

50 Pence



August 2018

# The Trident




The Parish Magazine of



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SUNDAY

- 8.00 AM SAID EUCHARIST (BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER SERVICE)  
10.00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL (TERM TIME & NOT 2ND SUNDAY OF THE MONTH)  
10.00 AM PARISH EUCHARIST  
6.30 PM EVENING PRAYER (BCP)  
CHORAL EVENSONG FOR SPECIAL FESTIVALS (PLEASE SEE NOTICEBOARD FOR DETAILS)

WEEKDAY CELEBRATIONS OF HOLY COMMUNION

TUESDAY 12 NOON  
WEDNESDAY 2PM

MORNING PRAYER

7.30 AM MONDAY TO FRIDAY (8.00 A.M SATURDAY)

EVENING PRAYER

DAILY 5.00 PM (EXCEPT SATURDAY AND SUNDAY)

PEOPLE OF ALL FAITHS, OR NO FAITH AT ALL, ARE WELCOME AT ANY OF OUR SERVICES. THOSE WHO ARE FULL MEMBERS OF THEIR OWN CHRISTIAN CONGREGATIONS ARE WELCOME TO RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION IN ST. THOMAS'.

REGULAR MEETINGS

MONDAY	12.30 PM	HANWELL HOMELESS CONCERN
	4.45 PM	RAINBOW GUIDES
	6.00 PM	BROWNIES
TUESDAY	5.30 PM	BEAVERS
	6.30 PM	CUBS
WEDNESDAY		
	10.30AM	MOTHER AND BABY/TODDLER GROUP
THURSDAY	7.00 PM	GUIDES
FRIDAY	10.30 - 12 NOON	'POP-IN'
	7.00 PM	SCOUTS (AT 'THE WARREN' TRUMPERS WAY)
	6.45 - 7.15 PM	JUNIOR CHOIR
	7.00 PM	CHOIR

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## From our Vicar

Dear Friends

**July saw a new era in ministry at St Thomas' begin. We**

welcomed Mtr. Susy who will be serving in this parish for

**three years as Curate. As I said last month the word 'curate'**

**comes from one who has a 'cure of souls' so writing in August about this seems**

wonderfully appropriate. The appropriateness of the timing is because in August

**we celebrate the Cure d' Ars (Curate of Ars) St John Vianney, the patron saint of**

priests.

John Vianney was born on 8<sup>th</sup> May 1786 and died on 4<sup>th</sup> August 1859 (his feast

day). He is remembered for his pastoral work in the small village of Ars, 25 miles

north of Lyon, and deliberately a long way from civilised society. The reason for

**this backwater of a posting was because of John Vianney's perceived inadequacies.**

John was the fourth child of six, to Matthieu and Marie who were devout

Catholics with a heart of the poor. John shared their piety and was thus packed

off to train to be a priest. His education was interrupted by the French

Revolution, but more significantly by the fact that he was just not very good at his

school work. He struggled with most subjects, but especially Latin, so key to life in

the Church then. Yet despite his considerable academic short-comings the bishop

reluctantly ordained him in 1815. After his curacy he was sent to Ars, population

**of 230, where it was believed (hoped!) that he wouldn't cause too many problems**

due to this lack of a sound education. Yet, his simple life of prayer, hearing

confessions, and saying Mass meant that by 1827 people were travelling to see

him, and seek his counsel. By 1855 20,000 pilgrims a year were visiting, and

an railway was built specially to transport them.

What constitutes success in the Church is hard to define, but this most unlikely of individuals was clearly one.

I am reminded of this every year at this time, because this is the time when exam

results are received. A huge amount of pressure is put on our young people, and

**the stakes seem to become constantly higher; "failure", as Arnold Schwarzenegger**

**says, "is not an option". Well actually, as John Vianney shows us, it sometimes is,**

but that is not the end of the story. Life and, yes, exams sometimes disappoint

and disillusion us, but faith, simple faith, can transform these moments. Something

kept John Vianney going when teachers scratched their heads in despair, and

bishops anxiously sought trouble-free solutions. That something was a reliance on

what was deemed for a brief period to be the biggest failure of all; the supposed

Saviour of the World nailed to a tree; an inauspicious end to a promising career.

Thus, whatever this August brings, be it good or disappointing, joyful ordination

or painful solitude, remember Him who stretched out his arms on the cross and

embraced the world, and a simple priest in France.

Your friend and priest



## Curate's Corner: Shabbat? Can't be bothered!

I'm rubbish at resting! I mean properly resting. The rest that Shabbat is all about. Shabbat is what the writer of the Creation story meant when he talked about rest. Shabbat is the Jewish day of rest. But it means more than just having a nap when you **get home from school, you're tired and have had enough. It's more than that....**

So, when God created the world, he spoke the world in to being, he created humanity with his hands. Then, he rested. He blessed that day and made it holy. This day that is meant to be about rest was set apart as different from all the other days in the week. The Jews called this day of rest Shabbat. Shabbat is like Sunday for the Christian. Shabbat is not about the rush to church, football or the shops, and then trying to do bits around the house, homework and then spend a load of time on Netflix to find something to unwind for the evening. **Shabbat is more, it's about setting time apart for God and to rest in his presence. Resting in the fullest sense of the word. Shabbat involves marking the day as different, with ritual or routine either with family and friends. I'm not Jewish, (well Jewish heritage but that's another story) – but in my family there are things we do on our Shabbat.** Friday breakfast and tea is our family routine. We sit down at the dining table together which we will have laid with juice, a pot of tea, milk jug and will have a cooked element to mark our family day off. Rather than standing in the kitchen wolfing down a slice **of toast. I am married to a Vicar so our day off is Friday. When we don't take our Shabbat/Sabbath/Day off, we feel it. We need that routine of having a day set aside otherwise we really miss it. Shabbat is the weekly routine of resting to find yourself in God. Not having to do anything, but God still being there for you in your rest.**

**'Then Jesus said to the Pharisees, "The Sabbath day was made to help people; they were not made to be ruled by the Sabbath day. (Mark 2:27) Rest, doesn't just mean sleep. It means stopping what you usually do and doing those things that give us life. It means taking time for recreation, take time to breathe and relax. Recreation is re-creating. Take time to re-create yourselves - where you haven't given time for yourself, and have focussed on giving out - you need to take time for you. If you're an extrovert – hang out with friends: if you're an introvert – curl up with a book or journal. Resting in God on Shabbat might be going for a walk**

around a park or watching a Netflix episode with a hot chocolate and a blanket. This summer: as you work, have school holidays, await exam results, spend time with friends and family, may you take time to rest: breathing, creating, playing and taking time out. May you find out what it is to rest in God like no other rest you have ever known. Amen.



*Revd Susy Dand*

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## Parish News

**July's Patronal Festival weekend, was joyous and hot! A**

wonderful time of fellowship was enjoyed as we gave thanks for St Thomas the Apostle our patron. A huge thank you to all who helped out over that period, and the week before as we welcomed Mtr. Susy.

**August will be a usual 'Sabbath' for the church, but there are a couple of things to draw your attention to. First, August's Film Night is on 4<sup>th</sup> August at 7.30pm and is 'Star Wars: The Last Jedi'. Also, on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> September at 6:30pm we have our Panto Kick-off BBQ in the Vicarage Garden, "oh yes we do!". Everyone welcome to come, so please bring some meat to BBQ and a salad for the event.**

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Mother Susy being Ordained by Bishop Sarah, Bishop of London.

# 50+ Fellowship Summer Barbeque

## July 4<sup>th</sup> 2018

Once again, all roads led to the Robinson's residence for the 50+ fellowship's annual barbeque. It was a glorious day. England had progressed to the quarter finals of the World Cup the previous evening (by the grace of God) and everything was OK.

The group was a rich diversity of what the Christian family represents. **We saw some new faces and also a couple of VIP's (no! not Meghan and Harry! – but there's a thought – we'll invite them next year), but Mtr Susy, newly ordained Deacon, the new curate of St Thomas' and her unborn baby – our youngest visitor to date.**

The usual array of scrumptious cuisine was on display and as food and drink flowed we learned to toast in Armenian, Judaism and Arabic. Our hosts, Nick and Caroline waited on us tirelessly. I think they are true imitations of Galatians 5: 22-23 (ie: the fruits of the Spirit). All credit to Teresa for tackling the washing up even though Caroline assured her that it was unnecessary. Everyone enjoyed themselves.

All in all, another phenomenal event. Thank you Caroline, Nick and family for a super day.

*Eileen*



## From the Editors

Have a great summer break. All the best to Mtr Susy as she goes on maternity leave.

*Julia & Sue*



John Bunyan –

## **the man who wrote Pilgrim's Progress**

After the Bible, John Bunyan's wonderful Christian allegory, the Pilgrim's Progress, is one of the most celebrated and widely-read books in the English language. It has been translated into more than one hundred languages around the world and keeps its place as a Christian classic. Names of people and places from its pages have been commonplace wherever English is spoken. We need only recall Mr Great-Heart, Mr Valiant-for-Truth, Giant Despair, Madame Bubble, the Slough of Despond, Vanity Fair, the Delectable Mountains, the Hill Difficulty and the Celestial City.

Bunyan was born on 28 November 1628, at Elstow, near Bedford, England, of a poor family. He had little formal education and his father taught him to be a metal worker. His first wife died young. His second wife, Elizabeth, helped him considerably with his blossoming literary career. His conversion was the result of reading the Bible, and the witness of local Christians. From that time the Bible became the great inspiration of his life. He wrote more than fifty books on Christianity. A Baptist by conviction, he had little time for the Established Church. Bunyan became a popular preacher, but because of his opposition to the Established Church and because he did not have a Church of England preaching licence, he was imprisoned in 1661. It was in prison that he **wrote Pilgrim's Progress. It was not only Bunyan's greatest book but** was destined to become one of the most popular Christian books in the world.

**Pilgrim's Progress is an allegory, using the names of people and places** from the Bible to teach spiritual lessons. The vivid and unforgettable **imagery in the Pilgrim's Progress covers the whole Christian gospel** from sin and condemnation all the way through faith, repentance, grace, justification, sanctification, and perseverance to heaven itself.

Bunyan died on 31 August 1688. His portrayal of the death of Mr Valiant For Truth is Bunyan at his allegorical best. This brave old soldier **of Jesus Christ had received his summons to 'go home.'** **Calling his friends together he says,** *'My sword I give to him who shall succeed me in my pilgrimage ... My marks and scars I carry with me, to be a witness for me, that I have fought His battles, Who will now be my rewarder.'* ... *So he passed over, and all the trumpets sounded for him on the other side...'*

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## **Mtr Susy and Mtr Sophie's Ordination.**

On the 30th June (another very warm day), I wended my way to St Paul's Churchyard joining a long queue to witness the Ordination of Sophie and Suzy along with 36 others.

The Cathedral was palpable with expectation and at 3.00 pm the Great West Door opened with a fanfare and Sarah, The Bishop of London with area Bishops, other Dignitaries and candidates with their supporters processed up the centre aisle.

The Processional Hymn was "Glorious things of thee are spoken". Then the Bishop greeted the congregation and we had the Presentation of candidates.

There were readings from the Old and New Testament, more prayers and the new Deacons were welcomed facing the people where they were all applauded.

Then there was the Liturgy of the Eucharist where many of us received Holy Communion.

The anthem 'Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart' and the hymn 'Longing for Light, we wait in darkness, was sung.

After Communion the newly-ordained deacons assembled together with prayers and were each given a New Testament by their Area Bishop.

Then after more prayers we all sang the Recessional Hymn 'O Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end'.

Finally the Bishop lead the new Deacons and area Bishops back through the Great West Door to be photographed officially on the steps.

Then the congregation filed out happily to congratulate the new Deacons (I had a chat with Sophie and caught up with our Church Wardens).

I left with St Pauls' bells ringing joyfully; it was an afternoon I will long remember.





Mother Susy (middle second left) and Mother Sophie (front row left) with the other Willesden area deacons and Bishop Pete, Bishop of Willesden.



## A Prayer for August

Creator of all, thank You for summer! Thank You for the warmth of the sun and the increased daylight.

Thank You for the beauty I see all around me and for the opportunity to be outside and enjoy Your creation.

Thank You for the increased time I have to be with my friends and family, and for the more casual pace of the summer season. Draw me closer to You this summer. Teach me how I can pray no matter where I am or what I am doing. Warm my soul with the awareness of Your presence, and light my path with Your Word and Counsel.

As I enjoy Your creation, create in me a pure heart and a hunger and a thirst for You. Amen.

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# All in the month of August

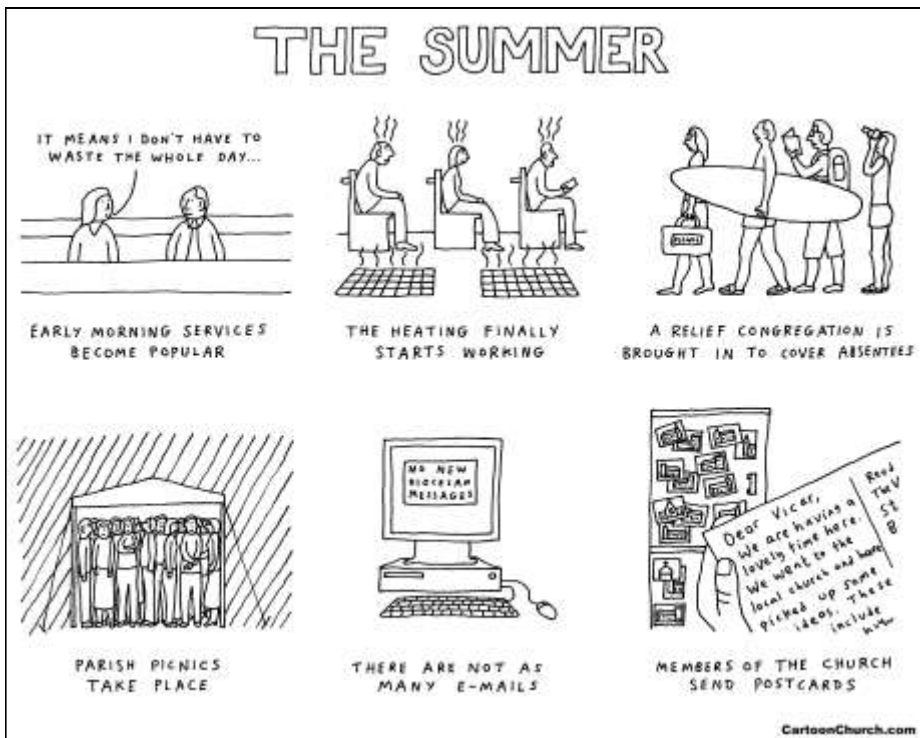
It was:

100 years ago, from 8<sup>th</sup> August to 11<sup>th</sup> November that the Hundred Days Offensive in France and Belgium, took place. Allied Victory leading to the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> World War and the collapse of the German empire.

25 years ago, on 4<sup>th</sup> August, 1993 that the three-year Rwandan Civil War ended with the signing of the Arusha Accords in Tanzania.

15 years ago, on 5<sup>th</sup> August 2003 that the Anglican Church in America appointed its first gay bishop, prompting anger from religious leaders around the world.

10 years ago, on 8<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> August that the 2008 Summer Olympic Games were held in Beijing China.





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The revised list of items needed:

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snacks & crackers, tinned rice pudding & custard, vegetarian chilli & curry,  
tinned fruit, ketchup & mayo (small sizes please)

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# Diary Dates



## JULY

29th Sun

9th after Trinity

## AUGUST

4th Sat

Churches together in Hanwell meeting at **St Mary's Church**  
10.00 -11.00

## SEPTEMBER

1st Sat

Panto 2019 kick-off BBQ.

8th Sat

Pictures by the Park

Baby/Toddler

Group

**St Thomas' Hall**

On

**CLOSED DURING AUGUST**

Wednesdays

## Copy Dates!

Copy date for September will be Sunday 12th August  
Copy date for October will be Sunday 9th September  
Copy date for November will be Sunday 14th October  
Copy date for December will be Sunday 4th November

## POP-IN

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## August

The Pop-In will be closed during August.  
It will reopen on Friday 7th September

The POP-IN is run by the Hanwell Neighbourly Care Scheme.

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