

DIRECTORY

Clergy	Mike Fudger (Rector)	354543
	Cyril Harris (Hon. Asst)	344927
Churchwardens	Alison Davis	267480
	Dave Hoskins	304424
Assistant Churchwardens	Bruce Reid	267137
	Liz McHale	210620
PCC Secretary	Tricia Oakley	211499
Treasurers	Hannah Potter	352675
	Anthony Chestney	351719
Planned Giving Officer	Gloria Clarke	357676
Electoral Roll Officer	Roy Jupp	213468
Bookings:		
Chapter House	Ann Lawrence	358950
St. Cuthbert's Hall	Hannah Potter	352675



Church Flowers: Please see the Rota at the back of the church or ring 270514

COFFEE MORNING at THE GABLES

Dr Mary Fenske and Mrs Heather Harris will be holding a Coffee Morning and Bring and Buy at The Gables, 8 De Parys Avenue Bedford on Friday 9th October from 10am to 12 noon.

This will be in aid of the Mothers' Union Famine Relief Fund and general projects. Please do come and support us.

Gifts for the Raffle and Bring and Buy stall will be much appreciated.

01234 344927

DIARY

October

- 2nd First Friday 7.30pm
 11th Mayoral Hustings at Priory Methodist Church 8pm
 17th Everyday Icons - see p. 3 and poster in the Chapter House
 21st God Calling? 7.45pm at St. Andrew's - Education
 28th God Calling? St. Andrew's 7.45pm - Sport.

November

- 3rd Quiet Evening in St. Peter's
 9th Film Club 7pm

CHILDREN IN NEED

This year Emily Entwistle has devised a different way of raising money for this worthy cause!

Quiz sheets are on sale for £1.00 and those handed back with the most correct answers will be entered into a prize draw on November 14th at the Coffee Shop where Emily will have her customary stall selling preserves.

Quiz sheets are available from Emily, Susan or Richard.

Do come along on the day to give your support and see who wins the prize for the most clever quizzier!

Solution to Sudoku on back page

1	9	2	3	7	4	6	5	8
5	7	4	1	8	6	2	9	3
8	3	6	9	2	5	4	1	7
9	8	7	5	6	2	1	3	4
4	2	3	8	1	9	5	7	6
6	5	1	4	3	7	9	8	2
7	6	8	2	5	1	3	4	9
3	4	5	6	9	8	7	2	1
2	1	9	7	4	3	8	6	5

The Crucifixion of Jesus

All alone in the Garden
 Gethsemane by night
 His followers were sleeping
 Jesus foresaw quite clearly
 His own most terrible plight

Jesus prayed his simple prayer
 "Thy will not mine be done,
 I pray for the strength and courage
 To face the ordeal which is to come"

Soldiers with their flaming torches
 Jesus had chosen not to flee
 "We have come to search for Jesus"
 Jesus replied quite calmly "I am he"
 (John 18: 5)

They took him to Jerusalem
 And through to the temple court
 Jesus listened carefully to all the charges they brought
 Jesus spoke to Pilate seated in his chair
 "You owe to yourself and to Caesar and to God to give a judgment that is just and fair" (John 19: 11)

The Zealots had raised their rebellion
 Against the power of Rome
 The Zealots wanted rulers
 Chosen by people at home

In the course of that rebellion
 Some Roman soldiers were slain
 (Luke 23: 19)
 Crucifixion was the punishment
 The Roman law was plain

The Zealots were led by Barrabas
 He and two henchmen had been sentenced to death
 They did not care to ask themselves to give a reason why
 An innocent man should be the one, in place of Barrabas, to die

The Zealot mob was livid
 They shouted with all their breath
 Jesus instead of Barrabas
 Should be the one to suffer death

Pilate hummed and hawed and dithered
 He eventually made up his mind
 That Jesus should be the one to die
 To Barrabas he was kind

They mocked and taunted Jesus
 They dressed him like a king
 A crown of thorns upon his head
 Just to increase his suffering

They made him carry a heavy cross
 To Golgotha upon a hill
 Their torture had no end
 Just to show their ill will

Simon of Cyrene came to help Jesus
 Carry the heavy cross to Calvary
 Outside the city wall
 In his way helped to save Jesus from a fall

They drove their cruel nails
 Through his ankles and his wrists
 They continued with their mockery
 Through shaking of their fists

They watched his life just ebb away
 As the sun set in the West
 Through Jesus loyal acceptance of his fate
 Women, men and children everywhere
 have all been blessed.

Robert Miller

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

BAPTISMS

30th August George Robt
 5th September Madison Adjetye
 6th September Amori Marklanc

WEDDINGS

13th July Philip Barton & Jane Simmond
 25th July Ken Dervish & Michelle Russel
 David Matthews & Fiona Glennor
 20th August Darren Blorre & Andree Dani
 21st August Dale Carter & Cheryl Bower

BLESSING

5th Sept. Jack Adjetye & Adole Thompsor

ST PETER'S VISIT THE GURDWARA

For a couple of hours on the morning of Wednesday 23rd September members of St Peter's congregation were invited to this magnificent temple in Queens Park to learn the history and tradition of Sikhism.



The Gurdwara – meaning gateway through which the Guru can be reached – is a remarkable feat of craftsmanship. Marble used on the exterior and the interior of the building was transported from India, together with the stonemasons who carried out the work once it arrived at its destination.

Sikhism was introduced by Nanak (the first Guru) as a way of life and his writings set out the pattern to which the life should be lived. A major part of their teaching is equality amongst people and The Gurdwara is a community centre as well as a religious building. The free kitchen is open every day for visitors of all religions and walks of life.

After removing our shoes and covering our heads, which is their custom, we entered the large community room where our guides were very generous with their time (and their tea and snacks) and extremely informative. During our visit many questions were asked and I think there would have been many more had we had the time for them, such was the interest. Many of us noticed that despite the comings and goings of the devotees, the prayer room had an air of peace and tranquillity about it. Sikhism is a faith of hope and cheer and I believe that was most evident during our time there.

Anyone is welcome to visit the temple at any time, so make a date in your diary to go. I for one believe it is well worth doing and time very well spent.

Wendy Edwards

PRAYER FOR THE MONTH

Dear Friends,
As the season of Harvest is upon us, may we especially remember with compassion those without the basic need of a home.

HLH

*Lord we pray especially for all those who are homeless and rootless.
We pray for all those connected in any way with the Prebend Day Centre, the Clarendon Night Shelter, The King's Arms and the Community of Emmaus at Carlton.
We pray for the long-term resettlement of those who walk the streets of Bedford, hopeless and aimless.
Lord may we be moved to give generously to St. Peter's Harvest appeal for the homeless.
Help us Lord to remember that there but the grace of God we may be in the same plight.
Amen*

QUIET DAY

On a sunny day in July, the Rector and six parishioners (and the Rectory dog) set off for The Stables Haynes.

We started with morning prayer and carried on studying the miracles and healings of Jesus. We had a light lunch followed by paiting ourselves with the aid of mirrors.

We studied books of icons before celebrating a simple Communion.

After a cup of tea we headed for home and I strongly recommend the day to everyone that is free.

Richard Smith

!!
A little girl was struggling with her first term at school. "I'm just wasting my time," she said to her mother. "I can't read, I can't write, and they won't let me talk!"
!!

ST PETER'S AND ST ANDREWS - A CONTINUING STORY



On Mothering Sunday earlier this year, we had some posies of flowers left over at the end of the service. As I stood at the door, greeting the congregation, I had a sudden inspiration. (Yes, even Vicars are suddenly inspired occasionally!) Mothering Sunday was traditionally the Sunday when everyone was encouraged to come to 'Mother Church', so I sent an unsuspecting member of the congregation off with a posy of flowers to our 'Mother Church', St Peter de Merton. I know from a subsequent conversation that the unexpected gesture was much appreciated.

St Andrew's will celebrate a century of independent existence as a parish in 2015. Before that, for twenty years, we were a daughter church of St Peter's. Under three Rectors of St Peter's, William Hart Smith (Rector, 1871-99), Charles Wells (Rector, 1899-1904) and John Ernest Gilbert (Rector, 1904-23), it was the assistant curates of St Peter's who were responsible for the congregation at St Andrew's. In the early days, after the building of the original St Andrew's, the 'tin tabernacle' in 1895, the Rector seemed content to give Francis Michell, formerly Archdeacon of Calcutta and now the curate-in-charge, almost a free hand in running the daughter church. However, the situation was to change. Patricia Bell takes up the story in her illuminating article 'The Early Years of St Andrew's Bedford' :

"The archdeacon's successor as curate-in-charge was the Reverend Alfred Sasse, who was much liked, but was not someone able to deal with the situation that arose with the advent of the Reverend J .E. Gilbert to the Rectory of St Peter's in 1904. The previous rectors had been uninterested, or ill and non-resident, but Mr Gilbert arrived and found what seemed to him a desperately wrong state of affairs within his parish. The St Andrew's Church Committee, he thought, looked upon themselves as independent of clerical control, and also appeared to decide on

the stipend of the curate-in-charge, a situation which to Mr Gilbert smacked of congregationalism if not anarchy. There ensued a period of bitter disputes between the rector and the Committee, which

culminated in a lock-out by the Committee in the Spring of 1909, when the rector arrived at the iron church to take a service and found the doors locked. Bishops, Archdeacons and Rural Deans were bombarded with letters; the columns of the local press bent under the weight of acrimonious correspondence; pamphlets and handbills whirled around the town."

Six years later, a settlement was eventually agreed, which allowed St Andrew's to become an independent parish and the Reverend Richard Howes became the first incumbent of St Andrew's.

It's rather a sorry tale! Nearly one hundred years later, I'm glad, however, to report that our relationships with our 'mother church' St Peter's and with its current rector, the The Reverend Mike Fudger, are of the most cordial and collaborative. We live in a very different climate, where neighbouring churches should no longer see themselves as independent and self-contained units (and, as in the bad old days sometimes, even competitors) but as co-workers in Christ's mission. St Andrew and St Peter were brothers, co-workers in the fishing business, who were commissioned by Jesus to 'fish for people'. I look forward to an even closer sharing with our Christian brothers and sisters at St Peter's as together we seek to bring the love of Christ to the people of this part of North Bedford today. I hope we shall be able mark the centenary of our legal separation in 2015 with an even stronger covenant of fellowship and unity between mother and daughter.

Christopher Dent

**Taylor's Bell Foundry Loughborough,
and The Bells of St Peter de Merton**

Six of the bells at St Peter's were cast at the above foundry in 1895, watched by the Church Wardens who saw the old bells broken up and the metal used to recast the new set of bells. In 1948 two more bells were cast by Taylor's to complete a peal of 8 bells.

Of the many Bellfounders over the centuries only two bellfounders now exist in the British Isles. The smaller of these is the Whitechapel company, based in London, but the largest is Taylor's Bellfounders who operate from their foundry in Loughborough.

John Taylor's continues a line of bellfounding unbroken since the middle of the 14th century. Since 1784 the business has been in the hands of the Taylor Family. In 1839 the business settled in Loughborough and is the largest Bellfoundry in the world. Churches all around the British Isles and many abroad have been hung with Taylor bells, and perhaps their most famous bell is Great Paul, hung in St Paul's Cathedral in 1881. At the end of the 19th Century Taylor's had discovered the art of how to correctly tune bells to the correct note, and in recent years they developed machinery to re-tune old bells which were musically out of tune. Such was the development in their knowledge of sound and tuning that when adding new bells to ancient peals they would cast the bells to sound like the ancient bells, which could be quite different from the sound of a complete ring of new bells. Their work also included much needed restoration of ringing installations and the preservation in almost their original condition when deemed necessary.

Sadly on 18th September 2009 Taylor's announced that it had gone into Administration, with the Administrators setting a very early date in October as the last date for a suitable buyer to enter the scene.

It will be a sad day if we lose the World's largest foundry and a sad day for all churches who have Taylor Bells.

Richard Entwistle

**CLOCKS GO BACK ON
OCTOBER 25th**

When British Summer Time ends on 25th October, why not seize the moment and get your bedtime routine organised for the winter ahead.

It seems that one in five of us sleep badly, wake early, and so feel irritable and tired as each day begins. Experts call this 'junk sleep', and warn that we can't expect to be as productive at work, as emotionally stable in our relationships, or even as slim as we would be if we got a proper seven to seven and a half hours a night.

Another depressing thing: if you don't get enough sleep, you will age faster. The changes in your hormone functions will be similar to those which come with ageing.

So – how to sleep better? If your problem is very bad, visit your doctor to make sure you are medically okay. Then, here are some tips to help you prepare for sleep:

Think of your bedroom as a sanctuary from the world. Aim to make it spacious, quiet and peaceful? Take out the TV. Move out the work papers. Put away the mess. Use soft lighting, and hang thick curtains to protect from light. Keep your bed clean and inviting!

What time do you go to bed? Make it the same time every night, and aim for some exercise about 4 hours beforehand. Walking, jogging or swimming in the early evening is great for you – the exercise gets rid of the stress of the day, and helps you to unwind and relax.

Turn off the TV and computer at least an hour before bed, and listen to relaxing music or read instead. Have a warm bath, review the day mentally and let it go.

Reading a Psalm before you sleep will help focus your mind on God and his love for you, and will remind you of the spiritual dimension in life. God is your refuge, and wants you to turn to him for help. Do so, and then turn off the light!

Run by **BELIEF** on
Wednesday evenings

**God Calling?
Being a Christian in...**

... **EDUCATION**
Jim Oliver, headmaster and educational adviser
21 October

... **SPORT**
Mark Pinney, Logos Golf Ministries
28 October

... **BANKING**
Ed Bloor, Senior Manager, HSBC Global Banking and Markets.
4 November

... **LAW**
Martin Banham-Hall, Senior Partner, Healdlaw
11 November

... **MEDICINE**
Dr Mary Fenske, General Practitioner, Bedford
18 November

Each session will consist of an introductory presentation and then, following the refreshment break, the speaker will offer the audience a real-life 'dilemma' from the vocation under consideration, to be discussed in groups.

Venue: The Holt Room St Andrews Church, Kimbolton Road, Bedford, beginning at 7.45 pm and ending at 9.30 pm.

Cost: This course will be free of charge. Donations welcome towards the costs and refreshments.

!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

The family that sticks together should bathe more often ...

St Albans Diocese
Exploring Spirituality Day
Saturday 17th October 2009

Everyday ICONS
Finding God in everyday life

Keynote Speaker: Brian Draper
Director of Echosounder,
Associate Faculty Member at ICCC,
Writer and Broadcaster

In living our every day and
everyday, where can we find and
encounter God?

Ask Mike for an application form or
email dis@stalbans.anglican.org

**'From here to eternity' -
Transforming Worship through
the Christian Year**

**Saturday 28th November 2009,
10-5pm, St. Albans Cathedral**

A major training day for Clergy, Readers and all those interested in worship.

**Keynote Speaker:
John Bell of the Iona Community**

Worship will lead us through the Christian Year and culminate in evening worship at which the **Bishop of St. Albans** will address us.

A range of workshops will be on offer including: worshipping with disabilities, moving worship with immovable furniture, welcoming worship – baptisms, funerals and weddings, technology in worship, musical opportunities in worship, mission and worship.

SERVICES

SUNDAY 4th 8am 10.15am 6.30pm	Trinity 17 Holy Communion First Sunday Evensong
THURSDAY 8th 10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)
SUNDAY 11th 8am 10.15am 6.30pm	Trinity 18 Holy Communion Parish Communion Evensong
THURSDAY 15th 10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)
SUNDAY 18th 8am 10.15am 6.30pm	ST LUKE Holy Communion Morning Worship Holy Communion with Laying-on of Hands for Healing
THURSDAY 22nd 10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)
SUNDAY 25th 8am 10.15am 6.30pm	Last after Trinity Holy Communion Parish Communion Evensong
THURSDAY 29th 10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)
SUNDAY 1st November 8am 10.15am 4.00pm	All Saints Holy Communion First Sunday Deanery Evensong at St. John's

		2		4			8
						9	3
			9	2	5		
						1	4
		3	8		9	5	
6		1					
			2	5	1		
3	4						
2			7			8	

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Solution on page 2

REGULAR EVENTS

Refreshments are served every Sunday after the 10.15am service and after Holy Communion on Thursdays.

Sunday School meets each Sunday at the 10.15am service, leaving after the first hymn, on all but the first Sunday in the month when there is a special Children's Service. (All ages welcome).

St. Peter's Choir sings at 10.15am services apart from the First Sunday service. Choir practices are on Sunday mornings. Contact Adrian on 409612. New members welcome.

Women's Fellowship meets on 2nd and 4th Mondays at 2.30pm in St. Cuthbert's Hall but will be on a summer break until September. Details from Doris Hoskins Tel: 304424

Cruse holds a coffee morning in the Chapter House on **Tuesdays from 10am - 12 noon** for those trying to come to terms with bereavement. Tel: 340321 for further details.

The Pastoral visiting team helps to care for the sick, elderly & housebound. Offers of help and requests for visits to Do Vesey. Tel: 353024

St. Peter's eight bells are rung each Sunday from 9.40am. Practices are at **7.30pm on Thursdays**. Details from Richard Entwistle. Tel: 360095

The Mothers' Union meets at **10.30am on the first Wednesday of each month** at 8, de Parys Avenue for coffee, prayer and Bible study. "**Modern Mums**" meet by arrangement at **8pm**. Details from Pam Copenhall Tel: 357903

Grapevine Parent & Toddler group meets from 9.30 - 11.30am on Fridays. Details from Andrea Spice. Tel: 341861

St. Peter's Coffee Shop is open from **10am on Saturdays** with books, sweets and (occasionally) cakes for sale. Donations of cakes and offers of help gratefully received. Details from Tricia Oakley. Tel: 211499

www.stpeter.org.uk

Please email your comments on the magazine to Network@stpeter.org.uk

NETWORK

THE NEWSLETTER OF ST. PETER DE MERTON WITH ST. CUTHBERT

October 2009

Dear All,

Religion. As you probably know, the word comes from the Latin 'religio' which means to bind together, to connect.

That's important to remember, especially in these days when religion gets such a bad press. It's not there to separate or divide; on the contrary it's there to bring together, to connect: the divine with the human; people with others who seem very different, but whose experiences longings and aspirations they truly share.

This great work depends so much on ritual, as we know so well. The Church has created liturgies throughout her life; to help us to touch God who is so shrouded in mystery, and to acknowledge how God in turn touches us.

During the summer, a number of us met to look at the Communion service we use on Sunday morning at 10.15am. It hasn't been changed for a number of years, and we agreed that there were some things that needed to be altered: the mixture of 'you's and 'thou's isn't helpful; the music needs to be appropriate to the occasion, and to the potential of our singing; and how we share the Peace.

[We recognised that this is an important part of the drama of the Eucharist - acknowledging one another as parts of Christ's body, and being in proper harmony with each other. But for some of us, it sometimes gets in the way rather than helping. We decided that the Celebrant would shake hands with the person on the end of each pew, and that the 'Peace' would be passed along the pews, so that everyone who wants to be can be part of the movement - a kind of holy Mexican wave, someone suggested! We'll try it...]

It's interesting to see people who aren't used to the church's culture when they come for a baptism. It isn't even the complicated theology and language that

do for them; how many places expect you to have to sing anymore or experience being part of something bigger than themselves. And yet, they continue to come and celebrate the most important moments of their lives. This year we've had more weddings than for some time, each a wonderful occasion, and so encouraging that our sacred space is being used and appreciated!

But we must always remember that for liturgy to work its real magic, it has not only to change our hearts whilst we're in the midst of it. It has to change what we are and become when we're not there. That's the real measure of it. How our lives become more in tune with God in the midst of all the mess and muddle we live amongst. In the eloquent words of the author Rosemary Lain-Priestly:

'The fabric of our existence is the touch, the scent, the taste, the sight, the loveliness and the unloveliness of ourselves and other people. This is the context in which we live out the fullness of our humanity and become all that God would have us be, in the same way that God can only be fully God when we are authentically ourselves.'

So let's hold our religion proudly, but carefully, and allow God to go on making and remaking us in His image. Because that's what really counts.

With my love,

Mike