
CROSSPIECE



The Parish Magazine of St James's Church, Cambridge

December 2015—January 2016:

Issue No. 73 , 70p



St James' Pumpkin Picnic

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Words from Peter

During the interregnum, we are happy that our usual "Words from the Vicarage" page is being filled in this issue by the Very Revd Peter Judd.

On Sunday the 15th November I was invited to preach at Selwyn College chapel. They were having a series on the parables and I was asked to preach on the parable of the Prodigal Son. It was two days after the attacks in Paris.

I told them how in 1990, when I began as vicar of Iffley, near Oxford, I drew up a parish plan. It was largely predictable but had some controversial points like the remarriage of divorced people in church, welcome to gay Christians, assuming couples will live together before marriage and women clergy.

I showed it to a pillar of the congregation I trusted and they were appalled. A while later she called me over and she said: "For me God has always been a God of rules and judgement but you want me to see it differently, don't you." I said: "Yes. For me God is the father of the Prodigal Son, merciful, accepting and generous". She said: "I am going to try and see it your way." And she did, which was amazing at 83. Subsequently her relationships with her divorced children and her grandchildren were transformed.

I went on to mention Brad Pitt, who said he thought the parable was an authoritarian, patriarchal tale told to keep people in line. I can see where he's coming from, escaping as he did from an oppressive religious background but for me the story is about such an unexpected welcome and acceptance. But I said that Brad Pitt reminds us not to allow this story to be hi-jacked into a patriarchal straitjacket. I mentioned Rembrandt's famous painting of the Prodigal Son, embraced by his father (shown right). Rembrandt has painted the father's left hand as the hand of a man and the right hand as the hand of a woman.

I quoted a meditation I had been given about the story from the mother's point of view and her longing and agony and hope of reconciliation. It's like the other half of the parable.

We now have women bishops and that stained glass ceiling has been removed. Yet there is still so much to do. For much of Christendom and in resurgent fundamentalist ideologies, the patriarchal image of God is as strong as

ever, if not stronger. (See the attacks in Paris.) No equality for women, no account of women, no education or basic rights for women, no acceptance of gay people, no compassion for innocent bystanders. No compassion. In the face of all this the picture of God we have really matters and the story of the father and mother of the Prodigal Son sustains me and fills me with hope.

Revd Peter Judd



Jutta's Licensing

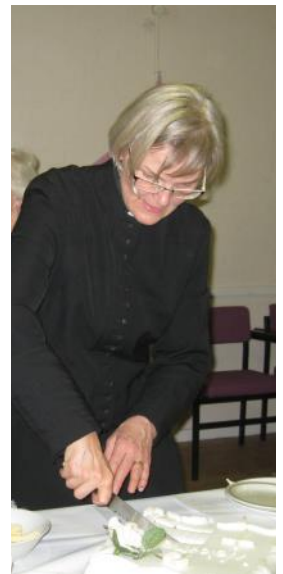
A coachload of former parishioners set off from Wulfstan Way on the afternoon of 22 October to lend their support, congratulations and prayers to Jutta as she took up her role in her new parish. As the order of service said "The Licensing and Installation of The Reverend Jutta Brueck as Priest in Charge of St Thomas the Apostle, Ipswich" was conducted "by the Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich, the Right Reverend Martin Seeley and the Archdeacon of Suffolk, the Venerable Ian Morgan." It must be a very rare thing for a Bishop to conduct such a ceremony when the priest is his wife. Indeed, Martin commented that he actually knew this priest rather better than others a bishop might be expected to license.

The church itself, rather like St James', is modern rather than ancient, having been designed by the architect Cachemaille-Day and consecrated in 1938. It is mostly brick with some knapped flint. It has clean lines and feels spacious inside, but the grey brick east wall certainly benefits from colourful flowers and altar furniture. The church interior features stations of the cross.

The service was dignified, joyful and moving and there was a sense that here was a congregation anxious to work with their new priest to foster and grow the church. It was good to see Jutta's parents were there to support her, as were Anna and Luke, happy in their new schools and both involved in many activities. Luke and Martin had already managed a visit to watch Ipswich Town.

The parish rooms are also spacious and well appointed and the local community had put on a splendid celebratory spread and a special cake. It seems that the St James' tradition of cake on every possible occasion seems likely to continue at St Thomas', no doubt to the appreciation of the Brueck-Seeley family.

Jennifer Day



St James' Pumpkin Picnic

I was really pleased that St James' was able to be part of the first Cambridge Pumpkin Festival, a city-wide event organised by Cambridge Sustainable Food over the autumn half term. The festival included all kinds of activities for children and adults, including a launch night at St Paul's Hills Road, a visit to the local waste management facilities, a pop-up stall in Market Square and a very large number of pumpkins – grown, carved, cooked and eaten – all to promote community engagement and particularly issues around food waste.

St James' held a 'pumpkin picnic' on the lawn outside the church, and saw just over 25 children with their families come to help turn the pumpkins – mostly donated by Cambridge Sustainable Food, but there was one particularly fine offering from the allotment of a member of our own congregation – not only into works of carved art but also into delicious food which we shared for lunch. Particular thanks to those who helped out, both in the front of house supervising activities (and overseeing the sharp knives required to get through the tough orange pumpkin skin), and in the kitchen. We were able to hand our willing cooks the flesh scooped out of the pumpkins and received back delicious bowlfuls of vegetable soup and a sweet pumpkin pie for dessert.

There were some wonderful designs carved into the pumpkins: hearts, flowers, a few ghoulish faces, angels, crosses, a somewhat perplexing slice of pizza and my personal favourite, an elegant cat's face. Most of these designs found their way onto the children's faces as well, as I'd left the face-painting kit around for people to use – the pizza didn't feature, I'm pleased to say.

We were the only event in the city south of St Paul's, I believe, so it was especially good to bring the festival into our part of the city, especially as people can find it difficult to travel with children in the holidays. We saw a number of people join us from the street as we were outside, and I think all would agree we had a good time in the late autumn sun (fortunately).

I've certainly still got most of a pumpkin sliced and stored in the freezer, so I'll offer here one of the recipes from Cambridge Sustainable Food – I've got plenty more so do ask if you're interested!

Max Drinkwater

Pictures from top: the chosen pumpkin; carving in progress; and Max as Pumpkin supremo.





Recipe: Savoury Pumpkin Scones

450g self-raising flour
 2 tsp baking powder
 100g butter
 100g hard cheese
 250g mixed pumpkin, carrot and courgette
 5 tbsp milk

1. Preheat oven to Gas Mark 6/200°C/400°F.
2. Sift flour and baking powder into a large mixing bowl. Rub in butter. Grate cheese and stir into mixture.
3. Prepare and grate the vegetables (peel the pumpkin, trim the others). Pat the vegetables dry with a paper towel and stir into mixture.
4. Add milk, a little at a time, to bring the mixture together as soft dough (you may not need all the milk).
5. Turn the mixture onto a floured board and pat out to a thickness of around 2.5cm. Cut into rounds and bake on a greaseproof tray for 20-25 minutes until risen and golden.

Serve warm with butter; great with soup or stew.
 Serves 12.



Interregnum Update

A Section 12 meeting between the PCC and Archdeacon Alex Hughes was held on 26th November. This involved a review and discussion of the parish profile, advertisement and interview process.

The remaining parts of the process for recruiting a new priest-in-charge are: advertisement of the vacancy (likely to start in January); the collection of applications by the Archdeacon; interviews of candidates by the parish representatives and Archdeacon; interview of the preferred candidate by the Bishop and final checks. Further details of the process can be found in the October 2015 edition of Crosspiece, available on the St James' website.

Please pray for all those involved in the recruitment process, especially the churchward-

ens who are acting as parish representatives, and for the successful appointment of a new priest-in-charge for St James'.



The First Christmas Tree: The Story of St Boniface

When I was a little schoolgirl in Holland, one of my first history lessons was about St. Bonifacius, one of the first Christian missionaries to the wilder northern parts of the Netherlands, who in 754 AD was murdered near Dokkum in Friesland. In Holland he is one of the best-known figures from English history.

The reason for his murder, we were told, was that Bonifacius and his men had chopped down the holy oak which the Frisians worshipped. Boniface was 75 years old when this happened.

The province of Friesland lies in the North East of the Netherlands. It is the land of pedigree black and white cattle, the Frisian language, Frisian Bible, distinctive Frisian Christian names and surnames and the tall blond Frisian people.

Some years ago David and I were in the town of Dokkum for a cousins' reunion. There in a small park we saw the statue of this great Englishman, St. Bonifacius or Boniface, his hands above his head holding a Bible for protection. Why was Boniface murdered by the Frisians? What had he done to deserve this?

Boniface was born in Crediton in Devon and carried the Saxon name Winfrith at first. He developed into a highly intelligent child. He begged his father to let him learn to read and write. Reluctantly his father took him to nearby Exeter to be taught by the monks. By the time he was a teenager he had read all the books from the library and therefore moved to another monastery at Nursling, near Southampton. Here he became a teacher in the abbey school and later was made a priest.

When he was asked to become Abbot after the old one died, he declined. Winfrith wanted to be a missionary and tell the good news of Jesus to the people across the sea. He found a fellow missionary in Willibrord. Together they travelled and preached across Northern Germany, the Netherlands and Friesland. He tried to convert the Wodan-worshipping Frisians to Christianity. When war with neighbouring tribes broke out, Winfrith reluctantly withdrew and went back to Nursling and from there he travelled to Rome to meet Pope Gregory. The pope gave Winfrith a new name: from now on he was to be called Bonifacius because of his good deeds.

With enormous zeal Boniface travelled throughout Germany, preached the Good News of Jesus and set up monasteries all over the country. He became bishop of Fulda, near the centre of Germany.

At the age of 75 Boniface decided to try once more to convert the Frisians. When he saw them worshipping a mighty oak he thought he could show its powerlessness if, with the help of his friends, he were to chop it down. This act cost him and some of his fellow missionaries their lives. His remaining friends carried his body to Fulda. Today his remains lie in the Cathedral of Fulda and it has become a place where pilgrims still come to see the Saint's tomb.

In September this year my long-held wish to see the birthplace of Boniface, because of its connection with the Netherlands, was realised. David and I visited Crediton and we heard that, although their local hero is hardly famous in England, his story is well-known in Holland and Germany and they have many visitors from there. There are two statues of him: one in the large Parish Church, the Church of the Holy Cross, and one in the town park near Saint Boniface's well. It was an inspiring trip.

We can find out a lot about Boniface, his travels and thoughts because he corresponded with Pope Gregory and the letters have been preserved. We can now even read them on-line!

Finally there is the famous legend of the Christmas Tree. After the mighty Wodan Oak near Dokkum had been felled by Boniface, something started to grow in the winter time between its roots: it was a little fir tree. This story is said to have led to the place of honour given to the Christmas tree in Germanic countries as a symbol of re-birth and new life in Christ.

Anneke Heslam



Picture by Dave Connor of the ruins of Fortrose cathedral, originally dedicated to St Peter and St Boniface. Licensed under creative commons.

Queen Edith Winter Festival

The Queen Edith Winter Festival will be held on 6th December and comprises activities for all the family. It will start with activities in Nightingale Park from 1 - 3 pm, including hot chocolate and marshmallow toasting, a wildlife walk and information about new features in the park. Raffle tickets will also be on sale.

From 5pm outside the shops on Wulfstan Way the local RockVox choir will be singing. Home-made battery-powered lanterns are encouraged and the owner of the best lantern (to be judged at 5.15) will turn on the lights on the Christmas tree, accompanied by community singing and Father Christmas.

The day will conclude with refreshments in St James', from 5.45 pm, with drawing of the raffle.

Look out for more information about the festival in the Queen Edith community newsletter and come along to support this community event and St James'.



Picture by Vera46 (creative commons)

Christmas services

Carol Service Followed by mulled wine and mince pies	Sunday 20th December	6.30 pm
Children's Service	Christmas Eve	5.00 pm
Midnight Mass	Christmas Eve	11.00 pm
All Age Eucharist Service taken by the Bishop of Ely	Christmas Day	10.00 am

New ordinand: Fergus Butler-Gallie

St James' would like to welcome Fergus Butler-Gallie, a first-year ordinand at Westcott House who is on attachment at St James'. He has a degree in History and Czech/Slovak from Oxford University.

We look forward to getting to know Fergus and welcome his contributions to St James' worship and other activities.



Interim Rural Dean

The Reverend Tim Harling, Chaplain at Queen's College, has been appointed as Interim Rural Dean for the Cambridge South Deanery from 24th November 2015. Revd. Harling may be involved in the process of recruiting St James' next priest-in-charge.



Admission to Holy Communion

Three children from St James' congregation have been attending preparation classes through the autumn and will be admitted to holy communion on 6th December.

Please pray for Amy, Charlotte and Sam as they complete their preparations and are admitted to holy communion.

Long Service

St James' gives thanks for Ethel Bentley's many years of faithful service to the church in a wide variety of tasks, including washing the servers' albs (for almost 50 years), leading intercessions, helping with coffee mornings and offering a warm welcome to the 10am Eucharist as sidesperson or coffee server.



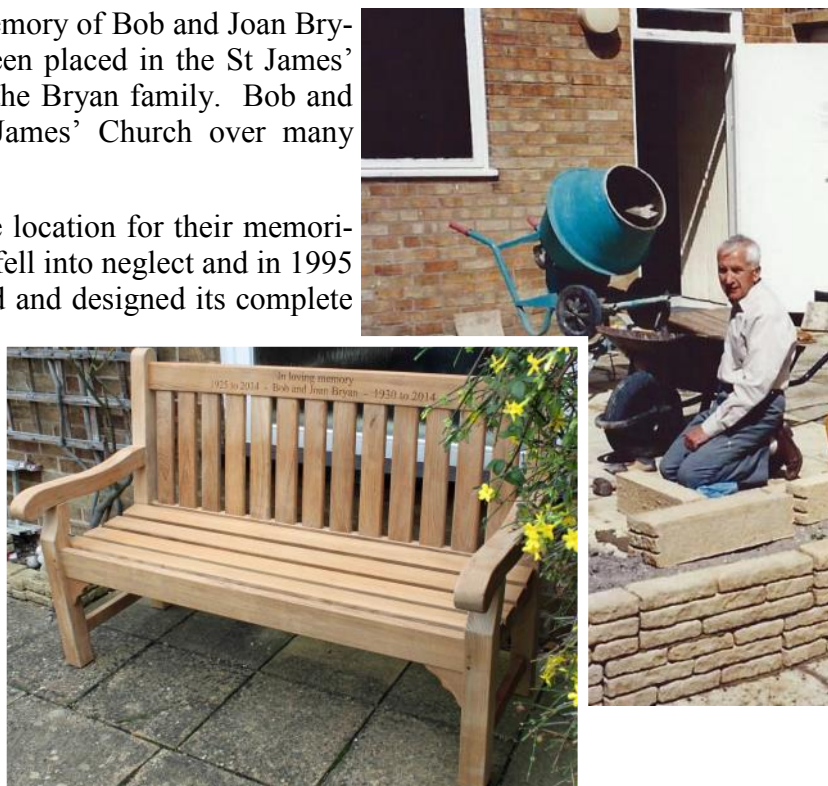
Memorial Bench for Bob and Joan Bryan

A handsome teak bench in memory of Bob and Joan Bryan, who both died last year, has been placed in the St James' Courtyard, generously donated by the Bryan family. Bob and Joan contributed tirelessly to St James' Church over many years.

It is a particularly appropriate location for their memorial. In the early 1990s the courtyard fell into neglect and in 1995 Bob, then a Churchwarden, planned and designed its complete overhaul with Joan. Not only that, they both 'hands on' led the building work which created the raised flower bed and most of the paving as it remains today.

Ron Ferrari

Pictures: Bob working in the courtyard (upper), the memorial bench (lower).



St James' Christmas Fair 2015



The St James' Christmas Fair was held on 14th November 2015. £1160 was raised for church funds.

Many thanks to all who organised, helped with and attended the fair.

UNICEF Syria Appeal Collection

A collection was held in St James' at the end of September for the UNICEF Syria Appeal. £476.08 was raised, which will help to provide winter clothing for children in refugee camps.



St James' Church Archives

The first records of the church are in a large book and were beautifully written by Albert Warrington, one of the founder members of the church and are dated 1960. In the following years, 1960-1966 the Revd Thomas Christie recorded events in this tome during his ministry, and during The Revd David Ford's period as priest and Vicar, Phyllis Powell wrote of the many happenings in the years 1966-1980.

James Day took over the recording during the ministry of the Revd Ian Woodroffe, and the beginning of the Revd Hugh Dawes's time as Vicar. For some unknown reason there are no records written in this book after 2001, but some photographs are included.

Some early black and white photos, collected by Ernie Bavester, an early Churchwarden, were discovered at this time, and I thought they should be properly preserved, so my involvement in St. James' Archives began. At first I gathered all the photos of events and filed them, so it was purely a pictorial record. Later I included written articles.

In 2001 I compiled the first of the Year Files to include most of the photos and records of events during that year. These files proved popular with the Revd Jutta Brueck when she prepared her annual report for the AGM of the church.

The archive cupboard also contains specific files of The Clergy, The Choir, The Focus Study

Centre, Magazines, Clubs and Obituaries, to name just a few, as well as photos of church property and church robes. (The Revd James Rigney spent one hot August day wearing all the different robes for me to photograph and, helped by daughter Cressida, retrieved all the church silver and crosses for more photos.) There are also photo albums of the Friendship Club and various Playgroups.

All these records have proved invaluable when we celebrate our church decade anniversaries. (The 60th anniversary boards are being preserved with some of the photos taken from the files.)

Originally I had to get the photos I took developed and copied at shops, but this became easier when I got a computer and printer: these have proved useful for *Crosspiece* articles.

I am now handing over the Archive recording to a willing Michael Smale.

Jackie Bartholomew

Michael Smale would be grateful for photographs of church events which members of the congregation could pass on for the ongoing church archive.

Thanks are offered for Jackie's many years of work in caring for and developing the archive.

A Sign

Christmas night
A crescent moon
It is not seen
They're thinking of
the world of men
He'll be here soon
and there will be
no earthly pain
when he will come
on earth to reign

Linda Appleby



Contacts at St James's Church

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Church Office 246419, Mon, Wed & Thur
9.15 am - 1.15 pm
e-mail: stjameschurchcambridge@yahoo.co.uk

Website: <http://stjamescambridge.org.uk>

Director of Music: David Rice: 0750 3886760
email: dcr36@cam.ac.uk

Church & Community Activities

Choir practice: (Mon) Juniors 6.15pm, Seniors 6.45pm

Parents & Toddlers (Thurs) Wendy Lane, 244850

Brownies (7-10 yrs) QES Kerrie Thackray
email: 40thbrownies@gmail.com
Beavers (6-8 yrs) Brendan Murrill
07561 137493
Cubs (8-11 yrs) at QE School Stephen Harrison,
07548 765421

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James Day
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**DEADLINE FOR THE FEBRUARY 2016
ISSUE of *CROSSPIECE***

Monday 18 January

The Editors welcome articles, news items and photographs for inclusion in the magazine. If possible these should be in digital form, photos and words in separate files. However we can accept typed or handwritten items and photographic prints.

REGULAR SERVICES**Sunday**

8.00 a.m. Eucharist
10 a.m. Parish Eucharist (All-age Eucharist:
1st Sunday of the month)

Wednesday

10.15 a.m. Eucharist (first Weds of month:
Dunstan Court)

Thursday and Friday

9.30 a.m. Morning Prayer

Celia Kenney

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**ADVERTS FOR LOCAL SUPPLIERS &
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Garden Help

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Digging and tidying

£7.00 per hour
01223 506782 ask for Clive

Queen Edith's Funeral

Geoffrey Heathcock Service
Funeral Director

52 Queen Edith's Way
Cambridge CB1 8PW

01223 244901
Geoff.heathcock@gmx.co.uk

St James' Church, Cambridge: Calendar for December 2015 — January 2016

A warm welcome is extended to everyone to join us for our Christmas services – please see below or page 7 for details.

December 2015

1 st	7.30 pm	Home Group
2 nd	10.15 am	Eucharist at Dunstan Court
3 rd	9.30 am	Morning Prayer
4 th	9.30 am	Morning Prayer
	12.30 pm	Meditation Group
6th	2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT	
	8.00 am	Eucharist (BCP)
	10.00 am	All Age Eucharist with Children's Admission to Holy Communion
	<i>Traidcraft stall open after both services</i>	
	1.00 pm onwards	Winter Festival activities and turning on of Christmas lights - see p7 for more details
	5.45 pm	refreshments at St James'
8 th	2.30 pm	Christmas service at Cherry Hinton Care Home
9 th	10.15 am	Eucharist
10 th	9.30 am	Morning Prayer
11 th	9.30 am	Morning Prayer
	12.30 pm	Meditation Group
12 th	10.30 am	Coffee Morning
13th	3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT	
	8.00 am	Eucharist
	9.00 am	Advent Breakfast
	10.00 am	Sung Eucharist with Sunday School
15 th	7.30 pm	Home Group
16 th	10.15 am	Eucharist
17 th	9.30 am	Morning Prayer
	2.30 pm	Christmas service at Hinton Grange Care Home
18 th	9.30 am	Morning Prayer
	12.30 pm	Meditation Group
20th	4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT	
	8.00 am	Eucharist
	9.00 am	Advent Breakfast
	10.00 am	Sung Eucharist with Sunday School
	6.30 pm	Carol Service followed by mulled wine and mince pies
23 rd		<u>No mid week Eucharist</u>
24th	CHRISTMAS EVE	
	5.00 pm	Crib Service
	11.00 pm	Midnight Mass
25th	CHRISTMAS DAY	
	10.00 am	All Age Eucharist with the Bishop of Ely

27th THE FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

8.00 am	Eucharist
10.00 am	Sung Eucharist
30 th	<u>No mid week Eucharist</u>

January 2016

We wish everyone a happy New Year

3rd EPIPHANY

8.00 am	Eucharist (BCP) –
10.00 am	All Age Eucharist – The 8 and 10 am services with the Archdeacon of Cambridge
	<i>Traidcraft stall open after both services</i>

6 th	10.15 am	Eucharist at Dunstan Court
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7 th	9.30 am	Morning Prayer
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8 th	9.30 am	Morning Prayer
	12.30 pm	Meditation Group

10th THE BAPTISM OF CHRIST

8.00 am	Eucharist
10.00 am	Sung Eucharist with Baptism and Sunday School

13 th	10.15 am	Eucharist
14 th	9.30 am	Morning Prayer
	12.30 pm	Pastoral visiting group community lunch

15 th	9.30 am	Morning Prayer
	12.30 pm	Meditation Group

17th 2nd SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY

8.00 am	Eucharist
10.00 am	Sung Eucharist with Sunday School

20 th	10.15 am	Eucharist
	8.00 pm	PCC Meeting
21 st	9.30 am	Morning Prayer
	10.30 am	Listening training session for Pastoral visiting group
	2.30 pm	Hymn service at Hinton Grange Care Home

22 nd	9.30 am	Morning Prayer
	12.30 pm	Meditation Group

24th 3rd SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY

8.00 am	Eucharist
10.00 am	Sung Eucharist and Sunday School with Bishop David of Huntingdon

27 th	10.15 am	Eucharist
28 th	9.30 am	Morning Prayer
29 th	9.30 am	Morning Prayer
	12.30 pm	Meditation Group