



Keeping in Touch

June-July 2017

I write this in the week in which the terror attack on Manchester led to the tragic death of so many lives, young children, teenagers and parents. This horrific attack falls in a week in which, as a church, we celebrate Ascension Day, the return of the risen Lord Jesus to his Father in heaven. In his earthly life, he has lived among us and shared our humanity. He has shared our sorrows and our griefs. He has stood at the grave of those he loved and wept. Finally, he bore on the cross all that this broken world could throw at him. The powers of evil ranged against him in full force as he suffered and bled and died for our sins and for all that is evil and wrong in this world. His death seemed like the end but the love of God is stronger than death, and overcomes all evil. His resurrection has defeated evil and offers not only the promise of eternal life for all who believe but the promise that good can come out of evil. Already in this week we have seen so much goodness poured out as strangers gave lifts, opened their homes, as homeless men cared for the injured and dying, as off duty doctors and nurses went into work, as police worked through the night, as Muslims and Christians embraced in grief and united in prayer, proving time and again that love will win. Jesus' ascension leads to the pouring out of the Holy Spirit so that we can be empowered to be his witnesses, his light in the dark places of this world and in the human heart.



If you visit the Mount of Olives, there is a museum in which you can see a stone that supposedly has in it the imprint of Jesus feet as he left this earth. But Jesus has left us with the job of being his body here on earth. As Saint Theresa so beautifully put it...

Christ has no body but yours,
No hands, no feet on earth but yours,
Yours are the eyes with which he looks
Compassion on this world,
Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good,
Yours are the hands, with which he blesses all the world.
Yours are the hands, yours are the feet,
Yours are the eyes, you are his body.
Christ has no body now but yours,
No hands, no feet on earth but yours,
Yours are the eyes with which he looks
Compassion on this world.
Christ has no body now on earth but yours.

Let us seek to live out that truth in our lives, in our communities and in our broken world, now and in the days to come.



At the Annual Vestry Meeting on 30th April Gill Peplow was elected as churchwarden to work alongside Martin Ferdinando. The meeting offered its thanks and appreciation to Peter Hoile who stepped down after serving as in the post for the past seven years.

Gill came to North Mymms in 1982. She has a son, Matthew, who is married and lives locally. She was confirmed in 1995 and is a server in church and has been a member of the PCC. Gill retired last year having previously worked in education with young people with special needs.

Peter Lipman has recently been appointed as Director of Music at St Mary's .

Peter says... "I am delighted and excited to have been offered the post of Director of Music. I was always made very welcome, and felt appreciated, as a locum organist at North Mymms and feel very comfortable with its style of worship."



Peter grew up in Kings Langley and went to school in Hemel Hempstead. He read law at university and then went on to have a career in education and general management. Eight years ago he decided to leave the stress behind and concentrate full-time on a career in music. He was in two church choirs as a child and studied the piano at school. He then went on to study organ at Coventry Cathedral, where he was a sub organist for six years. Peter now plays the alto saxophone and is in the Harpenden Concert Band. He has held a number of posts as director of music - including Central Methodist Church Coventry and St Mary's Church Luton.

Peter has a thriving piano teaching practice in Harpenden, with nearly fifty students of all ages, and recently finished a master's degree and two diplomas in music. He is now working towards a fellowship in music Peter lives in Harpenden with his miniature schnauzer dog, Finzi, and daughter Helen, a primary school teacher. His other daughter lives in Kent and is a mental health nurse working with Alzheimer's patients.

Outside music Peter collect prints by John Piper and Henry Moore and enjoys cooking, reading and walking/exploring holidays.



Thank you

to everybody who came to the Lunches during Lent and the Big Brekkie on 7th May.

The Lenten Lunches raised **£245** and the Big Brekkie raised **£104**.

If you didn't make either of these you can still donate online at www.christianaid.org.uk

Midsummer Platter

on

Friday 23rd June at 7.00pm

in St Michael's Room

Tickets £10 including meat, fish or cheese platter, dessert, wine or soft drink, coffee or tea.

Tickets from Sue Crawley 07944 099239

or Brenda Harris beeharris@yahoo.co.uk

Teddy Bear Hunt and Teddy Bear's Picnic



Sunday 2nd July at 10.30am

There will be a short service with music, the YES choir, a bible story and activities for ALL ages and this will be followed by a Teddy Bear Hunt and a Teddy Bear Picnic. Plus the chance, weather permitting, for your teddy to float down from the church tower on a parachute!

You will need to let us know in advance if you are coming and then we will hide a bear with your child's name on for you to find together. We are then providing a special Teddy Bear Picnic Lunch

To book your bear and lunch please email your details to julia.boothby@btinternet.com

If you would like future copies of this Newsletter posted to you then please send your name and address to the

St Mary's Parish Office, North Mymms Park, Hatfield, AL9 7TN

Sunday Services at St Mary's

8.00am Holy Communion

9.30am Parish Eucharist

1st Sunday of the Month 10.30am Family Service

6.30pm Choral Evensong

3rd Sunday of the Month 11.30am Baptisms

Parish Registers for April and May 2017

Baptisms

21 May Eva Innocenti

Weddingss

28 April Azzura Tocchini and Jamie Smith

6 May Alice Parkinson and Christopher Gregory

27 May Melany Lynch and Paul Davis

Funerals

9 April Burial of the ashes of Gene Davall

14 April Burial of the ashes of Gerard Pinner

28 May Burial of the ashes of Lady Patricia Trenchard

Contact us

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