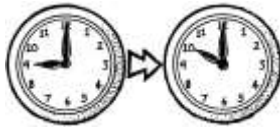


50 Pence



March 2017

The Trident




The Parish Magazine of



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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'S.

REGULAR MEETINGS

MONDAY	12.30 PM	HANWELL HOMELESS CONCERN
	4.45 PM	RAINBOW GUIDES
	6.00 PM	BROWNIES
TUESDAY	5.30 PM	BEAVERS
	6.30PM	CUBS
WEDNESDAY		11.00AM - 12.30PM
	10.30AM	MOTHER AND BABY/TODDLER GROUP
	7.30PM	STUDY GROUP & COMPLINE (FIRST WED OF EACH MONTH)
THURSDAY	7.00 PM	GUIDES
FRIDAY	10.30 - 12 NOON	'POP-IN'
	7.00 PM	SCOUTS (AT 'THE WARREN' TRUMPERS WAY)
	7.00 PM	CHOIR

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From our Vicar

Dear Friends

On March 1st the extremely important season of Lent begins. On that day I will be reflecting on its meaning to children at Oaklands Primary and fellow penitents at the

Ash Wednesday Mass that night at St Thomas'.

And this Ash Wednesday, like many others, the sung response from Psalm 51 will be going through my head like a mantra: *Have mercy on us Lord, for we have sinned.*

That response sums up for me the essence of the Lenten journey; we begin Lent by first acknowledging we are *all* sinners. We then, as the psalm goes on to remind us, ask God to wash away our guilt, and surround us with his mercy and compassion. It continues to then ask Him for a clean heart and steadfast spirit. Finally, the Psalm asks God to give us back the full joy we have lost through our sins and to then keep His praises on our lips.

That culmination is perhaps the profound bit of Lent. We are, thanks to the words of the service, very aware of our short-comings, and our experience of life reinforces that reality. However, the Lord's praises always on our lips? Lent is not just about sorrow and pain, but also restoration and the promise of joy. Thus Lent is not an excuse for 40 days of beating ourselves up over our public and our less than public misdemeanours, it is coming back to the source of our life and transformation; God. This reorientation, the moving from one direction to another, is why the early church adopted the word *metanoia* to describe repentance. I was reminded of that during a conversation at the Tots Group with a mum who is exploring a course in **psychotherapy at a place called 'Metanoia' in Ealing.**

So what do all these various ideas mean for us when we pray that we keep a **'holy' Lent? Perhaps that word 'holy' offers us a way in.**

'Holy' is often misunderstood to mean 'pure', but it actually means to be set apart. Thus, Israel was a 'holy nation' not because they were more pure than anyone else, but rather because they were set apart by God for a special job; to be a light to other nations. When we pray for a holy Lent we are actually praying to be set apart, or perhaps to set some time apart to, yes, recall our sins, our short-comings, but also to ask for restoration and joy.

Can I encourage you then to set apart time to ask for God's mercy, but also his joy and salvation. That journey is our 'desert journey' from sin and death to resurrection and joy.

Have a Holy Lent, and pray for me a sinner too

Fr. Robert



Parish News

At the end of January the PCC had an afternoon at Holy Trinity Church, Perivale to spend time together reflecting and praying. During this time together we had a presentation from Kevin Ogilvie the Willesden Area Finance Advisor. He came in response to us asking for advice on a Giving/Stewardship Campaign this year at St

Thomas'. The session was immensely helpful and encouraging and will form a good foundation for the tone of the campaign. A small sub-group will meet soon with Kevin to discuss where we go from here in ensuring that St Thomas' continues to effectively serve Hanwell and beyond.

One of the important mission aims of the parish was to use St Thomas' as a concert venue and we had the privilege in February of welcoming the D'Angelo Trio which is headed up by our friend and former organist, Jim D' Angelo. On 4th April in the evening a concert will be given by students of the London College of Music. This is reflective of our on-going and developing relationship with the LCM which looks very exciting for the future. The details of the 4th are not yet finalized but will include a performance of the Finzi Clarinet Concerto, and possibly some songs by R. Vaughan Williams. Please put the date in your diary!

Finally, as I mentioned in my Letter we will soon be in the season of Lent, and this offers wonderful opportunities to re-orientate our lives. The season begins with the Ash Wednesday Mass and the imposition of ash at 7.30pm on 1st March. During Lent there will be a pattern of extra devotions, services and Lent Study Groups. Please do avail yourself of these as I promise they will make the experience of Lent so much more profound.

Spring

Another winter finished;
Our hearts are full of joy!
The icy frosts diminish
And summer sun's ahoy!

Last summer seems so distant
The autumn leaves long gone;
But now, each passing instant
Is full of sunny song.

The seasons flow reminds us –
The climbing, sinking sun;
That death's dread cords won't bind
us
Our time with Christ will come!

Recycling for the organ appeal

For the past few years I have been collecting recycling for the Organ appeal
So far I have raised £1200

As well as collecting coffee bags and coffee lids and Tassimo pods & foil bags and food pouches from Ellas kitchen, I collect biscuit wrappers. I pack these into cardboard boxes and using a free post label I take them to the post office. The recycling centre take the biscuit wrappers and after sorting and cleaning them they form the plastic into pellets, that can be made into new items such as picnic benches and rubbish bins.

Please note because the items are recycled into new items, I cannot send off crisp packets or popcorn bags.

Collection boxes are in the church hall and the front porch of the church.

Pauline

Book Review

The Speaker's Wife by Quentin Letts in paperback 2016 £8.99

For readers who enjoy a novel with topical issues I recommend this book as a "good read".

It mixes politics and religion in a heady mix of intrigue with the Church of England's sympathetic Priest struggling to cope with his liquid life!

I liked the quotes from traditional hymns and the Prayer Book.

The only downside is the need to refer back to the list of characters frequently, as there are a lot of them to remember.

For library users I borrowed this book from Hounslow's Osterley Library, but no doubt it is in Ealing too, so one wouldn't even need to buy it.

Jo

“When we love, we always strive to become better than we are. When we strive to become better than we are, everything around us becomes better too.”

— Paulo Coelho, The Alchemist



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WEST LONDON
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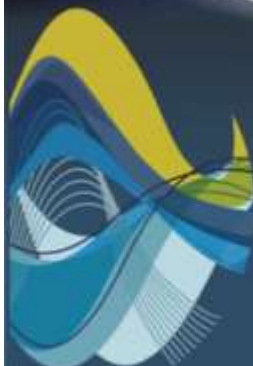
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St Thomas' Fun Run!

Sunday 23rd April at 2pm

5K or 2.5K

Starting and finishing at St Thomas' Church Hall, Boston Road,
Hanwell

Come and join us for a walk, jog or run around Elthorne Park and the fields beyond

Only £5 entry fee. All finishers will receive a medal and there will be awards for the fastest in different age categories.

Women of St Thomas Eat Out in Style (and Quantity...)

The idea of an evening out started off as an invite to 'anyone vaguely connected to the Sunday School', but as word (and email) spread, fourteen of us met for a sumptuous meal at the 'Persian Palace'. We braved the cold wind and sleet by bus, bike and foot. Old timers and new faces got to know each other better. Thanks to partners and friends babysitting, there were no children to run after and conversations could last for more than a minute or two. My favourite story of the evening was hearing how Olivia had walked to post Christmas cards in the snow with a live mouse in her boot initially thinking it was a sock, but then had her doubts. The food was as good as the company. Our plates were piled with high with more than anyone could eat. Starters were gorgeous with newly **baked flat bread, dips and fresh herbs. This isn't meant to be an advert for the Persian Palace..... They are always full so don't need any more promotion... but...**

We plan to go out again later in the year – all women are invited and if you would like to hear about any future social events, please email me on a.crowe@doctors.net.uk

Suggestions of where to go are always welcome especially if BYO.

Annabel Crowe



Programme of Events 2017

Month	Date	Topic/Speaker
January	11 th January	A talk on Charles Rennie Mackintosh
February	8 th February	Games Nights
March	8 th March	'Staying Alive' Basic Life Support
April	12 th April	A talk about the work of Ealing Food Bank (TBC)
May	10 th May	Travels in Japan
June	14 th June	Lawn Bowls
July	12 th July	Art Workshop
August	9 th August	A quiz walk around Hanwell
September	13 th September	Secrets and Surprises of the London Underground
October	11 th October	AGM and quiz night
November	8 th November	Flowers / Christmas Wreaths (TBC)
December	13 th December	Christmas Party

Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month, 7.30pm in the William Hobbayne Centre, St Dunstan's Road, W7.
Visitors are very welcome (£3.00 please)



Prayer for Family Love

Dear Heavenly Father,
We thank you for your love for us and that we are adopted into your family.

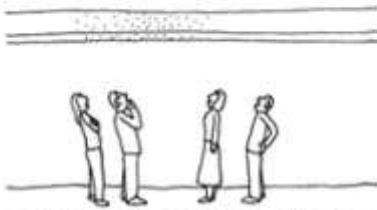
Thank you for Mary and her willingness to serve you as the mother of your Son.

Lord, it must have been so hard to see the suffering of her boy on that cross, however grown up He may have been and however much she knew He was yours as well. He was her baby! Please help those of us with children always to lift them to you in prayer whenever they have problems, remembering that when we can no longer pick them up and help them, you always can.

Thank you for our earthly families; for mothers and fathers, aunties and uncles, grandmas and grand-dads, brothers and sisters - help us to lives of loving kindness. Help us to reflect your love in all our relationships.

In Jesus' name,
Amen.

TERRIBLE DISCOVERIES



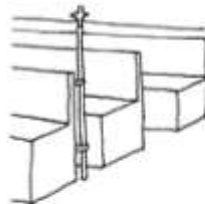
THE BEAMS ARE ROTTEN AND COULD COLLAPSE AT ANY MOMENT



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SOMEONE HAS EATEN ALL OF THE BISCUITS



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Thank you for your support. Please continue to give by

providing any of these items in one of the green Foodbank collection boxes situated inside the church porches.

The revised list of items needed: Vegetable curry, noodles (instant or pot), rice (small pack), long-life puddings and cakes, long-life juice and small packs of toilet rolls

Thank you.

Terracycle recycling for Organ Fund

We are still collecting
Coffee bean packaging
Coffee jar lids
Tassimo pods and foil bags
Biscuit wrappers

Ella's kitchen baby
food pouches & lids



Find out more at www.terracycle.co.uk

Women's World Day of Prayer 3rd March – Philippines

On Friday 3rd March over 5,000 services will be held in the British Isles on the theme of **'Am I Being Unfair to You?'** The Christian women of the Philippines wrote the service and it has been translated into 1,000 different languages and dialects, to be used, throughout the whole world, on that day, starting at sunrise over the island of Samoa and continuing until sunset off the coast of American Samoa.

In 2013, Typhoon Haiyan – **named locally as 'Yolanda'** – struck the Philippine islands in the western Pacific Ocean. This is mentioned in the service but you will also hear the stories of a girl, a mother and an older woman, recounting their situations and their hopes and fears.

The service focusses on the Bible story of the workers in the vineyard: Matthew 20 v 1-16. There is a reflection on the artwork designed by **Rowena 'Apol' Laxamana**-Sta.Rosa. It is very thought provoking and illustrates contrasting scenes. Why not find out more about the theme, the Philippines and the service? The Day of Prayer is not just for women. Everyone is welcome to attend the service.

For more details, visit www.wwdp.org.uk

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- *STAY FOR TEN MINUTES OR THE MORNING!

March

- 3rd - tea, coffee and cakes
- 10th - tea, coffee and cakes
- 17th - tea, coffee and cakes
- 24th - tea, coffee and cakes

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



From the Editors

Thank you once again to all those who have contributed to **this month's magazine. We have a book review this month which is something we'd like to have more of** - also if **you've had a great day out somewhere** - do let us know.

Jul & Sue

Copy Dates!

Copy date for the April magazine will be Sunday 12th March
Copy date for the May magazine will be Sunday 9th April

The opinions expressed in this magazine are those of the individual contributors and not necessarily those of the Church, the Vicar, the Editors or of the PCC. The editors reserve the right to edit items sent in for publication.

Diary Dates



FEBRUARY

26th Sun Sunday next before Lent

MARCH

1st Wed Ash Wednesday
 Mass and imposition of ash at 7:30

4th Sat Churches Together in Hanwell prayer
 meeting at South Hanwell Baptist Church 10-11

5th Sun 1st Sunday of Lent

12th Sun 2nd Sunday of Lent

19th Sun 3rd Sunday of Lent

21st Tues PCC meeting

26th Sun 4th Sunday of Lent
 Mothering Sunday

APRIL

Sat 1st Churches Together in Hanwell prayer
meeting at St Christopher's
 Church 10-11

Sun 2nd Passion Sunday

Sun 9th Palm Sunday

Thur 13th Maundy Thursday

Fri 14th Good Friday

Sun 16th Easter Day

Sun 23rd 2nd Sunday of Easter
St Thomas' Fun Run 2pm

Sun 30th 3rd Sunday of Easter

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