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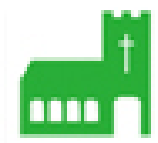
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Kings Norton Parish Magazine | September 2010 | 70p



Sunday 26th
September 2010



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Revd Jayne writes about the charity, TEARFUND

The Evangelical Alliance Relief (TEAR) Fund was begun in 1968, in response to the terrible famine in Biafra. I, like many others who are old enough, can still recall those shocking scenes, depicted daily on our television screens, of people, particularly children, starving to death right in front of our eyes. The response from individuals was enormous and Christians especially were looking to channel their giving through an organisation that would support and encourage local Christian projects. This, Tearfund promised to do and in 1969 it gained one very influential supporter, Sir Cliff Richard, who gave his first fundraising concert for the cause in the Royal Albert Hall.

Tearfund believes that churches are at the heart of their communities and that within them lies the power to bring about an end to poverty. 'The church can do more for a struggling African village than any other organisation, because it is with the people all of the time. Organisations come and visit, but the church is here not only on Sunday, but every day of the week.' Pastor Harry, Fombe village church, Malawi.

Inspired by the example and teaching of Jesus, Tearfund recognises that people have deeply interconnected material and spiritual needs and it

seeks to meet these needs by working through local church partners – churches that are full of dedicated, resourceful people who want to make a long-term difference.

Its vision is to see 50 million people released from material and spiritual poverty through a worldwide network of 100,000 local churches.

'When we launched Tearfund's ten-year vision in 2006, we chose our words with great care,' says Matthew Frost, Tearfund's Chief Executive. 'We asked supporters to "Be part of a miracle." Not to "Be part of a revolution" or "Be part of a change." We see from the life and teaching of Jesus that miracles are not dependent on favourable circumstances, but faith and determined actions combined.'

Today, Tearfund works in Africa, Asia and South America and also across Eastern Europe and the UK. Their focus is six-fold – fighting diseases such as HIV, malaria and TB; improving basic sanitation and water supplies; combating unfair trade; restoring the effects of climate change; preparing for and responding to natural disasters and restoring dignity through gainful employment and sales via the subsidiary company Tear Craft.

You can find out more by looking at their website: www.tearfund.org

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**Items for inclusion in the October 2010 issue are to be submitted by:-
Friday 10th September
2010**

Welcome.....

At this time of year, many of us are 'returning' - maybe back to work or school after enjoying some time off on holiday. This month, we are looking forward to welcoming those who are 'returning' to church on Back to Church Sunday. Rob writes about how we might invite people along to one of the services being held in the parish on that day. If you haven't been to church for a while, why not come along? The details of all our services are in the centre pages.

We also celebrate Harvest this month with Hawkesley and Immanuel combining it with Back to Church Sunday and St Nicolas a bit earlier on September 12th. Gail's Children's Page has a very thought provoking Harvest theme.

Our Parish Person this month is our new Church Warden, Paul Shelton. Did you know that he once preached at St Nicolas when he was a student at Queen's College in the 1980's?

Tearfund has been supported by the parish for many years. Rev. Jayne has written an article about their work as part of our series on the parish's outward giving.

Alan Haynes, Editor

Back to Church?

Across the country, many churches will keep 26th September as *Back to Church Sunday*. We will too. The core idea is simple. Each church member asks someone they know who was once active in church life to “come back”. We have plenty of invitation cards for you to use. Please take them and offer them warmly to someone you know who you would like to be your guest on the day.

Hawkesley and Immanuel will each be keeping their Harvest Festivals on that day and at St Nicolas, 8am and 10.30am Communion will both be special. At all these services there will be warm welcome, worship and prayer for all who come. In the afternoon at 3pm, Bach beautifully played will bring many more. At 7.30pm, Taizé worship will be offered in St Nicolas – a gentle welcome space for prayer just as we are.

Some of us, however, will still find it difficult to invite others. We’d like to do it and can think of a number of people we would love to see

more often alongside us in church - but we wonder. Some of our concern is personal. Will they mind us asking? What if they say no?

But maybe a deeper concern is about church itself and what we are and do. Are we confident that “church” as they find it on 26th September will engage them and maybe spark a fresh beginning? Are we confident ourselves that “church” can matter to others as much as it does to those of us who are part of it week by week and day by day? What is it that we are asking people to come back to? And how do we include all those whose experience of “church” is less than helpful or who may feel strange in a gathering of singing strangers?

There are some deceptively easy answers. “They ought to.” “We find it helpful, so should you.” We should resist these as we should the sloppy thinking of “People today are just too me-centred or materialistic” or “They just use the church when they want to.” If we think like this, we are just



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www.biblefresh.com

Source - www.birmingham.anglican.org

Christianity on the move? Now there's an App for that

A new iPhone app for the Church of England has been developed in partnership with the Diocese of Guildford. Available for download from Apple's App store it enables individual dioceses to put their news into the hands of iPhone and iPad users.

'myDiocese' is a first for the Church of England and offers church-related news stories, upcoming events and community information. The new app also links to central worship resources including the daily office from the Church of England website that has been used to provide morning and evening prayer on diocesan and parish websites for several years.

The new app can even provide iPhone users with details of their nearest church, using their exact phone location while on the move, or a simple postcode.

Source - www.birmingham.anglican.org

saying "We've got it right and if others don't agree, it's their fault." Would you want to go back to a church whose members thought like that? I wouldn't. It also doesn't help that over women bishops, abuse of power and the treatment of those on the edge, the wider church can appear to others as more against people and things rather than, as God is, for them! And it doesn't help if we lose sight of how things familiar to church people can be very difficult for those who are not at home in them.

So, why can we still invite others with confidence . . . and what to? What is it about "church" which makes it worth bothering with?

First, it is a community rooted in God's creation, in the unfolding richness and possibility of life of the whole created order and of every single human being within it. (Not the weirdness of "creationism" which seems to me to deny every gift of wisdom and exploration poured out in human beings by our Creator). So, the church is called to grow as a group of people who care deeply for all God's created things and creatures, including people, work, buildings and culture, who seek

God's peace and justice for them and are committed to the discovery and deepening of dignity and gifts in all. Nothing is outside God's love. It is how all is made. As God's church, we are called to praise and live this out, even in our weakness and anxiety.

But this in itself might make "church" only another kind of pressure group, dependent on its own efforts and influence. We're not.

We are also a community which trusts in God's living hope of redemption – God's desire and calling that all be set free from the shackles of despair, failure, sin and death. And for this, in love, God gives himself in Jesus – his birth, his dying and his rising – and then in the pouring out of the Holy Spirit so that all may share in all that Jesus does. It is into this that we are baptised – and given hope for all.

So on Back to Church Sunday we are not inviting others simply to share in our favourite ways of spending Sunday mornings – and hoping they will like what we do. We are inviting them to trust that in the mixture of gifts and story which is the church in Kings

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overweight frame signifies) and I enjoy watching films when I get the chance. I used to enjoy playing a lot of sport but now the 'spirit is willing but the flesh is weak'. Due to working quite hard and long hours, I have to admit that holidays are important to me so that I get to spend quality time with my wife and family.

What are your best memories?

It is a bit cheesy, but my favourite memories are my wedding to Janet and our honeymoon in Mauritius. It literally was perfect in every way. Second would be the birth of my son and every little thing he has done since. Finally, I would add every occasion where I have been present to see God touch someone's life as only he can. However, being brought up in a Methodist Church I have to quote John Wesley and say 'the best is yet to be'.

What is your favourite holiday place?

I must repeat myself and say Mauritius for the reasons already stated. However, as a family we were fortunate to go to Mexico three years ago and that was pretty special. The sea and the beaches were very picturesque. In the UK my favourite place is St Ives.

Discs, what would be your luxury and book?

My luxury item would have to be a photo of my family. My book would be the Bible.

What is your hope for the church in Kings Norton?

The best hope I can have is that we are faithful to Jesus. I believe very passionately that God will do incredible things if we trust and obey. So I could talk about projects, activities and lots of busyness, but what matters most is listening to his voice and fulfilling his purpose.

My fear in this, however, is a lack of patience and a lack of unity. I have been there (and done it) when as a Church leader we couldn't wait and also where 'our way' was the 'only way'. It doesn't work. Yes, we can be inactive and waiting for clarification when God wants us to take a step of faith without seeing the whole picture, and yes we do need to uphold the truth in Christ. However, his timing is crucial and his compassion is essential. What we are called to do, we are called to do it according to both the love and truth in Jesus. This is the hardest and the highest calling. Can we do it – certainly! Will we do it – that really is the question.

If you went on Desert Island



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

New Parish Warden, Paul Shelton, answers the 'Parish People' questions.



College between 1985-88.

Why is your Christian faith important to you?

I gave my life to God when I was 18 years old and he dramatically changed my life around. I have seen God do quite miraculous things and can testify that God is as powerful and active today as he was in the Bible. To know that this God chose me - even though I am weak, rebellious and totally unworthy is something I will never understand - but nevertheless will be eternally grateful for. I believe it was Blaise Pascal who said that 'There is a God-shaped hole in the heart of everyone which cannot be filled by any created thing, but only God the creator'. This is my personal experience and this is why I enjoy talking about my faith to anyone who will listen. There is only true peace inside when Jesus lives within.

Where were you born?

I was born in Wednesbury.

What is your occupation?

I'm the Chief Executive of a Supported Housing Charity.

Why Kings Norton?

My wife's parents are buried here at St Nicolas and all her sisters were married here. I was an occasional visitor for several years and kept coming because of the warm, friendly welcome I received from Rob (in particular) and others. Ironically, I do remember preaching at a service in St Nicolas when I was a theological student at The Queens

What are your hobbies and interests?

I am a 'gadget person' in that I like playing on/with my ipod; iphone; ipad; computers; blu-ray recorders etc. I love eating out (as my



Norton, they will know that they have a place in God's redeeming love and hope.

It will be found as we who are "church" are rooted in God's creation in all its changing wonder and in our need of redemption through God's grace and love in Christ in all that we do. It will show in our praying and worship and in the way we are with others, people we know and people we don't. Not above or below, but alongside. For, in Christ, one mark of the church really does make it very different. Every single person who is part of it has a ministry – a special gift of God. And every one of all these ministries is only fulfilled as it enables the gifts and confident ministry of others. This is love in action. And it is for those we know

and those we don't.

So, do invite and please do it expectantly. And do pray, however stumblingly, that through all that we do as "church" in Sunday worship and in every part of daily living, others will find their place and their gift. As we do that, we will find ours too!

How can I be involved?

On Back to Church Sunday, we shall be inviting all to share in the whole ministry and mission of the church. There will be a whole range of possibilities and a variety of learning, training and support to enable each of us to grow in confident faith, ministry and love. Please be part of all that we do and all that God gives.

Rob Morris

St Nicolas: a place for God's enfolding in our sorrow

We take many funerals every year – with a growing number in church.

Each funeral is unique; the loving remembering of a unique life, now ended on earth; the time and place for trusting in God's accepting love; the beginning of a new hard journey for all who are bereaved.

Every gathering of family and friends is different. Every story is different. Every journey afterwards is different. As members of Kings Norton's parish church, we have a duty to pray that in each gathering, story and journey, God's hope lives for those whose life on earth has ended – and for all who love them. It is a real hope, sealed in the death and resurrection of Jesus, however hard it can be to trust and grasp. But grief at death is not our only time of loss and bereavement. Things change. Relationships change. We change. At every change, for good or ill, our sense of loss and bewilderment can run very deep. It is an unavoidable part of living and loving - and the more we grow in love, the more painful can be the change, often buried in our heart, hidden from others (we think) - but always known to God.

Our parish church of St Nicolas is a place where God's promise of shelter, peace, healing and life has been known and trusted for centuries. That promise is still as real as ever – of time and space to reflect, leave a prayer request, light a candle or just sit and be enfolded in the peace which God promises in our sorrow. For now, we are open on Wednesday mornings and evenings, Thursday evenings and Saturday mornings for all to find their own place in joy or sorrow. With more helpers, we can be open more.

Our Sunday evening service at 6pm is also growing as a time where many find God's peace and hope. It is usually a gentle mixture of engaging music, prayer, reflection and silence in which all may find their own place. On the second Sunday of each month at 6pm, we offer a simple Communion service with prayer for healing. Many more are finding this a special time and gift in their journey. We hope that you might too. "Do not be afraid, for I have redeemed you" says God. (*Isaiah 43.1*)

Rob Morris

was taking the service and I was helping. Many of the usual congregation were on holiday so we were small in number, but that did not deter us from having a super service.

Monday 9th

Met up with two of my friends for lunch in town. One of my friends has just finished her curacy and is heading to London to take up a new post. She has family and friends down there and so was keen to get back to her roots. I will miss her being around because she is quite a character and is a breath of fresh air in the Church of England. Unlike the rest of us who have pets like cats, dogs, budgies, she decided to have a couple of ferrets! During her curacy she was often seen walking around the parish with her ferrets on leads! There was only problem with the ferrets. If they took a disliking to visitors to her home, they would go for the ankle and leave quite a nasty bite!! In comparison, it makes life with a dog seem very tame indeed!

Saturday 14th

Went down to St. Nicolas Church for the 'Coffee and Chat' and then joined a group who were having a guided tour around the churchyard looking at war graves from the First World War. It was very interesting. Steve, our guide, had done such a lot of research and knew many of the human stories behind the graves. All of us who went along felt moved by what we heard. Steve is hoping to do another tour in November and I heartily recommend it to anyone.

Rebecca's Diary...



Monday 2nd

In the morning, we had an extended team meeting. We try to have this every month and begin with a short service of Holy Communion in St. Nicolas Church. It really is a lovely way to start the day. In the afternoon, I went to visit a bereaved family. I was due to take the funeral later in the week. There was a deep sense of sadness at the loss of such a dearly loved family member, but also in the midst of tears, happier memories were remembered and shared.

Tuesday 3rd

After getting up and taking the dog for a walk, I looked out of my kitchen window and noticed the nest containing the chicks was unusually quiet. After further investigation, it became clear that they had flown the nest and all was well. Every time I see anything which looks like a blackbird, I wonder if it is one of my little ones!!!



Sunday 8th

I was up bright and early to get myself ready to take the 8.00 Holy Communion Service at St. Nicolas. It's a lovely service, quiet and reflective and somehow the church at that time of the day has a rather special feel to it. After the service, I dashed home and grabbed a quick breakfast and headed off to Hawkesley Church for the 10.30 Holy Communion Service. Donald Sampson, our Methodist colleague

Harvest Supper

in St Nicolas Church
Saturday 11th September

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Harvest Festival
at St Nicolas

Sunday 12th September
10.30 am

We are giving our gifts of non-perishable foods for two trusted citywide projects, (Narthex at St John's, Ladywood and ANAWIM) or potted plants for our own household members.

Immanuel and Hawkesley are both celebrating Harvest Festival on Sunday 26th September at 10.30 am. Immanuel are not collecting gifts this year and listen out for plans at Hawkesley.



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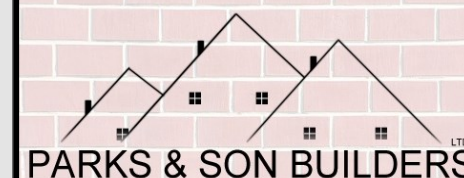
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We are all invited to Messy Church on Farmers' Market Saturdays from 10am to 12 noon in St Nicolas Church. The next one will be on Saturday 11th September. These are craft sessions on a Biblical theme for all ages - a great opportunity to have fun and get to know each other. We look forward to seeing you there!



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on different occasions; the woman at the well has a whole chapter devoted to her (John 4) and brings a whole village to Christ; the Syro-Phoenician woman is the only person recorded in the Gospel who seems to have got Jesus to change his mind (Mark 7: 27-29) and Mary Magdalene is the first witness to the Resurrection.



Several other ladies are mentioned in less detail - Joanna, Susanna, Anna the Prophetess, his cousin John's mother [Elizabeth], various ladies who are healed or whose family members are healed, Salome, a selection of Marys and Pilate's wife. He commends women for their faith and berates some of the men; he has compassion for women in a culture where this was unheard of.

This tells us so much about Jesus' ministry – he searches out those in need; he doesn't just stick to the accepted norms. He never patronises. He accepts each person as a full person: regardless of sex, country of origin and background.

To finish, I will use some statistics that probably haven't changed since Jesus was on this earth.

Women make up half the world's population,
do two-thirds of the world's productive work,
own ten per cent of the world's wealth
and one per cent of the world's land.

Sylvia Fox

NEW ARRIVAL

Grace & Pete, our link missionaries with CMS, have announced the safe arrival of William Lucca on 6th Aug at 8 pm. All are doing well.

Women's Fellowship

Our meeting will be on Thursday 2nd September at 7.30pm in the Ashford Room. We welcome all new ladies who would like to join us. Do come along and spend a very interesting evening with us. We shall be having a talk and slides on "The Letter Box" by Derek Latham which will make for a very enjoyable evening. So do come.

Marlene Collyer, Chairman

Cafe T dates:

- 7th September – Planning
- 14th September – Discipleship
- 21st September – Prayer / Intercessions workshop (in St Nicolas Church)
- 28th September – Angels
- 5th October – Making connections
- 12th October – A meditation / The Prodigal Son
- 19th October – Pastoral office
- 26th October – Half Term (no Cafe T)

KINGS NORTON HISTORY SOCIETY

The Society's 2010/2011 Lecture Programme starts on Monday 27th September with a talk on 'WEOLEY CASTLE' given by Irene de Boo, the Curator Manager of the site.

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

Claire Simpson, Chairman

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“10 things they never told me about Jesus”

Some months ago I reviewed a book called “10 things they never told me about Jesus”. It is by John L Bell, and calls itself “a beginner’s guide to a larger Christ”. It is published by Wild Goose Publications; www.ionabooks.com.

It is thought-provoking and funny by turn and covers issues such as “Did Jesus laugh?” and “Why is Jesus so often depicted as thin in art – when there are so many occasions in the Bible where he shares meals with people?” Fully bible-based, it makes for a good read.

In the light of all the debate at Synod this year, I’d like to share some extracts and thoughts from the chapter headed “Feminine Faces”.

John asks the reader to think about all the things they know about each of the disciples - the male disciples. Given that most of us struggle to even list them [Andrew & Peter, James & John (sons of Zebedee), Philip, Bartholemew, Matthew (tax collector), Thomas, James son of Alphaeus, Simon the Zealot, Judas son of James (Thaddeus) and Judas Iscariot, *Luke 6:13 or Matt 10:1*] what can we say about each other them? Not a lot is the main reply. Their names might tell us about their immediate predecessors, Matthew was a tax collector, Thomas voiced the questions everyone else hid, Peter is quite well known, Andrew asked a small boy to share his lunch... and that’s about it...

Then he asks us to think about women of the gospels... and suddenly it become a great deal easier; we can all think of life stories about Mary the Mother of Christ; Mary and Martha invite us into their inner most times at home (John 11:17-32 and Luke 10: 38-42), each showing the strength of their belief



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**Do you know someone about to become
a University student?**

This can be an exciting but also intimidating prospect, one which some members of your congregation may well be facing soon.

Some of them may be wondering where they will find Christian friends in their place of study. Others may be looking forward to the freedom to explore spirituality, or even just want to know where they will find a listening ear. Whatever the case, chaplains can help. There are chaplaincies at virtually every university and many Further Education colleges. Many of them work closely with Christian groups based in their institutions and all will have details of local churches.



Do put a plug in for chaplaincies, please, with anybody you know who is about to start a course. You can also help by letting the relevant chaplain know details of people from your parish or church who are going to their institution. You should make sure (please don't assume!) that the person concerned is happy for you to pass on

their details and give the chaplain as much contact information as you can, including term-time address and e-mail once it becomes available. Better still, get the new student to contact the chaplain themselves.

Finally, please remember in your prayers students and chaplains, especially in the crucial start-of-year period between September and October. Thank you.

Fr Nicholas lo Polito is the Anglican Chaplain at the University of Birmingham and has access to contact information for most chaplaincies in the UK. He can be contacted on 0121 414 815 or by e-mail: n.lopolito@bham.ac.uk

Source - www.birmingham.anglican.org

Bishop's Comment

Enjoying a High Quality of Life

At the recent executive board meeting of Be-Birmingham, we discussed a diagram showing the priorities for the city in the coming months and years. Right at the top of the chart is the objective the people in this city should 'enjoy a high quality of life'. For some, that will mean holidays with friends or families, for others it means time spent in the garden or doing DIY.

My one way of relaxing and reinvigorating myself is reading history. I am taking three books with me on holiday – although I may have to pay excess baggage charges to get them through check-in!

The first is Diarmaid MacCulloch's book, 'The History of Christianity' which follows the popular TV series shown last year. This book is a digest of the global impact of Christianity and I love the subtitle 'The First Three Thousand Years' which reminds us that we are part of a movement with both a history and a future. This book is still the 10th most popular book in Amazon's history section nearly a year after it was first published. It is easy to think that faith is marginalized by mainstream cultures, but this book and TV series are symbols of society's regard for Christian thinking and values that permeate our culture. For those that like their religion light, this July

more than 2 million people tuned into 'Rev', a BBC comedy based on inner city parish life.

The next book I plan to read is a biography of John Adams who was the second president of the United States of America; while the third is a novel I picked up in Waterstones by Rafik Schami, called 'The Dark Side of Love', set in 20th century Syria.

I have chosen these books in order to better understand two regions of the world that have a profound influence on the UK today - the USA and the Middle East. The word 'democracy' (once called 'the least bad form of government') is being re-examined on both sides of the Atlantic and not least in our own coalition experiment. Keeping our theoretical frameworks informed by the complex realities of human desires and confusions, may help us resolve 'tribal' tensions before they become unbearable.

Having the freedom to read and think in good company, perhaps even with sunshine, is indeed a good quality of life and will refresh me for resuming work in September.

+David
Bishop of Birmingham

There are lots of feast days for the Virgin Mary in the Catholic Calendar of Saints and feast-days. Looking at four of the more major ones, we reflect on all the major moments of Mary's life:

March 25th is the chosen date for the moment when Mary is visited by the Angel. In St Nicolas we have a window of the Annunciation (North Aisle – near tea table) but it is very stylised in its portrayal of this tremendous moment. Mary is shown dressed in her traditional blue (traditional from Medieval times) and reading/praying in her equally middle ages closet.

Re-read this first part of the story in Luke 1; 26 – 56, including when Mary moves on to visit her cousin. The date that is chosen to celebrate this day is May 31st – about the time when Mary would first have realised she was pregnant and wanted to share the joy with her kinswoman. Elizabeth may have been her closest woman relative and there would have been no other way to contact her other than to visit. The festival in August is of her Assumption: a church tradition where Mary is assumed into Heaven at the end of her life, rather than dying as a normal mortal. The day the church chooses to celebrate her birthday is September 8th.

These dates are chosen by the church rather than being actually known, but celebrate Mary's humanity as well as her very special status. One of the things that dawned on me afresh this time, listening to the hymns and sermons on August 15th, was how human Mary was. She was amongst those who gathered after the Crucifixion and became the seed of the infant church. She is simply numbered amongst their company, taking an active life amongst them, despite the fact that she carried with her the deepest moments of her own life as well as those of Christ's life. This Mary is not stuck on a pedestal: she is a real human being who has met God; and makes it believable that we could be the same.

The hymn takes us through all of these particularly special moments, without turning them into something sentimental. There is a modernism about it, based completely on the biblical story.

We sing it to a tune called St Botolph: by Gordon Slater (1896-1979). I can find no information on either Slater or Pearcey ... so these unknown women or men have made us think afresh.

Sylvia Fox

Favourite Hymns

For Mary Mother of our Lord

On August 15th, the church celebrated the Assumption of the Virgin Mary and on September 8th, it celebrates her birthday. This made me think of all the Marian hymns we sing – and of one in particular, “For Mary Mother of our Lord” by J.R. Pearcey (1896-1971)

For Mary Mother of our Lord
God’s holy name by praise,
who first the Son of God adored,
as on her child she gazed.

Brave, holy virgin, she believed,
though hard the task assigned,
and by the Holy Ghost conceived
the Saviour of mankind.

God’s handmaid, she at once obeyed,
by her “Thy will be done”;
the second Eve love’s answer made
which our redemption won.

The busy world had got no space
or time for God on earth;
a cattle manger was the place
where Mary gave him birth.

She gave her body as God’s shrine,
her heart to piercing pain;
she knew the cost of love divine,
when Jesus Christ was slain.

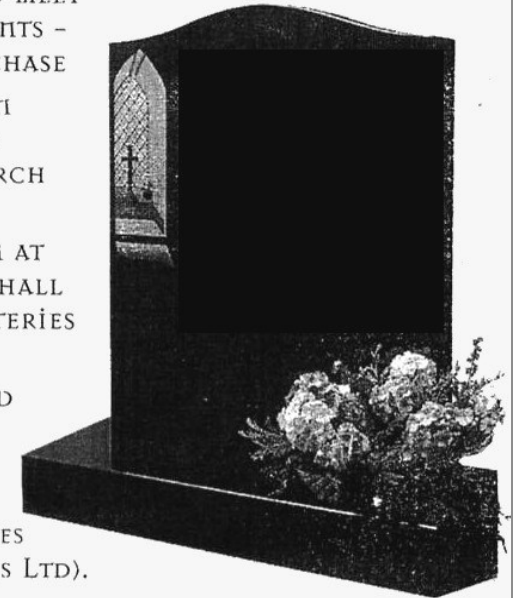
Dear Mary, from your lowliness
and home in Galilee
there come a joy and holiness
to every family.

Hail, Mary, you are full of grace,
above all women blest;
and blest your son, whom your embrace
in birth and death confessed.

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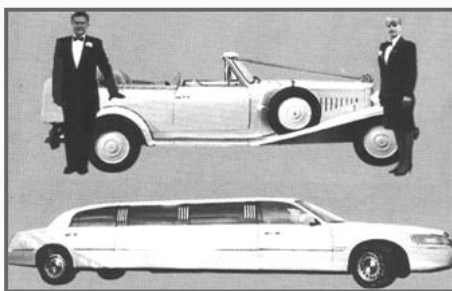
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GREETINGS FROM IMMANUEL CHURCH!

We hope you have had a lovely summer. The weather has not been as beautiful as it was in May/June time.

There is definitely something in the water at Immanuel as after Joseph's baptism, we learnt that 3 of our members wanted to be baptised too! We celebrated the Baptism of Paige (Gerry's granddaughter) on Sunday 22nd August and look forward to the Baptisms of Akeem and Kai (Fay's grandsons) on Sunday 31st October at St Nicolas Church at 6pm.

The Mission and Outreach Group have been giving us prayer pointers in July to help us to focus our prayers on certain areas or activities in and around where we live. Oasis has also been looking at prayer walks and they have been walking around our area during a couple of their sessions, praying for the things they see and the people they meet.

Immanuel decided to donate one of our outward giving contributions to the DEC to help with their appeal for those affected by the floods in Pakistan.

We are looking forward to celebrating Harvest and Back To Church Sunday on 26th September with an all age service and shared lunch. Our service starts at 10:30 if you would like to join us in these festivities.

David Moorcroft is preparing and organising our service for Sunday 3rd October which is Animal Welfare Sunday as he is passionate about how farmed animals are treated and looked after.

Sarah Crooks

EVENTS AT HAWKESLEY CHURCH



BBQ
Sunday 12th
September

12 Noon
@
Hawkesley Church

A DOUBLE CELEBRATION!

On Saturday 17th July, there was a double celebration in St Nicolas Church. Gabby, a regular member of Tiny Tots, was Baptised and then, in the same service, her parents, Vicky and Stuart, who had just returned from getting married on the beach in Skiathos, had their marriage blessed. It was a lovely service led by Jayne and Rebecca.

People in the congregation had come from as far afield as Scotland, Qatar, Poland and Sweden! Gabby was very much at home in St Nicolas Church due to her sessions at Tiny Tots, dancing and performing on the stage area throughout the service!

Congratulations to you all!
 Susan Haynes



July 2010 Baptisms

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

4 th July	Sienna Amaya Wilson-Kelly
4 th July	Leah May Rose Arnold
4 th July	Olivia Maisie Rea
17 th July	Gabriella Holly Cameron
18 th July	Thomas Adam Jones
18 th July	Amie Leigh Bishton
18 th July	Adam Ieuan Scrivens
18 th July	James Justin Scrivens
18 th July	Evie Mae Ward

July 2010 Marriages

"Those whom God has joined together"

3rd July	Daniel Thomas Lee Blount and Samantha Ann Pyatt
17th July	John Gerrard Pritchard and Tina Louise Summers
17th July	Paul John Shipp and Christina Betty Horton
17th July	Stuart Cameron and Victoria Caroline Wood (blessing)
23rd July	Russell Faulkner and Joanna Louise Cragg
23rd July	David Paul Starns and Heather Carolyn Elaine Fowler
24th July	Luke Adam Harris and Melanie Elizabeth Harris-Clarke
29th July	Kieran Robert Somerville and Elizabeth Alison Staley

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STARVE

Some people do not have all the things we have. At harvest time, we should remember all those who don't have enough, all the people and animals who starve from a lack of food.

SHARE

We share God's earth with lots of other people and lots of different animals. God made a world with enough food for everyone. The trouble is that sometimes we are greedy and have too much. This means others go without.



When we **SHARE** what we **HAVE** with those who **STARVE**, that makes a good **HARVEST**.

Thank you God
for the fruits of the earth,
for the pouring rain and the warm sun.
Guided by you and your love,
may we only take what we need
and always share what we have.
In Jesus' name,
Amen.



CHILDREN'S PAGE...

with Gail.



Hello everyone!

This month, we will be celebrating our time of Harvest. Colour in the pictures as we learn all about Harvest.

Harvest is the time of the year when we give thanks to God for all his gifts to us.

We thank God for the gift of food and for the gift of the seasons.

We say thank you for the sun and the rain that help our foods to grow.

We give thanks to God for all our animals, for the animals of

the sea, for the animals of the sky and for the animals of the land. Harvest is a time to thank God for the fruits of all the earth which nourish us all, all year round.



What makes a good harvest?

By using some of the letters in the word **HARVEST** we can together learn all about a good harvest.

H A V E

What gifts does God give us which we are thankful for?

Food, Clean water,
Farmers to maintain the land,
Rain to help grow our food,
The sun to ripen them.

These are all things that we already have. Can you think of any more?



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July 2010 Funerals

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

- 1st July Gladys Kelly, 86. Service in St Nicolas Church,
burial at Kings Norton Cemetery.
- 1st July Walter Robert Leslie Jones, 94. Cremation at Lodge Hill.
- 2nd July Ian Knight, 50. Cremation at Lodge Hill.
- 2nd July Irene Joseph, 92. Service in St Nicolas Church, Cremation at Lodge Hill.
- 7th July Gertrude (k/a Trudie) Ethel Hancox, 87. Cremation at Robin Hood.
- 8th July Anna Marie Myers, 92. Cremation at Redditch.
- 12th July Norman Edward Ruston, 79. Service at St Nicolas Church,
burial in St Nicolas churchyard.
- 13th July Jean Groves, 71. Service in St Nicolas Church, Burial at Wythall Cemetery.
- 13th July Keith Roland Allen, 63. Cremation at Lodge Hill.
- 15th July George Thomas Kent, 99. Cremation at Robin Hood.
- 15th July Edward Ronald Seeley, 86. Cremation at Robin Hood.
- 15th July Doris Gwendoline Tisdell, 93. Service in St Nicolas Church,
burial at Brandwood End.
- 16th July David McCann, 69. Cremation at Lodge Hill.
- 23rd July Julie Ann Fenton, 38. Burial at Quinton Cemetery.
- 30th July Hugh McCarl, 71. Cremation at Lodge Hill.
- 30th July Michael John Smith, 67. Service in St Nicolas Church,
burial at Kings Norton Cemetery.

At Saint Nicolas Place

Women's Fellowship 7.30pm 1st Thursday; Secretary: Carol Devic

Seniors' Club (Over 65's) Every Wednesday 1pm – 3pm
Christine Bowen & Revd Rebecca Pullin

Guides and Brownies Rainbows: Monday 5.30pm - 6.30 pm
Brownies (188th Birmingham): Tuesday 6.00-7.30 pm
Brownies: Thursday 6.30 pm - 8.00 pm
Guides (247th Birmingham): Monday 7.15-9.00 pm

Guides and Brownies Rainbows (1st Kings Norton): Monday 5.30 pm
at Hawkesley Church Centre Brownies (259th Birmingham): Wednesday 6.30 pm
Guides (141st Birmingham): Thursday 7.00 pm

Scouts and Cubs (198th & 129th Birmingham)
Tuesdays at Oddingley Hall, Beavers (6-8yrs): 5-6 pm Penny Hattersley 628 5694
Oddingley Road, B31 3BS Cubs (8-10½ yrs): 6.15-7.45 pm Karen Urwin 430 6005
Scouts (10½-15½yrs): 8pm Rob Keenahan 244 0789

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e-mail:- parishoffice@kingsnorton.org.uk Open: 10 am - 1pm Monday to Friday.
Parish website www.kingsnorton.org.uk

Please use Parish Office to contact clergy and lay officers, to place prayers and notices in
our weekly newsletter and monthly Events Diary – and for all churchyard enquiries.

KINGS NORTON TEAM PARISH

People, Places and Contacts

Please use our website www.kingsnorton.org.uk, ask at services or Open Church times or at Parish Office on 0121 458 3289 (Mon-Fri 10am – 1pm). The weekly newsletter and monthly events diary have the latest information. Churchyard enquiries to Parish Office.

MINISTRY TEAM:

Canon Rob Morris (Team Rector)	458 3289 / 459 0560
The Revd Dr John White (Team Vicar)	458 3289 / 07854 412949
The Revd Jayne Crooks (Team Priest)	458 3289 / 459 3733
The Revd Rebecca Pullin (Curate)	458 3289 / 458 2950
The Revd Donald Sampson (Methodist Minister)	458 3289 / 476 7223
Mrs Fay Fearon (Reader)	458 3289 / 451 1914
Mrs Ruth Howman (Reader)	458 3289

WARDENS

St. Nicolas	Stephen Plant, Paul Shelton	458 3289
Hawkesley	Jim Clarke	550 3455 / 07939 838086
	Peter Smith	453 9931
Immanuel	Gerry Moorcroft	243 0573

PCC (Church Council)	Secretary: Sylvia Fox	Treasurer: Jonathan Crooks
Parish Administrators:	Christine Bowen, Christine Gadd, Sylvia Fox	
Christian Giving Officer	Jean Brownsword	458 3289
Churchyard Care Team	Richard Harper	458 3289
Bible Reading Fellowship	Julie Caley	458 3289
Flower Co-ordinator	Alison Blumer	486 2837
Organist and Music Director	Sylvia Fox	07778 449170

Tuesday: Training and groups 5.45-8.30pm;
Friday: Juniors 6.30-7.45 pm, Seniors/Adults 8-9pm.
Handbell Ringers, Monday 7.30 pm
 Sarah Crooks

Immanuel Music Group

Oasis/ Sunday School

Immanuel
 St. Nicolas and Hawkesley
 Nicky Moorcroft (Oasis leader)
 contact via Parish Office 458 3289

Parish Magazine: Editor

Alan Haynes 459 4711 editor@kingsnorton.org.uk
 Alison Blumer 486 2837
 Evelyn Finn via Parish Office 458 3289
 David Ash, e-mail: webmaster@kingsnorton.org.uk

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The Church in the Parish

We are a Church of England Team Parish in partnership with the Methodist Church, serving all in Kings Norton through St Nicolas Parish Church and Hawkesley and Immanuel District Churches.

We believe that the church in Kings Norton exists:

To be a worshipping transforming partnership in Christ;

To live out God's radical hospitality for all;

To be equipped for work in God's world.

St Nicolas Parish Church *on The Green, Kings Norton, B38 8RU.*

Sunday 8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)

10.30 am Holy Communion Our main service - Oasis for 5-11's

2nd Sunday: 10.30am Parade Service – All Age Worship 11.45am Matins (BCP)

6 pm Evening Worship

Every Sunday evening we offer prayer, music and quiet for all to share in as you wish. Do come.

1st Sunday Taizé Prayer

2nd Sunday Holy Communion with Prayer for Healing

3rd Sunday Compline (Night Prayer) with a reflection

4th/5th Sundays: Special services or Evensong (BCP)

Mon, Wed, Thu 9am Morning Prayer

Thursday 11 am Holy Communion (BCP)

BCP is the Book of Common Prayer from 1662. Other services are a mixture of ancient and modern words and music, mostly from the Common Worship Service Book 2000.

Hawkesley Church (Anglican/Methodist) *at Hawkesley Church Primary School*

on the corner of Shannon Road and Old Partway, King's Norton, B38 9TR.

Sunday 10.30am Worship and Children's Activities (5-11's):

1st & 3rd Sundays – Holy Communion;

2nd & 4th Sundays – Morning Worship.

Tuesday 10am Hawkesley Coffee Morning (every two weeks)

Immanuel Church *at The Fairway Centre*

on the corner of Wychall Lane and The Fairway, Kings Norton, B38 8XJ.

Sunday 10.30am Worship - and Oasis for children of primary school age.

1st & 3rd Sundays – Holy Communion;

2nd Sunday – Morning Worship;

4th Sunday – All Age Worship.

Open Church

We open St Nicolas Church as much as we can so that all may share God's peace and promise in a space where they have been found and trusted for centuries. There is a place for you within its story. Please pray that more will know it as a safe place for prayer and healing, where sorrow and joy are held in God's love.

We welcome volunteers to share in our offering of welcome, refreshment and care through St Nicolas, Hawkesley and Immanuel, to steward St Nicolas in Open Church times and care for our churchyard, flowers and brasses. Do ask.

Open Church times

Do visit, pray, light a candle or share quiet conversation over coffee as you wish.

Wednesday 10.00 am – 1.00 pm and 6.30 – 9pm (Candlelit Church)

Thursday 6.30 – 8pm for all Marriage and Baptism enquiries,

Saturday 10.00 am – 12 noon for coffee, knit-and-natter, prayer
with **Messy Church** for all ages every 2nd Saturday (Market Day).

Candlelit Church

Every Wednesday, 6.30 – 9pm with informal learning together at 8pm

Quiet spaces, candles, conversation, creativity and music.

Arrive at any time; stay for any length of time - as you wish.

Tiny Tots

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

Growing in Faith

We are growing fresh ways for all to grow in faith – those making their very first step, those who have made many and those who are discovering God's love afresh after times of change. Please ask in each church for details.

Baptisms and Marriages

Please visit St Nicolas on Thursdays between 6.30pm and 8pm to ask any questions and arrange bookings with our clerks. One of the clergy is also present to help if there is a question over whether your service can be held in this parish.

Helping to keep our parish church open for all

It costs around £800 each week to keep St Nicolas open. We welcome all financial support through donations and especially through regular Planned Giving. Do ask for details and, if a taxpayer, please ask how you may Gift Aid your offering.