
CROSSPIECE



The Parish Magazine of St James's Church, Cambridge

October — November 2018

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King's College
From the tower of
Great St Mary's
Church

Photo by Ron Ferrari

Words from the Vicarage

Dear Readers,

With the evenings getting darker and colder we might get lost in a sense of gloom as autumn turns into winter. The weeks of October and November offer a mixture of thanksgiving and remembrance, not necessarily all doom and gloom, but a chance to reflect honestly about life and death and to prepare ourselves for the winter ahead, which will of course include the great festivities of Christmas.

October opens with the service of thanksgiving for Harvest, on Sunday 7th and after such a dry and hot summer we may be truly thankful for those who work in agriculture to provide the food for our tables. Later in the month we will mark Hallowe'en – a chance to look honestly at our fears and in a spirit of light and hope join together in a *Pumpkin Picnic* (on Tues 23rd). Then as November begins we will gather for *All Souls' Day* on Friday 2nd November, an opportunity to commemorate the faithful departed, to remember them in prayer, in lighting a candle and in silence.

On Sunday 11th November we will host the *Remembrance Day* service. The continued killing of

civilians and service people in Syria, South Sudan and Somalia and so many other war-torn places around the world indicate that remembering those who lost their lives in the First World War is an incentive to pay full attention to what is happening in the world now. Every life killed in conflict is a tragic moment in our history. As we gather in church to pay our respects we will also pledge to keep on praying for peace and to keep on hoping for change.

All are invited to be a part of these services especially if you feel you would like to find a sense of meaning and hope at the beginning of winter, when many can feel isolated or sad.

These weeks ahead between October and November are a chance to face our fears, to be grateful for light and hope, to remember those we have loved and no longer see, before we enter the season of Advent and wait and watch for the good news that comes to us at Christmastime.

Revd Steven Rothwell



**All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above,
Then thank the Lord , O thank the Lord, for all His love.**

Christian Stewardship 2018

All is a gift from God ... let us joyfully respond

- We invite every member of St James' Church to consider giving in support of the work of the Church.
- Among the many things we have done in the past year at St James, we have:
 - Begun a new youth group, meeting monthly*
 - Continued to host lunches and tea parties for local people*
 - Started a new mission-related project to help us engage with the local community*
 - Re-launched Focus@StJames which offers thoughtful learning opportunities, based on arts, scripture and prayer.*
- We have plenty of plans for new initiatives in the coming year too. But to keep St James' Church open and running in 2018, including funding some much-needed repairs and renewals as well as our normal ongoing ministry costs, regular utility costs and running the church office, our budget shows we need to find £2,000 a week of income.
- About £300 a week comes from room hire but in order to be attractive for users we must keep the building warm and well maintained – as well as for our congregation!
- We depend on your generosity to pay these bills. Our budget for 2018 shows that we expect to have a deficit of nearly £13,000 due to the extra building costs.
- In order to generate funds that would enable us to develop and expand our outreach to the wider community, we will need to grow our financial resources, via an increase in our regular giving.

How much should I give?

- The Church of England urges each of us to give 5% of our income for the work of the Church, based on the tradition of the tithe. Please consider how much you can give to St James' Church as part of your charitable giving.
- Making a regular donation helps us to budget for our costs and make plans for the future.
- Please be as generous as you can and, if you are not already doing so, start a regular pledge, or consider whether you can increase your current giving.
- If you are a taxpayer please Gift Aid your donation (at no extra cost to you). St James' Church receives 25p extra for each £1 you give under Gift Aid.

How can I give?

- The simplest way is to have a regular Standing Order from your bank or to give via the weekly Envelope Giving Scheme.
- Any giving by cheque or cash is, of course, also welcome.

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- Legacies have made an important contribution to St James' Church and enabled us to fund improvements and the care of the building. Please consider including a legacy to St James' Church in your will, helping to secure the long-term future for our church.
- A one-off donation to help support the work of St James', in addition to any regular commitment, is of course also very welcome.

A stewardship form is available on the St James' Church website at <http://stjamescambridge.org.uk/stewardship/>. Once completed, please return via the 'Stewardship Forms' pigeon hole in the corridor by the side entrance or the Church Office. All information about giving is confidential.

For further information, please contact our Treasurer, Sue Wilson, on 01223 247507 or sue@wilsontudorhouse.plus.com or leave a message in the Church Office. Sue will be happy to discuss any questions about Gift Aid or other tax efficient ways of giving. A copy of our accounts and budget is on display on the noticeboard, and included in the annual Parish Meeting papers. Please ask Sue if you would like a further copy.

Give almes of thy goods

September 9th was designated stewardship Sunday. The sermon centred around this, as the congregation reflected on responsibilities for giving generously, for maintaining the building for our own and community use, for using our talents to reach out to the wider community and support each other.

Most appropriately, the choir anthem, which was an unaccompanied piece beautifully sung, was "*Give almes of thy goods*" by Christopher Tye.

*Give almes of thy goods
And turn never thy face from any poor man,
And then the face of the Lord
Shall not be turned away from thee.*

This anthem, written over 500 years ago, still speaks to us with the beauty and simplicity of its words and its music setting. Yet, Tye is not a name that is much known, unless you are closely involved with church music.

He was born around 1505 and probably

in the Cambridge area. He took his bachelor's degree in music at Cambridge in 1536, becoming a lay clerk at King's College. In 1547 he took up the position of choirmaster and organist at Ely Cathedral, being awarded a doctorate in music a few years later. He seems to have held a position at the royal court, allegedly as music teacher to the young Prince Edward, later Edward VI.

He returned to Ely in 1558, and subsequently he was ordained as deacon and then as a full priest at Ely in 1560, relinquishing his previous posts there. He then moved to be rector of Doddington in Cambridgeshire and died around 1572.

He lived during a time when both the liturgy and the musical styles were changing, so he made use of both Latin and English texts. He composed anthems, motets, psalms and masses. His most familiar work is the tune *Winchester Old*. This is the well-known tune for "*While Shepherds watched*". He must have composed a

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lot more than actually survives.

If you wish to hear the music of Christopher Tye sung in the building he composed it for, then *youtube* has a lovely Gloria recorded

by the choir of Ely Cathedral (Gloria from the *Missa Euge Bone*) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m5XeUmKOyCs>

Partnership for Missional Church

As many of you will already know we have a small group of people involved in the diocesan initiative called Partnership for Missional Church. This is aiming to help us to explore how we as a church and as part of a much wider context are hoping to develop in the coming years. As a first step those so far involved have been asked to focus on listening to people: what are the thoughts of the congregation on our church in the past, the present and the future?

A cross-section of those who worship at St James' have already been listened to individually, but on September 15 there was an open invitation to come and take part in a "Timeline event". This was led by Jordan Skittrall and Bill Broadhurst. First of all we took part in a spiritual exercise called "Dwelling in the Word". This is a concentrated and reflective study of a passage of scripture. Jordan guided us through how we approached this: in pairs listening to each other's thoughts, questions and wonderings, then sharing this in larger groups,

and finally with everyone present. The passage chosen was a challenging one (Luke 10 v1-12) about Jesus sending out seventy followers into the surrounding towns. We could have spent the whole session on this.

Next Bill helped us to create a timeline of the life of St James', from its foundation to the present. On a long sheet of paper divided into decades we were invited to contribute moments of importance. Firstly we put red for happy or positive events, then blue for unhappy or difficult events, and finally green for hopeful things about the present and pointing to the future. It was interesting to see what had struck different people as memorable or significant. This paper was in no way a completed task, and has been displayed in the foyer so that people can continue to contribute to it.

Jennifer Day



On a beautiful early September day local people enjoyed a concert by the Littleport Band in Nightingale Park.

Barbara helped to serve tea in the Community Garden in the interval.

From Ben in Beccles



Hello to all of you at St James'! After ordination at St Edmundsbury Cathedral, Caroline, the children and I settled down into the parish of Beccles, which comprises two churches, St Michael's and St Luke's. St Michael's is a large town centre church overlooking the river Waveney, and St Luke's is a community centre-based church at the top of Rigbourne Hill in a housing area – its warmth and friendliness really reminds me of St James', although the tradition is far more evangelical. This is of course a challenge for this Anglo-Catholic, but I am enjoying being the 'salt' that is adding flavour – I gave a particularly challenging sermon on *Song of Songs* recently which sparked a lot of discussion!

It was a really trying time leaving Cambridge – the pace of life in sleepy Suffolk is vastly different, and it has taken time not to grip so tightly to the ties that bind me to the past, but it now feels like home. As for being a public figure: very odd to feel almost part of the town's identity. The townspeople are very kind and do see the church as 'their' church, even if most of them only come at Christmas time. I've been described as 'one of our new curates' a few times, so there is obviously still a

bond between parishioners and the church to explore.

I have taken my first funeral, a sad occasion but a privilege to minister to those mourning the loss of loved ones. There was a point during the service where my brain said, "YOU'RE TAKING A FUNERAL! YOU'RE ACTUALLY DOING IT!" – thankfully God kept my mind steady and still, but these firsts in ministry do have a strangeness about them. I'm now the person Christ is working through in ministering to the people in time-honoured ways. I will be taking my first baptism soon, a joyous occasion.

Dora and Bertie have settled into their new school, a Roman Catholic primary. Trinity is now a whole year old and is cutting her first teeth, and Caroline is heading up another *Samara's Aid* campaign and is now treasurer of the school PTA, so we have all been very busy.

And so it can be difficult to BE rather than DO when in parish. I have been keeping both my contemplative prayer AND tradition alive by taking time to sing Compline at night by incense and candlelight. Time for stillness is so important, to allow God to minister to us, to give our souls peace, and to let us take stock and reflect on the day.

Do be assured of my prayers for you all at St James'. I enjoy catching up with what you're up to in *Crosspiece*, and often think of all that I have learnt being amongst you. I know the best way to scoop out pumpkins AND how to effectively graffiti a wall, amongst other things!

God bless!

Fr Benjamin Edwards!

Folksongs of Praise



On 5th August the normal 10am Eucharist was replaced by a FolkSongs of Praise. This was to coincide with the Folk Festival at Cherry Hinton Hall, and provided the usual congregation and some very welcome visitors with an opportunity to worship in a completely different way. Christina Hood and friends have a love of and knowledge of the patterns of worship and music of the Celtic tradition, closely embraced by the Iona Community. It was a very moving service, allowing those of us whose Sunday worship is usually a Sung Eucharist to approach our faith in a different way.

There was no set liturgy, but a carefully put together service that featured lots of music, a storyteller in place of a sermon, prayers and a cairn-building activity. We hung prayers on a tree, and took away some stones from the cairn at the end of the service as symbols to guide us in our thoughts and prayers in the coming days. Some of the music for the hymns was familiar, such as *Ar hyd I nos*, the traditional Welsh tune. Some of us may already have known the words we sang, but for others *All through the night* might have been more familiar. Both, however, keep the theme of night-time, death and God's

reassurance. An Irish tune was also familiar and this time so were the words (*I heard the voice of Jesus say, Come unto me and rest...*).

There were other tunes from the Iona Community that we had to learn, but these were not only easy to pick up but simple and beautiful. The tunes *Pulling Bracken* and *Wild Mountain Thyme* have beautiful names and the accompanying words seemed to ground us in a world where both God's wonderful creation and the reality of Christ's life and death are expressed with poetic imagery yet simplicity.

Integral to the service was the band of musicians, who not only played for the songs of praise, but provided a background as we took part in the cairn-building. It was a beautiful service, closing with the following affirmation:

In work and worship
God is with us
 Gathered and scattered
God is with us
 Now and always
God is with us

A Cambridge View from On High

Walking past Great St Mary's Church on a fine sunny morning recently I noticed an invitation outside to climb the tower and enjoy the unique view from its top. Having my camera with me, I accepted the challenge of its 123-step spiral staircase and was duly rewarded with this experience.

The most immediate sight is a panoramic view of King's College Chapel such as never ordinarily seen. (*See cover picture*) With its college chapels Cambridge possibly has, apart perhaps from that other place, more ecclesiastical buildings per square mile than anywhere else in Christendom. However I won't attempt to enumerate these, and in any case, my overall impression of that view was of far more trees than you would ever expect. No wonder Cambridge City Council has an Arborecultural Officer to look after them.

With a telephoto lens I recorded some more of the landmarks to be seen from atop Great St Mary's. Actually the highest proper Cambridge building is the 1930's-built University Library tower, some 60 feet higher than the pinnacles of King's Chapel.



Another candidate for this honour might possibly be the Cheddars Lane pumping-station chimney. This was built in Victorian times for the furnaces of the steam engine that powered pumps for the then Cambridge sewage system. Incredibly those furnaces were fired with Cambridge domestic waste, then much more burnable than it is today although producing a veritable mountain of ash. The chimney has a decorative top gently mimicking those of the brash but useless Renaissance towers of Tuscany.

Other notable features must include the Market Place viewed from above and a confirmation that above eye-level, many of the central Cambridge shops and stores reveal themselves to have been elegant residences of earlier times.

Ron Ferrari



As we admire a bird's eye view of Cambridge market, we notice not only the spire of Holy Trinity but on the skyline the chimney of the Cheddars Lane Pumping Station.

To get the photo of the chimney on the previous page, Ron must have an extremely good telephoto lens!

Summer Reading Being Mortal by Atul Gawande – Wellcome Collection

Every July newspapers and magazines publish lists of books recommended for summer holiday reading. With holiday leisure comes an opportunity for reading for enjoyment, rather than for work. Therefore before leaving to visit our daughter's family in Germany, I went to Waterstone's to choose some books to read while on our two-day train journeys there and back. One of these books was *Being Mortal* by the American surgeon Atul Gawande. I had seen it recommended in book-lists and articles for the past three years, and wanted to read it for myself.

Atul Gawande is a second generation Indian immigrant, working in Boston, Massachusetts, and teaching at Harvard Medical School. He has written earlier books about surgical practice, but this one reflects on his experience and thoughts about life and death, gleaned from his experience of his own family and friends as well as his patients.

He points out that life runs a natural course from infant dependency to maturity, bringing independence and productivity, and thence to the frailty of old age, eventual dependency and death. But until the past century, this natural course was rarely lived to its final stages. Life's course might be interrupted at any time by epidemic, accident, natural disaster or war. Society has not yet adapted to the presence of large numbers of very aged frail people, and as Medicine has conquered so many physical disorders and extended life, so it is expected to conquer aging, which it is unable to do.

He tells the story of his grandfather, Sitaram Gawande, an Indian farmer with a large family, who lived an active independent life to the age of 110 years, being supported by his family, and enabled to continue managing his farm up to the year of his death. This ideal

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would rarely be possible in western countries today, where families are smaller and more dispersed.

Gawande goes on to describe various care homes and supportive residential communities for the elderly. One of these made the imaginative innovation of introducing a large number of pets - dogs, cats, rabbits, hens and parakeets, which the residents could help to care for. The elderly residents became more active and less depressed. This reminded me of the recent TV programme here, in which, as an experiment, a class of nursery school children was introduced into an old people's home. The residents were assessed for mobility and mental well-being both before and after the period when the children visited. It was found that mobility scores increased and depression decreased. It was quite apparent during the series that the old people were becoming more interested and involved, and even emotionally attached to the children.

I found the book surprisingly engaging and easy to read. Gawande writes well and shows insight into, and compassion with, the life stories he relates. At the end of life accurate predictions are hard to make, but people still want to make their own decisions and remain in control, to end their life story on their own terms. We are all different, and so will make different decisions from those that our families and doctors

might expect. He writes in the context of America, and I wondered how many Americans would be able to afford the excellent care he describes. What happens to the poor and the uninsured? We have not solved these problems in this country either, and we also have the prospect of the unaffordability of the best care for so many of us. Our own families are getting smaller and moving further away, so the burden of care falls increasingly onto one family member, who cannot support it indefinitely, and so residential care is needed.

I thoroughly recommend this book to everyone, not only the elderly and family carers. Gawande does not write from a Christian standpoint, but he recognises the importance of faith to the way we all make sense of our life story, (and especially so for the sick and dying); and the importance of rituals of faith to the bereaved. He himself, although no longer a practising Hindu, went to India with his mother and sister, to scatter his father's ashes on the river Ganges, and to take part in the Hindu ritual. He found that by doing so he was taking part in a much larger story – the story of his people and race – and he was moved by the experience. As Christians we believe that “our life is hid in Christ with God”, and that we return to the God who gave us life, and gives us new life in his son Jesus.

Mary Calladine



As usual St James' Church holds a Remembrance Service in November. This year it is particularly special, as the 11th November actually falls on a Sunday and also marks exactly 100 years since the end of the First World War.

On the left is a detail from a large commemorative panel at present on display in Sherborne Abbey in Dorset.

LEST WE FORGET

Contacts at St James's Church**Priest in charge:**

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Director of Music: This position is vacant at present. For information about music matters please contact

Grae Worster on mgw1@cam.ac.uk

For information and about the vacancy see stjamescambridge.org.uk/directorofmusic

Church & Community Activities**Choir practice:**

(Mon) Juniors 6.30pm; Whole choir 7pm

Beavers (6-8 yrs):

Brendan Murrill 07561 137493

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**DEADLINE FOR THE DECEMBER
2018—JANUARY 2019 ISSUE of
*CROSSPIECE***

Thursday 22 November

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 October, November and early December 2018

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

October

3 rd	10.15 am	Eucharist at Dunstan Court
	5.30 pm	Events team meeting
5 th	1.30 pm	Meditation Group
6 th	5.00 pm	Youth Group
7 th	HARVEST FESTIVAL	
		No 8 o'clock Eucharist
	10.00 am	All Age Eucharist <i>The Traidcraft stall will be open after both services</i>
	12.30 pm	Harvest Bring & Share Lunch
10 th	10.15 am	Eucharist
12 th	1.30 pm	Meditation Group
	7.00 pm	Champing at St John's Church
14 th	20th SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY	
	8.00 am	Eucharist
	10.00 am	Sung Eucharist with Sunday School
15 th	10.30 am	Staff meeting
17 th	10.15 am	Eucharist
18 th	2.15 pm	Hymn service at Hinton Grange Care Home
	7.30 pm	Men's Beer Ministry at QE Pub
19 th	1.30 pm	Meditation Group
21 st	21st SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY (School half-term week)	
	8.00 am	Eucharist
	10.00 am	Sung Eucharist with Sunday School including talk by Cambridge street pastors
22 nd	tba	Holiday lunch club in church
23 rd	tba	Pumpkin Picnic
24 th	10.15 am	Eucharist
26 th	1.30 pm	Meditation Group
26 th & 27 th		PMC cluster event
27 th	10.00 am	Bring & Buy Coffee Morning <i>Clocks go back!</i>
28 th	LAST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY	
	8.00 am	Eucharist
	10.00 am	Sung Eucharist with Sunday School
31 st	10.15 am	Eucharist

November

1 st	12.30 pm	Pastoral Lunch
2 nd	10.30 am	All Souls' Day service
	1.30 pm	Meditation Group
3 rd	5.00 pm	Youth Group
4 th	ALL SAINTS' DAY	
	8.00 am	Eucharist (BCP)
	10.00 am	All Age Eucharist <i>The Traidcraft stall will be open after both services</i>
7 th	10.15 am	Eucharist at Dunstan Court
9 th	1.30 pm	Meditation Group
11 th	REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY / 3rd Sunday before Advent	
	8.00 am	Eucharist
	10.00 am	Sung Eucharist with an Act of Remembrance and Sunday School
14 th	10.15 am	Eucharist
	8.00 pm	PCC Meeting
15 th	2.15 pm	Hymn service at Hinton Grange Care Hom
	7.30 pm	Men's Beer Ministry at QE Pub
16 th	1.30 pm	Meditation Group
18 th	2nd Sunday before Advent	
	8.00 am	Eucharist
	10.00 am	Sung Eucharist with Sunday School
21 st	10.15 am	Eucharist
23 rd	1.30 pm	Meditation Group
25 th	CHRIST THE KING / Sunday next before Advent	
	8.00 am	Eucharist
	10.00 am	Sung Eucharist with Sunday School
28 th	10.15 am	Eucharist
	11.00 am	Pastoral Group Meeting
30 th	1.30 pm	Meditation Group

December

1 st	5.00 pm	Youth Group
2 nd	ADVENT 1	
	8.00 am	Eucharist (BCP)
	10.00 am	All Age Eucharist <i>The Traidcraft stall will be open after both services</i>
5 th	10.15 am	Eucharist at Dunstan Court
7 th	1.30 pm	Meditation Group
8 th	tba	Christmas Tree Festival