



HIGH TIDE

May 2022

PARISH MAGAZINE
SAINT PAUL'S, WEYMOUTH



This Magazine contains: *Letter from the Vicar - APCM reports - Articles from Katherine Harrison, Jeanne James, Liz Evans - Catechism - and more*

You can detach pages 17-28 and use it for Morning & Evening Prayer

<http://www.stpaulsweymouth.org>

From the Vicar	3
APCM reports:	
Churchwarden's Report	4
Beechcroft (Sue Biles)	5
OLW Cell & Rosary Group	6
Electoral Roll & Ebbsfleet (Gill Cox)	7
Deanery Synod (Shelagh Hansford)	7
Choir & church music (Liz Evans)	7
Treasurer's Report (Katherine Harrison)	8
The Organ (Nick Head)	9
Fundraising Committee (Angela Matthews)	11
Fabric Committee (Anne Mullis)	11
PCC Report (Rob Pask)	11
SPOT (Pat Perry)	12
Servers (Chris Waight)	13
Safeguarding & Parish Hall (Sharon Waight)	14
Parish Hall accounts	16
Calendar, Intentions, & Anniversaries	18
Morning & Evening Prayer	20
From the Book of Common Prayer	28
PCC & SPOT accounts	29
<i>Liz Evans</i> : Holy Week with the two "Father David"s	31
<i>Jeanne James</i> : May Day	34
<i>Katherine Harrison</i> : Gardening tasks in May	37
The Psalms (18) - Thanksgiving for deliverance	38
Catechism for children and for adults	41
Contacts	44

Many thanks to all who have contributed to this issue of the Parish Magazine and to Liz Evans for the proof-reading.

*The next Magazine will be published on **Sunday 29th May**. Please, send all articles, information, news you wish to be published by Sunday 22nd May.*

From the Vicar

Dearly Beloved,

Often called “Lady-month”, May is certainly one of the most beautiful months and in our Anglo-Catholic tradition it is consecrated to the Blessed Virgin Mary. But why May? The tradition dates all the way back to the ancient Greeks who dedicated the month of May to Artemis, the goddess of fecundity. Romans also claimed May to honour Flora, the goddess of bloom or blossoms. They celebrated “floral games” and petitioned Flora’s intercession for all that blooms. So it was most natural that Christians dedicated May to Mary, the most beautiful blossom of this creation whose fertility brought about our salvation, as early as in the 13th century.

Both in church and in the privacy of their home, Christians offer up to Mary from their hearts an especially fervent and loving homage of prayer and veneration during May. It’s common for parishes to have a daily recitation of the Rosary during May, and many erect a special May altar with a statue or picture of Mary. Additionally, it’s a long-standing tradition to crown the statue of Mary during May – a custom known as May Crowning. Often, the crown is made of beautiful blossoms representing Mary’s beauty and virtue. It’s also a reminder to the faithful to strive to imitate our Blessed Mother’s virtue in our own lives.

If we are Christ’s Body and Mary gave birth to Christ then she is our Mother too. She may not have given birth to us physically, but she certainly has given birth to us spiritually. Her job, so to speak, began at the moment she conceived Jesus in her womb and continues until this day. She loves us more than we can ever imagine. This is why she endured the horror of seeing her Son tortured, scourged, crowned with thorns, carry the Cross to Calvary, and die a gruesome death on it. She did it for us because she understood that Jesus’ Passion and Crucifixion was the only way to our salvation. Her love for us gave her the strength to stay strong and faithful under the cross. She loves us like no human mother ever could.

While many look with a sort of “reformed” suspicion on any form of Marian devotion, it is nothing else but a moving and tender expression of a child’s natural love for her mother. The more we understand her love for us, the more natural it will become to offer her our love and devotion, to ask her intercession, to find consolation in her motherly arms. I pray this month may serve for this indeed: may we all discover and experience through prayer and meditation that Mary is, in St. Thomas’s words, “*Mother beyond compare.*”

Assuring you of my prayers, I am,
ever yours in Christ,

Fr. Gregory 3

Churchwardens' Report

Since our APCM last year Fr Gregory and the churchwardens have been busy with arrangements for keeping our building and its fabric in good repair. We have ensured that we have kept up to date with all electrical and fire safety testing. We have had a lot of work done on the roof and have had the bells restored. New lights have been fitted and the restoration of the organ is ongoing. New altar linen and vestments have been made and old ones repaired and we have taken ownership of the new Trinity Altar.

We have welcomed new servers, new choir members and new PCC members. We have also welcomed some new members of the congregation and have sadly said good-bye to others.

In July we enjoyed a visit from Bishop Jonathan who came to confirm and to admit members to the Guild of Servants of the Sanctuary and to present them with their medals.

Fr Gregory is now responsible for the Parish of Fleet and is busy building relationships and making sure they have regular worship.

We would like to thank Katherine, our extremely dedicated Treasurer for ensuring prompt payment of our share and for looking after our finances so carefully.

Many thanks go to all our hard-working and dedicated committees, our trustees, our choir and organists, servers, readers, sides-people, coffee makers, linen launderers, Sunday school teachers, our church cleaners, flower arrangers, those who organise rotas, lunch club leaders and of course SPOT helpers under the fantastic leadership of Pat Perry. Pat and her team have made a real success of SPOT, not just financially, but also with friendly community outreach. Together all the aforementioned groups have ensured that every aspect of church life is considered. As you can see from the list above there are many, many tasks to share around. If you do not belong to any of these groups would you consider joining one or more? Can you help and spare some time?

We also continue to help the needy with donations to the Food Bank, and the homeless, through the Safe Sleep Scheme providing around 70 meals over the course of a week. Thanks to Tony and Gill and all those involved with that wonderful act of outreach and charity.

Much love and grateful thanks to Fr Tony and Fr Bruce who continue to share with us their time and devotion. Love and thanks also to Chris and Kathy for supporting them.

And of course, very special thanks to Fr Gregory for his love and committed dedication to our worship, our learning, our prayer life and for his

care in helping our faith to grow, our understanding to deepen and for helping us to be closer to God. (The Bible Group on a Wednesday afternoon is very enlightening and we are keen to welcome new members).

I would just like to finish by saying: You might remember in my report last year, I mentioned that we should all make it our responsibility to think of ways to increase our congregation. That still stands but this year I would like to re-iterate Fr Gregory's request that we should make the Eucharist central to our lives. Can you, hand on heart, say that you do? Can coming to church once a week on a Sunday be enough to take in all that this wonderful church has to offer? Is the Eucharist central to your life? Is coming once a week fulfilling that? If we can find the time in our busy lives to come to at least one of the weekday Masses we will be going one step further. The times of the services are staggered throughout the week so hopefully you can enjoy at least one of the Low Masses in addition to Sunday Mass. As the Eucharist transforms our offering into the Divine, we too are transformed by receiving it. Why would we not want to be transformed more often?

Jeanne James, Churchwarden

Report on Beechcroft St Paul's Primary School

2021-2022 has been another difficult year for Beechcroft. The school has remained open throughout, but at times it has been challenging with teaching and support staff being off with Covid and pupil absences have been higher than normal (but in line with the national average for this year), because of Covid absences. The staff and the children are working hard to catch-up on the learning they lost during the Pandemic. However, many children and their families are struggling with social and health problems.

The children came to church on Tuesday 19th October when Father Gregory said Mass for KS2 and on Thursday 21st October when the KS1 children had a Harvest celebration. There had been plans for the children to visit church twice a term for the year. Those plans had to be changed as Covid once again became a problem and since November Collective Worship has only happened in the classrooms as Class Worship. The children's Christmas Nativity was recorded, and the Governors, parents and guardians were able to watch it on YouTube. The Carol Concert and Easter celebrations took place in the playground but only the staff and children were present. Sadly, the absence of Collective Worship has meant that Father Gregory has not been in school regularly this academic year.

St Paul's Church funded a singing teacher to run a weekly Collective Singing Worship in the 1st term, this then became an after-school Choir Club

with an interested group of children working with Lizzie Peacock and Liz Evans. The children who were part of the choir enjoyed the singing and there were plans to move the group to church for them to be an embryo Junior Choir. Sadly, these plans had to be abandoned when Lizzie left Holy Trinity and the church is still looking for another person to help run the choir.

The school was inspected by the Church of England Education Office as part of the Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools on 18th October 2021. The visiting inspector, a non-stipendiary priest and former teacher wrote a glowing report and has also provided some very constructive ideas to improve understanding and spirituality within the school. He graded the school as good and during his inspection he found that the school has strong leadership, at all levels and has used its Christian vision to inform improvements across the school, which has created an inclusive culture with rising aspirations and the children feel part of a caring community. The vision champions the understanding that everyone is special to God. Therefore, vulnerable and SEND pupils receive high quality support, enabling them to flourish.

My role is interesting, but challenging, on average I spend about 20 hours per month in school preparing for and attending meetings and spending time observing in the classroom. I am the RE Governor and I am also the Governor for disadvantaged children.

Sue Biles, Foundation Governor and St Paul's Church Link Governor

Rosary prayer group & Our Lady of Walsingham Pilgrimage

Throughout the Covid lockdown the rosary prayer group, led by Fr. Gregory, faithfully continued meeting via zoom every Saturday morning at 10 o'clock, so, when we returned to church our weekly meeting naturally found its place in the Lady Chapel following Mass which quickly grew to around 15-20 people.

As there was such a goodly number Fr Gregory suggested we affiliate to Our Lady of Walsingham by forming a 'Cell' and naming the cell under the patronage of S. Bernadette. To become a part of the cell, the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham asks of us to be a member by showing commitment, paying a yearly subscription and holding a monthly cell meeting with coffee and cake. Fr. Gregory or a guest speaker give us extremely informative talks covering many religious aspects.

Shelagh Hansford is the Cell's Secretary and kindly organises the Walsingham pilgrimage and this year many have shown a desire to visit Walsingham, some for the first time. Shelagh puts a great deal of time and

effort in organising a pilgrimage, making sure the needs are catered for each pilgrim and any problems sorted by being the go-between us and Walsingham.

We are blessed that Fr Gregory is very supportive of the Rosary group and the yearly pilgrimage. (This year Friday 9th September - Tuesday 13th September).

The praying of the rosary is not for everyone but I do urge you to join us before making up your mind.

Lesley Cheesman, Rosary Group Leader

Electoral Roll & Ebbsfleet Reports

The number on the electoral roll is now 80. We have lost some members but have new people as well which is very encouraging.

Following our episcopal visit and confirmations by the Bishop of Ebbsfleet, Jonathan Goodall, we were dismayed to hear that he was to leave the Church of England and convert to Roman Catholicism. We are still awaiting his replacement but in the meantime we are looking to the Bishop of Chichester for episcopal oversight.

The other two Ebbsfleet churches in this diocese, St. Martin's Salisbury and St. Peter's Devizes, are still hanging in there despite the fact that St. Peter's no longer has an incumbent and is now part of a large benefice.

Gill Cox, Electoral Roll Officer; Ebbsfleet Lay Representative

Deanery Synod Report

Thankfully, we are now back to proper meetings, although we have only been able to get to one meeting. Our last meeting was an open meeting held at St. Aldhelm's Church where we had a presentation about parish giving.

Gill Cox, Shelagh Hansford, Deanery Synod Members

Choir & church music

A huge thank you to David and Nick for their dedication every week and to keeping our wonderful organ going. A massive thank you to June for her support in choir both in helping to cantor and choosing the hymns. It is with great delight we have welcomed Louise and Maria to our numbers; it makes it easier with more singers. Thank you must also go to Gill, Katherine and Gerald for helping us out on major occasions.

We do hope the congregation are enjoying all the older hymns which haven't been sung in a while. We do try to make sure they are the hymns for the actual liturgical week even if we have to change the tunes for a better known one. As requested in the replies to the survey, it has been a pleasure to sing the modern hymns and Taize at the two Songs of Praise. It would be great if more people come to the next. Please if you have a favourite hymn in the English Hymnal let us know and we will have it on the relevant days.

It is a great joy and encouraging sign that recently we had three enquiries from external people to become choir members.

Liz Evans, Choir Director

Treasurer's Report

Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2021: the net result for the year was an excess of payments over receipts of £37,681.

Our major expenses for the year were :

Bell repairs	£11,115
Lighting of the church	£7248
Roof repairs	£43241

These costs have been funded by the money that has been put aside in previous years. Our other costs remained at a similar level to previous years.

Our income continued to be affected by the restrictions of Covid. Overall donations dropped during the year by £3325, although planned giving via standing orders increased by 20% (from £17,100 to £20,591). I thank you all for choosing this method. A most valued method of receiving money, enabling me to pay our daily costs.

We received legacies of £10,108.

The efforts of the fundraising team were exemplary in 2021. They raised a super total of £9,393. An increase of £4228 compared to last year, back to our normal pre-covid fundraising levels.

We have continued to meet our Parish Share commitment to the Diocese of £42826.26. We received £10,000 from the Trustees of St Paul's and £11,500 from SPOT our charity shop to help make the payment to Salisbury. Thank you to all the volunteers who work so hard and tirelessly.

Behind the scenes applications for grants have been completed and furlough scheme claimed, all to a value of £15,553.

Please may I make an appeal to all who enjoy our church, in making a commitment to regular giving by the way of a standing order, who may not be doing so at the moment and then to complete a Gift Aid form if you are a taxpayer, to enable the church to claim back an extra 25p per £1 donated from HM Revenue and Customs.

In order for the church to pay all its running costs the considered donation per person per week I have calculated to be £9.90. Our own living costs are increasing but so are the expenses at the church.

Because of the economic squeeze many of you may be cutting back on luxuries but if St. Paul's is one of those areas where you are considering cutting your costs I would ask you to reconsider. Faith is not a luxury. It should be considered as important as your heating, lighting and other essential bills. Please review how much you give to St Paul's on a weekly basis and, if you are able to, increase your giving.

And so to the future, to make your giving even easier we are going CONTACTLESS. As a cashless society is having a negative impact on our weekly giving you will soon be able to walk into church and use your debit card or mobile phone with one tap on the goodbox machine. Your donation will go straight to the church. It is the future of donating.

Lastly, thank you to all those who have helped in anyway with the finances this year.

Katherine Harrison, Treasurer

The Organ: St Paul's Church, Weymouth

The organ at St Paul's began its life at Holy Trinity Church, which was built between 1834 and 1836 for the growing town of Weymouth. The organ was ordered in 1868 from the London firm of J W Walker and Sons, and served the church until 1903, when it was sold to to the new Parish of St Paul's, Abbotsbury Road.

The organ was installed at St Paul's by the same organ builders, with its original simple casework (stained, varnished timber supporting a rank of spotted metal pipework). This instrument continued to render good service until the 1930s. In 1933, the same firm was appointed to undertake a re-building and enlargement of the instrument, to increase the tonal scope and overall impact of the sound, and to make use of new technology. The works included:

- removal of the mechanical action and replacement with the new, electro-pneumatic action that was rapidly becoming the standard in England;

- the addition of many new stops (the transplanted organ had 13 speaking stops: this was increased to 25); and
- the provision of a new, electric-action console.

This remains the core of the instrument we use today, although there have been successive works done by Foster-Waite (1969), K. M. Scudamore (1984) and Derry Thompson (2000). The latter intervention quite significantly enlarged and upgraded the organ.

As parishioners know, this organ suits the building and style of worship at St Paul's perfectly. It is a large organ for a two-manual instrument, both in the number of available tonal colours ('stops') and in the general scale and voicing of the pipework. The full organ really fills the building, but the quieter voices equally pervade all corners of the church. The organ contributes most effectively to the creation of the appropriate mood, whether accompanying singing or covering the forward momentum of the liturgy. For most worshippers, the Sunday High Mass here would be unthinkable without it.

Organs are both simple and complex instruments. Simple, in that they provide a separate, perfect pipe for each note, for each tone colour of the organ. Complex, in that this amounts to a very large number of pipes which have to be brought under the control of the player (the organ at St Paul's has in excess of 1600 pipes). Consequently, construction and refurbishment is costly. However, given the length of reliable service they render (bear in mind, much of this organ has been in service since 1868) they do represent a good long-term investment.

Whilst pipework generally doesn't decay, the overall machine - almost 90 years old - is increasingly needing attention. Refurbishment and updating are becoming essential. Two firms of organ builders have been consulted for advice and proposals for works to be done. The Parish now will have to make application to the Diocese for a faculty to approve the work.

The hardest part of the process - the raising of funds - can shortly commence in earnest. There is hope that a scheme could be put to the Heritage Lottery Fund for a substantial part of the finance, but this will require some work, and there will doubtless be shortfalls which will lead to other challenges.

Nicholas Head, Organist

Fundraising Committee Report

Despite Covid being very much part of our lives, it did not dampen our spirits to keep fundraising for our beautiful church. Last year saw us raise a fantastic £9,393.33 with some new events which included: Abseil (£521.77); Art Exhibition (£516.55), as well as our regular Summer Fete (£2,000.04) and Christmas Bazaar (£1967.06) which remained popular despite the restrictions.

We have made a great start to this year as well, so on behalf of the Fundraising Committee we thank you all.

Angela Matthews, Chair of the Fundraising Committee

Fabric Committee Report

The fabric committee have had a busy year. Thank you to Geoff, Chris and Tony for all their hard work maintaining the gardens, and repairing many things inside the church that needed attention.

Our lighting system is now nearing completion and what a difference it makes.

Now the roof scaffolding is down we can have our repaired Lady Chapel window re-installed at last.

The gardening team is always happy for volunteers to help with weeding etc. Thank you .

Anne Mullis, Churchwarden & Chair of the Fabric Committee

PCC Report

The overall aim of the PCC is to help grow the congregation while also spreading the word of God. The sub-committees that have been founded allow for people to focus on separate, more specialised topics.

The meetings themselves take place regularly, usually once every couple of months, with the dates available on the noticeboard. This allows for time to try and implement any ideas that have been discussed.

The agenda is sent out in good time, again allowing for the members to prepare on any of the points where necessary.

If anyone has any queries for members, there is a list of who is in the PCC available both online and on the noticeboard. The minutes of the meetings are also available both online and on the noticeboard.

Rob Pask, PCC Member

SPOT Report for May 2021-April 2022

I am happy to report that the shop is doing well. We had good sales leading up to Christmas and the 'after Christmas slump' did not happen. The Christmas meal held at The Fat badger was a great success, it was good to be able to talk in a relaxed atmosphere.

Since May 2021 this Charity shop has been and still is run completely by volunteers. Last week two volunteers asked if they could work in SPOT.... two in one day, they are coming in for a trial run this week. We do have to pay rent and services for the premises. This means that all monies that go into the till, subject to rent etc., becomes profit. Profit that goes towards our Church up keep and the people of Westham.

We are open five days a week, Monday-Friday from 10am to 4pm. Our volunteers mostly commit to 2-3 hours a week, with Pam and Gill, working complete days as needed. This enables us to cover for appointments, sickness, holidays, and time out as required.

Donations are appearing every day, we are accepting most articles, but we are selective at the sorting stage. Sometimes we can feel overrun with so many donations, but our brilliant team of volunteers soon manage to bring order to the back room.

Thank-you to Chris James who keeps us supplied with donations from the boxes in the church car park, and removes bags for the "ragman", and rubbish for the tip. Chris is there when asked, several times a week. We fill the "ragman" boxes with books, brick-a-brac, electrics, and media and Chris takes them to the Church to await collection. Thank you Chris, we need you.

The whole system works really well from the collection of donations from boxes in the carpark, through to the steady supply to the ragman.

Thank-you to Liz Evans who keeps us supplied with paper work required to keep the shop running smoothly. Thank-you to Katherine who deals with all our accounting. Thank-you to all our volunteers.

The most rewarding side of running a Charity shop is the outreach to local, and not so local people. This last year we have seen several young persons who volunteer in the shop to learn communication and responsibility and to gain confidence to apply for paid work. The down side is losing a volunteer but how privileged to be part of helping them back to the real world. People volunteer for company, sometimes to have a few hours in a happy environment and eat Pam's cake. An important part is to listen and listen.

People are so generous. The donations. The young man who hands over a spectacle case full of silver coins, the person who hands over a £20 note as a donation, the many people who always give us more than asked. The list is endless.

The different nationalities that come in, sometimes with very little or no English who just need a friendly face and a smile. The people who ask about our church and maybe come to a service. This is a rewarding part of running this Shop.

We do miss Charlie and Cerys and wish them well in their new venture.

There are several shop requirements we need. The stand alone display rails are becoming unsafe, through wear, they need to be replaced. The carpet tiles at the back are nearly impossible to keep clean. Hot water for the washbasin in the toilet. I am still trying to get to grips with the lack of storage problems. We are often asked for Bibles, does anyone have spare? Please.

None of this would be possible without the support of our Church family.... Thank you. I look forward to this next year.

Pat Perry, Manager

Report on Servers and GSS Chapter

St Paul's currently has a small but very dedicated team of 6 regular servers plus two Boat Boys who have been recruited during the past year and who are a superb asset to our serving, especially during Sunday Masses.

All of our adult servers are now members of the Guild of Servants of the Sanctuary which has enabled us with great joy to revive the local Chapter of St Aldhelm, of which I am the elected secretary and Fr Gregory is our chaplain. The main objects of the Guild are to raise the spiritual tone of altar servers, to promote a conscientious performance of their duties and to encourage more frequent attendance at the Holy Eucharist, in addition to times of duty. Those who attend Evensong and Benediction will know that currently, singing of the Guild Office is incorporated into Evensong and Benediction on the first Sunday of each month. It is our hope that at some point in the future we will be able to invite members of other chapters to join us for the Guild Office.

The team of servers here at St Paul's, although only small, are a truly dedicated and committed group of people who endeavour to carry out their duties with both enthusiasm and dignity. The servers work hard to assist our

very supportive priests and spend a considerable amount of their time in rehearsing, especially for the major festivals such as Easter and Christmas.

A huge “Thank You” to a very dedicated and supportive team of servers.

Chris Waight, Head Server, Secretary to the GSS Chapter of St Aldhelm

Safeguarding Report

“Safeguarding in the church community is everyone’s responsibility and a vital part of our care for one another for which we all need to be alert and responsive.” (Diocesan of Salisbury Statement)

St Pauls Church Safeguarding officers are:

Sharon Waight - Vulnerable Adults

June Hornby - Children and Young People

Fr Gregory Lipovsky

All PCC members and people who have roles that care for Children and Vulnerable Adults are DBS checked. St Paul’s Church safeguarding policy and guidance is in place.

Our safeguarding policy and safeguarding statements are in the St Paul’s Parish Centre hall terms of conditions of hire and applicable to all hall users. This applies to those who run groups and hire our hall on a regular basis and to all those who hire the hall as a single use.

How to report abuse and/or raise a concern procedures and contact details are displayed on our church and hall notice boards and are also published on our parish website.

The PCC has complied with the duty under Section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016.

Safeguarding policies and procedures at St Paul’s are based upon and are following the document: “Promoting a Safer Church - Safeguarding Policy Statement for Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults” published by the Church of England, House of Bishops in 2017.

Thank you to all our church community for continuing to keep people safe who use our church and hall facilities.

Sharon Waight, Parish Safeguarding Officer (Adults)

St. Paul’s Parish Centre & 49e Trustees Report

Trustees for St. Paul’s Parish Centre are Sharon Waight (Chair); David Harrison; Katherine Harrison; Anne Mullis (Churchwarden and Trustee); Chris James; Jeanne James (Churchwarden); Fr Gregory Lipovsky (Vicar).

St. Paul's Parish Centre Trustees have met every quarter in 2021/2022 and continue their oversight and management of the Parish Centre and 49e Abbotsbury Road. The minutes and agendas of all meetings are displayed on the Parish Centre notice board for public to view. We express our gratitude to Katherine Harrison, Treasurer for management of our finances, income and expenditure and presenting financial reports at our meetings for both our Parish Centre and rental of 49e.

Regular and single hires of our Parish centre hall and its facilities continue to provide a steady income. Demand for hire both regular and for singular events has increased. The steady income enables Trustees to maintain and improve facilities in our centre. Trustees have been able to make a significant financial contribution to our parish share again this year.

Improvements to 49e Abbotsbury Road rental property have also been made this year. Including improvements to heating and interior fixtures. Plans for the coming year for 49e include an upgrade to the bathroom, installing a new shower and toilet.

Feedback continues to be very positive from our regular hall users and members of the public who hire our hall and parish centre facilities. There is high satisfaction expressed by our hall users, many commenting on the high standard of cleanliness maintained.

David Harrison will be taking over chair of the Trustees from June 2022 replacing Sharon Waight who will remain as one of the Trustees.

Thank you to all the Trustees of the St Pauls Parish Centre and 49e for their hard work, commitment and oversight during 2021/2022. Thank you to members of our congregation, especially our fabric committee for their help, hard work and support in maintaining our Parish Centre.

Sharon Waight, Chair Trustees of St Paul's Parish Centre

GOD OUR FATHER, send your Holy Spirit upon the people of this Parish. Give us your grace so that we may love, know, serve, and worship you more perfectly. Give us a greater love for all. Make us more compassionate for the sick, the lonely, and all in need, more zealous in mission, and more generous in our giving. Help each one of us to know what we ought to do, and give us strength and courage faithfully to do it, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen
- The Parish Prayer

Parish Hall (Trustees) Accounts

Income

	2020	2021
Hall hire	10,695	11,696
Rent income	9,020	9,840
Gouvernement Grants	10,134	4,290
Total Income	29,849	25,826

Expenditure

	2020	2021
Insurance	400	431
Bills	1,774	1,727
Repairs and cleaning	9,025	5,162
Wages	6,966	1,943
Other	1,849	1,848
Total Expenditure	20,014	11,111

	2020	2021
Income - Expenditure =	9,835	14,715

The PCC and SPOT accounts can be found starting on page 29.

**Calendar, Service times,
and Prayer Intentions**

Anniversaries of death

**The Order of Morning and Evening Prayer
at St. Paul's**

Calendar for May 2022

SUN	1 st	SS. PHILIP & JAMES APOSTLES	10.30am, 5pm
MON	2 nd	St. Athanasius Bishop	9am
TUE	3 rd	FINDING OF THE HOLY CROSS	9am
WED	4 th	ST. JOSEPH	10am
THU	5 th	St. Pius V Pope	6pm
FRI	6 th	St. John before the Latin Gate	12noon
SAT	7 th	St. John of Beverley Bishop	9.30am
SUN	8 th	3RD SUNDAY AFTER EASTER	10.30am, 5pm
MON	9 th	St. Gregory Nazienzen Bishop	9am
TUE	10 th	St. Antoninus Bishop	9am
WED	11 th	St. Walburga Virgin	10am
THU	12 th	St. Nereus & Companions, Martyrs	6pm
FRI	13 th	St. Robert Bellarmine Bishop	12noon
SAT	14 th	<i>Of Our Lady</i>	9.30am
SUN	15 th	4TH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER	10.30am, 5pm
MON	16 th	St. Simon	9am
TUE	17 th	St. Pascal Bylon	9am
WED	18 th	St. Venantius Martyr	10am
THU	19 th	St. Dunstan Bishop	6pm
FRI	20 th	<i>Monthly Requiem</i>	12noon
SAT	21 st	St. Peter Celestine Pope	9.30am
SUN	22 nd	5TH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER	10.30am, 5pm
MON	23 rd	<i>Rogation Day</i>	9am
TUE	24 th	<i>Rogation Day</i>	9am
WED	25 th	St. Aldhelm Bishop (<i>Rogation Day</i>)	10am
THU	26 th	ASCENSION OF OUR LORD	10am, 6pm
FRI	27 th	ST. AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY	12noon
SAT	28 th	St. Gregory VII Pope	9.30am
SUN	29 th	SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION	10.30am, 5pm
MON	30 th	St. John Nepomuk, Martyr	9am
TUE	31 st	MARY QUEEN OF HEAVEN & EARTH	9am

Daily Intentions



Anniversaries of death

We pray for...

- 1st Our Parish - *Sarah Grainger, Maurice Galling, Richard Limb*
- 2nd Greater Faith
- 3rd Spread of the Gospel - *Kenneth Kemp pr., Hamish Roger Grierson*
- 4th The spiritual and material needs of our church
- 5th Priests, vocations - *Marjorie Wray, Bert Sertin, Daisy Bonn*
- 6th Dying - *Joy Scriven*
- 7th Shrine of Walsingham

- 8th Our Parish - *Jim Clothier, Gillian Hubbard*
- 9th Preachers - *Jane Taylor*
- 10th Poor and deprived - *Tony Hamshaw*
- 11th Our Diocese - *David Thomas bp.*
- 12th Our PCC - *Paulette Gasser*
- 13th Victims of crime
- 14th Our Cell of O.L.W.

- 15th Our Parish - *Roger Pittard pr.*
- 16th Families
- 17th Deeper love for the Eucharist - *Marjorie Bishop, Norman Moore*
- 18th Young people - *Frank Woods*
- 19th Our Choir & Organists - *Carol Wilson*
- 20th Departed
- 21st Elderly

- 22nd Our Parish - *Jenifer Cooper*
- 23rd Children at Beechcroft and in our Parish
- 24th Our Benefactors
- 25th Our Servers
- 26th Sick
- 27th Ebbsfleet Parishes
- 28th Grace of penitence - *Dick Evans, Nan Evans*

- 29th Our Parish - *Janet Allen*
- 30th Grace of a holy & good death
- 31st Peace in Ukraine - *Nigel Brown*

If there are names missing from the list or you want to add names, please, talk to the Vicar.

Open, O Lord, my mouth to bless thy holy Name; cleanse also my heart from all vain, evil, and wandering thoughts; enlighten my understanding and kindle my affections; that I may worthily, attentively, and devoutly recite this Morning Prayer, and so be meet to be heard before the presence of thy divine Majesty. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

MORNING PRAYER

Joy to thee, O Queen of Heaven, alleluia. He whom thou wast meet to bear, alleluia. As he promised, hath arisen, alleluia. Pour for us to him thy prayer, alleluia.

V. Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia.

R. For the Lord has risen indeed, alleluia.

V. Let us pray. O God, who through the resurrection of Thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ didst vouchsafe to give joy to the world: grant, we beseech thee, that through His Mother, the Virgin Mary, we may obtain the joys of everlasting life. Through Christ our Lord. Amen. **R.** Amen.

V. O Lord, open my lips. **R.** And my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

V. O God, make speed to save me. **R.** O Lord, make haste to help me.

V. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

R. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Alleluia!

V. Let us rejoice in the Lord; let us joyfully sing to God our Saviour! Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us joyfully sing psalms to him!

R. The Lord is risen, indeed, alleluia.

V. For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods. In his hands are the depths of the earth; and the heights of the mountains are his. **R.** Alleluia.

V. The sea is his, for who but he made it; and his hands fashioned the dry land. O come, let us worship and fall down, and weep before the Lord who made us! For he is the Lord our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand. **R.** The Lord is risen, indeed, alleluia.

V. Today if you shall hear his voice, harden not your hearts: As in the provocation, on the day of temptation in the wilderness, where your fathers tempted me, and put me to the test, and they saw my works. **R.** Alleluia.

V. For forty years I loathed that generation, and I said: They always err in heart, they have not known my ways, so I swore in my wrath: they shall not enter my rest. **R.** The Lord is risen, indeed, alleluia.

V. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. **R.** Alleluia.

HYMN

O thou, the heavens' eternal King,
 Creator, unto thee we sing,
 With God the Father ever One,
 Co-equal, co-eternal Son.

Thy hand, when first the world began,
 Made in thine own pure image man,
 And linked to Adam, sprung from earth,
 A living soul of heavenly birth.

And when by craft the envious foe
 Had marred thy noblest work below,
 Clothed in our flesh, thou didst restore
 The image thou hadst made before.

Once wast thou born of Mary's womb;
 And now, newborn from out the tomb,
 O Christ, thou bidd'st us rise with thee
 From death to immortality.

Eternal Shepherd, thou dost lave
 Thy flock in pure baptismal wave,
 That mystic bath, that grave of sin,
 Where ransomed souls new life begin.

Redeemer, thou for us didst deign
 To hang upon the Cross of pain,
 And give for us the lavish price
 Of thine own blood in sacrifice.

Grant, Lord, in thee each faithful mind
 Unceasing paschal joy may find;
 And from the death of sin set free
 Souls newly born to life by thee.

To thee, once dead, who now dost live,
 All glory, Lord, thy people give,
 Whom, with the Father, we adore,
 And Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

The appointed Psalm(s) and Reading(s) follow:

1	Psalm 139	Proverbs 4,10-18 James 1,1-12	8	146	1 Kings 17,17-end Luke 7,11-23
2	80	Exodus 20,1-10 Luke 1,1-25	9	44	Exodus 32,1-14 Luke 2,41-end
3	34	Exodus 20,11-21 Luke 1,39-56	10	48, 52	Exodus 32,15-34 Luke 3,1-14
4	25	Exodus 24 Luke 1,26-38	11	119 v. 57-80	Exodus 33 Luke 3,15-22
5	37	Exodus 25,1-22 Luke 1,57-end	12	56, 57	Exodus 34,1-10 Luke 4,1-13
6	31	Exodus 28,29-38 Luke 2,1-20	13	51	Exodus 34,27-end Luke 4,14-30
7	41, 42, 43	Exodus 29,1-9 Luke 2,21-40	14	54	Exodus 35,20 - 36,7 Luke 4,31-37

15	16	2 Samuel 7,4-13 Acts 2,22-36	24	89 v. 1-18	Numbers 16,36-end Luke 6,39-end
16	71	Numbers 9,15-end Luke 4,38-end	25	119 v. 105-128	Numbers 17,1-11 Luke 7,1-10
17	73	Numbers 10,33-end Luke 5,1-11	26	110	Isaiah 52,7-end Hebrews 7,26-end
18	77	Numbers 12 Luke 5,12-26	27	150	Numbers 20,1-13 Luke 7,11-17
19	78 v. 1-39	Numbers 13,17-end Luke 5,27-end	28	88	Numbers 21,4-9 Luke 7,18-35
20	55	Numbers 14,1-25 Luke 6,1-11	29	99	Deuteronomy 34 Luke 24,44-end
21	76, 79	Numbers 14,26-end Luke 6,12-26	30	98, 101	Numbers 22,1-35 Luke 7,36-end
22	40 v. 1-9	Genesis 1,26-end Colossians 3,1-11	31	85	1 Samuel 2,1-10 Mark 3,31-end
23	82	Numbers 16,1-35 Luke 6,27-38			

Each reading ends with these words:

V. This is the word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTUS

Ant: Jesus stood in the midst of his disciples and said to them: Peace to you, alleluia, alleluia.

Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel, *

who has come to his people and set them free.

He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour, *

born of the house of his servant David.

Through his holy prophets God promised of old *

to save us from our enemies, from the hands of all that hate us,

To show mercy to our ancestors, *

and to remember his holy covenant.

This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham: *

to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

Free to worship him without fear, *
 holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.
And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, *
 for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,
To give his people knowledge of salvation *
 by the forgiveness of all their sins.
In the tender compassion of our God *
 the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, *
 and to guide our feet into the way of peace.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, *
 and to the Holy Spirit.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, *
 world without end. Amen.

Ant: Jesus stood in the midst of his disciples and said to them: Peace to you, alleluia, alleluia.

*V. Let us pray. – **Intercessions** are offered for the Church, for the Sovereign (the world), for those in need, and for the dead. Then follows the Collect:*

Almighty God, on this day you overcame death through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ, and opened to us the gate of everlasting life. We humbly beseech you, that, as by your grace you put into our minds good desires, so by your continual help we may bring them to good effect. Through Christ our Lord. **R.** Amen.

V. Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

V. The Lord bless us, and preserve us from all evil, and keep us in eternal life.
R. Amen.

V. Let us bless the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

V. And may the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

R. Amen.

EVENING PRAYER

Joy to thee, O Queen of Heaven, alleluia. He whom thou wast meet to bear, alleluia. As he promised, hath arisen, alleluia. Pour for us to him thy prayer, alleluia.

V. Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia.

R. For the Lord has risen indeed, alleluia.

V. Let us pray. O God, who through the resurrection of Thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ didst vouchsafe to give joy to the world: grant, we beseech thee, that through His Mother, the Virgin Mary, we may obtain the joys of everlasting life. Through Christ our Lord. Amen. R. Amen.

V. O God, make speed to save me. R. O Lord, make haste to help me.

V. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

R. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Alleluia!

HYMN

The Lamb's high banquet we await
In snow-white robes of royal state,
And now, the Red Sea's channel past,
To Christ our Prince we sing at last.

Upon the altar of the Cross
His Body has redeemed our loss,
And tasting of his precious Blood,
Our life is hid with Christ in God.

That Paschal eve God's arm was bared,
The devastating angel spared;
By strength of hand our hosts went free
From Pharaoh's ruthless tyranny.

Now Christ our Passover is slain,
The Lamb of God that knows no stain,
And he, the true unleavened Bread,
Is truly our oblation made.

O thou from whom hell's monarch flies,
O great, O very Sacrifice,
Thy captive people are set free,
And endless life restored in thee.

For Christ, arising from the dead,
From conquered hell victorious sped,
He thrusts the tyrant down to chains,
And Paradise for man regains.

Maker of all, to thee we pray,
Fulfil in us thy joy today;
When death assails, grant, Lord, that we
May share thy Paschal victory.

To thee who, dead, again dost live,
All glory, Lord, thy people give,
All glory to the Father be
And spirit blest, eternally. Amen.

The appointed Psalm(s) and Reading(s) follow:

1	Psalm 149	Job 23,1-12 John 1,43-end	17	74	Deuteronomy 17,8-end 1 Peter 1,13-end
2	86	Deuteronomy 5,22-end Ephesians 1,1-14	18	119 v. 81-104	Deuteronomy 18,9-end 1 Peter 2,1-10
3	33	Deuteronomy 6 Ephesians 1,15-end	19	78 v. 40-end	Deuteronomy 19 1 Peter 2,11-end
4	1	Genesis 41,37-49 Matthew 1,18-24	20	69	Deuteronomy 21,22-end 1 Peter 3,1-12
5	39	Deuteronomy 7,1-11 Ephesians 2	21	81, 84	Deuteronomy 24,5-end 1 Peter 3,13-end
6	35	Deuteronomy 7,12-end Ephesians 3,1-13	22	126, 127	Zephaniah 3,14-end Matthew 28,1-10
7	45, 46	Deuteronomy 8 Ephesians 3,14-end	23	85	Deuteronomy 26 1 Peter 4,1-11
8	113, 114	Isaiah 63,7-14 Luke 24,36-49	24	89 v. 19-end	Deuteronomy 28,1-14 1 Peter 4,12-end
9	47, 49	Deuteronomy 9,1-21 Ephesians 4,1-16	25	15, 24	2 Samuel 23,1-5 Colossians 3,1-4
10	50	Deuteronomy 9,23 - 10,5 Ephesians 4,17-end	26	8	2 Kings 2,1-15 Revelation 5
11	59, 60	Deuteronomy 10,12-end Ephesians 5,1-14	27	102	Deuteronomy 29,2-15 1 John 1
12	61, 62, 64	Deuteronomy 11,8-end Ephesians 5,15-end	28	104	Deuteronomy 30 1 John 2,1-14
13	38	Deuteronomy 12,1-14 Ephesians 6,1-9	29	68	Isaiah 44,1-8 Ephesians 4,7-16
14	67	Deuteronomy 14,22-end Ephesians 6,10-end	30	105	Deuteronomy 31,1-13 1 John 2,15-end
15	98	Daniel 6,16-23 Mark 16,1-8	31	122, 127, 128	Zechariah 2,10-end John 3,25-30
16	72, 75	Deuteronomy 16,1-20 1 Peter 1,1-12			

Each reading ends with these words:

V. This is the word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

MAGNIFICAT

Ant: He who was crucified is risen from the dead, and has redeemed us.
Alleluia, Alleluia.

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,+
my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour;*
he has looked with favour on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed;+
the Almighty has done great things for me*
and holy is his name.

He has mercy on those who fear him,*
from generation to generation.

He has shown strength with his arm*
and has scattered the proud in their conceit,
Casting down the mighty from their thrones*
and lifting up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things*
and sent the rich away empty.

He has come to the aid of his servant Israel,*
to remember his promise of mercy,
The promise made to our ancestors,*
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, *
and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

Ant: He who was crucified is risen from the dead, and has redeemed us.
Alleluia, Alleluia.

V. Let us pray. – *Intercessions* are offered for the Church, for the Sovereign (world), for those in need, our Benefactors, and for the dead. Then the Collect is said:

Almighty God, on this day you overcame death through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ, and opened to us the gate of everlasting life. We humbly beseech you, that, as by your grace you put into our minds good desires, so by your continual help we may bring them to good effect. Through Christ our Lord. R. Amen.

V. Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

All: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen.

V. Let us bless the Lord. **R.** Thanks be to God. **V.** And may the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. **R.** Amen.

Optional private prayer to be said after Evening Prayer: To the Most Holy and undivided Trinity, to our Lord Jesus Christ Crucified, to the fruitful Virginitv of the most blessed and most glorious Mary, always a Virgin, and to the holiness of all the Saints be ascribed everlasting praise, honour, and glory, by all creatures, and to us be granted the forgiveness of all our sins, world without end. Amen.

O blessed Virgin Mary, who can worthily repay thee thy just dues of praise and thanksgiving, thou who by the wondrous assent of thy will didst rescue a fallen world? What songs of praise can our weak human nature recite in thy honour, since it is by thy intervention alone that it has found the way to restoration? Accept, then, such poor thanks as we have here to offer, though they be unequal to thy merits; and, receiving our vows, obtain by thy prayers the remission of our offences. Carry thou our prayers within the sanctuary of the heavenly audience, and bring forth from it the antidote of our reconciliation. May the sins we bring before Almighty God through thee, become pardonable through thee; may what we ask for with sure confidence, through thee be granted. Take our offering, grant us our requests, obtain pardon for what we fear, for thou art the sole hope of sinners. Through thee we hope for the remission of our sins, and in thee, O blessed Lady, is our hope of reward. Holy Mary, succour the miserable, help the fainthearted, comfort the sorrowful, pray for thy people, plead for the clergy, intercede for all women consecrated to God; may all who keep thy holy commemoration feel now thy help and protection. Be thou ever ready to assist us when we pray, and bring back to us the answers to our prayers. Make it thy continual care to pray for the people of God, thou who, blessed by God, didst merit to bear the Redeemer of the world, who liveth and reigneth, world without end.

Amen. *Saint Augustine*

From the Book of Common Prayer

2nd Sunday after Easter: *ALMIGHTY God, who hast given thine only Son to be unto us both a sacrifice for sin, and also an ensample of godly life: Give us grace that we may always most thankfully receive that his inestimable benefit, and also endeavour ourselves to follow the blessed steps of his most holy life; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

The Father sent his only-begotten Son into the world as a personal gift to humanity. The Son took unto himself in the womb of the blessed Virgin Mary human nature, body and soul, and lived as a Man.

The Second Person of the Holy Trinity in his human nature and without ceasing to be God, lived as the Messiah, revealed the Kingdom of God in word and deed, suffered and died, was buried and raised from the dead to be exalted to the Father's right hand in heavenly glory. In all that he suffered, Jesus Christ our Lord provided a perfect example of loving submission to the demanding yet perfect will of God.

The Gift of the Father is the Son, for "*he that bath the Son bath life, everlasting life, abundant divine life*", says St John. In the proclamation of good news the Church of God offers this amazing Gift that is beyond price, and blessed are they who receive him in penitence and faith.

In the petition of this Collect we recognize that sin and its effects in us need to be dealt with. Thus the prayer is for grace, the assistance of divine help and mercy, for a thankful, receptive, believing and trusting heart, to recognize and appropriate the amazing and eternal nature of the GIFT that is in the Gospel. A truly thankful heart is a great motivation to seek to do God's holy will.

The petition is also a request for the commitment, determination and help needed by a baptized Christian to imitate the life of Jesus, to see him as the supreme example for the Christian to follow, day by day until his life's end.

The particular feature of Christ's example is the bearing patiently undeserved indignities and rough treatment.

Thus Jesus, the Christ, the Saviour of the world, is for the Church both God's GIFT and God's EXAMPLE; and, in receiving the gift and following the example, Christian people will be truly what they are called to be - the Body of Christ on earth. This is a most appropriate message for Eastertide!

The Rev'd Dr Peter Toon (+2009)

PCC Accounts

Income

	2020	2021
Donations	31,251	27,925
Gift Aid	6,483	5,580
Legacies	0	10,109
Fundraising Events	5,165	9,393
Donation from SPOT	0	11,500
Parish Magazine	103	450
Fees (funerals, etc.)	2,329	2,259
Donation from Parish Hall Trustees	11,800	11,800
Coffee mornings	226	241
Investment Income	1,128	999
Grants	0	15,554
Total Income	58,392	95,804

Expenditure

	2020	2021
Parish Office (printer, paper, etc.)	3,695	3,437
Insurance	4,363	4,402
Repairs, building works	4,847	68,880
Bills	2,478	2,154
Church (vestments, wine, candles, music, organ, altar linen, etc.)	3,960	6,530
Parish (Deanery) Share	42,826	42,826
Total Expenditure	77,111	133,485

	2020	2021
Income - Expenditure =	-18,719	-37,681
<i>The greatest expenditure in 2021 was the amount spent on the building: bells, pointing, windows, roof, etc. This expenditure had been planned for and money had been saved in the Fabric account. If we disregard this expenditure, we have a more realistic - and more healthy! - account:</i>		
Income - Expenditure =	-18,719	31,119

SPOT Accounts

Income

	2020	2021
Sales	6,586	15,467
Government Grants	18,545	13,841
Total Income	25,131	29,308

Expenditure

	2020	2021
Rent	5,200	5,400
Bills and Insurance	1,014	1,105
Wages	14,739	5,577
Repairs	1,269	336
Other	30	497
Bank charges	173	287
Total Expenditure	22,425	13,202

	2020	2021
Income - Expenditure =	2,706	16,106

Holy Week with the two Fr Davids...

Liz Evans writes:

PALM SUNDAY

Fr David Green

We met in the old Parish Centre, and after the reading of the Gospel, blessing and distribution of the palms we lined up outside behind the Salvation Army band. Lead by the band, followed by the St Paul's banner, Servers, Choir with the MU banner behind them, Clergy Sunday School banner and Sunday School children, then congregation.

We went out of the car park, up Kelloway Terrace, up Wardcliff Road onto Old Parish Lane turning right to come back down Abbotsbury Road.

We would sing 5 or 6 hymns in full and the servers would distribute palm crosses to those standing and watching. When we turned into Abbotsbury Road the congregation from Ebenezer would be outside their church to watch.

Once we got to St. Paul's the band would finish the hymn by the big drum playing a set rhythm and the organist would take over to play "*Ride on in Majesty*" for everyone to enter the church.

Once all had entered the reading of the Passion would take place with the congregation taking different parts. Then the service as normal.

Fr David Lashbrook

Fr Lashbrook did roughly the same apart from starting in various areas of the Parish and banging on a closed church door with the cross. One year a member of the Parish brought a donkey to walk with us and every time the big drum played it would bray with it. Getting the donkey through the church was a case of pushing it on the slippery floor.

In both cases we had roughly a 1½ hours minimum service.

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Fr David Green

We would come into a lovely Altar of Repose. Each year Fr Green would speak to the children of the choir before the start of the service. *'When the altar has been stripped and the Gethsemane psalm and gospel have been read you will leave in silence and will not speak until you get to either the Rock Hotel or the Waverley and this goes for tomorrow as well. You will not speak on entering church until after the service at the Easter Vigil on the Saturday'* and the children did as he said -

not a word was spoken; they even complained when they heard adults talking until out of the area given.

The service was as normal until the Gloria when all bells would be rung. After the Communion everyone from the congregation went in procession with the blessed sacrament to the altar of repose. The altars would be stripped then the curate would say the Gethsemane Gospel kneeling at the altar when all would then scatter.

Fr David Lashbrook

Very similar order of service but he introduced the washing of the feet. The choir would sing “An Upper Room” while the foot washing was going on.

During the procession the choir would sing Psalm 22 and everything in the church that was removable would be stripped and taken out of the church - before we had the new Parish Centre: into the choir vestry; once we had the new centre: into the committee room.

One year the Bishop of Salisbury the Right Reverend David Stancliff did a visit to Weymouth and came to us during the Watch. The church was in darkness apart from the candles in the Lady Chapel and he decided to prostrate himself on the floor of the South Transept and everyone kept falling over him.

GOOD FRIDAY

Fr David Green

The format was always the same: enter in complete silence, servers and choir would not wear their cottas or surplices. The reading of the Passion would be narrated by the curate and Fr David would be Christ and the congregation would take the other parts. Veneration of the Cross would be carried out by the curate.

Once communion has been distributed and the altar stripped we left in silence once more. The same hymns were sung each year: “When I survey,” “There is green hill” and “O scared head.”

Fr David Lashbrook

The mornings would see a children’s service of simple stations and a workshop. The same format was done up to the Veneration of the Cross when the choir would sing the Reproaches.

HOLY SATURDAY

Fr David Green

The service would start with everyone gathered either outside the front door or in the porch with a candle. The readings and lighting of the new fire would happen there. The Pascal Candle would be lit and brought into church, the servers would take a light from the new light and light everyone's candles.

The curate would bring the candle into church, led by the choir, he would sing 3 times the Light of Christ. The procession making their way through the church to the foot of the pulpit where the candle would be placed in its holder.

The Curate would sing the Exultet. Once the service got to the Gloria all bells would again ring.

After the service Fr Green would come into the choir vestry, thank the children for being so good and say '*you can now talk*'. About 1½ hours service minimum.

Fr Lashbrook

There would be no service on Holy Saturday. The children of the Friday Club, choir and young servers would meet in church after teatime and build an Easter Garden in the South Transept with all living plants and figures they had made in papier-mâché over the previous weeks. They would take part in Easter activities then have a sleepover.

The adults would prepare the breakfast for everyone.

Depending on when Easter was, we could be up by 4am as Fr Lashbrook would want the fire to be lit before sunrise.

We would all gather at the beginning in the Vicarage garden driveway and later in the New Centre Garden. Six very long lessons would be read then the fire would be lit and the Paschal Candle lit and everyone's candles lit. We would process around the outside of the church and make our way into church in candlelight. The Exultet would be sung followed by the Sequences sung by at first Lizzie Lashbrook and Paul Armstead then Paul and Liz Evans. Our candles would stay alight until the Gloria had been sung and the bells rung.

One year Ron Samways had the 4-bells to ring and when he went to ring it the bells shot in 4 different directions as they hadn't been screwed back properly.

The service would continue with the blessing of the new water and the Easter Garden. Once the service had finished everyone would go for breakfast. Again around 1½ hour service minimum.

EASTER DAY

Fr David Green

A normal Sunday service with Easter Eggs for the children at the end.

Fr David Lashbrook

The service would be 10.30, half way between both services, so that all could go home after the Vigil and change. Some years we would start at 3am and finish around 12.30... a long day. Both Fathers had a procession with the banners which went via the Easter Garden.

May Day

Jeanne James writes:

The first of May is a unique day indeed. But what is May Day and why do we celebrate it? The answer to that depends on who you ask. For while some people see May Day as a time for children to dance joyfully around the Maypole while singing traditional songs of spring, others see it as a date on which to revere the workers of the world, to promote global communism, and to remember the Haymarket Massacre.

The traditional history of May Day

It all started with the pagans, just like so many holidays. The Iron Age Germanic people celebrated the coming of warm weather and the



commencement of the planting season. The traditional maypole was first used in territory that is today part of Germany and may have represented the axis around which the world turned, the proverbial Tree of Life. Either way, early May Day festivities celebrated the fertility of the land and venerated the gods that allowed the production of a bounteous crop.

As Christianity spread across Europe and beyond, May Day lost its association with pagan religious practices, but the celebration of the date endured nonetheless as a secular holiday. The maypole was frequently seen throughout Medieval Europe and remains a part of springtime celebrations to this day. May Day dances usually involve children adorned with fresh flowers skipping around a wooden maypole holding long, colourful streamers that gradually wind around the post while singing traditional songs.

But there's another May Day too...

...and it's often called International Worker's Day. This pro-socialist day was started in America.

In the 1800s, not being rich was terrible. Working class life usually involved conditions such as twelve-plus hour workdays, dangerous, dirty factories, low wages and basically no power to negotiate for improvement. So the socialist/communist ideas coming out of Europe were rather attractive to the American labourer in the late years of the 19th century. So much so that dozens of groups of workers began to assemble and agitate for change, with the biggest demonstration coming in the form of a massive strike held in Chicago on May 1st, 1886. Some 100,000 workers in all walked off the job and for about 48 hours their protest was peaceful. Then the strike-breakers and police went in; many strikers were beaten and several protesters were killed.

The next day, May 4th, someone threw a stick of dynamite into a crowd of protesters and police, killing several from each side. That led to a high-profile trial that was broadly seen as a miscarriage of justice during which several anarchists were convicted of conspiracy and hanged despite flimsy evidence they had anything to do with the blast.



The whole mess became known as the Haymarket Massacre (also often called the Haymarket Affair) and would go on to become a milestone for the modern socialist movement. Today May Day is seen by many not as a time to dance around a giant wooden phallic symbol, but instead to proclaim the virtues of socialism.

As for why we say “mayday!” in an emergency, that’s a simpler story that has nothing to do with pagans or worker rights. The word, which is international recognized as an announcement of distress, sounds much like the French “*m’aidez*” which translates to “help me.” The use of “mayday” as an emergency call was proposed by a man named Frederick Stanley Mockford who worked as a radio operator at a London airport in the 1920s. His proposal of the Anglicized French expression was predicated on the frequent air traffic between England and France at the time. By the end of the decade, the distress call had already been adopted around much of the globe.

There are three Feasts of St. Joseph in the Calendar. On the 19th of March the Church venerates St. Joseph as the most chaste Spouse (Husband) of the Blessed Virgin Mary and foster father of the Lord Jesus. This day was already dedicated to Saint Joseph in Christian Europe before the 10th century. An ancient tradition kept by all churches.

However, since this Feast always falls in Lent and Lent used to be observed with proper fasting and abstinence, a second Feast of St. Joseph was instituted to make it possible to celebrate him without the restrictions imposed by Lent. So in 1870, Pope Pius IX declared Saint Joseph the Patron of the Universal Church - he who so faithfully and lovingly provided for the needs of the Holy Family, now provides with the same love for the spiritual and material needs of the Church. This new Feast is observed on the Wednesday (a day traditionally consecrated to St. Joseph) following the 2nd Sunday after Easter. Some old-fashioned churches still observe this feast.

Then 85 years later another change was made to the Calendar of Saints and, in response to the “May Day” celebrations for workers sponsored by Communists, Pope Pius XII abolished the above feasts and instituted the feast of Saint Joseph the Worker in 1955 and moved it to the 1st of May.

Now, Fr Gregory still remembers from his childhood the tiresome 1st-of-May Communist processions with Soviet flags, papier-mâché doves-of-peace, and endless Communist Party speeches - not even the chocolate bars and fizzy drinks bought by his parents to shut him up managed to make those long days bearable. Those processions were compulsory and both parents and children were forced to be present and cheerful. Presence was checked against an updated list of names both by the Communist Party and the school - and absence had sometimes severe consequences.

As these memories have spoiled May Day, Fr Gregory continues to observe St. Joseph’s feast on the Wednesday following the 2nd Sunday after Easter rather than on the 1st of May... Just in case you wondered...

What to do in your garden in the month of May

Katherine Harrison writes:

How lovely are the fields and gardens looking. Full of colour. It is so delightful to see tulips, the blossom from the trees and bluebells, cowslips and primroses all bountiful.



- When the spring bulbs have finished flowering, you can deadhead them. Don't remove leaves. We want the energy to go back into the bulb rather than the plant producing seeds.
- Plant out dahlia tubers, if you haven't already. The risk of frost should have passed by now.
- Keep up with the weeding. Weeds will be doing their best to take over your garden. Weed little and often.
- Start to tie new shoots of your climbing plants, plants like honeysuckle and clematis.
- Plant up your hanging baskets; keep them inside a porch or greenhouse for a week or so until they are established.
- Harden off your plants raised indoors. Bring them in at night at first to acclimatise them.
- Now (if weather is warm) is a good time to sow French and runners beans directly outside.
- Strawberry plants start to shoot runners. You can cut this back/remove so the full energy goes into the main plant for fruiting.
- If you have tomatoes, cucumbers and courgettes in the greenhouse, don't forget to water them as the weather is starting to warm up. Open the door on warm days and close in the evening.



•I have put my freesia corms outside (but I am thinking they should initially be under cover). Lovely fragrant flowers for the summer.

- Feed your plants. You can buy concentrated liquids or granules that can be scattered on the soil.
- Tomatoes can go into growing bags. Tie the main stem to a cane or vertical wire for support.
- Repot indoor plants that need some love and attention.

<— A sweet pea planter made from the pallet the church lights arrived in – let's keep sustainable!

The Psalms

Psalm 18: *Thanksgiving for deliverance*

Psalm 18, like many other psalms, has an official title and so it is easy to link them to various life-events of King David. However, often these sacred prayers transcend David's life and become prophecies about God's anointed Son, Jesus Christ. Psalm 18 indeed can be read as a text pointing to the coming Messiah, especially verses 1-24 and 43-50. A commentator wrote: "this psalm speaks of Jesus being snatched from the jaws of death, to the throne by the power of God. It also speaks of his death, resurrection, exaltation, victory and kingdom."

The importance of this psalm is shown by the fact that it can be found **twice** in the Bible: once, as one would expect, as Psalm 18 in the Book of Psalm; but it is also repeated - all fifty verses - in 2 Samuel 22.

Psalm 18 as prophecy about the Messiah

The psalm begins with a profoundly personal statement: "I love you." An intimacy Jesus clearly enjoyed with his Father. Reading this psalm we can imagine Jesus expressing his delight and love for God and his reliance upon him, because God was his strength, his rock, his fortress, his deliverer, his buckler, the horn of his salvation and his high tower. Jesus' whole life - all he did, said, thought, all he was - was shaped, determined, motivated by his perfect love for the Father. It is particularly moving to reflect on this fact just days after Easter: all that Jesus suffered for us is rooted in love and charity.

Verses 4-5 especially prepared Jesus the Messiah for the ultimate victory of a death, the final enemy. There is the image of the cords, the tentacles of death reaching out and wrapping themselves around Jesus on the cross. The torrents of perdition and death also look to drown and overcome him. Sheol, the realm of death seeks to wrap itself around him too as he faces dying. Death, a terrifying prospect confronts Jesus on the cross. Metaphor piled upon metaphor in successive images, gives an indication of the grave danger Jesus faced upon the cross.

In verses 6-15 Jesus' salvation from death on the cross is portrayed as a cosmic drama that begins in God's heavenly temple where God has heard Jesus' cry. The language recalls those moments in history that God clearly manifested his power and glory. The earthquake and cosmic darkness mentioned in these verses relate directly to Jesus's death on the cross as described in the gospels. In Psalm 18 God he is portrayed as a divine warrior exercising his cosmic power of heaven and earth in order to save Jesus.

Verses 6-15 also depict God's indignation against the snares of death and Satan that threatened Jesus - and us. The storm, the tempest, the thunder, the lightning, the fire and the roar of God's voice as he comes like a divine warrior to rescue his Son - and us in him - are a powerful and moving image. While Jesus was on the cross during the darkness, behind the scenes there was a cosmic battle taking place between the powers of darkness-evil and God.

"He reached from on high, he took me and drew me out of many waters" (v. 16) - just imagine Jesus saying these words with a delightful tenderness about God's salvation. Psalm 18 shows something of the tender love between Jesus and the Father. God took great delight in his Son and this psalm shows why: Jesus kept God's law and was perfect and sinless.

Finally, verses 43-50 portray Jesus' response of worship to God for his deliverance and prophetically point to the future when Jesus will be the head of the nation and "King of kings and Lord of lords." A fulfilment of Zechariah 14,9: *"and the Lord will become King over all the Earth."* A reminder of Philippians 2,10-11: *"at the Name of Jesus every knee shall bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father."*

Psalm 18 as act of public worship

Some psalms, like psalm 18, have clearly been written to be used during worship. They are witnesses to God's glory and to his goodness and salvation in the life of his people. They are bursting with irrepressible acclaim about the Lord's character and saving activity. To keep quiet about God's goodness and his salvation may well be tantamount to sin. To remain silent and not to thank the Lord for his glory and to not praise him is unthinkable. So the Psalmist wants to - and with him we should, we must as well - clearly declare his thanksgiving and praise in the assembly of God's people, among the nations, and even to generations yet unborn. This powerful witness is also a tremendous encouragement to those listening.

The very fact that the psalm tries to "list" God's glory, manifested in his salvation-bearing acts, and give him thanks and praise explains the length of the psalm. With its fifty verses Psalm 18 is one of the longest psalm - and quite rightly indeed. How could words ever be enough to describe God's glory and all he has done for us, his people?!

As we have already seen, the psalm begins with the most tender words: *"I love you."* The Hebrew word for love is used nowhere else in the Old Testament quite as it is here. David bursts out at once with his affection, even his passion, for his beloved Lord. A flood of metaphors follows showing something of what this God means to him.

The word “love” in this context indicates both intimacy and commitment. In the first 3 verses the word “my” is repeated nine times! - certainly a sign and reminder of a close personal relationship and intimacy David had with God.

However, even more astonishing is the fact that according to psalm 18 the same passion, love, and intimacy can be attributed to God. Indeed, one of the things that stands out in this psalm is that the Lord comes down from the heavens to earth to help David and he manifests his power and presence to him. God does not anymore simply sees or hears or listens - no, he acts, he comes, he hastes to help David.

This psalm is a reminder that Christian life is one of continual dependence and trust in the Lord. As St. Paul writes to the Ephesians (6,10): “*be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might.*” It is also a reminder that our enemy, the evil one, is invisible and he wages spiritual warfare against us so that we may fail and be defeated as Christians (Eph 6,12). Just as David learned to rely on the power and strength of the Lord to be victorious, we to have to put on the whole armour of God to stand and be victorious over the evil one.

Psalm 18 may give the impression that the Lord always rescued and saved David as soon as he asked for help, and that he was like a warrior riding on his heavenly chariot brandishing his power and sweeping his enemies from under his feet. But this is not the way it always turned out. On occasions David had to wait a considerable time before the Lord’s salvation was revealed in his life and God did not answer him immediately, or as quickly as he wanted. This waiting was intended to test and to refine David's faith and trust.

The opening words of this psalm - “*I love you*” - irradiate the whole psalm, illuminating it with the gentle light of the worshipper’s (or David’s or Jesus’) love and of the surrender of his heart to God. Everything that follows, everything that is experienced, is either inspired or made possible by this love.

We should read, meditate and pray this psalm often. It offers some insight into Jesus’ love and trust, his intimacy with the Father; it teaches us about God’s passion and love when it comes to our salvation; it offers beautiful images to enrich our prayer-life; it instructs us how and why we should trust in God; it gives us some proper language to be used in prayer; it enkindles our affection and love as it invites us to consider God’s infinite love for us and all that he has done to save us from sin, from evil, from death. As the morning hymn for the Feast of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus says: “*Who would not love in turn the One so loving him?*”

Catechism (second lesson)

Primary School

God did not create only things and animals. He also created man and woman. The first man was named Adam. The first woman was called Eve. From Adam and Eve we all descend: men and women.

Who has created us? *God has created us.*

As soon as you wake up in the morning, thank God who created you, your dad, your mum. Learn the following prayer by heart and say it every morning:

I adore you, O my God, and I love you with all my heart. I give you thanks that you have created me, made me a Christian, and preserved me this night. I offer you the actions of this day; grant that all of them may be according to your holy will, and for your greater glory. Save me from sin and from all evil. Let your grace be always with me and with my loved ones. Amen.



Secondary School



A child, educated by the priest Eli, heard a voice calling him: ‘*Samuel! Samuel!*’ The child thought it was the priest calling him so he went to him. However, it was not the priest who called him: it was God. Samuel heard the voice, but he saw no one.

God cannot be seen because He has no body. He is everywhere and He sees everything.

- 1. Does God have a body as we do?** *God does not have body; he is a pure spirit.*
- 2. Where is God?** *God is in heaven, on earth, and in every place.*

God sees you even when your dad or your mom do not see you. Remember: there is someone who sees everything. There is someone who knows everything. There is someone who hears everything. This “someone” is God. During the day think of God time to time who is always there for you. Pray to Him: *Help me, O God, not to ever offend you with sin.*

Confirmation Class - On God and his perfections

(First try to answer the questions without reading the answers to check your general knowledge about Christian doctrine.)

13. What is God? *God is a spirit infinitely perfect.*

14. Had God a beginning? *God had no beginning; He always was and He always will be.*

15. Where is God? *God is everywhere.*

16. If God is everywhere, why do we not see Him? *We do not see God, because He is a pure spirit and cannot be seen with bodily eyes.*

17. Does God see us? *God sees us and watches over us.*

18. Does God know all things? *God knows all things, even our most secret thoughts, words, and actions.*

19. Can God do all things? *God can do all things, and nothing is hard or impossible to Him.*

20. Is God just, holy, and merciful? *God is all just, all holy, all merciful, as He is infinitely perfect.*

Adults

(only those questions are repeated here that have a more detailed explanation)

13. What is God? *God is a spirit infinitely perfect.* - A “spirit” is a living, intelligent, invisible being. It really exists, though we cannot see it with the eyes of our body. It has intelligence and can therefore think, understand, etc. God is also “infinitely perfect,” that is, He has every perfection in the highest degree. He is unlimited in wisdom, in power, in goodness, in beauty, etc.

14. Had God a beginning? *God had no beginning; He always was and always will be.* - Was there ever a time when we could say there was no God? There was a time when we could say there was no Heaven or earth, no angels, men, or animals; but there was never a time when there was no God. We may go back in thought millions and millions of years before the Creation, and God was then existing. He had no beginning and will never cease to exist. This is a mystery; and what a mystery it will be explained in the next lesson.

15. Where is God? *God is everywhere.* - “Everywhere”—not spread out like a great cloud, but whole and entire in every particular place. How this can be we cannot fully understand, because this also is a mystery.

17. Does God see us? *God sees us and watches over us.* - “Watches” to protect, to reward or punish us. He watches continually; He not only watches, but keeps us alive. God might have created us and then paid no more attention to us;

but if He had done so, we should have fallen back again into nothingness. Therefore He preserves us every moment of our lives. We cannot draw a breath without Him.

God not only watches His creatures, but likewise provides for them. Since we depend so much upon Him, is it not great folly to sin against Him, to offend, and tempt Him as it were?

18. Does God know all things? *God knows all things, even our most secret thoughts, words, and actions.* - Certainly God “knows all things.” First, because He is infinitely wise, and if He were ignorant of anything He would not be so. Secondly, because He is everywhere and sees and hears all. Darkness does not hide from His view, nor noise prevent Him from hearing.

How could we sin if we thought of this! God is just here, looking at me and listening to me. Would I do what I am going to do now if I knew my parents, relatives, and friends were watching me? Would I like them to know that I am thinking about things sinful, and preparing to do shameful acts? No! Why then should I feel ashamed to let God see and know of this wicked thought or action?

Nay, more; not only will God see and know this evil deed or thought; but, by His gift, the Blessed Mother, the angels and saints will know of it and be ashamed of it before God, and, most of all, my guardian angel will deplore it. Besides, this sin will be revealed to the whole world on the last day, and my friends, relatives, and neighbours will know that I was guilty of it.

20. Is God just, holy, and merciful? *God is all just, all holy, all merciful, as He is infinitely perfect.* - “All just”—that is, most just. “Just” means to give to everyone what belongs to him—to reward if it is merited or to punish if it is deserved.

“Holy”—that is, good. “Merciful” means compassionate, forgiving, less exacting than severe justice demands.

God is often merciful to sinners and punishes them less than He could in strict justice. But if He were to allow every sinner to go without any punishment whatsoever—as unbelievers say He should do, by having no Hell for the wicked—then He would not be just. For as God is an Infinite Being, all His perfections must be infinite; that is, He must be as infinitely just as He is infinitely merciful, true, wise, or powerful. Now He has promised to punish sin; and since He is infinitely true, He must keep His promise.

O my God, I firmly believe that you are one God in three divine Persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; I believe that your divine Son became man and died for our sins, and that he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe these and all the truths which the Holy Church teaches, because you revealed them, who can neither deceive nor be deceived.

Vicar

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The Vicar's day-off is Monday. In case of pastoral emergency, please, try to contact the Assistant Priests, or the Parish Office first.

With enquires about Baptisms, Weddings, Banns, or Funerals, please, contact the Vicar.

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Parish Office

You can contact the Parish Office by email (stpweymouth@gmail.com) or on 771217 (leave a message with your name and number). Since nobody works in the Parish Office currently, messages are not checked daily. If your enquiry is urgent, please contact the Vicar or the Churchwardens directly.

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*With enquires about **hiring the Parish Hall, joining the Munch Club or the Choir**, please, contact the Parish Office.*

A priest is always available for Confession, spiritual direction, or for a simple chat half an hour before every Service, or at any other time by appointment!