

Diary dates for November and December 2009

5 th November	10.00 All Souls Service of Remembrance 10.30 Bible Study – Gentleness
9 th November	14.00 Ecumenical Bible Study in French
18 th November	11.00 Julian Meeting George Dobinson
19 th November	10.30 Council Meeting
3 rd December	10.30 Bible Study – Fruit of the Spirit
14 th December	14.00 Ecumenical Bible Study in French
16 th December	11.00 Julian Meeting George Dobinson
19 th December	17.00 Carol Service
24 th December	17.00 Crib Service

Prayer of the month

Unfrightened

May he give us
All the courage that we need
To go the way he shepherds us.

That when he calls
We may go unfrightened.

If he bids us come to him
Across the waters,
That unfrightened we may go.

Bede Jarrett (1881 – 1934)

Prayer focus

This month, let us remember the crowd of witnesses who have died in the faith of Christ; all those we love and whom we see and hold no more; all those who have lost their lives during the many wars of the past century so that we might enjoy the freedom to live our lives today.

Newsletter - November 2009 St Bartholomew's Church, Dinard



Services

Sunday 11.00 Holy Communion (with hymns)
Thursday 10.00 Holy Communion (said)

A warm welcome to all who worship with us.
During the service there is a Sunday School.
After the service coffee is served.

Priest-in-charge: The Revd Gareth Randall

For further information concerning baptisms,
marriages or funerals:

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Dear Friends

Remember, remember the 5th of November

November is a month of remembering. As I walk round the nearly empty prom, I remember the crowded beach and the delight of the soft sand underfoot. As I look up at a cloud-filled sky and across to grey St Malo, I remember the early morning light blue sky, the sunrise over the hill where St Barts is hidden from sight and a sunpath bright orange on the water.

November is also a month for remembering in the calendar of the Church: All Saints; All Souls; Remembrance Sunday; Christ the King. It is a chance to remember the crowd of witnesses to our faith who have gone before, the communion of saints to whom and through whom and for whom we may pray. It is a chance to remember the many folk associated with our church from the founders of St Bartholomew's Dinard through to the most recent member of our congregation who has died, our families and friends whom we love but see no more but whose memories we still cherish. It is a chance to remember those who have given their lives fighting for their country, courageous souls who have made the ultimate sacrifice so that we might be free. It is a chance to remember the sovereignty of Christ, the Son of God, Our Lord and Our King

In the this dark month running up to the light of Christmas, it is worth remembering that however black things are, we are never alone for we live in the company of those who have gone before us and in the hope of an ever-present God who knows and loves us all.

Father Gareth

- **Remembrance Sunday:** As usual we are supporting the British Legion with our sale of poppies. You can also obtain fridge magnets 3€ and tea towels 5€ from Helen Morgan.
- **Planned Giving:** Anyone wanting to join the scheme may obtain forms from Doreen Collier, the Treasurer
- **Tournebride Monthly Lunch 7th November** at the Relais de Tournebride - a good opportunity for British and French folk to meet. 14€ includes an aperitif, a four course meal, wine and coffee. **Mike Baber** 02 99 73 56 06/annebaber5050@aol.com
- **Deadline** for submission of material for the November Newsletter is **midday on Thursday 26th November**
- **Church Finances for September**
Income: 2775€ Expenditure 3104€

➤ Readings in church

1st November, All Saints' Day

Wisdom 3 v1 - 9	Psalm 24 p1121
Revelation 21 v1 – 6a	John 11 v32 - 44

8th November, Remembrance Sunday

Jonah 3v1 -5, 10	Psalm 62 v5 – end p1169
Hebrews 9 v24 - end	Mark 1 v14 - 20

15th November, Second Sunday before Advent

Daniel 12 v 1 - 3	Psalm 16 p 1109
Hebrews 10 v1 – 14, 19 - 25	Mark 13 v1 - 8

22nd November, Christ the King

Daniel 7 v9 – 10, 13 - 14	Psalm 93 p1216
Revelation 1 v4b -8	John 18 v33 - 37

29th November, Advent Sunday

Jeremiah 33 v14 - 15	Psalm 25 v1 – 11 p1121
1 Thessalonians 3 v9 - end	Luke 21 v25 - 36

French Proverb of the Month

This month's proverb from 'Almanach du Marin Breton 2008' may encourage a change of mind about certain Christmas presents:

Il vaut mieux souffrir d'une absence que d'une présence

Last month's might be paraphrased as follows:

What's really important is not how pretty you are but your ability to please

Quotation of the Month

The following was one of a series of humorous observations in an e-mail sent to me by Ron Frankel, the former British Consul at St Malo.

'I'm getting so old that all my friends in heaven will think I didn't make it.'

Have organ will travel

At our Garden Party in August, Ken Penfold filled the grounds of La Trauchandière with music from 30s to 80s. For the past 40 years, he has regularly provided musical entertainment for Christmas parties, weddings etc in the UK. Now living in France, Ken is willing to play for you, within a 60km radius of Dinard. If you're interested, why not give him a ring on 06 27 68 09 85? If the function is for charity, then it's only a matter of covering the cost of his petrol. If it is a private function, then a small charge will be made the profit from which will go to supporting St Barts.

Wanted

Have you an electric sewing machine surplus to requirements? If you would like to sell it or pass it on, please phone Victor Pumfrett on 02 99 73 99 14

Baptism

Congratulations on the Baptism of
Phoebe Rose Gravier
11th October 2009

Marriage

Congratulations on the Wedding of
Anne Faisant de Champchesnel and Alexis Vialle
3rd October 2009

Spotlight on Words

The Feeding of the 5000 Mark 6 v30 - 44

In his account of the miracle, St Mark says the people sat down on the green grass so it must have taken place in Spring during March or April, the only time of the year in Palestine when the grass would have been green. Mark describes the people as literally sitting down 'in drinking parties in plots of onions'. No, it wasn't to make them weep but it did allow the disciples to pass among them to distribute the food for the 5,000 were sat in groups and each group sat in rows! Other gospel writers may well correct Mark's Greek in their versions of the same incident but somehow I get the excitement and feel the wonder that the disciples actually experience through reading the words and expressions Mark uses.

Pauline Eyre

"There is no tomorrow, only today"

What is your favourite day? I might like to think that it is Sunday, when you come to church, but it may be Saturday when you can lie in bed, or play football or hockey, or go shopping. Or Friday, when it is the night you go to the cinema or go out with your friends.

Do you know what my favourite day is? It's tomorrow. I don't mean Monday, I mean tomorrow. Tomorrow I'm going to get up early. Tomorrow I'm going to work very hard all day. I'm going to be so good tempered tomorrow and so kind to everybody. Is that how you feel too?

But you know, Jesus kept on telling his friends not to worry about tomorrow. He wants us to make the best of today. He wants us to start being kind and cheerful and brave today. He wants us to give up our bad habits, our meanness and selfishness today. He wants us to give him our obedience and our service, our love and our loyalty, and to give them today.

For of course, there is only one great trouble about tomorrow. It never really comes. It is always in front of us. So let's make today our favourite day. Let's begin afresh with Jesus today.

"There is no tomorrow, only today" these words have stayed with me for 35 years, because they were the last words that young William Crothers said to his granny, with the prescient wisdom of youth on 14th July 1972. A promising young footballer, he had just left school aged 16, two weeks earlier and started work in the Parcels Office of the Ulsterbus Depot in Oxford Street Belfast, where he had to work a lying week. So on 14th July he received his first pay packet, which he brought home to his mother unopened. He was so proud that day.

Saint of the Month Edmund King and Martyr

Feast Day: November 20th; born 841, died 869; emblem: an arrow

On Christmas Day 855, Edmund, then aged fourteen was acclaimed King of Norfolk by the ruling men and clergy of that county. The following year the leaders of Suffolk also made him their king. For fifteen years Edmund ruled over the East Angles with what all acknowledged as Christian dignity and justice. He himself seems to have modelled his piety on that of King David in the Old Testament, becoming especially proficient at reciting the psalms in public worship.

From the year 866, his kingdom was increasingly threatened by Danish invasions. For four years, the East Angles managed to keep a shaky, often broken peace with them. Then the invaders burned Thetford. King Edmund's army attacked them there but could not defeat the marauders. The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle records that the Danes "killed the king and overcame all the land," adding that "they destroyed all the churches they came to, and at the same time reaching Peterborough, killed the abbot and monks and burned and broke everything they found there." Another account says that the king was captured at Hoxne in Suffolk and refused to share his kingdom with the invaders, whereupon he was tied to a tree and shot with arrows, till his body was like a thistle covered with prickles. Then his head was struck off. He was soon revered as a martyr. His body was enshrined at Bury St. Edmunds where a great abbey was founded in 1020. The later Chronicle of Jocelin of Brakelond records the moving of his relics to a new shrine in 1198.

Edmund remains the only English sovereign until the time of King Charles I, to die for religious beliefs as well as in defence of his throne.

Jackie Twinn, Reader, St Barnabas Church, Colchester

Poem of the Month

The following paraphrase of Psalm 84 was inspired by the Brittany Chapter Quiet Day led by the Revd Michael Hepper of Poitou Charente at the Convent of Les Soeurs de L'Immaculée Conception St Méen-le-Grand held on the feast of St Michael and All Angels

Psalm 139

Lord, You know me,
'Dig' me better than I 'dig' myself.
You know what I do when I do it;
Know what I'm thinking;
Know what I'm going to say
Even before I've said it.
You've been with me from the start
So much so that I can't take it in
Grasp how well You understand me.
There's no where I can hide from You,
No place where You are not:
Even in darkest night You see me.
You were aware of me before I was born;
You shaped me in my mother's womb.
You knew what lay before me,
Knew what I would choose before I chose.
What You have to say and who You are
Are the most important things in my life.
So take out all who despise You;
Get rid of those who work against You.
But first, Lord, check me out:
Help me be free from sin;
Help me really to listen to you.

It was the only pay packet that William ever received. The following Friday **21st July 1972** he was murdered by the IRA, one of nine victims who died along with 130 who were injured on 'Bloody Friday' when 20 bombs exploded across Belfast in the space of an hour and a quarter.

Another victim that same day was Stephen Parker aged 14, the son of Revd. Joseph Parker of the Missions to Seamen. Stephen died while trying to warn others of the danger that a car parked near a shop where he was working on the Cavehill Road might be a bomb, when it went off and he was killed. He was posthumously awarded the Queen's Commendation for bravery.

Stephen's father founded "Witness for Peace" in 1972 and campaigned ceaselessly for an end to political violence. His parents never really got over Stephen's death and later moved to Canada where they continued to serve with the Missions to Seamen.

As there have been more than 3647 victims of violence over the past 30 years in Northern Ireland, there will be many painful anniversaries for a long time to come. It is good that the local political parties are now in government together and that the loyalist paramilitaries have finally started to put their arms permanently and verifiably beyond use. This is something that seriously needed to be done yesterday, rather than tomorrow or even today.

"There is no tomorrow, only today"

Prayer: Heavenly Father, take us now, prepare us to live in readiness to walk in your ways. To live today equipped for your tomorrow. Take our gifts and talents, and help us to live by that faith which is the assurance of things hoped for and the conviction of things not seen. Amen. (306 CRCL vol.4.)

CHURCH-GOING

St John's Parish Church, Blackpool

A bleak Blackpool midwinter in 1965 – the middle of the panto season – and the town's best-known stage dame has just taken his own life, in the dark grey Irish Sea.

I'd known Terry Sweet from church on Sundays and from standing with him at the bus stop during the week. This particular bus stop stood right – so upright - outside Terry's house, a dreary symbol of suburban life. *"If only I was a dog -"* he said. *"A wee dog..."*

At the end of every school day I waited there and he often waited with me till the bus came, waving and shouting *"Taxi for two!"* as it drew up. Though only I got on.

His funeral service played to a packed house, with many left queuing outside, some asking if they could book for next week.

The programme (Order of Service, I should say) featured Cinderella (Miss Julie Jolly, appearing at the Palace Theatre) singing *Just As I Am* with special words – and tears, dedicated to Terry. (*'Hankie'* nicely rhyming with *'Twankey'*, I recall.)

Followed by a very old local friend, Billy Jitters (Buttons at the Hippodrome – as usual). He recounted how Terry could do forty brilliant changes of costume in one show. *"You never knew who he was at the end of the night – man, woman or what,"* he said in awful reverence.

"Mind boggling" said the person next to me, without moving his lips. This was Arthur Worsley, the ventriloquist (Idle Jack on North Pier). *"Were you a friend?"*

Yes, but I couldn't mention all those stand-up performances at the bus stop, where Terry crooned *"When You're Smiling..."* to me and a couple of friends going home late, lame and limp after another character-building cross-country run. Or the toupé we couldn't take our eyes off. Or the jokes we couldn't repeat, except – to this day – to each other, helplessly.

Arthur was on next, in fact. With little Charlie Brown sitting on his knee, in the centre of the chancel. What a broad church the C of E can be!

As ever, Arthur Worsley was the straight man, the Devil's Advocate:

"Now, come on, Charlie, what's Terry Sweet ever done? Has he ever done a proper day's work in his life? What great cause is he identified with?"

Charlie's head swivels round and round, amazed.

"With the great cause of cheering us all up, of course" pipes the small voice, absolutely unearthly and absolutely true.

David Norris

Diana's Soup Kitchen

A soup lunch will be held at «Le Tamara», St Lunaire on 14th November from 11am to 1pm. Proceeds to be divided between the SPA de St Malo and St Bartholomew's. All welcome. Entrance € 5 per person for soup desert and glass of wine or juice. Tombola and Bric-a-Brac.

Tel. Diana 02 99 88 04 42 or Helen 02 99 73 80 14