

Diary dates for August and September 2011

6 th August	14.00 Garden Party
24 th August	15.30 English Tea at Diana Wilson's
28 th August	11.00 Patronal Festival St Bartholomew's = 140 years old
1 st September	10.30 Council Meeting
25 th September	11.00 Harvest Festival



Prayer of the month

Almighty and everlasting God,
who gave to your apostle Bartholomew grace
truly to believe and to preach your word:
grant that your Church
may love that word which he believed
and may faithfully preach and receive the same;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord
who is alive and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit
one God, now and forever.

Collect for St Bartholomew – 24th August



Prayer focus

To reflect how best we can help our church to develop in the coming years so that St Bartholomew's may continue to be a focus for the worship of God here in Dinard.

The Newsletter

St Bartholomew's, Dinard 1871 - 2011



August, 2011

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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August, 2011

Dear Friends,

140 years old

According to ‘Anglicans in Brittany’, my predecessor, The Revd Alan Charters, dates the opening of St Bartholomew’s to a service held at 11.00am on Thursday 16th November, 1871. To my mind, it seems a trifle premature but entirely appropriate to celebrate the anniversary at this year’s patronal festival transferred from Wednesday 24th to Sunday 28th August.

To mark the occasion, I have commissioned an icon of St Bartholomew to be ‘written’ by a local artist, Karen Blampied. Karen, who has a house in Le Lyvet, has ‘written’ icons for several Anglican churches in Jersey and her icons formed a major source of the inspiration for last year’s Flower Festival. She will be spending the week leading up to the 28th in church ‘writing’ our icon.

Our church has been blessed with a rich variety of beautiful stained glass, not least the most recent, the St Bartholomew window, the gift of the Pierpont family. It effectively embodies what it cost Bartholomew to be a martyr for the faith we share and nurture here.

But what about the commandment not to worship graven idols ? Two points. Stained glass and icons are two not three dimensional. Icons and stained glass are not themselves the object of worship but provide windows onto the divine whom we worship in spirit and in truth.

I trust the new image of St Bartholomew will further enhance the worship here. Like Sybil’s altar, the icon is my leaving present to our church, one given well in advance of my point of departure (I hope !) so that I too may enjoy it to the full.

Father Gareth



➤ **Notices**

- **Restoration of the Church Organ Fund**
The above was launched at the funeral service of Sybil Fagg on 16th June and currently stands at 2,023€ of which 1,855€ has been given in memory of Sybil. Further contributions may be given to David Morgan.
- **The Festival of Flowers and Musical instruments** raised 560€ for church funds. Income was 1,196€ and expenditure was 636€. Our thanks to all involved. Long may it flourish !
- **The concert at Les Trauchandières** on July 9th by Abigail Johnson and Simon Locke raised 1,006€ for church funds. Thanks again to Claude and Agnes for hosting the event.
- **Tournebride Monthly Lunch 13th August** 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
- **English Tea 24th August 15.30** at La Tamara, rte de Ploubalay the home of Diana Wilson.
- **Moules Frites and a glass of wine - 28th August**
To mark St Bartholomew’s Day, lunch after the service at the Café Anglais (14€) - 4€ deposit to Val Carter asap.
- **Deadline** for submission of material for the September Newsletter is ***midday on Thursday 25th August.***
- **Church Finances for June**
Income: 5,722€ Expenditure: 2,638€.



➤ Readings in church

August 7th Seventh Sunday after Trinity

Genesis 37 v1 – 4, 12 - 28 Psalm 105 v1 - 10
Romans 10 v5 - 15 Matthew 14 v22 - 33

August 14th Eighth Sunday after Trinity

Genesis 45 v1 – 15 Psalm 133
Romans 11 v1 – 2a, 29 - 32 Matthew 15 v21 - 28

August 21st Ninth Sunday after Trinity

Exodus 1 v8 – 2 v10 Psalm 124
Hebrews 12 v18 – end Matthew 16 v13 - 20

August 28th St Bartholomew

Acts 5 v12 – 16 Psalm 145 v1 – 7
1 Corinthians 4 v9 – 15 Luke 22 v24 – 30



Personal Column

Congratulations to

Claude and Agnes François on the baptism in church on 31st July of their grandson, Jules Andrew François Hein, son of their daughter, Claire and son-in-law, Andrew.

Thanks to

the estate of the Revd T R B Taylor who sadly died on 1st April 2010 and who bequeathed £1,000 to St Bartholomew's in his will. Mr Taylor, a priest from Northern Ireland was a chaplain here in Dinard twice, the first time in 1986.



Notes from the Council - July 14th

Friends, Fabric and Fun are the three Fs which largely summarise our Council Meeting. Scheduling it for a French National Holiday may have been a little unwise but it had the virtue of falling on the day that we remember John Keeble, an Anglican priest who in 1833 - just 44 years on from the Fall of the Bastille - preached a revolutionary sermon in Oxford that may have launched the Tractarian movement and the revival of our interest in Anglo Catholic thought and practice.

As ever, the meeting was opened in prayer preceded by a minute's silence during which we remembered our late friend and sister-in-Christ, Sybil, who did so much for St Bartholomew's. The Council felt it appropriate that we as a church we should fund a simple brass plaque in her memory to be fixed on the side of the pew where she sat, facing the congregation, on which would read this succinct memorial:

‘Sybil Fagg, Reader, 1996 – 2011’

Any donation you may wish to make to fund this tribute to her should be given directly to David Morgan or to one of our Wardens.

One piece of the church fabric which now needs replacing is our dishwasher situated in the Library. A gift, second-hand, it did sterling service for several years effortlessly coping with the cups and glasses that lubricate our times of fellowship. A new one will be purchased a.s.a.p. from Church funds.

Fun is a feature of our church events: the Flower Festival of Flowers and Musical Instruments; the concert at Les Trauchandières on 9th; the planning for the Garden Party. Ours is a vibrant, open, welcoming community and I am proud to be your priest in this place at this time.

Father Gareth



The Festival of Flowers and Musical Instruments 8th – 10th July 2011

The work involved in making such an event a reality is the product of many hours labour by so many folk. The result was a visual and aural delight, a vision of the beauty of the creation which we so often take for granted. Here at St Bart's for those three days plus, our church was filled the sound of music and the scent of flowers artfully arranged in over thirty displays, a combination of natural shapes and colours offset by a variety of musical instruments.

Our third since I came here as priest-in-charge, the Festival was the brainchild of Corrie Stein but a successful hip-operation in early June sadly meant that Corrie was prevented from taking part in the hands-on experience of the actual flower arranging. The presiding genius, leading the team of St Bart's faithful, was once again Victor Pumfrett. Well in advance, the first outward sign of the event was the beautifully produced posters and flyers in both English and French, cela va sans dire ! Then came the weekly flower arranging classes in June at Diana Wilson's. She was joined by Sheila Frost, Kathy Saxton-Howes, Kate Berry and Doreen Cronshaw. Acting as a taxi for his wife Sylvie, Ian Phillips own talent blossomed. In addition to Marjorie Mitchell, crossing the Channel to help, were Elaine Dunstan and tea-lady, Doreen Collier. Lunch beforehand was co-ordinated by Helen Morgan.

Roger and Kate masterminded the English teas on the church lawn, assisted by several folk over the three days. David Morgan put up the open tents and put out the tables, gifts from Simon and Lucy Barnes. Our Church Wardens, Doreen and Bill were on hand to supervise and help not least by taking money on the door – a token one euro to help to defray the cost. The cost of displays was met by generous donations by our folk in memory of our loved ones, not least by Ron and Laurette Frankel – Ron, the former British Consul of St Malo, would have opened the festival had not illness prevented him.

Quotations of the Month

Where there is animal worship, there is human sacrifice.

G K Chesterton

A person is always startled when he hears himself seriously called an old man for the first time.

Oliver Wendell Holmes

The best way to find out if you can trust somebody is to trust them.

Ernest Hemingway



Church Bulletins

The 8th of a 12 part series from Pam and Chris Rowland

- Potluck Supper Sunday at 5.00pm – prayer and meditation to follow.
- The ladies of the church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.



Phrases in French (5/9)

'Filer à l'anglaise' = partir sans se faire remarquer, partir subrepticement. L'anglais dit 'to take French leave. Cette expression montre comment la comparaison ou l'image employée dans une langue peut être exactement l'inverse dans l'autre langue.

To take French leave shows us how a disparaging phrase in one language is paralleled in another with the implied insult suitably modified.



Paraprosdokian ?

Do what ? The word is not in the OED or my Collins Dictionary but I checked it out in Wikipedia. A Paraprosdokian is a figure of speech which the latter part of a sentence or phrase is surprising or unexpected in a way that causes the reader or listener to reframe or reinterpret the first part. It is frequently used for humorous or dramatic effect, sometimes producing an anticlimax. For this reason, it is extremely popular among comedians and satirists.

Some paraprosdokians not only change the meaning of an early phrase, but they also play on the double meaning of a particular word. It is not a term of classical (or medieval) Greek or Latin rhetoric, but a late 20th century neologism.

The following are the first of six contributed by Ron Frankel who first brought this unusual word to my attention:

- * Do not argue with an idiot. He will drag you down to his level and beat you with experience.
- * The last thing I want to do is hurt you, but it's still on my list.
- * Light travels faster than sound. This is why some people appear bright until you hear them.
- * If I agreed with you, we'd both be wrong.
- * We never really grow up, we only learn how to act in public.

Ron Frankel.



The musical instruments, an integral part of the display, were provided by many of our people but especial thanks must go to Marinette at the Ancien Temple - her beautiful shop once our sister protestant church here in Dinard and now an Aladdin's cave of treasures - loaned us some stunningly beautiful instruments, not least the harp in front of Sybil's altar but also a tiny bespoke violin made for a six-year-old child.

Penny Bensted not only did sterling work helping with the teas but also co-ordinated the live performances. In particular, Christine Holmes must be thanked for six performances of a selection of songs a capella throughout the three days. On the Saturday afternoon, 'La Note Buissonnière', a French accordion group played on the lawn and on the Sunday, Simon Locke and John Davey (a man of many talents) played the French horns.

I should like to thank all those who made the event possible: named and unnamed. The Festival has done much to continue to raise the profile of our Church in the area. Being a Christian is not just about Sunday worship but it is also a way of life, a way of making sense of the world in which we live. In this sense, our Festival of Flowers and Musical Instruments is an outward expression of an inner reality, loving God by loving the creation and through art, loving our neighbour as ourselves by sharing things of real beauty and delight.

Gareth Randall



Less is more

Russell Crowe actually says the following in the film 'Master and Commander': at dinner, he asks the ship's doctor to choose between one of two weevils in a ship's biscuit. As a man of science, he naturally selects the larger, fitter, fatter one but Crowe reminds him that ethically, one should always choose the lesser of two weevils !

*The following poem was sent to me some time ago by David Norris.
It is not an easy read but may well prove a valuable source for reflection.*

An Hymn upon Saint Bartholomew's Day

What powerful Spirit lives within!
What active Angel doth inhabit here!
What heavenly light inspires my skin,
Which doth so like a Deity appear!
A living Temple of all ages, I
Within me see
A Temple of Eternity!
All Kingdoms I descry
In me.

An inward Omnipresence here
Mysteriously like His within me stands,
Whose knowledge is a Sacred Sphere
That in itself at once includes all lands.
There is some Angel that within me can
Both talk and move,
And walk and fly and see and love,
A man on earth, a man
Above.

Dull walls of clay my Spirit leaves,
And in a foreign Kingdom doth appear,
This great Apostle it receives,
Admires His works and sees them, standing here,
Within myself from East to West I move
As if I were
At once a Cherubim and Sphere,
Or was at once above
And here.

Recipe of the month Gammon and apple hash

- ✓ 1 tablespoon of olive oil
- ✓ 12 red onions - peeled and chopped
- ✓ 1lb potatoes peeled and chopped into cubes
- ✓ 1 large clove of garlic
- ✓ 3and half ozs of unsmoked Gammon - chopped
- ✓ 1 red apple cored and chopped
- ✓ 6 ozs broccoli cut into small florets

⊕ ⊕ ⊕

- Heat the oil in a frying pan
- Add the onion, potatoes and garlic
- Cover and fry for 15 mins over a low heat until softened
- Stir in the gammon, apple and broccoli
- Cook for a further 10 mins

Serve hot.

Victor Pumfrett

Take one!

The following was sent to me by Peter Campbell

The children were lined up in the cafeteria of a Catholic school for lunch. By a large tray of apples, a nun had written "Take only ONE . God is watching." Further along was a large plateful of chocolate chip cookies by which a child had written "Take all you want. God is watching the apples!"

Words from the King James Bible (6)

*Give not that which is holy unto the dogs
neither cast ye your pearls before swine
Matthew 7 v6*

Nothing more clearly demonstrates than these unique verses from the gospel according to St Matthew that our Bible originates from a time and world well removed from late twentieth century Great Britain where most of us are rooted.

The language of the King James Bible is Jacobean English: powerful, resonant, memorable. It is an attempt to render the original Hebrew and Greek in a way which ordinary folk, the ploughboy envisaged by Tyndale, could read for themselves. To have survived 400 years is a tribute to the success of the project. But to folk who love their dogs or to the woman on Radio 4 who likened the smell and touch of young piglets to new-born babies, these verse will seem anathema.

Here, clearly articulated, is another culture. The original words are Greek but the style and thought are Hebrew. The use of parallel statement is the stuff of the Book of Psalms – Hebrew poetry. The evaluation of ‘the dogs’ and ‘swine’ are all about Jewish purity laws - what is kosher and what trefah.

‘The dogs’ (κυσω ‘kuon’) are not household pets; though not necessarily pariahs, they nevertheless do not share the living space with people. Swine (χοιρος ‘choiros’) are pigs and their meat is ‘unclean’. The irony of the parable of the Prodigal Son is the youngman is reduced to tending pigs – what a fate for a good Jewish boy !

But what is important here is not the contempt for the animals but the respect for that which is precious, holy, encapsulated by the image of a pearl. To a pig, a pearl looks like just something else to eat, an acorn perhaps but not so satisfying - what a waste of what is truly precious!

Father Gareth

The Soul's a messenger whereby
Within our inward Temple we may be
Even like the very Deity
In all the parts of His Eternity.
O live within and leave unwieldy dross!
Flesh is but clay!
O fly my Soul and haste away
To Jesus' Throne or Cross!
Obey!

Thomas Thaherne (1636-1674)

**Saint of the Month:
St Benoit – 5th December**

St Benoit des Ondes is on the coastal road between Dol and Cancale.

Of Benoit himself my source says little. Son of Budic, Count of Cornwall, Benoit was made Bishop of Quimper some time around 941 eventually dying some 30 years later in approximately 971.

Of him, L  thale, a monk of Saint-Mesmin, wrote that Benoit was a man full of grace who faithfully applied these spiritual gifts, was diligent in prayer, daily offered up the sacrifice of the Mass and was able to recite by heart the whole of the gospel according to St John ! In his ‘Dictionnaire’, Og  e wrote that Benoit was renowned for ‘la beaut   de sa figure et de sa taille, la d  cence et la majest   de son maintien, et par les vertus qui la firent ch  rir de son troupeau.’ It’s odd to note that Benoit is said to have possessed the photogenic qualities and charisma that may have rendered him a media icon in another age.

Gareth Randall

Lourdes

Father Gareth m'a demandé d'écrire sur Lourdes. Je l'en remercie car je peux aussi vous raconter cette histoire toute simple.

En 1858, dans la petite ville de Lourdes, la Vierge Marie est apparue 18 fois à Bernadette, une enfant pauvre et illettrée, âgée de 11 ans. 18 fois du 11 février au 16 juillet sur les bords du Gave, torrent de montagne, devant une grotte aux pieds de Pyrénées. Elle a révélé à Bernadette d'abord incrédule, sa présence, son nom, sa nature immaculée. Avec elle, elle a récité le chapelet, 'le Rosaire'. Au début, Bernadette n'a pas osé en parler autour d'elle, puis la Vierge lui a demandé de le faire savoir, de le dire autour d'elle. 'Branle bas de combat!' dans la hiérarchie de Lourdes laïque et religieux, les élus, les notables, les prêtres, et même l'évêque.

L'apparition de la vierge à une enfant pauvre, illettrée ? Elle invente ; elle est folle ; elle est menacée de prison !

Rien n'y fait ; elle persiste ; la Vierge aussi d'ailleurs, car quand ils finissent par aller vérifier à la grotte, ils assistent à une apparition !

Tout change. Il est accepté que la Vierge puisse apparaître à cette petite Bernadette et non pas aux notables religieux ou aux laïques intellectuels du temps. C'est toujours pareil, partout dans le monde, la Vierge n'apparaît qu'aux pauvres et aux illettrés, jamais aux nantis et intellectuels (eux n'ont besoin de eux mêmes).

Il y a eu les miracles : miracle de cette eau qui coule de la montagne 'La Source' ; miracle de la prière. Toutes les guérisons se produisent à la grotte ou à la procession du Saint Sacrement.

Elle-même Bernadette est devenue religieuse elle a servi les malades à Nevers en France et elle est morte le 16 avril 1879.

Henry Arthur Spenceley 24th September, 1923 – 6th February, 2011 RIP

Having been cremated at Montfort-sur-Meu on 11th February and his ashes scattered in the Rance the following Saturday, a memorial service was held for Henry Spenceley at St Bartholomew's on 6th July.

Irene Bishop, who celebrated her 80th birthday the previous day, was joined by two of Henry's three daughters from America: Sylvie and Yannique. One of the eulogies was given by Bryan Larkin, Irène's brother, who spoke movingly of the man Henry had been, paying a heartfelt tribute to his very real qualities which made Henry such a good person whilst not neglecting the fact, that like us all, he was not without his faults. Having given a sermon on the man himself at Montfort, I preached on the nature of the Christian soul.

Music included 'Meditation' from 'Thaïs' by Jules Massenet and 'Mors et Vita' from 'Judex' by Charles Gounod. The two hymns 'He who would valiant be' and 'For all the saints' were played by John Davey.

The service was followed by a verre d'amitié in the transept and on the church lawn after our Sunday service.

*Rest eternal grant him, O Lord,
And let light perpetual shine on him.*

Father Gareth



Over weight ?

Reflecting on losing weight last year, I was delighted to have got down to 12st 12lbs but concluded that in the eyes of a calculating, anorexic, innumerate, I would still be simply *gross*.

**Friends of St Bartholomew's
AGM – 17th July**

Who or what is a friend of St Bartholomew's ? Presumably you are because you are reading this article in our monthly Newsletter. But the Friends of St Bartholomew's are a distinct Association entrusted with the upkeep and maintenance of our church which they/we own as well as the chaplaincy flat where your priest (me) lives ! So if you're not, why not consider becoming one ?

To be a friend is simply a question of paying an annual membership fee – as much as you care to give, a minimum donation of £12 or 16€ (just 31 centimes a week !) Since our income was exceeded by in excess of 1,000€ last year, it is vital that more folk join the Friends so that we can add to our funds saved against major work being required to the fabric of our beautiful Victorian church.

That said, our AGM after church following the regular Sunday service saw a small number of Friends stay to hear Julian Thompson's last Report as our President of the Association and Doreen Collier's last report as Treasurer. Doreen was presented with a well chosen bottle of something distinctly quaffable and Julian was presented of something well red at the start of the service the following Sunday. David Norris remains our Honorary Secretary with Ian Phillips being elected Treasurer and me as acting President.

We are enjoined to love God through love of neighbour as ourselves. One practical expression of this principle would be to enrol as a Friend of St Bartholomew's and to preserve our heritage for the future.

Gareth Randall
Acting President



Aujourd'hui, il y a de nombreux pèlerinages français et du monde entier. Un pèlerinage ce sont des pèlerins, des malades des hospitaliers brancardiers, infirmiers, médecins.

Un pèlerinage dure 5 jours. Il en existe plusieurs : diocésains, des Montfortains, des Assomptionnistes, des Dominicains, le Pèlerinage des Rosaire.

Tous les Catholiques ne vont pas à Lourdes ; tous les Chrétiens ne vont pas à Lourdes, mais il y a des Chrétiens, des non croyants, des croyants d'autre religion qui viennent prier à Lourdes.

Le petit texte a été écrit par un Catholique dans une démarche œcuménique, car pour citer le Père Jésuite, André Ravier :

‘C'est sur un geste de pauvre que s'ouvre l'un des plus pieux dialogues qui se soit jamais échangé entre un être humain et la Mère de Dieu, la Vierge Marie. Bernadette découvre qu'il y a misère pire que l'indigence, la faim, le froid, l'ignorance, la déchéance sociale, la maladie, la mort des petits enfants, et cette misère de l'homme, c'est le péché ; mais elle découvre en même temps que la vraie richesse, c'est la miséricorde de DIEU qui s'offre au pécheur et le métamorphose, s'il y consent, en 'Fils de lumière'

Dr Tristan de Champchesnel

Below is a copy of a card on one our flower arrangements in the recent festival:

The Family Campbell worshipped here regularly from 1996 until 2007 including the family Yorkie, Tara. Peter and Pamela celebrated their Golden Wedding here in 2006 in a service by Bishop Tom Brown. They wish to thank all the congregation for their Love and Friendship during this time. (In the good and not so good). God bless you all.

Sybil

When Sybil died, unfortunately I was out of the country and out of touch till my return when I learnt of her death and funeral. I am sad to have missed saying a final farewell to such a good friend.

One of the happiest memories I have of her is when we went to Guernsey together last year for Roger Berry's mother's 100th Birthday. Sybil and I stayed with Roger and Kate who made us most welcome (as they do everyone) and it was a very special occasion. On the Sunday morning, Sybil and I attended St Martin's Anglican Church where we were warmly received.

Most of you will know that Sybil had been a Reader at St Barts for many years and was one of the few who helped our church to grow in the 1990s. In her memory, we want to commission a simple brass plaque. If you would like to make a contribution, donations can be given to our Treasurer, David Morgan, or to me.

I am sure many of you would join with me in thanking Father Gareth for his counselling, understanding and devotion to duty, for the work he does, especially at the difficult time of bereavement. I am sure many people, like myself, wish to say a personal 'thank you' to him.

In my case, Father Gareth arrived to take up his duties at St Barts at the same time as we were informed that my wife, Joyce, had lung cancer. She died a year later but during that time, Father Gareth visited her at home and in hospital, giving her communion on many occasions. When Joyce died, I was at her bedside with our son, Chris, Father Gareth and his friend, Neo. I feel really fortunate to have been with my wife during her last moments. Since then, Father Gareth and I have become firm friends and I am sure many people who have had his understanding and friendship during difficult times will feel as I do.

To me, our congregation at church feels like a family. We share our joy on occasions such as marriages and baptisms and are there for each other to commiserate at funerals. I believe that we are essentially a happy, welcoming church and this is a fact often commented on by those who visit us or by our new members. Long may this continue.

Bill Hughes
Church Warden



Lointaines roses en leur écrin

Quelque chose a tremblé dans le vase
où des roses anciennes et du seringas
bruissants de lumière
s'entregardent

difficile de s'interposer dans la grammaire
de leur discret bavardage
sachant qu'il n'y a que le poème
qui puisse y entrer
à pas velours

Solange Dayres Goffinet

*The above poem, an extract from 'Fragments d'une autre lumière, le signe',
was given to us by a local French poet who visited the church
during last month's Flower Festival*

