
CROSSPIECE



The Parish Magazine of St James's Church, Cambridge

February—March 2018

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Words from the Vicarage

Dear Reader

There is much to look forward to at St James' Church in the forthcoming year. These are some of the initiatives that we are embarking on:

Partnership for Missional Church

Along with our friends at St John's in Hills Road and St Andrew's in Cherry Hinton we are taking part in a 3 year project that will help us to reach out across our respective communities and explore new ways of mission. A group from each church will join other churches across the region in a series of workshops and will be sharing their experiences with our congregation via the PCC. This is an opportunity to experience God's love in our work and home lives.

Way of Life

This initiative from the Diocese is a resource to help people to nurture their sense of spirituality and discipleship. It can be fulfilled as an individual or as part of group and follows the principles of following a rule of life that many Christians around the world incorporate into their daily lives. The really appealing part of this is that it can be done by children and adults. A combination of prayer, Bible study, meditation and activity I hope it will be an aid to all of us who value spiritual enquiry.

Youth Group

We have set up a new Youth group at St James for young people aged between 9 and 16. We are planning a wide range of activities including trips out and opportunities for fun and learning together. We will be encouraging the members of the group to learn new skills and be pro-active in organising and planning events. It's a really exciting prospect and I hope it will prove to be enjoyable for everyone who gets involved. Details of the meeting dates are published in this issue and can be found on the church website and on our noticeboard in church as well.

These are just a few of the activities that are new for St James – I anticipate that there will be other ventures too. I am always happy to hear new ideas and fresh perspectives so do please get in touch if you would like to share any thoughts you have.

Revd Steve Rothwell

Way of Life



A new initiative from Ely Diocese to encourage people to grow and deepen their faith. St James' Church will be engaging with this initiative and will be publicising more information during Lent this year

The following is an extract from the Diocesan website where all the resources can be found

<http://www.elydiocese.org/way-of-life>

At the heart of our diocesan strategy is an expectation that God is at work in our midst.

By 2025 we aim to “*raise the spiritual temperature*” of the diocese and therefore propose to develop a diocesan “Rule of Life”, setting out the core elements of a living Christian faith, which everyone will be invited to live out in their own way.

Spiritual growth is always a gift from God, but we know from the witness of the Bible, the tradition of the church and the experience of the saints that it doesn't happen by accident.

For this reason, individual Christians and church groups have often adopted particular patterns for living their faith more deeply. These have often been known as “Rules” of life, however we prefer the term “Way”, for two reasons.

- Firstly, the Bible tells us that people who committed themselves to Jesus were first known as “followers of the way” (e.g. Acts 22.4).
- Secondly, the word “rule” can sound a bit negative, so a “Rule of Life” might suggest a one-size-fits-all “spiritual straightjacket”, which is not what we intend.

The diocesan *Way of Life* invites us to think about how we can open every part of our lives to the transforming power of God's grace, but leaves it up to each person or group to decide how they will make the journey.

A *Way of Life* can help us to be more intentional about our spiritual growth: we really want it to happen and will take steps to ensure that it does. It can also help us to be more accountable in living out our faith: it reminds us not to forget what is important and helps us to stay committed.

The Way of Life resources are designed as an essential guide for anyone leading a group through the *Way of Life*.

They may also be used by group members and individuals who want immediate access to some of the main theological background and ideas that run through the *Way of Life*.

A letter from Revd Geoffrey Howard

Dear Friends

Every few years retired clergy are required to renew their bishop's permission to officiate (referred to as PTO). Last October 30th was my renewal date and it was then I decided the time had come to hang up my cassock and surplice and say goodbye to active ministry. My age was one deciding factor. I am 87 and my legs can no longer be depended on to do the job they were designed for. The spectacle of a priest staggering to the lectern and around the altar is not an edifying one. The other, perhaps stronger deciding factor, is that this year all clergy, retired or in office, have to attend a course on Child Awareness. The day or so at Ely is, I have been informed, to be preceded by a course on the internet, completion of which will be marked by a certificate. I am uncertain whether the course is designed to protect children from adults or adults from children, I suspect the latter, but I could be wrong.

These days I rarely go into Cambridge and then only if I am chaperoned by a stout companion who is capable of getting me up if my legs give way and I finish up on the pavement. I have also restricted my driving to about a mile radius from home. I cannot face the prospect of a trip to Ely, nor, being extremely hard of hearing, trying to make sense of unintelligible lectures. I also fear that if I managed to complete this year's obligation I might well be facing another one next year on Sexual Harassment, which appears to be something of a problem in the church just now, although in my 30 years as a priest and before that as a lay reader and regular worshipper I have never heard a whisper of it. But then I have been deaf for a long time.

I gave my first sermon at the age of 18. I fear that the hot air I have produced over these many years may have made a significant contribution to global warming. I have been one of the clergy team at St James' for something like 14 years, and my ministry to you patient, toler-

ant, long-suffering and generous folk has been a privilege and a joy. A Jesuit priest who had been in the order for 50 years told me that only once had he had a comment on one of his sermons, and that was a negative one. How different has been my experience: you are attentive, responsive and appreciative hearers, which makes all the difference to the officiant and preacher. I once thanked an elderly retired clergyman for the wonderful funeral service he had conducted for a much loved friend of mine. He said: "It's the congregation that makes the service", and there is a great deal of truth in that. It is also the congregation which makes the sermon. If I have preached any decent ones, you must take a lot of the credit.

I especially wish to thank you for the support you gave me when Rita died and my world fell apart. I thought I would never dare to stand in front of a congregation again. You, together with David Deboys, lured me back into active service and you have been patient and understanding when occasionally I have been overcome and found it difficult to struggle through a service.

You are special people
With my love and prayers

Geoffrey



A tribute to Geoffrey

Geoffrey's ministry has been a great blessing to St James' Church over these 14 years. Alongside our priests-in-charge he has shared his spiritual and human gifts with us, presiding and preaching at Sunday services when required, helping with midweek services in the church building and at Dunstan Court and taking communion to people at home. He was often called upon to take and preach at funerals, which he always took very seriously, even if he had hardly known the deceased personally. Stan Robertson had asked him personally to take his funeral after Geoffrey visited him several times in his final illness, which was during the interregnum after Jutta left.

We have particularly treasured him during two interregnums, when he took on a heavy load of services. In recent times he has found it rather exhausting to officiate at two Sunday morning services, presiding and/or preaching. Those who saw him in the vestry between

services were aware how taxing this was for him, and we are so grateful to him for all he undertook in his priestly role.

Geoffrey's sermons were something to look forward to. Frequently starting with some funny story, often inviting us to laugh with him at his foibles or interactions with others, these sermons would develop a serious and thought-provoking message based on the scriptural text chosen. We would always go away not only entertained but enriched. He has made himself a much loved priest and also member of the congregation, with his warmth, his sense of humour and loving care for others.

Enjoy your retirement from the ministry, Geoffrey, knowing that we value all you have given us. We thank you for your 14 years of ministry and look forward to your presence in the family of St James' Church for a long time to come.

Women's World Day of Prayer

The Women's World Day of Prayer (known in many other countries as "World Day of Prayer") is held annually in 170 countries across the world on the first Friday in March. It is an international ecumenical Christian lay women's initiative aiming to bring women of many races, cultures, and traditions together in a Day of Prayer. It originated in USA in Brooklyn as a day of prayer for home mission, and two years later a day of prayer for World Mission began. This gradually spread out across the world arriving in the UK in the 1930s.

The name Women's World Day of Prayer was adopted in 1927. The annual services focus on different countries each year with a theme, which has been prepared by the National Committee of that country.

In Cambridge there are several services across the city, St James' joins together with local churches in our area, to help organise and take part in a service. Please note that the service is not exclusively for women and men are very welcome to attend.

Our service this year is Friday 2nd March at St Paul's, Hills Rd at 2.15pm, and this year's theme is "All God's Creation is Very Good" and was prepared by the women of the country of Surinam.

Why not join us? There is so much more information on their website at www.wwdp.org.uk.

Pam Butler

St James' Pastoral Group

Younger members of the congregation may be only dimly aware of the Pastoral Group, what it does, and who is in it. The group was launched by Jutta in 2010 to help with the pastoral work of the church. This involved parish visiting to the housebound, elderly or sick, and those in hospital, helping her with hymn services in our local care homes, and being available to help out in emergencies.

We are a group of mostly older retired women, but would very much welcome younger folk of both sexes to join us. After all, we are eight years older than we were in 2010, and some of the original group have died, moved away or are now in need of help themselves. Mary Calladine and Rosemary Monk from the original group trained as authorised lay ministers (ALMs) in 2012 – 2013, and then took over from Jutta much of the running of the group. We now organise and lead the hymn services, try to provide lifts by car to church if needed, and since 2016 have arranged lunch and tea parties for the more elderly and isolated in our parish. We give out personal invitations to those who live alone or have difficulty getting to church, as well as a more general invitation on the weekly sheet.

On Tuesday this week, 23rd January, we hosted a light lunch of home-made soup and bread rolls, followed by baked apple sponge pudding and fresh fruit, for thirty people, twenty two guests and eight helpers. Right from the beginning at 12.30, there was a happy buzz of conversation; it was clear that people loved the opportunity to come out for lunch and to meet one another. The home-made food, although simple, was much enjoyed, with many having second helpings. Our guests sat in the study centre, around small tables for four, attractively laid with homely cream damask tablecloths and sparkling glassware. There was a cheery welcoming atmosphere. We aim to

have three such lunches during the winter months, and three tea parties in the summer.

Of course we do not have a monopoly of pastoral care. It is the responsibility of every Christian to love and care for one another, and I know of many instances of such care given by others in our church family. The pastoral group members benefit from the support of one another, both informally and in our three-monthly meetings, and from training sessions; we had a series of "Listening Skills" workshops in-house two years ago, and last year four members attended a morning training in Ely. On Saturday 13th January four of us went to a "Safeguarding Training" morning held at St Andrew's church, Cherry Hinton.

Other tasks include visits and telephone calls to those we know are lonely or needing contact and help. Rosemary takes home communion to the housebound, and also runs the Prayer Support group. This comprises members of our church family who have committed to pray regularly for particular people or groups (eg church officers, PCC members, young families), or where anyone has made a request for prayer, which may of course be anonymous if wished. We are always available to help by prayer or practical support if anyone knows of a need.

Mary Calladine



Saintly railway stations



St Roch, Montpellier

Eds: Churches dedicated to St Roch (in Italy San Rocco, in Spain San Roque) are found throughout the Roman Catholic world. The only ones in the UK are St Roch in Pendomer, Somerset, and St Roch in Glasgow. In continental Europe he is commonly seen in painted and sculpted church adornments. You can recognise him as he is lifting his tunic to show a plague sore on his thigh while a dog offers him bread.

I am accustomed to hearing of St Pancras Station and the Gare St Lazare, and I am aware that Lyon airport is called St Exupéry, though presumably not named after a saint but after the aviator and children's author who was on the last 25 franc note, so when I visited Montpellier, I was not surprised to learn that I should arrive at the Gare St Roch.

The only church that I found open in Montpellier was devoted to St Roch, so I was able to learn something about him. He was a Franciscan pilgrim, who died in prison under suspicion of espionage in the fourteenth century. Like the founder of his order, he was born to riches but chose poverty. Whereas Francis is principally associated with nature, Roch's ministry was among lepers and plague victims. Hence he is the patron of those whose physical disabilities exclude them from society. He would be pleased to learn that in the twenty-first century computers and powered wheelchairs mean that the proportion of these is lower.

And why the local interest? St Roch was born in Montpellier. Might someone discover a native-born Cambridge saint? It would make an interesting suffix to Cambridge North.



Memories of Pat Evans 1928 – 2018

All who knew her will be sad to learn of the death of Pat Evans in her ninetieth year this January.

Pat was a Cambridge girl, born and brought up in Newnham, where her father owned and ran the much-loved Harwood's village bakery. Pat was clever and won a place at the Perse School for girls, but in her school holidays she would go out with the van, delivering bread to customer's homes. After school she trained and worked as a secretary until she married Tony Evans, a history teacher. When Tony became a master at Cambridge Grammar School for boys, (now Netherhall School) they moved to Beaumont Road in this parish.

Pat attended St James' church for many years, and from the early years she was actively involved in many jobs for the church. She was a regular member of the cleaning team, washing and polishing the floor every week under the eagle-eyed supervision of vicar's wife, Anne Ford. Pat was dependable and methodical, which made her the ideal person to do the rotas for church cleaning, and for the readings and intercessions at the 8.00 am Eucharist, which she regularly attended.

Pat organised the annual Christian Aid street collection, held in the parish in Christian Aid week, for many years. This was a huge task, which involved recruiting collectors for every road, getting their envelopes to them, counting all the money and banking it, while keeping scrupulous records of everything. She gave this up only about ten years ago, when the burden of caring for Tony, seriously ill with Alzheimer's disease made it impossible to carry on. She was also the long-standing Secretary of the Perse School Old Girls' Association.

Pat was a regular helper at St James' monthly Saturday coffee mornings, in charge of the raffle alongside Ella Smith. She was always a busy person and could often be seen riding up

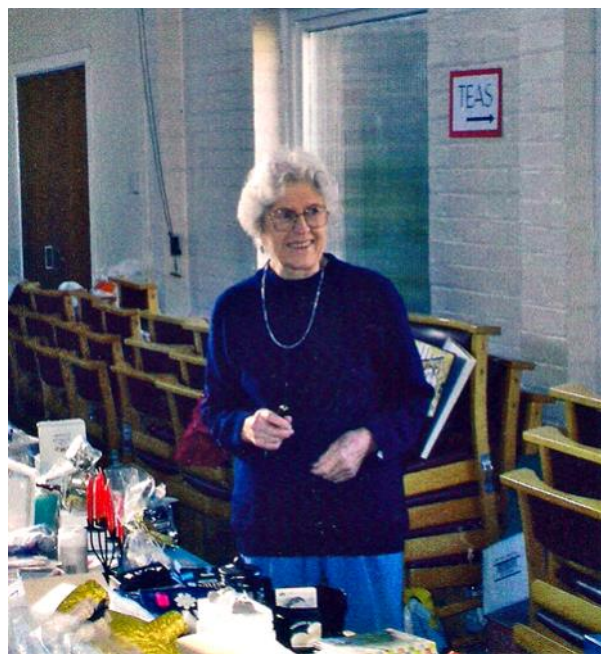
and down the road on her bicycle which was her favoured means of transport.

Tony, her husband, died six years ago in January 2012. Sadly Pat's own health deteriorated after this. Her balance was poor and she had to stop cycling. Then two years ago she fell at home and broke her hip. She worked hard at her rehabilitation and returned to live independently at home, but continued to be prone to falls. Then this winter she contracted pneumonia from which she died on 11 January.

We shall miss her quiet support. As a member of the prayer support group she prayed faithfully for St James and its congregation. She was probably only a name on the intercessions list to many of the present congregation, but her contribution was immense.

Mary Calladine

Pat's funeral service with thanksgiving will be held at St James' Church at 3pm on Friday 9th February, following a service at Cambridge



Pat manning a stall at a Christmas Fair

Engaging with the local community

As school breaks up for the Christmas holidays, punch and mince pies are offered to parents and children.



ST JAMES' YOUTH GROUP



FRIENDSHIP & FUN

GAMES, CLIP & CLIMB, FARADAY INSTITUTE,
HUNTED, FILM NIGHT, GOD & GRAFFITI,
PHILOSOPHY OF HARRY POTTER, CHAMPING



DATES FOR 2018

3 RD MARCH	30 TH JUNE	3 RD NOVEMBER
28 TH APRIL	8 TH SEPTEMBER	1 ST DECEMBER
2 ND JUNE	6 TH OCTOBER	



MORE INFORMATION?

- [HTTP://STJAMESCAMBRIDGE.ORG.UK/](http://stjamescambridge.org.uk/)
- [S.ROTHWELL3@BTINTERNET.COM](mailto:s.ROTHWELL3@BTINTERNET.COM)

Men's Beer Ministry

This meets every third Wednesday of the month in the Queen Edith pub. A friendly get-together any time between 7.30 and 10pm on 21st February and 21st March.

On the Solstice

*A dull day for the solstice
drops of rain
waiting till the year turns round
again*

*the world waits not for Christ
but for another saviour
one who will please them most*

*one for whom they might vote
a pilot for their wishes
on an "I'm right" boat*

*and the one who's really there must
wait
watch the world go to the dogs
knowing that he or she is late*

*and that they will only care
when in great need
when Christmas disappoints
and there is no place for greed*

*That bird knows that the day is near
chirping their carols to the clear blue
sky
they wait with hope to see their sav-
iour dear
to find out why*

*everything coalesces at this point
creatures who run or those who fly
mankind on foot all souls anoint
seeing His heaven in the clear blue sky*

*he will be here, he will be soon
he will lift us dove-like to the skies
here we sit, by the light of the solstice
moon
there is more beauty here than one
can realize*

Linda Appleby



Some special dates in the church calendar, details given on P 12.

Ash Wednesday	14th February (Lent begins)
Lent breakfasts on the following Sundays:	18th February, 4 March, 11 March, 18 March
Visit of the Bishop of Ely:	Sunday 25th February
Mothering Sunday	11th March
Palm Sunday	25th March

Events in Holy Week to be detailed on the Church Noticeboard, the website and the Weekly Sheet

EASTER DAY	1st April
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Contacts at St James's Church**Priest in charge:**

The Revd Steve Rothwell
email: s.rothwell3@btinternet.com

Churchwardens :

Pam Butler, 07745 591235
email: pambutler27@hotmail.com

Edward Westrip, 240596
email: edward.westrip@btinternet.com

Pastoral Assistants:

Mary Calladine 246742
Rosemary Monk 246421

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: This position is vacant at present. For information about music matters please contact
Grae Worster on mgw1@cam.ac.uk

Church & Community Activities**Choir practice:**

(Mon) Juniors 6.30pm; Whole choir 7pm

Beavers (6-8 yrs):

Brendan Murrill 07561 137493

Cubs (8-11 yrs) at QE School

Stephen Harrison 07548 765421

Crosspiece Editorial Board:

Mary Calladine

Jennifer Day

Ron Ferrari

Christina Hood

Correspondence to:

Crosspiece Editor

St James's Church

Wulfstan Way

Cambridge CB1 8QJ

or e-mail to :

stjameschurchcambridge@yahoo.co.uk

**ADVERTS FOR LOCAL SUPPLIERS &
SERVICES**

Celia Kenney

B.Sc. (Hons) Podiatry, M.Ch.S, S.R.Ch
HPC Registered Chiropodist and Podiatrist

Beechwood Practice
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Phone: 01223 315541
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Cambridgeshire,
CB24 8QU

Telephone: 01954 251919

Cambridge city contact: Geoff Heathcock
52 Queen Edith's Way
01223 244901

**DEADLINE FOR THE APRIL—MAY
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Friday 16 March

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.

St James's Church, Cambridge: Calendar for February-March 2018

Morning Prayer is said on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays at 9.30 am. Everyone is welcome.

February

2nd 1.30 pm Meditation Group

4th 2nd SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

8.00 am Eucharist (BCP)
10.00 am All Age Eucharist
Candlemas'. Don't forget to bring an orange!

The Traidcraft stall will be open after both services

6th 7.30 pm Home Group at 27 Topcliffe Way

7th 10.15 am Eucharist at Dunstan Court

9th 1.30 pm Meditation Group
3.00 pm Thanksgiving and Memorial Service for Pat Evans

School half term week

11th SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE LENT

8.00 am Eucharist
10.00 am Sung Eucharist with Sunday School

Ash Wednesday

14th 10.15 am Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes

7.30 pm Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes

15th 2.30 pm Hymn Service at Hinton Grange Care Home

16th 1.30 pm Meditation Group

18th 1st SUNDAY OF LENT

8.00 am Eucharist followed by Lent breakfast
10.00 am Sung Eucharist with Sunday School

20th 7.30 pm Home Group at 27 Topcliffe Way

21st 10.15 am Eucharist

23rd 1.30 pm Meditation Group

24th 10.00 am Bring & Buy Coffee Morning

25th 2nd SUNDAY OF LENT

10.00 am Sung Eucharist with Sunday School. **Visit by The Bishop of Ely.**

28th 10.15 am Eucharist

March

2nd 1.30 pm Meditation Group

3rd 5.00 pm Youth Group for school years 4+

4th 3rd SUNDAY OF LENT

8.00 am Eucharist (BCP) followed by Lent breakfast

10.00 am Sung Eucharist with Sunday School

The Traidcraft stall will be open after both services

6th 7.30 pm Home Group at 27 Topcliffe Way

7th 10.15 am Eucharist at Dunstan Court

9th 1.30 pm Meditation Group

11th MOTHERING SUNDAY / 4th Sunday of Lent

8.00 am Eucharist followed by Lent breakfast

10.00 am All Age Eucharist

14th 10.15 am Eucharist

8.00 pm PCC Meeting

15th 2.15 pm Hymn service at Hinton Grange Care Home

16th 1.30 pm Meditation Group

17th tba Church Spring Clean

18th 5th SUNDAY OF LENT / Passion-tide begins

8.00 am Eucharist followed by Lent breakfast

10.00 am Sung Eucharist with Sunday School

20th 7.30 pm Home Group at 27 Topcliffe Way

21st 10.15 am Eucharist

23rd 1.30 pm Meditation Group

24th 10.00 am Bring & Buy Coffee Morning

25th PALM SUNDAY / Start of Holy Week

8.00 am Eucharist

10.00 am Palm Sunday service

28th 10.15 am Eucharist

For details of Holy Week services please check church noticeboard or website nearer the time <stjamescambridge.org.uk>

April

1st EASTER DAY

10.00 am All Age Eucharist followed by egg hunt for the children