

Diary dates for February and March, 2013

13 th February	10.00 Ash Wednesday
21 st February	11.00 Start of Lent Bible Study
23 rd March	10.30 Council Meeting
28 th March	10.30 Maundy Thursday
29 th March	11.00 Good Friday
31 st March	11.00 Easter Day



Prayer of the month – Lent

....for in these forty days you lead us into the desert of repentance that through a pilgrimage of prayer and discipline we may grow in grace and learn to be your people once again. (Proper Preface for Lent, *Common Worship*).

Christians journey in Lent towards the Cross and Resurrection. We recall the forty year pilgrimage of the ancient people of Israel, between slavery in Egypt and the security of the promised land. It was a prolonged time in the wilderness, the desert, with little water, food or resources. But in the poverty of that sojourn the people learned of God's covenant with them, revealed at Mt Sinai. So may our Lenten discipline renew our faith in the promise of salvation.

Lord, free us from falling into the sin of believing that the slavery in Egypt is better than the struggles in the desert. (A prayer from Nicaragua)

Bishop David's blog



Prayer focus

What to give up for Lent; what to do in addition ?

St Barts Monthly



February, 2013

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



Dear Friends,

Is anyone there ?

Is anyone there? Sometimes, I wonder if anyone reads the St Bart’s Monthly. I know most months I print a minimum of 40 copies available free of charge at the back of the church and they do all get taken. I know over a hundred are sent electronically in the read-on-line and printable versions. But it’s rare for me to receive any feed-back.

Is anyone there? Sometimes in prayer we could ask the same question. The time we spend in silence, listening and speaking to God, may not seem like a dialogue. It can be a case of us wondering if He is really there listening. Though we may not hear a voice, prayer is answered in my experience often by my knowing what to do or later perhaps someone telling me something significant and helping me make up my mind. Okay, so sometimes I don’t necessarily get the answer I want but I don’t think I’m praying in a vacuum anymore than this letter is not being read by some of the folks connected to St Bart’s.

Is anyone there? Lent among other things centres on Jesus’ temptations in the wilderness. There Jesus is literally holding a conversation with Satan though it may all be a dialogue of the mind as he comes to terms with what it means for him to be the Son of God.

So is anyone there? This month and during this coming Lent, why not tell me what you think of the St Bart’s Monthly and why not spend some more time in prayer? We might both be surprised by what we may hear.

Father Gareth



- **Banque Alimentaire** 12 substantial boxes of groceries were given this Christmas. Our thanks to all who contributed. The work started by Ida Beau continues as we remember the growing number of people in need. Especially required are small items of fish, meat and soup for pensioners living alone.
- **Advent Appeal 2012** 150€ was raised for the work of the Ordre de Malte – thanks to all who contributed
- **Coffee after the service** – After our regular service of Holy Communion on a Thursday at 10.00 there will a chance for a cup of coffee and a chat (but not in Lent – service at 10.30 followed by Bible Study/ Bring and share lunch)
- **Notes for the Council Meeting – 24th January** will appear in the March St Bart’s Monthly because the February edition goes to press on the day of the meeting itself
- **Deadline** for submission of material for the March edition of the St Bart’s Monthly is *midday on Thursday 28th February*
- **Church Finances for December**
Income: 5,081€ Expenditure: 4,014€
Have you ever wondered why the figures for our Church Finances are always two months old before you read them ? Two reasons: one the total is not known till the end of any given month; the other that the St Bart’s Monthly is printed just before the end of the month.



Personal Column

Congratulations to Marie King who will celebrate her 90th birthday on the 14th February.



Readings in church

February 3 Candlemas

Malachi 3 v1 - 5 Psalm 24 v7 - end
Hebrews 2 v 4 - end Luke 2 v22 - 40

February 10 Quinquagesima

Exodus 34 v29 - end Psalm 99
2 Corinthians 3 v12 - 4 v2 Luke 9 v28 - 36

February 17 1st Sunday of Lent

Deuteronomy 26 v1 - 11 Psalm 91 v1 - 11
Romans 10 v8b - 13 Luke 4 v1 - 13

February 24 2nd Sunday of Lent

Genesis 15 v1 -12, 17 - 18 Psalm 27
Philippians 3 v17 - 4 v1 Luke 13 v31 - end



Verse of the Month

*A new regular feature to give you a chance
to reflect on a verse from Scripture*

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,
his mercies never come to an end;
they are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness.

Lamentations 3 v22, 23



Help for Heroes Big Battlefield Bike Ride 2013 Monday 27th May – Sunday 2nd June

***From Paris to Compiègne to Amiens to Le Touquet to Calais
to Chatham to London (370 miles / 600+kms)***

Help for Heroes is a popular and most successful UK charity, raising money to 'provide direct practical support to wounded, injured and sick Service personnel, veterans and their families'. One of the many ways of doing so for this good cause is the annual bike ride which they organise.

My friends at St Bart's may not be aware how much I enjoy cycling. In the past, I have undertaken several demanding rides in aid of charity.

Well even now, at my relatively mature age, I am determined to have a go again and despite the winter weather I am already in training and I am getting fitter.

I am one of a four man team (the Four Musketeers) two of whom were high ranking British Officers – clocking up some 240 years of experience between us! So with your support and encouragement, if you are willing to sponsor me, I am aiming to raise some £2,500 for this worthy cause.

Donation forms are available in church or can be made on-line (instructions available on request) and anything you feel moved to give will be gratefully received and much appreciated.

Thank you in advance for your support for thinking of me and those I seek to help.

Ron Kirk



**Citation for the Chief Scout's Award for services to Scouting
awarded to Charles Marshall in December**

Since receiving the Chief Scout's Commendation, Charles has continued to carry out outstanding service not only within the Northallerton District, but also in North Yorkshire County. When Young Leaders (YL) in the County required someone to help with their organisation, Charles was amongst the first to offer his services even though he was already heavily committed to running Explorers and YLs in Northallerton. This is just typical of the example he sets and he continues today with devoting time to ensuring that not only do the Explorers and YLs in the District receive the very best experience available, but those throughout the County as well. This has included organising and co-ordinating several County Wide YL weekend camps and training events. As well as this, recognition is also due to Charles for his involvement and leadership with the BAAS Educational Trust School (BETS). This project is aimed at providing a school and educational system for the children of Garatpur in India. In May 2007 after a meeting with the Head Teacher who was visiting Northallerton, Charles decided to enlist the help of the BARNES ESU to carry out fundraising. This then developed into him leading a party of Explorer Scouts to go out to India in 2008 to present the funds and to spend three weeks helping to actually build part of the school. They also played a role in the educational sessions with the children. Upon his return he then continued with the fundraising and has undertaken two further visits to the school with the Explorers. Word of this work he and BARNES have been doing travelled and an ESU from Shropshire is now joining in, raising funds and visiting the school on alternate years. This has led to joint camps in the UK with this other ESU, joint fundraising and a greater impact for the school. The project has been featured by Save the Children in India as a direct result of the work that Charles initiated and

**St Bartholomew's Church, Dinard
Lent Bible Course – 2013
Disciples / Apostles**

*Every Thursday at 11.00 following Holy Communion at 10.30
and followed by a bring-and-share lunch at 12.00*

Session 1	21 st February, 2013 Bartholomew
Text	John 21 v2 – 3; 1 v43 - 51
Session 2	28 th February, 2013 Philip
Text	John 1 v43 – 46; 6 v5 – 7; 12 v20 – 22; 14 v8 – 10
Session 3	7 th March, 2013 Peter
Text	Matthew 16 v13-23; John 13 v3 – 11; Mark 14 v30
Session 4	14 th March, 2013 John
Text	Mark 1 v16 – 20; John 13 v23 – 24; 19 v26 - 27
Session 5	21 st March, 2013 Matthew
Text	Matthew 9 v9 -13
Session 6	28 th March, 2013 Thomas
Text	John 11 v16; 14 v5; 20 v24 – 29



Father Gareth

Playing with words 4/4

The following were sent to me by Geoff Scott

What do you call a dinosaur with an extensive vocabulary? A thesaurus.

England has no kidney bank, but it does have a Liverpool .

I used to be a banker, but then I lost interest.

All the toilets in New York's police stations have been stolen. Police have nothing to go on.

Venison for dinner? Oh deer!

This girl said she recognized me from the vegetarian club, but I'd never met herbivore.

Haunted French pancakes give me the crepes.



Humour à l'école 3/11

*From a dear friend in Potters Bar, Lisa Klein,
a parent of pupils who are/were at Dame Alice Owen's School:*

Professeur: « Il pleuvait » c'est quel temps ?

Elève: C'est du mauvais temps, maître.

(Pas de doute !)



Sunday School Humour

The following comes from Bill Hughes, our Church Warden

A Sunday School teacher asked one of the boys if he thought Noah did any fishing from the ark. "I doubt it," the boy replied, "he only had two worms!"

sustained. This demonstrates Charles's promise to put others before himself. Charles is also a committed member of the Northallerton Gang Show team, where he arranges all of the music for the show. In addition, he produces the weekly Gang Show newsletter, coordinates the video capture of the show, provides the tuck shop, maintains the website pages and keeps the accounts. Charles also set up and maintains the District website and District Directory, coordinates the Christmas Carol Service and will generally help wherever he can. Charles is enthusiastic and supportive. He listens to the young people and responds to their programme requests and ensures that there is a balanced programme that stretches the young people to meet their potential. I believe Charles should be recognised for everything he has done for Scouting. Charles is an active member of the Brompton Methodist Youth Group.

Recommendation by Region/County/Area Commissioner



Quotations of the month

The real question is not whether machines think
But whether men do

Professor B K Skinner

The dead might as well try to speak to the living
As the old to the young

Willa Cather

The wind and the waves are God's
The sail and the rudder ours

Lent

I am writing this article on 5th January, before Twelfth Night and the official end of the Christmas festivities. So it seems strange to realise that by the time it appears we shall have reached February, with only a couple of weeks to go before the start of Lent.

I am never too pleased when Lent starts early, and when we are still likely to be in the grip of winter: it feels the wrong time to embark on a period of penitence and austerity. And I always have an ambivalent feeling about Lent anyway. Traditionally, people have regarded it as a time for giving things up, and that may be a useful discipline - except that that seems rather negative if that is *all* we do. Shouldn't there be a positive aspect to Lent as well?

Well, recently I happened to read two things that seem to me to have some relevance to that question. The first was in a letter sent by Charles Wesley (hymn-writer and brother of John) in which he described his daughter Sally. Sally was the only one of his children who showed any real interest in religion, but yet, said Charles, '*she seeks, but she does not strive.*' That is a pretty harsh thing for any father to say. But as I reflected, I realised it as something that could be said about me, and maybe about many of us, whether we identify ourselves as Christians or not. We seek to live Christian lives, or we seek to be decent citizens, but do we *strive* - do we do that extra bit to draw nearer to God, or to advance the Kingdom of Heaven, or to improve the life of our fellow human beings?

So far, so bleak, you might say. But then I chanced upon something else. It was a quote from a wise old woman in County Kerry who was asked 'Where is Heaven?' 'It lies about a foot and a half above the head of a man' she replied - implying thereby that to enter God's Kingdom you do have to stretch yourself a bit, but that it is there for those who reach out for it, whoever they are.

Recipe of the month Oven-Baked Mushroom and Cod Crumble

Porridge Oats make a nice crumble topping

- ✓ 1½ lb cod fillets thawed if frozen, skin removed and boned
- ✓ 1 medium onion, finely chopped
- ✓ 4oz mushrooms sliced
- ✓ salt and freshly ground black pepper
- ✓ 1 can mushroom soup
- ✓ 3oz porridge oats
- ✓ 1oz plain wholemeal flour
- ✓ 1tsp dry mustard
- ✓ 2oz margarine



- Place the cod in a shallow ovenproof dish.
- Sprinkle the onion and mushrooms over the fish and season to taste.
- Pour the soup over to cover.
- Place the oats, flour and mustard in a bowl.
- Rub in the margarine until the mixture resembles breadcrumbs.
- Sprinkle over the cod mixture.
- Place in a preheated oven at 190°C (375°F) Gas mark 5 for 40-50 minutes or until the cod flakes.
- Serve with freshly cooked vegetables.

Trust you'll enjoy it as much as I do !

Victor Pumfrett



Interested ?

Merveilleux!

Talk to me at church or email me at ezpzvi@gmail.com.

Thanks for reading!

Valerie Trevino



God's Post-It Notes 11/18

The following was sent to me by Ron Kirk:

God doesn't call the qualified.

He qualifies the called.



Anagram

I was surprised when one of our congregation, David Bargioni, pointed out that Gareth was an anagram of 'gather' – a particularly appropriate name for a priest he thought !



Court reports 2/12

The following are a series of what was actually said in American courts and has been sent to me by Ron Frankel

ATTORNEY: What gear were you in at the moment of the impact?

WITNESS: Gucci sweats and Reeboks.

That is going to be my approach to Lent this year: a resolve to do a bit of striving, as well as just seeking - but reminding myself as I do so that the Kingdom of which Jesus spoke is not remote or unattainable, but accessible to all who will stretch out for it. That is the way to build the Kingdom of Heaven - and the Kingdom of Heaven on earth.

The Revd Dr Alan Harding

Alan and I trained at Oak Hill College on the Ministerial Training Course in the early 1990s though Alan was in the year above. At the time, we both lived in Potters Bar. We became NSM Assistant Priests: Alan was licensed to Christ Church and I to King Charles the Martyr. I taught his youngest child, Sophie, 'A' Level Religious Studies at Dame Alice Owen's School. Alan has now retired with his wife, Sharon, also a PhD, to Suffolk. In the 1970s, they both came to Dinard, guests of Elizabeth Hannay.



Waking with God

Thank God.

However bad a night,

We can wake with hope,

To the joy of a new day,

To a fresh beginning !



Radio 4

The following was heard on the BBC news on 1st January :

the cost of treatment of obesity under the NHS is patchy

Does that mean the budget is too small to cover so large a problem ?

Film Review of the month
'The Hobbit' 'un voyage inattendu' Peter Jackson - 2012

If you enjoyed watching Peter Jackson's three film version of Tolkien's epic, 'The Lord of the Rings', then to see his version of 'The Hobbit' will be a must.

I saw 'The Lord of the Rings' films before I came to France while I was still teaching at Owen's. I saw 'The Hobbit' as a pre-Christmas treat in Dinard. I first read the books before going up to university and oddly enough I read 'The Hobbit' after reading the trilogy so watching the films in that order worked for me.

In many respects, it is more of the same: the same mood; the same humour, the same genre: wonderful, marvellous fantasy rooted in myth, the eternal struggle between good and evil where 'little folk' play a major role in overcoming serious evil by honesty and courage, standing up for the values of friendship, loyalty and self-sacrifice.

The special effects must be exciting seen in 3D which I can't and I didn't having opted for the less expensive, ordinary version. To be honest, the fast-moving action and the fight sequences do little for me nowadays – I must be getting old. But I loved the quality acting and to cast Martin Freeman as a young Bilbo – the older man having been played by Ian Holm – worked really well. The quality Freeman brings to Doctor Watson in the TV update of the Sherlock Holmes stories makes him an engaging Bilbo.

I watched the film in French so I missed some of the dialogue so I'm looking forward to seeing it in English on DVD in due course. In the meantime, I await the sequel when there is one / two. The film, an 'unlooked-for' journey, stops when they reach their destination with the dragon Smaug just beginning to stir.

Gareth Randall

Coming soon - EZPZ French

What is it ?

A new French conversation meet up group, all levels welcome.

Where is it ?

In Dinard, on Avenue Edouard VII, near Gardiner, parking relatively easy, buses nearby.

Who's in charge ?

Valerie, you've seen me around church; former director of a language school in Honolulu, French-born American, 20 years living in France, 20 years teaching languages in France, Luxembourg and the USA.

When is it ?

Bi-weekly. Dates and times to be arranged with group members.

What will we do ?

Talk! Find solutions to problems you may be having communicating in French. Boost your vocabulary, your pronunciation! (Bring your dictionaries.) But we can also read a French poem and discuss it, listen to a French song and try to figure out the lyrics. Let's have fun while we chat in French, shall we?

How much is it ?

5€ per person/hour. Tea/coffee included. (Don't worry, my British friend taught me how to make a proper cuppa.) You bring the cookies - yes, I know, you say "biscuits" - if you'd like to nibble.

What if Dinard is just not practical for me ?

If there is enough interest, I have a dear American friend, also an experienced language teacher, who lives in Dinan... maybe we can work something out with her.

Finally and on a lighter note I was confirmed by Bishop David at Foussais Payre then our home and much like Father Gareth was able to walk the short distance to the Church. Here I hope you will have the time to go to www.allsaintsvendee.fr and be able to judge what a wonderful occasion that was indeed. The weather was certainly better than it has been in April 2012.

I was the first to be introduced to Bishop David who explained to the vast congregation that Kenneth means the ‘handsome one.’ I have often dined out on that and of course one does not disagree with a Bishop!

Ken Ivin



Words

Shrove Tuesday is also known as Pancake Day. It’s traditionally the day when we make pancakes - a very British feast - to eat well in preparation for the forty days of abstinence and spiritual discipline particular to Lent which begins the following day on Ash Wednesday.

Carnival is a more exciting continental term for the same feast and Carnivale at Venice is particularly colourful version of this celebration with masks and costumes and the revelry for which the city is famous. In Italian, ‘carnivale’ combines two words ‘carne’ meat and ‘vale’ farewell – hence the day is the day we say good bye to meat for the forty days of Lent. Actually, the word originally comes from Latin and is a combination of ‘caro/carnis’ flesh and ‘levare’ to remove i.e. meat is off the menu.



The Miners’ Strike

Whilst my knowledge is limited to the valleys of South Wales, there were of course many areas of the United Kingdom which produced coal for what were then the emerging nations. Amongst there were the miners of Kent who after descending the pit then walked some miles under the English Channel to mine the coal.

Thus Wales should not be viewed in isolation and whilst our anthracite fuelled the boilers of the world and our slate from Blaenau Festiniog roofed the world we were not alone in the process to keep pace with the then demand.

Here it is not intended to be a party political broadcast but my forefathers were some of the original founders of the Labour Party and my Father every Friday used to be found outside the pit gates collecting the ‘subs’ for the ‘Fed’ which was the forerunner to the now National Union of Mineworkers.

I did not follow my Father or my brothers down the pit and was the first of the family to go to University. Indeed my first degree was at the now University of Glamorgan in Treforest and of course the home village of Sir Tom Jones but then was known as the School of Mines.

Later my second degree was my Honours Degree in Law at Bristol and where my dissertation was on the Human Rights/Civil Liberties side of the dispute of 85/85. Here my tutor and I had hoped that my brain ruled my heart and perhaps that was indeed the case for I did graduate with an Honours Degree in Law. It was however with a heavy heart that I ‘touched’ hands with Lady Butler Schloss of my University for one does not shake hands. The graduation ceremony was at Bristol Cathedral and Lady Butler Schloss was a leading Lord Justice within

the family division and here a play on words for she indeed had a wonderful lunch at the University and let us say was unsteady on her feet.

But of course 84/85 was not the first time that disputes had been witnessed within the United Kingdom and in the early 1900's the pits were still privately owned and in South Wales there is something that is still imprinted on the minds of those who are still resident in the Valleys. The mine owners wanted the miners to work longer hours for less money and hence the phrase 'not a minute on the day not a penny off the pay.'

The end results were the Tonyandy Riots and when Winston Churchill who was then if my political history is sound was a Liberal sent the Troops into Tonyandy. The rest is history.

As part of my Honours Degree I had let us say an involvement with both Neil Kinnock now Lord Kinnock and indeed Scargill. The former gave me an interview from his then exalted position in Europe and the latter did not or would not respond.

For those who may be interested my belief is that the demise of the Miners was to be expected and the cost to the State of coal-mining could not be substantiated.

It was unfortunately a battle between two individuals one of whom perhaps was the supporter of the rule of Law and the needs of the State and whose party had suffered earlier in the piece and the other had other visions but they did not encompass the needs of the members he represented. He does of course even today have a Premier Pension from the NUM his own office and expense account. I hold strong views on this man.

I have no problems with the end of the mining industry my biggest concern is the way it was orchestrated. South Wales is now a desert; no work, no hope for those who are coming into the world and the strong religious beliefs which were founded by the mining community are no more.

To see my village of Porth now in decay and which in English means gateway strikes at my very beliefs in 'fair play' The Rhondda has indeed two valleys Rhondda Fawr which means big Rhondda and the birthplace of the Mother of Father Gareth and the Rhondda Fach which means small Rhondda. The distinction is simple in that in geographical terms one is larger than the other!

When on Sundays you heard 'Cwm Rhondda' 'There is a green hill far far away' and the very famous non-conformist hymn 'This is my story this is my song' 'echoing from the Chapels and the Chapels now raised to the ground and the stone from the Chapels encircling by-passes the world is a lesser place. The latter hymn was composed by a US citizen who lived well into her 80's. During her lifetime she composed over eight thousand songs and hymns and at that stage I suppose we would just marvel at the achievements of the lady. However add to that please that she was blind since childhood and it was the text of my message when addressing the congregation at Puy de Serre in that we walk with faith and not with sight.

However our family hymn is The Old Rugged Cross and I was able to relive those memories when being baptised in Puy de Serre by Brian Davies and when he kindly gave me the opportunity of listing a hymn. The Old Rugged Cross was my choice the memories it evokes will go with me forever. It is a hymn of course for somewhat sombre moments and events but it is the very essence of my soul for it has accompanied every member of my family on their final journey. It will accompany me on my final journey.