

### Diary dates September and October 2011

1 <sup>st</sup> September	10.30 Council Meeting
8 <sup>th</sup> September	10.30 Holy Communion 11.00 Bible Study – Christian Basics 1 12.00 Bring and Share Lunch
25 <sup>th</sup> September	11.00 Harvest Festival
2 <sup>nd</sup> October	11.00 Confirmation Service
6 <sup>th</sup> October	10.30 Holy Communion 11.00 Bible Study – Christian Basics 2 12.00 Bring and Share Lunch



### Prayer of the month

Father in heaven,  
the angels sing by day and night around your throne:  
'Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God almighty.'  
With Michael, prince of the angels, who contends by our side,  
with Gabriel, your herald, who brings glad tidings,  
with Raphael, the protector, who ministers your healing,  
and with the whole company of heaven,  
we worship you, we give you glory,  
we sing your praise and exalt you for ever.

*From Common Worship courtesy of Bishop David Hamid's Blog*



### Prayer focus

September is a month when we celebrate Harvest festival. It would be a good time then to reflect on what we have sown and of what we trust and hope that future harvest might be.

## The Newsletter St Bartholomew's, Dinard 1871 - 2011



### September, 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:

 02 99 46 77 00

e-mail : [gareth.randall@nordnet.fr](mailto:gareth.randall@nordnet.fr)

Website : [www.stbarts-dinard.org.uk](http://www.stbarts-dinard.org.uk)



September, 2011

Dear Friends,

### *St Gregory the Great – 3<sup>rd</sup> September*

At the end of July, Jackie and Greg Webb came to stay with me for a week. Jackie teaches in a Primary School in Bury St Edmunds and Greg is Priest-in-charge of St Gregory's, Sudbury.

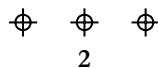
It is great having folk to stay: it encourages me to cook, eat, drink, to be more active, culminating in a walk from Le Lyvet along the Rance up into Dinan. I actually started to lose weight while they were here !

And it was Greg who said my parents should have called me Greg too. A great idea, given I was born on the feast of St Gregory the Great – Apostle to the Anglo-Saxons. Given my mother was a Welsh Baptist by upbringing, naming me after a Catholic saint who had been pope wasn't on her radar; instead, she chose Gareth, hero of Arthurian legend whose name means gentle, and my father wisely agreed.

But I would have loved to have been called Gregory. I love the story associated with him seeing blond-haired, blue-eyed slaves for sale in a market place in Rome and, on enquiring where they were from, was told they were Angles to which he quipped, 'Non Angli sed angeli'. In due time, the encounter led to the mission of St Augustine of Canterbury to convert the English and the rest is history.

As your priest in Dinard, it would have been nice to have been named after someone's whose heart was set on bringing the gospel to the English but like many saints in Brittany, my family - on my mother's side at least - is rooted in Wales.

*Father Gareth*



### Notices

- **Tournebride Monthly Lunch 3<sup>rd</sup> September** 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](mailto:annebaber5050@aol.com)
- **Garden Party** income: 4838€: expenditure: 183€
- **English Tea** at Diana Wilson's raised 568€
- **Bible Study** – Our Autumn and Lent Bible Studies are combining to form a ten session Christian Basics Course (for dates and programmes see page 12 of our Newsletter). The study is at 11.00 on a Thursday preceded by Holy Communion at 10.30 and a Bring-and-Share Lunch at 12.00. Please contact Helen Morgan to co-ordinate your contributions.
- **Deadline** for submission of material for the October Newsletter is **midday on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> September**
- **Church Finances for July**  
Income: 6,731€ Expenditure: 4,725€



### Religious Books

You may have noticed a new bookcase in the quiet area near the side altar. Four years ago, Bishop Geoffrey attended a Council meeting and suggested a separate area for books of a religious nature. We would like, therefore, to develop a stock of suitable reading material for people to use in church or borrow to read at home. If you have a suitable book that you would like to donate, then please leave it on the book shelf or hand it to me. A brief book review could be published in the Newsletter either by the person donating the book or by me. I trust you'll find the books a valuable addition to St Bart's.

*Geoff Carter*

**Readings in church**

**Sept 4<sup>th</sup>**

Exodus 12 v1 - 14  
Romans 13 v8 - end

**11<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity**

Psalm 149  
Matthew 18 v 15 - 20

**Sept 11<sup>th</sup>**

Exodus 14 v19 - end  
Romans 13 v8 - end

**12<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity**

Psalm 114  
Matthew 18 v 21 - 35

**Sept 18<sup>th</sup>**

Exodus 16 v2 - 15  
Philippians 1 v21 - end

**13<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity**

Psalm 105 v37 - end

Matthew 20 v 1 - 16

**Sept 25<sup>th</sup>**

Deuteronomy 8 v7 - 18  
2 Corinthians 9 v6 – end

**Harvest Festival**

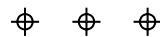
Psalm 65  
Luke 17 v11 – 19



**Phrases in French (6/9)**

***'Il a du toupet !' ou 'Quel toupet !'*** Au sens propre, un toupet est une touffe de cheveux ou de poils. Au sens figuré, 'avoir un toupet' c'est avoir aplomb inconvenant, de l'insolence.

What a cheek! The proper meaning of 'toupet' is a tuft of hair. In the figurative sense, it means impertinent or impudent behaviour.



To all my friends at St Bartholomew's, just a short note to say thank you for all your get well wishes and prayers during my recent stay in Dinan Hospital.

*Barry Jordan*

**Words from the King James Bible (7)**

*'One pearl of great price'*

*Matthew 13 v46*

One of my early memories of being a pupil at Monega Road Primary School in Manor Park is sitting cross-legged on the floor of the school hall for an assembly during which our Head Teacher read the parable of the pearl of great price. I think the version used was from a Children's Bible because my memory is of a much longer story than that which is succinctly encapsulated in just two verses of the thirteenth chapter of the gospel according to St Matthew.

The story of the pearl is one of three short parables unique to Matthew about the nature of the kingdom of heaven (13 v44 – 50): 'the treasure buried in a field'; 'the pearl of great price'; and 'the dragnet'. As we saw in Matthew 7 v6 last month, pearls are used as a symbol of that which is precious and that which is holy. The image is effective since the beauty of the pearl is found in its purity and perfection, its lustre and the smoothness of its surface. My mother owned a string of cultured pearls, a present from my father, and I guess the sight of them round her neck lent weight to the early appeal of this parable to me.

The story is simple: 'a merchant man seeking goodly pearls who when he has found one pearl of great price went and sold all he had and bought it'. If we unpack the underlying teaching, the merchant represents us. His search is our spiritual journey. The pearl (μαργαριτης 'margarites') is our ultimate destination. To attain it, the merchant is prepared to sacrifice all he had, everything, in order to achieve his life's goal. The question implied in the parable is are we willing to do the same in order to obtain our heart's desire, a loving relationship with the Father through faith in the Son informed by the Holy Spirit?

*Father Gareth*

## Poem of the month

*The following was especially written for our Patronal festival during which our icon of St Bartholomew was dedicated by the Revd Canon Roger Gilbert.*

### ***Nathaniel Bartholomew***

John calls me Nathaniel.  
Matthew prefers Bartholomew.  
Mark and Luke follow suit.  
But who am I? What am I?  
I am my father's son,  
Bar Ptolemy, Tolly's son, Bart's boy.  
I'm Nathaniel – his gift from God -  
And that's how he saw me.  
And he saw me, too, before I followed him,  
Jesus of Nazareth, my teacher and my friend.  
I didn't know it then but I would die for him  
As he would die for me, for all of us.  
In scripture there's not much on me  
But I was there three years with him  
And I saw it all with my own eyes;  
Heard what he had to say publicly, privately;  
Was touched by him, by his sense of God;  
And I felt as if he were family, kin.  
When the end came, it was a shock.  
We knew things were bad, really bad,  
He had said as much, but we didn't understand  
Until the night he was taken from us,  
Beaten up, stripped, hung on a cross to die.  
And he did and we were left desolate  
Till we heard of the empty tomb  
And he stood among us, risen from the dead.  
Then the Spirit came and we began to speak of him.

## Quotation of the month

Helen Morgan heard this question on the radio:  
What might be appropriate music for Cinderella at Midnight ?

'Ragtime' !



### **Church Bulletins**

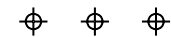
*This 9th of a 12 part series from Pam and Chris Rowland*

- This evening at 7.00pm there will be a hymn singing in the public park across from the church. Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.
- Ladies Bible Study will be held Thursday mornings at 10.00am. All ladies are invited to lunch after the B.S. is done.



I went out last night but drank too much so knowing I was over the limit, I did something that I have never done before - I took the bus home. Eventually, I arrived home safe and warm - really surprising given I've never driven a bus before.

***Ron Frankel***



### **David and Goliath**

What useful lesson might we learn from the story of David and Goliath?

To duck !

***John Marshall***

### Recipe of the Month: Banana and cherry tea loaf

- ✓ 100g/4ozs glace cherries
  - ✓ 175g/6ozs softened unsalted butter or margarine
  - ✓ 175g /6ozs caster sugar
  - ✓ 3 medium eggs - beaten
  - ✓ 100g/-4ozs self-raising flour
  - ✓ 50g/2ozs ground almonds
  - ✓ 2 medium sized ripe bananas mashed
  - ✓ 100g/4ozs icing sugar
  - ✓ 2 tablespoons lemon juice
  - ✓ Toasted flaked almonds to decorate
- 
- Preheat oven to 190c/gas mark 5
  - Lightly oil and line the bottom of a loaf tin
  - Reserve 3-4 cherries for decoration
  - Chop the rest, wash off the syrup then dry
  - Beat butter or margarine until creamy
  - Gradually add the egg and the flour
  - Stir in the ground almonds, chopped cherries and bananas
  - Mix to a soft consistency with 1 tablespoon of water
  - Spoon into the prepared tin
  - Bake in the centre of the oven for 45 to 50 mins
  - Test if cooked by inserting a skewer into the centre – (it's ready if it comes out clean)
  - Remove from the oven but leave in the tin until it is cool
  - When cool tip out
  - Blend the icing sugar with the lemon juice
  - Drizzle over cake
  - Decorate with cherries and flaked almonds

*Serve with a nice cup of Tea !*

*Victor Pumfrett*

I spoke of him to strangers in a foreign land  
On the shore of a sea not my own.  
There I died in pain: naked; flayed alive;  
Stripped of my skin; covered by my blood.  
They killed me as they had killed him.  
But they'll never kill his Word: -  
He lives in you.

*Father Gareth*



### A Little Christian Humour

*The following was sent to me by Peter Campbell:*

Jesus and Satan were having an on-going argument about who was better on the computer. Tired of hearing the bickering, God said, 'I have had enough. I'll set up a test then judge who does best.'

So Satan and Jesus sat down at the keyboards and typed away. They moused. They e-mailed with attachments. They downloaded; did spreadsheets; wrote reports; created labels and cards; charts and graphs. Jesus worked with heavenly efficiency and Satan was faster than hell. Then, just before their time was up, lightning flashed, thunder rolled, rain poured, and, the power failed.

Satan stared at his blank screen and screamed and cursed. Jesus sighed. Finally, the electricity came back on, and their computers restarted. Satan started searching frantically, screaming: 'It's all gone! I lost everything when the power went out!' Meanwhile, Jesus quietly started printing out all of his files. Furious, Satan complains, 'That's not fair! He cheated! How come he has all his work and I don't have any?'

But God simply shrugs and says, 'Jesus saves.'

## Lourdes

*For last month's Newsletter, Dr Tristan de Champchesnel kindly wrote an article in French on Lourdes which I trust you enjoyed reading in the original but in case you had difficulty translating, it is now rendered in English:*

I would like to thank Father Gareth for asking me to tell you about Lourdes so here follows a short history. In 1858, in the little town of Lourdes, the Virgin Mary appeared 18 times to Bernadette, a little girl of 11 who had had no schooling. It was on the banks of the Gave (a mountain torrent) in a grotto at the foot of the Pyrenees that the Virgin appeared between 11<sup>th</sup> February and 16<sup>th</sup> July. At first, Bernadette could not believe her eyes but the Virgin then revealed her presence, her name and her immaculate nature. Together they recited the rosary 'Le rosaire'. Bernadette did not dare mention this event but the Virgin asked her to make it known to the people around her. What upheaval in the hierarchy among the well-to-do, the priests and even the bishop. What - an apparition of the Virgin to a poor uneducated girl? She is making it up; she's out-of-her-mind; she is threatened with prison. Nothing doing - Bernadette insists on her story, as does the Virgin when she appears while they are investigating the grotto.

There is an about-turn in public opinion; it is now accepted that the Virgin may appear to little Bernadette and not to the religious hierarchy and the lay intellectuals of the time. It is always the same story all over the worlds - the Virgin only appears to the poor and uneducated and never to the well off and the intellectuals (they can look after themselves).

There were the miracles - the miracles of this spring from the mountain 'La Source'; - the miracle of prayer. All the miracles occur in front of the grotto or during the Procession of the Holy Sacrament.

## Film Review of the month

### *'Captains Courageous' - Victor Fleming, 1937*

Based on the novella of the same name by Kipling, shot in black and white, the film of 'Captains Courageous' is no piece of cake though it is sweet and, inevitably, I found myself once again bursting into tears!

Freddie Bartholomew is cast as ten-year-old Hervey Cheyne, a pain if ever there was one. Only son of a millionaire tycoon, spoiled, motherless, Hervey is unsurprisingly an unsympathetic brat. He desperately wants to be loved and accepted and tries to use his wealth and his father's position to buy friends and gain admittance into an exclusive club in his exclusive prep school. He comes unstuck and, consequently, is suspended for the rest of term. Reluctantly, his father takes Hervey with him on a business trip to Europe but the boy's obnoxious behaviour unceremoniously dumps him into the Atlantic off the Newfoundland Banks.

Lucky for the hapless Hervey, he is fished out by Manuel (Spencer Tracey), a Portuguese fisherman alone in his dory. Amazed, amused, he takes 'his little fish' back to the trawler where the boy recovers. The story maps an unlikely friendship between the two and how through genuine, un sentimental love, Hervey matures to be the son any father would be proud of.

There is humour and the shots in the studio are blended with real footage of fishing off the Atlantic banks for cod. It is another age; it is another world; but the ending is heart-warming and life-affirming though in 'real life', experience can prove costly. Freddie Bartholomew and Spencer Tracey (who won a Best Actor Academy Award for this part!) combine to make 'Captains Courageous' a film well worth watching even some three quarters of a century after its first release.

*Gareth Randall*

## Paraprosdokian (2/5)

*You may recall that 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.*

War does not determine who is right - only who is left.

Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit. Wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.

Evening news is where they begin with 'Good Evening,' and then proceed to tell you why it isn't.

To steal ideas from one person is plagiarism. To steal from many is research.

A bus station is where a bus stops. A train station is where a train stops. On my desk I have a work station.

*Ron Frankel*



**RIP**

L'Abbé Yves Perrault  
Former parish priest of Notre dame Dinard

Susan Hardaker  
15<sup>th</sup> August, 2011

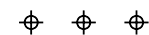
As for Bernadette, she becomes a nun and looked after the sick at Nevers in the centre of France. She died on April 16th 1879 (aged 32).

Today there are many pilgrimages from France and from all over the world. The pilgrimages are made up of variety of sick folk, the sick, stretcher bearers, nurses and doctors. A pilgrimage lasts five days and is organised by a Diocese as well as by various orders such as Montfort, Assumptionists, Dominican and Rosary Pilgrimages. Not all Catholics go to Lourdes; not only do Christians go but also non-believers and members of other faiths come to Lourdes to pray.

The following is a quotation from a Jesuit Father, André Ravier, a Catholic, writing in the spirit of ecumenism:

'It is thanks to the act of a poor girl that the most intimate dialogue was exchanged between a human being and the Mother of God, the Virgin Mary. Bernadette discovered there was worse misery than destitution, hunger, cold, ignorance, social degradation, sickness or even the death of little children; this misery for man is sin; but she also discovered at the same time that true wealth is God's mercy which the sinner is offered and if he accepts he undergoes a metamorphosis and becomes a 'son of light'.

*Anne Payan*



**St Bartholomew's icon**

As I type, the icon of St Bartholomew is being written in church. As you read, he stands waiting to be blessed or will have been by the Revd Canon Roger Gilbert. Next month I hope to have an article in our Newsletter for you to read about this new aid to our worship here.

### **L'Abbé Yves Perrault**

*I attended his funeral mass at Pleurtuit parish church on 2<sup>nd</sup> August and the following tribute is written by my predecessor, Father Alan.*

Yves Perrault, who died at the end of July, was a very good friend of St Bartholomew's as well as having a great respect for the Anglican Communion. He was also a personal friend of Frances and me. We first met in 1966 when he was 'Vicaire' (Curate) of Pleurtuit when I was going round Brittany, by invitation, during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, trying to explain the nature of Anglicanism to Catholics who had little idea of its role as Reformed Catholicism.

Pleurtuit was an ideal venue for the then Curé (Vicar) was Père Bretel, in many ways a very traditional priest (he could be seen gardening dressed in soutane and biretta) but who was a great anglophile and ardent admirer of the Queen and the British Royal Family. During my visits, I was always accompanied by a choir as I believed that one of the strengths of the Anglican Church lay in the quality of its liturgical music which was largely absent from the French Church at that time. Very quickly, I found that Yves shared Père Bretel's love of things English and was also a keen musician. He started a parish choir, used quite a lot of our music and went on one year to win the French National Choir Competition with a rendering of 'Ding dong merrily on high.' I still have a disc of the Pleurtuit choir directed by Yves. He later produced a book of his own compositions, 'A Travers Chants', which the choir Sunday School I ran in my Welsh parish used to sing at concerts and services.

Over the years, we spent time reminiscing about our respective careers as infantrymen during our National Service; it became clear that Yves and the French Army had a difficult and torrid time during the Algerian War. In later years, Yves was instrumental in establishing a soldiers' reunion which met regularly each year and welcomed British ex-servicemen.

Each day started at breakfast by giving the plants a cup of tea each and then placing them in the best of the sunlight. As the sun moved round the kitchen, so did the plants. By mid-morning, they were up to the sink; by lunchtime against the cooker. I thought this humane but Kate considered it a pest having to manoeuvre round them to get at the fridge or cooker especially in the week leading up to the Garden Party when she was engaged in baking 30 cakes for the Tea Tent!

By late afternoon and evening, the sun moves to the balcony and so did they to watch the sunset across the bay to Cap Fréhel. At least they could see it but we couldn't – they blocked our view! It was now we discovered they were not well. Tiny worms were inside the leaves tunnelling their way through the centre of each leaf. So after breakfast tea, I had a new daily ritual of inspecting each leaf squashing each minute creature with the sharp point of a pencil. The more I killed the more appeared, the pencil punched holes leaving the leaves looking more like lace. We concluded some moths must have laid their eggs while the plants were at Jo and Pete's.

At last, all the leaf miners had been killed only to be supplanted by small fruit flies emerging in the evening in their hundreds from the peat. So after dinner was spent squidding the little pests but at least I could now glimpse the sunset between the plants. Next came an insect like greenfly but only half the size which I attacked with vinegar rubbed on with cotton wool. Success: the leaves were now like cardboard but the sunflowers were now two metres tall.

Then Kate and I had to go to Guernsey but they were too tall to come too so I heavily watered them and left full upturned milk bottles to drip feed them. Disaster! On our return, they were close to death from overwatering. We hastily dried them out and they did recover but with only six leaves now left. They had reached 2 metres 6cms – prize-winning sunflowers despite their owners' worst efforts!



## Puzzles and Sunflowers

There are two kinds of torture: some are short, quick and painful like a visit to a dentist without anaesthetic. Others are just as painful but drag out like waiting for public exam results. Two fund-raising ideas produced for this Year's Garden Party fall into the later category as self-inflicted torture

The first which has been running for years is the Identification and Puzzle Sheets. They're so easy at first glance. You zip through the answers – so obvious aren't they - till you get to the last few which seem impossible. It doesn't matter how often you return to the accursed sheet, the answers just won't come - even in the quiet hours of the night when you should be asleep and the wife is gently snoring – the answers still remain elusive !

The second was this year's Sunflower Competition. It should have been a relaxed, agrarian pastime. Well ours wasn't! After handing over my 2€ to Geoff, Kate and I had to drive to Pete and Jo at Jocelin so our two plants, now in the boot, came too. Perhaps I should have done what the person before me had – pay the money but leave the plant !

At Pete's, we put the plants in peat-filled buckets in the sun. Ours looked pretty weedy alongside his self-seeded ones on the compost heap which were at least a metre taller !

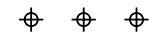
But the country air did them some good and they began to grow so by the time they were safely back in the boot for our return journey to St Servan, they were a healthy 75cms. From a horticultural point of view, our apartment is not ideal, lacking a garden so our sunflowers became part of our family, living in the kitchen and lounge. Because the plants love the sun and the sun is on the move, we had to move them every half-hour to sit in the sun that pours through the large roof velux.

As time went on and Yves became Curé of the parishes of St Père and St Suliac up the Rance from Dinard, I learned a great deal from him as he developed his own deeply-involved, pastoral ministry. His presbytery seemed constantly filled with a stream of visitors requesting the familiar parochial baptism, marriage and funeral services as well as pleas from the desperate and the unhappy. While being sympathetic, Yves was a practical, no-nonsense priest when it came to pastoral problems. He was also instrumental in developing the great St Suliac Festival when the streets were filled with stalls and entertainment and the population sat down to a meal on trestle tables spread round the centre of the town. The celebration culminated in the great, open-air 'grain follet' mass attended by some 1500 people at which I was privileged to be one of the concelebrants, even with the Archbishop present.

Yves completed his ministry as Curé of Notre Dame in Dinard where his close association with St Bartholomew's flourished. One particular memory is the annual celebration of the Liberation of Dinard which coincides with 'Le Quinze Aout', the feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary at which I was a regular concelebrant. When Yves visited us in England, this ecumenical partnership was reciprocated and Yves would celebrate the Anglican eucharist in Gloucester Cathedral as well as in other places.

Yves had a special place in my life and ministry and I will always be grateful to him for welcoming me into a natural ecumenical fold which Christians should always be ready to offer each other.

*The Revd Alan Charters*



### Cheddar Cheese

Looking for cheddar cheese? This month's Central Brittany Journal features a local producer and supplier. CBJ is on sale at supermarkets/ local presse for just 1 € !

**Christian Basics Course- Autumn 2011 & Lent 2012**  
**Thursdays at 11.00 following Holy Communion at 10.30**  
**and followed by a bring-and-share lunch at 12.00**

8<sup>th</sup> Sept 11                    God the Father  
 Genesis 1 v1 -5; Genesis 3 v8; 1 Kings 19 v 8 – 12; Exodus 3 v1 – 10

6<sup>th</sup> Oct, 11                    God the Son – incarnation and life  
 Luke 1 v26 -38; Matthew 4 v23 - 25

3<sup>rd</sup> Nov 11                    God the Son – crucifixion and resurrection  
 John 19 v16 – 34; John 20 v1 – 18

1<sup>st</sup> Dec 11                    God the Holy Spirit  
 John 14 v15 – 17; 14 v25 – 26; 15 v26; 16 v4 – 11; 16 v12 – 15

1<sup>st</sup> Mar 12                    Church-going  
 Exodus 20 v8; Luke 4 v16; Acts 2 v1, v46

8<sup>th</sup> Mar 12                    Communion  
 1 Corinthians 11 v23 – 26

15<sup>th</sup> Mar 12                    Bible Reading  
 2 Timothy 3 v16 – 17

22<sup>nd</sup> Mar12                    Prayer  
 Matthew 6 v5 – 15

29<sup>th</sup> Mar 12                    Thanksgiving  
 Psalm 95 v2; Psalm 147v7; Philippians 4 v6

5<sup>th</sup> Apr 12                    Hereafter  
 Revelation 21 v1 – 8

**The Garden Party**  
**6<sup>th</sup> August 2011**

It is very difficult if not impossible to spot what is not there. It's much easier to see what is than to see what isn't. What isn't in this month's Newsletter is an article on last month's Church Garden Party. Not only was the event once again successfully hosted at Les Trauchandières by Claude and Agnes François but Claude offered to write the article after I asked him to. And with typical efficiency, Claude wrote the article that very night.

Sadly, as you know Claude was admitted to hospital at St Malo on the Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> August before he had chance to send me the article so I am unable to include it in our September Newsletter which is put to bed at lunchtime on the Thursday preceding its publication, this month on our patronal festival on 28<sup>th</sup> August.

I'm sure the article will appear next month but let me simply say how grateful I am to so many folk who made this major fund-raising exercise so successful once again and which helps to keep our church on a firm financial footing.

*Father Gareth*



**Sunflower Competition Results**

First prize	Roger Berry	2.06m
Second Prize	Victor Pumfrett	2.0m
Third Prize	Sylvie Philips	1.9m
Fourth Prize	Agnes François	Most healthy plant

*Geoff Carter*

## Christ Church in the Manche

There are exciting developments in process in our sister Anglican Church in Normandy and we can be encouraged by the evidence of her steady growth.

Until recently, Christ Church used rooms in a school in Coutances but with the prospect of its restructuring and redevelopment, the Bishop of Coutances offered them the permanent use of a little used church in the commune of Homm el in Gratot. This coupled with the offer of purchasing the adjacent presbyt re, salle de f tes and large car park has provided the folk at Christ Church with a church plant in which to root and develop their ministry in the Homm el Church project.

Much work has been done; much work is still to be undertaken. Finance has been raised and further finance required. A deposit has been amassed and an 80% mortgage has been secured. Heating lighting and refurbishment of the church has been effected and some of the rooms in the presbyt re will be turned into a suitable office and a drop-in centre.

Let me simply quote 4 short sentences from their appeal for support in financing the work: ‘So our mission is underway – and on-going! We live in exciting times for our church. . . ‘Giving is like a prayer.’ Please remember us in your giving.’

So if you would like to help fund the work of the Church in this place, then you could contact H W R Farnsworth (fund-raising co-ordinator) at 4 rue Guillaume de la lande, 50590 Montmarin sur mer [humf3farns@aol.fr](mailto:humf3farns@aol.fr).

*Gareth Randall*



## Harvest Festival

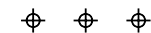
On 25<sup>th</sup> September, the last Sunday of the month, we will once again be holding our annual Harvest Festival. Your gifts of fruit, vegetables other fresh produce (no meat please) will be given to the Little Sisters of the Poor at the Jeanne Jugan home for the elderly in St Servan.

Gifts of tins, cereals, soups, tea, sugar and jars of instant coffee etc will be given to the Dinard Banque Alimentaire. Filtered coffee is not required because the folk benefitting from your kindness lack the means to make it.

On Friday morning (23<sup>rd</sup>), St Bartholomew’s will be open to receive your gifts and to decorate the church.

As ever, our sincere thanks for your donations for people in need.

*Helen Morgan*



## Personal Column

Congratulations to

Marie Sohier-Noton on the birth of her first grandson, Nathan, born on 7<sup>th</sup> August to her son Philippe and his wife, Nonphay in Paris;

Doreen Collier on the baptism in church on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> August of her great grandson, Joseph, son of Rosa and grandson of Lesley;

Regis Guillon and Elodie Cede married in church on 20<sup>th</sup> August;

Howard Finch and Gemma Garfoot married in the chapel of La Grand Val on 27<sup>th</sup> August.

### **Massacre in Norway**

*The following is the text of what Bishop David said at the service at St Olav's Norwegian church in London on 29<sup>th</sup> July, 2011*

When tragedy strikes a member of part of a family, the family comes together, to comfort each other, to simply be with each other. The same is true of our Churches, now part of one extended family, through the Porvoo Agreement.

Our Lord Jesus built a community of servants and friends founded on the deepest commitment to him and to each other. It is as a member of your extended family that I am here today, to express the support, assurance of prayer and deep love which underlines that we are one family, one community. It is in this spirit that I am with you today as a representative of the Church of England.

In the face of such unimaginable and terrible violence, the world has observed Norwegians responding with such grace and courage, holding fast to the principles which you hold so deeply. Following attacks inspired by hatred and fear, the natural reaction of many people would be to close doors, put on armour of protection and become wary and guarded with each other, and suspicious of the stranger. In contrast to this approach, the world has been moved by the sentiments expressed by your Prime Minister, Mr Jens Stoltenberg, who affirmed that in response to the attack your country must be more open, more tolerant, more democratic. Here is no word of hatred or fear, but rather a steady looking towards the future. We are inspired by such statesman-like and indeed Christian words: to hope for and work for a better Norway, a better world, not a more frightened one where hatred and dread hold sway. In the face of a fearful nightmare filled with death, Norway is choosing life. As difficult as it is to speak of gift at a time of such violence, in so many ways, the people of Norway are teaching us, witnessing to us, to hold on to the values the world desperately needs. And so we resist calls

for vengeance, and choose justice. We address fear and hatred by building a more open and embracing community. We affirm a future of hope, peace and grace.

One of the mysteries of our faith is how God created human beings with free will. This means the freedom to do good and to do evil. God loves us so much that in the freedom he gives his children he does not take away the possibility that we may abuse that freedom to hurt others. But God our Father's love and compassion are always with those of his children who are wracked with pain, confusion, grief and sorrow. In a moment we will hear the majestic words of St Paul which attest to the extent of God's compassion and love for us, words which speak today to our own sorrow. 'For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord'.

Today on St Olav's day, a martyr who died for what he believed was right for Norway, it is fitting that we gather to honour the memory of people, especially the young victims, who died while doing what they believed in, working together to build a bright future for Norway and her people. It is on this hope and with this witness that God can bring light out of darkness.

Your friends and Christian brothers and sisters are with you today, to affirm your choice for life. As friends and family we gather to comfort each other. We share a word or two with you, we embrace you in an act of peace, and we unite our hearts with yours in spoken and unspoken prayer.

And we affirm our common faith, as St Paul teaches us, that when we feel despair, when we feel anger, sorrow, and separation. In these times, God does not leave us alone.