

St Peter's Parish Magazine



October & November
2024

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From Fr Jonathan



Dear friends

I am writing this on my return to the Vicarage after the Patronal Festival of our friends and neighbours at St Matthew's, Westminster, where the guest preacher was the Bishop of Southeast Florida in the United States of America and who preached an excellent and encouraging sermon. In a wonderful play on words, it was lovely, as the Vicar of St Peter's, Eaton Square to concelebrate with Bishop Peter Eaton (as shown in the photograph at the top of this article). I have asked whether, when Bishop Peter is next in the UK, he would like to come to St Peter's, Eaton Square, which he would be delighted to do!

You will read further on this magazine of the wonderful Heritage Open Days here at St Peter's, focusing on the mosaics of St Peter's Church and with a beautiful exhibition of the history of the Church. Many thanks indeed to Valerie Smith for all her hard work and vision in coordinating this, and also to Revd Jacqui and Mark Dowsett for the children's activities and all who stewarded and served refreshments.

We are just coming to the end of the Season of Creation, which is observed alongside the liturgical season or Ordinary Time in the Sundays after Trinity by all the main Christian denominations. This

season gives us a special opportunity to give thanks for our beautiful and fragile world and all the things we so frequently take for granted, whilst also committing ourselves to be better stewards of creation and to work towards a less polluted carbon-neutral world. For us here at St Peter's we shall be observing our Harvest Festival on the first Sunday in October when, as a sign of our thankfulness for the beauty of creation, we shall be collecting non-perishable food and toiletries for both the Passage and the Westminster Food Bank. Our joint Parish Mass at 10.30am will be followed by a bring and share lunch in the Parish Hall.

One of the working groups we are establishing under the umbrella of the Transformation Committee is a parish eco group which will focus on how we can make our building and our grounds as carbon next zero as possible in our building development project. If you would like to be on this group, please do let me know.

October is also Black History Month when we give special thanks for the wonderful contribution of those of Global Majority Heritage to the life of the Church, the nation and the world over the centuries.

As we move into November we come into what has sometimes been called the Kingdom Season, leading from All Saints' Day to the great feast of Christ the King at the end of the Church year before the new year begins with Advent. November is also known as the month of holy souls with All Souls' Day on 02 November. This year All Souls' Day falls on a Saturday, so we will be celebrating our Choral Requiem Mass at 4 pm that day. There will soon be a list at the back of Church to add the names of your loved ones to be remembered during the liturgy. Do please come along to this beautiful celebration of the Eucharist, rooted and grounded in the hope of the resurrection, and bring your families, neighbours and friends.

Having organised by brother's and father's funerals within the last twelve months I know just how important it is to ensure that the funeral best reflects both the life and the wishes of the deceased.

Often regular churchgoers like to leave express wishes for their funeral in their wills, but many also like their Parish Church to have a record of those more detailed wishes. I have a small file of such things from several members of St Peter's, but if you would like to have yours on record here I would be very happy to discuss this with you and to keep a record of this in a file in my study.

Further on in this magazine you will find an interview with a German Lutheran priest called Fr Holger Schmidt at the Church of the Holy Cross in Hannover. A number of you will have met Fr Holger when he has visited St Peter's. We are developing a partnership between St Peter's and the Church of the Holy Cross. I have answered the same questions for the parish magazine of the Church of the Holy Cross.

As we continue in this autumn season of "mists and mellow fruitfulness", there so much to look forward to in the life of the Church in the great hope to which we are called through the resurrection of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

With my love and prayers, as always,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "R. Jonathan". The letters are cursive and fluid, with a large initial 'R'.

Parish news

The school year has got off to a good start at St Peter's School and the children from Year 6 as usual went on their school journey to Sayers Croft in Surrey. You can read some reflections on this trip further on in this edition of the magazine.

It was good to welcome once again the High Commission of Trinidad and Tobago for their annual Independence Day service

here at St Peter's on Sunday 1st September. It was once again a joyous service reflecting the rich diversity of faith traditions in Trinidad and Tobago.

The Faith Group looked at the history of religious orders in the Church of England, including the two which had their origins here at St Peter's – the Community of the Epiphany and the Community of the Resurrection of Our Lord. We then turned to look at the Community of the Resurrection, Mirfield, founded when the first six members of the community took their vows in Pusey House Chapel, Oxford.

We looked at the work of the Community both in this country and abroad in South Africa and Zimbabwe and the particular work of Bishop Trevor Huddleston CR. We saw how they founded the College of the Resurrection in 1902, where three of the last six incumbents of St Peter's received their formation for ordination – Bishop John Easthaugh, Prebendary Desmond Tillyer and Fr Jonathan. We look forward to the visit of Fr Nicholas Stebbing CR to St Peter's, who speak at our Sunday morning Family and Choral Eucharists on the work of the charity Tariro <https://tarirouk.com/>



It was very good that Judith was able to represent St Peter's at the institution and induction of the Revd Catherine Cowie, our former pastoral assistant as Rector of the Blessed Virgin and Holy Child, Beaulieu, Exbury and East Boldre in the Diocese of Winchester on Wednesday 25 September. Catherine had previously served since her ordination in the Parish of the Guitings in the Diocese of Gloucester from 2020 to 2024, having received her training for ordination at Ripon College, Cuddesdon.

Remembering Sue Murray



A few words about Sue by her nephew Rupert

Sue Murray was born on the 10th of November 1935 in the lovely East Yorkshire town of Beverley. She grew up in both Yorkshire and then Werrington Park in Cornwall. She went to school at Stokelake in Chudleigh, Devon and rose to be head girl, probably through her power of magnetic charm rather than strict adherence to discipline. She moved to London in 1956 and married the well respected Australian society photographer, Alec Murray in 1967 and the two lived very happily until his death in 2002. In the years after Alec's death, Sue established a wonderful partnership with Sandy Dick-Cleland in both London and at her cottage in Eastbury, Berkshire. Sue is remembered fondly for her warm and easy hospitality, her love of dachshund dogs and her effortless, beautiful dress sense.

Special Services in October and November

Sunday 06 October HARVEST FESTIVAL



0815 Holy Communion BCP

1030 PARISH MASS

followed by bring and share lunch in the Parish Hall
(please note time).

*We are collecting non- perishable food and toiletries for the Passage and
Westminster Food Bank*

Saturday 02 November ALL SOULS' DAY



4 pm CHORAL REQUIEM MASS

Missa pro defunctis - *Du Caurroy*

*Please write names of loved ones to be remembered on the list at the back
of Church or email them to frjonathan@stpetereatonsquare.co.uk*

From the Magazine October 1934

Scouts Summer Camp

The 4th Westminster (St Peter's Eaton Square) Troop held their Summer Camp at Niton, Isle of Wight, under the charge of Group Scoutmaster M. G. Giles, from the 28th July to the 25th August. The Camp was divided into two periods of a fortnight, each the last two weeks being the official period, when the Inter-Patrol Competition was carried out, though a good deal of training took place during the first fortnight also.

On the whole the weather was good, though less fine than earlier in the summer; and there were several days when strong winds were experienced. But thanks to selecting a camp site with good shelter from most winds, these did not give much trouble after the camp was pitched, though erecting a marquee on a squally day with one adult and seven boys (the average age of the latter being barely thirteen) was no easy task. And had the bathing facilities been less good it would at times have been too rough to bathe with safety; but, in the shelter of Puckaston Cove, bathing was possible at all times, and hardly a day passed without at least one bathe. And they appeared to be enjoyed most of all when big waves came rolling in.

There were fourteen boys for the second fortnight, and the Inter-patrol Competition was won by the Stag Patrol, under Patrol Leader A. H. Groves, with a total of 556 points, though the Eagle Patrol, under Patrol Second R. Dunbar, were only 8 points behind. The Stag Patrol also won the Treasure Hunt, the clues for which provided the boys with plenty of occupation for any spare moments during the last two days in camp.

Although much of the time was spent in camping activities, games and bathing, the opportunity was taken to see something of the Island, though lack of funds caused little response where payment of fare was involved. But a whole-day outing, through Ventnor and the Landslip to Shanklin and back by way of the Downs, provided

a tramp of about 16 miles, in which everyone took part except two who remained on duty in camp. And shorter excursions included St Catherine's Down (the summit of which is almost the highest point on the Island and is 781 feet above sea level and from which glorious views are obtainable), and Blackgang, each of which provided a very interesting outing. And another visit of much interest was to St. Catherine's Lighthouse, with its 15,000,000 candle power light, the revolving part of which weighs 2 ½ tons, and yet can be put in motion with one's little finger!

COMMENT

Scouting was obviously taken very seriously at this time with the troop undeterred by high winds, rough seas, sixteen-mile walks, lack of money and poor travel facilities to Ventnor. The Group Scout master was very relieved that everyone stayed in good health, especially during the two weeks when he was the only adult on site. I would not have liked to have been the person responsible for doing the risk analysis and as for safeguarding.....!

Valerie Smith

From the Parish Magazine November 1934

Armistice-tide

"Who against hope believed in hope"; this is, I believe an accurate description of the Christian facing the world on this Armistice-tide. While the world is beset with fear and distrust, and certainly the outward aspects of life give little support to hope of abiding peace, yet the Christian true to this faith finds grounds of hope in the Cross and the Resurrection, in God as the ultimate and present Ruler of the world. It is the hope and confidence in God which we come to renew this Armistice-tide. While we have the proud and thankful remembrance of those "who died but having inherited the promises" we dedicate "ourselves afresh to the great task remaining to us" – the task of Peace. As many of us know, the League of Nations Union is organising a canvass of the whole country and asking everyone to consider and answer five questions; in order that the unspoken mind of the people may find

expression. There is a large multitude of men and women in all lands who are resolutely set on Peace and it is in order that we as a nation may testify to this faith that we are being given an opportunity of bearing that witness. I know that the questions are not easy to give a direct "yes" or "no", but I feel sure that we ought not to put the questions aside lightly but realise the solemnity of the times and responsibility which is ours.

*I would hope that all will receive Holy Communion on Armistice Sunday; it is there above all that we are nearest to Christ and those who have pledged us by their deaths to their unfinished task. There will be a Memorial Eucharist at 10 o'clock. We have arranged to receive the Broadcast Service from the Cenotaph and after that we shall have shortened Mattins and the Names on our Roll of Honour will be read at the end of the Service. I ask all the congregation to be in Church by **10.50**.*

COMMENT: The League of Nations, founded in 1920 was the first intergovernmental organisation aimed and promoting international cooperation with a view to achieving peace and security. As well as the central body there were local branches and in the autumn of 1934 the societies based in Britain sought the views of ordinary people about the League, about disarmament and the arms trade and about whether, if a nation breached the international agreement measures should be taken against it by economic and, as a last resort, by military means. There was a massive response to what was called the Peace Ballot with a turnout of over eleven and a half million. The responses proved strongly in favour of the League and of the proposed measures, with 70-90% in favour of the various proposals. Sadly, events were already moving decisively towards war with aggressive actions by both Hitler and Mussolini. The Prime Minister Baldwin agreed that the ballot had been of very great value but even the questions put in the ballot accepted that there could still be the necessity when all else failed for a violent solution. The congregations of St Peter's were urged to play a full part in the Ballot despite some reservations about the League itself.

Valerie Smith

King Alfred the Great



King Alfred the Great c849-899, earned the title 'The Great' by defending his kingdom from Viking invasions. He encouraged education and improved the legal system.

Margery Kempe



Margery Kempe c1373-1438 Christian mystic who wrote first English autobiography describing her domestic life, her pilgrimages to holy sites and her mystical conversations with God.

Saint Ignatius of Antioch



St Ignatius of Antioch (died c. 110, Rome; Western feast day October 17; Eastern feast day December 20) was the bishop of Antioch (the modern Antakya, in Turkey), known mainly from seven highly regarded letters that he wrote during his journey to Rome as a prisoner condemned to be executed for his beliefs. The letters have often been cited as a source of knowledge of the Christian church at the beginning of the 2nd century.

Although St. Ignatius was an influential church leader and theologian, he is known almost entirely from his own writings. There is no record of his life prior to his arrest, but his letters reveal his personality and his impact on the Christianity of his time. Ignatius represents the Christian religion in transition from its Jewish origins to its assimilation in the Greco-Roman world. He laid the foundation for dogmas that would be formulated in succeeding generations. His advocacy of a hierarchical structure of the church with emphasis on episcopal authority, his insistence on the real humanity of Christ, and his ardent desire for martyrdom are subjects that have generated much discussion.

Eusebius of Caesarea, whose *Ecclesiastical History* is the chief primary source for the history of the church up to 324, reported that Ignatius's arrest and his condemnation to the wild beasts in the Roman arena occurred during the reign of the Roman emperor Trajan (98–117). Eusebius, on unknown grounds, dates the event to 107 or 108. Ignatius's letters contain the only reliable information

about him, but only one of them—that to the church in Rome—is dated (August 24), and even then no year is given.

Ignatius, surnamed Theophoros, was bishop of Antioch at the time of his arrest. Whether he was a native of the city is uncertain; his Greek prose, however, does have an Eastern flavour characteristic of that part of the Hellenistic world. His thought is strongly influenced by the letters of St. Paul and also by the tradition connected with St. John the Apostle. It is possible that he knew St. John personally.

The letters of Ignatius abound in warnings against false doctrines and false teachers and in admonitions to preserve peace and concord by willing subordination in all religious matters to the clergy and, above all, to the bishop. Nevertheless, he frequently assures his readers that their own church gives no cause for concern and that his words are prompted merely by pastoral solicitude. Only in his letter to the church of Philadelphia does he intimate that at least some of the community tended to segregate, and, in a passage in the letter to the Smyrnaeans, he seems to imply that there had been dissenters.

Smyrna is the only place along his journey where Ignatius stayed for a sufficiently long time to have firsthand knowledge of the state of the church; he knew of the others from informants, who gave him little grounds for worry. Ignatius's anxiety, perhaps, had its roots in his experiences as a bishop at Antioch. If the peace that returned to Antioch after he left is to be understood as the restoration of concord within the Christian community, then the church of Antioch might have been divided on the very same issues about which Ignatius writes to the other churches.

Ignatius apparently fought two groups of heretics: (1) Judaizers, who did not accept the authority of the New Testament and clung to such Jewish practices as observing the Sabbath, and (2) Docetists (from the Greek *dokein*, "to seem"), who held that Christ had suffered and died only in appearance. Ignatius untiringly affirmed that the New Testament was the fulfilment of the Old

Testament and insisted upon the reality of Christ's human nature. For him, Christ's Passion, death, and Resurrection were a vital guarantee of "life everlasting" in the risen Christ. Had Christ died only in appearance, Ignatius believed that his own suffering and his readiness to sacrifice his life for Christ would have no meaning.

Ignatius wrote that he would be thrown to the beasts; in the fourth century Eusebius reports a tradition that this did happen, while Jerome is the first explicitly to mention lions. John Chrysostom is the first to place Ignatius' martyrdom at the Colosseum. Modern scholarship is uncertain as to whether any of these authors had sources other than Ignatius' own writings.

According to a medieval Christian text titled *Martyrium Ignatii*, Ignatius' remains were carried back to Antioch by his companions after his martyrdom. The sixth-century writings of Evagrius Scholasticus state that the reputed remains of Ignatius were moved by the Emperor Theodosius II to the Tychaeum, or Temple of Tyche, converting it into a church dedicated to Ignatius. In 637, when Antioch was captured by the Rashidun Caliphate, the relics were transferred to the Basilica di San Clemente in Rome.

Ignatius' feast day was kept in Antioch on 17 October, the day on which he is now celebrated in the Catholic Church and generally in western Christianity, although from the 12th century until 1969 it was put at 1 February in the General Roman Calendar.

In the Eastern Orthodox Church it is observed on 20 December. The Synaxarium of the Coptic Orthodox Church of Alexandria places it on the 24th of the Coptic Month of Koiak (which is also the 24th day of the fourth month of Tahisas in the Synaxarium of The Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church), corresponding in three years out of every four to 20 December in the Julian Calendar, which currently falls on 2 January of the Gregorian Calendar.

Richard Carter

Heritage open days

COMPLETING THE PICTURE: ST PETER'S AND ITS MOSAICS



Regular readers will be aware that this year St Peter's participated in the Heritage Open week, on the afternoon of Friday 13 September and all day on Saturday 14. Heritage Days are not the same as the Open House events, though this week they overlapped by a day. Although our event, like other events, was directly organised by us, in the shape of our Communications Group, there is a good deal of central help provided by a small central Heritage Team who give tips for events and arrange meetings and online chats and phone enquiry lines for organisers and who help to publicise events more widely than an individual organisation might.



They also suggest themes for each year. Although participants don't have to follow these, doing so does help, not merely for the purposes of inspiration, but because if people are searching online for Heritage Events the themes form one of the categories by which they can search for the sort of event that might interest them. There are two main conditions that participants in the week need to fulfil, first an event must involve either access to locations that are not normally open to the public, or where (like St Peter's) they are normally open they should offer access to something not normally visited. The other condition is that they should be free of charge.

The theme that we were able to link our event with was the question of why buildings or other sites were in the area where they are. For us this was relatively straightforward since both

the church and the parish came into existence from the 1820s onwards as an increase in the size of London caused demand for more dwellings, including those for the well-off as well as inevitably those for the poor. The area had not previously been developed to any extent as it had been fields and marshland so a fair amount of draining was required and there were also places where the land level after draining needed to be raised. Earth from excavations elsewhere, such as those near St Katharine's dock, was used for this purpose.

For our event the extra access was to the sacristy and verger's office, where there were talks about the Victorian mosaics as well as an explanation of how the modern apse mosaic came to be. The exhibition also showed various pieces of information and artefacts not normally on show, for example maps of the developing area from 1800 on onwards, photographs of architects of the church and surrounding areas, samples of parish magazines from 1867 onwards, drawings and



photographs of key events in the church's life, from the initial designs to the rebuilding after the fire. There was an exhibition booklet which gave brief histories of the main periods linked to the articles and areas specially on display. We also offered a children's craft area with materials for making mosaics on card, with plastic tiles, simple jigsaws and word searches related to the day and there were light refreshments available for any who wanted them.

The turnout was quite good. On the Friday afternoon when we were open from 2-5, we had around 25 people coming in an even flow throughout the time, and on the Saturday we had up to 90 (we lost count at 70) but with quite a different pattern of attendance - discouragingly few in the morning, then increasing numbers through the afternoon so that we went on considerably

after the advertised finishing time. Visitors also seemed really interested in the exhibitions and mosaics which was very rewarding. You can see more in David Stanley's article elsewhere in this magazine. We had fewer children than we had expected; we had not been intending to make this primarily a children's event as it is difficult to combine an exhibition with a lot of children's entertainment, but we had thought that there might be families who wanted to come but were worried that their children might be bored. If we do an event next year, we may think about how we might approach this.



The whole thing was made possible by hard work from the very small Communications group and by other keen volunteers on the days as well as our clergy and some of our lay staff. We had quite a wide variety of people attending, but there weren't many from the congregation.

We have had to take the exhibition down, but there are still some of the exhibition guides available if anyone is interested, and also some bookmarks with pictures of the mosaics which are available at the back of the church, as long as they last. Thanks to Tobias Allen for the photos taken on the days of the exhibition.

Will we do it another year? Watch this space.

Valerie Smith

From “Arise Africa”

ARISE AFRICA:

SIGN YOUR NAME TO HELP STOP THE VIOLENCE

“What I want to tell my Christian brethren is that they should help us advocate and pray. We are pleading that the international community intervenes. We need you to help us speak to the government. Pray for us to return to our homes. That’s our plea.” - A displaced Nigerian Christian

YOU CAN HELP

Our brothers and sisters in sub-Saharan Africa are asking you to speak up on their behalf and to pray for them. They are pleading with the international community to

intervene and they need you to be their voice.

Open Doors estimates that at least 16.2 million Christians are displaced across sub-Saharan Africa because of violence and conflict. Persecution is a major driver of this displacement. Our Christian brothers and sisters want the global community to acknowledge and act against the extreme violence – supporting the church to persevere through severe persecution and be resilient, resourceful and influential.

The African church is calling on the world to pray and act.

They have a vision to see people from around the world standing with them through the *Arise Africa* petition. Will you answer their call and add your voice? You can find the petition enclosed with this magazine, or online at opendoorsuk.org/ariseafrica

The petition calls upon the global community to ensure that Christians and other vulnerable individuals in sub-Saharan Africa are treated with dignity and respect. This a global campaign – so your signature will be among hundreds of thousands gathered from around the world.

HOPE FOR THE MIDDLE EAST: IMPACT UPDATE

In 2016, thousands of you signed the *Hope for the Middle East* petition for Christians in Syria and Iraq.

- 808,172 people signed from 143 countries
- The petition was presented to the UN Secretary-General’s office in New York by Noah (RIGHT), a 12-year-old who fled his home in Iraq to escape so-called Islamic State (IS)

- Then-PM Theresa May met with the Open Doors CEO and Father Daniel, from Iraq. As a result, May’s Christmas message affirmed the need to stand up for Christians in the Middle East, and other religious minorities
- Iraq received \$55 million from the UN to help rebuild Christian and other minority areas taken by IS, with Open Doors consulted on spending.

With so much impact from the *Hope for the Middle East* campaign, and countless lives improved, we are asking you again to be part of something life-changing – thank you!



From “Arise Africa” (cont.)

THE PETITION ASKS FOR THREE THINGS:

1. PROTECTION

Violence is the primary driver of displacement in countries including Nigeria, Sudan, DRC and Cameroon. Many militant attacks deliberately target Christians: whole communities have been burnt down, meaning livelihoods are lost as well as lives. There is a lack of protection from the state and security forces fail to respond in timely and effective ways – refusing to act in the majority of cases.

WHEN YOU SIGN THE PETITION...

you are calling on the global community to provide robust protection from violent militant attacks.

A RECOMMENDATION:

Training and technical support to police, security forces and judiciary to counter militants and prosecute extremists.

2. JUSTICE

Impunity for perpetrators of atrocities is widespread in many of these countries. This exacerbates the displacement of people as they live in fear for their lives if they return home. Well-armed militants attack Christians with impunity, slaughtering thousands and displacing millions. And there is no justice. Perpetrators can get away with heinous crimes as there are no consequences for their actions.

WHEN YOU SIGN THE PETITION...

you are calling on the global community to ensure justice through fair prosecutions of the attackers.

A RECOMMENDATION:

The international community works with African governments to develop a national policy to end impunity.

3. RESTORATION

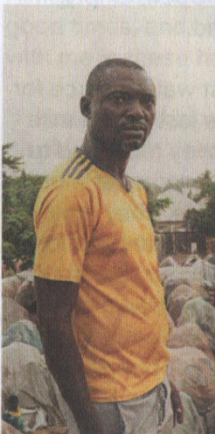
Our brothers and sisters are praying to return to their homes, some having been displaced for over a decade. They often have limited access to basic amenities and can continue to face discrimination – for example, some mixed-faith IDP camps receive aid on Sundays, when Christians are in church. People just want to return home and rebuild.

WHEN YOU SIGN THE PETITION...

you are calling on the global community to bring healing and restoration to all affected communities.

A RECOMMENDATION:

African governments and the international community ensure voluntary returns are safe and with dignity, including security, recovery and restoration of land and provision of basic services.



WHERE WILL THE PETITION GO?

By 2026, the aim is to present signatures from around the world to the UK Government, African Union, European Parliament and UN leaders at the Human Rights Council. We hope to initiate and build momentum for a Commission of Inquiry at the UN, build public support for the persecuted church at the African Union and influence policy change through the British and Nigerian governments.

Enough is enough: it's time to get people talking. Sign the petition today and help make a difference.

opendoorsuk.org/ariseafrica



More from The Heritage Open Day



The Heritage Open Day event "Completing the picture: St Peter's and its mosaics" was always going to be a fascinating learning experience and so it proved.

Aside from all the information that Valerie had assembled for inquisitive eyes and recounted to eager ears

two things struck me. One was how lucky we are to have such a beautiful building in which to worship. The other was how many gaps there are in my knowledge about it. The exhibition and Valerie's talks went a long way to remind me of the former and remedy the latter.

The amount of work and organisation behind the two days was vast. There were facts and photos on the history of the church building and the most influential vicars over what is almost two centuries. The church's changing appearance and size was clear to see and its resurrection after the fire. The main focus though was the mosaics.

The highlight, for me at least, was hearing Valerie talk so



knowledgeably about the Victorian ones in the sacristy and the artistic, physical and spiritual connections with the 1991 golden apse. I know from watching one group how appreciative they were of her time and patience - and knowledge simply explained. If sharing our church with visitors was an

important goal then the Heritage Open Day provided a sure foundation for similar events.

DAVID STANLEY

Parish partnership with Church of Grace to the Holy Cross Hanover



Fr Holger Schmidt writes, “We are exploring a parish partnership between St Peter’s, Eaton Square and the Evangelisch lutherische Gnadenkirche zum Heiligen Kreuz in Hanover (Grace Church of the Holy Cross). There are already friendly contacts that we now want to expand on. A partnership between two parishes is something very precious. In this way we get to know our partner and their denomination and traditions, but we also learn a lot about

ourselves. If you want to get to know others, you also have to be sure who you are. Anglicans and Lutherans, English and Germans, now come together in our partnership. In order to get to know each other better, we would like to introduce ourselves to each other and we will start with the senior clergy.

Fr Jonathan and Fr Holger have both answered the same questions by way of a written interview for each church firstly to get to know the priest who leads the other community. Here are Fr Holger’s responses.

1. Name and where you grew up.

My name is Holger Schmidt. I grew up in Aurich in East Frisia. My roots are on a farm. Later my parents moved with me to Oldenburg (near Bremen). I started school there.

2. How did you become a priest? (Your faith journey)

In the youth work of my church I found a living faith in Jesus Christ. They were happy young Christians who lived their faith in a welcoming way. So I also took on my first tasks in the church. Later my desire to become a priest matured. At that time I was working as a mechanic and didn't have a high school diploma. I completed my Abitur through the second educational opportunity. After

graduating from high school, I learned Greek and Hebrew at a church seminar and then studied theology in Marburg and Tübingen.

2. Have you had another job before ordination? University? Jobs?

After school I completed training as an industrial mechanic. I worked in a large agricultural machinery factory. We have built the most beautiful drills ;-)

3. Where did you train? What did you do in your training?

After studying theology, I completed my practical training as a Priest in Oldenburg at the Trinity Church. My home parish (St. Thomas) was a highchurch Lutheran church with regular Holy Communion, prayer of the hours and missionary youth work. Trinity Church was more low church oriented and was a strongly diaconal parish. So I was able to get to know the spectrum of the church well.

4. What have you done since ordination?

After my training I went to Berlin. There I worked in a small parish in Berlin and was also the chaplain of the inn mission (Gasthausmissionar). Then the door to a new position opened and I became a youth pastor in Brandenburg on the border to Poland. For me it was so far east that I thought Byzantium was now responsible for me ;-)

Here I and other employees ran two youth centers and a mobile youth center (a converted bus). In 2010 I was called back to Kreuzberg in Berlin. I was able to happily build a parish here for 11 years. We celebrated mass every Sunday and also on weekdays and prayed the Liturgy of the Hours. Missionary work for children and young people rounded off the program. In 2021 I moved to Hanover. Here I serve in Holy Cross and enjoy the liturgical diversity.

5. Tell us about your family.

One reason why I moved to Hanover was my mother. She's now at an age where she needs a little more support and it's good if I'm not so far away. Otherwise I live alone. The church is my family and I am happy that I have lovely companions in Oldenburg, Hanover, Berlin, London and...

6. What do you like to do when not working (hobbies)

I love traveling and seeing foreign countries, but unfortunately I don't get to do it that often. But I also enjoy crime novels or going to drink tea or coffee with friends.

7. Tell me about your parish.

Our church is on the outskirts of Hanover in the very south. The parish has grown old and small. The district in which our church is located has changed a lot in the past few decades. While it used to be mostly people from Germany and Silesia who lived here, there are now people from 70 nations in our district. So we are struggling with a number of challenges: the church needs to be renovated and our organs need repairs. But we try to be a blessing to the people here in the district. We offer lunch together and we have a repair cafe in our house once a month. And we would like to pay more attention to the integration of our newcomers. The heart of our parish beats at the altar. This is where we enjoy gathering and having fellowship with Christ and one another. This is where we bring our prayers and this is where we recharge.

8. Favourite Bible passage or verse?

Where should I start? Where could I stop? I love the story Jesus tells of the prodigal son. I am touched by how Jesus meets the two disciples on the way to Emmaus and I am delighted by the 8th chapter of the Apostle Paul's letter to the Romans. It starts with a wonderfully strong prelude: "There is now no more condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus." I love the Lord for allowing us to be safe in his love.

9. Do you have a favourite saint?

As a Lutheran I should now say "Luther," right? In fact, his theology influenced me greatly. But my favourite saint would be the Virgin Mary or Saint Boniface. He came from England ;-)) and I was baptized in a St. Boniface church.

10. Tell us one interesting fact about yourself.

Since I grew up on a farm, I love country life and would have liked to be a farmer. That's why I collect models of tractors and agricultural machinery.

11. What is your hope for our partnership?

First of all, I am happy when an active partnership emerges between our communities. And I would like individual church members from London and Hanover to make friends and visit each other. It is interesting to learn from each other and to exchange ideas about what faith means to your partners and how they live it. I have already received some inspiration from the Church of England and would be happy if our partnership enriches both communities. It is also a powerful sign when we pray for one another.

Some photographs of the Evangelisch lutherische Gnadenkirche zum Heiligen Kreuz in Hanover



Reflections on the Year 6 stay at Sayers Croft

Isla Wong

Sayers Croft was an enjoyable experience that offered a perfect mix of outdoor activities and team-building exercises. I particularly loved the caving and archery, where we got to experience what it's like inside a cave, and instead of getting stuck in water, we ended up in a ball-pit! Archery was especially exciting for me since it was my first time, and I was surprised to keep hitting bullseyes. The obstacle course I did with Zhenya was not only fun but also taught us teamwork, as we navigated blindfolded, relying solely on each other's directions. Compassing around the campus was another great activity, where we were paired up and left with only a compass and coloured signs, looking for stamps along the way. Even beyond the activities, spending time in the cabins bonding with Miss Potter and my friends was special, especially during our Midnight feast with treats from the tuck shop, which we all shared. We also had a lot of fun when Miss Potter braided our hair as we listened to Taylor Swift. Overall, I had an amazing time and made unforgettable memories.

Edward Olugboja

I thought I was never going to make it to Sayers Croft because our train was delayed by twenty minutes from Clapham Junction to London Victoria. Luckily enough, I made it to the coach and secured a window side seat from where I was able to make some nature drawings.

Getting to Sayers Croft- from far away I saw the sign that says Sayers Croft, the coach travelled round the corner, the engine stopped and it was time to get off the coach we met at destination. Upon arrival of Sayers Croft I reached for my bag and suitcase in the bottom compartment of the coach, led by the teacher (Ms Potter), me and my classmates went forward over the bridge; below there were traces of crepuscular pond water.

Night one at Sayers Croft - as we stepped foot on the veranda, we left behind our suitcases and bags on the wooden floor (of the veranda) and it was time to go into the main room (the classroom). As we sat down on the chairs, the instructors of Sayers Croft told us what we were doing today, but first doing the beds. In order to make beds right they showed us a technique I'm familiar with - they held the corners of the duvet and aligned them with the corners of the duvet cover they placed hands inside of the duvet cover and moved them so they would be inside out overlapping on the duvet, and it was done, then doing the buttons and it was sealed. The instructors made an image in our minds of the history of SC and guided us throughout what we were going to do. After following the instructions we made our beds in separate categories: boys' dorm and girls' dorm. After we finished, we took our suitcases from outdoors (making sure our shoes were neatly organised on the shelf and not leaving them in the footpath or it could obstruct our walking). We brought our suitcases to our dorms and emptied out our supplies and belongings on our shelves and in our drawers. When we completed that task, we handed over our luggage to Mr Kent and Mrs Lovely and they placed them in storage. Afterwards we all met at the veranda and were ready to do our first activity!!!

Activities of day one - first of all we learned about orientation, but before doing the task we needed a layout. The instructors gave us the basic instructions. First, we needed a key - the key had specific details telling us what certain things were. We started - in order to get the task completed we were given maps of Sayers Croft with no words; there were boxes where we were supposed to fill out with the names of buildings on the paper maps, like the one I stayed at, Peaslake. If we finished that task we'd go back to the instructors and get challenge questions. After that we were going through a maze! We went through the woods until we found the region we terminated by, we were put in partners and each of us had two goes of each job, blindfolded or guider. The objective was to go throughout the maze with one person blindfolded and the other was a guide so that they would escape the maze together as obstacles there were wooden bumps and

tyres. When we finished the maze we went back to the instructors and we settled down after we were finished, it was time to go back to Peaslake, and from Peaslake we went to go have lunch. It turns out there was a dining room in the central of Sayers Croft.

Afterwards...we did compassing, went back inside, then did stream walking. I dunked in the stream as in up to my neck, went inside got new clothes. We had dinner, played football, went inside, got torches, did a night walk, placed torches on the trail of reflectors. We learnt about nocturnal animals, about bats and echo location.

Day two- sponge throwing. We made catapults for putting sponges in, we went through a maze we had to find letters and numbers on objects and had to write them on a sheet and find out the secret word, we had lunch, we did archery and caving, we had dinner, we made a campfire, we roasted marshmallows, we went back to the classroom and had hot chocolate, brushed teeth and went to bed.

Day three- we did WWII trail, compassing and woods compass, went to playground. I did shelter building, had lunch, prepared to go, went over bridge. We went to the tuck shop and I got stuff for my family then went on the coach. On the coach we played a movie, we passed my home and went to school. My family were at school waiting for me. I got out of the coach and hugged them and gave them gifts, we waved at the coach as it departed. We went home, until it was the end of the day with SC was a memory!



Readings for October and November

<p>6 October 2024 Harvest Festival Parish Mass (2 readings)</p> <p>1 Timothy 2:1-7 Matthew 6:25-33</p>	<p>3 November 2024 All Saints Sunday</p> <p>Isaiah 25: 6–9 Revelation 21: 1–6a John 11: 32–44</p>
<p>13 October 2024 Trinity 20</p> <p>Amos 5: 6–7 & 10–15 Hebrews 4: 12–16 Mark 10: 17–31</p>	<p>10 November 2024 3rd Sunday before Advent</p> <p>Remembrance Sunday Jonah 3:1-5, 10 Hebrews 9:24-end Mark 1: 1-8</p>
<p>20 October 2024 Trinity 21</p> <p>Isaiah 53.4–12 Hebrews 5.1–10 Mark 10.35–45</p>	<p>17 November 2024 2nd Sunday before Advent</p> <p>Daniel 12: 1–3 Hebrews 10: 11–14 & 19–25 Mark 13: 1–8</p>
<p>27 October 2024 Last Sunday after Trinity</p> <p>Jeremiah 31: 7–9 Hebrews 7: 23–28 Mark (10: 46b–52)</p>	<p>24 November 2024 Christ the King</p> <p>Daniel 7: 9–10 & 13–14 Revelation 1: 4b–8 John 18: 33–37</p>
<p>2 November 2024 All Souls' Day (Saturday)</p> <p>Wisdom 3:1-9 Romans 5:5-11 John 6:37-40</p>	

Calendar of Intentions (October)

Date	Day	Mass/Prayer intention
Tu 1	<i>Feria</i>	Westminster St Margaret Deanery Clergy Chapter
We 2	<i>Feria</i>	Eaton House School
Th 3	<i>George Bell, bishop, ecumenist, peacemaker 1958</i>	Peacemakers
Fr 4	<i>Francis of Assisi, friar, deacon, 1226</i>	St Peter's eco group
Sa 5	<i>Feria</i>	Anglican Catholic Future
Su 6	NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY	The Parish and People of God
Mo 7	<i>Feria</i>	Westminster City School
Tu 8	<i>Feria</i>	Greycoat Hospital School
We 9	<i>Denys, bishop and companions, martyrs, c 250</i>	Amnesty International
Th 10	<i>Paulinus, bishop, missionary, 644</i>	The London College of Bishops
Fr 11	<i>Ethelburga, abbess, 675</i>	Community of the Resurrection, Mirfield
Sa 12	<i>Wilfrid, bishop, missionary, 709</i>	+Stephen, Archbishop of York
Su 13	TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY	The Parish and People of God
Mo 14	<i>Feria</i>	Chelsea and Westminster Hospital
Tu 15	<i>Teresa of Avila, teacher of the faith, 1582</i>	Convent of St Mary-at-the-Cross, Edgware Abbey

Calendar of Intentions (October, contd)

Date	Day	Mass/Prayer Intention
We 16	<i>Nicholas Ridley and Hugh Latimer, bishops, martyrs, 1555</i>	Ecumenical dialogue and collaboration
Th 17	<i>Ignatius of Antioch, bishop, martyr, c 107</i>	Theologians
Fr 18	Luke the Evangelist	Doctors
Sa 19	<i>Henry Martyn, translator, missionary, 1812</i>	Modern day bible translators
Su 20	TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY	The Parish and People of God
Mo 21	<i>Feria</i>	Victoria Station
Tu 22	<i>Feria</i>	Royal College of Defence Studies
We 23	<i>Feria</i>	Trinidad and Tobago High Commission
Th 24	<i>Feria</i>	Metropolitan Police
Fr 25	<i>Crispin and Crispinian, martyrs, c 287</i>	Wellington Barracks
Sa 26	<i>Alfred, king, scholar, 899</i>	His Majesty King Charles III
Su 27	LAST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY	The Parish and People of God
Mo 28	Simon and Jude, Apostles	College of the Resurrection, Mirfield on its foundation day
Tu 29	<i>James Hannington, bishop, martyr, 1885</i>	The Church and people of Uganda
We 30	<i>Feria</i>	Diocese of London Angola and Mozambique partnership (ALMA)
Th 31	<i>Martin Luther, reformer, 1546</i>	Church of the Holy Cross, Hannover and Fr Holger Schmidt

Calendar of Intentions (November)

Date	Day	Prayer/Mass intention
Fr 1	All Saints Day	Thanksgiving for the communion of saints
Sa 2	All Souls Day	The repose of souls of the faithful departed
Su 3	ALL SAINTS SUNDAY	The parish and people of God
Mo 4	<i>Feria</i>	Local doctors, surgeries and medical centres
Tu 5	<i>Feria</i>	Victoria Neighbourhood Forum
We 6	<i>Feria</i>	Local estate agents
Th 7	<i>Willibrord, bishop, 739</i>	The Old Catholic Churches
Fr 8	<i>Saints and Martyrs of England</i>	Inclusive Church
Sa 9	<i>Margery Kempe, mystic c 1440</i>	Spiritual Directors
Sun 10	THIRD SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY	The parish and people of God All who died in years of military conflict
Mo 11	Martin of Tours, bishop, c 397	St Martin's in the Fields
Tu12	<i>Feria</i>	Belgravia Neighbourhood Forum
We 13	<i>Charles Simeon, priest, evangelical divine 1836</i>	St Michael's, Chester Square
Th 14	<i>Samuel Seabury, bishop, 1796</i>	The Episcopal Church in the USA St Michael's, West 99 th Street, Diocese of New York
Fr 15	<i>Feria</i>	London Ambulance Service

Calendar of Intentions (November, contd)

Date	Day	Mass/Prayer Intention
Sa 16	<i>Margaret of Scotland, queen, philanthropist, 1093</i>	The Church and people of Scotland
Su 17	SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT	The parish and people of God
Mo 18	<i>Elizabeth of Hungary, princess, philanthropist, 1231</i>	The Church and people of Hungary
Tu 19	<i>Hilda of Whitby, abbess, 680</i>	Churches Together in Westminster
We 20	<i>Edmund, king, martyr, 870</i>	Westminster Abbey
Th 21	<i>Feria</i>	Unity of the Church
Fr 22	<i>Cecilia, martyr, c 230</i>	Andrew-John Smith, our musicians and singers
Sa 23	<i>Clement, bishop, martyr, c 100</i>	Aid to the Church in Need
Su 24	CHRIST THE KING	The parish and people of God
Mo 25	<i>Catherine of Alexandria, martyr, 4th century</i>	Cardinal Vincent Nichols
Tu 26	<i>Feria</i>	The Passage
We 27	<i>Feria</i>	The Cardinal Hume Centre
Th 28	<i>Feria</i>	Westminster Food Bank
Fr 29	<i>Day of Intercession and Thanksgiving for the Missionary Work of the Church</i>	The spread of the Gospel
Sa 30	Andrew the Apostle	Bishop Sarah

Can you find the words below in this word search?

agriculture

crops

gifts

harvest

season

autumn

fruit

grain

produce

share

creation

gather

gratitude

reap

thanksgiving



B V H Q E N H C E N U E K F C W C X I B
O B K T M V U I W Z D E Y S N W S F I M
F K N U J S C R E T U D X P P N P R W Q
I I T S E V R A H K V L F V A D N B G I
K U T H A N K S G I V I N G E G Z G T C
A V V Z S N A Z Z X R N H G R O S Y N H
S L Z O G Z C W K N A N W P X H T E E D
B U F N I A R G O S W S O C G Q Q X H F
E L R O A H V S G G U E J Q T E C K V Y
S F U D Z W A E R E L Y L G X D H P P X
O I I U E E Z W A R P E O T I I L L L E
A I T P S F D Z T U C E U W H F B E Y I
E X I S Y V C G I T F R I S O U T J R H
K C W W S M O F T L B Z O V B O T S Q F
Z S U H B J Q B U U C C B P C N E H U G
S P A D K T K S D C X U F I S A R S A L
X R J G O J R A E I W Z R V Y V E T Q V
E W O C M R R Y C R E A T I O N H M C L
U M P K G O P X E G D G W F Y E U Z Q A
G Y O X L U O L D A Y Z V V R O X F W Q



Don't forget our Harvest Festival is on October 6th!
Can you find your way across the autumn leaf maze?



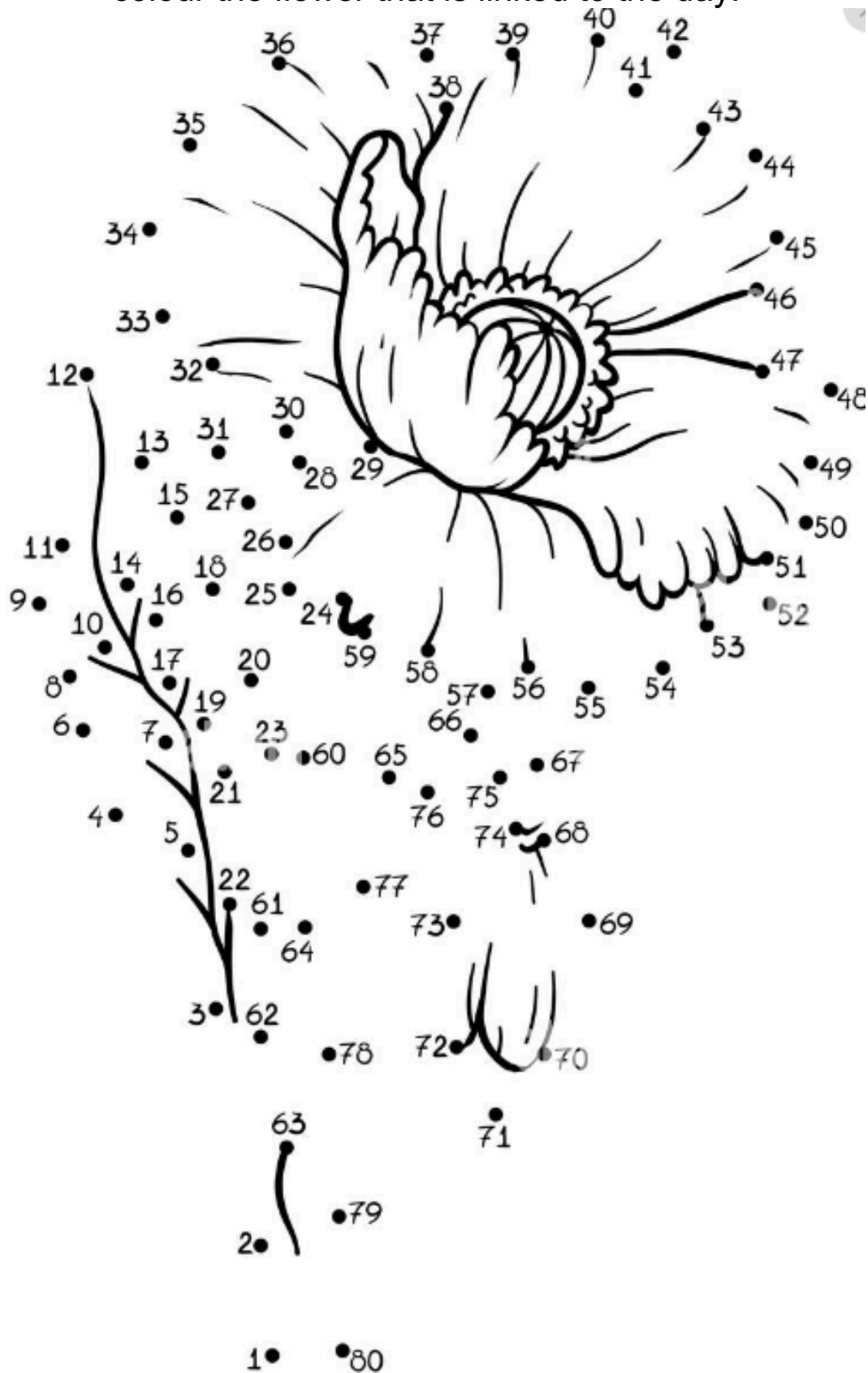
October 1st is All Saints Day – the day when the church remembers and gives thanks for all the saints. We also pray that we will learn to be more like them.

Make sure you come to church on November 3rd to celebrate the day.

Colour in this picture of some saints with Jesus.



Remembrance Sunday, when we remember all those who have died in war, is on November 10th this year. Join the dots and colour the flower that is linked to the day.



Recipe

Butternut squash soup

Ingredients

- 1 butternut squash peeled and deseeded
- 2 tbsp olive oil
- 1 tbsp butter
- 2 onions diced
- 1 garlic clove, thinly sliced
- 2 mild red chillies, deseeded and finely chopped
- 850ml hot vegetable stock
- 4 tbsp crème fraiche, plus more to serve



Method

1. Heat the oven to 200c/180c fan/gas 6
2. Cut the squash into large cubes. About 4cm across, then toss in a large roasting tin with 1 tbsp of the olive oil
3. Roast for 30 mins, turning once during cooking, until golden and soft
4. While the butternut squash cooks, melt the butter with the remaining olive oil in a large saucepan, then add the onions, garlic and three quarters of the chillies
5. Cover and cook on a very low heat for 15-20 mins until the onions are completely soft
6. Put the butternut squash into the pan, add the stock and crème fraiche, then whizz with a stick blender until smooth
7. Return to the pan, gently reheat, then season to taste. Service the soup in bowls with swirls of crème fraiche and scatter the remaining chopped chilli

Hosting with Housing Justice



Do you have a spare room that you could offer to a homeless asylum-seeker, refugee or other migrant in need? The Compassionate Communities team within the Diocese of London is working in partnership with Housing Justice to provide temporary accommodation for London's destitute asylum-seekers, refugees and other forced migrants while they resolve their immigration status.

Find out more here or scan the QR code below:

<https://www.compassionatecommunitieslondon.org.uk/refugee-response/hostingwithhousingjustice>



*Music at the Choral Eucharist - October
and November 2024*

<p>Sunday 06 October Harvest Festival Combined Parish Mass at 10.30 am</p>	<p>Sunday 03 November All Saints' Sunday Missa Ecce ego Joannes <i>Palestrina</i> Christe redemptor omnium - <i>Palestrina</i></p>
<p>Sunday 13 October Twentieth Sunday after Trinity Mass for five voices - <i>Berkeley</i> O sacrum convivium - <i>Messiaen</i></p>	<p>Sunday 10 November Third Sunday before Advent Remembrance Sunday Missa Aedis Christi - <i>Howells</i> Requiem aeternam - <i>Howells</i></p>
<p>Sunday 20 October Twenty first Sunday after Trinity Missa Salve Regina - <i>Victoria</i> Salve Regina - <i>Victoria</i></p>	<p>Sunday 17 November Second Sunday before Advent Missa Tecum principium - <i>Fayrfax</i> O how glorious art thou - <i>White</i></p>
<p>Sunday 27 October Last Sunday after Trinity Missa in A, op.126 - <i>Rheinberger</i> Tantum ergo - <i>Saint Saëns</i></p>	<p>Sunday 24 November Christ the King Missa Bel' amfitrit altera - <i>Lassus</i> O clap your hands – <i>Gibbons</i></p>
<p>Saturday 02 November All Souls' Day Choral Requiem Mass at 4 pm Missa Pro defunctis - <i>Du</i> <i>Caurroy</i></p>	

Our Common Life

<p>Vicar Fr Jonathan Kester 020 7235 4242 07539 332408 frjonathan@stpetereatonsquare.co.uk</p>	<p>Parish Administrator Sheila Matthews 020 7235 4482 admin@stpetereatonsquare.co.uk</p>
<p>Associate Priest The Rev'd Jacqui Miller</p> <p>Honorary Assistant Priest Fr Herbert Bennett</p>	<p>Bookkeeper Susan Redwin 020 7235 4482 finance@stpetereatonsquare.co.uk</p>
<p>Licensed Lay Minister Dr Judith Richardson 07907 459693</p>	<p>Choral Eucharist Director of Music Andrew John Smith 07545 009607 acjsmith45@hotmail.co.uk</p> <p>Assistant Director of Music (Choral Eucharist Organist) Dan Moul</p>
<p>Churchwardens Samantha Singlehurst sammiefromlondon@hotmail.com 07930 826475</p> <p>Ekanem Peers empeers@yahoo.co.uk</p>	<p>Family Eucharist Deputy Director of Music Andrew Sackett andrewjsackett@gmail.com</p> <p>Director Family Eucharist Choir Fiona Hymns</p>
<p>Hon Treasurer John Hilary jhilary@gmail.com</p>	<p>Resources Committee Convenor: Richard Carter</p>
<p>P.C.C. Secretary Valerie Smith Vasmith440@gmail.com</p>	<p>Formation Group Convenor: Fr Jonathan Kester</p>
<p>Verger/Facilities Coordinator Colin Chadwick 07365002204 verger@stpetereatonsquare.co.uk</p>	<p>Transformation Group Convenor: The Revd Jacqui Miller</p>
<p>Poppets Coordinator Sarah Armstrong poppetsatstpeters@gmail.com</p>	<p>Electoral Roll Officer Dr Judith Richardson richardson_judith@hotmail.com 07907 459693</p>

Our Common Life

<p>Standing Committee Chair: Fr Jonathan Kester</p>	<p>Communications Group Valerie Smith</p>
<p>Hospitality Co-Ordinator Raana Khatabakhsh</p>	<p>Safeguarding Officer Raana Khatabakhsh safeguarding@stpetereatonsquare.co.uk</p>
<p>Parish Magazine Editor Phoebe Hilary</p>	<p>Children's Champion Maite Boudy</p>
<p>School Headteacher Jane Carrington 020 76414230</p>	<p>Bible Reading Fellowship Please contact Parish Office for more information</p>
<p>P.C.C. Members Maite Boudy Richard Carter Stephen Couttie Mary Drummond Robin Duttson Jane Franses Jim Glen Oliver Grant John Hilary Julia Jordan Raana Khatabakhsh Nicolas Moore Lee Marshall Evelyn Olugboja Ekanem Peers Alex Porter Judith Richardson Valerie Smith James Watson Nancy Wood</p>	<p>Deanery Synod Richard Carter 020 76414230 John Hilary jhilary@gmail.com Jim Glen 07970375655 Ekanem Peers empeers@yahoo.co.uk Judith Richardson 020 3268 0055</p>
	<p>Lay Eucharistic Ministers Valerie Smith Carl Muller Jane Booth Raana Khatabakhsh Evelyn Olugboja</p>

SERVICE TIMES

Sunday Morning Services

BCP Holy Communion	08:15 am
Family Eucharist	09:45 am
Choral Eucharist with our world-class choir	11:15 am

Weekday Eucharist

Each day Monday to Friday	12.30 pm
<i>also</i> Wednesday	08.00 am

Morning Prayer: Monday - Friday at 08:00am
(Excluding Wednesday)

Evening Prayer:
Monday - Friday at 5.00pm

We are open for private prayer Monday – Friday
8.00am – 5.00pm