

50 Pence



September 2017

The Trident



The Parish Magazine of



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CHURCH OF ENGLAND

WE DO HOPE THAT YOU WILL FEEL WELCOME TO COME TO OUR SERVICES

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
	6.30PM	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)
	7.00 PM	CHOIR

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From our Vicar

Dear Friends

During holidays there is the chance to do things you would not ordinarily get the chance to do. For some it is **reading those novels they 'always intended to read'**, for others it may be spending time under canvas. For me it is

a brief period of 'binge-watching' a series. I have to confess it is nothing terribly high-brow, it is in fact *King of the Hill*. For those unfamiliar with this, it is a cartoon series mapping out the lives of residents on a street in the fictitious town of Arlen, Texas. The central protagonists are the Hill family, made up of Hank, the father, Peggy, the mother, Bobby, the son and Luane, **Peggy's niece. In one wonderful episode a group of visiting Buddhists monks** believe Bobby is the reincarnation of holy lama. Hank, a serious Methodist, is appalled at this idea and confronts Bobby. In the ensuing row Hank comes **out with the wonderful line, "we're Christians we don't do that stuff. Why do you thing we go to church every Sunday; for fun?"** To which Bobby replies, **"Well why do we go?"**

Bobby's question has, over the centuries, been met with many answers. I suspect if you ask anybody in St Thomas' that question you would get a myriad of different answers.

The Church at its best will resonate and connect with different people in different ways and touch the reality of life and offer a transformative hope. In 2009 the Roman Catholic priest Timothy Radcliffe gave his answer to that question and even entitled the book accordingly. *Why Go to Church? The Drama of the Eucharist* argues that the Eucharist provides the answer to the question. He acknowledges that for many people attending Church **regularly, 'nothing much seems to happen'. However, he argues that at** church, in the Eucharist, a drama unfolds which reveals both the reality of the nature of God and ourselves. He does this by recalling the story of the resurrection and what unfolds. He quotes Herbert McCabe, who describes **the experience of the disciples after the resurrection: 'People are not just** recognising Jesus as the man they knew was killed. They are recognizing him as the man they *sort of* knew and *thought they knew, but didn't really know until now'* (p. 144). **Radcliffe roots this difficulty in recognising God by** bringing us back to our Sunday church experience. He says we live in a secular society where God seems to have disappeared, and yet the physical **presence of God we are offered at Church is 'a thin, tasteless wafer! This, we are told, is the foretaste of the heavenly banquet...Donagh O'Shea OP** maintains that the first act of faith required is that it is bread!' (p. 145) Hence, reality and faith come together.

Radcliffe's focus may seem narrow, and may not have much to do with Bobby Hill's quest for fun. Yet, in a world of differing realities encompassing

pain and joy, loss and gain, the recalling of an action centred around death and resurrection is vital and transforming.

In September life seems to return 'to normal'. My prayer is that part of that normality will be gathering around the altar at St Thomas'; it may even be fun(!).

Your friend and priest
Fr. Robert



Parish News

September sometimes feels like the church's defibrillator as we are jump-started back into life.

On 6th September the 50+ fellowship group will meet at 1pm at **St John's, Hampstead. There we will attend a free concert and be given a tour of this fascinating church and graveyard.** Fr. Jeremy Fletcher, who preached at our Patronal Festival, will host us.

The Panto launch BBQ is on Saturday 2nd September at 6pm at the Vicarage. Please bring something to BBQ and drink. If you would like to be **involved in 2018's Panto, either on stage or behind the scenes, please do come along.**

Also importantly 17th September sees our annual Harvest Thanksgiving Eucharist and Harvest Lunch.

Finally, a date for the diary, on 14th October we will hold our Caribbean and International night.

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

Copy Dates!

Copy date for the October magazine will be Sunday 10th September

Copy date for the November magazine will be Sunday 1st October

Copy date for the December magazine will be Sunday 5th November



From the Editors

Welcome back from your summer holidays. September will be a busy month with the start of the preparations for our next pantomime and our harvest festival and lunch. Please note the early copy dates for both November and December.

Jul + Sue

Seven Priests walk into a bar.....

A group of seminarians clad in black clerical clothing were refused service recently in a pub because the bar staff thought they were in fancy dress and on a stag do.

The seven student Catholic priests had headed to the City Arms in Cardiff to celebrate the ordination of a colleague, Fr Peter McLaren, at Cardiff Metropolitan Cathedral of St David earlier in the day. But the bartender, worried that they were a bunch of lads likely to become lairy, told them **“sorry gents, we don’t do fancy dress or stag dos.”**

They thought at first it was a joke, but once it became clear that this was not the case, they turned to leave. They were then approached by the assistant manager, Matt Morgan, who had finally twigged that they were genuine, and invited them back in. By way of apology he graciously treated them to a round of drinks, prompting an outburst of applause from the locals.

“We do have quite a few issues on the weekends with parties wearing fancy dress so it is our policy to turn them away,” said Matt. **“I started to realise that they were quite serious – and in the end we invited them in and gave them a free round of drinks.”**

Much merriment followed, especially when it turned out that one of the visiting priests was called Rev Robert James – sharing a name with one of **the brewery Brains’ most popular beers, the Rev James.**

Encouraged by the popular reaction of the local community to the clerics, the seminarians plan to return to the pub.

A spokesman for the Archdiocese of Cardiff said the seven took the episode in good humour. Despite being initially shocked, their main concern was **‘where are we going for our pint now?’** He continued: **“We’d like to thank the City Arms for being good sports through all of this and their kind gesture to our seminarians – and please note a number of our clergy, including the Archbishop of Cardiff, frequent your bar so don’t turf any more out please!”**



Brownie Pack holiday

– off to Never land

This year 19 brownies, 2 guides and 4 leaders set off for **Westgate on Sea for a week's Pack holiday. Our theme was Peter Pan.** We travelled by tube to Victoria station, then

onwards to Kent, from there, a 5 minute walk to the hall.

We soon set about putting up our camp beds and unrolling our sleeping bags and duvets, then off to see the sea, another 5 minute walk. The tide was out so the sea was a fair way out, but there was a vast expanse of golden sand, where we played until tea time.

After church on Sunday we wrote postcards home and started decorating a beach bag with stickers of our sixes- Mermaids, Lost boys, Pirates and

Redskins. We then went back down to the beach for a game of “beat the tide”. Tiger Lily (Maddie, a guide) built 4 sand castles and the brownies had to defend the flag on the top from the incoming tide by building walls and moats. Unfortunately the tide won - very quickly!

We visited Canterbury where we dressed up as monks and kings and pilgrims and Archbishops. We learnt about Thomas Becket and saw where he was martyred. Then we went to the education centre where we tried writing with quill pens and colouring stained glass windows. We had a go at carving rock, and using a winch to lift boxes. For dinner that night we had fish and chips on the beach carefully avoiding feeding the seagulls.

Later that week we went to Margate and had a tour of the lifeboat station and learnt about the work of life guards on the beach. We were very fortunate to see the life guards training in the harbour. Then a walk home and a well-earned ice-cream .

The weather during the week was a little rainy and a bit windy but this did not dampen our spirits; our clothes, however, did spend time on airers, backs of chairs and washing lines strung up around the hall!

We caught crabs using a piece of string and mussels we broke open and tied to the end as bait. We made sand castles and sand art using shells and seaweed, and on the last day despite the weather most of us went swimming in the sea.

When Saturday arrived we had the best weather yet, sunny and warm, but it was time to go home. We went to the beach for a final play before getting the train home again, happy to see our parents and full of stories of our adventures.

We have to thank Sheila who came from Worcester to cook for us, her daughter Lucy, and also Nicki a brownie mum who helped in the kitchen. Bev- Brown Owl - Peter Pan and Pauline -Tawny Owl -Tinkerbell

The Church Wardens

Churches stand in ev'ry parish

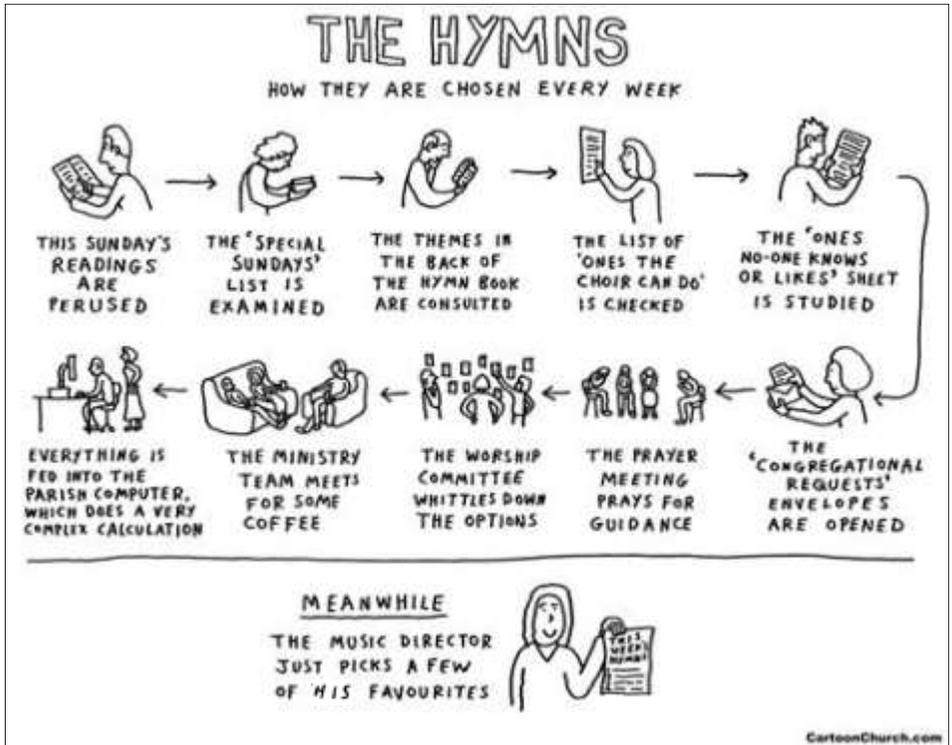
Of this green and pleasant land
Some are small, yet so historic
Some are large, ornate, and grand.

Some have roofs that need repairing
Some have other wear and tear
Some have beetles, rot, or
woodworm
But they all need loving care!

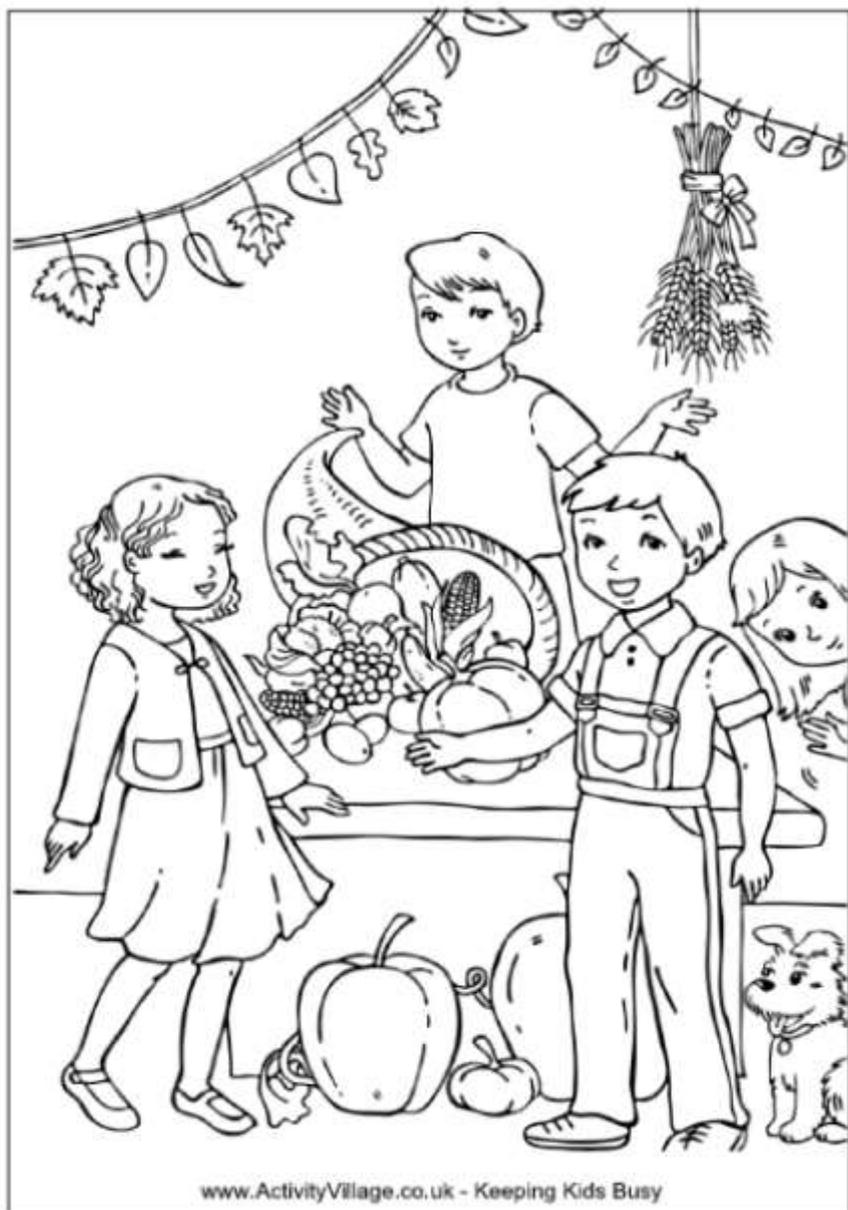
Thousands, then, of ancient churches
Being kept up to their prime
In the care of all those wardens
Giving freely of their time.

Yet much more than just the
buildings
Occupy these sterling folk!
Rotas, meetings, service duties
Yet you'll hear them laugh and joke!

So, to all these lovely people
Who have so much work to do
And do it all without complaining
**From our hearts, we say "Thank
you!"**



Childrens' Page



Colouring competition

There will be a small prize for the best colouring of the picture in 3 age groups: <5 5-8 9-10

Please write name and age on the back and hand in to one of the Brownie leaders by the end of September.

At Harvest time we give thanks to God for all his gifts and we share some of them with others.

H A R V E S T

Use the letters of the word Harvest to find the answers to these clues. The number tells you how many letters in the answer.

1. It twinkles in the sky (4)
2. Most men do this every day (5)
3. We wear this under a shirt (4)
4. The opposite of love (4)
5. A vital organ in our body (5)
6. After exercise we need to _____ (4)
7. Grown ups enjoy a cup of _____ (3)
8. An animal a bit like a rabbit (4)
9. A word meaning huge (4)
10. To look intently at something (5)

Family Quiz Night



7th Hanwell (St Thomas') Scout Group

Saturday 7th October 2017

St Thomas' Church Hall, Boston Road
6.45 for 7.00pm start



Please bring your own drinks and glasses
Come as a team, or if you like we can put you in a team. Tables of 8
Entry £12 (Children under 14 £10) - Includes supper

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Sunday	CLOSED

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Back on Sept 13th

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Diary Dates



AUGUST

Sun 27th 11th after Trinity. Mass at 08:00 & 10:00

SEPTEMBER

Sat 2nd Churches Together in Hanwell Prayer Meeting at North Hanwell Baptist Church
Sat 2nd Panto Kick-Off BBQ at 18:00.
Sun 3rd 12th after Trinity
Sun 10th 13th after Trinity
Sun 17th 10:00 Harvest Festival followed by Harvest bring & share lunch
Sun 24th 15th after Trinity
Tues 26th PCC meeting, 20:00

OCTOBER

Sun 1st 16th after Trinity
Sat 7th Churches Together in Hanwell Prayer Meeting
at St Thomas' Church.
Scout Quiz (see page 10)

POP-IN

POP- IN ON FRIDAYS

AT ST THOMAS' CHURCH HALL
FROM 10.30AM TO 12 NOON

*COME FOR TEA, COFFEE, BISCUITS AND A CHAT

*MEET YOUR FRIENDS AND MAKE NEW ONES!
*STAY FOR TEN MINUTES OR THE MORNING!

SEPTEMBER

8th - tea, coffee and cakes
15th - tea, coffee and cakes
22nd - tea, coffee and cakes
29th - tea, coffee and cakes

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



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