

Diary dates for May and June 2010

13 th May	10.00 Ascension Day 10.30 Council Meeting
19 th May	11.00 Julian Meeting George Dobinson
23 rd May	11.00 Pentecost
16 th June	11.00 Julian Meeting George Dobinson
27 th June	11.00 Peterstide& the celebration of the ordination to the priesthood of The Revd Mark Vidal Hall 45 years ago



Prayer of the month

May the love of the Lord Jesus
draw us to himself.
May the power of the Lord Jesus
strengthen us in his service.
May the joy of the Lord Jesus
Fill our souls
May the blessing of God almighty,
the Father the Son and the Holy Ghost
be amongst you and remain with you always

William Temple



Prayer focus

Let us remember those who hold office in our church, particular our Church Wardens and members of the Council as they faithfully discharge their stewardship of St Bartholomew's.

Newsletter - May 2010 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:

 02 99 46 77 00

e-mail : gareth.randall@nordnet.fr

Website : www.stbarts-dinard.org.uk



May, 2010

Dear Friends,

A good death

Easter is about crucifixion and resurrection; death and new life. It invites us to reflect that we are all mortal; that having been born we must at some time die. Being ready to die, having a good death, is part of what we should prepare ourselves for. We can, like the proverbial ostrich, hide our head in the sand (and there's an awful lot of golden sand in Dinard) but ignoring death as a way of coping only works up to the point we fall terminally ill, though even then, like alcoholics, we might, in the face of reality, still try to deny there's a problem.

A good death is surely when one is ready to die. Our affairs are in order; we have tried to reconcile the past and we have set aside any worries for the future. We are at peace with who we are and with what we have done and we trust in a loving God who will welcome us home after our time away. With the Jewish evening prayer that Jesus uttered from the Cross, 'Father into your hands I commend my spirit', we can go gently into that dark night confident of the kind light waiting for us.

The Anglican Church does practise the Ministry to the Dying (formerly known as Last Rites). There is the possibility to ask me or any of our retired priests to come to give communion or to anoint with holy oil and to pray so that you or those you love may be enfolded in prayer and supported by the love of God the Father embodied in the incarnation of God the Son and channelled through the presence of the Holy Spirit.

We talk frankly about sex but are shy when it comes to death. A good death comes, in part, by being prepared beforehand.

Father Gareth



- **Accommodation available:** 2 bedroom house for rental nr. Dolo, Jugon les Lacs - 20 mins from Dinan. Large living-dining area with kitchen; stairs to bedrooms with shower and WC; patio to the front with garden at the rear. Available now on long or short lets. For details: contact **Elaine Dunstan** 02 96 83 39 35 /06 83 51 98 57 Email elainedunstan@yahoo.fr
- **Castles, Mountains, Swimming, Riding, Rafting, Walking, Paragliding! & bags of sunshine.** Enjoy a stay in the **OLD FORGE, Le Vivier**, one of the original houses in this small wine growing village in the foothills of the Pyrenees. Ground floor: enclosed courtyard & the old forge sitting rm
1st floor: séjour (kitchen, s/rm, dining), small balcony with views over village to countryside, 2 bedrooms, bathroom with bath/shower
2nd floor: 3 bedrooms, playroom, bathroom with shower
Sleeps maximum 9 but ground + 1st floor ideal for 2/4 people
See www.vidalhall.co.uk the old forge. Ring **Mark** on 02 96 88 16 34 & quote St Barts Newsletter for special prices
- **For rent** in peaceful Dinard, Brittany (by the week, month or more).
 - ✓ Independent fully equipped apartment
 - ✓ Large kitchen
 - ✓ Dining area
 - ✓ Lounge with TV
 - ✓ 2 bedrooms
 - ✓ Complete bathroom & separate toiletContact Nicole/Gerry: 06 86 62 38 85 or canadiangerry@yahoo.fr
- **Information:** John Davey's French Registered SIRET No is: 51452629200016.
- **Deadline** for submission of material for the June Newsletter is **midday on Thursday 28th May**
- **Church Finances for March**
Income: 2859€ Expenditure: 4865€

Readings in church

May 2

Acts 11 v1-18
Revelation 21 v1-6

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Psalm 148 v1-6 p1287
John 13. 31-35

May 9

Acts 16 v9-15
Rev 21 v10, 22 v1 – 5

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Psalm 67 p1174

May 16

Acts 16 v16-34
Rev 22 v12-14, 16-17, 20-end

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Psalm 97 p1220

May 23

Acts 2 v1-21
Romans 8 v14-17

Pentecost (Whit Sunday)

Psalm 104 v 26-end p1229
John 14 v8-17

May 30

Proverbs 8 v1-4, 22-31
Romans 5 v1-5

Trinity Sunday

Psalm 8 p1102
John 16 v12-15

Sybil Fagg



Notices

- **Banque Alimentaire:** Helen Morgan wants to thank everyone at St Bartholomew's who so faithfully supports this valuable and most needed work. Anything items of food you feel able to contribute are most welcome.
- Reminder that **the Newsletter** is available to download from the website for printing or on request to Father Gareth can be sent individually to your computer to be read on screen (the environmentally friendly option!)

Lent Appeal

Thank you to everyone who contributed money towards Dar El Alwad Children's Home for refugee and street children. In total, 319€ was raised.

Easter Flowers

Thank you to everyone who contributed money towards our flowers at Easter in memory of a loved one. In total 238€ was raised.

Paschal Candle

Our Pascal Candle this year has been beautifully decorated by Sue Roberts, wife of one of our past chaplains, The Revd Canon Michael Roberts who, now retired, lives in the area and kindly covered the Sunday service on 2nd May.

Sue has produced a beautiful work of art that repays close inspection. Combining traditional symbols with modern techniques, the effect is a visual aid to meditation and further enhances the beauty of our church. At Pentecost, the paschal candle now in the sanctuary, will return to the back of the church by the font. If you can spend time to look at it closely, you will be most impressed with Sue's skills as an artist.

Flower Festival

3 flower arranging classes to be held at 2.00pm on Tuesdays in June: 8th (St Bartholomew's); 15th & 22nd (Diana Wilson's).

In connection with the above, we also any discarded wooden picture frames you may have. Size in the regions of 12 to 24 inches that is 30 to 60 cm. Please contact Victor, Barry or David (Morgan).

One Lovely Black Eye

Back in February, most people at church noticed I had a black eye. Many commented that it was the most perfect 'shiner' they'd ever seen. When asked how I got it, I gave three versions – depending on whom I was talking to.

My first version was I arrived at church late for Sideman's duty whereupon Doreen promptly 'clocked' me one, as she often does, and I was told in no uncertain terms that if I were late again, the other eye would suffer!

My second was that I'd been fighting with my six-year-old granddaughter and Clara had won!

The third was I told Father Gareth that I didn't entirely agree with one of his sermons whereby he expressed his displeasure in a very positive way!

After sharing these harmless flights of fantasy, I finally came clean about how exactly I was injured. While the builder was on site with his 'mini-pelle', Chris and I decided to remove an apple tree which was too close to the garage. This was duly done and the next day when I was cutting off the branches, the tree fought back and hence the black eye!

I have never had a real shiner before so after waiting seventy-six years, I wore it with pride!

Bill Hughes



Film Review of the month *'The Hurt Locker' – Kathryn Bigelow 2008*

When it first came out (2009), I declined to buy the DVD on Amazon but when it won the Best Film Award in the 2010 BAFTAs, I weakened and sent for it. It is a film well worth seeing. That said, it is a challenging view, full of action with sufficient pauses for character development and psychological realism to make it engaging.

Centred on a three man bomb disposal team in Iraq, their leader is killed at the start of the film and so we are primed for the potential violence that follows. His replacement Staff Sergeant Williams (Jeremy Renner) is 'wild'; his reckless daring would exceed Aristotle's notion of courage: a fool-hardiness encouraged by the adrenalin rush of life-threatening danger; the certainty that he is extremely skilled at what he does. An officer demands to know how best to diffuse a bomb – his reply - the way that doesn't get you killed.

There is the whole gamut of bombs: IEDs hidden in rubbish or by the roadside or under the road; a car bomb; an exploding petrol tanker, a suicide bomber; a boy's bloody corpse with explosives concealed in his gut. The danger of the film degenerating into a parade of violent explosions is averted by some excellent photography where the focus is on the spent shell case falling to the ground rather than the body felled by the bullet. The co-ordinated movement as the soldiers search a building is almost like a ballet in slow motion.

To be honest, 'The Hurt Locker' is not a 'nice' film; certainly not family entertainment. There is a clear sense of the cost of war to both those who are fighting and to those innocents caught up in the fight. It makes me question the wisdom of the Iraq War – not that I need much prompting. It implies the attraction of warfare for some and the inevitable cost to all of such conflicts.

Gareth Randall

Poem of the month

The fifth in a series exploring the nature of the incarnation through the humanity of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

'Give me a drink' *John 4 v7*

Midday on the road from Jerusalem to Galilee:
Hot, unfriendly, on the edge of a Samaritan town.
Weary, hungry, thirsty, Jesus rests, waiting by a well
While his disciples troop into Sychar to buy food.
Without the required bucket to lift the water,
He can't slake his thirst, satisfy his need,
Till a single Samaritan woman appears,
Curiously at noon, to fetch water.
Without embarrassment, Jesus asks her for a drink.
Amused his thirst should overcome his prejudice,
She plays with him a little only to find he knows her
And how desperately thirsty she is, but not for water:
What she craved was love and acceptance as a woman.
He can quench her thirst, he says, with living water;
Once tasted, she will never need to thirst again.
Her need is greater than her doubt so she responds
And is transformed by his unqualified compassion.
Through our thirst, we can know what we really need;
In being thirsty, Jesus knew how urgent is our need
To drink pure, life-giving water.

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Egg-citement – ugh – Eggs-pectorate

One of a series of anecdotes from the past from a regular correspondent

Easter Day and the church was almost full to capacity. As one would expect, there was quite a good number of children in the congregation.

After the Eucharist and before the announcing of the final hymn, the chaplain was pleased to ask all the children to come forward to receive a small Easter Egg. Soon, there was a little queue of eager and quite excited ones who gleefully accepted the chocolate egg before rejoining their parents. As is normal for children, the eggs were bound to be sampled as soon as possible. Soon, the rest of the congregation became aware of a rash of not very happy sounds from the egg tasters and parents hastily producing a handkerchief or tissue, as the child spat out the offending 'sweet'. The remaining portion of the eggs were being handed over to the parents, (usually fathers), who appeared no to mind finishing them on behalf of the youngsters.

It was only over coffee, that we learned from them the reason why. The chaplain's wife had been out to buy the eggs but had not noticed on the pack that the ones she had chosen were filled with whisky.

John Marshall

Grace of the month

The sixth of a baker's dozen from a former chaplain:

The Lord's good gifts have never ceased,
So thanks for this congenial feast.
And let us not forget to mention
This month's the feast of the Ascension.

The Revd Donald Pankfurst

Saint of the Month
St Enogat – 13th January

A regular feature of the Newsletter since June 2009 has been the Saint of the Month written by Jackie Twinn, Reader at St Barnabas, Colchester where my friend, Father Richard, is Vicar. On a recent trip to England, Doreen Collier suggested that we might devote this article to one of the many local Breton saints. Doreen's proposal has the virtue that we are remembering those folk who brought and sustained our faith here and, in addition, we would be putting some flesh on the bare bones of a place name.

I should, therefore, like to thank Jackie for her labour of love in popularising the saints at St Barts. I think it is good to have positive Christian role models and through what she has written, Jackie has renewed our interest in the saints. I'd like to thank, too, Isabelle Desevedavy who went to not inconsiderable trouble to secure my source book for this proposed series of articles, 'Saints de Bretagne' by Chanoine M. de Garaby published in 2009 by Editions du Paraclet. Written in French, the Canon's book is a mine of information on hundreds of Breton saints some veins richer, some thinner than others.

Closest to Dinard is St Enogat, which according to the odd road sign is Le berceau (cradle) de Dinard. Where better to start than him? Sadly, my source contains just two brief lines. His feast day is 13th January; he died in 631AD but we don't know when he was born. He was first Abbot of Saint Méen, then Bishop of St Malo. And then this little gem: 'il brilla par sa science et par ses vertus'. It has all the succinct punch of an epitaph but what wonderful reputation for any of us to emulate – he was radiant both in his wisdom and his virtue.

Gareth Randall



French Proverb of the Month

This month's proverb from 'Almanach du Marin Breton 2008' may appeal more to teachers than pupils:

L'expérience est un professeur cruel car elle nous fait passer notre examen avant de nous apprendre notre leçon

Last month's might be paraphrased as follows:

Courage is the art of being afraid without appearing to be



Quotation of the Month

In 'Kung Fu Panda', a cartoon film which is an affectionate parody of the Chinese martial art, the Abbot of the monastery offers this piece of wisdom: 'The past is history; the future mystery; but now is a gift – that's why it's called the present.'



No joke

The following was sent to me by my friend, Phil Elgie:

An exasperated mother, whose son was always getting into trouble, asked him, "How do you ever expect to get in to Heaven?" After thinking it over for a bit he came out with, "Well, I'll just run in and out and in and out and keep slamming the door until St Peter says: 'For Heaven's sake, Darren, come in or stay out!'"



Recipe of the month

A new monthly article in the Newsletter will be a recipe submitted by Victor Pumfrett who not only demonstrates a mastery with flowers but also in the kitchen

'Grannie Rozee's Pan Haggerty'

I learned this recipe from my Grannie Rozee while travelling in her Romany caravan.

- ✓ 3 tbs olive oil
- ✓ 1 ½ lbs potatoes (peeled sliced thinly)
- ✓ large onion sliced
- ✓ 4ozs smoked bacon, sliced
- ✓ 5 medium eggs
- ✓ Seasoning to taste
- ✓ 4ozs cheddar cheese



- Pre-heat the grill.
- Heat the oil in the frying pan.
- Add potato slices and sauté over medium heat for 10 minutes or until golden brown.
- Add onion and bacon and continue to sauté till golden and crisp.
- Beat eggs with the seasoning.
- Stir in half the cheese into the pan then quickly add the beaten eggs.
- Shake pan to level the surface.
- Scatter over the remaining cheese.
- Cook for about 10 minutes till most of the egg has set.
- Pop pan under the grill till the egg is set and golden.
- Serve warm in wedges.

Victor Pumfrett

Church Council

With the recent elections at our AGM in April, the following are now serving members of our Council:

Doreen Collier	Churchwarden; Joint Vice-Chairman Assistant Hon. Treasurer
Bill Hughes	Churchwarden; Joint Vice-Chairman
Sybil Fagg	Reader
David Norris	Hon. Secretary
David Morgan	Hon. Treasurer
Geoff Carter	Synod Rep
Paddy Vidal Hall	Synod Rep

Tristan de Champchesnil

Brian Cordery

Christopher Curtis

Claude François

Chris Hughes

Eric Lambert

John Marshall

Anne Payan

Corrie Stein

Helen Usmar

Diana Wilson

ex officio

Julian Thompson Churchwarden Emeritus;

Father Gareth (Chairman)



Julian Thompson

St Bartholomew's, a chaplaincy in the Diocese in Europe, is approached by a flagged path flanked by a memorial row of Iceberg roses. On the left is the Résidence Victor Hugo where the permanent chaplain lives. The path turns right to the refurbished library and toilet. The interior of the church is lit by five wrought-iron chandeliers. On the table by the entrance copies of the Bishops' Cookbook are for sale. On a Sunday one can buy PG Tips. In the achievement of all this, Julian and his late wife, Audrey, played a major part.

In 1971 the Thompsons bought their holiday home in St Briac. From then on they became active members of St Bartholomew's where services were held at Easter and during the holiday season. Julian became a member of the Management Committee. Taking advantage of his professional qualifications as a chartered surveyor, the Committee appointed him Chair of the Works Committee. In 1981, he was one of the signatories for the sale of part of the church garden for building development and the subsequent acquisition of the Chaplain's flat. Having served as Vice-President for a number of years, on the death of W.E.Channing in 1995, he was elected President of St Bartholomew's, then known officially as L'Eglise anglo-américaine de Dinard. As such, one of his responsibilities was through personal and diocesan contact the organization of the Rota of visiting chaplains. In the mid-nineties, this task grew with the change to services all year round. He also ensured the good condition of both the fabric and the finances and maintained contact with the widely dispersed members of the Association.

But Julian with his elastic-sided Volvo was involved in the more mundane side of Church life. He was responsible for the transport of goods which ranged from Audrey's Christmas and Easter cakes, sold to

swell the funds, to a settee for the flat. Sometimes it would be something easy like Christmas cards for sale or materials for Audrey's flower arranging. At other times, it would be a bootful of shrubs which he and Audrey planted in the Church garden.

Management Committee meetings now held at Les Optimistes began with coffee and ended with an apéritif. On Christmas Day, Julian and Audrey hosted Christmas lunch in their home for those of the congregation who might otherwise eat alone. Numbers increased and much against their will the Thompsons had to admit that a shortage of space and failing health necessitated a transfer to a restaurant.

As the Committee, guided by Julian, worked towards St Bartholomew's becoming a chaplaincy in the Diocese in Europe, meetings were held more and more frequently. These culminated with the creation in 2002 of the Association Cultuelle de l'Eglise Anglicane de Dinard, a chaplaincy in the Diocese. Thereafter, Julian continued as Church Warden and Vice-Chairman of the Council to chair the meetings until the arrival in 2007 of our first permanent priest since 1940.

Sadly Audrey died a few weeks after Julian handed over the Chair to Father Gareth and a wonderful working partnership ended. After a decade as Audrey's prime carer, Julian was now able to consider his own health. Diagnosed with Parkinson's, he has nevertheless continued to attend the Council meetings regularly, bring packets of tea and supervise the production and sale of The Bishops' Cookbook, one of Audrey's inspired money-raisers. Now he feels that it is time to hand over the Church Wardenship but as Warden Emeritus he intends to continue as President of the Association of Friends.

Thank you Julian for your years of service to St Bartholomew's.

Doreen Collier