



The Shell



The Magazine of St James the Greater

Spring 2019

SUNDAY WORSHIP

8.30 am Holy Communion 10.30 am Choral Eucharist

6.30 pm Choral Evensong & Sermon

CHILDRENS' SUNDAY CLUB

In the Church Hall in school term time starting off in church at 10.30 am

MIDWEEK HOLY COMMUNION

10.15 am Thursdays

MORNING PRAYER

9 am Tuesday-Friday

See Calendar for variations and details of services on Saints Days

MINISTRY TEAM

Vicar

Revd Andrew Quigley MA (Oxon) MTh
0116 254 4113

Associate Non-Stipendiary Priest

Revd Jane Sharp

Honorary Associate Priests

Revd David Clark BA
Very Revd Dr Derek Hole Hon LLD Hon DLitt

Readers

Mr David Brunning MA (Oxon) Dr Angela Jagger BA PhD Mrs Pam Howe

Pastoral Assistant

Sacristans

Miss Vicky Roe BPhil.Ed MA Janet Burton Sheila Roberts Lin Mawer

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From the Editor's Desk



Taking on the role of Editor of a parish magazine is a bit like matrimony — it is not by any to be enterprised, nor taken in hand, unadvisedly, lightly, or wantonly ... but reverently, discreetly, advisedly, soberly, and in the fear of God. Well, there's plenty of fear, I can assure you!

My first introduction to this black art occurred over 30 years ago when, living in Norwich, I was asked to 'look after' the magazine for Christchurch, Eaton. Those of you who are of mature years will realise that in those days there were no such things as computers (at least, not for less than £1m) and certainly no fancy software to make the job easier. The Eaton magazine was published monthly, and every four weeks I trotted along to the printer with a handful of sheets of various sizes, some being type-written and some hand-written. With some skill and, it has to be said, at no small cost, the printer's staff would typeset the whole magazine, look after the layout, and would deliver 200 printed copies to the vicarage within the week. Ah, lack-a-day!

Not many months ago, during a periodic (i.e. once a decade) tidying-up of my study, I threw away all the old Eaton stuff: that was a pity!

I referred above to the cost of magazine production. I realised then that this might have been a mistake, but we have to bite the bullet. I know that the church (in general, and not St James the Greater in particular) has something of a reputation for always passing the plate round but there is, as they say, no such thing as a free lunch. The cost of printing this issue of *The Shell* is, give or take, about £1. No one is going to police the stack at the back of the church, but you might like to put an appropriate coin in the 'magazine' slot of the donations box to help defray the cost of production. Members of the Friends of St

James receive a copy as part of their subscription so you might like to become a Friend if you are not one already.

There is much within these pages which, you will be happy to note, are familiar, but there is some new material which I hope you will find interesting.

These will cover not only doings within St James but within the city and the Church of England as a whole. We are fortunate that in Leicester we have a very wide mix of faiths and I am anxious to ensure that we cover these as well.

There will be articles of general interest which might include lives of the saints (always good for meditation), the history of the parish, recipes — both vegetarian and omnivorous — and perhaps even a *Letters to the Editor* section. I am very grateful for all those of you who have so kindly produced articles for this issue: keep up the good work. Do please let me know if you think there are particular topics which should be included. Please note that the next issue of *The Shell* will appear in early June so I would be grateful if you would let me have any material for inclusion by 12 May at the latest.

Sadly in recent weeks we have lost a number of our fellowship. It would be easy to fill a whole issue of this magazine with their obituaries but I hope you will agree that it seems sensible to spread these out over time.

Please note that the magazine will no longer be delivered to individual homes and will need to be collected from the church.

You may already have suspected that this column, a new feature, is merely a vehicle for editorial whimsy, an opinion with which my faithful hound Hendrix would heartily concur!

Graham Jagger: grahamjagger42@gmail.com

The Vicar writes ...



Chatting to the Bishop the other day, he remarked how I had now been here a year. "Oh yes," I replied, "now I can start changing things..." This was jest, but after a year getting to know you and how things have been done, this year we can start planning more rigorously for the future.

More momentous than my first year here, 2019 is the fiftieth anniversary of the moon-landings. Perhaps some of you remember it – I am too young. It might seem (as it may have done then) a frivolous distraction, given the many troubles and problems we have here on Earth. It might seem also an event devoid of spiritual significance, as the barren surface of the moon is devoid of life. However, the lifting of our eyes to the heavens, the broadening of our horizons, the illustration of human potential and capacity to achieve the seemingly impossible, not to mention the hope and heroism of those involved, surely stirs something in the soul.

Partly for these reasons, following the success of the "Faith in Fantasy" series last autumn, later this year (probably May), there will be a series of discussions under the title "Faith on the Final Frontier". Besides the moral and spiritual dimensions of historic and future space exploration, two notable fictional expressions of the cosmic, Star Wars and Star Trek will be investigated. Further details will follow on the website, weekly sheet and on posters.

Our journey as a church seldom feels as dramatic as space travel, but we are nonetheless called on a pilgrimage with cosmic consequences, and I trust that in this second year of my incumbency we can with growing confidence start striking out in new directions. More prosaically, by the time you read this, some of us will have travelled to exotic Kibworth to talk about our vision as a church, the things we value, and the things

we could do better or differently, as well as those new avenues not yet explored.

The vision day is not the end of the journey, and at least through the remainder of 2019 we will continue thinking, praying and talking about our pilgrimage together. I encourage you in particular to keep considering our worship, our fellowship, and our engagement with the world. When and how we worship, how we grow together in friendship and grow deeper in our faith, and how we work and walk together with the vulnerable and needy should be ongoing issues for any church. In my evening sermons through Lent I plan to explore them in more depth.

Underneath all this are issues around money. Maintaining our beautiful building, heating it, and filling it with uplifting musical worship is a costly business. Urgent repairs to the roof and front of the church can no longer be postponed, even though we will struggle to find the finance. This is more than an awkward or unpleasant problem though – our use of money is an expression of our vision and what we value, and if we believe in our church as a place of welcome and of exceptional music, reaching out to a world in desperate need of hope and beauty we will have to fund it.

As 2019 began we said farewell to a number of faithful members of this church who made their final journey. We mourn and miss them, grateful for all they shared us at St James, often over very many years.

On Easter day there will be a dawn service of light. Having kindled the Easter fire outside we will light the Paschal candle and process into the darkness of the church. Boldly going in search of new life, and new ways of living, growing and serving together. I hope you will join me on that journey, and wherever our travels take us this year.

The Readers speak ...

John Raven reflects on his 38 years of ministry as a Reader



Time to step back.

I did agree it with the Vicar first, but being 82 and taking overlong to recover from this year's liver operation, I thought I would not apply to renew my annual Reader's

licence, so from Advent I ceased to be part of the ministry staff at St James. It was a golden opportunity too with Pam Howe and Sheila Roberts, both licensed Readers, coming to worship with us.

Of course I have got a lot more out of being a Reader than I have been able to put into it, and that is the truth of it. It was the Very Rev Derek Hole who originally encouraged me to apply, and it was after the Selection Board had decided against recommending me for non-stipendiary ministry. So in 1981 I got my Reader's licence, and I remember wanting it not so much to help with the worship, although I believe we do gain from having different voices from the pulpit, but to help with authority, to give me a badge as it were to do things.

So it started with House Groups and asking people to lead them. In the 1980s, we had 12, and the Trinity House Group now is what remains of an amalgamation of 3 of those old groups from 35 years ago. Then, for

me, it was more about young people and running the Youth Club after Patrick Angier left, first Simon Edwards then Caroline Beardmore and finally me until it closed a few years ago.

In millennium year, I retired from the job in knitwear, and almost immediately got the letter from the Diocese saying that all the Readers lived in Leicester but the need for them was in the County. Shearsby (with Arnesby) accepted my offer to help, and that quickly became ASB (Arnesby, Shearsby and Bruntingthorpe) and then the Hexagon Benefice when it was joined to Husbands Bosworth, Mowsley and Theddingworth. I found that particularly rewarding, not just the services but also the various village events as well. Liz, my daughter, pretty well always came with me, often with the children, a fantastically reliable help at family services, and Barbara as well. What with the welcome we had, we felt there was real value in it. I only stopped it three years ago when Carol Higson from Arnesby was licensed as a new Reader, and I was heading for hospital.

Now, in 2019, I know there has to be change in the Church, and I want to try and help with that but not able to be a leader of it. I am just so grateful for all that I feel has been offered me through the Reader ministry.

Pam Howe writes ...

By the time this issue of *The Shell* hits the streets Pam, our new Reader, will have begun her ministry here at St James the Greater. Here she introduces herself ...



I completed my Reader training in 1997 and have served continuously ever since, first in the Bradgate Team ministry (covering Ratby, Groby and Newtown Linford), followed by St Philip's, Evington Road, along with St Peter's Highfields.

For 14 years, I and my husband Stephen worshipped at St Philip's. During that time we worked with the Revd. Andrew Wingate and subsequent Directors of the St Philip's Centre and were deeply involved in Interfaith Dialogue. In addition, as a Reader, I (and Stephen) worked in the ministry team alongside the Revds. Diane Johnson, Alan Race and Sonya Wratten, preaching, serving as deacon and leading intercessions regularly. I was also involved in creating and leading All-Age services.

The Revd Suresh Kumar from India followed as the next incumbent at St Philip's and I enjoyed working with him as he shared his experiences of a very different ministry in

South India.

Stephen and I made the decision last April to explore the possibility of moving to St James the Greater which we have now done. We have also both become members of the St James Singers and enjoy singing with them.

My background is in nursing: I am a State Registered Nurse, Midwife and Health Visitor. I have counselling qualifications and have been privileged to be taught by Michael Jacobs, the author of *Still, Small Voice* and many other well-known books. I have worked in Leicester and Dundee as a Health Visitor and in Nottingham and Leicester as a Nurse. I retired in 2007 as Nurse Manager of the large and busy Orthopaedic Trauma Department of the Leicester Royal Infirmary.

I am looking forward to the challenge of serving St James the Greater and am already getting to know many members of the congregation. I find it a friendly church with so many offering help when needed.

The funny side ...

During the 1960s, when Arthur Michael Ramsey was Archbishop of Canterbury, a pale young curate, eager to impress, asked the Archbishop whether a comprehensive dictionary of heresies existed. Without even pausing for breath his Grace replied, "Of course it exists, it's called *Hymns Ancient and Modern*."

Ship of Fools ...

- I try to be self-deprecating; I'm just not very good at it
- Blessed are the cracked for they let in the light

Friendship through brass cleaning

Cherry Fulloway writes ...

One of the great pleasures of being part of a church community is the making of new friends and the consequent effect that has on one's life. Such relationships often emerge out of unexpected circumstances. When asked if I would assist Doris Makepeace with the brass cleaning at St. James the Greater I agreed partly because Doris reminded me of my Mother who cleaned brass at Malvern Priory until she was well into her eighties. I was not wrong in my perception that Doris was very like my Mother but as I got to know her I realized that she was a lady overflowing with faith and reflected many values and attributes which I greatly admired and could learn from.

The skill of church brass cleaning was more complex and harder work than I had envisaged! Elbow grease is required, strong arms to lift heavy objects and the ability to clean difficult objects including lions, an eagle and a tiny statuette of St. James himself. Doris tackled all this with the expertise of one long practised in the art. Unlike me, she knew exactly how much *Brasso* to put on a duster and certainly never spilt it. An expert collector of appropriate cleaning cloths, graded for purpose. She competently organized her brass rubbing kit and tidied it up with meticulous care the final treat being to wipe her hands with a sweet smelling wet wipe!

While working alongside Doris I grew to know, love and respect her. A deeply loving wife to her late husband John, a one-time Church Warden at St. James the Greater, she told me many stories of her life with him. A devoted Mother to her sons and a loved Grandmother, she was clearly greatly cherished by her large family and was the proud owner of an extraordinary bird called Peter! As we cleaned we shared stories of our upbringing by caring parents, in Church communities and the lasting values, beliefs and prac-

tices we had acquired in those early years. We delighted in looking closely at some of the hidden delights and vistas of our Church, and talked at length about our love and concern for St. James the Greater and its community, the generations who had preceded us, and those who might follow. We both agreed

that if our Church is to be preserved and maintained for future generations we should soon need more people to take over the many tasks currently undertaken by a dedicated but ageing band of volunteers.

Doris is a wonderful example of someone who devotedly practices her faith through prayer and action. She lives it out in numerous acts of kindness and care in daily life and is truly a modern day disciple. It has been a privilege and I am humbled to know and learn from her; how much she will probably never realize!

As Doris moves on to take life a little more easily we wish her peace, health and fulfilled days. I will try to follow in her footsteps for a time, inspired by her and the Day Star depicted in the cross on the High Altar.

Our Church would be diminished without the glow of its brass artifacts, next time you come to Church ponder on such things for a moment and wonder who cleans them.



Julian of Norwich (1352-1417)

Feast Day 8 May

All shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of things shall be well'

Julian of Norwich was an anchorite who lived in the fourteenth century and was the first woman to write a book in English. Her book *Revelations of Divine Love*, published in 1395, was widely read and contains very significant theological thought.

An anchorite (or anchoress) was a type of hermit who voluntarily went into isolation in a bricked-up room, often attached to a church. The 'cell' usually had two windows – one into the church so that the occupant could access the church services and receive Holy Communion and the other to the outside to receive food etc and to converse with people.

Julian had visions of Jesus when she was very ill and, after her recovery, she began to reflect deeply on the messages she had received. She compiled her reflections into a book, writing that God is pure love and that he saves us because he loves us, also that God shows care for us with compassion as a Mother and looks after us like a family. Her views were completely different to the ideas of God as a Father who demands obedience and punishment or atonement and would not have been acceptable at the time – possibly because she was a woman and therefore insignificant.

*As truly as God is our Father, so truly is God our mother
And he revealed that in everything and especially in
these sweet words where he says,*

*"I am the power and goodness of fatherhood,
I am the wisdom and lovingness of motherhood.
I am the light and grace which is all blessed love."*

Julian was known as a spiritual counselor. People would come long distances to her cell in Norwich to seek advice. Her teaching was full of hope even through chaotic, worrying, and sometimes dangerous, times. She lived through the Black Death which was virulent between 1348 and 1351. Nearly half the population of Norwich died during the three

years with devastating results, both socially and economically. The plague returned, though less virulently, fifteen years later and some people wonder if she may have lost her husband and family then, although there is no evidence to support this. In 1381 the Peasant's Revolt took place as a response to years of injustice and unfair taxes. Julian herself nearly died from her illness at this time.

The church was also in turmoil resulting in a complete split in 1378 and for the next 68 years there were two Popes each claiming supreme authority. Christians became disillusioned with the church and not sure where true authority lay. Yet, her writings are suffused with hope and trust in God's goodness. Her theology was optimistic with a vision of God's nearness, love, joy, and compassion. She said *The greatest honour we can give almighty God is to live gladly because of his love.*

Interest in Julian's writings has grown during the last 40 years or so as more and more people have discovered the significance of her writings. Her theology and positive image of God is very 'up to date' and her work is now well-respected by theologians, historians and literary scholars. She seems to ask many of the same questions that we have today on our spiritual journey. If God is all goodness, why is there suffering in the world? What is God like? What is the ultimate meaning in life? *Revelations of Divine Love* has been translated many times and many commentaries have been written.

Her church and shrine are in Norwich where there is also a visitor centre and she is particularly remembered on 8 May each year by the Anglican Church, or 13 May in the Catholic Church. There are Julian Meetings today all over the country where people meet in small groups to meditate and pray.

Thanks to Dorothy Lusmore for permission to use this material. Ed.



Rogationtide

Rogation Sunday is the day when the Church has traditionally offered prayer for God's blessings on the fruits of the earth and the labours of those who produce our food.

The word 'rogation' is from the Latin *rogare*, 'to ask'. Historically, the Rogation Days (the three days before Ascension Day) were a period of fasting and abstinence, asking for God's blessing on the crops for a bountiful harvest. Fewer of us today directly derive our livelihood from the production of food, yet it is good to be reminded of our dependence upon those who do and our responsibility for the environment. In 2019 Rogation Sunday is on 26 May, the Rogation Days being on 27-29 May.

Traditionally a common feature of Rogationtide was the ceremony of *Beating the Bounds*, in which a procession of parishioners, led by the minister, churchwardens and choirboys, would proceed around the boundary of their parish and pray for its protection in the forthcoming year.

A formal *Beating of the Bounds* may not be very practicable these days (why not?) but it might be a good pre-Ascension discipline for us as individuals. (Indeed, Hendrix has told the editor that this exercise is *de rigueur* this year!) A map of the parish has been published in a previous edition of the Quarterly, a copy of which can be found in the porch. This does not easily admit of the physical location of the actual parish boundary but is reproduced here for the sake of completeness. To remove all doubt here is the text of the official definition of the parish which was approved at a meeting of the Privy Council held at Buckingham Palace on 25 June 1918 by the King, George V, and published in the *London Gazette*. Note that the distances are given in chains (22 yards) but for convenience the metric equivalents have been inserted in square brackets. If you have one, take a compass.

The new parish of St James, Leicester – not at this stage St James the Greater, but that's another story! – *is comprised within and [is] bounded by an imaginary line commencing at the junction of Granville Road, London Road, and St. Albans Road, where the boundaries of the New Parish of All Souls, Leicester, the New Parish of Saint John, Leicester, (both in the said County and Diocese), and the said New Parish of Saint Peter, Leicester, all meet, and extending thence first north-eastward and then eastward along the middle of St. Albans Road for a distance of 7 chains [141 m] or thereabouts to its junction with Churchill Street, and extending thence northward along the middle of Churchill Street for a distance of 6½ chains [131 m] or thereabouts to its junction with Upper Tichborne Street, and extending thence eastward along the middle of Upper Tichborne Street for a distance of 10 chains [201 m] or thereabouts to its junction with St. Stephen's Road, and extending thence northward along the middle of St. Stephen's Road for a distance of 2¼ chains [45 m] or thereabouts to its junction with Biddulph Street, and extending thence eastward along the middle of Biddulph Street for a distance of 12¾ chains [256 m] or thereabouts to its junction with Laurel Road, and extending thence northward along the middle of Laurel Road for a distance of 5½ chains [111 m] or thereabouts to its junction with St. Peter's Road, and extending thence eastward along the middle of St. Peter's Road, ... , for a distance of 7½ chains [151 m] or thereabouts to its junction with East Park Road, and extending thence south-westward along the middle of East Park Road for a distance of 19½ chains [392 m] or thereabouts to its junction with Evington Road, and extending thence south-eastward along the middle of Evington Road for a distance of 14 yards [13 m] or thereabouts to its junction with Dashwood Road, and extending thence south-westward along the middle of Dashwood Road for a distance of 7¼ chains [146 m] or therea-*

bouts to its junction with Devana Road, and extending thence south-eastward along the middle of Devana Road for a distance of 5 chains [101 m] or thereabouts to its junction with Lyme Road, and extending thence south-westward along the middle of Lyme Road for a distance of 2½ chains [50 m] or thereabouts to its junction with Kimberley Road, at or near the boundary which divides the said New Parish of Saint Philip, Leicester, from the said New Parish of Saint John the Baptist, Knighton, and continuing thence south-westward in precisely the same direction and in a straight line for a distance of 5 chains [101 m] or thereabouts to

a point in the middle of Stanley Road, and extending thence south-westward along the middle of Stanley Road for a distance of 8½ chains [171 m] or thereabouts to its junction with London Road, and extending thence north-westward along the middle of London Road ... for a distance of 29½ chains [593 m] or thereabouts to its junction with Granville Road and St. Albans Road where the boundaries of the said New Parish of All Souls, Leicester, the said New Parish of Saint John, Leicester, and the said New Parish of Saint Peter, Leicester, all meet, at which point the said imaginary line commenced.



Some recipes ...

These recipes are taken from *Favourite Food*, a cookbook created by St James's Charity Committee a few years ago. This was the third in a series of such books in the same vein. Does any reader possess a copy of the first two?

Chestnut Roast

6 oz (180g) chopped cashew nuts
6 oz (180g) chestnut puree
1 teaspoon yeast extract (e.g. Marmite)
1/2 teaspoon oregano
1/2 teaspoon sage
1 clove garlic
1 green pepper
1 large onion
1-2 tablespoons oil
1 tablespoon plain flour
salt and pepper
4 oz (125 g) brown breadcrumbs

Chop the onion and pepper finely and crush the garlic. Fry in the oil, then stir in the flour. Add 1/4 pint (150 ml) water and the yeast extract and cook for a few minutes. Add all the other ingredients, with extra water if needed, and stir well. Turn the mixture into a 2 lb loaf tin (or 2x1 lb tins) and bake for 45 minutes at gas mark 5 (150 °C). This can be frozen.

Rosemary Freer

Cheats Chicken Superb

4-6 cooked chicken breasts or joints
1 tin condensed chicken soup
1 teacup mayonnaise
1 glass white wine
Part-cooked broccoli heads
Breadcrumbs
Grated cheese (cheddar or parmesan)

Butter a shallow casserole dish and place the chicken in it. Arrange the broccoli around the chicken and season lightly. In a separate bowl, mix together the soup, white wine and mayonnaise and then pour the mix over the chicken. Scatter the breadcrumbs and grated *cheese* over the top and cook at 375 °F (gas mark 5, 190 °C) for half an hour.

David Brunning

Singing Anglican Chant for Beginners—Part 1

Mike Rule explains the basics

It all starts with a chant – the music. Here’s an example:

Sir John Goss (1800-1880) *after* Luther

First Quarter Second Quarter Third Quarter Fourth Quarter

This is known as a quadruple chant, simply because it is made up of four sections (or quarters) which are separated by double bar lines. If you don’t read music, it’s best to familiarise yourself with the chant by listening to the organ playover and the choir singing. There will also be people around you in the congregation who are experts too.

Using verses 1 and 2 of Psalm 33 as an example, this is what the words will look like on your Evensong green sheet:

- 1 Rejoice in the Lord | O ye | righteous: for it becometh | well the | just to be | thankful.
- 2 Praise the | Lord with | harp: sing praises unto him with the lute and | instrument | of ten | strings.

Now to match the chant and the words using the following basic rules:

Long line between = a single bar line in the chant Colon in the text : = a double bar line in the chant

Note by note, here’s which words belong to which notes:

First quarter:

Rejoice in the Lord | O ye | righteous:

Second quarter:

for it becometh | well the | just to be | thankful.

Actually, it’s best not to think in words, but to think in syllables. If there is one note in the bar, sing all syllables to that note. If there are two notes and two syllables, it’s a syllable per note. If there are two notes but more than two syllables, sing all but the last syllable on the first note and sing only the final syllable on the second note.

The third and fourth quarters would work out as follows:

- 2 Praise the | Lord with | harp: sing praises unto him with the lute and | instrument | of ten | strings.

I think that is plenty for this edition. Dots and asterisks next edition! If you have any questions, or any of the above requires clarification, feel free to come and chat, you’ll find me at the organ (coffee, no sugar, and I’m partial to ginger nuts). Happy singing!

Obituaries

Arthur Higginson 1930—2019

Derek Hole writes ...



Arthur was born on the 25 October 1930, the son of Arthur and Doris Higginson. After leaving school at the age of 15 in 1945 he went to work at Elequip starting an electrical apprenticeship. In 1952 he entered the Royal Air Force to do his National Service and after leaving in 1954 he joined Belcher Radio and TV Services Ltd. where he taught the engineers at the company to drive. It was at Belcher's that Arthur met Kath and they were married at St James the Greater on 15 July 1961. It was St Swithun's Day – and it rained! In the course of time they had two sons, Andrew and David. After leaving Belcher's in 1966 he went to work for Ivor Orange at Radio and TV services (Oadby) Ltd, taking over the business in 1968 with his partner Norman King, becoming the sole owner in 1987. He stayed there, a familiar figure in Oadby, until he retired 30 years later in 1999. During this time in 1986 Arthur became, through his grandfather, a Freeman of the City of Leicester, a position of which he was very proud.

Arthur was a member of the Choir of this Church for 66 years, the 50th anniversary of his membership being celebrated with a Festal Evensong in 1990. I asked Arthur to choose the music for the occasion, the hymns, the psalm, the anthem. We began that Service with the hymn *Stand up, stand up for Jesus, ye soldiers of the Cross*, the first hymn Arthur had sung in procession on his first Sunday. In his 66 years as a member of the Choir it has been calculated that Arthur had sung 30,888 hymns and heard 6,336 sermons, and many hundreds of anthems and settings, the glories of the Anglican choral tradition. Arthur had been schooled in this music all

his life and it became entwined in his soul as part of his being. For Arthur, Choral Evensong on BBC Radio 3 on a Wednesday afternoon was a staple part of his musical diet. He was hooked on Church Music and was very knowledgeable about it.

He could recount amusing incidents which happened while he was a member of the Choir, perhaps the most celebrated one being on a Whit Sunday when the Choir was singing the anthem *Come Holy Ghost our souls inspire*. When they got to the words 'with fire from above' there was a loud crash and lightning struck the Church building!

I must play tribute to Arthur's loyalty and dedication to the whole life of this Church. He was not only such a long-standing member of the Choir, he was also very much part of the congregation. He didn't just sing Sunday by Sunday, both he and Kath were part of the worshipping body, very much a team together and they totally identified themselves with all that was going on here. Arthur and Kath both served on the Parochial Church Council and supported all the activities of the Church. Their whole lives have been wrapped up in this place and they met and made many friends here.

So we give thanks for Arthur's life, for his contribution to this Church, where for 66 years he 'praised the Lord with a merry voice and delighted him with true melody in his heart' and with Christian confidence we commend him into God's safe and sure keeping.

Anne Laurence 1938—2019**David Clark writes ...**

I think it was in April 1985 that I first met Annie. I had spent the day being interviewed for the post of Team Rector of Oadby, and had arranged to spend the night at Launde Abbey. Fr. Henry and Ruth had retired for the night. It was 10.30. The door was open, and I went in. Annie came down the broad and elegant staircase looking beautiful and wearing a long dress. 'Ah!' I thought, 'it's the Chatelaine.' After all, in her younger days she was known as the 'Belle of Knighton.'

Anne's father was a military chaplain in pre-partition India on the North-West frontier, in what is now Pakistan. His first wife died and he employed a nanny to look after the children of his first marriage. This nanny became his second wife. She was Anne's mother together with Anne's younger siblings, Jane, Ruth and Tim. Anne was born in Bedford, when her mother was in this country with the older children. Anne's mother took her out to India in 1940 when she was two, to meet her father: I gather she didn't like him. He then became Archdeacon of Lahore, so she first went to school there, and then, at 6 years of age, to boarding school in Simla.

In 1947, she came back with her family from the heat of India to boarding school in Bedford and later to a freezing cold Vicarage at Nailstone. The following year her father became Vicar of Knighton, dying five years later of leukaemia, when Anne was 15. The family had to move to Craighill Road, but Anne remained at St Mary's and sang in the choir. She had a pleasing voice, played the piano and was reliable in every way. St Mary's choir members held Annie in considerable affection: she became Godmother to several of their children – a responsibility she took seriously. Indeed, singing in choirs, and with the Ashleyan Opera, and even later with the Rutland Choir remained a significant artistic and social activity throughout her life. For a number of years she was a loyal member of the St James' Singers

I guess that she would say the most spir-

itually enriching part of her life began in 1980, when she was able to work full-time for the church. She knew Fr. Henry and Ruth Evans when Henry became Vicar of Knighton. She joined them at Launde Abbey, when Henry had become Warden. In those days the staff had to turn their hands to anything from bed-making to serving meals to secretarial duties, the last of which was Anne's main activity, her natural charm and pleasant manner making the paths of visitors smooth.

She would have been stretched as Fr Henry decided to improve Launde Abbey by converting the stable block into 19 more bedrooms with ensuite facilities. Large sums had to be raised. In addition the staff team at Launde Abbey made sure the standards of a retreat house were being raised: in service to the retreatants, in catering, and in the provision of spiritual care. This means that Launde Abbey has developed a fine reputation nationally. Anne served at Launde Abbey for 25 years and undoubtedly she was significantly instrumental in forwarding that work under three different wardens. Her organising ability was not confined to Launde Abbey and she helped organise tours to the Holy Land.

Annie always 'kept an eye' on both Henry and Ruth as they retired and grew older. Ruth died in 2005. Then Annie left her house in Oakham and bought a house in Evington. Later she moved into the Clarendon Park area, where she cared for her own and Henry's cats and the garden, which she loved. Henry said he was 'hugely blessed' in the love he received from friends, particularly Anne. She cared for him at home for the last five and a half years of his life in the most devoted way as he grew frail.

We give hearty thanks for Anne's life, for her gifts so freely shared with others, and for the memories which we cherish. I hope we will share stories of Annie as we meet in the future: it will be part of our thanksgiving.



Calendar of Services and Events

MARCH

Tuesday - Friday	09.00 Morning Prayer	
2 Saturday	09.30-15.00 St James's <i>Vision Day</i> at Kibworth Parish Church	
3 Sunday	SUNDAY BEFORE LENT	
	08.30 Holy Communion (BCP)	Celebrant: The Vicar
	10.30 Sung Eucharist	Celebrant & Preacher: The Vicar
	18.30 Choral Evensong	Preacher: Angela Jagger
6 Wednesday	ASH WEDNESDAY	
	19.30 Sung Eucharist	Celebrant & Preacher: The Vicar
7 Thursday	10.15 Holy Communion	Celebrant: Jane Sharp
8 Friday	19.30 Leicester Theological Society at St Clement's Hall, Holy Cross Centre, Wellington Street The Reverend Alan Hawker <i>President, Leicester Theological Society 2018/2019</i> "The sound of Heaven is laughter"	
10 Sunday	FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT	
	08.30 Holy Communion	Celebrant: The Vicar
	10.30 Sung Eucharist	Celebrant & Preacher: The Vicar
	18.30 Choral Evensong	Preacher: The Vicar
14 Thursday	10.15 Holy Communion	Celebrant: The Vicar
17 Sunday	SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT	
	08.30 Holy Communion	Celebrant: Jane Sharp
	10.30 Sung Eucharist	Celebrant: & Preacher: The Vicar
	18.30 Choral Evensong	Preacher: The Vicar
21 Thursday	10.15 Holy Communion	Celebrant: Jane Sharp

24 Sunday	THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT	
	08.30 Holy Communion	Celebrant: The Vicar
	10.30 Sung Eucharist	Celebrant: The Vicar Preacher: David Brunning
	18.30 Choral Evensong	Preacher: The Vicar
28 Thursday	10.15 Holy Communion	Celebrant: The Vicar
31 Sunday	FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT	Mothering Sunday
	08.30 Holy Communion	Celebrant: The Vicar
	10.30 All-age Eucharist	Celebrant & Preacher: The Vicar
	18.30 Choral Evensong	Preacher: The Vicar
APRIL		
4 Thursday	10.15 Holy Communion (BCP)	Celebrant: Jane Sharp
7 Sunday	FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT	
	08.30 Holy Communion	Celebrant: Jane Sharp
	10.30 Sung Eucharist	Celebrant: The Vicar Preacher: Pam Howe
	18:30 Choral Evensong	Preacher: The Vicar
10 Wednesday	19.30 Annual Church Meeting	
11 Thursday	10.15 Holy Communion	Celebrant: The Vicar
14 Sunday	PALM SUNDAY	
	08.30 Holy Communion	Celebrant: The Vicar
	10.30 Sung Eucharist	Celebrant & Preacher: The Vicar
	18.30 Choral Evensong	Preacher: Angela Jagger
17 Wednesday	17.30 (an hour before Compline)	Organ recital by Mike Rule to include music by J. S. Bach, Liszt and Mendelssohn

18 Thursday	No 10.15 Holy Communion today 19.30 Sung Eucharist	11.00 Chrism Mass at the Cathedral Celebrant & Preacher: The Vicar
19 Friday	GOOD FRIDAY	
	14.00 Music and reflections 19.30 Tenebrae	The Vicar TBC
21 Sunday	EASTER DAY	
	06.00 Dawn service with HC 08.30 Sung Eucharist 10.45 All-age Eucharist 18.30 Festal Evensong	Celebrant: The Vicar Celebrant & Preacher: The Vicar Celebrant & Preacher: The Vicar Preacher: The Vicar
25 Thursday	10.15 Holy Communion	Celebrant: The Vicar
28 Sunday	SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER	
	08.30 Holy Communion 10.30 All-age Eucharist 18.30 Evensong	Celebrant: Keith Magee Celebrant: TBC Preacher: David Brunning Preacher: Philip Norwood
MAY		
2 Thursday	10.15 Holy Communion	Celebrant: The Vicar
5 Sunday	THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER	
	08.30 Holy Communion (BCP) 10.30 Sung Eucharist 18:30 Choral Evensong	Celebrant: The Vicar Celebrant & Preacher: Philip Norwood Preacher: Pam Howe

9 Thursday	10.15 Holy Communion	Celebrant: Philip Norwood
12 Sunday	FOURTH SUNDAY OE EASTER	
	08.30 Holy Communion	Celebrant: The Vicar
	10.30 Sung Eucharist	Celebrant & Preacher: The Vicar
	18.30 Choral Evensong	Preacher: Angela Jagger
16 Thursday	10.15 Holy Communion	Celebrant: Jane Sharp
19 Sunday	FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER	
	08.30 Holy Communion	Celebrant: The Vicar
	10.30 Sung Eucharist	Celebrant & Preacher: The Vicar
	18.30 Choral Evensong	Preacher: The Vicar
23 Thursday	10.15 Holy Communion	Celebrant: The Vicar
26 Sunday	SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER	ROGATION SUNDAY
	08.30 Holy Communion	Celebrant: Jane Sharp
	10.30 Sung Eucharist	Celebrant & Preacher: TBC
	18.30 Choral Evensong	Preacher: David Brunning
27 Monday	Rogation Day	
28 Tuesday	Rogation Day	
29 Wednesday	Rogation Day	
30 Thursday	ASCENSION DAY	
	10.15 Holy Communion	Celebrant: Jane Sharp
	19.30 Sung Eucharist	Celebrant: TBC

Commemorative Flowers



March

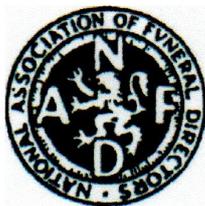
- 3 Julia Walker
10 - 31 Lent – no flowers

April

- 7 Lent – no flowers
14 Lent – no flowers
21 Easter
28 Easter

May

- 5 Chancel Steps – donated by Diana Jones in memory of her parents and brother
Altar frontal – donated by Elizabeth Bentley in memory of her parents Tom and Lillian Garrett
12 Chancel Steps – donated by Renee Blackburn in memory of her husband Jeffrey & daughter Susan and son John
19 Chancel Steps – donated by Doris Makepeace in memory of John
26 Chancel Steps – donated by Janet Felstead in memory of David



A C James & Son
INDEPENDENT FAMILY FUNERAL DIRECTORS
9 Biddulph Street
Leicester LE2 1BH
24-Hour service Tel: 0116 254 2900

What's on ...

Sundays	Sunday Club in school term time Contact: Jo Stapleton	10.30	Hall
Sunday and Thursdays	Coffee Organiser: Elizabeth Turner		Hall
	St James's Singers Director: Michael Rule	19.30 alternate Thursdays	Ashman Music Room
	Beavers, Cubs and Scouts Leaders: Tony and Alison Hurst 0116 210 2958	17.30 – 19.30	Undercroft
Fridays	Boys' and Girls' Choir Practice Full Choir Practice Director: Matthew Haynes	18.00 19.30	Ashman Music Room
Saturdays	Stop-by Project for the homeless Coordinator: Salma Ravat Contact via Church Office	11.00 – 13.00	Undercroft

Who's who ...

Churchwardens	Julia Walker Phil Jones	
Deputy Wardens	Simon Edwards Paul Jenkins April Rule	
PCC Secretary	Lin Mawer	pcc.secretary@stjamesthegreater.org.uk
Church Administrator	Annabel Cowley	office@stjamesthegreater.org.uk
Treasurer	David Sharman	
Director of Music	Matthew Haynes	dom@stjamesthegreater.org.uk
Organist and Associate Director of Music	Michael Rule	organist@stjamesthegreater.org.uk
Flower Guild Coordinator	Julia Walker	juliabentom350@outlook.com
Child Protection Officer	Vicky Roe	pastoral.assistant@stjamesthegreater.org.uk
The Shell Editor	Graham Jagger	grahamjagger42@gmail.com