

50 Pence



August 2017

The Trident




The Parish Magazine of



Serving Hanwell and Beyond

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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

A couple of weeks ago the Church of England's General Synod met to debate and vote on a proposal to dispense with the universal rule regarding robing for divine service. The Synod voted in favour of allowing greater flexibility (within reason!) for clergy with regard to robing. Actually what this vote did was to codify a situation which has existed for a considerable number of years. The number of theological college students and curates I have met who have never seen clergy in robes is staggering. Many of them believe clergy robing is the wearing of a dog-collar, which, interestingly, is not categorized as robes by the Book of Common Prayer or the Tax man (you can get tax back on an alb, but not a shirt with a dog collar!)

Many churches, especially Fresh Expressions, Plant Churches etc met in homes, pubs, community centres etc where the wearing of full vestments **seemed incongruous to say the least. However, in places like St Thomas'** wearing clerical mufti would be equally bizarre. Hence, in answer to a number of questions I have received on this subject, I will definitely *not* be changing what I currently wear, and donning jeans and trainers at the altar. What has been interesting about the debate, which, as I have already said, will hardly affect me, is the desire to connect with those around. There are many who argue that a priest ministering in the 21st century wearing 16th century clothes makes the whole institution and faith an anachronism.

However, I suspect that, like so many fears about 'being relevant', these concerns are reflections of the Church's own neurosis and paranoia rather than a real missionary problem. Perhaps, in this regard we share something with the Speaker of the House of Commons and his tie-ditching exploits. It all reminds me of my own concerns about facing east for the celebration **of the Eucharist. Before coming to St Thomas' I had lectured, written essays** and articles extolling the virtue of facing west, and was worried about having my back to the people. Fellow clergy shared my unease, and placement students and curates have grilled me on the matter. The fact is in six years only two people have ever questioned it and, importantly, no new person has ever raised it as an issue. All my fears, academic reflections and collegiate discussions were, alas, rarefied musings when placed in the context of the mission of God in Hanwell. In 17 years I have never met anyone who has been put off by vestments, although that is not to deny some people may be, but are too polite to tell me I look a chump. Rather these garments have opened up discussion and led to profound missionary encounters.

The world outside the Church is too subtle, and the culture too nuanced to be seduced by vicars dressing down. Me wearing a tee-shirt for divine worship is not going to convince anyone *I'm down wiv the yoof*, and thus 'relevant'. **All I, and the Church, can do is faithfully proclaim, in word and action, the love of God for a hurting and needy world. For that, as the prophet Joel reminds us, we need 'rendered hearts and not garments'.**
Your friend and priest
Fr. Robert



Parish News

August feels like the church's Sabbath, but there are still a few things to draw your attention to.

On the last Sunday of July we will be having another one of our afternoon concerts. Please see the advert in the Trident. These concerts have been wonderful and I would encourage you to pop the date in your diary.

In July the 50 plus group met for a fabulous BBQ at Nicholas and Caroline **Robinson's house. Thank you to them for their generosity, and a reminder that our next meeting is on 6th September 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.

Again thank you to all who helped out at our Patronal Festival. It really was **a joyous weekend of fun and worship (although they're not mutually exclusive!)**.

Oh yes, it is! It's that time of the year again. The Panto launch BBQ is on Saturday 2nd September at 6pm at the Vicarage. If you would like to be a part of 2018's Panto do come along.

Finally, please check the pattern of worship below for August as it is different. Details on page 9.

Have a wonderful break those who are going away and those who are not, thank you for keeping the prayerful home-fires burning.

Copy Dates!

Copy date for the September magazine will be Sunday 6th August
Copy date for the October magazine will be Sunday 10th September
Copy date for the November magazine will be Sunday 1st October

Rose Pogonias

A saturated meadow,
Sun-shaped and jewel-small,
A circle scarcely wider
Than the trees around were tall;
Where winds were quite excluded,
And the air was stifling sweet
With the breath of many flowers—
A temple of the heat.

There we bowed us in the burning,
As the sun's right worship is,
To pick where none could miss
them

A thousand orchises.
For though the grass was scattered,

Yet every second spear
Seemed tipped with wings of color
That tinged the atmosphere.

We raised a simple prayer
Before we left the spot,
That in the general mowing
That place might be forgot;
Or if not all so favored,
Obtain such grace of hours
That none should mow the grass
there
While so confused with flowers.

Robert Frost

ST THOMAS' CHURCH
Afternoon concert series

Presents
A summer afternoon of
Viola and Violin
With Maya Szaloki and Alina Hiltunen

A selection of well known classical pieces including works
by Bach, Tchaikovsky and Mozart

Sunday July 30th 2017 3pm
St Thomas the Apostle Church, Hanwell London W7 2AD

FREE ADMISSION

Who uses The Food Bank?

Free school meals is 'unreliable poverty measure'

Counting the proportion of pupils taking free school meals is an increasingly unreliable way of measuring poverty and the fairness of admissions policies, researchers say.

St Mary's University says free meals can be a "misleading" marker for deprivation in schools.

The study warns of the need to support the "hidden poor".

Official figures recently showed two-thirds of children in poverty are now in working families.

Free school meals have been widely used as a way of looking at the social profile of schools - but the research argues that this has failed to reflect changes in the labour market and financial pressures on low-income working families.

'Working poor'

The study by St Mary's University in south-west London looks at pupils receiving free meals in Catholic schools in England and Wales.

Faith schools have faced accusations of being socially selective - and in Catholic schools, about 12% of pupils receive free meals, compared with a state school average of about 14%.

But the study from St Mary's, a Catholic higher education institution, argues that such figures have become an "unreliable indicator" of hardship.

It says if the same schools are assessed by another official measure of poverty - the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index - the outcome is reversed, with disproportionately high levels of pupils in Catholic schools living in the most deprived areas.

The study says that counting poverty by the take-up of free meals can miss the "working poor" who are in temporary and often low-paid jobs, moving in and out of employment.

Figures from the Department for Work and Pensions show that children in poverty are now more likely to be in working families than non-working families.

Among children identified as being in poverty, 67% are in families with at least one parent working, the highest recorded level.

Prime Minister Theresa May has spoken of the need to help "just about managing families", where parents might be working long hours in multiple jobs.

Such working families might be facing hardship, but might not be eligible for free meals.

Precarious

Eligibility for free school meals is for families in receipt of a range of benefits and with an income below £16,190 - but families on working tax credits are excluded.

Pupils taking free meals are also used to decide how much money schools receive in the pupil premium, targeting funding at disadvantaged youngsters.

The research by Prof Stephen Bullivant also highlights that the measurement of free school meals pupils is based on take-up, rather than eligibility.

There are parents who might be eligible but who do not accept free meals - because of a stigma around children being identified or because of "cultural" reasons for not wanting to accept welfare.

The research warns that focusing on free school meal eligibility can provide an inaccurate picture of the social intake of the rest of a school. "Free school meals eligibility is taken as 'poor' children - and any not getting free meals are seen to be affluent and middle class," said Prof Bullivant.

But he says many families face "precarious lives" and are "struggling to make ends meet", but will not show up in free meals figures.

"Class inequality is a real problem in Britain affecting children's attainment. This data fails to understand different degrees of poverty," says Prof Bullivant.

"At a time when schools are facing funding struggles, a multi-faceted approach is needed to ensure that children from deprived backgrounds, who are currently unaccounted for by the system - the 'hidden poor' - receive the targeted support they need."

This article is by Sean Coughlan and was sourced with permission from the BBC website. The link to the article is below.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-39479028>

Thank you to all of you who have donated food to the Food Bank in the past months. The updated list is on page 11.

Please continue to give.

Thank you.

St Thomas' 50+ Fellowship

Barbecue Wed 5th July 2017

Hats off to **St Thomas' "Ace Couple" of the month, Caroline and Nicholas Robinson**, who once again hosted the 50+ end of season barbecue at their residence. With the temperature at 30 degrees C, we were presented with an array of meat dishes: lamb, chicken, beef burgers, sausages, and salads. Truly mouth-watering fare. Jacket potatoes and burger buns (carbs) were optional (smile).

There were drinks suitable for all in attendance, whether diabetic, allergy sufferer, teetotal, or just the ordinary drinker. All in all very impressive, **the way everyone's needs were taken into consideration.**

I am not saying this because of all the lovely victuals on display (it being a bring & share as well), but it was such a tranquil atmosphere, it felt very good, sharing with other members of the Robinson family. Conversation, food, and drinks flowed freely, not a single mobile phone in sight – sheer bliss!

This peaceful ambience was shattered for a brief moment. Twice we came under scrutiny from helicopters, one seemed ordinary enough (ie red and white), the other was military. Our hosts informed us that it was a common occurrence. These incidents did not deter us in the least, as some people set about having second helpings.

Dessert was just as sumptuous, with a range of goodies to choose from. I went for my usual baked banana with brown sugar, coconut ice cream and **rum, accentuated by Caroline's home-made spices**, mmmm! On a day like that with the temperature sizzling hot (according to Ella Fitzgerald), I simply refused to count calories, and decided a little indulgence would do me good. I had a fabulous time, however I felt a bit uneasy leaving Nicholas and Caroline with all that washing up, dishwasher or not. However they assured us it was ok.

We said our thank yous and took our leave of the family and the beautiful setting, but not before some of us were given doggy bags.

Thank you Caroline, Nicholas and family for a Super Day! Thanks also to those from the 50+ Fellowship and guests who came, pooling your culinary skills to make it such a memorable occasion. 3 cheers for Mr & Mrs Robinson, 3 cheers for everyone who attended!

God bless,
Eileen Sinclair



Prayer in a storm

Faithful Father,

Storms come! No matter who we are, no matter what we have done or not done, storms come. Please protect us.

Reassure us that you are with us in any and every storm; that you will never leave us or forsake us. May we know the peace

of your presence whatever our circumstances today. Alone we would sink and give up. With you we will be strengthened to stay afloat. We will be encouraged to face each day, confident that you are above all things - and that we belong to you.

Thank you Father, in Jesus name.

Amen.

August Masses and Sunday Provision

Tuesday 1st	12noon Mass
Sunday 6 th	The Feast of the Transfiguration 10am Parish Mass Celebrant: Fr. Simon Cuff 6.30pm Evening Prayer
Tuesday 8 th	12noon Mass
Sunday 13 th	Trinity 9 10am Parish Mass Celebrant: Fr. David Rushton 6.30pm Evening Prayer
Tuesday 15 th	12noon Mass
Sunday 20 th	Trinity 10 10am Parish Mass Celebrant: Fr. David Neno 6.30pm Evening Prayer
Tuesday 22 nd	12noon Mass
Wednesday 23 rd	2pm Mass
Sunday 27 th	Trinity 11 8am Mass 10am Mass 6.30pm Evening Prayer
Tuesday 29 th	12noon Mass
Wednesday 30 th	2pm Mass

During this period the Daily Offices may not always be said in Church.
Please check the weekly poster.

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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providing any of these items in
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The revised list of items needed:
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UHT milk & hair shampoo.

Thank you.

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Saturday	10am - 8pm
Sunday	CLOSED

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Toddler

CLOSED FOR AUGUST

Group
St Thomas'
Hall

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Diary Dates



JULY

Sun 30th 6th after Trinity

AUGUST

Tues 1st Mass at 12:00

Sat 5th Churches Together in Hanwell Prayer Meeting
at South Hanwell Baptist Church

Sun 6th The Feast of the Transfiguration. 10:00 Mass
Celebrant: Fr Simon Cuff
18:30 - Evening Prayer

Tues 8th Mass at 12:00

Sun 13th Trinity 9. 10:00 Mass.
Celebrant: Fr David Rushton
18:30 - Evening Prayer

Tues 15th Mass at 12:00

Sun 20th Trinity 10. Mass at 10:00.
Celebrant: Fr David Nemo

Tues 22nd Mass at 12:00

Sun 27th Trinity 10. Mass at 08:00 and 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.

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!

AUGUST

The Pop-In will be closed for August
and will re-open on September 8th.

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

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