

REFLECTIONS

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St John-at-Hackney Church Magazine

April 2009

FROM THE RECTOR

Rev'd Rob Wickham



Over the past few days as I write, there has been an incredible smell in the churchyard. Not the usual smells that one might expect in the heart of the inner city, but a beautiful smell of a tree in full bloom just

outside our Primary School. I have a very shallow knowledge of trees, so I cannot tell you what it is, but the smell suddenly hits you as you travel past the school. This reminds me that spring is here, and there is a real sense of creation on the move. The winter is drawing to a close and summer is just around the corner. Lent of course means Spring and now we can even sense the very resurrection and new life in the heart of creation.

It is good for us to be reminded of this as we venture towards Holy Week and Easter. The events that we are about to portray have affected the very core of creation, and it seems to me that, at Easter, creation itself sings for joy. This is, of course, all the more reason to pray for those in Government and Industry from the G20 summit, as we contemplate the global economic crisis and the global treatment of the environment. I wish to see creation singing God's praises for centuries to come.

Have a very blessed Easter

THE PATTERN OF HOLY WEEK

PALM SUNDAY: 5 April

10am Parish Eucharist

This service begins with a symbolic triumphant entry into church, following a procession with a donkey.

6.30pm Stations of the Cross

We continue in this ancient devotion, walking with Jesus to his body being laid in the tomb.

HOLY WEEK

Monday: 6 April

7.30am Eucharist
7.30pm Compline

Tuesday: 7 April

7.30am Eucharist
7.30pm Compline

Wednesday: 8 April

10am Eucharist
7.30pm Compline

Maundy Thursday: 9 April

8am Morning Praise
10.30am The Chrism Service at St Paul's Cathedral. (*Chrism comes from a Greek word for anointing; it is the service for the blessing of the oils for use over the coming year.*) This is a special service when the Bishop of London addresses his Diocesan clergy, and when Ordination vows are renewed.
Please pray for Fr David and Fr Rob.

THE GREAT TRIDUUM

The worship over these four days is seen as one continual act of worship. There are no welcomes, no blessings, and no interruption.

The worldwide church is awake, and we are plunged into the depths of the passion of Jesus.

Maundy Thursday night: 9 April

7.30pm Eucharist with the Washing of Feet
On this night when he was betrayed, Jesus took bread and gave thanks. He then went out to the garden of Gethsemane. We stay awake until midnight as we watch and pray with Jesus.

Good Friday: 10 April

12noon Stations of the Cross
1pm Silent Prayer
1.30pm The Solemn Liturgy including the dramatic reading of Jesus' Passion.

Easter Eve: 11 April

8pm The Easter Vigil
This service begins with a bonfire, and ends with fireworks. The celebration of Easter has begun.

EASTER DAY: 12 April

10am Parish Eucharist of the Resurrection

A very special service for all the family.
Come and find life in all its fullness.

Holy Week preacher: Fr Stephen Ferns, Senior Selection Secretary in the Ministry Division of the Archbishops' Council of the Church of England.

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Our personal ability to say sorry before Jesus is an important part of our Lent journey. Hearing the words of personal forgiveness can be one of the most wonderful ways of experiencing joy and the resurrection. Fr Rob or Fr David are available throughout Lent to hear your confessions. Call 020 8985 5374 for an appointment.

NOTICES for our YOUNGER CHURCH MEMBERS

Film Fest sessions in Holy Week

On 7, 8 and 9th April the Lent Film Fest takes place at **St Luke's** from 1-4pm. Then on 10th April, there will be a Good Friday Film Fest Special 1:30-3pm @ **St John-at-Hackney Church**.

Family Easter preparation

Saturday 11th April, 11am-3pm
Come along - make an Easter bonnet and paint your Easter eggs!

Holy Week Holiday Club

Are we cool?

What are you sorry for?
How can I say sorry?
What are you not sorry for?
Join Adrenalin Dance in a playful exploration of "being sorry.....or not".
We will move, play, write and draw in three sessions.

Time: 10am -12pm

Dates: Mon 6th April

Tues 7th April

Weds 8th April

Age group 8-14. FREE!

Numbers are limited so please contact Toyin to book:

Tel: 020 8985 5374 Ext. 226

Email:

stjohnsstlukesyouthworker@hotmail.co.uk

CLEANING & DECORATING THE CHURCH for EASTER

Please come along on Saturday 11 April at 10am to help prepare the church for Easter.



WE ARE A
FAIRTRADE
CHURCH

IMPAIRED VISION?

We have LARGE PRINT versions of Hymn Books, Psalms and Service Sheets

Website: www.stjohn-at-hackneychurch.co.uk

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WE DO!

Phyllis Manning

Group President

14th Hackney (St John-at-Hackney) Scouts

As well as practising for the District Chess Challenge the Cub Scouts and Scouts have both worked on Artist badges. The Cub Scouts also worked on Chef and Emergency Aid Badges. They made presents



for Mums, for Mothering Sunday and, after hearing the origins of that day we said special prayers for our families and Mothers.

The Cubs also celebrated St Patrick's Day with a few Irish games, a display of Irish goods, old coins, photos, bread, lots of green favours but no whiskey! We also made dancing leprechauns. We are lucky as one of our newer leaders, Hugh Johnston (Kaa) comes from Ireland.

The Explorer Scouts went gliding and held an investiture when they landed.

We are now all looking forward to a great celebration for our patron, St George a faithful Christian. We will be off to our camp site in Essex to have games in the forest, food cooked on an open fire, and a special chance to renew our Scout Promise. The St John's Scout Group and other local Scouts will also have a Service for St George's Day on Friday April 24th*.

There has been much media mumbblings recently about 'nobody' celebrating St George's Day. Believe me HUNDREDS of Scouts DO celebrate St George's Day every year - and we know we are not alone. Of course, nothing stops anyone celebrating. If you want to join us, come to St John's on the 24th. Wear your rose and/or St George's Cross with pride. **WE DO!**

* St George's Day is actually April 23rd.

The Annual Parochial Church Meetings (APCM)

These important meetings will be held on **Sunday 26 April** after the Parish Eucharist. During these we review the past year; elect churchwardens, members of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) and other officers.

Please make sure that you can attend. Nomination forms will soon be displayed on the noticeboard, so please start thinking now who you would like to suggest or if you would like to put yourself forward for any role.

It is always good to get some fresh faces on the PCC, so please think and pray hard as to what God might be saying to you, and about your role in shaping the life of St John-at-Hackney in the coming year.

CHURCH FETE 2009

Hugo Deadman



The clocks have changed and I'm sure I saw a glimpse of the sun the other day. All this can only mean one thing - that preparations are already underway for Hackney's social event of the summer

St John's Fete, which this year will be on Saturday 4th July.

Everyone remembers what fun we've had in recent years and how this event has grown. It's a big chance for us to show Hackney that St John's is alive and well and a valuable part of the community. This year there'll be a special twist as our friends, Nous Aussi, who rent part of the church's office space, will be joining us to publicise their work and reach out to the French speaking communities of Hackney. So expect some French flavoured surprises.

Get your thinking caps on for ways in which you could help. Can you -

- ∞ manage a stall?
- ∞ donate books and things for sale?
- ∞ bake a cake?
- ∞ sell raffle tickets?
- ∞ donate a bottle for the tombola?

All contributions are welcome. I'm always happy to discuss - - - - -
Call me at home on 0208 533 1066
or grab me after Sunday morning service.

HELP OUR HOSPITAL !!

Phyllis Manning



The Homerton League of Friends needs YOUR help to continue running their Tea Bar and Trolley Service. Times and days to suit you! Friends volunteers have raised many hundreds of pounds for the Hospital.

This has been put to good use and has paid for much needed extra equipment and other comforts for long term patients. Why not give an hour or two of your time? All details can be had by having a chat with
Janet Taylor on 0208 510 7052
Who knows which of us will be grateful for your help?

CHRISTIAN AID

Mahandra Roopchan

The Gaza Relief Appeal, initiated by the Disaster Emergencies Committee (of which Christian Aid is a part) will continue at our church up to the end of July. If you wish to support the appeal, please use the Christian Aid envelopes, marking them **Gaza Relief** and adding your details if appropriate. Put the envelopes in the Sunday collection bag, or hand them to a churchwarden, member of the clergy, or to me. Thankyou.

WORKING PARTIES

It is generally known that three working parties were set up last year to support, and report back to, the PCC. The WPs meet regularly and provide occasional feed back via this journal to the rest of us.

The People & Prayer WP

Peter Ottino



The group met on Sunday 8 February. A summary of its debate and decisions follows:

Charitable giving

The PCC had allotted £5484 for distribution.

Fifteen suggestions had been

received from the congregation. The P&P WP voted to give £1828 to each of three charities - Hackney Winter Night Shelter; Grandmas; Traidcraft Exchange.

Over 55s

Tuesday lunches, initially at the Pembury Tavern and, during Lent, in the church hall have been well received. Invitation to the Lent lunches has been extended to people outside our congregation. Donations to the Bishop of London's Lent fund for clean water for our sister dioceses in Angola and Mozambique were invited.

Bible Study

Wednesday morning sessions during Lent were resumed to start promptly after the 10am Eucharist.

Come along

The P&P WP meets once a month on Sundays. You are welcome to join in.

Unfortunately there was insufficient space for this report last month and for the same reason it has been abbreviated today. Editor

plusfour market research limited

We are conducting a project for City and Hackney Primary Care Trust and are looking for ladies over 50 to take part in the project based on Breast Screening.

We are looking for women from the ethnic groups below:

- 1 x White British/Irish (aged 50-55)
- 1 x White British/Irish (aged 66-70)
- 1 x Black African (Nigerian) (aged 50-70)
- 1 x Black African (Somalian) (aged 50-70)
- 1 x Black Caribbean (50-55)
- 1 x Black Caribbean (56-70)
- 1 x Bangladeshi (aged 50-70)
- 1 x Turkish (aged 50-70)

All respondents must be recruited from Hackney Town and Hackney residents. Volunteers would be highly appreciated.

Halima Rajah - Field Executive
Derwent House, 35 South Park Road,
Wimbledon, London SW19 8RR


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e: halima_rajah@plus4.co.uk

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WANT A CHANGE FROM HOT CROSSED BUNS?

This recipe is from the

British  Foundation booklet, Food should be fun ... and healthy! Order your free copy by calling 0870 600 6566

Banana & Honey Teabread

Makes 12 slices

Ingredients

115g (4oz) unsaturated margarine
115g (4oz) light soft brown sugar
115g (4oz) set honey
2 eggs, beaten
225g (8oz) SR flour (white or wholemeal)
1/2 teasp ground nutmeg or cinnamon
2 large Fairtrade bananas, mashed with a squeeze of lemon juice

Method

- ∞ Preheat oven to 180°C/350°F/Gas 4.
- ∞ Lightly grease & line 900g(2lb) loaf tin.
- ∞ Beat together margarine, sugar & honey until light & fluffy.
- ∞ Gradually beat in eggs, then fold in flour and spices.
- ∞ Fold bananas into mixture until well mixed.
- ∞ Spoon mixture into loaf tin and level surface.
- ∞ Bake in oven for 1-1 1/4 hours or until risen, golden brown and firm to touch. If necessary, cover lightly with non-stick baking paper or foil towards end of cooking time to prevent top of loaf from over-cooking.
- ∞ Cool for a few minutes in tin.
- ∞ Turn out onto wire rack and serve warm or cold in slices.



WAKING UP FOR CHURCH

One Sunday morning, a mother went in to wake her son and tell him it was time to get ready for church.

He replied, "I'm not going."

"Why not?" she asked.

"I'll give you two good reasons," he said.

"One, they don't like me; and two, I don't like them."

His mother replied, "I'll give YOU two good reasons why you SHOULD go to church. One, you're 59 years old; and two, you're the pastor!"

Oops!!!!

STAFF and VOLUNTEERS at ST JOHN-at-HACKNEY

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Director of Music	Community Development Worker	Mr Jack Bicker
Chair: People and Prayer	Chair: Operation and Finance	Mr David Hazeldine
Chair: Develop't & Communication	Cleaner	The Rev'd David Evans
Tower Captain	Artist in Residence	Ms Jayne Bailey
Mothers' Union Leader	Placement Student	Mrs Laura Tomlinson
		Ms Hazel Panton
		Mr Stephen Jakeman
		Mr Andrew Coombes
		Mrs Mercy Moss
		Miss Karen Campbell

Deadline for contributions
for March issue is
Sunday 22 February to
seabrook@mac.com

PHOTOGRAPHS for REFLECTIONS or WEBSITE

Please remember if taking photographs to send by email for use in Reflections or on our website, you should select a small file size.

PARISH DIARY

For Services see the weekly Sunday notice sheet

Sundays 9am Choir practice
Mondays 7.30pm Bellringers practice
SCOUTS and GUIDES meet regularly at their headquarters
The Den, in the Old Rectory Drive
activities for boys and girls from age 6 years
Contact Jim or Judy Phillips
Tel: 020 8985 9397;
Email: phillips_james1@sky.com

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