

50 pence



September 2020

The Trident

Early Autumn edition



The Parish Magazine of



Serving Hanwell and Beyond

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Our church is now open for the following services.



CHURCH RE-OPENED FOR
Sunday Parish Mass 10am
Children's Church 4pm
Said Masses Tuesday at Noon &
Saturday 9am
All Live Stream Services can be viewed by anyone on www.facebook.com/StThomasHanwell

All services, including those above, continue to be live-streamed.



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Sunday Parish Mass 10am (Public)
Evening Prayer 6.30pm (Private)
Masses: Tues (Public) & Wed (Private)
at Noon & Saturday (Public) 9am
Morning Prayer (Private Mon-Thurs) 8am
Night Prayer (Private Mon-Thurs) 7pm

FOR MORE INFORMATION LOG ONTO OUR WEBSITE:
www.thomashanwell.org.uk

All the information here is correct at the time of going to press, but as you know, the situation we find ourselves in changes on a daily basis, so if you need any further **help** or **you're not sure whether the church is open, you can email us at** st.thomas.office@btinternet.com



From our Vicar

C Major

pre-COVID during the lockdown after re-opening



Dear Friends
COVID19 has taken many victims, the most important of which are lives, but it has also taken its toll on many other areas. I write this a few hours before going on leave, and I do so to a very different sort of

background music. Normally as I write I listen to music; it has to be classical, as having an inability to concentrate means I end up singing along to anything more 'popular'. I write sermons to Bach, wrote my doctoral thesis to Wagner's *Parsifal*, listen to Beethoven for pleasure and if annoyed Mozart's Operas. Amateur psychologists make of that what you will! However, different background music in church seems now to be an unholy mixture of the ravages of COVID and a misplaced understanding of traditional church music.

By the end of July Westminster Abbey's choir is looking wobbly and Sheffield Cathedral have sacked their choir in a quest for the cathedral's music to be "more inclusive of its mixed urban community". I am not aware of the decision making process that led to this conclusion, but when 'in the north' was very aware of Sheffield Cathedral's enviable music outreach programme which put it in contact with thousands of school children. My fear about all this revolves around the perception of traditional church music as being elite and therefore, the argument goes, excluding of others.

Traditional choral music, at which the Anglican Church is arguably the finest exponent, is not about beautifully crafted music to impress the cultural elite, but beautifully crafted music to give glory to God and give the worshipper a way of glimpsing the divine. The reductionist, immanentist approach to liturgy, and especially music, argues that everything should be accessible and understandable. The outcome is 'keeping it simple'. Now such debates have existed for centuries, and led to the banning of polyphony in the Roman

Catholic Church for a period, and the liturgical expression of Quakerism. There is within this desire a noble intention for people to engage with God, something we all hope for. Yet the mystery of our faith in Christ Jesus is, to **a quote more modern hymn/song writer, 'meekness and majesty, manhood and deity, in perfect harmony...'** Yes, God became incarnate, but he also reigns in heaven. Our Church music should at its best, articulate that, and provide the mode by which the people of God can know that breadth. For those who are grappling with mystery, searching, trying to find answers, traditional Church Music has always provided a place for that contemplative exploration. Thus, I believe the Revd Dr. Giles Fraser is on to something **when he calls 'Bach the greatest theologian'. Worship is not about wrapping God up into musically neat 'brown paper packages tied up with string', but pilgrimage** which allows for the divine to be glimpsed and experienced. Such sentiments are not clean, they are often as elusive as the management speak that seeks to get rid of it. Hence, in the end, it is not about cultural elites or even perceptions of class, but rather finding ways to access the divine which articulate the enormity of that musical mission.

Whatever your background music is, or will be over these COVID, lock-down, re-opening times, my prayer is that through the gift of music, prayers and praises may go up, and the divine love come down.

Your friend and priest

Fr. Robert





Parish News

September always seems to kick-start the next phase in our life together, This year that is especially true. Of course few of us know what lies ahead, but we continue in our mission to serve God in Hanwell and beyond.

St Thomas' has already re-opened on a Sunday, and we seek to continue to provide eucharistically centred music that serves those who come. Please look at the pattern elsewhere in the Trident and avail yourselves of the Masses.

Our Children's Church will re-start on 6th September and be an exciting mixture of activities and eucharistic devotion. The children are hoping to learn how to do various roles which will, when we are back together, serve **the wider community of St Thomas'.**

The Hall is also re-opening in a sensibly staged process so that our community may be served. Gill Shaw has done wonders over July and August trying to ensure that we can safely re-open, even allowing for constraints. Like everyone else we are having to navigate what this new normal looks like; we are feeling more confident now that we are driving the process. Part of this is ensuring that our buildings are in the best state to meet these changing demands.

Finally, on 29th November Archdeacon of Northolt, Catherine Pickford, will be coming to preach. This is wonderful as it will be the first time our new Advent Set from a legacy from Ammini Burman will be used. As we speak Shaan Latif-Shaikh is sewing away.

Please continue to pray for one another, serve one-another, and bless one **another, we have a special community here in St Thomas'!**

I hope those of you who have had some form of holiday had a wonderful break, and best wishes to our young people who begin a new academic year.



A prayer for September

Dear Father in heaven, you are always near to us on earth, and we thank you for all the love you put into our lives so that we can be joyful, even in all kinds of temptations and struggles.

How much you have given us and how often you have rescued us from distress! Again and again you have let the light of life shine out. You give us light not only for the moment but also for the future, enabling us to draw strength and assurance from the present, the past, and the future, to the glory of your name.

Amen.

Henry Montgomery Campbell

Bishop of London 1956-1961

Henry Colville Montgomery Campbell was the son of Sydney Montgomery Campbell, an Anglican priest, and was educated at Malvern College, and Brasenose College, Oxford, before attending Wells Theological College. **He married Joyce Mary Thicknesse, herself a vicar's daughter, in 1916, and they went on to have 4 daughters and a son.**

Montgomery Campbell was ordained in 1910, and served as vicar or rector in a number of London parishes. As vicar of Hornsey he ran a centre for the unemployed, in a building given to him by the government. In 1933, on his father-in-law's retirement, **he succeeded him as rector of St George's, Hanover Square.** He had a distinguished wartime service record, and received the Military Cross for bravery at Gallipoli.

In 1940 Montgomery Campbell was consecrated a bishop, and was suffragan bishop of Willesden, Kensington and Guildford before becoming Bishop of London. In 1949 when he became Bishop of Guildford, his diocese was quite a recent creation, having been formed in 1927 as the new cathedral by Edward Maufe was under construction. The pro-cathedral, Holy Trinity Church, in which Montgomery Campbell was enthroned, was by coincidence the building in which he had been ordained a priest 38 years earlier.

The Times recorded many of Montgomery Campbell's words in their columns, as he was a very witty man, although sometimes cutting. He described Geoffrey Fisher, Archbishop of Canterbury, as "a hard man - he boils his eggs in widows' tears". When he was about to interview an ordinand he said **"Come in, Brown, take a chair"**. The young man corrected him, **"Fiennes-Brown, my Lord"**. **"Take two chairs" was the reply.** Commenting on his predecessors and successors at Guildford, he said **"The first Bishop of Guildford went out of his mind, the second had no mind to go out of, then they had me, then a saint, and now they have started all over again."**

He was a modest man and didn't regard himself as a scholar, only a Father in God who went round parishes visiting the chaps - "the only thing I am any good at". This was an underestimate of his abilities: in his obituary he was described as a **'wise and discerning administrator, who could quickly**

grasp the essentials of a situation and impart to it his own sure touch. He **was at heart a man of prayer and great dedication.**'

Montgomery Campbell retired in 1961, and died in 1970 at the age of 83. His funeral was a quiet service at St Stephens, Westminster, then there followed a memorial service a month later at St Paul's Cathedral.



Our moments of happiness are those when we see a burning light through the bars of our personal prison, when for some amazing reason we look out through the cracks; or perhaps by suffering with someone in charity, we leap out of the prison itself, guided by the Spirit, which has never lost its New Testament talent for walking through brick walls. The grace of God is in my mind shaped like a key, that comes from time to time and unlocks the heavy doors.
Donald Swann

Kind words can be short and easy
to speak, but their echoes are truly
endless.
Mother Teresa

The story behind ... Abide with Me

One of the most famous hymns in the world came out of Brixham, near Torbay, Devon, in 1847.

In those days it was a poor, obscure fishing village, and the vicar was the Rev Henry Francis Lyte. It was a discouraging place to be a pastor, but Henry felt that God wanted him there, and so he stayed, though it was lonely work, and he suffered constant ill health.

By the time he was 54, Henry had contracted tuberculosis and asthma, and he and his family knew he was dying. It would have been so easy for him to look back on his life and feel a complete failure. What had he ever much accomplished? And yet, Henry knew that in life it is not worldly success that matters, but how much we respond to Jesus Christ, and how much we follow Him.

In September of 1847 Henry was preparing to travel to the south of France, as was the custom for people with tuberculosis at that time. One day before he left, he read the story in the gospel of Luke about the two disciples on the road to Emmaus. They were met by Jesus on the day of His resurrection, **and they invited Him to stay with them because it was getting late. “Abide with us”, they said “for it is towards evening.”**

“Abide with us - for it is toward evening.” These words struck a chord with Henry, who knew that it was getting ‘towards evening’ in his life. So, he sat down and wrote this hymn as a prayer to God – *(the following are just some of the verses*

*Abide with me; fast falls the eventide;
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me
abide!*

*When other helpers fail and comforts
flee,
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.*

**Swift to its close ebbs out life’s little day;
Earth’s joys grow dim; its glories pass
away;
Change and decay in all around I see;**

*O Thou who changest not, abide with
me.*

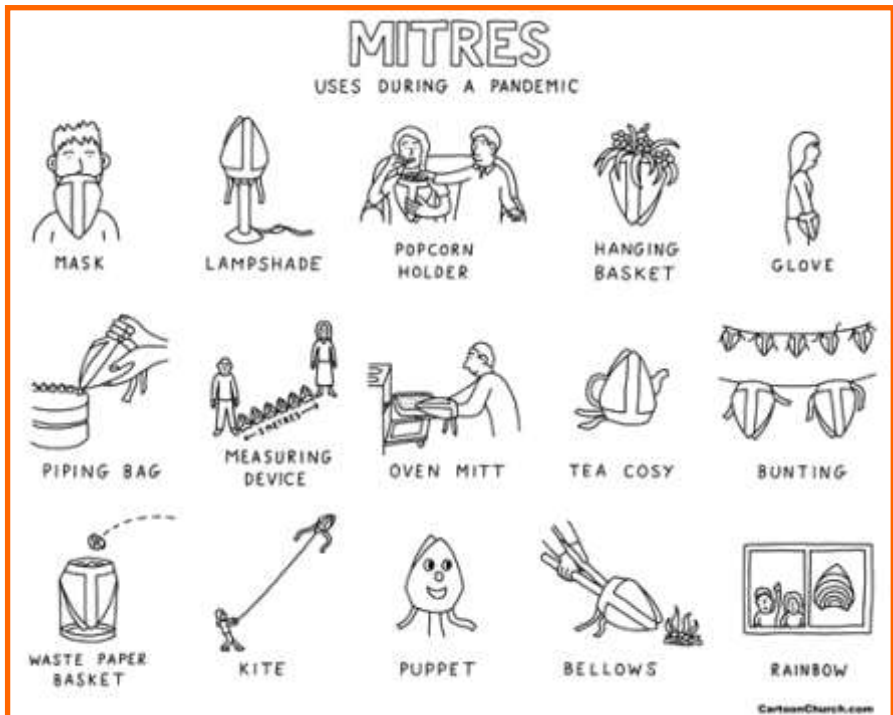
*I fear no foe, with Thee at hand to
bless;
Ills have no weight, and tears no
bitterness.*

**Where is death’s sting? Where, grave,
thy victory?
I triumph still, if Thou abide with me.**

Shortly after Henry wrote that hymn, he preached his last sermon. He was so ill he practically crawled into the pulpit to do so. A few weeks later, in Nice, France, he died, and so of course he never knew that his hymn would go on to become greatly loved the world over.



Who Knew? The former Vietnamese leader, Ho Chi Minh worked in the kitchens of the Drayton Court Hotel in West Ealing in 1914. Following this in 1945, he established the Communist-ruled Democratic Republic of Vietnam in 1945. Following the Vietnam War which ended in 1975, The Democratic Republic was reunited **with South Vietnam and it's former capital, Saigon,** was renamed Ho Chi Minh City in his honour. Ho Chi Minh stepped down from power in 1965.



Terracycle News

It seems during this lock down and working from home, we have drunk more coffee, eaten more crisps and fed our pets more. Or maybe we have just made more of an effort to recycle our packaging.

Either way I have received lots of crisp packets and pet food packets, as well as biscuit wrappers and baby food pouches. Some of these have been left at the church and Father Robert and his family have kindly put them in the hall for me to collect and some people have been bringing their recycling to my house (I dread to think what my neighbours think I am up to!) .

The Tassimo crate which is outside the church hall, down the lane to the park and the vicarage, is regularly being filled and I have had full crates collected three times since March, that is over 450kg (71 stones) of pods. Keep saving your recycling but remember to

- Wash out the cat food pouches
- Keep the different items separate (pet food /cake and biscuit wrappers/baby food pouches /crisp packets)
- No nut packets
- Please do not send other plastics, even if they look the right sort, it contaminates the batch and we do not get any money

To date we have raised £3000 and many tonnes of plastics have been repurposed as picnic tables, playground equipment and watering cans instead of going to landfill.

See <https://www.terracycle.com/en-GB/pages/recycled-products> for more details.

The church and hall may still not be open as often as before the pandemic for you to leave your waste, but if you have any questions please contact me at paulinesbritton@hotmail.com

Pauline

23rd Sept The Autumnal Equinox

When the sun goes edgewise – and daytime equals night

23rd September is the autumnal equinox (if you live in the northern hemisphere) or the vernal (Spring) equinox (if you live in the southern hemisphere) The equinoxes occur in March and September, when the Sun is 'edgewise' to the Earth's axis of rotation, so that everywhere on earth has twelve hours of daylight and twelve hours of darkness.

Music and memory

Have you ever heard a certain song or tune that immediately takes you back to your youth? It can be a very poignant moment.

When researchers at the University of Westminster examined the choices of 80 different guests on the BBC radio show *Desert Island Discs*, they found that most guests had chosen music which dated back to when they had **been between 10 to 30 years old. This time span was identified as a 'self-defining period' in their lives.**

The research concluded: "The music we know and love between the ages of 10 to 30 will play a significant role throughout our lives, connecting us as individuals to other people, places and times that become central to our identity."



From the Editors

September seems to have come along very quickly. We'd like to wish all our young people returning to, or starting at school, college and university, the very best of luck.

Jul & Sue

Opinions expressed in this magazine are those of the individual contributors and not necessarily those of the Church, the Vicar, the editors or the PCC.

Copy Dates!

Copy date for October is on Sunday September 13th.
Copy date for November is on Sunday October 11th.

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The central store is at St Mellitus Church, 1 Church Road, Hanwell W7. Open between 10:00 and 16:00 on Wednesdays. To maintain social distancing, please come to the front door of the church hall & step back.

The foodbank will answer you, and should then come round to the car park and the double green doors will be opened for you. You will need to bring food items in by yourself. You can always contact the foodbank on 07769 759 756 or email info@ealing.foodbank.org.uk

Please do not drop food in at the cafes and remember that many churches are closed. However, there are donation points at many of the local supermarkets which are listed on the website.

THE AUGUST SHOPPING LIST **

Longlife juice & squash - 1litre, Savoury biscuits/crackers, tinned rice pudding & ready-made custard, chick peas & kidney beans, jam & peanut butter, tinned fruit & vegetables, ketchup & mayo, cooking oil - 250ml/ 500ml/1litre, shower gel/hair shampoo, washing powder/liquid, any type - smaller sizes, nappies sizes 4 & 6

Thank you but the foodbank has plenty of pasta, meat, fish and UHT milk

** please remember that our magazine is produced in August for Sept so **it's the August list that we publish. For this reason, it's always best to check the current list on the Foodbank website or twitter.**

<https://ealing.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/>

Twitter: @EalingFoodbank.

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