

*Issue 2/2016*

# ***PARISH NEWS***

**The magazine of  
Beeston Parish Church**



**April / May 2016**

**Donations of 30p or more please**

# FATHER WAYNE WRITES...



As you read this message we will be celebrating Easter and the Resurrection of Christ. We will go on reflecting on its significance in Church for the six weeks of Eastertide. It is right at the heart of the Christian faith and what it means to live a Christian life, so it is right that we go on thinking about it long after the last Easter egg has been eaten! The Cross and the Resurrection go together. The Resurrection is not a 'fairytale ending' or an antidote to Good Friday, but it is a firm reminder that God is God and that, in spite of how life sometimes feels, God is in charge. The empty tomb is a stark reminder that God is not bound or limited by the things of this world. Everything that happens after that first Good Friday – the Resurrection itself and Jesus' appearances to the first disciples that followed in the days after Easter – tell us that God has the final word on our life and on our death.

We are called to live in the light of the death and Resurrection of Christ. We are called to be a hopeful people, not a people of superficial smiles and false reassurances, or people who condemn or judge, but a people who understand that although sin, pain and suffering are real they do not have the last word on our lives. This is Good News!

Our Bishop, Paul Williams, is keen that these next few years should be a time when we particularly focus on this good news, that we think more deeply about our own journey of faith and that we seek to share our story of faith with others. Many of us lack the confidence to share our faith or think that faith is a private matter. It's a good job the first disciples didn't think like that or we would not be Christians today. Our faith is made to be passed on. If you have good news in any other area of life that last thing you want to do is to keep it to yourself. Together, let's learn again about our faith and let's think about how we can share it with others. Churches which do this are Churches which grow!

God Bless

*Father Wayne*

## **PARISH NEWS**

**NEXT EDITION – JUNE / JULY 2016**

Contributions to [philip.sherratt7@googlemail.com](mailto:philip.sherratt7@googlemail.com), or in person at church

**Deadline for Contributions: Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> May**

**Publication Date: Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> May**

# FROM THE REGISTERS

## Baptisms

13 March	Sonny Ray James Jones
20 March	Ethan Jarvis
20 March	Mia Jarvis
20 March	Kacey Brooke Barks
20 March	Mia Elise Barks



## Weddings

12 March	Gareth Robert Leask and Kelly Marie Chapman
19 March	Ronald Edward Wilson and Kimlee Miller
26 March	Martin Radford and Stephanie Anne Sladen



## Rest in Peace

Barry Melvin Covell
Joan Margaret Wilde
Jaqueline Kemp



# PCC NEWS

The PCC met on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> March, and items discussed at the meeting included:

- **Lighting the outside of the church:** after a proposal last year was rejected by the council, funding has now become available again. The planning officer and conservation officer have given approval in principle, and the PCC agreed that the plans should move forward. The proposal is that six lights would be fitted to illuminate the tower and two the west end of the church. The lights would be coloured, changing on a slow cycle every 30 minutes. It is hoped that they will be installed by the end of the year.
- **Finance:** our treasurer Kaye Ford reported that in 2015 we achieved a small surplus, a major improvement on the budgeted loss. This owes much to those who give week by week but more significantly to a number of generous legacies. A vote of thanks was given to the hard work of the Finance Committee.
- **Charitable giving:** Norman Vaughton introduced the Mampong Appeal, a charity with which his sister-in-law is involved. Based in Ghana, it is a home which takes in babies whose mothers have died during or after childbirth and occasionally abandoned children. The babies are fed and cared for until they are between 2 and 4 years old, when hopefully they return to their fathers and extended family. The PCC discussed supporting the appeal and Norman will ask if there are any specific projects they require assistance with. Father Wayne also highlighted the Tariro project, which we have contributed to in the past. It is hoped that we can share more of the work done by these projects in the future, either in the magazine or during the Sunday morning service.
- **The Bishop's view:** Father Wayne and Rob reported that Bishop Paul's priority over the coming years is evangelism and 'telling our story'. This will be reflected in the diocese as a whole and will form part of future sermons on Sunday mornings.

*PS*

## A NEW CALLING

We had been to St. John the Baptist Church in Beeston on one or two occasions to meet Father Wayne, as Rob had been told that this was where he would be Curate.

As soon as we walked through the door we felt the warmth and welcome that we were given. We could see the usual look on people's faces wondering who we were, which soon changed after the service during tea and coffee time.

Rob settled in as Curate, and occasionally I would go to the 10.00am service. At that point I felt that I couldn't move permanently because of my commitment to St Francis as an RLM (Recognised Lay Minister) in Pastoral Care.

I hadn't been really happy for a while and I spoke to our rector at that time, Sarah Clark, who told me to talk it over with our vicar as she would be around to speak with me and to pray it through.

It took me about a year to eventually make up my mind and when I did make the decision I felt that God had made the time right for me.

I was at a meeting and towards the end we had our diaries out to make future dates, at this point, quite calmly, I told them that I wouldn't be there as I was leaving. The group which I belonged to were amazed, as I was. I believe that it was definitely the push I needed, it could only have come from God.

When Rob was Priested, that was the right time for me to make the move.

At first I felt that I leaving a sinking ship. Apart from taking out Home Communions, I wasn't getting anything out of the services. It felt like St Francis had become a church in a box. The church building had been closed, the clergy did not wear their robes anymore, and it felt like anyone could have done the service.

At our very first visit to St John's I knew there was a feeling of Grace and Peace and this was where I wanted to be.

Gradually I have become more and more involved in the weekly diary duties and I know that I have found what I had been missing in my former church life.

Being part of a team, feeling needed and finally being able to help do my part for God has made my life so much easier.

Thank you all for making this possible. God Bless you all.

*Cynthia Wiggins*

# OUR FIGHT TO HELP THE VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND OUR SCHEME TO HELP THOSE IN NEED OF R&R...

## AFIA holidays (Away From It All)

AFIA is a Mothers' Union holiday scheme, primarily funded by Mothers' Union members, to help people who are experiencing stress in their family life. Mothers' Union normally helps with part of the cost of a holiday or with travel expenses, but sometimes can pay for the whole trip. The funds are limited but we will always help as much as we can.

Those hoping to have a holiday don't have to be a member of a church or organisation and can apply for themselves or recommend someone else for a holiday. The holidays take many different forms. Some are specially organised family weeks where a number of families and a team of volunteers go away together with activities and outings arranged.

Other holidays might take place in mobile homes owned by Mothers' Union, usually sited near a beach. Some holidays take the form of day trips. We usually try to find the most suitable holiday, because everyone is different.

On average, Mothers' Union helps 2,500 people to have a holiday each year. Families are able to spend time together away from their stressful situations at home, engage in activities together and have fun. They often experience healing in their relationships by spending this quality time with each other.

So, Count Your Blessings. This year the Nottingham Branch of the MU are raising money for the AFIA Scheme through the Count Your Blessings appeal, which always kicks off at the beginning of Lent, so, by the time you are reading this, Lent will be over **but please do not let that stop you** donating towards Count Your Blessings, there may still be forms on the table at the back of the Church, if they have been cleared away, so what? Find Sheila or Rosie at Wednesday or Sunday services and hand over your donation. So, whether you are a member of the MU or not, help us make your Church's Count Your Blessings donations towards AFIA one to be proud of.

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We have a new member, Pat Rushton. Welcome Pat, we hope that you will enjoy your time with us.

Why not become a member of this worthwhile organisation. We could do with some new, younger members to bring in new ideas and inspirations. We do not demand a lot of your time, just a couple of hours a month on a Thursday afternoon.

## **New programme for high risk domestic abuse perpetrators**

Over the years Mothers' Union has called for more of an emphasis, and increased funding to be provided for domestic abuse perpetrator programmes, as a key way of breaking the devastating cycle of domestic abuse.

A pilot programme which will seek to address the offending behaviour of high-risk domestic abuse perpetrators will begin in April 2016. The initiative, which is called **The Drive Programme**, has been set up by leading domestic abuse organisations SafeLives and Respect in association with Social Finance Direct, who will work alongside Police and Crime Commissioners, and Local Authorities

**The Drive Programme** will be evaluated and if successful may be extended to other parts of the UK. In the UK two women are murdered every week by a partner or former partner. It is vital that, alongside the scheme the police and other agencies ensure that a focus remains on protecting those who experience abuse and that funding for survivor services continue to be made available.

Initially set up in South Wales, Sussex and Essex, the programme will seek to challenge the behaviour of high-risk perpetrators on a one to one basis to attempt to reduce their abusive behaviour and to keep victims and children safe. The programme has been set up in order to fill a gap in the provision of behavioural change programmes for high-risk perpetrators, and in light of the fact that it tends to be those who are experiencing domestic abuse who are asked to change their behaviour, for example by moving away and attempting to keep themselves safe from the perpetrator

Speaking about the pilot scheme, Karen Bradley, Minister to Preventing Abuse Exploitation and Crime, stated that "This innovative pilot will give us greater insights into the causes of offending behaviour and the role of rehabilitation".

## **Dates for your diary**

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> April – Mothers' Union Meeting. We are fortunate in that we have Helen Cathpole joining us. She will be giving us an up to date version of the work of the Mothers' Union in a very troubled Burundi.

Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> April at 3.00pm: Diocesan Lady Day Service at Southwell Minster

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May: Ascension Day

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> May: Pentecost/Whit Sunday

Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> May: 1.30pm Committee Meeting in the Church



# THE CALENDAR

*Regular weekday services and activities are not included – see back page for details*

<b>APRIL 2016</b>	
Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup> of Easter	8am Said Eucharist 10am Sung Eucharist 11.15am PCC Finance Meeting 6.30pm CW Evening Prayer
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm Friendship Group Meeting
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> 3 <sup>rd</sup> of Easter	8am Said Eucharist 10am Sung Eucharist with Holy Baptism 6.30pm Stations of the Resurrection
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Mothers' Union Meeting
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> 4 <sup>th</sup> of Easter	8am Said Eucharist 10am Sung Eucharist 11.15am Annual Parochial Church Meeting 6.30pm Taizé Service
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am ABC2
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup>	7.30pm Friendship Group Meeting
Saturday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	3pm Messy Church
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> 5 <sup>th</sup> of Easter	8am Said Eucharist 10am Sung Eucharist 6.30pm BCP Evening Prayer
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am ABC2

# MAY 2016

Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> 6 <sup>th</sup> of Easter	8am Said Eucharist 10am Sung Eucharist 6.30pm Service tbc
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	9.30am ABC2 7.30pm PCC Meeting
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> Ascension Day	7.30pm Friendship Group Meeting 7.30pm Sung Eucharist (incense used)
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> 7 <sup>th</sup> of Easter	8am Said Eucharist 10am Sung Eucharist 6.30pm Service tbc
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am ABC2
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Mothers' Union Meeting
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> Pentecost	8am Said Eucharist 10am Sung Eucharist (incense used) 6.30pm Taizé Service
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am ABC2
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm Friendship Group Meeting
Saturday 21 <sup>st</sup>	3pm Messy Church
Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> Trinity Sunday	8am Said Eucharist 10am Sung Eucharist 6.30pm Service tbc
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am ABC2
Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup> 1 <sup>st</sup> after Trinity	8am Said Eucharist 10am Sung Eucharist 6.30pm Service tbc

# MOTHERING SUNDAY v MOTHER'S DAY

## *What's the difference?*

The roots of Mothering Sunday lie in pre-Christian times when the Ancient Greeks marked the coming of spring by holding parties in honour of Rhea, the mother of their gods. The Romans honoured their goddess of motherhood in spring with the feast of Matronalia. When the Christian Church became established in this country, the Christians incorporated the Roman customs into church life, but instead of honouring the mother of the Roman gods they honoured the Mother Church.

By the Middle Ages church life was well established and seasonal festivals were observed. Parishes covered a large area and often there was one parish church and several daughter churches. Usually people attended their local church but on the middle Sunday of Lent everyone went to the Mother Church, the main parish church. They would walk in procession from the outlying villages and would present their Lent Offerings and pay their tithes and taxes.

As time passed the processions decreased and children were in domestic service away from home. So the middle Sunday of Lent became the traditional weekend for them to go home and visit their families and worship at their Mother Church. As they walked home they gathered flowers from the hedgerows to give to their mothers.

In 1662 the Book of Common Prayer was introduced and the Gospel Reading for the middle Sunday of Lent was the feeding of the 5000, so the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent became known as Refreshment Sunday. The set epistle referred to Jerusalem as the mother of us all.

Time passed and more holidays from work were allowed and Mothering Sunday lost some of its importance, but in about 1905 Constance Penswick Smith, the daughter of the vicar of Coddington near Newark, decided to research the origins of Mothering Sunday. She became very enthusiastic about her findings and in 1907 designed some special Mothering Sunday cards for her Sunday School children to give to their mothers. She then wrote plays and articles to promote interest, and several clergy in the diocese, including her four brothers who were all ordained, took up her ideas. Her idea quickly spread throughout the country.

At about the same time Miss Anna Jarvis, who lived in Philadelphia in USA, lost her mother and decided to organise something to honour mothers. She decided that on the second Sunday in May each year she would organise a special service in her church. She asked those whose mothers had died to wear a white carnation and those who were still lucky enough to have their mothers to wear a red carnation. This idea

quickly caught on and in 1914 the American Congress decreed that the second Sunday in May should be kept as Mother's Day.

American soldiers stationed in the UK during the Second World War brought their Mother's Day tradition to Britain but it got attached to Lent 4, our Mothering Sunday. So today we have those with church backgrounds who celebrate Mothering Sunday on Lent 4 and on the same day we have the secular Mother's Day. Shops sell Mothering Sunday cards as well as Mother's Day cards but on May 8<sup>th</sup> in America Mother's Day will be celebrated when people will wear red or white carnations depending on whether or not their mother is still alive.

SA

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## **NEWS FROM THE BELL TOWER**

On Sunday 20 March 2016, in 45 mins, the Bellringers rang a quarter peal in memory of Canon Jack Johnson, vicar of the parish from 1970 to 1985, who died earlier that week. During his time as incumbent, the bells were rung loud and often. Some of the longer pieces of ringing or peals are recorded for posterity on plaques up the tower. Details of the quarter peal rung in his memory are as follows:

Tenor: 17-1-14 in E

### **1250 Glasgow Surprise Major**

1 Ian Vincent

2 Christopher J Field

3 Hayley J Wells

4 Robert Flockton

5 Christian J Brown

6 Andrew Wignell

7 Tim Poole (C)

8 Alistair J E Smith

First in the method: 3 and 4.

# SOUNDS FAMILIAR

Do you realise how many sayings we use today have their origins in the Bible?

## **Out of the mouths of babes and sucklings (Psalm 8 v2, also Matthew 21 v16)**

I am sure we can all recall something memorable said by a child at a particular moment and this idea can be found in Psalm 8 where we read '*out of the mouths of babes and sucklings has Thou ordained strength*'. Jesus himself uses the phrase in Matthew 21 when he says: '*Have you never read, Out of the mouths of babes and sucklings has thou perfected praise*'. The words used in Jesus' quotation are based on the Greek translation rather than the Hebrew original.

In modern speech the quotation has become a familiar saying, expressing admiration for a child's utterance. If you remember the Hans Christian Anderson fairy story it took a child to point out what everyone else was thinking – that the Emperor's new clothes were non-existent.

## **My cup runneth over (Psalm 23 v5)**

Today this phrase means we are overwhelmed with good things and it can be found in Psalm 23, traditionally written by David: *Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies. Thou anointest my head with oil and my cup runneth over*. This particular psalm has been set to music by many composers including J.S. Bach and Vaughan Williams and of course was used for the theme tune for the Vicar of Dibley. It is used both at weddings and funerals in various forms.

The phrase *My cup runneth over* is used today to express gratitude but can also be used sarcastically.

## **To bite the dust (Psalm 72 v9, also Micah 7 v17, Genesis 3 v19 and Job 21 v26)**

This phrase refers to death or failure and in Genesis God tells Adam '*Unto dust shalt thou return*' when He cuts him off from the Garden of Eden and the Tree of Life. In the book of Job we read: *They shall lie down alike in the dust and the worms shall cover them*.

But although the phrase *Bite the dust* sounds biblical and is often referred to as a Bible phrase, the nearest the Bible comes to it is *Lick the dust* which appears in Psalm 72 and Micah 7 as an expression of abasement and humiliation.

The word *lick* doesn't become *bite* until as late as 1750 and the saying only really became popular when it became a favourite saying of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century cowboys in the Wild West.

Second World War pilots also adopted the phrase as one of the many euphemisms they used for death.

### **Go from strength to strength (Psalm 84 v7)**

To go from 'strength to strength' today indicates progression from one success to another. In Psalm 84 we read about the Jews arriving in Jerusalem: *They go from strength to strength; every one of them in Zion appeareth before God.* This contrasts with the exiled Jews, forcibly deported to Babylon by King Nebuchadnezzar in the 6<sup>th</sup> Century BC. Exile was quite a common way of pacifying rebels in the ancient Middle East in those days. The Assyrians had started the trend and had shuffled populations around their vast empire since the 13<sup>th</sup> Century BC.

Like the ancient Israelites this phrase has also moved a long way from its roots. In today's world it can be applied to almost everything and in the 1980's it even enjoyed a brief period of fame as a slogan for Peugeot which, referring to their familiar lion logo, proclaimed '*The lion leaps from strength to strength*'.

### **Threescore and ten (Psalm 90 v10)**

Three score and ten make seventy – considered a lifetime, and often crops up in the Bible. Psalm 90 laments the shortness of human life by saying '*the days of our years are threescore and ten, yet is their strength labour and sorrow, for it is soon cut off and we fly away*'. Shakespeare used the phrase in Macbeth and two centuries later Abraham Lincoln paraphrased it when he opened his Gettysburg address by saying '*Fourscore and seven years ago...*'. Fortunately today many of us are lucky enough to live longer than three score years and ten.

### **Hallelujah (several psalms, also Revelation 19 v1)**

Hallelujah is used as an expression of joy, sometimes sarcastically. It is a simple transliteration of the Hebrew words *hallelu yah* where *hallelu* is the imperative of the verb '*to praise*' and *yah* is the name of God.

Like *Hosanna*, which means *help us, we pray*, it is a single word that sums up the whole Christian celebration of God.

John Milton uses the word in Paradise Lost to describe the song of the heavenly choir and Walter Scott had *eternal hallelujahs* as the opposite of *eternal lamentations* in his Tales of my Landlord (1818).

SA

# HIDDEN WORD PUZZLE

All the words in this puzzle are occupations in the Bible. Words can be straightforward, back-to-front, vertically or diagonally across the rectangle, but all are in straight lines. Some letters are used more than once. The remaining letters spell out the first line of a well-known hymn.

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

- |           |           |              |             |               |
|-----------|-----------|--------------|-------------|---------------|
| Baker     | Innkeeper | Moneychanger | Rabbi       | Slave         |
| Butler    | Judge     | Musician     | Sadducee    | Soldier       |
| Carpenter | Lawyer    | Pharisee     | Sailor      | Sower         |
| Dyer      | Levite    | Physician    | Scribe      | Tax Collector |
| Farmer    | Mason     | Potter       | Shepherd    | Tentmaker     |
| Fisherman | Merchant  | Priest       | Silversmith | Weaver        |

Last issue's hidden hymn:

*'There is a green hill far away.'*

# PARISH CHURCH CONTACTS

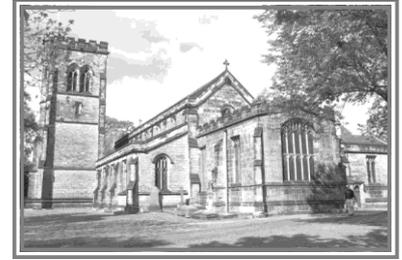
ABC2	Diane Stevenson	9253562
Choir	Chris Warren	07507 493410
Sunday School	Sheila Allton	9255770
Bellringers	Al Smith / Bridget Eickhoff	
	<a href="mailto:beeston@southwelldg.org.uk">beeston@southwelldg.org.uk</a>	
Brownies	Louise Lee	9176846
Guides	Kaye Ford	9167806
Rainbows	Louise Lee	9176846
Friendship Group	Jeanette Simons	9223815
Julian Prayer Group	Sandie Cutts	9257474
Mothers' Union	Pat Atkins	9256327
Finance: Treasurer	Kaye Ford	9167806
Planned Giving	Bryan Spencer	9732236
<b>Parish News</b>	<b>Phil Sherratt</b>	<b>07946 973055</b>
<i>Contributions to:</i>	<a href="mailto:philip.sherratt7@googlemail.com">philip.sherratt7@googlemail.com</a>	

## OTHER USEFUL CONTACTS

NHS Direct Line (24 hours, 7 days)	0845 4647
Police Station	9430999
Gas Emergency	0800 111999
Citizens Advice Bureau, Council Offices, Foster Ave.	0844 4994194
Library, Foster Avenue	9255168
Methodist Church	9431164
Church of the Assumption	9228145
Bramcote Leisure Centre	9173000
Broxtowe Borough Council, Foster Ave	9177777

For other information about services and community groups in Beeston please refer to the Help Directory in the Public Library

# The Parish Church of St John the Baptist, Beeston



[www.beestonparishchurch.co.uk](http://www.beestonparishchurch.co.uk)

**Vicar:** Father Wayne Plimmer

☎ 9254571

**Curate:** Father Rob Wiggins

☎ 07906664263

*(Thurs only)*

**Church Office/Admin Assistant:**

Kathryn Weller

[beeston.parish@gmail.com](mailto:beeston.parish@gmail.com)

☎ 9225638

**Reader:** Sally Beazley

☎ 9221226

**Church Wardens:**

Pat Atkins

☎ 9256327

Ray Stevenson

☎ 9253562

## **WEEKLY SERVICES:**

**Sunday:**

8.00am Said Eucharist

*9.45am Sunday School meets in church*

10.00am Sung Eucharist

6.30pm Evening Worship

*See calendar for more details*

**Mon-Weds:**

7.30am Morning Prayer

**Tuesday:**

1.00pm Eucharist

**Wednesday:**

10.00am Eucharist

**Thursday:**

9.00am Morning Prayer

**Monday to Friday 11.30am – 1.30pm:**

Church open for Private Prayer

**Thursday 10am – 12noon:**

Coffee Stop – Church Open

*Tea, coffee and biscuits available*