Festival combined with GSS Groups 17 and 23. It now attracts visitors from many dioceses stretching from Exeter to York.

*Lichfield Servers' Festival 1992*

Amongst the visitors were the Secretary-General Howard Gadd together with Councillors Cairns, Canterbury, Makepeace and Albrow. Next years festival will be held on Saturday, 11 September when the Bishop of Gloucester will preside. Further details from the Organiser—Cllr Roy Cresswell (Tel. 921 556 2257).

### *Autumn Festival Blackburn Cathedral, Saturday October 17th*

A bright frosty morning greeted Guild members and their friends from near and far, the newly restored exterior stonework glowing in the autumnal sunlight. The Solemn

Votire Mass of the Holy Spirit began promptly at noon with the Angelus being recited from the centre of the nave, followed by the dignified procession to the high altar. The Celebrant and Preacher was the Right Reverend Jack Nicholls, Bishop of Lancaster, assisted by Canon Kitchener of Blackburn Cathedral and Fr Morgan, chaplain to the S Barnabas chapter. In his address Bishop Jack reminded us that Catholic worship should be awe-inspiring and fun. We must enjoy the liturgy. The ceremonial was likened to the purfumed oil poured over the feet of Christ. Worship should be a "holy waste". There was a danger that it could become too formal, serious and reactionary. This brought about death and should be guarded against at all costs.

Teas and coffee were provided in the crypt for those who had brought their own lunch.

The nave of the Cathedral was almost filled to capacity for the Guild Office in the afternoon. As the warden was unable to be present the Officiant was Father Eric Ford, chaplain COF. At the end of the Office the customary huge procession of robed clergy and servers made their way round the Cathedral with the uplifting sound of so many voices ringing round the building. A station was made in the south transept in front of the Madonna, an enlarged replica of a fifteenth century pax which was hidden in a gravestone during the Reformation and rediscovered in 1820. After our short devotion to Our Lady the procession made its way back to the nave to receive a final blessing from Canon Kitchener.

Our thanks must go to the Cathedral authorities, Guild Officers and all those who travelled so far. Most areas of the country were represented. It was a great honour for the S Barnabas chapter to host this festival and to share, with so many, the worship in this beautiful Cathedral.

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**AUTUMN FESTIVAL SERMON**

**Jack, Bishop of Lancaster 17.10.92**

Sometimes, usually on a Thursday evening, someone popped their head round the sacristy door as I was getting vested for the evening celebration of the Eucharist and said, "the inspector's here". I knew exactly what was meant. A young man, a member of the Guild of Servants of the Sanctuary, was on his rounds and would be taking careful note all the way through the Eucharist to make sure that everything was done correctly. If I scratched my nose during the Eucharistic prayer some deep significance would be read into it as it would with any gesture I made during the whole of the celebration. I found that his visits inhibited the worship. The way things were done seemed to matter far more than what was being done. Now I know that there are no inspectors here today and I hope this sort of behaviour is a thing of the past but nonetheless I warn you against it. It is **not** good for the soul. Worship is the most important activity in which we participate and it should always be done with the greatest of care but at heart there is something somewhat ridiculous about our attempts to worship. They are a waste, a holy waste.

Let me read to you a poem by Sidney Carter:

No revolution will come in time
to alter this man's life
except the one surprise
of being loved.
He has no interest in Civil Rights
neo marxism
psychiatry
or any kind of sex.
He has only twelve more hours to live so never mind about
a cure for cancer, smoking, leprosy
or osteoarthritis.
Over this dead loss to society
you pour your precious ointment,
call the bluff
and laugh at the
fat and clock faced gravity
of our economy.
You wash the feet that
will not walk tomorrow.
Come levity of love,
Show him, show me
in this last step of time
Eternity, leaping and capering.

Sheila Cassidy in her book "Sharing the Darkness" puts this poem in the context of her story about a young man who is dying from cancer. He has only a very few hours to live. What a waste to spend energy and love and time on someone who is useless today and has no tomorrow. The scriptural parallel to this story is found in St. Luke's telling of the story of the woman from the streets, a common little piece by all accounts, who breaks into a respectable dinner party and begins to waste many pounds worth of precious ointment on the feet of Jesus and wipes them with her hair. That is a waste, a waste of what is precious on a poor itinerant preacher who is of little use to society and who shortly afterwards is going to die the death of a criminal. And yet she is praised by our Lord. Worship is holy waste. It is an attempt to do the impossible, to give due praise and glory to God whose almightiness in love is more than we can ever begin to understand. And yet we embark upon this ridiculous activity as the most important thing in the world. We can only do this with a sense of humour, that is a sense of proportion. Our smallness and God's greatness renders the solemn seriousness of the inspector completely out of place. We are created to enjoy God and we must enjoy worship. We must waste what is best with all our symbolism and ceremony, the swells, the bells and the high camp of Catholic worship. These are all right and proper and wonderful, our outrageous attempts at the impossible. They must come from an overflowing heart, a heart overflowing with awe and humour, the two prerequisities for good Catholic worship. So may I advise you to let your corsets out otherwise our worship may become dead and formal and that would never do.

## GUILD OF SERVANTS OF THE SANCTUARY
## CYCLE OF PRAYER 1993

For daily use with Guild Collect.
Pray for the increase of Servers and Serving

### JANUARY

1. The Circumcision. A very Blessed 1993
2. All Guild Members & Priest Associates
3. Christmass 2, Children, Parents & all who care
4. The Warden, Fr J David Moore
5. The Chaplain-General, Fr Albert F Treadwell
6. Epiphany, The Orthodox Churches & all adherents
7. Secretary-General, G Cllr Howard S Gadd
8. COF Chaplain, Fr Eric C Ford & Sec. G Cllr Stanley M Wilcox
9. Southwark Guild Festival & all who attend
10. Epiphany 1, Accept ourselves & our gifts
11. Treasurer-General, Bro Louis A lewis
12. The Server: Editor, Writers & Distributor
13. Grand, Honorary & Group Councillors
14. Diocese of London, Bp David Hope
15. London Group 1 (North), Cllr Terry Delaney
16. No. 23. The Blessed Sacrament, Enfield
17. Epiphany 2. For the week of prayer for unity
18. No. 83, S Hugh of Lincoln, Hackney
19. No. 142, Our Lady & S Pancreas, Camden
20. No. 147, Our Lady of Victory, Cricklewood
21. London Group 2 (West). Cllr John Cairns
22. No. 77. The Holy Rood, Southall
23. No. 112. Our Lady of Willesden & S Mellitus, NW6
24. Epiphany 3, Religious education & all learning
25. Conversion of S Paul, Convert us, shew us the way
26. No. 148, Our Lady of Walsingham & S Alban, Wembley
27. No. 173, S Stephen, Earls Court & district
28. London Group 3. HM Forces & lone members, Secretary-General
29. No. 221. SS Boniface & Willibrord, HM Forces'
30. Charles KM, LG4 (City & East), Cllr Howard Gadd
31. Epiphany 4, London Area & Asst Bishops

### FEBRUARY

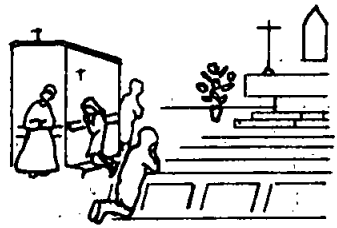
1. No. 56, S George the Martyr, Woodford, Epping
2. Candlemass. May we show your Light to all
3. No. 67, The Holy Fellowship, Ilford, Barking
4. No 92, S John of Jerusalem, Southwark
5. No. 98, King Charles the Martyr, Leyton, Walthamstow
6. HM the Queen & the Royal Family
7. Septuagesima, 9bE, Our Christian heritage
8. LG 5/6 (South & East), Cllr Maurice Dunman
9. No. 3, S Alban, South West London
10. No. 6, The Incarnate Word, East Surrey
11. No. 48. The Epiphany, Croydon

**February contd.**

12. No. 75. The Holy Redeemer, Eltham, Falconwood
13. Diocese of Southwark. Bp Robert Williamson
14. Sexagesima, 8bE, Diocesan & Deanery Synods
15. Provincial Group 1 (West Kent), Cllr Robert Primmer
16. No. 6, All Saints, Otford
17. No. 14, S Augustine of Canterbury, Sittingbourne
18. No. 39, S Cyprian, Rochester, Strood
19. No. 96, S Justus, Orpington
20. No. 105. S Martin of Tours, Maidstone
21. Quinquagesima, 7bE. Help our approach to Lent
22. Thinking Day, All youth organizations
23. No. 174, S Stephen, Tunbridge Wells
24. Ash Wednesday, Repentance for our sins & faults
25. No. 233, S Sexburga, Gillingham
26. Diocese of Rochester, Bp Michael Turnbull
27. Provincial Group 2 (East Kent), Cllr Frederick Palmer
28. Lent 1, May we have the right approach

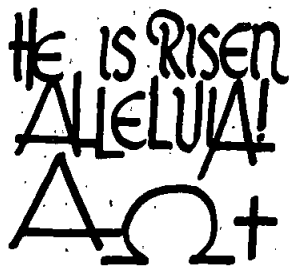
**MARCH**

1. S David, The Church in Wales
2. No. 7, All Souls, Canterbury
3. No. 116, S Michael the ARchangel, Ashford
4. No. 121, S Mildred in Thanet, Margate
5. Diocese of Canterbury, Abp George Carey
6. Provincial Group 3 (Sussex), Cllr Raymond Packham
7. Lent 2, Strengthen our prayer life
8. No. 76, The Holy Resurrection, Brighton
9. No. 163, S Philip & S Richard, Worthing
10. No. 183, S Wilfred, Eastbourne
11. Diocese of Chichester, Bp Eric Kemp
12. Provincial Group 4 (Hampshire/E Wilts/W Sussex), Cllr Clinton Albrow
13. No. 92, S Joseph of Arimathaea, Portsmouth area
14. Lent 3, For guidance in our spiritual life
15. No. 94, S Joseph foster-father, I.O.W.
16. No. 144, Our Lady & S Richard, Bognor area
17. No. 175, S Swithun, Winchester
18. No. 176, Sarum S Edmund, Salisbury
19. S Joseph, For our own fathers
20. Diocese of Portsmouth, Bp Timothy Bavin
21. Lent 4, Mothering Sunday, For our own mothers
22. Diocese of Winchester, Bp Colin James
23. Provincial Group 5 (Devonshire), Cllr Michael Bennett
24. No. 24, S Brannock, Barnstable, Ilfracombe
25. The Annuciation of the Lord, Pray for us O Holy Mother of God
26. No. 73, The Holy Nativity, Teignmouth, Noewton Abbot
27. No. 88, S John the Baptist, Dartmouth, Torbay
28. Lent 5, Passion Sunday, May we know the meaning
29. No. 136, Our Lady & S George, Plymouth
30. Diocese of Exeter, Bp Hewlett Thompson
31. Provincial Group 6 (Channel Islands), Cllr Albert Croucher



**APRIL**

1. No. 65, The Holy Apostles, Guernsey
2. Provincial Group 7 (Dorset, Somerset), Cllr Henry Frier
3. No. 7, Abbey, Shaftsbury
4. Palm Sunday, Hosanna in the Highest
5. Monday in Holy Week, May we be regular in worship
6. Tuesday in Holy Week, May we be regular in devotion
7. Wednesday in Holy Week, May we enjoy the benefits of confession
8. MAUNDY THURSDAY, The Most Holy Sacrament
9. GOOD FRIDAY, This most Holy day
10. HOLY SATURDAY, We await the Risen Christ
11. EASTER DAY, His most Glorious Resurrection
12. Easter Moday, The Blessings, Peace & Joy of Easter
13. Easter Tuesday, All Area, Suffragan & Asst Bishops
14. Easter Wednesday, All Archdeacons & Rural Deans
15. Easter Thursday, Our Parish Priests & Parishes
16. Easter Friday, All Asst Priests, Curates & Deacons
17. Easter Saturday, Guild Esater Festival & AGM, London
18. Low Sunday, May the blessings of Easter remain with us
19. No. 34, S Clement, Lymington & Lyndhurst
20. No. 77, BVM & S Aldhelm, Sherbourne
21. No. 78, The Holy Cross, Bridport, Chard, Crewhorn
22. No. 126, S Osmund & S Swithun, Bournemouth area
23. S George, Blessings on our country
24. No. 127, Our Lady & S Edward, Isle of Purbeck
25. Easter 2, For this decade of Evangelization
26. S Mark, For the Holy Gospels & their writers
27. No. 220, S Stephen Harding, Blandford
28. No. 232, S Aldhelm, Portland, Weymouth
29. S Catherine of Siena, All mystics
30. Diocese of Salisbury, Bp John Baker




**MAY**

1. SS Phillip & James, All Area Festivals
2. Easter 3, Give thanks for our life & health
3. New Zealand District Council
4. All officers & members in NZ
5. Provincial Group 8 (Surrey), Cllr Charles Dixon
6. No. 32, Christ the King, Redhill area
7. Diocese of Guildford, Bp Michael Adie
8. Provincial Group 9 (Berks, Bucks, Oxon), Cllr Leonard Canterbury
9. Easter 4, May we listen to & learn your Holy Word
10. No. 23, S Birinus, Oxford
11. No. 53, S Frideswide, Slough
12. No. 82, S Hugh & All Saints, West Wycombe
13. No. 99, S Laurence the Deacon, Reading
14. S Matthias, Fellowship with You
15. No. 129, S Osyth, Princes Risborough
16. Easter 5, Rogation, Blessings on all crops
17. Rogation, Harvest of the sea & seafarers

**May contd.**

18. Rogation, Industry, Commerce & Distributors
19. Rogation, Blessings on the work of our hands
20. ASCENSION, His Glorious Ascension
21. No. 145, Our Lady & S Swithun, Farnham
22. No. 165, S Richard, Alton
23. Sunday after Ascension, His Glorification
24. Diocese of Oxford, Bp Richard Harries
25. Provincial Group 10 (Beds/Herts), Cllr Trefor James
26. No. 68, The Holy Grail, Watford
27. No. 205, Our Lady & S Hugh, Dunstable, Luton
28. No. 211, S Alban & S Michael, Letchworth
29. No. 236, The Blessed Trinity, Ware
30. WHITSUNDAY/PENTECOST, Gift of the Holy Spirit
31. Visitation of BVM, Walsingham & all pilgrimages

**JUNE**

1. Diocese of S Albans, Bp John Taylor
2. Scottish Guild of Servers & the chapters
3. Scottish General Council & all officers
4. The Primus, Richard Holloway, Bishops & Clergy
5. Provincial Group 11 (Avon, Glos, N Soms, W Wilts), Cllr Raymund Waker
6. Trinity Sunday, Father, Son & Holy Spirit in unity
7. No. 27, S Brendan, Bristol
8. No. 69, The Holy & Indivisble Trinity, Gloucester Diocese
9. No. 95, S Julian, Frome, Midsomer Norton
10. CORPUS CHRISTI, The Blessed Sacrament
11. S Barnabas, Give us the gift of Grace
12. No. 224, S Peter & S Paul, Bath
13. T1, P2, For all the needy in the world
14. No. 239, S Aldhelm & S Lawrence, Bradford-on-Avon, Trowbridge
15. No. 243, The Resurrection, Weston-super-Mare
16. Diocese of Bath & Wells, Bp Jim Thompson
17. Diocese of Bristol, Bp Barry Rogerson
18. Diocese of Gloucester, Bp Peter Ball, CGA
19. Provincial Group 12 (Wales), Cllr Robert Bradley
20. T2, P3, For men's groups & societies
21. No. 19, S Barnabas, Cardiff
22. No. 123, S Mary, S Bridget & S Asaph, N Wales
23. No. 180, Our Lady & S Tydfil, Merthyr Tydfil
24. Birthday of S John Baptist, Thanks for our Baptism
25. No. 226, S Cenydd, Swansea City
26. The Sacred Heart of Jesus
27. T3, P4, For Ordination & Ordinands
28. No. 238, S David & S Gwnnlyw, Gwent, Monmouth
29. SS Peter & Paul, Pope John Paul II & RC Church
30. No. 242, S Mary of Margam, Port Talbot

**JULY**

1. No. 245, S Gwynno & S Tyfodwg, Rhondda Valley
2. Diocese of Bangor, Bp John Mears
3. S Thomas, May we never doubt
4. T4, P5, Sea Sunday, Seamen, Seafarers & their homes
5. Diocese of Llandaff, Bp Roy Davies
6. Diocese of Monmouth, Bp Royston Wright
7. Diocese of S Asaph, Abp Alwyn Jones
8. Diocese of S Davids, Bp John Rees
9. Diocese of Swansea & Brecon, Bp Dewi Bridges
10. Provincial Group 13 (Essex)
11. T5, P6, PCCs & all their members
12. No. 4, The Ascension, South Essex
13. No. 8, S Andrew, West Sussex
14. No. 28, S Cedd, East Essex
15. No. 36, Corpus Christi, SE Essex
16. No. 78, The Holy Sacrifice, North Essex
17. No. 92, Sacred Heart, Thaxted
18. T6; P7, For the Mothers Union
19. No. 154, S Peter the Apostle, Mid Essex
20. Diocese of Chelmsford, Bp John Waine
21. Provincial Group 14 (East Anglia), Cllr Geoff Scurrell
22. S Mary Magdalene, All penitents
23. No. 22, S Felix & S Fursey, Bury St Edmunds
24. No. 45, S Edmund KM, Ipswich
25. T7, P8, S James Ap. All patronal festivals
26. No. 49, S Etheldreda, Cambridge
27. No. 131, Our Lady & S Edmund KM, Downham Market
28. No. 158, S Peter & S Paul, Peterborough
29. No. 184, S William of Norwich, Norwich
30. No. 230, S Laurence, NW Norfolk
31. No. 234, All Saints, Great Yarmouth

**AUGUST**

1. T8, P9, For all the hungry & underprivileged
2. Diocese of Ely, Bp Stephen Sykes
3. Diocese of Norwich, Bp John Nott
4. Diocese of Peterbrough, Bp William Westwood
5. Diocese of S Edmundsbury & Ipswich, Bp John Dennis
6. TRANSFIGURATION, Transform us
7. Provincial Group 15 (Leics, Northants, Warks), Cllr Jim Harris
8. T9, P10, Homes for the care of children
9. No. 29, S Chad, Coventry
10. No. 43, S Dubritius, Leamington Spa
11. No. 91, S John the Divine, Leicester
12. No. 102, S Luke, Kettering, Wellingborough
13. No. 138, Our Lady & S Peter, Higham Ferrers
14. No. 146, Our Lady & S Thomas of Canterbury, Northampton

**August contd.**

15. Assumption of the BVM, Reverence to Mary
16. Diocese of Coventry, Bp Simon Barrington-Ward
17. Diocese of Leicester, Bp Tom Butler
18. Provincial Group 16 (Derby, Notts, Staffs), Cllr Roland Hudson
19. No. 58, The Good Shepherd, Derby
20. No. 70, Holy Faith, Matlock
21. No. 87, S Jerome, Mansfield
22. T11, P12, May we know the benefit of holidays
23. No. 118, S Michael & S Andrew, Staffs, SE Cheshire
24. S Bartholomew, The Church Union
25. No. 134, Our Lady & S Eadburgh, Southwell Diocese
26. No. 187, S Wystan, Burton on Trent
27. Diocese of Derby, Bp Peter Dawes
28. Diocese of Southwell, Bp Patrick Harris
29. T12, P13, The new school year, Prison Chaplains & Officers
30. Provincial Groups 17/23 (West Midlands), Cllr Roy Creswell
31. No. 109, S Mary Magdalene, Wednesbury

**SEPTEMBER**

1. No. 119, S Michael & All Angels, Stourbridge
2. No. 127, S Oswald, Shrewsbury
3. No. 140, S Christopher, Cannock
4. No. 159, S Peter ad Vincula, Wolverhampton
5. T13, P14, Ephatha, For the deaf & hard of hearing
6. No. 162, The Purification of the BVM, Telford
7. No. 84, The Holy Grail, Birmingham
8. Birthday of the BVM, May we have help in our devotions
9. No. 186, S Wulfstan, Redditch
10. Diocese of Birmingham, Bp Mark Santer
11. Diocese of Hereford, Bp John Oliver
12. T14, P15, For those helping & serving the needy
13. Diocese of Lichfield, Bp Keith Sutton
14. Holy Cross, The Symbol of our Faith
15. Diocese of Worcester, Bp Philip Goodrich
16. Provincial Group 18 (Lincs, Humberside), Cllr Fred Whelbourne
17. No. 54, Friends of S Francis, Rotherham
18. No. 139, Our Lady of Lincoln, Lincoln
19. T15, P16, For all harvest thanksgivings
20. No. 164, The Resurrection, Hull, N Humberside
21. S Matthew, The Coptic Churches
22. No. 216, S George, Boston
23. No. 225, S Hugh & B Edward King, S Humberside
24. Diocese of Lincoln, Bp Robert Hardy
25. Provincial Group 19 (W Yorkshire), Cllr J Theaker
26. T16, P17, For guidance in our hopes & inspirations
27. No. 123, S Ninian, Leeds, Bradford
28. No. 153, S Paulinus, Mirfield
29. S Michael & All Angels, Our guardian angels
30. S Jerome PrDr, Translators of the Bible

**OCTOBER**

1. No. ???, S Peter & S Wilfed, N Yorks
2. Diocese of Bradford, Bp David Smith
3. T17, P18, Anniversary of the Dedication of our church
4. Diocese of Ripon, Bp David Young
5. Diocese of Sheffield, Bp David Lunn
6. Diocese of Wakefield, Bp Nigel McCulloch
7. Provincial Group 20 (Northumberland, Durham, Cleveland), Cllr Brewis Wellock
8. No. 20, S Benet Biscop, Newcastle on Tyne
9. Autumn Festival
10. T18, P19, May er have a new life with Him
11. No. 57, S Godric of Finchale, Durham
12. No. 128, S Oswin, Northumberland
13. No. 228, S Francis of Assisi, N Cleveland
14. Diocese of Durham, Bp David Jenkins
15. Diocese of Newcastle, Bp Alec Graham
16. Diocese of York, Abp John Habgood
17. T19, P20, For the Northern Province
18. S Luke, Our own GP, all Doctors & Surgeons
19. *Provincial Group 21 (Ches, Cumbria, Lancs), Cllr Andrew Mays*
20. No. 18, S Barnabas, Lancs, Furness
21. No. 21, S Francis & S Chad, Mid & S Cheshire
22. No. 41, Our Lady & S Denys, Manchester & District
23. The General Council & its members
24. T20, 9bC, Missions to Seafarers & RNLI
25. No. 137, Our Lady & S John, The Wirral
26. No. 152, Our Lady & S Nicholas, Liverpool & District
27. No. 182, S Werburgh, Stockport & District
28. SS Simon & Jude, App, For help with our intercessions
29. Diocese of Blackburn, Bp Alan Chesters
30. Diocese of Carlisle, Bp Ian Harland
31. T21, 8bC, All the Saints & faithful departed

**NOVEMBER**

1. All Saints, May we follow their example
2. All Souls, Grant that they may know your Glory
3. Diocese of Chester, Bp Michael Baughen
4. Diocese of Liverpool, Bp David Shepherd
5. Diocese of Manchester, Bp Stanley Booth-Clibborn
6. Provincial Group 22 (Cornwall), Cllr Geoffrey Wippell
7. T22, 7bC, Remembrance of war victims
8. No. 114, S Michael, Mounts Bay, Penzance
9. No. 170, The Sacred Host, Falmouth, Penryn
10. *No. 240, S Mark, Camborne, Redruth*
11. Remember all in the armed forces
12. No. 247, S Uni, S IA & S Anta, St Ives
13. No. 248, S Michael & S Petroc, Newquay, N&E Cornwall
14. T23, 6bC, All prisoners, hostages & their families
15. No. 250, Holy Cross, Liskeard
16. No. , S Elvan, Mullion
17. Diocese of Truro, Bp Michael Ball
18. Provincial Group 25 (N Yorks, S Cleveland), Cllr David Lester

**November contd.**

19. No. , S Wilfrid, S Cleveland
20. No. 307, S Hilda of Whitby, Scarborough, Whitby
21. snbA, 5bC, Christ the King
22. No. G1, S Bernard of Clairvaux, Gibraltar
23. Diocese of Europe, Bp John Satterthwaite
24. That all chapters in abeyance may have new life
25. South African District Council
26. No. , S Francis of Assisi, Cape Town SA
27. No. 288, All Saints, Bloemfontein SA
28. Advent, The Church's New Year
29. All officers & members in South Africa
30. S Andrew Ap, All Missionaries & Missions

**DECEMBER**

1. Ghana District Council
2. No. 224, All Saints, Takoradi, Ghana
3. All Officers & members in Ghana
4. Diocese of Sodor & Man, Bp Noel Jones
5. Advent 2, All Christian work in Africa
6. Australian District Council
7. S Ambrose, May we benefit from his teachings
8. The Immaculate Conception of the BVM
9. No. 252, All Saints, Victoria, NSW
10. GSS Officers & members in Australia
11. The Anglican Church of Canada
12. Advent 3, Bible Sunday, The Holy Scriptures
13. S Lucy VMr, Remember all martyrs for the faith
14. S John of the Cross, For all Religious
15. ECUSA, Primate, Bps, Clergy & people
16. The American Guild of S Vincent
17. Church of Ireland & all its people
18. Its Primate Robert Eames, its Bps & Clergy
19. Advent 4, The coming Christ Child
20. Church papers & magazines
21. For all prisoners of conscience & all hostages
22. May we understand the Bible
23. We await Him, are we really ready?
24. CHRISTMASS Eve, This most Holy Night
25. CHRISTMASS, A Holy and Blessed Festival for all
26. CHRISTMASS 1, The Holy family, Blessing for friends & relations
27. S John, Ap Evang, For all the Evangelists
28. Holy Innocents, For all God's children
29. S Thomas of Canterbury, For Evangelists & the Church Army
30. For His Church throughout the world
31. Thanks for all the Blessings of 1993

P = Pentecost, T = Trinity, SbA = Sunday before Advent, bC = before Christmass, bE = before Easter

Corrections, omissions and suggestions to S Don Perry, Cllr PG13, Cleavelands Farm, 159 Rowhedge Road, Old Heath, COLCHESTER, Essex, CO2 8EJ. Tel: 0206 866612

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**GLASTONBURY PILGRIMAGE SERMON**

**Mervyn Alexander, Bishop of Clifton, 27.6.92**

Thank you for inviting me to share in this pilgrimage. In recent years, Christians have seen a special appropriateness in describing themselves as pilgrims. There is an echo of the Epistle to the Hebrews' reference to having no abiding city. We are conscious of life as a pilgrimage of faith and prayer. Faith and prayer remind us that life has an over-riding purpose and destination. We are bound for heaven, the fulness of life that crowns all our striving, that makes sense of all the questions that baffle us, that put right all injustice.

As pilgrims it is important to keep our minds on where we are going. I believe we should meditate on heaven more than we do. We can get into the way of thinking that it is not quite right to dwell upon the idea of heaven, as though it might seem somewhat mercenary. Yet Our Lord frequently puts the idea of heaven before us as our inspiration, just as he often mentions hell as a warning.

Scripture speaks of "seeing God as he really is", seeing God as he is in himself", and so we have the phrase: the beatific vision. The love of God overwhelms us and draws forth our love in return. It is love that creates the great desire to look upon the one we have loved.

I believe that one of the underlying attractions of a pilgrimage such as this is the opportunity to create a reminder of heaven. There is a joyful coming together of people of faith. We walk together in a spirit of hope and confidence. There is the loving amusement of doing together something that will seem to others slightly ridiculous. There is the companionship of friends who are also trying to seek first the Kingdom of Heaven. Then there is the beauty and the holiness of the shrine that we visit. In our minds the place of pilgrimage has some link with heaven. Also we leave behind our everyday concerns and anxieties. We are in a special way in the presence of the Lord.

It seems to me that one of the reasons why so many pilgrimages are connected with Our Lady is that she reminds us of the beauty and holiness of heaven. She is totally human yet chosen for the sublime vocation of Mother of the Lord. She is the highly favoured one. To her is referred the vision described in Chapter 12 of the Book of Revelation: "Now a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman adorned with the sun, standing on the moon, and with the twelve stars on her head for a crown." Incidentally, in tomorrow's pilgrimage the theme is "Our Lady of Europe" and the crown of twelve stars fits in rather well with the emblem of the European Community.

So we reflect on our pilgrimage to heaven, on our particular pilgrimage to a shrine as a meeting-place of heaven and earth. We think of Mary crowned in the glory of heaven. What about Our Lady of Glastonbury? Who knows what is fact and what is legend in the story of Glastonbury? It seems that from the Fifth Century there was a large Celtic monastery on this site. The monastery consisted of huts made of wattle. A larger chapel is said to have been dedicated to Our Lady and it was perhaps repaired by S Paulinus, a follower of S Augustine, in the Seventh Century. The wattle church was respected by the Saxons. S Dunstan, who made Glastonbury the

centre of a great monastic revival, built a new church. This church was demolished by a Norman Abbot but the wattle church of Our Lady was not affected. However, in 1184 the abbey buildings and the wattle church were burnt to the ground. About the same time the monks had trouble with the Bishop of Bath who for a time became the Bishop of Bath and Glastonbury, but this arrangement was not destined to last.

By 1186 a beautiful Romanesque Lady Chapel on the exact site of the wattle church was built and consecrated. So at Glastonbury there was the unusual situation of an Abbey dedicated to Our Lady but with the Abbey Church dedicated to SS Peter and Paul. It was not considered right to transfer the dedication of the ancient site. It is impressive that the Lady Chapel is the most complete part of the remaining ruins of the great Abbey!

The old wattle church had possessed an ancient statue of Our Lady and this survived the fire. Queen Philippa, wife of Edward III, gave a rosary of silver to decorate this statue. It is thought that the statue showed Our Lady seated and holding the child in her arms. The Fourteenth Century Abbey seal shows Our Lady standing, holding the child in one arm and a flowering bush in the other. This is now an appropriate reminder of the Glastonbury Thorn, although the flowering bush may not have had this significance originally. This latter representation from the Abbey Seal was used as the model for the new statue, blessed in 1955.

In medieval times the largest pilgrimage to Glastonbury took place on September 8th, the Feast of Our Lady's Birthday. In tradition various saints were linked with Glastonbury, including S Patrick , S Bridget and S David. The Abbey Church would certainly hold a great number of pilgrims as it does today. It is good to see the continuation of an ancient religious custom. In our own time people visit Glastonbury for a variety of reasons so it is good to maintain the Christian witness and the Christian prayer.

It is interesting to note how common it is to link Our Lady with a particular place, Walsingham, Lourdes, Monserrat, Guadaloupe. Often the statues and pictures take on the likeness of the features of the local people, so there are beautiful Chinese and African Madonnas.

Our Lady certainly did not isolate herself from what was going on around her. She noticed domestic difficulties, as well as being ready to go and see how her son was getting on with his preaching. But her great political pronouncement was the "Magnificat", which always has its place in Evensong and Vespers. It has often been described as a radical prophecy. There are so many versions of the words and the music. Sometimes we still use musical settings that would have been familiar to the monks of Glastonbury hundreds of years ago.

There is so much meaning in this wonderful canticle and whenever we join in the words we can feel very close to Mary, full of praise and gratitude to God, conscious of a great joy filling her whole being. That is how we also are to stand before the Lord. "All generations shall call me blessed"—that has proved to be true. Then the challenging words about scattering the proud, putting down the mighty, sending the rich away empty, whilst exalting the humble and filling the hungry with good things.

I came across an example of that in a recent account of a refugee camp in Ethiopia. A doctor found a young boy dying of hunger. The doctor gently carried the boy to

his tent and gave him a sweet. The boy smiled his thanks. He had been raised up and filled with good things. And he died with a smile on his lips. Through Christian Aid and CAFOD we can help to raise up the humble and fill the hungry with good things.

It is often said that Mary leads us to Jesus, and if we see her life as a pilgrimage, it leads us to the foot of the Cross, as described by John in today's Gospel Reading. What a martydom for a loving mother, to stand by as her son was so cruelly put to death. I believe that one of the early meanings of the word "agape" was the love that stands by. Mary is a great example of this, the love of parents and children, wives and husbands, sweethearts and friends when they feel powerless to help and can only stand by and pray. But that standing by and that prayer may be worth all the world.

"He said to his mother: Woman, behold your son. Then he said to the disciple: Behold your mother." The fathers of the Church saw the disciple John as representing the whole Church and receiving this gift of Mary as Mother. Hence the title of Mary, Mother of the Church. "The disciple took her to his own home." Perhaps this helps to explain the many places linked with Mary—every such group wanting to take her to its own home. Sometimes the Glastonbury title was rather long: "Our Lady, S Mary of Glastonbury."

The "Magnificat" says it all: "My soul doth magnify the Lord and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour. For he hath regarded the lowliness of his hand-maiden. For behold from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed."


## THE ANGLICAN SOCIETY

Founded 1924
Immediate Past Patron: The Bishop of Leicester
Traditionalist in doctrine and liturgy

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Activities include quarterly festivals (Holy Communion, lecture and evensong), 3-day residential conference, Bible study courses and retreat.

Subscription £5 p.a. (£3 for OAPs)
Secretary: Miss I. Reynolds, 338 Holly Lodge Mansions,
Oakeshott Avenue, Highgate, London N6 6EB.

## THOUGHTS AT THE EPIPHANY

O blessed Lady,
Most holy Mother of the incarnate God,
What were your thoughts when Wise Men came to call,
Sages paying homage to a simple Babe
Born in a cattle stall?

...

Did you then wonder
If the bright gift of gold might not foretell
Days in the future of comfort and ease
In a rich palace, or drowsing outside
In the shade of the trees:

...

Did the sweet incense
Mean that your Son would be hailed as a God?
Would the crowds gather in homage from far,
Asking the end of all sickness and need
And for freedom from war?

...

O blessed Lady,
What were your thoughts when you unwrapped the myrrh,
Bringing reminder of sorrow and death?
Did you then realise the fate of your Son,
With a catch in your breath?

...

Yet you still went on,
Knowing, as Simeon would later foretell,
Sorrow would strike like the point of a sword:
Faithful to him to the end of your days,
Serving the Lord.

Brian Jenkinson

---

## NEWS FROM THE CHAPTERS

### S Barnabas, Cardiff

August saw us at Lavernock overlooking the Bristol Channel and, of course, in full view of that outpost of S Mary the Docks, the island of Flatholm! Although somewhat off the beaten track a goodly number of the chapter was present and, with one or two holidaymakers, the church was full for the Office sung by candlelight, as there is no electricity. Refreshments afterwards were at Holy Nativity, Penarth.

September saw us at Roath, S Martin for a High Mass to celebrate Our Lady's Birthday. This proved to be a splendid venue in every way and its spacious quire and sanctuary were used to full effect. At this Mass we struck another first for the chapter when the responsorial psalm was sung by Christopher Adams (9), accompanied by his brother Steven on recorder. They also provided the music during the Communion.

We ventured into the valleys again in October to sing the Office at Caerfilli, S Martin, this time unaccompanied as our organist was not able to attend, a salutary experience!! This too proved to be a good venue with once more an excellent turn out.

The Office is sung once more in November, this time at the Cathedral Church in Llandaff and the year rounds off at Roath, S Anne with a Solemn Concelebrated Mass of S Ambrose to mark his feastday.

The committee has met twice this quarter discussing a variety of topics from the possible use of different music in the Office to the plans to try to form servers groups on a Deanery basis in the diocese as the areas covered by the chapters are geographically difficult to work. A group meeting of chairmen, secretaries and chaplains from across South Wales meets in October to arrange the South Wales Festival to be held in the Cathedral at Llandaff.

Also this month the Chapter has taken charge once again of its banner after major restoration of this fine piece of 1920's embroidery.

**S BIRINUS, Oxford**

On a lovely evening in July we went to the beautiful church of S Swithun, Compton Beauchamp, situated in the Vale of the White Horse, near Uffington. The Office was sung by our chaplain, Fr Denis Mason, followed by Benediction. We were welcomed by the vicar who gave the address. The service was well attended by servers and friends.

In September we made a return visit to Radley College chapel for the Office and Benediction.

Also we have to report the sudden death of Bro Ken Pinder who passed away whilst on holiday. During his lifetime he faithfully served the churches of S Philip & S James, S Barnabas and S Thomas, Oxford, as well as this chapter. May he rest in peace.

**S CHAD, Coventry**

The July Meeting was on the eve of the feast of S Mary Magdalene in All Saints church, Harbury, a substantial village in South Warwickshire. The vicar, Canon Anthony Rowe, a former lay member of the chapter, received us warmly and assisted at Mass for which the deputy chaplain Fr Wilf Poultney presided. Fr Tony preached on the important relevance of Mary Magdalene's example to servers. A procession concluded the service with the congregation also taking part, and we ended up in the adjoining hall for dismissal followed by refreshments. It was pleasing to note that ten Harbury servers were present, some forming the Sanctuary party.

In August we were at S John the Divine, Willenhall, for the Office at which the chaplain Fr Graeme Hands officiated. The vicar Fr Terry Collins preached.

Several members joined the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham led by the Suffragan Bishop of Warwick, The Rt Rev Clive Handford, in early September.

A few days later the Annual Supper was held in the Retreat House at Offchurch, near Leamington Spa, preceded by the Office sung in S Gregory's church with the chaplain officiating. After coffee we were entertained by Vice-Chairman Bro Syd Harris with a selection of 'Howlers', many Biblically based.

The chapter was represented at the Servers Festival in Lichfield Cathedral, again a most inspiring occasion and so good to meet old friends from near and wide.

**THE HOLY RESURRECTION, Brighton**

In 1987 Betty Bailey, a server at the church of the Good Shepherd, Portslade, was one of the first ladies to be admitted to the chapter of the Holy Resurrection, Brighton. Some time later she joined the Society of St Margaret at the Convent in East Grinstead as a novice. On the feast of Corpus Christi this year she made her profession of faith and took her life-long vows as Sister Elizabeth. The traditional ceremonies of vesting a nun were administered during the mass which was celebrated by the Warden of the Society. As well as her fellow sisters and novices, Sister Elizabeth was supported by the presence and prayers of relations and friends, both clerical and lay, and members of the Guild, including Fr Peter Vincent, chaplain of the chapter of Christ the King, and PG3 Councillor Raymond Packham. Mass was followed by a reception which included the cutting of the cake by Sister Elizabeth. The Society of St Margaret are most supportive of the GSS and encourage Sister Elizabeth to attend meetings of the Redhill and Brighton chapters and Guild Festivals.

**S HUGH & BLESSED EDWARD KING, Great Grimsby**

Our June meeting saw us once again at S Mary, Barton on Humber together with members from the chapter of the Resurrection from Hull. Our chaplain, Fr Malcolm King OGS, officiated for the Guild Office and the vicar of Barton Fr Ernest Hepworth led the intercessions. In July we visited S Peter and S Paul, Caistor. The officiant was Fr Ian Walker, a priest associate, vicar of Kirton Lindsey and the address was given by Fr David Davis, vicar of Caistor, who spoke strongly about the ordination of women issue. We were joined at this meeting by members of the Lincoln chapter and our group councillor Fred Whelbourne.

In August we visited a new venue, S Mary and S Peter, Waddingham, for Guild Office. In September we visited All Saints, Waltham, Fr King officiated for the Guild Office and Fr Ernest Brown gave the address. Fifteen of our members plus wives made the journey to the Lichfield Servers Festival. We have also attended a joint meeting with the Lincoln chapter at Kirton Lindsey. A number of our members including our chaplain attended the Festival of Faith at Wembley.

**THE INCARNATE WORD, East Surrey**

The chapter has met regularly once a month for either Guild Office and Benediction, or Mass and our yearly Lent observance of Stations of the Cross.

For our May meeting we went to the village of Whitely for Guild Office and Benediction and our thanks go to Fr Hawkins the priest in charge who presided and preached on S Anslem.

We went to S John's church, Walton on Thames, in June for Mass at which the parish priest Canon Sedgely presided and preached.

We visited All Saints, Hampton, in a very wet July meeting for Guild Office at which Christopher Davies our chaplain presided and the parish priest Fr David Vanstone preached on S Margaret—a little known Saint.

We were joined by the chapter of S Swithun for our August meeting at S Peter's church, West Molesey,— a very well attended meeting and the small church was full for the service of Guild Office and Benediction at which the vicar Fr Yeend gave an excellent sermon and presided at Benediction. It was the first chapter meeting at S Peter's for over thirty years.

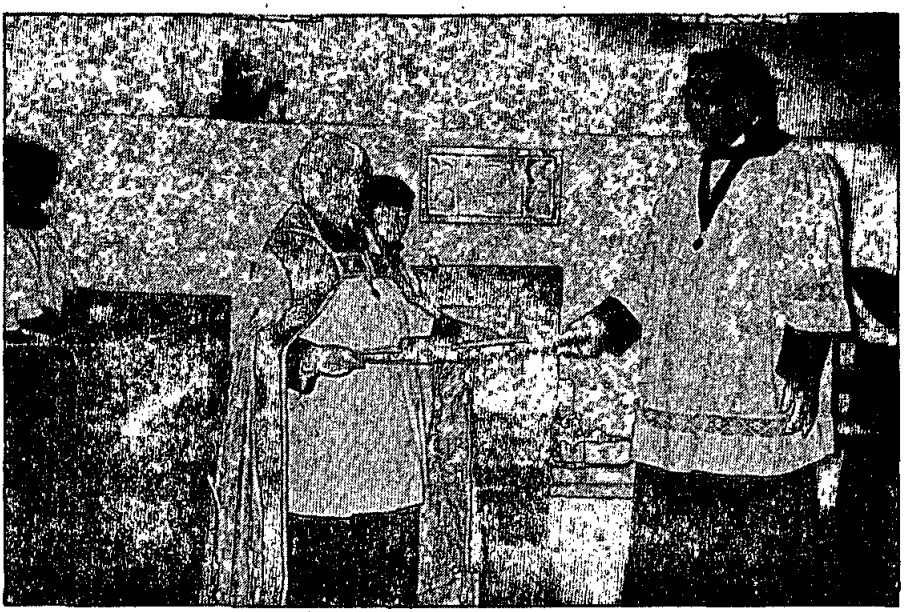
Our September meeting was held at All Saints, Weston Green for Guild Office at which the parish priest, Fr Adrian Botright, presided and preached.

**S JOHN BAPTIST, Torbay**

Our September meeting was at S Matthew, Chelston, Torquay, where our chaplain, Fr Roger McDowall officiated at the Guild Office and the address was given by the assistant curate, Fr Peter Norman.

**S JOSEPH OF ARIMATHEA, Portsmouth**

In July we sang the Guild Office, with our friends from the chapter of Our Lady & S Richard, Bognor Regis, in Holy Trinity church, Bosham. Our chaplain, Fr Kevin Bidgood officiated and the address was given by Fr John Humphries.



*The presentation to Bro M Perkins by Cllr Lew Canterbury, 15.8.92.*

Our summer outing and August meeting was at our chaplain's church of S Andrew, Hamble. Fr Kevin celebrated Mass at noon, which was attended by 55 servers and friends. After a beautiful afternoon in Hamble we returned to the church where the singing of the Guild Office was led by Bros M Perkins and C Albrow as cantors. At the conclusion of the Office, Cllr Len Canterbury, on behalf of the chapter and of PG4, presented to Bro Malcolm Perkins an inscribed watch and a picture in appreciation of his 40 years service and dedication as Chapter Secretary, for the last 25 years of which he had also served as Group Councillor. For both of these services we were pleased to welcome councillors, servers and friends from Bognor Regis, Brighton, Reading and Winchester.

**S MARK, West Cornwall**

In August, many members made the annual pilgrimage to St Hilary for the Festival Mass celebrated by the vicar, Fr Desmond Curson. The preacher was the Rt Revd Graham Leonard, former Bishop of London.

Also in August the chapter visited Holy Trinity, Penponds to sing the Guild Office. In September the chapter assisted at the Cornish Walsingham Shrine Mass, Sprinkling and Benediction. Preb James Vincent of Chasewater was the preacher.

A chapter Mass was celebrated in S Agnes parish church by the vicar, Fr M Adams. In October we sang the Guild Office in S Euny, Redruth.

**SS OSMUND & SWITHUN, Bournemouth**

Two servers from this chapter have, in the last few years, been ordained priest. One of them, Stephen Holmes, served his title at Tewkesbury Abbey and is now priest-in-charge of S Luke, Winton. He preached, at our autumn festival, on the great saints—Gregory, Osmund and Swithun—and their influences upon our worship today. In spite of poor support the offertory for Helen House amounted to £40.

**OUR LADY & S GEORGE, Plymouth**

On 29th January 1918, a group of servers met at the church of Our Lady and S Mary Magdalene, Cattedown, Plymouth for what we believe was to be the first chapter meeting of the Guild in the area. Our chapter wishes to celebrate its seventy-fifth anniversary with a number of events. Although the church in Cattedown has been declared redundant, the building still exists and is currently being converted into a Community Centre for what is one of Plymouth's inner city areas. This conversion has been spread over several years, during which time it has been frustrated by being turned down for several previously promised grants, the last one being the City Challenge. On 29th January 1993, the present chapter members will meet at the former SS Marys' church for a thanksgiving in the form of an Agape. We intend to invite as many former members of the chapter as possible who we hope will rejoin us and continue with us for the remaining events we have planned in the year.

**SS PETER & PAUL, Bath**

One of our members, Bro Ormond Clarke, has been appointed to represent the Diocese of Bath & Wells on the Committee for Black Anglican Concerns.

Ormond and his wife, Avis, have lived in Bath since coming to England from Barbados in 1955. He is a server at Holy Trinity, Bath, a maintenance supervisor at Bath University and has just completed a course at Simon of Cyrene Theological Institute, Wandsworth.

He is determined to woo the Diocese's black people back into the Church. He will also confront the elements of intentional and unintentional racism which he fears exists in some congregations nationwide. He hopes to discover why so many black people are leaving the Church and so few coming forward for ordination or other Church duties. (with acknowledgements to *The Grapevine*.)

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

3 Moody Road
Headington
Oxford OX3 0DH

8 July 1992

Dear Editor

The latest annual accounts of the Guild show a substantial surplus, as have those of previous years. Some questions occur to me.

First, why are the COF Chaplain and Secretary making a 'constant appeal' for increased giving when the COF expenditure is consistently less than its income? Or to put it another way, when the income in 1991 was as large as £15,300, why was only £11,500 given to the ordinands?

Second, the Guild is becoming wealthy: the General Fund at the end of 1991 stood at £107,000. Interest alone, currently £11,000 a year, is far in excess of annual expenditure (£4500 in 1991). As long as the present pattern of expenditure continues, the Guild's wealth will increase indefinitely.

Has any thought been given to the most appropriate way of using this wealth? For example, a large sum could be transferred from the General Fund to the COF; the COF would then get increased investment income which could be used to support more ordinands more generously.

Finally, what does the constitution of the Guild have to say about disposal of assets in the event of its being wound up?

(Incidentally, it is usual for auditor's reports to show a date and an address.)

Yours sincerely

A M Hughes

184 Tottenham Lane
London N8 8SG

20 July 1992

Dear Editor

In response to Mr Hughes' letter regarding the question of the Guild's current assets, I can only reiterate what I have said at each of the annual meetings since I have been Treasurer-General. It is always difficult to come by a capital sum, but if you are fortunate in being able to achieve this, then you should make it work for you and this is what we have been doing over the years.

To deal with the main points of his letter, firstly the question of the "COF Chaplain and Secretary making constant appeals for increased giving when COF expenditure is frequently less than income", surely it is prudent to make provisions for a rainy day. At the moment, I understand there is a shortage of candidates whom the Guild wish to support, but the day may come when there could be an increased number and we may have to spread our funds thinly.

Surely it is unwise to fix a high grant for the first year and because of the reduction in income, having to reduce the grants in the second and third years. This would open the Guild to criticism.

Dealing with the second point in Mr Hughes' letter regarding the General Fund, what has to be borne in mind is that, in the past, the Secretary-General has received a small salary and I believe, in some cases, had to rent an office. We are extremely fortunate at present in having a Secretary-General who is prepared to provide us with free office accommodation except for a small contribution towards heating and lighting and virtually makes no charges for expenses and travel, and, indeed, receives no salary. I suspect that his successors may not be in a financial position to be so generous. Also, some of the officers of the Guild make no charge whatsoever, while others keep their expenses to a bare minimum. Again, this may not necessarily continue.

While our income appears to be in excess of our expenditure at present, again it must be borne in mind that we have been through a period of very high interest rates and, fortunately, we have had the advantage of these.

Finally, to deal with the question of disposal of assets, in the event of the Guild being wound up, as we are a registered charity, these would be at the discretion of the Charity Commissioners, bearing in mind that laid down in our Constitution.

Yours sincerely

Treasurer-General

P.S. To deal with the final point of Mr Hughes' letter regarding the auditor's report, the signed copies of the accounts were laid on the table at the AGM and the Warden announced this, as I did.

13 Kenilworth Court
Coventry
Warwickshire CV3 6HZ
(0203) 502762

19th October 1992

Dear Brother Waker,

**Autumn Festival at Blackburn**

What a wonderful day it was and congratulations to all concerned. The Bishop of Lancaster in his sermon told us to "enjoy" our worship and it is in this connection that I am writing to you.

According to the order of service we were given the Mass should have been sung to Merbecke. Why then did we have 'Missa Angelis' for the bulk of the service. It was obvious from the singing that nobody knew it. The alternative tune to the gradual hymn would have been better known than the one used and the first communion hymn was a bit wavery. I would also ask if the plainsong propers really have a place nowadays. It does help if the music is well known and this was obvious from the singing at the Guild Office when all the hymns were well-known and therefore well sung.

A final word to those brothers who are used to Rite A if the service used is Rite B then the correct response is "and with thy spirit". It was very disconcerting to hear "and also with you". When in Rome?

Yours fraternally

E G Howells

**Peter's Keys Vestments**

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Northants
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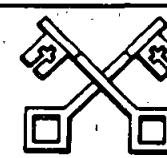

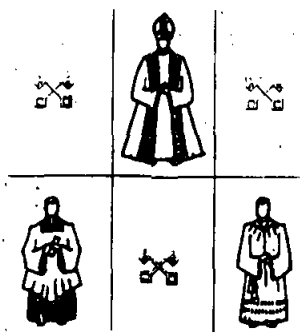

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