

THE SERVER

THE QUARTERLY MAGAZINE OF THE
GUILD OF SERVANTS OF THE SANCTUARY



Volume 16 Number 12
WINTER 1994

GUILD OF 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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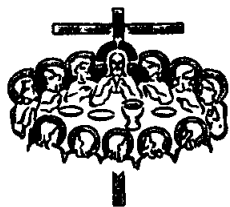
EDITORIAL	2
FROM THE SECRETARY GENERAL	3
CHANCERY BOOK	4
RIP	4
REPORT FROM THE NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP	
SECRETARY	5
WHO'S WHO?	6
FORTHCOMING EVENTS	7
ABOUT GOD	7
DIRECTORY	9
FESTIVALS	10
SCOTTISH GUILD OF SERVERS AGM	11
GOD'S LOVE	12
CYCLE OF PRAYER 1995	13
GENERAL COUNCIL OCTOBER 1994	21
SOME OF MY FAVOURITE THINGS	22
THE LORD, IMMANUEL	24
AUTUMN FESTIVAL SERMON	24
NEWS FROM THE CHAPTERS	26
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR	30

Matter for publication should be sent by the second Saturday of January, April, July & October

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EDITORIAL

ONE MAN'S VIEW



I have attended two very enjoyable festivals since I last wrote — Lichfield and the Autumn Festival at Llandaff. I cannot recall when we last had a General Festival in Wales. Our Secretary-General has, over the years, got the Lichfield Festival running like clockwork but hearty congratulations must go to James Adams, the local councillor, who managed to find time to organise the Autumn Festival and feed the Officers—National and local—and continue with his duties as Head Verger. We had hardly left the Cathedral before there was a service for the Deaf to be dealt with and there was a concert in the evening.

Now that the rush of initial Ordinations of Women to the Priesthood (OWP) is over the overall picture of the C of E is slowly becoming clearer. MOW has disbanded but, like the phoenix, or a bankrupt firm, is returning to life with a new name. There seems to be no news about WAOW! The two integrities seem to be working, at present, although some of those in favour of OWP are inclined to complain that organisations not in favour are not honouring their integrity when they do not accept Women Priests.

The Provincial Episcopal Visitors (PEVs) have been rushing about their areas, preaching, confirming, addressing meetings, meeting Bishops etc and are clearly benefiting from the fact that they are not expected to run a Diocese. They can meet the people in the parishes and not just those in the Diocesan Office. Some are complaining that John Ebbsfleet is tainted because he was consecrated by the Archbishop of Canterbury after the latter had ordained some women priests. Others are complaining that the PEVs are both of a Catholic persuasion and that, therefore, there ought to be an Evangelically inclined PEV. From the amount of work which the southern PEV is having to do, it would certainly seem that the third PEV, allowed for in the Act, would not be short of work.

With all good wishes, for a Happy and Blessed Christmass and New Year from the Officers, Council, Distributor and me.

Raymund JM Waker

FROM THE SECRETARY GENERAL

Lay Readers are advised that they should NOT wear their blue scarves at Guild Meetings and Guild Members are reminded that they should wear their medals on cord NOT ribbon, only Councillors and Officers should wear their medals on ribbon.

1995 COUNCIL ELECTIONS

The following Councillors complete their 3 year Term of Office at Easter 1995. Chapter Secretaries have received their Nomination Forms for their Area Councillor for the next 3 years.

NOMINATION FORMS MUST BE RETURNED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL BY 25th FEBRUARY 1995.

LG1	London North
PG3	Sussex
PG4	Hampshire, Wilshire, W.Sussex
PG10	Hertfordshire, Bedfordshire
PG11	Avon, Gloucester, Somerset, Wilts.
PG12	Wales
PG18	Lincs, North & South Humberside
PG19	West Yorkshire
PG20	Northumberland, Durham, Tyneside, Cleveland
PG25	North Yorkshire, South Cleveland

Present Councillor
Terry Delaney
Raymond Packham
Clinton Albrow
Trefor James
Raymund Waker
James Adams
Fred Whelbourn
J Trevor Theaker
G Brewis Wellock
David Lester

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CHANTRY BOOK

MAY

George Desborough

JUNE

Ernest G Major

JULY

Frederick H Broomfield, priest

Alec Hopcroft



RIP

Frederick Harry Broomfield, priest (1908-1994)

Canon Harry was a longtime member of the chapter of SS Osmund & Swithun who loved the words of the Guild Office.

After teaching in London for some years he trained at Sarum Theological College and was made Deacon in 1940. He served his title at S John Baptist, Moordown. He was vicar of S Christopher, Southbourne from 1951 until he retired in 1975. He was a keen cyclist and horse-rider and, in his retirement in Bournemouth, cycled miles to Ringwood so that he could ride and teach others to ride. He was buried wearing his vestments.

George Desborough

Brother George, of the chapter of S Swithun, Winchester, died quite suddenly in May. He had been a devoted member of the Guild, and of Holy Trinity church, Winchester, for longer than anyone can seem to remember.

A fine bass singer, his musical talents were early recognised by his admission as a boy to the Choir school of Winchester College. His standards of performance were exceedingly high but, out of his choir stall, his Christian witness remained unabated, as a beloved father to his family, and in his kindness and friendship to all whom he came to know. He is most sorely missed.

Alec Hopcroft

It was with much sadness that we learned of the death of Alec, aged 78, after an accident at his home in Lincoln. Alec was, for many years, a server at S Michael, Little Coates, Grimsby and, until he moved to Lincoln in 1990, was a stalwart member of the Grimsby chapter. After his move to Lincoln he transferred to the Lincoln chapter and attended its meetings whenever his failing health allowed. Alec was a former school teacher in Grimsby. He served in the Sherwood Foresters in the second world war and was a prisoner of war in Italy.

His funeral at S Michael, Little Coates, at which the Guild was represented, was conducted by the Revd Canon Stanley Jackson, a former vicar of the parish.

May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

REPORT FROM THE NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Paul C Durrant

The Guild moves on to the 20th Century

The move to bring the Guild, or at least the membership recording side of it, up to date and into the world of computers has not been a straight-forward one.

It all began last October when I was asked to take on the role of National Membership Secretary having previously used the Guild as the subject of a project for my University Studies. The first task was to confirm the latest details for the Secretary of each of the chapters—a form for this purpose was sent out to each chapter in October '93 with a general letter regarding the take-over of Roy Cresswell as Secretary General following the death of Howard Gadd. This form, which we know as Stage One, asked for the full details of the chapter Secretary and guestimates of the numbers of members in the chapter.

By the time that we were ready to send out the forms asking for details of each individual member (known as Stage Two Forms), one hundred & ten (110) of the chapters had replied with their details but seventeen (17) had not. One Hundred & Twenty-Seven of these Stage Two Forms were sent out in mid-March '94 and were accompanied by a covering letter explaining the forms and requesting their return to me by the end of April '94. Having reached that deadline, we had received just over half of the replies from the chapters who had confirmed their details (56 from 110) whilst only two of those who had not, had sent the Stage Two Forms (2 of 17). Many more replies drifted in over the following months, so that at the time of writing this report (Sunday 2 October '94) we have now received returns from one hundred & five (105) chapters. Of the twenty-two (22) outstanding, one was returned due to inconsistencies between the chapter Treasurer & Secretary, and a further eight (8) were those from whom we had not received a response to our initial enquiry (Stage One). Out of the initial one hundred & ten (110) who returned the Stage One Forms, ten (10) of those reported having a computerised membership list, but we are still awaiting a response from two of them.

The quality of the responses varied considerably, with some completing nearly all boxes extremely legibly, while others were less complete and less easily readable! A very high number of chapters were not able to provide the Membership Number for all of their members—an omission which caused extra work for myself and good wife and has delayed the entering onto the computer. In many cases, we have been able to find these numbers by recourse to either Howard's alphabetical lists or his chapter cards, but in many we have been unable to find any trace of a particular member or occasionally we find that a membership number has been used by more than one person! It will, therefore, be necessary to issue new numbers to some members—this is totally unavoidable as we must have a unique Membership Number to enable the details to be entered onto the computer. Many of you will have noticed a change in the new membership numbers—Roy Cresswell is now issuing new members with numbers commencing 94 and followed by a further three digits and next year will commence with the number 95001. Any member to whom we have to re-issue a number will have the two leading digits of 90 followed by another three digits e.g. 90123.

Another common omission from the Stage Two Forms was the Dates of Birth—as well as enabling the Guild to establish an accurate age profile of its members (by Group or chapter etc. if required, by use of the computer), the details could have proved useful where there was confusion over the identity of similarly named members etc. Many chapters have kindly agreed to ascertain this information and send to me at a later stage thus enabling the first of the above functions to be carried out more accurately.

Based on the returns so far entered into the computer system (currently 65 chapters having between them 2139 Members), I would project that the total roll-call is likely to be nearer the Five Thousand than the Ten Thousand once thought.

Finally, if you are not sure whether your chapter's details have been sent in then PLEASE contact either your chapter Secretary or myself; on-the-other-hand, if you are or you know of a member who is not attached to a chapter, then please ensure that I receive the details using the form in the middle of the magazine to include them on the National Roll.

[For the technically minded, the Computer System is a Dell Dimension 425si, with 4MBytes RAM & 170 MBytes Hard Disk, and a Hewlett Packard Deskjet 500C Printer. The software system used to hold the Guild's details has been developed by myself using dBASE IV.]

At its meeting on 22nd October the General Council decided that any chapter that had not submitted a list of members to the National Membership Secretary by 31st December 1994 would be considered to be in Abeyance.

WHO'S WHO?

Colin Doe, Councillor LG4

Colin was born in Halifax, where his family were evacuated during the war, in the latter half of 1944. He is not sure if that qualifies him as a second world war baby but he does know that he could play cricket for Yorkshire if he played cricket and was asked!

After the war he returned to London and started attending All Saints, Battersea Park which has now been pulled down and a block of flats erected in its place.

He then moved to Epping in Essex in 1953, the year of the coronation, where he attended the church of S John the Baptist and S John's C of E School. He started at S John's church as a choir boy and when his voice broke he became a server having a good tutor in Cyril Embury.

A move to Woodford Green, still in Essex, in 1973 took him to S Barnabas Church where he again became a server having the late Fred Bass as a guide and tutor. Colin is now sacristan at S Barnabas and was secretary to the local chapter of S George the Martyr for a number of years.

Colin works for an international examining board and is the senior tours officer responsible for arranging complex examining tours overseas.

His hobbies include travel, listening to classical music and gardening.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

1995

JANUARY

7 Southwark Diocesan Servers Festival

Southwark Cathedral, Noon - Concelebrated Eucharist

3pm - Guild Office, Sermon & Procession

Preacher; the Bishop of Ebbsfleet (Rt Revd John Richards)

APRIL

22 EASTER FESTIVAL & AGM

S Pancras

MAY

29 WALSINGHAM NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE

JUNE

24 GLASTONBURY ABBEY PILGRIMAGE

Noon - Concelebrated Eucharist

3.30pm - Procession and Evensong

SEPTEMBER

21 S Stephen, Bournemouth

Chapter of SS Osmund & Swithun Autumn Festival

7.30pm - High Mass, Celebrant the Rt Revd John Klyberg, Bishop of Fulham

Preacher - to be arranged

25 Holy Nativity Knowle, Bristol

Group 11 Festival

7.30pm - Mass



ABOUT GOD-(23)-"THE THIRD DAY HE ROSE AGAIN FROM THE DEAD"

Canon Wm. H. Barnard

These words in our Creed state the *basic fact* on which our whole Christian faith is constructed. It will need several articles, somewhat condensed, to explain all that is involved. The enormous place which *the Resurrection* of Jesus Christ holds in Christian theology is vitally important in 3 ways. It was 1) the climax of a series of miracles (signs) by which our Lord justified His claim to be 'the revelation of God'; i.e. it was (a *proof*): 2) it was an assurance, to us, once for all, that man has triumphed over death (a *hope*): and 3) it was the type and inspiration of that rising to life again which sacramental grace makes possible to us (a *challenge*).

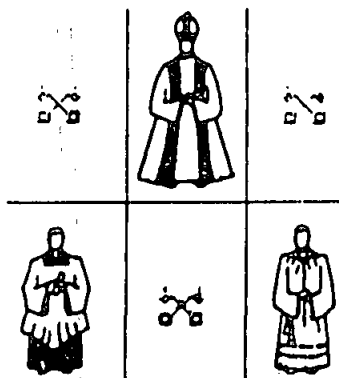
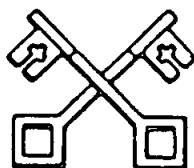


1st. then *IS IT TRUE?* Christian history answers with a *definite YES*. We know there are difficulties in the Gospel story, e.g. discrepancies among the 4 evangelists, no coherent sequence of events, but such is natural when a number of eye-witnesses are describing some outstanding event. Archbishop Whateley, famous for his logic, once wrote a convincing demonstration that on the evidence before him the battle of Waterloo could not have happened! The history of events following it showed it to be almost certain, but can we *prove* it today?

So with *Christ's Resurrection*; events following are incomprehensible unless it happened. It was *a miracle*, yes, indeed, and today people aren't too keen on such. We like to think of Jesus as going about 'doing good', but *what good* exactly did He do? We never read of Him jumping into a river to save someone's life; helping an old woman carrying a heavy burden; distributing money among starving people, or telling the sick to bear up. What He did was to walk on the water, multiply loaves of bread, heal the sick completely. Further, He wasn't content to save people from the danger of death by drowning, hunger or disease; He raised people from the dead, a son being buried, a young girl just dead, Lazarus after 4 days in a tomb, and the *CLIMAX?*—a man, who had died on a cross, been stabbed with a spear to make certain, and buried in a grave behind a sealed stone door guarded by soldiers. Our Lord had challenged the Jews previously—"Destroy this temple (my body) and in 3 days I will raise it again". Hence the guard on the tomb. The cross had been the crucial test by which the Jews had hoped to end Christ's miracles. It failed. As to what happened in detail we cannot understand completely but the evidence for the empty tomb and what followed must surely make us believe. If not, what are the alternatives? These we will look at next time.

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Whitstable

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The Holy Grail
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PG23/84

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PG 5/88
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TORQUAY TQ1 1TZ

S Joseph PG4/94
the Foster-father
Isle of Wight

In Abeyance

The Sacred Heart
Birmingham
PG23/83

In Abeyance

The Sacred Host
Falmouth PG22/170

Benjamin Haynes
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FALMOUTH TR11 3RS
(Temp)

Swithun PG4/175
Winchester

(Change of address)
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WINCHESTER
Hants SO22 4BN

FESTIVALS

LICHFIELD SERVERS' FESTIVAL

We were fortunate once again to be blessed with a fine day for the Annual Servers' Festival held in Lichfield Cathedral on Saturday, 10th September. At 12 noon, the robed servers and clergy processed into the Cathedral where they were welcomed by Canon Tony Barnard, Chancellor of the Cathedral.

The Celebrant at the Eucharist was the Bishop of Stafford, the Right Reverend Michael C Scott-Joynt, who was assisted by Fr Michael Brain of S Edmund, Dudley and Fr Paul Lockett of S James, Norton Canes. The Preacher was the Warden of the Guild.



At the Guild Office and Procession in the afternoon, the Cathedral was again full when the Preacher was the Bishop of Stafford. The Festival concluded with a Procession round the Cathedral which terminated outside where the Bishop gave the final Blessing.

The Festival is a combined Lichfield Diocesan and Midlands Area Festival of the Guild and includes servers, clergy, family and friends from all parts of the country including the dioceses of Worcester, Birmingham, Hereford, Coventry, Leicester, Derby, Chelmsford, Oxford, Southwell, York, Gloucester, Bristol and London.

We were privileged to have Councillors John Cairns, Raymund Waker, Trevor Theaker, Nigel Makepeace, Paul Durrant, Clinton Albrow and Andrew Mays with us for the day. The 1995 Festival will be held in Lichfield Cathedral on Saturday, 9th September—book this date in your

diary now—further information from the Organiser—Counc Roy Cresswell (0121 556 2257).

AUTUMN FESTIVAL, LLANDAFF

The Cathedral bells rang out over Llandaff in glorious sunshine as the Guild gathered for its autumn Festival in one of Britain's oldest foundations. Founded in 540 by Dyfrig (Dubritius) (Leamington Spa Chapter note well!!!), who set his community (or Llan) by the river Taff (hence its name), building began under his successor Teilo, the whole being reconstructed once again after the Norman conquest by Bp Urban. His great arch survived the bombing, when much of the cathedral was rendered unusable, and frames the High Altar resplendent with 18thc Italian ornaments and medieval German Corpus on the cross.

Following the war damage, George Pace introduced a pulpitum in concrete and this, surmounted by a figure of Christ in Majesty by Jacob Epstein, dominates the interior. The Solemn Mass was concelebrated by the Lord Bishop, who also preached the sermon, the Dean of the Cathedral and the Warden, as principal concelebrants and the chaplains of the Welsh chapters.

The Altar party was drawn from Cardiff and Gwent chapters and extra acolytes from the Rhondda and Swansea chapters with readers from Margam and Swansea. At the Offertory the Gifts were brought to the altar by members of the Young Servers Groups, and the collection was taken by the Cathedral Stewards assisted by Guild members drawn from the congregation which we hope gave everyone the feeling of being included.

After Mass the Provincial Councillor entertained the Officers and chaplains to luncheon in his home, at which his sons, who were 'chaplains' to the bishop at Mass, waited at table.

The Rhondda chapter provided the Altar Party at Guild Office which followed and was sung by the Warden, the procession completely enveloping the cathedral at one point with the thurifer waiting at the entrance to the quire as the officiant moved down the quire towards her!

SCOTTISH GUILD OF SERVERS AGM

Malcolm Perkins, Hon Councillor

The Scottish Guild met at S Ninian, East Pollokshields Glasgow on Saturday 10th September 1994 at 2pm.

A High Mass according to the Scottish Rite was celebrated, the Celebrant being the Chaplain General (Rev Donald Strachan). At the end of the Mass the whole of those present adjourned to the hall for the AGM.

This was conducted by the Warden (Rev Howard Duff). A fairly ordinary agenda was covered: Apologies, Last year's minutes, the Presentation of the accounts by the Almoner (Bro Bruce Couper). He reported that, due to a purchase of 500 Medals, the General Fund had made a loss on the year's working of £169. The Secretary to the War Memorial Fund reported a small surplus of £77. This was due to no candidates being supported during the year.

The Secretary General (Bro Barry Nisbet) gave a resume of his first year in office, having taken over in October 1993. He thanked his predecessor for a very smooth handover. The Guild was in good shape and he hoped to keep it that way.

The Warden and Almoner were both due for re election and were both reelected.

In Any Other Business it was announced that due to printing difficulties there would be a delay in the arrival of the new Guild Office.

It was announced that the church in the Isle of Arran had now taken over an ex WeeFree church which had been converted into a holiday home and now come onto the market. This had been possible because Mrs Elsie Wood had died and left her home to be used for the good of the Church on Arran. There was a small snag. The window in the sanctuary was not suitable and although a member of the congregation had offered some stained glass it would need to be made into a window.

After some discussion on the price of the construction it was unanimously agreed that £300 be donated to this project as a thank offering for the work done by Rev Charles and Elsie Wood in setting up the Scottish Guild of Servers and for all the work thereafter.

The Warden closed the meeting. This was followed by Tea, the Warden gave thanks to the members of S Ninian for the use of the church and providing a splendid repast.

All members then returned to the church to sing the Guild Office.

GOD'S LOVE

God's love is like an island
in life's ocean vast and wide—
a peaceful, quiet shelter
from the restless, rising tide.

God's love is like an anchor
when the angry billows roll—
a mooring in the storms of life,
a stronghold for the soul.

God's love is like a harbour
where our souls can find sweet rest
from the struggles and the tension
of life's fast and futile quest.

God's love is like a beacon
burning bright with faith and prayer
and through the changing scenes of life
we can find a haven there.

Marlow Wills

GUILD OF SERVANTS OF THE SANCTUARY

CYCLE OF PRAYER 1995

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

JANUARY

- 1.* The Circumcision. A very Blessed 1995
2. All Guild Members and Priest Associates
3. The Warden, Fr J David Moore
4. The Chaplain-General, Fr Albert F Treadwell
5. Secretary-General, Cllr Roy S T Cresswell
6. Epiphany, The Orthodox Church and all adherents
7. COF Chaplain, Fr Eric C Ford, and Sec G Cllr Stanley Willcox
- 8.* Epiphany 1. Accept ourselves and our diverse gifts
9. Treasurer General, Bro Louis A Lewis
10. The Server: Editor, Writers and Distributor
11. Grand, Honorary, Ex Officio & Group Councillors
12. Diocese of London, Bp David Hope
13. London Group 1 (North), Cllr Terry Delaney
14. No 23, The Blessed Sacrament, Enfield
- 15.* Epiphany 2. For the week of Prayer for Unity
16. No 83, S Hugh of Lincoln, Hackney
17. No 142, Our Lady & S Pancras, Camden
18. No 147, Our Lady of Victory, Cricklewood
19. London Group 2 (West), Cllr John Cairns
20. No 77, The Holy Rood, Southall
21. No 112, Our Lady of Willesden & S Mellitus, NW6
- 22.* Epiphany 3. Religious education and all learning.
23. No 148, Our Lady of Walsingham & S Alban, Wembley
24. No 173, S Stephen, Earls Court & district
25. Conversion of S Paul. Convert us, shew us the way
26. London Group 3, HM Forces & lone members, Secretary-General
27. London Group 4 (East & Essex), Cllr Colin A Doe
28. No 56, St George Knight and Martyr, Woodford/Epping
- 29.* Epiphany 4. London Area & Asst Bishops
30. No 67, The Holy Fellowship, Ilford and Barking
31. No 92, S John of Jerusalem, Southwark



FEBRUARY

1. No 98, King Charles the Martyr, Walthamstow & Leyton
2. Candlemass. May we show Your Light to all
3. Saints and Martyrs of Europe
4. London Group 5 & 6 (South East), Cllr Michael Young
- 5.* Epiphany 5. Diocesan & Deanery Synods
6. HM the Queen and the Royal family
7. No 3, S Alban, South West London
8. No 6, The Incarnate Word, East Surrey
9. No 48, The Epiphany, Croydon
10. No 75, The Holy Redeemer, Eltham/Falconwood

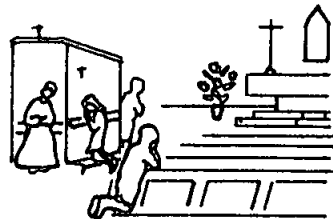
February contd.

11. Diocese of Southwark, Bp Robert Williamson
- 12.* Septuagesima, 9bE, Our Christian heritage
13. Provincial Group 1 (West Kent), Cllr Paul Smith
14. No 6, All Saints, Otford
15. No 14, S Augustine of Canterbury, Sittingbourne
16. No 39, S Cyprian, Rochester/Strood
17. No 96, S Justus, Orpington
18. No 105, S Martin of Tours, Maidstone
- 19.* Sexagesima, 8bE, Help us in all our failings
20. No 174, S Stephen, Tunbridge Wells
21. No 233, S Sexburga, Gillingham
22. Thinking Day, All youth organisations
23. Diocese of Rochester, Bp Michael Nazir-Ali
24. Provincial Group 2 (East Kent), Cllr Fred Palmer
25. No 7, All Souls, Canterbury
- 26.* Quinquagesima, 7bE, Help our approach to Lent
27. No 116, S Michael the Archangel, Ashford
28. Eve of S David, The Church in Wales



MARCH

1. Ash Wednesday, Repentance for our sins and wrongs
2. No 121, S Mildred in Thanet, Margate
3. Diocese of Canterbury, Abp George Carey
4. Provincial Group 3 (Sussex), Cllr Raymond Packham
- 5.* Lent 1. May we have the right approach
6. No 76, The Holy Resurrection, Brighton
7. No 163, S Philip & S Richard, Worthing
8. No 183, S Wilfred, Eastbourne
9. Diocese of Chichester, Bp Eric Kemp
10. Provincial Group 4 (Hampshire/E Wilts/W Sussex), Cllr Clinton Albrow
11. No 92, S Joseph of Arimathea, Portsmouth area
- 12.* Lent 2. Strengthen our Prayer Life
13. No 94, S Joseph the Foster-father, Isle of Wight
14. No 144, Our Lady & S Richard, Bognor
15. No 175, St Swithun, Winchester
16. No 176, Sarum S Edmund, Salisbury
17. Diocese of Portsmouth, Bp Timothy Bavin
18. S Joseph. For our own fathers
- 19.* Lent 3. For Guidance in our spiritual life
20. Diocese of Winchester, Bp Colin James
21. Provincial Group 5 (Devonshire), Cllr Michael Bennett
22. No 24, S Brannock, Ilfracombe/Barnstable
23. No 73, The Holy Nativity, Teignmouth/Newton Abbott
24. No 88, S John the Baptist, Dartmouth/Torbay
25. The Annunciation of our Lord. Pray for us O Holy Mother of God
- 26.* Lent 4. Mothering Sunday, For our own mothers
27. No 136, Our Lady and S George, Plymouth
28. Diocese of Exeter, Bp Hewlett Thompson
29. Provincial Group 6 (Channel Islands), Cllr Albert Croucher
30. No 65, The Holy Apostles, Guernsey
31. Provincial Group 7 (Dorset/Somerset), Cllr Henry Frier



APRIL

1. No 7, Abbey Chapter, Shaftsbury
- 2.* Lent 5, Passion Sunday. May we know the meaning
3. No 34, S Clement, Lymington & Lyndhurst
4. No 77, BVM & S Aldhelm, Sherborne
5. No 78, The Holy Cross, Bridport/Chard/Crewkerne
6. No 126, S Osmund & S Swithun, Bournemouth area
7. No 127, Our Lady & S Edward, Isle of Purbeck
8. No 220, S Stephen Harding, Blandford
- 9.* Palm Sunday. Hosanna in the Highest
10. Monday in Holy Week. May we be regular in worship
11. Tuesday in Holy Week. May we be regular in devotion
12. Wednesday in Holy Week. May we enjoy the benefits of confession
13. MAUNDY THURSDAY. The Most Holy Sacrament
14. GOOD FRIDAY. This most Holy day
15. HOLY SATURDAY. We await the Risen Christ
- 16.* EASTER DAY. His most Glorious Resurrection
17. Easter Monday. The Blessings, Peace & Joy of Easter
18. Easter Tuesday. All Area, Suffragan & Assistant Bishops
19. Easter Wednesday. All Archdeacon & Rural Deans
20. Easter Thursday. Our Parish Priests & Parishes
21. Easter Friday. All Assistant Priests, Curates & Deacons
22. Easter Saturday. Guild Easter Festival & AGM, London
- 23.* Low Sunday. May the blessings of Easter remain with us
24. S George. Blessings on our country
25. S Mark. For the Holy Gospels and their writers
26. No 232, S Aldhelm, Weymouth & Portland
27. Diocese of Salisbury, Bp David Stancliffe
28. No 32, Christ the King, Redhill area
29. S Catherine of Siena, All mystics
- 30.* Easter 2, For this decade of Evangelism

HE IS RISEN
ALELUIA!
AΩ†

MAY

1. S Philip & S James, All Area Festivals
2. New Zealand District Council, all officers and members
3. Diocese of Guildford
4. Provincial Group 9, (Berks, Bucks, Oxon), Cllr Paul Wharam
5. No 23, S Birinus, Oxford
6. No 53, S Frideswide, Slough
- 7.* Easter 3, Give thanks for our life and health
8. No 82, S Hugh & All Saints, West Wycombe
9. No 99, S Laurence the Deacon, Reading
10. No 129, S Osyth, Princes Risborough
11. No 145, Our Lady & S Swithun, Farnham
12. No 165, S Richard, Alton
13. Diocese of Oxford, Bp Richard Harries
- 14.* Easter 4, Help us listen & learn from You
15. S Matthias the Apostle, May we be chosen
16. Provincial Group 10, (Beds/Herts), Cllr Trevor James
17. No 68, The Holy Grail, Watford
18. No 205, Our Lady & S Hugh of Lincoln, Luton/Dunstable

May cont.

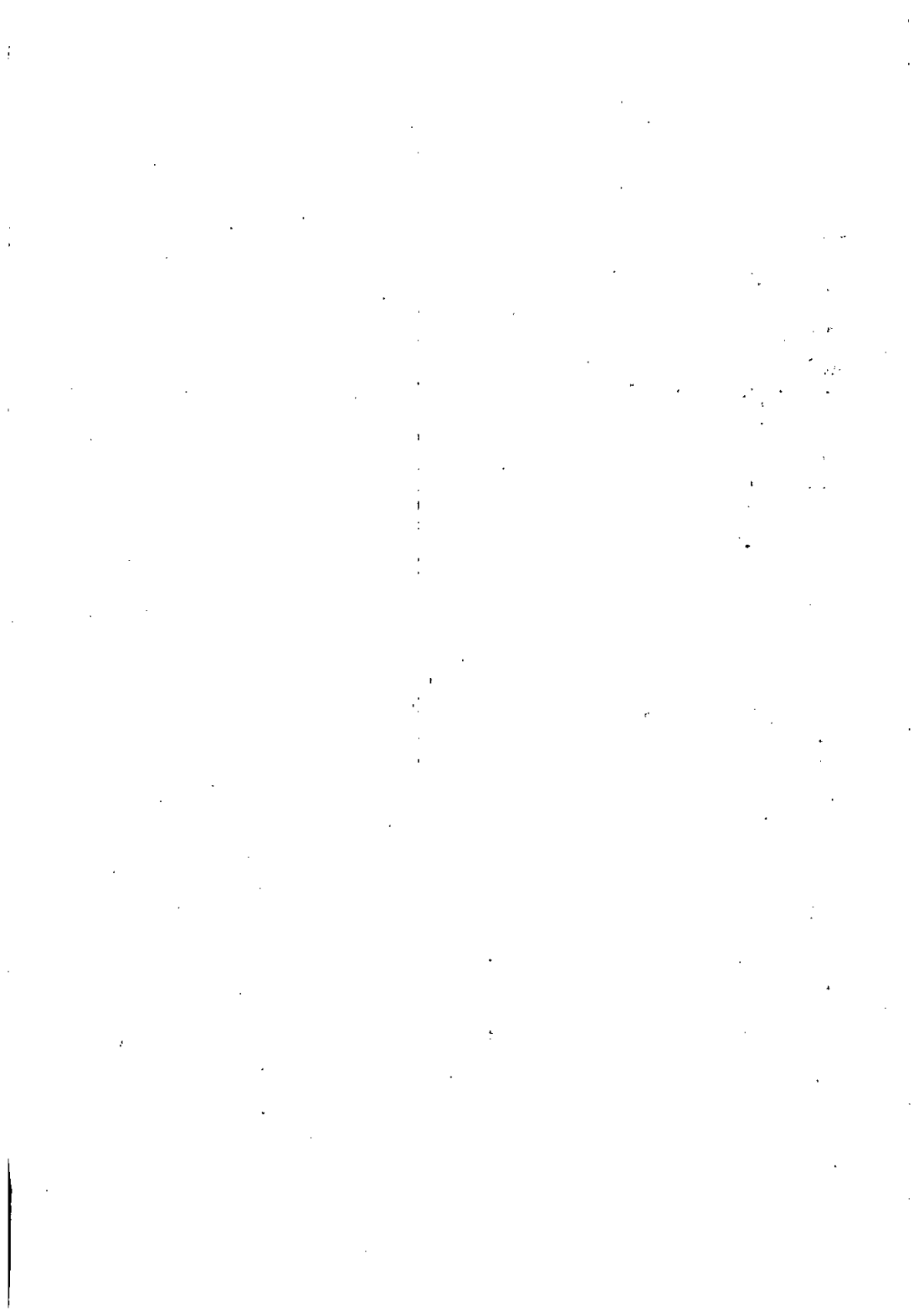
19. No 211, S Alban & S Michael, Letchworth
20. No 236, The Blessed Trinity, Ware
- 21.* Easter 5, Rogation, Blessing on all crops
22. Rogation, Harvest of the sea & seafarers
23. Rogation, Industry, Commerce & Distributors
24. Rogation, Blessings on the work of our hands
25. ASCENSION, His Glorious Ascension
26. Diocese of St Albans, Bp John Taylor
27. Scottish Guild of Servers & the chapters
- 28.* Sunday after Ascension, His Glorification
29. Scottish General Council & all officers
30. The Primus, Richard Holloway, Bishops & clergy
31. Visitation of BVM, Walsingham & all pilgrimages



JUNE

1. Provincial Group 11, (Avon, Glos, N Soms, W Wilts), Cllr Raymund Waker
2. No 27, S Brendan, Bristol
3. No 69, The Holy & Indivisible Trinity, Gloucester Diocese
- 4.* PENTECOST, Gift of the Holy Spirit
5. No 95, S Julian, Midsummer Norton & Frome
6. No 224, S Peter & S Paul, Bath
7. No 239, S Aldhelm & S Lawrence, Trowbridge/Bradford on Avon
8. No 243, The Resurrection, Weston Super Mare
9. Diocese of Bath & Wells, Bp Jim Thompson
10. Diocese of Bristol, Bp Barry Rogerson
- 11.* Trinity Sunday, Father, Son & Holy Spirit in Unity
12. S Barnabas, Give us the gift of Grace
13. Diocese of Gloucester, Bp David Bentley
14. Provincial Group 12 (Wales), Cllr James Adams
15. CORPUS CHRISTI, The Blessed Sacrament
16. No 19, S Barnabas, Cardiff
17. No 123, S Mary, S Bridget & S Asaph, N Wales
- 18.* T1, P2, For all the needy in the world
19. No 180, Our Lady & S Tydfil, Merthyr Tydfil
20. No 226, S Cenydd, Swansea City
21. No 238, S David & S Gwynnlyn, Gwent/Monmouth
22. S Alban, All Martyrs
23. No 242, S Mary of Margam, Bridgend/Port Talbot
24. Birthday of S John the Baptist, Thanks for our Baptism
- 25.* T2, P3, For men's groups & societies
26. The Sacred Heart of Jesus
27. No 245, S Gwynno & S Tyfodwg, Rhondda Valley
28. Diocese of Bangor, Bp Barry Morgan
29. S Peter & S Paul, Pope John Paul II & RC Church
30. Diocese of Llandaff, Bp Roy Davies





GUILD OF SERVANTS OF THE SANCTUARY

Individual Stage Two Registration Form

Surname		Title	Date of Birth
Christian Name(s)			
Address			
Post Code			
Membership No.	Year Last Subs Pd	Probationer *	Full Member *
Parish Church		Priest Assoc. *	Life Member *

* = Please provide enrolment dates if possible & ✓box.

PLEASE USE BLOCK LETTERS

Please return to ...

Paul C. Durrant
National Membership Secretary

7 Heather Drive
Woodland Park
BEDWORTH
Warwickshire
CV12 0AT

Form 20Ind/94-pd

JULY

1. Diocese of Monmouth, Bp Rowan Williams
- 2.* T3, P4, For Ordination & Ordinands
3. S Thomas, May we never doubt
4. Diocese of S Asaph, Abp Alwyn Jones
5. Diocese of S Davids, Bp John Rees
6. Diocese of Swansea & Brecon, Bp Dewi Bridges
7. Provincial Group 13 (Essex), Cllr Kenneth Jennings
8. No 4, The Ascension, South Essex
- 9.* T4, P5, Sea Sunday, Seamen, Seafarers & their homes
10. No 8, S Andrew, West Sussex
11. No 28, S Cedd, East Sussex
12. No 36, Corpus Christi, SE Essex
13. No 78, The Holy Sacrifice, North Essex
14. No 154, S Peter the Apostle, Mid Essex
15. Diocese of Chelmsford, Bp John Waine
- 16.* T5, P6, PCCs & all their members
17. Provincial Group 14, (East Anglia) Cllr Geoff Scurrell
18. No 22, S Felix & S Furse, Bury St Edmunds
19. No 45, S Edmund King & Martyr, Ipswich
20. No 49, S Etheldreda, Cambridge
21. No 131, Our Lady & S Edmund King & Martyr, Downham Market
22. S Mary Magdalene, All Penitents
- 23.* T6, P7, For the Mothers Union
24. No 158, S Peter & S Paul, Peterborough
25. S James the Apostle, Help us follow our Blessed Lord
26. No 184, S William of Norwich, Norwich
27. No 230, S Laurence, NW Norfolk
28. No 234, All Saints, Great Yarmouth
29. Diocese of Ely, Bp Stephen Sykes
- 30.* T7, P8, All Patronal Festivals
31. Diocese of Norwich, Bp Peter Nott



AUGUST

1. Diocese of Peterborough, Bp William Westwood
2. Diocese of S Edmundsbury & Ipswich, Bp John Dennis
3. Provincial Group 15, (Leics, Northants, Warks), Cllr Jim Harris
4. No 29, S Chad, Coventry
5. No 43, S Dubritius, Leamington Spa
- 6.* T8, P9, TRANSFIGURATION, May we be transformed
7. No 91, S John the Divine, Leicester
8. No 102, S Luke, Kettering/Wellingborough
9. No 138, Our Lady & S Peter, Higham Ferrers
10. No 146, Our Lady & S Thomas of Canterbury, Northampton
11. Diocese of Coventry, Bp Simon Barrington-Ward
12. Diocese of Leicester, Bp Tom Butler
- 13.* T9, P10, For Drivers and all road users
14. Provincial Group 16, (Derby, Notts, Staffs), Cllr Roland Hudson
15. Assumption of the BVM, Reverence to Mary
16. No 58, The Good Shepherd, Derby
17. No 70, Holy Faith, Matlock

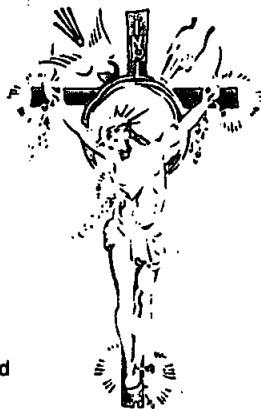


August contd.

18. No 87, S Jerome, Mansfield
19. No 118, S Michael & S Andrew, Staffs/SE Cheshire
- 20.* T10, P11, May we know the benefits of holidays
21. No 134, Our Lady & S Eadburgh, Southwell Diocese
22. No 187, S Wystan, Burton on Trent
23. Diocese of Derby, Bp Peter Dawes
24. S Bartholomew, The Church Union
25. Diocese of Southwell, Bp Patrick Harris
26. Provincial Groups 17/23 (West Midlands), Cllr Roy Creswell
- 27.* T11, P12, The new school year, Prison Chaplains & Officers
28. No 109, S Mary Magdalene, Wednesbury
29. No 119, S Michael & All Angels, Stourbridge
30. No 127, S Oswald, Shrewsbury
31. No 140, S Christopher, Cannock

SEPTEMBER

1. No 159, S Peter ad Vincula, Wolverhampton
2. No 162, The Purification of the BVM, Telford
- 3.* T12, P133, Ephphatha. For the deaf & hard of hearing
4. No 84, The Holy Grail, Birmingham
5. No 186, S Wulfstan, Redditch
6. Diocese of Birmingham, Bp Mark Santer
7. Diocese of Hereford, Bp John Oliver
8. Nativity of the BVM, Unite with Mary in giving thanks to God
9. Diocese of Lichfield, Bp Keith Sutton
- 10.* T13, P14, For those helping and serving the needy
11. Diocese of Worcester, Bp Philip Goodrich
12. Provincial Group 18, (Lincs, Humberside), Cllr Fred Whelbourn
13. No 54, Friends of S Francis, Rotherham
14. Holy Cross, The Symbol of our Faith
15. No 139, Our Lady of Lincoln, Lincoln
16. No 164, The Resurrection, Hull/N Humberside
- 17.* T14, P15, For our hopes and aspirations
18. No 216, S George, Boston
19. No 225, S Hugh & Blessed Edward King, S Humberside
20. Diocese of Lincoln, Bp Robert Hardy
21. S Matthew, The Coptic Churches
22. Provincial Group 19, (W Yorkshire), Cllr Trevor Theaker
23. No 123, S Ninian, Leeds/Bradford
- 24.* T15, P16, Thanksgiving for the Harvest
25. No 153, S Paulinus, Mirfield
26. Diocese of Bradford, Bp David Smith
27. Diocese of Ripon, Bp David Young
28. Diocese of Sheffield, Bp David Lunn
29. S Michael & All Angels, Our guardian angels
30. Diocese of Wakefield, Bp Nigel McCulloch



OCTOBER

- 1.* T16, P17, Anniversary of the Dedication of our Church
2. Provincial Group 20 (Northumberland, Durham, Cleveland), Cllr Brewis Wellock
3. No 20, S Benet Biscop, Newcastle on Tyne
4. No 57, S Godric of Finchale, Durham
5. No 128, S Oswin, Northumberland
6. No 228, S Francis of Assisi, N Cleveland
7. Diocese of Durham, Bp Michael Turnbull
- 8.* T17, P18, He offers us new life
9. Diocese of Newcastle, Bp Alec Graham
10. S Paulinus, Bishop, Missionary, Let us all spread the Good News
11. Diocese of York
12. Provincial Group 21 (Ches, Cumbria, Lancs), Cllr Andrew Mays
13. No 18, S Barnabas, Lancs/Furness
14. No 41, Our Lady & S Denys, Manchester & District
- 15.* T18, P19, Prison Chaplains & Officers
16. No 21, S Francis & S Chad, Mid & S Cheshire
17. No 137, Our Lady & S John, The Wirral
18. S Luke, Our own GP, All Doctors & Surgeons
19. No 152, Our Lady & S Nicholas, Liverpool & District
20. No 182, S Werburgh, Stockport & District
21. Autumn Festival, Peterborough Cathedral
- 22.* T19, P20, For the Northern Province
23. Diocese of Blackburn, Bp Alan Chesters
24. Diocese of Carlisle, Bp Ian Harland
25. Diocese of Chester, Bp Michael Baughen
26. Diocese of Liverpool, Bp David Sheppard
27. Diocese of Manchester, Bp Christopher Mayfield
28. S Simon & S Jude, App, For help with our intercessions
- 29.* T20, 9bC, Missions to Seafarers & RNLI
30. Provincial Group 22 (Cornwall), Cllr Geoffrey Wipple
31. No 114, S Michael, Mounts Bay/Penzance



NOVEMBER

1. All Saints. That we may follow their example
2. All Souls. Grant that they may know your Glory
3. No 170, The Sacred Host, Falmouth/Penryn
4. No 240, S Mark, Redruth/Camborne
- 5.* T21, 8bC, All the Saints & faithful departed
6. No 247, S Uni, S Ia, S Anta, St Ives
7. No 248, S Michael & S Petroc, Newquay/NE Cornwall
8. No 250, Holy Cross, Liskeard
9. Diocese of Truro, Bp Michael Ball
10. Provincial Group 25 (N Yorks, S Cleveland), Cllr David Lester
11. Remember all in the armed forces
- 12.* T22, 7bC, Remembrance of all victims of war
13. No , S Wilfred, S Cleveland
14. No 307, S Hilda of Whitby, Scarborough/Whitby
15. No G1, S Bernard of Clairvaux, Gibraltar
16. Diocese of Europe, Bp John Hind
17. That all chapters in abeyance may have new life

November contd

18. For new chapters and their founders
- 19.* T233, 6bC, For prisoners and their dependants
20. South African District Council
21. No , S Francis of Assisi, Cape Town
22. No 288, All Saints, Bloemfontein, SA
23. All officers and members in South Africa
24. Ghana District Council
25. No 224, All Saints, Takoradi, Ghana
- 26.* SnbA, 5bC, Christ the King
27. All officers & members in Ghana
28. All Christian work in Africa
29. Australian District Council
30. S Andrew Ap, All Missionaries & Missions

DECEMBER

1. No 252, All Saints, Victoria, NSW
2. GSS Officers and members in Australia
- 3.* Advent, The Church's New Year
4. Diocese of Sodor & Man, Bp Noel Jones
5. American Guild of S Vincent
6. All members of the American Guild
7. S Ambrose, May we benefit from his teaching
8. The Immaculate Conception of Our Lady
9. ECUSA, Primate, Bps, clergy & people
- 10.* Advent 2, All members of the C of E
11. For all Catholic Societies
11. The Anglican Church in Canada
12. For all prisoners of conscience & all hostages
14. S John of the Cross, For all Religious Orders
15. The Church in Ireland
16. Its Primate Robert Eames, Its Bishops & clergy
- 17.* Advent 3, Bible Sunday, The Holy Scriptures
18. May we understand the Bible
19. For the aids to daily Bible reading
20. Church papers & magazines
21. The General Council and all its members
22. Provincial Episcopal Visitors
23. We await Him, are we really ready?
- 24.* Christmass Eve, This most Holy Night
25. Christmass, This most Holy and Blessed Festival
26. S Stephen the First Martyr, For all Martyrs
27. S John the Evangelist. Spread the Word
28. Holy Innocents, For all God's Children
29. S Thomas of Canterbury, For Evangelists & Church Army
30. For His Church throughout the World
- 31.* Christmas 1, The Holy Family, Blessings for friends and relations
Thanks for all the Blessings of 1995.



**May the Peace of Christ
and
the prayers of Mary
bring you joy
now and always**

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

Corrections, omissions and suggestions to:

Trevor Theaker, Cllr PG19, 130 Langdale Street, Elland, West Yorkshire. HX5 0LZ

GENERAL COUNCIL, OCTOBER 1994

The meeting was, as usual, in St Pancras church hall, with a Buffet lunch which had been arranged by Counc Louis Lewis. This was much appreciated.

After some discussion it was agreed that the members of the Guild Choir should nominate the Choir Secretary annually and that this nomination should then be submitted to the General Council for approval. It would be necessary for a 'Job Description' to be drawn up. It was also decided that the post of 'Secretary to the Guild Choir' should not entitle its occupant to membership of the Council.

There was agreement that PG25, since there is now only one chapter in it, should be amalgamated with PG20—both Councillors are due for election next Easter.

It was also proposed, and agreed by the Council, subject to the Secretary General obtaining local agreement, to transfer PG14/158 to PG15 and PG18/54 to PG19—in both cases because of their geographical location.

Councillors were advised that, when they visit the chapters in their Group, they should have sight of the Attendance Register and Accounts Book. They should also ensure that all Annual Subs had been sent to Headquarters and that the Chapter Reference Number and Members' Numbers are always quoted.

It was reported that Fr Brendan Clover, the new Parish Priest of S Pancras, has invited the Guild to hold its Easter Festival and AGM at S Pancras on April 22nd, 1995. The General Council has accepted his kind invitation. The Hall will be available for those who bring their own food. The AGM will be held in the church.

The 1995 Autumn Festival will be at Peterborough Cathedral on Saturday, October 21st. NB This is again the third Saturday NOT the second.

It was determined that, for the Guild Centenary in 1998, the Easter Festival should be, as usual, in the London area, that there should be a Festival in June at Exeter Cathedral and that the Autumn Festival should be at Wakefield Cathedral.

It was reported that an order for a new Guild Banner, at a cost of £600, had been placed with the Clewer Sisters. The banner would be ready by November 1995.

It was agreed to send a donation of £150 towards the cost of a Memorial Window for Fr Charles Wood, Founder Member of the Scottish Guild of Servers, and Elsie, his wife. For further details please refer to the Report of the Scottish Guild AGM elsewhere in this issue.

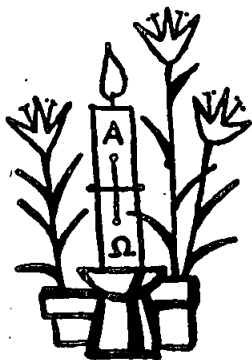


SOME OF MY FAVOURITE THINGS

Fr Howard Cocks

You may have notice that some of the books that I have discussed, and references given, come from a section of the Bible with which you may not be very familiar—or you have been amazed (and embarrassed?) that you have been unable to locate them in your Bibles. This is because they come from a section which is loosely termed the APOCRYPHA. I find the Apocrypha fascinating, and when a student, I spent many happy hours trawling some of the obscure books that make up this section, viz: 'Bel and the Dragon'. Anyway, perhaps I should explain what the Apocrypha is and draw out its importance for us today ...

The ancient Jews had two canons of scripture, the smaller canon was fixed at a council of rabbis at Jamnia about the year 90 AD and was accepted by the Jews of Palestine.



A larger canon was adopted by the Jews of Alexandria and this included what we now call the apocrypha. Most of these books were written in Greek (or translated into Greek, e.g. Sirs).

Alexandria in Egypt became the home of a Jewish community second only in importance to Jerusalem itself. There in the third century BC so many Jews were no longer familiar with the Hebrew tongue that a translation of the scriptures into Greek had to be made. This was the Septuagint (LXX) which became not only the Bible of the ordinary Jew living outside Palestine, but also, later, of the ordinary Christian as well (all NT quotes from the OT are the LXX). Once removed from the rigid control of the Jewish establishment, the Greek speaking Jews had fewer inhibitions about adding to the sacred canon of scripture other improving works which seemed to them to have religious value.

The range of Jewish holy scripture was therefore much wider in Alexandria than in Jerusalem and it was, by and large, these later Greek writings, which had been in circulation overseas and not in Jerusalem, that the rabbis rejected when the decision had to be taken in AD 90. Since it was the Palestinians and not the Alexandrian Jews who fixed the canon, those books which were supposed to have been written after the time of Ezra, or which could not be attributed to some notable character like Daniel or Solomon, were relegated to the category of Apocrypha, ie "hidden" from use in public worship.

S Jerome in his great translation of the Latin Bible (the Vulgate) accepted the Palestine canon and when he translated the Alexandrian books, wrote prefaces explaining the difference between the two canons (S Augustine, on the other hand, encouraged the use of the Alexandrian books). In time copyists omitted Jerome's prefaces, but among scholars the distinction was kept alive and so at the time of the religious upheavals of the sixteenth century the status of the Alexandrian books was once again called into question. The Roman Catholic Church continued to regard them as fully canonical, but the reformed churches generally followed the more conservative policy of the Jerusalem rabbis, and omitted them from scripture, while the Anglican Communion relegates them to the position

of an appendix to the Old Testament but includes them for devotional use and for edification ... 'for (an) example of life and instruction of manners ...' (Art.6).

The Importance of the Apocrypha

These books show us how men's minds were moving in the years just before the Christ event, and give a fair indication of the religious milieu in which the writers of the New Testament grew up.

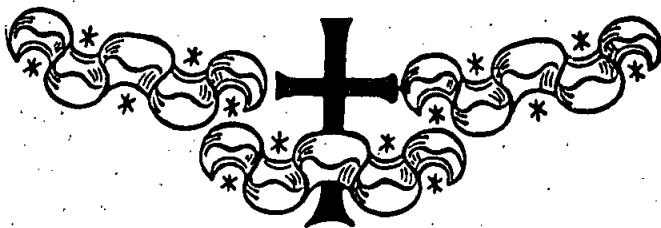
I guess that on the whole the Rabbis at Jamnia with their rule of thumb method made the correct decisions, yet their decisions were not infallible. There is much in the Apocrypha that has more to say to us than Esther, Nahum or Obadiah (or 2,3; John, for that matter!), and although there is little to be found in the scripture of the Apocrypha which touches the OT at its best, it is still the knot which ties the two testaments together and forms the last stage for the preparation for the Gospel.

The period of the Apocrypha was the period of Greek supremacy; and in these books we can detect the influence of Greece on the thinking of even the most exclusive of its subject peoples, the Jews. Further ideas and concepts are mentioned in the OT but not fully developed (eg Kingdom of God, Son of Man, Satan, Paradise etc) and it is in these writings that we see the concepts taking shape as they reach fulfilment in the NT.

The Apocrypha will at least save us from thinking that there is a clear break from the beliefs of the tiny dispirited Persian vassal state of Malachi's* day and the beliefs of the robust self-conscious theocracy which we find occupying a much stronger position and a larger territory when Christ is born as a subject of the Roman Empire.

Much of the suspicion about the Apocrypha is based on the groundless fear that they are somehow heretical. This is nonsense. One simply cannot base doctrine on a single verse or passage of scripture but only on scripture as a whole. Indeed to build a doctrine or teaching on a few verses selected at random, or to suit one's own theological disposition or prejudices is dangerous and can lead to heresy... the Articles of Religion denounced the practice ... 'neither it (ie the church) so expound one piece of scripture that it be repugnant to another ...' (Art. XX).

*Malachi—the last book in the Old Testament.



THE LORD, IMMANUEL

The Lord who held the whole world in his hands
Stepped through the sundering veil of time and space,
Leaving the heavenly glories that were his,
To seek a lodging with the human race.

And so our thoughts, each circling Christmastide,
Recall the Baby cradling in sweet hay,
While ox and ass warm him with gentle breath
And shepherds, hurrying in, their homage pay.

Only the Magi saw beyond mere flesh
And by the gifts that they were moved to bring
Revealed to all, within the Holy Child,
A future sacrifice, a God and King.

And as He came to earth so long ago,
So now today, to people and to priest,
When round his altar throne we humbly kneel,
He comes again to join our Christmas feast.

Brian Jenkinson



AUTUMN FESTIVAL SERMON

Roy, Bishop of Llandaff

Psalm 86, part of verse 16:

give thy strength unto thy servant

There is a danger that in calling ourselves Servants of the Sanctuary, although we can give an identification which is accurate—we know what we mean—yet, in the case of those who are less versed in our ways, it is not accurate enough. In their case the title stops short, in that it does not say whose servants we are and whose sanctuary it is, in which we are proud to serve. We know what we mean did I say? Yes indeed, but even in our case there is always the danger that we, who are 'in the know' and are doing the work can become so used to being servants of the sanctuary that we forget whose servants we are and whose sanctuary it is. The sanctuary then becomes an end in itself. The danger for our spiritual well-being is great and the risk that others will be prevented from understanding the true meaning of our title will be increased considerably.

If giving an adequate interpretation of what it means to be Servants of the Sanctuary depended entirely on us we would, all of us, fail miserably in the task. Our text from Psalm 86 is both true and comforting. We can pray with the Psalmist: give thy strength unto thy servant. You see how accurate the identification is: thy servant; and the ones honoured by the call to service are reliant on the strength or the grace he gives. No room for grand ideas about ourselves. But plenty of room for the humble acknowledgement of the dignity of the work we do.

We are thinking particularly today about serving at the altar, but if we are to avoid giving a false picture of what that serving is about we need to remember that the whole of our lives must be seen in terms of service. We cannot be God's servants in God's sanctuary if we are not his servants outside that sanctuary. However good we may be at explaining the full significance of our Guild, if that explanation is not matched by the evidence of Christian servant-hood or serving in our daily lives, then our efforts at identification are not going to convince. It isn't the serving that makes us servants. We serve in the sanctuary because we are already and all the time God's servants. It is one way of expressing our service.

The Eucharist is at the very centre of our lives. On the night he instituted this Sacrament Jesus washed the feet of his disciples. We read in St John's Gospel after Jesus had washed their feet, he put his outer garment back on and returned to his place at the table. Do you understand what I have just done to you? he asked. You call me Teacher and Lord, and it is right that you do so, because that is what I am. I, your Lord and Teacher, have just washed your feet. You, then, should wash one another's feet. I have set an example for you, so that you will do just what I have done for you. I am telling you the truth: no slave is greater than his master, and no messenger is greater than the one who sent him. Now that you know this truth, how happy you will be if you put it into practice!

What can we say in response to that? Give thy strength unto thy servant. Give me the strength and I will put it into practice. He serves us in our need by strengthening us through the Ministry of Word and Sacrament. Divine strength is not some 'commodity' that comes to us out of nowhere. He serves our need through his servants and he can meet the needs of others through us. So many of these 'others' know nothing of Word and Sacrament but they do meet us, the servants of God. How much of God will they see in us? We do not want to duck the challenge do we? We pray our text more earnestly than ever: Give thy strength unto thy servant. He has called us to his service. We want him to make us worthy of our calling.

NEWS FROM THE CHAPTERS

S BIRINUS, Oxford

The chapter has held three varied and pleasant meetings. In July we met, on the Eve of S Mary Magdalene, in the chapel of Magdalene College. Our chaplain, Fr Dennis Mason, officiated for the Guild Office. An address was given by the Dean of Divinity, Fr John Sedgwick. We finished with Benediction.

In August we had the privilege of using Bartlemas chapel which is now attached to the parish of S Mary & S John. It was once a hospital chapel for leprous folk in the year 1126. It was rebuilt and now bears the date 1650. We sang the office followed by Benediction.

In September we met at the parish church of Holy Trinity, Headington Quarry. The church was constructed of local stone quarried almost on site. The office was sung by the chaplain, followed by an address and Benediction.

S CHAD, Coventry

The July meeting was held at the parish church of S Andrew, Shilton. Fr Graeme Hands (chaplain) officiated, Fr Fred Lancaster (assistant chaplain) preached and Fr Keith Robinson (Parish Priest) gave Benediction.

We said goodbye to Fr Fred who will shortly be moving to S Barnabas Residential Home for Retired Clergy, situated near Lingfield, Surrey. Fr Graeme presented an inscribed tankard and farewell card which was signed by all the members present. We thanked Fr Fred for all the assistance he had given the Coventry chapter and for the ministry he has shared with us. We wish him every happiness and fulfilment in his new home.

On August 16th we met at the Abbey Church of S Mary, Nuneaton. The Officiant was Fr Graeme Hands and Canon Dennis Sneath preached. This was a well attended meeting but unfortunately the church organist had resigned on the previous Sunday and had taken the key to the organ with her. Our organist, Stuart Warren used the piano to accompany the Guild Office. Garry Pringle and his daughter, Sharon were made full members of the Guild. They are members of the Abbey Church serving team.

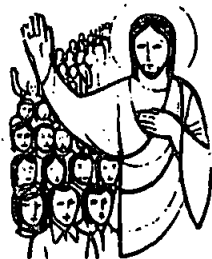
Twelve members attended the Midlands Area Festival at Litchfield Cathedral.

CORPUS CHRISTI, South East Essex

Paul Bundock, a server at S James the Great, Leigh-on-Sea, visited 77 Churches and Chapels in the Southend area on Saturday the 11th September while taking part in the Sponsored Cycle Ride organised by the Council for Essex Churches. When his Parish Priest announced Paul's result, during Mass on Sunday morning he received a round of applause from the congregation.

S HUGH & BLESSED EDWARD KING, Great Grimsby

In August we visited S Mary & S Gabriel, Binbrook, for the Guild Office which was conducted by Father Trevor Walker, the rector. Brothers Paul and Raymond Sharp were admitted as probationers. In September we visited All Saints, Waltham, for the Guild Office. The Officiant was our chaplain, Father Malcolm Jones, and the address was given by Father Ian Shelton. Brother Adam West was admitted as a probationer. Thirteen of



our members, plus wives and friends making a party of thirty, travelled to the Festival at Lichfield and all had a very enjoyable day. Our October meeting was a concelebrated mass at the church of S Francis of Assisi at Cleethorpes to celebrate S Francis' day and the fortieth anniversary of the founding of our chapter. The Concelebrants were Father Malcolm Jones, our chaplain, Father Terry Atkinson, the vicar of S Francis, and Father Denis Adams. After the Mass a grand spread was laid on by the ladies and a cake which had been made by Kate, our chaplain's wife, was cut by two of our founder members, Brothers Fred Wyatt and Ken Richardson. Brothers Daniel Jones and Alexander Floyd were admitted as probationer members. We have now increased our roll to fifty members and we usually average between twenty and thirty at each meeting. It is good to note that we are now getting a lot of younger members joining us. Two of our members will be going to the Autumn Festival at Llandaff.

S JOHN BAPTIST, Torbay

Our August meeting was a celebration of a sung Mass of Christ the Eternal Priest at the church of S Luke, Milber, Newton Abbot. The celebrant and preacher was Fr John Boardman, assisted by the chapter chaplain Fr Roger McDowall. The Church was built in fulfilment of a dream of the Revd Keble Martin, the then vicar of Coffinswell, in 1931. In his dream he saw a church in the form of a Chrismon, an early Christian emblem of the name of Christ, somewhat similar in appearance to a star.

The church of S Luke, unlike most Gothic-style churches, is best viewed from the inside. There is no stained glass—sunlight, moonlight and starlight shine in unfiltered by the work of human hands. Fr Boardman said the church was like the New Jerusalem "coming down from Heaven", described in the Book of the Revelations as being of equal length, width and height—the place where they were sitting was exactly 1000 ins x 1000 ins x 1000 ins and had 12 doors, symbolic of the 12 Apostles—pillars of the church. The altar resembled a tomb from which, in a sense, a resurrection took place, when Christ came forth from that altar in bread and wine. Both sides of the church resembled each other but there was "a flaw in this otherwise perfect and holy building"—the pulpit, which interfered with the design and was inserted against the wishes of the then parish priest and the architect. This is reminiscent of the flaw of original sin in our own lives which were created to perfection by God.

Our September meeting was at Abbotskerswell church where Fr Gorran Chapman, our alternate chapter chaplain officiated at the Guild Office and Benediction. The address was given by Fr J D Stanton, priest-in-charge, who pointed out that a "vocation" is not limited to a calling to the priesthood or diaconate.

In October we met to sing the Office at S Andrew, Paignton. The meeting concluded with Benediction. In his sermon, Fr Chapman, vicar of S Martin, Barton, Torquay, reminded us that many of the hymns used in the Church's worship had been used by Christians for hundreds of years, making our worship one with that of past generations. The things we say and do in church are part of something greater than ourselves, and we are one family—living and departed—engaged in continual prayer and worship and praise of God. The words which holy men and women wrote long ago must be lived out in our actions and behaviour, in the words which naturally come to our lips in conversation and in our relationships with one another.

S JOHN the DIVINE, Leicester

In June we held our chapter summer festival at S Egelwin, Scalford, whose rector is our chaplain. Since it was close to the Feast of Corpus Christi we had a Mass of thanksgiving for the Blessed Sacrament, followed by Benediction. The sermon was by our chaplain, Fr Lawrence King.

In August we sang the Guild Office at All Saints, Dunton Bassett. Fr Clifford Bradley gave the address in which he compared the faith and spirituality of the church in Southern Ireland, where he had just had a holiday, with that of the Church of England.

Our September meeting was a Sung Mass of the Blessed Virgin Mary at S Nicholas, Fleckney.

At all these meetings we have had a good attendance of about 30 servers, which, together with friends, has meant a total of about 50 on each occasion. We have also admitted one member and 3 probationers.

S LAURENCE the DEACON, Reading

On Monday 5 September we sang the Guild Office at All Saints, Downshire Square, Reading—a church we had not visited for some time. Fr Bernard Dagnell, of S John, Newbury, officiated and preached. His rivetting address was about the object of strength in the faith which he tied in to the 3 Beatitudes of Psalm 84. Our October meeting was a Mass at S Lawrence, Reading, celebrated by Fr Dagnell, who, again, preached. This time he gave an enlighteningly vivid interpretation of the 'Good Samaritan'.

SS OSMUND & SWITHUN, Bournemouth

The May Devotion to Our Lady was held at S John, Broadstone, our first visit in over 10 years. June saw us at S Thomas, Ensbury Park, where, before Mass, 5 probationers were admitted to full membership. In July, on the Feast of S James, we met at Wimborne Minster. Our usual visit to S Mary, Holdenhurst Road was in September.

As already seen under Forthcoming Events our Autumn Festival was held at S Stephen, Bournemouth, on Michaelmas Day, when the Bishop of Portsmouth was celebrant with our chaplain, Fr Stephen Holmes, as Deacon. Canon Anthony Ceasar was the preacher. Our October meeting will be at S John the Evangelist, Holdenhurst, which was the parish church of Bournemouth until the construction of S Peter Bournemouth, with its association with John Keble. In November we shall sing the Office at All Saints, Branksome Park and in December we shall celebrate a Sung Mass at S Aldhelm, Branksome.

THE RESURRECTION, Weston-super-Mare & District

It was so good to see members of the chapter again after the Summer recess and especially our chairman, Alan Cook, after an absence of a few months tending to the pressing commitments of the salary-earning and commercial side of his life. Meetings and services seemed almost a little lack-lustre without him so it was extra pleasing to see him seated at the console of the organ at St Mary's, East Brent leading us in hymn and chant.

Our Autumn season of services started at East Brent and continued our catholic-style in services in that Evening Prayer was based around the Franciscan model with its heart-felt opening petition "Lead your people to freedom, O God, And banish all darkness from our hearts and minds". Would that we all lived that out in our dealings with one another. The

many members of the chapter, some of whom had travelled fair distances, obviously took to the unfamiliar format immediately as could be witnessed by the thoughtful and near unison decani-cantoris readings of the Psalms and a chant well sung to the Magnificat. It is so good to be able to appreciate how others glorify the Father at the ending of their day. This added to the great feeling of at-oneness experienced always at S Mary's and especially in the generous welcome and hospitality we receive from Fr Jeremy.

A change in plans see us at S Mary, Berrow in October and at All Saints, Weston-super-Mare in November with the December meeting as planned, an admissions ceremony at S Mary, Walton. It seems but a twinkling of an eye ago that we were in the thick of planning the 1994/95 diary and now, within the next couple of months we will be finalizing next year's events. Let us hope that in 1995 we will be able to continue in love and charity with one another whatever our ecclesiastical politics and plan a diary that reflects that care and concern.

S SWITHUN, Winchester

The chapter is thriving and has expanded in the last year or two, having become a home for several brethren from surrounding areas like Southampton and Basingstoke for which we have become the nearest chapter.

Our chaplain, Fr Martyn Douglas, has left us to take up a ministry in the new 'Continuing Episcopal Church' in the USA. The former chaplain, Fr Rodney Stone, is most kindly serving us again for a second period. The chapter looks forward to increasing its 'repertoire' of host churches and to an expansion of its fellowship activities in the coming year.

S WERBURGH, Stockport

This chapter celebrated the 70th anniversary of its foundation at S Peter, Stockport, on 14th September 1994. The Guild Office was solemnly sung with the chaplain, Fr Keith Brookes, as officiant, after the admission of a new probationer from as far away as Bury. The Revd Canon Ronald S Lunt, our chaplain of 20 years ago, came over from Chester to give the address, in which he recalled several of our former members. The Office was followed by Benediction conducted by Canon Lunt.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

High Noon
12 Longlands Avenue
COULSDON
Surrey CR5 2QJ
21st September 1994

Dear Raymund,

It is with much regret that I have to report that, for personal reasons, several long-standing members of the Guild Choir have felt obliged to retire during the past year. They will be greatly missed.

We are to be grateful to the following Brothers for their dedicated and loyal service to providing a worthy presentation of our corporate worship at the General and, sometimes, Area Festivals.

Thank you Larry Adler for 13 years

Michael Goulding for 39 years

Fred Lindsey for 8 years

Martin Wood for 23 years. Well done! BHC (Secretary to Guild Choir).

61 Sea View Crescent
SCARBOROUGH
North Yorkshire YO11 3JF
29th September 1994

Dear Mr Waker,

In September 1994 a group of our chapter servers attended the Midland Servers Festival at Lichfield Cathedral. The Sermon, given by the Warden of the Guild, the Revd Fr J D Moore, was a good sharp (punch from the shoulder) type, in which he said that we need to be staunch in our faith as Anglo-Catholics, and not to have a liberal, wishy washy approach in our work for our Lord.

Finally, all credit and praise must go to our Secretary-General (Mr R S T Cresswell) for the organisation of the Lichfield Cathedral Midland Servers Festival. When you come to this Cathedral it's like coming home; it's wonderful!

Yours sincerely,

Jl May (Secretary, Chapter of S Hilda of Whitby, N Yorks.)

260 13.00

1995 ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR THE SERVER

The annual subscriptions of £2.00 for the 1995 editions of THE SERVER are now due and should be forwarded to your chapter representative or The Server Distributor as soon as possible. In order to reduce costs Chapter members should order their copy of The Server via their chapter representative. Chapter secretaries should encourage all members to receive their own copy of this publication as it is the only means of knowing what is going on with their Guild.

I would also like to remind members that, as with the annual subscription of The Guild, magazines subscription run from the 1st January and payment should be made no later than Easter each year, however for new subscribers, payment should be made on a pro rata basis calculated to the end of each year.

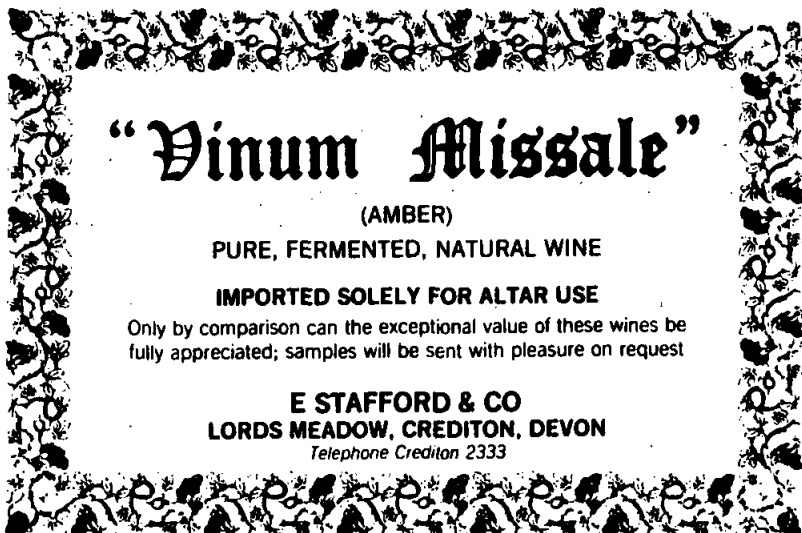
May I thank all those who helped distributing The Server to their chapter and for their work promoting this publication.

The following are also available from The Server Distributor

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Guild Office and Manual, Words only	.85p
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