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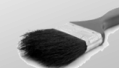
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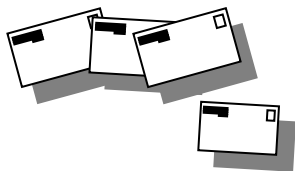
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Letters Page



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Given the reduction in swine flu cases, I am lifting suspension of the common cup and am content for the clergy, in conjunction with their PCCs, to determine an appropriate local course of action in response to the Archbishops' advice. We will continue to monitor national and local advice and, if/when circumstances change – i.e. increase in swine flu cases - I may again choose to recommend a diocesan-wide suspension.

With best wishes,

*The Rt Revd David A Urquhart
Bishop of Birmingham*

Dear Editor,

Has anyone else noticed the new Kings Norton landmark that has suddenly appeared on the horizon?

The crane being used to help create the building replacing St Nicolas Hall can be seen for quite a distance. I have spotted it while driving near the Maypole, in West

Heath, Hazelwell and Cotteridge to name but a few. It even looks higher than the St Nicolas Church spire.

J.C. Bee



Write to:-

**Kings Norton Parish Office,
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81 The Green, Kings Norton,
Birmingham B38 8RU
or e-mail:-
editor@kingsnorton.org.uk**

The views, opinions and comments expressed in letters are not necessarily those of the editorial team of the *Kings Norton Parish Magazine*, the *Kings Norton Parish Team*, or its *Staff*. Letters must contain the Name and Address of the 'sender', which will not necessarily be printed.

Editorial Team reserve the right to edit letters whilst retaining the correct context.



Welcome.....

By the time this edition of the magazine is published, we will have reached the end of Back to Church Week. No doubt there will be stories to tell about this in the November mag.

This month we have details of this year's Operation Christmas Child Appeal being co-ordinated by PaWNS. There is also a review of the Malawi Youth Encounter from Birmingham Diocese.

Our Parish Person is Gail Rogers who now writes the Children's Pages.

Happy reading!

Alan Haynes, Editor



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Thank you.

**Items for inclusion in the
November issue are to be
submitted by:-
Friday 16th October 2009**

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From The Rector

How to Explain your Faith

Sometimes we find a book and think, "Everybody should read this." We're usually wrong. What excites us can be very heavy going for others. But now and then someone says it to us – and they are right. A sharp teenager, looking for a book about Jesus, found "How to Explain your Faith" by John Pritchard and said, "You must read this. " I obeyed – and now ask that you do the same.

John was once a curate at St Martin's in the Bull Ring and is now Bishop of Oxford. His book looks at all the hard questions. With a smile, a prayer and an honest mind, he tells us where he's got to in answering them. It's in three sections: "Why bother?", "Why believe?" and "Why get involved?" Each section covers four or five of the big issues for believing, such as "Is there anybody there?", "What use is a dying God?", "The Bible – big, black and boring?" His responses in story and wisdom really help.

He writes, "We hope no one will ask us why we actually believe in God. We wince when the

questions get too close. Here are some of the approaches that have helped me in answering those challenges."

What I love about this book is that, whether you're already a church member, someone who's searching - or a rector who is both - John opens up real questions and offers answers that respect where we are and help us move on in faith. It's helped me. I'm sure it will help you.

John also suggests ways in which groups can work together on these things. We will be offering groups and discussions here on the questions and answers he brings us. Look out for details, look out for his book – and, like me, follow some wise teenage advice! I'm very glad I did.

How to Explain your Faith by John Pritchard. It's published by SPCK.

ISBN 978-0-281-05708-5

Rob Morris

Daffy Day!



SAINT NICOLAS PLACE



Saturday 3rd October 10am-2pm

Take part in our effort to create a carpet of yellow next to St Nicolas Church as we plant hundreds of daffodils in time for autumn. Plant as many as you like for £1 a bulb and receive a certificate and unique plot number so you can wait for your flower to grow. Return in the Spring to behold a 'host of golden daffodils'!

For more information about the event please contact Emma Banks 0121 458 1223 or emma@saintnicolasplace.co.uk



SAINT NICOLAS PLACE
KINGS NORTON BIRMINGHAM



1940's Weekend

Saturday 12th & Sunday 13th September,

To mark the 70th anniversary of the outbreak of WWII

Pews again!

We have been given permission to move the front four rows of pews from each side of the nave in St Nicolas and replace them with chairs. It is for one year only – and will help us respond better to all the different uses we have for this one precious space. Over Easter it really helped us recover the ancient use of our church building as a gathering space for all. We're looking for more! All the pews will stay in church – in other places – and we know that chairs need to be managed carefully. They're not nailed to the floor like pews – and can sometimes take on a life of their own. We will be careful!

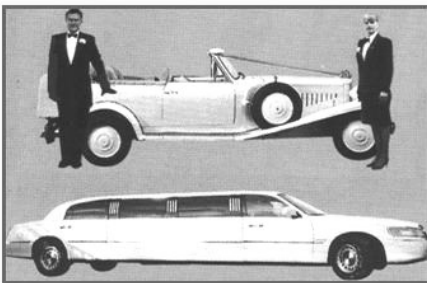
Transforming Church

The Diocesan process continues. Our consultant will be Canon Tim Pilkington, the Team Rector of Solihull. We shall learn together with him. It seems very clear to me that our first task is to focus on all that we do now, and find ways of doing it better, rather than look for something wholly new. But let's wait and see what God and God's people say to us over the next few months.

Rob Morris



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and then barfed up on the shore.
There were also some minor league prophets, but I guess we don't have to worry about them.

After the Old Testament came the New Testament. Jesus is the star of The New. He was born in Bethlehem in a barn. (I wish I had been born in a barn too, because my mum is always saying to me, 'Close the door! Were you born in a barn?' It would be nice to say, 'As a matter of fact, I was!')

During His life, Jesus had many arguments with sinners like the Pharisees and the Democrats. Jesus also had twelve

opossums. The worst one was Judas Asparagus. Judas was so evil that they named a terrible vegetable after him. Jesus was a great man. He healed many leopards and even preached to some Germans on the Mount.

But the Democrats and all those guys put Jesus on trial before Pontius the Pilot. Pilot didn't stick up for Jesus. He just washed his hands instead. Anyways, Jesus died for our sins, then came back to life again. He went up to Heaven but will be back at the end of the Aluminium. His return is foretold in the book of Revolution.

Praise the Lord for the Anglican Communion and Hooray for the Internet!

The other week, I experienced the wonderful benefits of being part of the Worldwide Anglican Communion and have seen the internet used in a lovely way.

The Parish Office took a phone call from a lady, living in New Zealand. She wanted to speak to a priest and as I was in the office at the time, she spoke with me. She had been born and baptised in Birmingham, was in need of reassurance that God loved her and also wanted to re-establish her links with the Anglican Church, but didn't know of any churches near to where she lived in NZ. After a conversation with me, she rang off saying that she felt much better. However, I wondered how best to help this lady

long term and so searched on the internet for the contact details of the Diocese of NZ. Low and behold, I found an email address for the New Zealand Diocesan Administrator and emailed him concerning this lady, giving him what details I had as to where she lived in NZ. I received a reply the following day, saying that he had passed the details on to the parish in which he thought she resided for their help. Less than a week later, I had another email from the Deacon of a Parish in NZ, saying that she had been to visit this lady, had had a lovely conversation with her and had put her in touch with her local church. The lady was thrilled and greatly reassured that God was with her and looking out for her.

We have a wonderful God!

Revd Jayne

Through the eyes of a child: *The Children's Bible in a Nutshell*

In the beginning, which occurred near the start, there was nothing but God, darkness, and some gas. The Bible says, 'The Lord thy God is one' but I think He must be a lot older than that. Anyway, God said, 'Give me a light!' and someone did.

Then God made the world. He split the Adam and made Eve. Adam and Eve were naked, but they weren't embarrassed because mirrors hadn't been invented yet.

Adam and Eve disobeyed God by eating one bad apple, so they were driven from the Garden of Eden. Not sure what they were driven in though, because they didn't have cars.

Adam and Eve had a son, Cain, who hated his brother as long as he was Abel. Pretty soon all of the early people died off, except for Methuselah, who lived to be like a million or something.

One of the next important people was Noah, who was a good guy, but one of his kids was kind of a Ham. Noah built a large boat and put his family and some animals on it. He asked some other people to join him, but they said they would have to take a rain check.

After Noah came Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Jacob was more famous than his

brother, Esau, because Esau sold Jacob his birthmark in exchange for some pot roast. Jacob had a son named Joseph who wore a really loud sports coat.

Another important Bible guy is Moses, whose real name was Charlton Heston. Moses led the Israel Lights out of Egypt and away from the evil Pharaoh after God sent ten plagues on Pharaoh's people. These plagues included frogs, mice, lice, bowels, and no cable.

God fed the Israel Lights every day with manicotti. Then he gave them his Top Ten Commandments. These include: don't lie, cheat, smoke, dance or covet your neighbour's stuff. Oh, yeah, I just thought of one more: Humour thy father and thy mother.

One of Moses' best helpers was Joshua who was the first Bible guy to use spies. Joshua fought the battle of Geritol and the fence fell over on the town.

After Joshua came David. He got to be king by killing a giant with a slingshot. He had a son named Solomon who had about 300 wives and 500 porcupines. My teacher says he was wise, but that doesn't sound very wise to me.

After Solomon there were a bunch of major league prophets. One of these was Jonah, who was swallowed by a big whale

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Christmas is coming again.....

Since 1990, Operation Christmas Child, the Christian relief project run by the Samaritan's Purse, has brought the joy and hope of Christmas to more than 47 million children. Last year the Samaritan's Purse in the UK sent over 1.24 million gifts to children across Eastern Europe and Africa. This annual project enables caring individuals, families, schools, churches, business and other organisations to fill ordinary shoe boxes with small toys, school supplies, sweets and other gifts for hurting children around the world. Operation Christmas Child is gearing itself up for its 2009 appeal.

The Prayer and Worlds Needs Group are co-ordinating the campaign in the Parish of Kings Norton again this year and we are asking for your help so that this amazing number of boxes (and hopefully more!) can be delivered again this Christmas.

It is impossible to emphasise the impact that a shoe box full of simple gifts can have on a child who has nothing. The gifts are given regardless of nationality, political background or religious beliefs to children requiring nothing of them, their families or communities. This is what is special about Operation Christmas Child.

With the help of thousands of volunteers,

Samaritan's Purse collects and processes these gift-filled shoe boxes in its warehouses across the UK. Then, working with national churches and charities, the Samaritan's Purse delivers the gifts to children in hospitals, orphanages, refugee camps, homeless shelters and impoverished neighbourhoods.

The leaflet enclosed in this magazine gives full details of how you can become involved in this project. More leaflets are available from St Nicolas, Immanuel and Hawkesley churches and the Parish Office, during opening hours. When you have filled your shoe box, as directed, just bring it to St Nicolas when the church is open: Wednesdays 10am – 1pm & 6:30 – 8pm; Saturdays 10am – 12 noon; Sundays during church services. The final date we will be able to receive shoe boxes is November 18th.

Thank you very much for taking the time to read this article and we do hope that you will feel able to take part in the project.

If you wish to find out more about the work of the Samaritan's Purse and have access to the internet then just log on to www.samaritanpurse.uk.com and see their website for yourself.

The Prayer and World Needs Group.

God is Great All the Time. All the Time, God is Great! Malawi Youth Encounter

Despite the delay of having two nights in Johannesburg, which we had neither anticipated nor risk assessed, the Malawi Youth Encounter was a huge success. We made the most of our delay of course and visited the Apartheid Museum, planned and ran our own Church and spent much time playing Top Trumps and Mafia (a slightly more thinking wink murder). This caused an accelerated bonding of the group that we would not otherwise have had.

We spent time at Zoa Tea Estate plucking tea, picking coffee, learning about fishing, drying bananas, worm farming, growing macadamia nuts and keeping bees and much time playing with the hundreds of children in the local villages who came out to see us. We then travelled up for a few days in Blantyre to a very warm welcome from Josie Tenga-Tenga and later Bishop James meeting with young people from across the Diocese to compare life and faith. Finally, to sunrise by Lake Malawi and sunset in Liwonde National Park above crocs, hippos and elephants.

Our first Malawi Youth Encounter from Birmingham Diocese has been one of the highlights of my time as Youth Adviser so far, and that was primarily due to the young people that took part in this experience. No matter what Africa threw in our path, the young people took it in

their stride and we learnt more fully of God's care. One of them commented that, "I've been challenged by my attitude to situations and to trust in God first when these situations arise and not to panic straight away."

We had two experiences of Church in Malawi. One was at St. Andrew's Cathedral in the city Blantyre which was more liturgical and traditional. The other was at a small village church on Zoa Tea Estate. This was the experience that most moved our young people as we shared together singing and dancing... OK, the dancing was mostly done by the Malawian congregation! It was a complete pleasure to be there and to witness their joy and worship of God despite their circumstances of living with next to nothing. The exclamations of "God is great All the time. All the time, God is great!" will live on in our hearts for years to come.

What struck me particularly was how they were more than happy to let young people and even children take a lead in the singing. It was not just a token gesture, 'aren't the children cute,' but a genuine openness to anyone, no matter how young or old to take off with the singing, sing a new verse, start a new song, take their expressions of worship onto another level.

6th

Just a small number gathered at Hawkesley Church Centre for the 10.30 Holy Communion service, but nevertheless, it was good to be there and to catch up with folk. Afterwards we had a rather nice fruit cake and coffee. In the evening Jayne and I took the evening service at St. Nicolas. We all sat in the choir stalls which made the service very cosy indeed.

7th

It is always a great privilege to visit people at home and so during the afternoon I went to see a young mum and her baby and had a great time. The baby was simply gorgeous and I soon found myself on the floor playing hidey boo! The evening found me at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital visiting one of our church members. Last time I was up there I made a mistake with the parking machine and caused mayhem for myself, the people who work in the car park and other people who had parked there! It is a long but very funny story. But this time I managed to do the right thing with the machine and all was well. I must say, I felt quite proud of myself!

Rebecca's Diary...



1st

Spent the day working from home. There is often quite a lot of work to do on the computer for services, sermons, talks answering emails, etc. I felt I had a really good and productive day. I also made some phone calls to people who have been having a particularly difficult time of late.

2nd

Went out for the day with the Seniors' Group to Upton Upon Severn and then up the river to Tewksbury. We had such a lovely day. There is something very relaxing sitting on a boat and gently moving up the river, it takes all the cares away. Tewkesbury Abbey was quite wonderful; I fell in love with it, utterly and completely. All of us had a wonderful day and even the coach breaking down on the way back did not deter our enthusiasm and delight in the day. Another coach was dispatched and we were home before we knew it.

3rd

It was my turn to take the 11.00 service of Holy Communion. It is always a quiet and dignified service and I enjoy it immensely. Afterwards, I went on some visits and then in the evening was back at St. Nicolas Church doing Baptism bookings. I was also down to take The Meaning of Marriage session which all our wedding couples are encouraged to attend. Jess, our Hon. Lay Pastor helped me and we had a rather lovely time with our wedding couples who came along.

One night we slept out in workers' accommodation with just mats and blankets in buildings a little like basic stables. We woke at the same time as the workers, had breakfast and went off to work at 6am too.

The highlight of our time there, however, was the greeting we got as we arrived and the preparation they had done to welcome us. Not only did they build us our very own toilets (long drops of course, but new and clean) and a shower made out of banana leaves, but they had also prepared the most wonderful display of singing, dancing and music. The fabulous music they created was produced using Umpala horns, which we were told were only brought out for celebrations. They hadn't been heard for years. Our young people learnt to dance the Malawian way which caused much amusement for the gathered crowd of over 200 and much entertainment was had by all.

What I think we were all struck by from that experience was what an immense welcome we got and, in comparison, how badly we welcome strangers into our midst and our churches in the UK. Would we turn out of our comfort and favourite TV programme to meet a brother or sister who has travelled all the way from Malawi to meet us? Do we even speak to a new person on a Sunday morning in our congregation? Yet the Malawians consistently travelled miles on foot just to smile at us and dance for us with just a hope that they might shake our hand or talk to us.

There were some tougher times of course. In one village we went to, we were a little too mobbed by interested children and young people. The desperation was particularly apparent in this village.

Some of our girls were approached by Malawian teenagers wanting to marry them. Some of the children snatching and not sharing and asking for money brought about not only a realisation of much of the desperation of the poverty in Malawi but also a protective nature in young men of our group. A de-briefing in our review of the day, which we did every evening, was an important part of this experience. In our final preparations and final e-mails from the youth office, I reminded them time and time again not to bring too much 'stuff'. One e-mail entitled, 'Do NOT bring your hair straighteners!' The consumerism of the West and our young people was quite apparent when we arrived in Zoa. This clearly had an impact on our young people. We lost (only) one piece of luggage on the way home and instead of stressing about lost clothes, accessories and make-up, its loss did not cause as much devastation as no doubt it would have just 16 days previously.

As we travelled around Malawi, particularly in the rural parts, in our four 4x4's we were waved at and smiled at by every child and even most adults as we passed. They would run alongside as fast as they could shouting, smiling and waving, desperate for just a look or wave from us. We joked that when we came back to England we would continue to wave and pondered what would happen if

Continued on page 11

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Unscramble the words below. They are all words that appear in the Lord's Prayer.

DIOGNKM

MANE

TERHA

WPERO

Dear God,
Thank you for loving us
and for everything you do for us.
We pray that everyone will
have their daily bread
and be happy too.

Amen.



CHILDREN'S PAGE...

with Gail.



Hello everyone! We are continuing to look at the Lord's Prayer.

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.

**Thy Kingdom come,
thy will be done**

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass
against us.

And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the Kingdom,
the power and the glory
for ever and ever. Amen

Last time we looked at,

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.**

This time together we shall take a look
at the next part of this wonderful pray-
er:

**Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.**

If we think about heaven, we know that
it is where God lives. The Bible also
tells us that in heaven there will be no
more sadness or crying and in heaven
there will be no more people hungry or
hurting.

When we pray "Let your (thy)
Kingdom come, let your will be done
on earth as it is in heaven", we are
praying that we can live in peace and
love one another here and now. We
are praying that earth would be the
same as heaven. Wouldn't that be
brilliant?!

Give us this day our daily bread

means give us all that we need. Not just
food, but love, strength, courage, faith
and rest - everything that we need to
get through whatever the day has in
store for us.

Next time, we will be looking at some
more of this prayer. Until then, think
about what we have already learnt.
Say the Lord's Prayer every day. Think
about what you are saying and what it
means in your life. When you pray
'Give us this day our daily bread' think
about all the good things God has done
for you and be thankful. Think about
the things you need to ask for. Pray for
others and their daily needs.

**Pray in confidence that our God is
an awesome God and he always
hears you.**

we did. People would think us weird, we
might get beaten up, certainly not a wave
and smile back. It caused me some
sadness. What has happened to us in the
West? You smile at a stranger, you are
thought deranged or dangerous. You offer
a hand to someone you don't know and
you are treated with mistrust and
suspicion. We have much to learn from the
generosity, openness and welcome of
Malawi, the Warm Heart of Africa



Source: www.birmingham.anglican.org

Share family customs at Christmas

Are you thinking about who might come for Christmas this year?

Some of the adults from overseas who are currently studying at UK universities
would love to spend a couple of days at Christmas in a real home, rather than on a
deserted campus.

It is interesting to share family customs with people for whom it is all quite new; or,
if you are going to be alone, one or two guests from China or India (for example)
might even supply a reason for 'doing Christmas properly'.

HOST has been linking students with hospitable volunteers for 22 years at
Christmas and also weekends throughout the year.

See www.hostuk.org or call HOST on 0207 739 6292. HOST is a registered charity
backed by the Foreign Office and many universities.

Riding Lights Production of "Origins & Lemons" squeezing the juice out of Genesis

Date: 05 October 2009

Venue: Christ Church, Selly Park

Time: 7.30pm. The performance is said to be a "highly entertaining plunge into issues
that have aroused our curiosity since the Dawn of Time..." . The play is aimed at
audiences of all ages, and although younger children may enjoy it, it has been
suggested that it will appeal most to those over the age of eleven. The play is
appropriate for people of any or no faith. Tickets are available through the Riding
Lights Box Office - 01904 613000 or www.ridinglights.org/0&l

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GREETINGS FROM IMMANUEL CHURCH!

.. ON A WET AND WINDY DAY IN WESTON!

A coach load of people travelled from a sunny Birmingham
to Weston on Saturday 5th September. Unfortunately, the
weather and the traffic got worse as we ventured down
south!

We managed to have some time on the beach when we got there,
but the wind picked up and the rain started. David Maynard still had
the opportunity to try to convince Mavis that golf is fun! She even
tried to pay him to go away!

We grabbed our beach kit together and some of us sheltered by the
beach, others under trees or to Druckers for that warm hot choc-
olate and cream cake! Those of us who managed it had a mooch
around the shops and had a sneaky ice-cream. Most of us tried our
hand at Crazy Golf and Gerry and Kai both got a hole-in-one!

At the end of the day, most of us managed to get some fish and chips
before we got back on the coach to go home. Mavis, Evelyn and Ivy
were entertained by a group of men who were singing 'The tide's
coming in my Lord!' All in all, we had a nice day together, even
though the weather meant we couldn't be on the beach. *(Please see
page 21 for our photo gallery!)*

By the time you read this, Immanuel will have celebrated the Baptism
of Poppy Griffiths at Hawkesley and hopefully enjoyed the tasty treats
of the Hawkesley BBQ! We are also looking forward to Sunday 27th
September, when Jayne is leading an All Age Harvest Service, followed
by a shared lunch.

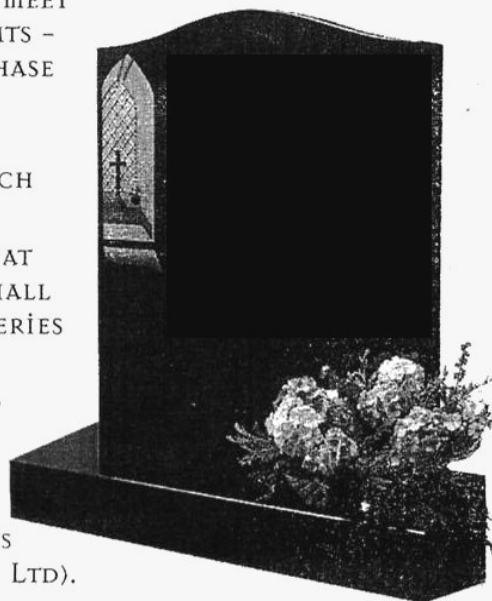
We hope you will come and check out our stand in St. Nicolas over
Back to Church Week and join us on the Monday evening to learn
some of the songs we sing at Immanuel.

Sarah Crooks.

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History of Hymns

In October each year – on the 4th – we celebrate St Francis.

Sebastian Temple (1928-1997) took the words of the Prayer of St Francis and turned it into what has become one of the nation's most favourite hymns. Sebastian (1928-1997) wrote both words and music in 1967 and the hymn remains one of the most regularly sung. Re-read the words and re-pray the prayer.

In some traditions, and maybe in its original form, the verse we now regard as the chorus, was actually the third verse and not placed in the early position between verse one and two.

Make me a channel of your peace,
where there is hatred, let me bring your love.
Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord,
and where there's doubt, true faith in you.

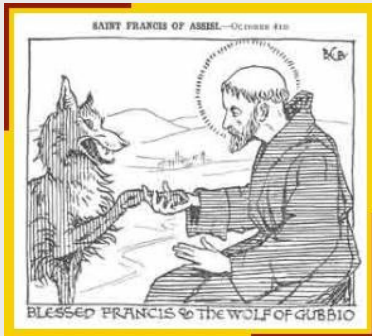
*O Master, grant they I may never seek
so much to be consoled as to console,
to be understood, as to understand,
to be loved, as to love with all my soul.*

Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope.
Where there is darkness, only light,
and where there's sadness, ever joy.

*O Master, grant they I may never seek
so much to be consoled as to console,
to be understood, as to understand,
to be loved, as to love with all my soul.*

Make me a channel of your peace.
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
in giving of ourselves that we receive,
and in dying that we're born to eternal life.

Continued on page 14



Francis was born in Assisi in 1181 or 1182 into a wealthy family but became disillusioned with his frivolous life as a young man. The turning point came when he had a vision where he heard Christ say to him "Francis, repair my house." He took this literally and sold a bale of goods from his father's warehouse to pay for the repair of San Damiano. The upshot of this action was that his father disinherited and disowned him and sent him away.

Three years later, in 1210, Pope Innocent III authorized Francis and 11 companions to be "roving preachers of Christ in simplicity and lowliness" – the beginnings of the Friars Minor – or the Franciscans as we know them today. Their rule is one of humbleness, simplicity and evangelisation – exactly the thoughts expressed in his prayer that has been made known to so many through the lovely hymn paraphrase.

Information gathered, in part, from the Penguin Dictionary of Saints by Donald Attwater.

Sylvia Fox

KINGS NORTON HISTORY SOCIETY

Rod Ling and Keith Townsend will give a talk to the Society on Monday 26th October on the "Restoration & History of Spring Hill College, Moseley". Built between 1854 and 1857, this very fine building is another of Birmingham's 'treasures', designed by Joseph James, who was to become one of the most proficient architects of his generation.

Visitors are always welcome at the Society's meetings. Doors open at 7.00 pm and the talk will start at 7.30.

Claire Simpson, Chairman

'Parish People' *People from all walks of Parish Life.*



What are your hobbies and interests?

I am a book worm, always got a book on the go. I love learning so I really thrive on anything that makes me contemplate and think. I am going to doing three short modules at Queens College this year, which I am looking forward to. I'm a bit nervous too, but I really feel ready for the challenge.

What are your best memories?

There are so many! Having my children would have to be the top three, and watching them grow and achieve things.

What's your favourite holiday place?

I love Weymouth in Dorset. We go there every year camping in our tent. We have just bought a very small caravan though, so next year we will be camping in luxury. Not far from Weymouth is a place called Durdle Door. It is the most beautiful place along the coast I have ever seen. Every time we go there I get goose bumps. We are all very lucky because God made us such a beautiful world to live in.

If you went on Desert Island Discs, what would be your luxury and book?

If I could only take one book it would be my Book of Common Prayer. I just love it - the wording and language is beautiful and I love the history of the book, how it was made and the history of prayer and worship behind the covers is amazing. My luxury would be Karl (pass the sick bucket!). I would miss him so he would have to come with me.

What are your hopes for the church in Kings Norton?

I hope for unity, a whole parish coming together; all people's individual gifts recognised and encouraged, working together as the Body of Christ, here and now and for the future church of Kings Norton.



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2009 Baptisms

"In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit"

- 2nd August Mia Elizabeth Nkhata
Alexia Violet Penny-Gardener
Brody John Jack Ricketts-Hart
- 9th August Stefan Matthew Jonathan Rawle
Abi-Lee Louise Rawle
- 16th August Brooke Janet Giles
Ellie Anne Mae McIntosh
Ethan Desi Taylor-Roberts

2009 Marriages

"Those whom God has joined together"

- 8th August Shane Patrick Gately and Samantha Maroe Harbron
Ashley Hampshire and Nicola May
- 15th August Anthony Vincent and Catherine Clarke
Jason Tench and Tina Brain
Karl Tulloch and Louise Jones
- 22nd August Gary Carter and Samantha-Jo Cahill
Phillip Allen and Rebecca Baldwin
Matthew Clarson and Natalie Sanders
David Ellis and Louise Mills
David Millar and Joanna Dixon
- 29th August Mark Brown and Emma Williams
- Wedding Blessing:
8th August Colin and Jackie Harris

'Parish People'

People from all walks of Parish Life.

New Children's Page author, **Gail Rogers**, spills the beans this month.



Where were you born?

At Marston Green Maternity Hospital. It's not there now though. Marston Green is by Chelmsley Wood, which is where I lived at that time.



Gail with husband Karl and Karen Urwin at Jacob's Baptism

What is your occupation?

I haven't done paid work for nearly four years now. I am a wife to Karl and mother to three boys, Matthew, Oliver and Jacob. Believe me, looking after four men is hard work!

When I did work, I was a carer in care homes and hospices—a job I felt very privileged to do.

Why Kings Norton?

My husband, Karl, has lived here all his life so we bought our house here. It was quite a big and scary move for me, moving somewhere where I didn't know anyone or even where the local shops were. (Didn't take me long to find them though!) But I have never regretted it. I really felt I was meant to come here as it was here in Kings Norton I found my faith.

Why is your Christian faith important to you?

My faith is me. I can't ever imagine not having God in my life and he is my best friend. I'm not perfect, in fact far from it, but still God loves me and accepts me for who I am, warts and all. The difference now is that when I am faced with decisions and challenges, I always ask myself 'what would Jesus do' and this helps me and gives me the courage to do things that perhaps I wouldn't have done before.

Every day with God is exciting, so for every day that God is in my life I will always have something to be thankful for.

Continued on page 31

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2009 Funerals

"I am the resurrection and the life, saith the Lord"

- 1st June, George Henry Turner, 76. Cremation at Lodge Hill.
- 4th August, Caroline Diane O'Sullivan, 60. Service at St Nicolas,
Cremation at Lodge Hill.
- 7th August, Michael John Shorter, 66. Cremation at Lodge Hill.
- 10th August, Edward Chalmers Horton, 90. Cremation at Robin Hood.
- 11th August, Constance Bowles, 78. Cremation at Lodge Hill.
- 12th August, Sidney Cyril Round, 84. Service at St Nicolas, Burial in St Nicolas
Churchyard.
- 12th August, Baby Mollie Jane Cook. Burial at Kings Norton Cemetery.
- 13th August, Walter Percy Bull, 82. Cremation at Lodge Hill.
- 13th August, James Frederick Simmonds, 64. Cremation at Lodge Hill.
- 18th August, William Edward Bonner, 89. Service at St Nicolas,
Cremation at Lodge Hill.
- 21st August, Albert Thornewell, 85. Service at St Nicolas, Cremation at Lodge Hill.
- 21st August, Shirley Gail Nelson, 51. Interment of ashes in St Nicolas Churchyard.
- 24th August, Leslie Thomas Nichol, 52. Service at St Nicolas,
Cremation at Lodge Hill.
- 26th August, Leslie Elder, 90. Cremation at Redditch.
- 28th August, Edwin Horace Clarke, 76. Cremation at Lodge Hill.

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Email pauline.tolley@sky.com
Web Page: <http://www.bimvc.co.uk>

Parking is available in the car park adjoining the Birmingham Repertory Theatre (subject to building work) or the multi story car park behind adjoining Cambridge St. Then proceed across the bridge to the Central Library complex.

Prom Praise is back!!

Date: 17th October 2009

Venue: Symphony Hall Birmingham

Time: 7.30 pm.

Prom Praise is a unique blend of live music, word and worship, combining the spirit of "Songs of Praise" and the world famous "Last Night of the Proms". There is always a very wide variety of music and a Rhapsody of Praise.

The Host for the evening is Archbishop John Sentamu, Former Bishop of Birmingham. The two main guests are Geraldine Latty, Black Gospel Singer and Chris Eaton, who is a talented music writer having composed four Number One Hits since 1999 for Sir Cliff Richard. Chris has kindly agreed to perform his new 2009 version of "The Lord's Prayer" joining up with 90 musicians from The All Souls Orchestra, Conducted by Noel Tredinnick, and the special 180 members of The Prom Praise Birmingham Choir. Tickets from Town Hall Symphony Hall Box Office or www.thsh.co.uk

Cost: Tickets are £10.50 - £19.50 and include a souvenir programme.

AUTUMN LEAF CLEARING

For the 2009 season, we will be meeting on Saturdays 7th, 21st and 28th November. We normally commence about 10.00am and finish about 12 noon. We will be working in the area of the churchyard adjacent to the church. Please bring gloves and stout footwear. We do have some rakes but it would be most helpful if you could bring your own. Tea and coffee plus biscuits will be available in the church.

PLEASE MAKE AN EFFORT TO HELP US ON THIS ANNUAL TASK.

Thank you.

Richard Harper

Women's Fellowship

This month we meet on Thursday 1st October at 7.30pm.

This is our Enrolment and Communion Service which is held in St. Nicolas Church. Afterwards, we stay in church for refreshments and a chat. You will be very welcome to join us at this service. If you would like to join our fellowship, please come along and have a chat with us. You will be made very welcome.

Marlene Collyer, Chairman

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT

St Nicolas Church will be open 2-3pm every third Tuesday of the month for those who have experienced loss through bereavement. There will be the opportunity to light candles, be quiet and reflective, chat to Rev. Rebecca and others, and be amongst those who themselves have had or are in the process of bereavement. In October, this will take place on Tuesday 20th October. Tea and coffee will be available. Come as and when you feel the need. For more information, please contact Rev Rebecca on 458 2950.

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Every Sunday – Worship and Children's Activities (5-11's):
10.30 am, 1st & 3rd Sundays – Holy Communion;
10.30 am, 2nd & 4th Sundays – Morning Worship.
Tuesday Coffee Mornings - alternate Tuesdays at 10.00 am.

Immanuel Church

Meeting at Fairway Centre, corner of The Fairway and Wychall Lane.
Every Sunday – Worship and Oasis for children of primary school age.
10.30 am, 1st & 3rd Sundays – Holy Communion;
10.30 am, 2nd Sunday – Morning Worship;
10.30 am, 4th Sunday – All Age Worship.

Druids Heath

Special services are in Manningford Hall and other community buildings – watch out for details.

Café T

Meets each week at St Nicolas Place and welcomes people from all congregations (or none) to explore faith issues in a small group context. Tuesdays 8.00 - 9.00pm.

For Young People

Oasis/Sunday School at each Church (see above)
Uniformed Organisations and Choir—see the 'Who's who' pages or contact the Parish Office.

Baptisms and Marriages

Forms and particulars are obtained from St Nicolas Church on Thursday evenings between 6.30 and 8.00pm.

All enquiries to:

The Parish Office: St Nicolas Place, 81 The Green, Kings Norton,
Birmingham, B38 8RU 0121 458 3289
parishoffice@kingsnorton.org.uk www.kingsnorton.org.uk
The office is open 10.00 am – 1.00 pm every weekday for enquiries.

SERVICES

St Nicolas Church

Sundays:

8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP – a quiet service with traditional language).

10.30 am Holy Communion with activities for 5-11's at Oasis.
2nd Sunday: Parade Service – All Age Worship at 10.30 am followed by Matins – a traditional BCP service at 11.45 am.

6.00 pm Evening Worship:
2nd Sunday, Holy Communion with Prayers for Healing;
3rd Sunday, Compline – a quiet and meditative service;
1st/4th/5th Sundays, special services or Evensong (BCP).

Every Mon/Wed/Thursday:

9.00 am Morning Prayer.

Every Thursday:

11.00 am Holy Communion (traditional language).

Tiny Tots

Thursdays, 9.30 am (term time) in St Nicolas Church for 0-5's and parents/carers for play, chat and a drink.

Open Church

Wednesdays, 10.00 am – 1.00 pm and 6.30 – 8.00 pm (Candlelit Church);
Thursdays, for all Weddings and Baptism enquiries, 6.30 – 8pm
Saturdays, 10.00 am – 12 noon for coffee, knit-and-natter, quiet prayer or to look around.

Candlelit Church

Meets every Wednesday, 6.30 – 8.00 pm in St Nicolas, with Bible Study (or, on selected Wednesdays, Taize prayer) 8–9pm
Arrive at any time; stay for any length of time; not a formal church "service". Candles, conversation, creativity, singing, quiet spaces.

Hawkesley Anglican/Methodist Church

Meeting at Hawkesley Pastoral Centre, Hawkesley School,



Immanuel's day trip to Weston-Super-Mare



THE PARISH OF KINGS NORTON

A Church of England Team Parish incorporating the churches of
Druids Heath - Hawkesley - Immanuel - The Parish Church of St. Nicolas

WHO'S WHO AND ORGANISATIONS

Clergy:

Canon ROB MORRIS (Team Rector), The Rectory, Kings Norton B30 3EX 458 3289/459 0560
The Rev'd. REBECCA PULLIN (Curate) 458 2950
The Rev'd. JAYNE CROOKS (Team Priest) 15 Chalgrove, Avenue, Kings Norton B38 8YP 459 3733

Methodist Minister (Hawkesley):

The Rev'd. DONALD SAMPSON 476 7223

Lay Staff:

JESS BOULTON (Hon. Lay Pastor) c/o Parish Office
FAY FEARON (Reader), c/o Parish Office or..... 451 1914
RUTH HOWMAN (Reader), c/o Parish Office

Church Wardens

St. Nicolas.....STEPHEN PLANT c/o Parish Office 458 3289
Hawkesley (Chief Stewards) JIM CLARKE Mobile 07939 838086 or 550 3455
 RAY DAVIS 458 5774
 PETER SMITH 453 9931
Immanuel (Warden) GERRY MOORCROFT 243 0573
(Deputy Warden) DEBBIE MALONE

Candlelit Church Co-ordinator.....JESS BOULTON 458 6925

P.C.C. Secretary ISOBEL LEWIS c/o Parish Office 458 3289
P.C.C. Treasurer JONATHAN CROOKS, c/o Parish Office 458 3289

Parish Office: **81 The Green, Kings Norton, Birmingham B38 8RU** 458 3289
 (Office: 10.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m. Monday to Friday) Fax: 459 2529

Parish Administrator.....CHRISTINE BOWEN 458 3289
Finance Administrator.....CHRISTINE GADD 458 3289

Organist and Music DirectorSYLVIA FOX, 9 Kingshill Drive, B38 8SA 07778 449170

Choir & Orchestra Practices Tuesday: Individual Tuition 7.00 - 8.30 p.m.
 Friday: Juniors 6.30-7.45 p.m., Seniors + Adults 8.00-9.00 p.m.

Immanuel Music Group LeaderSARAH CROOKS

Sunday School/Junior Church Superintendents:

Oasis (St. Nicolas) contact via Parish Office 458 3289
Hawkesley
Oasis (Immanuel).....NICKY MOORCROFT

Hawkesley Anglican Methodist Church

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**Bible Reading Fellowship
Secretary** JULIE CALEY, 25 Fairmead Rise, Kings Norton, B38 8BS. 458 3328

The following activities are held at St Nicolas Place, unless stated otherwise:

Women's Fellowship 1st Thursday at 7.30 p.m. **Secretary:** CAROL DEVIC 458 3289

Seniors' Club (Over 65's) Every Wednesday afternoon
 CHRISTINE BOWEN & Rev'd. REBECCA PULLIN 458 3289

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Leader: KAREN URWIN 430 6005
 Scouts (aged 10½-15½): Wednesdays 8.00 p.m.-9.30 p.m.
Leader: ROB KEENAHAN 244 0789

Guides and Brownies
 Rainbows: Mondays 5.30 p.m. -6.30 p.m.
 Brownies: Thursdays 6.30 p.m. -8.00 p.m.
 Guides (247th Birmingham): Mondays 7.15 p.m. -9.00 p.m.
 Brownies (188th Birmingham): Tuesday 6.00 p.m.-7.30 p.m.

Guides and Brownies At Hawkesley Church Centre:-
 Rainbows (1st Kings Norton): Monday 5.30 p.m.
 Brownies (259th Birmingham): Wednesday 6.30 p.m.
 Guides (141st Birmingham): Thursday 7.00 p.m.

Kings Norton Society Fourth Friday at 8.00 p.m.
 Contact: RICK AND CLAIRE SIMPSON 459 5750

Kings Norton History Society Meetings held on the last Monday of the month from
 September to May. Doors open at 7.00pm.
 Chairman CLAIRE SIMPSON 459 5750

St. Nicolas Pre-school Playgroup Monday to Friday 9.30-11.45 a.m.

Parish Magazine Editor ALAN HAYNES 459 4711
 email editor@kingsnorton.org.uk

Parish Magazine Treasurer ALISON BLUMER, 60 Masshouse Lane. B38 9AA 486 2837

Advertising Manager EVELYN FINN, contact via Parish Office 458 3289

Parish Website GRAHAM BOULTON contact via website www.kingsnorton.org.uk
 or e-mail webmaster@kingsnorton.org.uk

St Nicolas Place Staff:- www.saintnicolasplace.co.uk

Centre Manager GRAEME CLARKE
Financial/Administrator Asst KERRY HORSFIELD 458 1223
Heritage/Learning Manager EMMA BANKS 458 1223
Duty Supervisor ALAN KAVANAGH 458 1223
Duty Supervisor BEN WADDINGTON 458 1223

N.B. If you or your group/organisation are featured in this 'Who's Who?' section of our magazine, please ensure that we have been supplied with correct information and inform Parish Office if and when contact details change. Thank you.

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