



# The Server

The Quarterly Magazine of the  
Guild of Servants of the Sanctuary



Volume 18 Number 2  
SUMMER 1998

# GUILD OF THE SERVANTS OF THE SANCTUARY

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

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## 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

## THE QUARTERLY MAGAZINE OF THE GUILD OF SERVANTS OF THE SANCTUARY

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## EDITORIAL

### ONE MAN'S VIEW

"There's a green-eyed yellow idol to the North of Kathmandu..." or something like that is how it goes. I guess we've all heard it. It could well be true! We have just recently spent an exciting two weeks in Nepal (courtesy of SAGA) and saw a very different civilisation.

The countryside is very beautiful and has amazing extremes from the jungle and fertile plains, through the terraced hillside strips to the overwhelming mass of Annapurna and the Himalayas. As a contrast to the countryside, Kathmandu is teeming with people, with buildings in various states of repair and disrepair, with a number of open spaces but the overall impression is of traffic, traffic, traffic, polluting, polluting, polluting. Many people wear smog masks, even the police on traffic duty. The people are most welcoming and friendly but many of them are very poor and their housing conditions very varied. Even in the major cities like Kathmandu very few of the houses have mains water, some people even are still using the water supplies, in public washing areas, set up in the 14th century. Most of the villages we saw seemed to have a series of standpipes alongside the road, set back somewhat from the traffic, where people washed themselves, their children, babies, clothes and pots and pans. We have a lot to be thankful for!

We may think our towns and cities have too many churches but they are as nothing compared with places like Durbar (palace) square Kathmandu - which contains the ancient palace of the Malla kings as well as 80 odd temples, largely of elaborately carved wood, dedicated to various gods and goddesses. It seems odd to a monotheist but if your religion has many gods then you, clearly, need many different temples in which to worship.

The roads vary from first class tarmac to dirt tracks and the coaches available seemed to vary in proportion - the worse the road the worse the springing of the coach. Travelling along one day we saw a group of 50 odd vultures feeding on a dead calf, some appeared to be so bloated that they were unable to fly, and, much to our amazement when we passed the next day, we saw that they had not even stripped the first side down to the rib cage.

We spent the best part of three days in the Royal Chitwan National Park, at Chitwan Jungle Lodge, no electricity only hurricane lamps but flush toilets and solar heated hot water for showers. Whilst there we went on safari on elephants and saw sloth bear, rhino, wild boar, peacock, tree creepers, bee eaters and numerous other birds. We did not see, but there are also in the park, crocodile, tiger and various snakes, including python. The park is protected by the military Park Service and, as a result, our transport from the park to the airport - a grass strip - was by that standy the Bedford three-tonner. It was hot, the sides were up, the road out of the park was dirt track and rough, we were driving slowly and it was Holi - a Festival of Colour when all Nepalese wear their oldest clothes because the children and young people shower and spray



*Raymund JM Waker*

each other and anybody else with coloured water. Our truck was an open invitation to the few children who lived along the track and might not have another opportunity! Some people, unfortunately, suffered quite badly and some of their clothes were ruined - so beware of Holi! Perhaps the highlight of our stay was the overnight trek up Shivapuri (3,000+m). It was very cold on top - when it rained in Kathmandu we had snow. There were seven of us and 14 sherpas and porters to look after us. We all set off at the same time but when we got halfway up they were already halfway through cooking lunch, including chips. After lunch we set off again, they tidied up, overtook us and when we reached the campsite, the kitchen tent was up and the evening meal was cooking, the dining tent was rapidly set up because it started to drizzle and then snow, then the rest of the camp was set up. We had a four course meal, including roast potatoes and rum to stave off the cold! We were woken at 6 o'clock to see the sunrise over the Annapurna range, provided with hot water for washing and shaving and then breakfast of a wide choice of cereals and masses of toast and more than a dozen hard-boiled eggs. What we did not use was given to the hermit who lived in the woods. The journey down the other side of the mountain was, inevitably, more difficult than going up. We had to stop periodically to let the porters past. They were still clearing up the camp when we started down. One of our party's legs gave out and she had to ride down on the shoulders of two sherpas, who took turns. Halfway down we discovered that they had prepared lunch for us once again. What an adventure!

Another interesting experience was a day's meditation course at a Buddhist monastery. It happened also to be a festival day of some sort, though I did hear someone say 'It usually is!' The consequence was that all day, some of the monks were in the temple chanting and banging their drums and gongs and blowing their trumpets - disturbing for concentration. It was unusual to be invited to walk in and around the temple to see it whilst all this worship was going on, this is not the sort of thing we encourage in our churches! At the side we noticed a table piled high with offerings of food from the worshippers - apples and bananas and oranges etc - for the monks. We gathered that during the worship it was acceptable for the monks to break off for a snack - we also saw that periodically they had cups of tea in front of them. All very necessary if your service lasts all day. The Buddhists, whether Nepalese or Tibetan, appear to be very happy to let you visit their temples, but only Hindus may enter Hindu temples.

There are several Tibetan Refugee Camps in Nepal in which the refugees continue to live, largely as they used to in Tibet, and maintain their own crafts and traditions and try to support themselves. English seems to be the second language of Nepal and the Government is trying hard to extend education to the remoter parts of the country, with only limited success. We were taken to visit a project, organised by the Professional Women's Association, to equip educated girls for jobs as Hotel Receptionists, Computer Operators etc. We heard one political comment: Before we had 'Democracy' we had one ruler (the King) now we have 156 (or whatever the size of Parliament is)! If this issue is late it will be my fault, I spent a fortnight in Sicily from April 13th when I should have been putting this together.

Raymund JM WAKER

## FROM THE SECRETARY GENERAL

### THE GUILD OFFICE

Chapters are reminded that their programme for the year should include the singing of the Guild Office on at least four occasions.

\*\*\*\*\*

### CENTENARY

Pens, Bookmarks, Key fobs, Coasters and Carstickers have been ordered to mark the Centenary. Chapter secretaries have been issued with Order forms and members are requested to place their orders with them. This will greatly assist the work-load of the Distributor of "The Server" magazine (Nigel Makepeace) who has very kindly agreed to be responsible for all sales. It is hoped that all members will support this effort.

\*\*\*\*\*

### ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION

All members, both lay and clergy, are reminded that Annual Subscriptions are due on 1st January every year.

Your kind co-operation and observance of this rule will greatly aid chapter officers and lead to a more economic administration of the Guild.

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### NATIONAL FESTIVALS

Chapters are requested NOT to arrange Meetings or Festivals on the same dates as National Festivals.

\*\*\*\*\*

### CHANTRY BOOK

#### JULY

Leslie Fletcher

#### DECEMBER

Derek Coombs  
Francis RD Paveley  
Harry L Speed  
George A Spence  
George Whittaker

#### 1997

R Marie:



#### JANUARY

Arthur Keyworth  
William Rate

#### FEBRUARY

Patrick G Anderson  
Geoffrey Price  
Derrick Watkins  
Jack RW Parsons

#### ?

Gordon Bourne  
George Clay  
Courtney Donnell  
Dudley SJ Ford  
AL Rowley  
Vivian C Ryder, priest

#### MARCH

Lesley Heald

## **R.I.P.**

### **Derek Coombs**

It is with regret that the chapter of S Julian announces the death of Derek, aged 66. Derek had been chairman of the chapter for 12 years and a server for over 50 years when he died, suddenly, on 12 December. He worshipped at S Thomas church in Wells. We all have very fond memories of Derek and he is greatly missed by everyone in the chapter.

### **Lesley Heald**

Lesley died on 6th March after a long battle against cancer. Her funeral service was held on Monday 16th March, conducted by Canon Dick Lewis and attended by members of the Guild, in her parish church of Christchurch, Watford, followed by interment next to her parents at Cricklade.

Lesley was one of the first women to join the Guild (59372) in PG 10 and a loyal supporter of the chapter of the Holy Grail. She also served on the Deanery Synod and as Church Pledge secretary, Church Councillor and was a staunch member of the Guide movement. She was an eminent scientist with an international reputation for research and teaching. She was just finishing a book on bees when she was called to higher service.

The hymns and readings were Lesley's choice and reflected her love of life, friendship and nature. We thank God for Lesley; for all that she brought to the lives of so many people; for her tireless enthusiasm and for her ceaseless questioning. We express our condolences to her husband Leslie.

### **Arthur Keyworth**

Arthur died on 2nd January 1998, on the 1st he wrote renewing his subscription and including a donation for COF. He had been in poor health but, in spite of it, had recently celebrated 60 years as a licensed Reader. He joined the Guild in December 1938 and was admitted to membership on 7th December 1939. Over the years he held many offices in the local chapter of Our Lady and S Hugh of Lincoln. We extend our sympathy to his wife and family, knowing that he continues to serve Our Lord.

### **Richard William John (Jack) Parsons**

The funeral took place at S Andrew, Redruth, followed by cremation at Penmount, of Jack Parsons of Redruth who died at Trefula Nursing Home, aged 82, on February 3rd. The service, preceded by a Requiem Mass, was conducted by the Revd Roger Bush.

The eulogy was given by Fr Russell who, years ago, was a young curate at S Andrew who became a personal friend. Jack was born in Redruth, one of five children of the late Mr & Mrs Parsons, who owned a jeweller's shop in the town. He spent most of his working life with Cornish Fish Fertilisers at Penzance, becoming works manager before his retirement.

He married Betty, who predeceased him, and they had three children, Andrew, Sally (deceased) and Tessa. During the second world war he served with the Royal Tank Regiment. For a number of years he was involved with Redruth Scout movement and, for many years, he was responsible for winding and adjusting Redruth Town Clock. He was a great churchman, dedicating years of service as Churchwarden, leading server, member of the PCC and Deanery Synod for S Andrew. He was also a founder member of S Mark chapter.

### **Derrick Watkins**

Derrick Watkins was admitted to the Guild, into the chapter of S Gwynno & S Tyfodwg, in July 1993 and has been a faithful member ever since. He served at S George, Cwmparc in the Rhondda Fawr valley. Bro Derrick was an inspiration and example to many a server in his parish. He was taken ill and died as he was preparing to serve a midweek Mass. He will be sadly missed by his friends in the chapter.

May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

## GENERAL COUNCIL MARCH 21st 1998

I am indebted to the Secretary-General for a report of this meeting since, owing to a major electrical breakdown on the railway between Reading and London, I only reached the meeting in time for the lunch-break - however I managed to get a refund!

Walsingham Cope: the latest information is that it is still being made.

The revised Form 'C' - collection of Annual Subs - is working well.

"The Server" Magazine: Councillor Makepeace said he was very concerned that so many members did not take the magazine and urged Councillors, on their visits to chapters, to urge members to subscribe otherwise they missed all the Guild news.

Several Councillors complained that long sermons were of no interest and that more short articles were required. The Secretary-General replied that the answer was in their own hands - supply the Editor with suitable articles. (Editor's comment: If the Guild considers it is profitable to invite sermons from special preachers then I consider it is profitable for all members of the Guild to have the opportunity to benefit from reading them.)

It was agreed to re-elect en bloc all the present Guild Officers for confirmation at the AGM and to renew the existing Appointments.

### THE WARDEN'S ADDRESS

I don't plan to speak for long, not least because we have heard an inspiring sermon from Bishop Edwin this morning and 'his little finger is thicker than my thigh'. I regard it a privilege to be Warden of the Guild in this Centenary Year. I am much looking forward to the rest of the year - the Festivals in Exeter and Wakefield Cathedrals, and others to which I have been invited.



Fr Moore, Warden

1898 - Victoria on the throne of this Realm, the Boer War in progress. It was on December 3rd of that year that a number of priests and laymen attended an inaugural meeting in Church House, Westminster. At that meeting Father Denny, vicar of S Peter, Vauxhall, was elected Warden and Father Deedes, vicar of S John the Divine, Kennington, the first Chaplain-General. From this small but vital meeting our Guild has grown. The Council was formed, the Guild Office compiled (the music being prepared by Father Freere, CR, later Bishop of Truro).

The First and Second World Wars happened and affected the whole life and social structure of the nation. Society changed and has continued to do so, and never more so than in the past two decades. We have gone in the time of our Guild from ink pens to computers and E Mail and Web Sites. But our Guild has survived these changes and



has spread far and wide in these islands and overseas. Lack of time prevents me from saying more about the past, much as I would like to do so. Perhaps I can leave that to the compilers of our Centenary Year Book.

I have no doubt that many owe a debt to the Guild for their deeper understanding of the mystery of the Godhead, of the Church and of the Sacraments. I do for one. Attending chapter meetings as a visitor, as it were, and then joining the Guild, opened for me vistas in regard to Catholic Worship and Practice and Discipline. For this I shall always be thankful.

Looking back is important, for such an exercise reminds us of our debt to the past and we are thereby reminded of the influence upon us of those now in Eternity. But such an exercise must be creative. It must strengthen our resolve to go on. When I was a schoolboy we used to sing at Founders' Day Service in the Cathedral (always on a Sunday afternoon in September) a hymn, the first line of which is 'Great Lord of wisdom, life and light'. Some lines have stuck in my mind down the years 'We kneel where our forefathers knelt, They trod these courts before us; Unseen, though near, our hearts have felt, Their blessings wafted o'er us'. I hope I am not too romantic when I quote those lines.

Our Church, our society need the wonders and mysteries of the Catholic Faith. I shudder when I hear some of the rubbish that comes across to us from (dare I say it?) some bishops, clergy and lay people which passes for the Catholic Faith. The Church has lost much ground in the past 25 years and no amount of trying to bring into the life of the Church business and commercial techniques will convert men and women to the Faith. We have to teach and we have to be seen to be practising the Catholic Faith.

My prayer, my hope is that we members of the Guild and those who are connected with it in some way will do precisely that - teach and practise. It may not be a glamorous way, a way that hits the headlines but I do believe it is the way Our Holy Redeemer calls us.

I end with some words of Mother Mary Clare, who was of the Community of the Sisters of the Love of God:-

We must try to understand  
the meaning of the age  
in which we are called  
to bear witness.

We must accept the fact that  
this is an age in which the  
cloth is being unwoven.

It is therefore no good trying  
to patch. We must, rather,  
set up the loom on which  
coming generations may  
weave new cloth according  
to the pattern God provides.

## DIRECTORY

CHAPTER	SECRETARY	CHAPTER	SECRETARY
S Cyprian PG1/39	E Mantle (Mrs)	S Michael PG22/114	Dennis Bowler
Rochester Chatham	1 Fiveash Road	Mounts Bay	8 Church Street
Strood Gravesend	NORTHFLEET	Penzance	NEWLYN
	Kent DA11 0RE		Penzance TR18
S Osyth PG9/129	Terence L Rhodes	S Oswald PG17/127	Colin E Wright
Princes Risborough	15 Fairwater Drive	Shrewsbury	6 St Anne's Rd
	WOODLEY		Collegefields
	Reading RG5 3JQ		SHREWSBURY
	(change of address)		SY3 6AU
Our Lady & S Pancras In Abeyance	The Resurrection	Michael Overend	
LG1/142	PG18/164	88 Golf Links Rd	
Camden Holborn Islington	Hull	HULL	
Hampstead Marylebone	N Humberside	E Yorks HU6 8RB	
S Wystan PG16/187	Peter Booth		
Burton-on-Trent	6 Neville Close		
	ROLLESTON on DOVE		
	BURTON-on-TRENT		
	DE13 9EE		





**GUILD OF SERVANTS OF THE SANTUARY  
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT  
Year ended 31st December 1997**

Louis Lewis	1997		1996	
	General	COF	General	COF
<b>INCOME</b>				
Legacy	-	511	-	-
Donations and gifts	433	5,415	864	8,430
Subscriptions	3,664	-	3,932	-
Investment income	9,811	5,806	9,317	5,034
Sales of: The Server	4,325	-	5,175	-
Medals and manuals	369	-	246	-
Publications	12	-	6	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	£18,614	£11,732	£19,540	£13,464
<b>EXPENDITURE (page 2)</b>				
Grants	250	4,000	860	7,000
Support costs	7,007	135	8,221	153
Administration	4,765	758	4,068	636
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	£12,022	£4,893	£13,149	£7,789
	=====	=====	=====	=====
<b>NET INCOME FOR THE YEAR</b>	6,592	6,839	6,391	5,675
<b>GAINS AND LOSSES ON INVESTMENTS</b>				
Loss on redemption in year	(37)	-	-	-
Increase/(Decrease) in market value	1,619	920	(729)	(372)
	-----	-----	-----	-----
<b>NET SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR</b>	8,174	7,759	5,662	5,303
Balance at 1 January 1997	148,734	83,579	143,072	78,276
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Balance at 31 December 1997	£156,908	£91,338	£148,734	£83,579
	=====	=====	=====	=====

**GUILD OF SERVANTS OF THE SANTUARY  
EXPENDITURE**

	1997		1996	
	General	COF	General	COF
<b>GRANTS</b>				
Donations -general	-	-	110	-
Gifts to Ordinands	-	4,000	-	7,000
Original Integrity Fund	-	-	500	-
Presentation - Mrs Wilcox	-	-	250	-
Reverend D Moore	250	-	-	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	£250	£4,000	£860	£7,000
	=====	=====	=====	=====
		£4,250		£7,860
		=====		=====
<b>SUPPORT COSTS</b>				
Travel expenses	1,291	-	1,442	-
Expenses of meeting	216	-	208	-
Festival expenses	919	-	464	-
Medals & Badges	81	-	309	-
Warden's expenses	134	-	229	-
Choir expenses	75	-	-	-
The Server - expenditure	4,291	-	4,916	-
Ties - cost of sales	-	135	-	153
Banner repairs	-	-	653	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	£7,007	£135	£8,221	£153
	=====	=====	=====	=====
<b>Total</b>		£7,142		£8,374
		=====		=====
<b>ADMINISTRATION</b>				
Council of Catholic Societies	60	-	-	-
Light and Heat	300	-	300	-
Printing & Stationery	615	-	283	-
Postage and Telephone	396	40	425	40
Insurance	776	-	765	-
Sundries	93	-	56	-
Bank charges	30	33	29	9
Depreciation	1,024	-	1,035	-
Audit and accountancy	1,371	685	1,175	587
Donation	25	-	-	-
Data protection	75	-	-	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	£4,765	£758	£4,068	£636
	=====	=====	=====	=====
<b>Total</b>		£5,523		£4,704
		=====		=====

# CANDIDATES FOR ORDINATION FUND

## Annual Report for year 1997

I am now into my second year as Acting Secretary of the Fund. However it is very rewarding work dealing with ordinands.

The last year has thrown up a number of problems regarding ordinands making application for COF grants and, in some cases, there is a misunderstanding regarding the reason for the three-year rule, which I hasten to add has not been introduced by me but has been, as I understand, the Council's policy for a great number of years.



*Fr Ford, COF  
Chaplain*

It has to be realised that the grant now is a considerable sum to any ordinand, ie £1,000 a year, but surely the reason that we have these rules is to make sure that individual ordinands really intend to continue supporting the Guild. Recently I had a letter supporting a new ordinand for a grant, expressing the joy that the particular chapter felt at having an ordinand who is a member, but saying that in the past the Fund had supported three ordinands who had been ordained priest and, after their ordination, had ceased to have any contact with the Guild. So I hope you will agree that the three-year rule does in some way help toward seeing how serious individuals are about the Guild.

During the past year we have continued to support the following, plus two other candidates are under consideration.

Again, Father Ford and I have maintained our policy of £1,000 per annum to brothers, which is distributed half yearly, in May and October of each training year.

Deacon	Name	College	Parish
June 1998	Clive Wesley Jones	St Stephen's House	S Martin, Brighton
June 1998	Charles Leonard Card-Reynolds	St Stephen's House	S Thomas the Martyr, Oxford

All this could not have been achieved without the support of all the chapters and individuals who have, and continue to, support the Fund. Our grateful thanks to you all.

Fr Eric Ford, Chaplain COF Louis A Lewis, Acting Secretary, COF

## EASTER FESTIVAL SERMON

**The Rt Revd Edwin Barnes, Bp of Richborough**

*We cannot promise to stop proclaiming what we have seen and heard. Acts 4.20.*

My son is usually a strong, silent sort; but the week he came home from his trek-America holiday you just could not shut him up. We heard about climbing down the Grand Canyon, and how it took most of the day to climb back again, and he thought he would die of the heat; and how he had ridden mustangs in Indian territory; and fed marshmallows to the alligators in the Florida Everglades. Just such a great holiday, there was no silencing him.

Last week we made an amazing voyage, all of us. We were there when the Lord washed the disciples' feet on Thursday night, and spoke to them about being a servant, and took bread and a cup of wine and called them His body and His blood. We watched from a distance as He prayed in the garden, sweat rolling off Him like great drops of blood despite the chill of the evening. We saw Him led out with the cross on His back, witnessed Him nailed to it, heard His words to His mother and His friend, knew He was really dead when the soldier jabbed a spear into His side. Most amazingly of all, we were there to hear the shout announcing Him alive, we banged the drums, clanged the bells, wanted the whole world to know that He was risen.

So here we are, six days later, and I was told by a distinguished member - the Treasurer-General, no less - of the Guild: "Keep it short; we're going out to eat afterwards". Keep it short!! Imagine saying that to Peter and John!...No, you don't need to imagine, you can read about it in Acts, where the Jewish council tried to shut them up. They called them in and warned them not to make statements or teach in the name of Jesus. Fat chance! Peter and John said "You'll have to judge whether God would want us to listen to you and not to Him. We cannot stop talking about what we have seen and heard". Thank goodness they could not. It was that urge to talk about the resurrection, and go on talking about it no matter what happened, which made the Gospel spread like fire on dry moorland. It spread from Jerusalem to Rome, within a few years it had reached the end of the empire, even to the outposts of India and Britain. Still today, if you visit Goa you will find they boast of Thomas the Apostle; and just up the road from here, in the British Museum, there are silver dishes and plaques from Roman Britain with Chi Rho and the Cross on them.

Well I know it would be futile to go on when Louis and others are thinking about food... but just consider this. For a century now, the Guild has been involved in the very thing which those first Apostles were doing. You have been handing on the good news, in the way you do it best. By recruiting new young servers, you are handing on the Faith. By rehearsing the Holy Week Liturgy so that what you do is un-noticed by the

congregation, you enable new generations to meet Jesus in the breaking of the bread, in the events of Holy Week, in the Sunday by Sunday showing of the Lord's death until he comes. From your ranks have come many, many priests, who first encountered the risen Jesus when they served at an early weekday Mass, with just the priest and one old lady there. Certainly that was my own experience, aged twelve, at S Thomas, Keyham. Every other Friday I was there at seven in the morning, holding on to the end of the chasuble to lift it up as the priest exalted the precious body, the holy blood - and knowing that I was touching heaven. What's more, there was no chance of serving at the parish Mass, looking forward one day to being a thurifer, unless you served that weekday apprenticeship, and found that the Faith meant getting up early before school, and was not just about dressing up and being a centre of attention at the eleven o'clock on Sunday.

What you do - you the GSS - is hugely important. It is not **self** important, that is the last thing for a server to be. But, by the grace of God, you are there at Calvary and in the garden of the Resurrection, week by week. The reason you do it is partly because of generations of servers who have handed on to you the skill and science of serving. The way you serve is the way you proclaim the Resurrection. The way you make space for new servers is also your proclamation of the Resurrection. This is what our festival is about today, as we thank God for the first century of the Guild's existence. Our job is to hand on the tradition to the next generation. This handing on, this tradition, is in great danger in our church just now; but a time of danger is also a time of opportunity. There are so many who have never heard of our Blessed Lord, never had a chance to meet Him in the Holy Sacrament.

My son could not stop talking about America. You know a country more real, more important. In your best moments, you have touched the heavenly Jerusalem, you have been present with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, gathered round the throne of God. Tell other people; don't be gagged. Peter and John would not shut up, and we must continue that witness. Let's say with them, we cannot stop proclaiming what we have seen and heard.

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS



1998  
JUNE

*For Your Diary*

6 CENTENARY SUMMER FESTIVAL

Exeter Cathedral

Noon - High Mass

4.30pm - Guild Office and Procession

Preacher: The Rt Revd John Richards (Bp of Ebbsfleet)

13 Northwest Chapters Festival

S Benedict church, Bennett St, Ardwick, Manchester

Noon - High Mass

Preacher & Celebrant: Fr David Moore, Warden of the Guild

3.00pm: Guild Office & Benediction

Clergy & servers invited to robe for both services.

Bring a packed lunch, hot drinks available

JULY

4 GLASTONBURY ABBEY PILGRIMAGE

Noon - Concelebrated Holy Eucharist

Principal Concelebrant & Preacher:

The Rt Revd & Rt Hon Richard Chartres (Bp of London)

3.30pm - Procession for Solemn Evensong & Te Deum

Preacher: The Rt Revd David Silk (Bp of Ballarat)

AUGUST

29 LLANTHONY NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE

SEPTEMBER

12 LICHFIELD DIOCESAN & Midlands AREA FESTIVAL

Lichfield Cathedral

Noon - Solemn Eucharist

Celebrant: The Rt Revd Keith Sutton (Bp of Lichfield)

3.00pm - Guild Office and Procession

Preacher: The Bishop of Lichfield

OCTOBER

3 CENTENARY AUTUMN FESTIVAL

Wakefield Cathedral

Noon - High Mass

3.00pm - Guild Office and Procession

Preacher: The Rt Revd John Gaisford (Bp of Beverley)

ABOUT GOD-(37) *"I believe in the HOLY CATHOLIC CHURCH"*



## (a) WHAT CHURCH MEANS

Revd Canon Wm H Barnard



We now begin to consider a NEW SECTION of our Creed, "About God". We have thought of our belief in God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Now we begin to try to discover how God continues His work in the world since Pentecost through what is known as HIS CHURCH.

Someone talking of the art of writing said, "the adjective is the enemy of the noun", which may sound nonsense until we realise how apt we are at tacking on unnecessary adjectives to nouns. Are the adjectives which precede the noun 'Church' in the Christian Creeds in this category? Why can't we say, "I believe in the Church" and leave it at that? We shall discover in following articles why the adjectives "one, holy, catholic and apostolic" were added and what they mean. But first let us be sure of what the word CHURCH is all about. Look up the word in a really large dictionary and you will find, among other things; that there are some 20 different ways of spelling it! (good news for those of us weak at dictation!) CHURCH is our translation of a Greek and Latin word 'ECCLESIA', which means a collection of people specially appointed for a purpose. In ancient Athens; for example, they called their House of Commons the 'ecclesia', the national assembly. The noun 'church' comes from a Greek adjective meaning 'BELONGING TO THE LORD". Thus, when the Israelites were brought out of Egypt, they were described as God's ecclesia, His assembly; ie they were His chosen people, A PICKED LOT. It was this word our Lord took over when He came to earth and founded His Church. He was going to pick out a lot of people to serve Him and represent Him so that His work of saving sinners should continue all down the ages. "This is a true saying...that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners": and He saved them by making them His friends and winning their trust. Hence COMRADESHIP is a BASIC FACT of our Christian FAITH and a very human instinct. To feel we belong to a large crowd is, for some reason, a delight of the human mind. The bigger and more varied the crowd the better (cf football supporters!).

So the Church is a very 'mixed' bag, as we shall see. Actually the word 'Church' was seldom used by our Lord; He spoke of 'the Kingdom of God'...or of 'heaven'. It was S Paul who really put the word 'Church' on the map. He spoke of "the church at Ephesus....or at Philippi, or in someone's household"; all one church, of course, as we might speak of the air at Brighton, or at Blackpool; it's all the same air. So the Church was the one great glorious association of people, called out and called together by the word of Jesus Christ. It was 'the bride of Christ' or 'temple of Christ', 'His Body'. And all of us, if we want to win the love of Christ, have to be loyal first and foremost to His Church, through which Christ gives life to all whom He has picked out, so uniting us with Himself, making us His friends and 'saving us'.

## FESTIVALS

## Eastern Area Festival

As shoppers and sightseers thronged the busy streets of Norwich, servers from all over East Anglia, from Cambridge, Colchester, Ipswich and Lincoln, gathered for their Eastern Area Festival in the city centre church of S John, Timberhill, on 25th April. The vicar, Fr Martin Smith, was the celebrant at the Sung Mass and the preacher was Fr Anthony Long, chaplain of the Norwich chapter of S William. He spoke of the hope and encouragement to be drawn from S Mark who, although at first a failure, afterwards became a useful Christian. Councillor Ken Jennings played for the Guild Office and Benediction at which Fr Long officiated.



## EASTER FESTIVAL & AGM

The weather was cold and overcast to greet those attending our Centenary Easter Festival and AGM at the church of S Alban, Holborn on Saturday 18th April.

At the High Mass at noon the preacher was the Rt Revd Edwin Barnes, Bishop of Richborough, who based the theme of his sermon on Acts 4, v20, quoting the words of Peter and John 'We cannot possibly give up speaking about what we have seen and heard'. He encouraged us all to go and proclaim the Gospel. 180 received communion at this Mass.

After lunch the AGM was held in the body of the church with about 200 members in attendance. The roll-call showed that members had travelled from the length and breadth of the country to be present. The AGM followed its usual pattern with the various reports and the accounts being accepted. The General Council's Election of Officers and appointments were approved.

Following the meeting members robed in the school prior to the singing of the Guild Office and Benediction.

The whole day formed a great start to our Centenary celebrations and we now look forward to the Festivals at Exeter and Wakefield.

## NEWS FROM THE CHAPTERS



### S ALBAN & S MICHAEL, Letchworth

In February we met at S Michael the Archangel, Letchworth, for Guild Office and Benediction taken by Fr Nicholas Setterfield, the rector. It was good to see Bro Ron Pike back in action accompanying the services. It was his 75th birthday and we were treated to a glass of wine. Ron was one of the founder members of the chapter, was one of the National Cantors and sings in the Guild Choir. We wish him many more years in the service of Our Lord.



### THE ASCENSION, Essex

It was barely a year after this chapter had been reformed that it was able to have its own banner dedicated at the Mass held on 16th February 1998. The banner had been worked by Mrs Suzette Littler, chapter secretary, who had been an embroideress for the Royal School of Needlework. The banner shows the Guild medal in full colour, mounted on an oatmeal background, with the chapter's title above and the area (South Essex) below. The title is repeated on the reverse so that it can still be recognised from behind.

At the Mass, before the Annual General Meeting, at S Catherine, East Tilbury, Fr Eric R Littler (chaplain and Rural Dean) received the banner from his wife, Suzette, after the prayer of dedication and placed it on the north side of the sanctuary.

In his sermon Fr Littler drew attention to the need to have symbols with which to identify, the chapter's banner being a prime example. However, he said, the real symbol is that which surmounts the banner pole - the Cross of Victory. The AGM, which followed the Mass, was held in East Tilbury Rectory. The chapter officers were thanked for all their hard work in resurrecting the chapter. After only one year the number of priest associates and deacons was five, whilst the lay membership was 14 Full members and 13 Probationers.

### S BARNABAS, Lancs & Furness

In 1957 the church of All Saints, Chorley, was built and on the seventh of February 1998 we visited it for the first time, thanks to the kindness of its parish priest, Fr Edmund Straszak SSC, who is a priest associate. Our chapter covers the whole modern county of Lancashire, so it was very pleasing that so many members, plus husbands and wives, managed to attend the Solemn Mass, after which we held our AGM.

The main item of note in this was a question from one member who asked, as a member of several other Catholic Societies, why the GSS alone insisted on a two year membership before an individual became a member? It is certainly a point which we would like the Council to consider - a resolution was passed to that effect.

(Editor's comment: I don't know where they ever got this idea from! All manuals have had substantially the same rule printed "That after the expiration of one year from the date of submission for initiation as a probationer a request to be made a full member shall be submitted". The only reference to 2 years is in the rule which says "Any

Probationer failing to submit his declaration and request for full membership before the application shall be deemed to have withdrawn his candidature".

#### S BERNARD of CLAIRVAUX, Gibraltar

We were privileged to welcome Dr George Carey, Archbishop of Canterbury, on an official visit to the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity, Gibraltar, between 31st October and 2nd November 1997.

It was a very important occasion as it was the first time that a "reigning" Archbishop has visited Gibraltar. For those of you who may not be aware of it our Cathedral of the Holy Trinity is the Mother Church of the vast Diocese in Europe. The Diocese covers the whole of Europe (except the British Isles), Morocco, Turkey and the Asian countries of the former Soviet Union. Dr Carey was shown around the city and had the opportunity of an orientation tour of the Rock from the sea; courtesy of the Royal Navy. He fulfilled his wish of "topping the Rock" and gained a prestigious certificate of achievement.

It was a great privilege and honour for all the servers of the Cathedral to take part in the Saturday Sung Evensong and the Sunday morning Sung Eucharist. The Cathedral was full to capacity for both services, at which Dr Carey preached. It was a weekend that we will all remember and treasure for years to come.

#### S BIRINUS, Oxford

The first meeting of 1998 was the chapter AGM, as in previous years, held in the parish hall of S Giles, with a good attendance. The AGM was preceded by Low Mass in the church celebrated by Fr Dennis Mason, our chaplain. The February meeting was in the Oxford Deaf Centre chapel of S John. It is a great pleasure to join our deaf brothers for the Guild Office in their chapel and to have Fr Philip Hunt, one time chaplain of the chapter, to sing the office and give Benediction, whilst Fr Roger Williams preached and both he and Fr Philip signed. In March we visited S Andrew, Old Headington for the Guild Office and Benediction, sung by our chaplain. Fr Michael Brewin preached on "The body of Christ in the Eucharist".

#### FRIENDS of S FRANCIS, Rotherham

Last year the chapter had, as its Spring meeting, a May Devotion to Our Lady, held in the 15th century chapel of Our Lady on the bridge in Rotherham. This is one of only three surviving bridge chapels in the country and, in the Middle Ages, contained a golden statue of the Virgin and Child.

Our summer outing was to the beautiful medieval church of S Winifred, Stainton, on S Mary Magdalene's day when Mass was said by our chaplain, Fr Geoffrey Harbord, followed by a social evening in a local hostelry. The Patronal festival was held in October at SS Simon & Jude, Thurcroft. The vicar, Fr Paul Hunter celebrated the Mass at which 2 probationers from S Francis, Bramley were initiated.

In November, the annual chapter Requiem Mass was held at S James, Braithwell and the chapter's year ended in early February when its annual general meeting was held at S Paul, Masborough, preceded by Benediction and succeeded by the annual dinner.

#### HOLY GRAIL, Watford

Our AGM was at S Peter, Bushey Heath, following a communion service from the Book of Common Prayer. Our chaplain, Fr Robbie Lowe, celebrated and led us in those traditional words from 1662. One wonders why we need yet another attempt to modernise them. The branch officers remain unchanged but we hope to welcome some members from the adjacent chapter of Our Lady and S Hugh of Lincoln which is in abeyance. By the time you read this we shall be looking forward to our Corpus Christi High Mass at 8pm in S Peter, Bushey Heath. Our programme is now finalised and we hope to have the Holy Grail banner carried at all National Centenary Festivals.

#### S HUGH and BLESSED EDWARD KING, Great Grimsby

A Quiz night and pie and pea supper at S Francis church, Cleethorpes raised £133 for our chapter funds. Our first meeting of 1998 was at Bishop Edward King church, Grimsby, the officiant was our chaplain Fr Terry Atkinson. In February we visited S Aidan, Cleethorpes where the address was given by the rector Fr Henry Jansma. In March, at S Peter, Cleethorpes we admitted three members.

In July we shall celebrate the Guild Centenary with a combined Guild Office and Mass at S James, Grimsby. The officiant and preacher will be the Rt Revd David Tustin, Bishop of Grimsby.

One of our members, Karl Holmes, is participating in the Norbrit Grimsby fun run and is being sponsored by members to raise funds for the chapter.

#### S JOHN BAPTIST, Torbay

In February we met at All Saints, Torre, for a votive Mass of the Holy Spirit celebrated by Fr Roger McDowall, joint chaplain, who also preached. Fr McDowall said that the Pentecost narrative in the Acts of the Apostles was intended to point out that the Apostles, empowered by the Holy Spirit, were able to communicate the Christian message to the outside world. The Church had, through the ages, communicated the faith "by the things you see and hear". The altar server, by his demeanour, had a definite place in this process of communication.

In March we visited S Martin, Barton, Torquay, to sing the Guild Office with Benediction and to initiate a probationer. The officiant and preacher was Fr Gorran Chapman, joint chaplain and vicar of S Martin. Fr Chapman suggested that there was an infinite purpose in Christians continuing to learn about their faith whatever their age. He pointed out that the critical moments in the Bible when God does something good and great are frequently when He works through people who are old and have worshipped and believed in God for a very long time - people such as Abraham and Sarah, Zechariah and Elizabeth, Simeon and Anna. We cannot tell how the people who come after us will be blessed.

Our April meeting was at S Peter, Shaldon, for Guild Office and Benediction at which the officiant was Fr Gorran Chapman, joint chaplain. The vicar of Shaldon, Fr Ashley Manhire was the preacher.

#### S JOHN the DIVINE, Leicester

Our Patronal Festival was at All Saints, Scraftoft on December 27th and, in spite of the miserable weather, 20 servers and about 20 supporters and members of All Saints joyfully gathered together for the Sung Mass at which our chaplain, Fr Brian celebrated and preached.

In January we met in Leicester Cathedral for Guild Office, Address by the Provost of Leicester, the Very Revd Derek Hole, and Procession. There were 42 servers present (the largest attendance for many a year) and about 20 supporters and members of the Cathedral. It was a great joy to be in our Cathedral and to process with our banner in celebration of the Epiphany. The only disappointment was that there was only one server present who was not a member of the Guild.

In February 38 members and about 20 supporters met for Sung Mass at All Saints, Narborough. Fr Nick Burton, rector of All Saints, celebrated and preached. Three probationers were initiated. In March we met for Stations of the Cross, our usual Lenten custom, at S Hugh, Eyres Monsell, led by Fr John Young. Beforehand a probationer was initiated and a member admitted.

Our congratulations to Bob Hawkins, Harry Lord, Ian Stevens and Norman Sutton who, this year, celebrate 50 years as members of the Guild. 23 years ago a group met at Ian's house to instigate the re-forming of the Leicester chapter of the Guild.

It was with deep sadness that we learned of the sudden death of Frank Gray. He was a loyal supporter of the chapter and of many other Catholic movements. A quiet and devout Christian gentleman who will be missed at local Catholic events. Our sympathy to his wife and sons.

#### S JOSEPH OF ARIMATHAEA, Portsmouth

As usual the chapter has met each month and has had a variety of meetings. December sees our Christmass Praise service [a service of readings, prayers, poetry and music which is written by one of our members], this is followed by an American Supper and Compline and was very well attended. In January we were in the church of S Mary within the walls of Porchester Castle. Here, at the invitation of the servers from that parish, we celebrated our Annual Mass for the Sick, where the Revd Michael Thomas celebrated and our chaplain designate, Fr Gwyther preached a very moving and heartfelt sermon. The chapter AGM was held in the church hall of S George the Martyr in Waterlooville, after the singing of the Guild Office and Benediction. At this meeting Fr Gwyther was confirmed as chaplain and we look forward to his leadership and guidance. During the Lenten period the chapter always visits a church for Stations of the Cross and this year we were at the Church of the Holy Spirit in Southsea. Fr Waddington conducted a superb progression round the Stations which had great impact on the members present. In April the chapter will visit the church of S Mary the Virgin in Rowner to sing the Office and celebrate the Resurrection of Our Lord.

#### S LAURENCE THE DEACON, Reading

On Monday 2nd February the chapter visited the church of S Nicholas, Earley, Reading to celebrate Candlemass with the local congregation. After Mass the AGM, adjourned from January, was held, 20 members attended - a goodly number. After an absence of some years we visited S Matthew, Reading, for Stations of the Cross in April. The Conductor was the Revd David Jasper, assisted by Fr Victor Bullock, chaplain.

#### **OUR LADY & S PANCRAS, Camden, Holborn etc**

The Britton family and the Guild:- The death of Elizabeth Britton on Thursday, February 19th, has brought to a close the long relationship of this chapter with the Britton family which goes back to the beginning of this century, starting with:-

Cyril: the patriarch of the family who was well known as a purveyor of Commodities for the Sanctuary to many of the brethren to whom he supplied candles, incense, sanctuary oil and other church artefacts regularly advertised in The Server in the 1960s. He had been secretary to the chapter in the early part of the century and a regular at most chapter meetings until his death in the mid 1960s.

Douglas: became secretary of the chapter in the 1980s. He was well known in the North London area as an organist who helped out at many churches in the area. He was most ably assisted by Elizabeth who was the chapter Catering Manager, who always ensured that the brethren were well fed and watered at the end of each meeting. Indeed she was his supporter who always maintained a friendly welcome to visitors to chapter meetings, and was well loved by the brethren of the chapter.

The Guild owes much to the Britton family for their witness and support over most of the 20th century. We commend them to Our Father in Heaven for a job well done.

#### **S WERBURGH, Stockport**

Our final meeting of 1997 was on Saturday, 5th December. This was our AGM, held at S Matthew, Edgeley, Stockport, after singing the Guild Office.

In January we had a joint meeting with the Walsingham Cell at S Peter, Stockport. The celebrant at the sung Mass was one of our priest associates, Fr Keith Brookes, the parish priest. The homily was given by Mr DT Cox, a Lay reader from S Mark, Bredbury who spoke about the role of a server at Mass. The intention was S Werburgh and Our Lady.

Our February meeting was at S Mark, Bredbury, for Solemn Evensong and Benediction, the officiant was Fr Brookes. We have not visited this church for some time and this was the first occasion for Benediction here.

In April we are visiting an RC church for the first time - Our Lady and S Christopher, Romiley, Cheshire. We are all looking forward to the 'Holy Hour' which Fr Peter Hooper, the assistant priest from S Christopher will be conducting as the chapter's Lenten devotion. On Saturday, 9th May we are visiting S. George, New Mills, N Derbyshire, for the Guild Office.

This chapter's big 'Do' to quote a Northern saying is the North Western Chapters Festival on Saturday, 13th June at S Benedict, Ardwick, Manchester, and we are privileged to have the Warden with us that day.

#### **LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

6 Woodend Close, Webheath  
REDDITCH, Worcs B97 4LY  
5-4-98

Dear Raymund,

Listed below is the organ music which, it is intended, will be played by the Guild Organists at Exeter Cathedral.

Choral Song & Fugue	SS Wesley} Before
Larghetto in F Sharp Minor	SS Wesley} Eucharist

(Samuel Sebastian Wesley was organist at Exeter Cathedral from 1835-1841)

Prelude & Fugue in C Minor BWV 546	JS Bach
Concluding Voluntary after Eucharist	

Trumpet Tune (King Arthur)	Purcell	}
Prelude	Parry	} Before
Elegy	Thalben Ball	} Office
Pomp & Circumstance March No 4	Elgar	}

Toccata in F (Symphony No 5 Op 42)	Widor
Crown Imperial (Coronation March 1953)	Walter
Concluding Voluntaries after Office	

These pieces may be subject to alteration.

Best wishes, Philip Jarvis

Councillor PG 10

Dear Editor,

I have been writing to all the members of the two chapters that are in abeyance in PG 10. This has brought out some interesting news. One Guild Member, Peter Lymbury, will be ordained on 3rd October by the Bishop of Buckingham to serve in his home parish of All Saints, Soulbury. Peter has been a member since 1949 and has been studying through the S Albans and Oxford Diocesan Training Scheme. After priesting in 1999 he hopes to act as a chaplain for one of the local chapters. Please remember him in your prayers on 3rd October.

Sadly, Peter wrote to me that another local member, Arthur Keyworth died on 2nd January. He had supported Peter over the years in his attempts to prove his vocation. An obituary for Arthur is included in this issue.

David Froud, Group Councillor.



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