

Diary dates for June and July, 2013

12 th - 15 th June	Archdeaconry Synod St Jacut de la Mer
17 th June	11.00 Service of Confirmation The Right Revd Geoffrey Rowell Bishop in Europe
11 th July	10.30 Council Meeting
14 th July	12.00 Friends AGM



Prayer of the month

Almighty God, the fountain of all goodness
bless our Sovereign Lady, Queen Elizabeth,
and all who are in authority under her;
that they may order all things
in wisdom and equity, righteousness and peace,
to the honour of your name
and the good of your Church and people;
through Jesus Christ our Lord
Amen

A Prayer for the Sovereign



Prayer focus

The possibility of forgiveness, of forgiving and being forgiven.



Verse of the Month

Return to the Lord, who will have mercy;
to our God, who will richly pardon.

Isaiah 55 v7

St Bart's Monthly



June, 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



June, 2013

Dear Friends,

Embodied religion

Summer is with us. It's warm again and the beaches of Dinard once again are tempting folk out to sun-bathe. And I am tempted too, not only to do the former but also to formulate a question – 'Is our faith in God simply a question of mind or do our bodies matter too?'

If an article in the Church Times (1st February 2013) is to be believed, then new scientific research suggests the truth of what we probably intuitively feel. Descartes declared with certainty the axiom, 'I think therefore I am' as the basis for his philosophy of reason. But perhaps it might also be true to offer this paraphrase: 'I believe because I feel.'

When folk visiting St Bart's comment on their impressions, it is usually couched in terms of the warmth, the stillness and the prayerfulness of the building. The favourable impression of those attending our Sunday service is usually expressed in terms of the warmth of their welcome and the tangible quality of our fellowship.

I think religion became meaningful to me not only because intellectually I was convinced but emotionally it met a discerned need – I felt welcomed and that I'd come home.

It is no coincidence that the heart of our service is the rite of Holy Communion, a meal in miniature in which by eating bread and drinking wine we can commune with God, that in a ritual full of symbolism, we can meet the incarnate God, therein and thereby the intangible becomes tangible.

If we truly believe in the Incarnation, then no wonder is it that our faith should be embodied?

Father Gareth

Notices

- **Lodgings** needed for Daisy, a second year bi-lingual British student at the Lycée for Hoteliers in Dinard from this September. Monday to Thursday inclusive, own room, breakfast and evening meal. Must be in Dinard or bus routed suburb. If you can help, please contact Daisy Greenway on 02 96 80 43 57 with your tariff, or email her mum, greenway.joanne@neuf.fr
- **Deadline** for submission of material for the July edition of the St Bart's Monthly is ***midday on 27th June***
- **Church Finances for April**
Income: 3,578€ Expenditure: 3,937€



Readings in church

June 2 First Sunday after Trinity

I Kings 8 v22 - 23, 41 - 43 Psalm 69
Galatians 1 v1 - 12 Luke 7 v1 - 10

June 9 Second Sunday after Trinity

I Kings 17 v17 - end Psalm 146
Galatians 1 v11 - end Luke 7 v11 - 17

June 16 Third Sunday after Trinity

2 Samuel 11 v26 – 12 v10, 13 - 15 Psalm 5 v1 - 8
Galatians 2 v15 - end Luke 7 v36 – 8 v3

June 23 Fourth Sunday after Trinity

Isaiah 65 v1 - 9 Psalm 42
Galatians 3 v23 - 29 Luke 6 v36 - 42

June 30 Fifth Sunday after Trinity

I Kings 19 v15 - 16, 19 - 21 Psalm 77 v11 - end
Galatians 5 v13 - 25 Luke 9 v51 - end

Cards, Jigsaws	Kathy Saxton-Howes Dee Cronshaw
Ducks	Geoff Carter
Bath & Beauty	Bill Hughes
Children's Games	Roger Berry Bill Wignall
Bran Tub	Barry Jordan
Flower Arranging and First Aid	Victor Pumfret
Plants	Sue & Mike Holman
Bottles	Stan Norman
Car Park	Mike, Gerard Stein

David Morgan



Notes from the Council May 2nd

Unusually, attendance at our May meeting was low. George Dobinson had died and his funeral was being held that lunch time. John and Laura were to be married on the Saturday. The combination of these two services together with normal reasons for absence – work commitments, holidays and illness – resulted in the diminished numbers present.

That said, the spirit of the meeting was buoyant. John Marshall reported on the positive response to the toilet twinning appeal even before the article had appeared in the May edition of the St Bart's Monthly. Perennial agenda issues such as finance, fabric, the garden, the library, ecumenism and future events were all considered. As anyone living in France will appreciate, the value of our money transferred from the UK varies with the exchange rate and this impacts with how much we need to spend and have to save.

To facilitate the use of church property by members of the congregation who would like to borrow tables or chairs for example, a loans book will be introduced. To co-ordinate church events, a parish diary will be initiated. The AGM of the Groupement Oecuménique will be held in St Bart's on 11th June and Bishop Geoffrey will take a service of Confirmation on Sunday 16th June following the Archdeaconry Synod earlier that week.

As ever, the meeting closed in prayer and with the usual grace: 'The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you now and always' – it could be our mission statement.

Father Gareth

Un souvenir de pain

Back when I was fourteen, I came from Texas to stay at my uncle's house near Orléans for part of the summer. Late morning, my aunt would send me off to the bakery with a coin purse full of francs. The baker never sliced or wrapped his loaves in plastic.

When my uncle came home from work, he would sit down at the table, take out his switchblade, pick up the fresh loaf, still whole, and scratch an "X" into the crust of the bread before cutting off slices for each of us. He would repeat this "X" gesture at every meal each time there was a new loaf to be cut.

Many years later, when I moved to France, I found out that he had been scratching the sign of the cross onto the loaves and that this was one of many popular traditions to do with bread. For example, throwing bread away is considered sinful and bread should never be left crust down on the table as this is bad luck – you might get a visit from the Devil!

The tradition of cutting a cross onto bread has gone out of fashion. These days, most people leave the bakery with sliced loaves and most men don't carry around sharp, pointed switchblades the way my uncle's generation did. But I know French people of my generation and younger who still refuse to throw bread out or leave it upside down. I know that I am always careful to set any bread down crust side up. Why take a chance of an unwanted visitor.

Valerie Trevino



Church Notice boards 3/11

Nathan, Barry Jordan's son, sent me this

Prevent truth decay. Brush up on your Bible.

Garden Party 2013

Below is a list of stalls planned for the Garden Party on 3rd August. Please do your best to help stall holders by donating items for their stalls. Donations should be brought to church during July and given to the stall holders.

Tickets	Doreen Collier Diana Wilson
Teas	Kate Berry Sharon Wignall Lesley Collier
Cakes	Barbara Stan Norman Caroline Hewitt
Groceries & Cakes	Corrie Stein Ian & Sylvie Philips
Church	Krishna
Raffle	Jackie Norman
Mystery Parcels	Gladys Dunell
Books	Anne Payan Pierre Payan
Bric à brac	Elaine Dunstan Jean Mansel
Ladies Accessories	Val Carter

Quotations of the month

Aged 7, this pearl; of wisdom was uttered by Helen Morgan's then little boy, Michael, now a PhD in Computing:

Mummy that man doesn't like you talking when he's interrupting you.



Humour à l'école 7/11

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

Un élève en droit pendant son examen oral : qu'est-ce qu'une fraude ?
Réponse de l'élève : C'est ce que vous êtes en train de faire, Monsieur.
Le professeur intrigué : Bah alors, expliquez-vous...
L'élève dit : Selon le Code pénal, celui qui profite de l'ignorance de l'autre pour lui porter préjudice, commet une fraude

(Et alors ... dans la logique...pas faux)



God's Post-It Notes 15/18

The following was sent to me by Ron Kirk:

Prayer: don't give God instructions
just report for duty.



The Velveteen Rabbit

John and Laura were married in St Bart's on 4th May and they chose two excellent biblical readings for the service itself but in their printed order of service was this extract from a work by Margery William suggested by a dear friend, Carolyn Dinan-Spencer - I loved it and so may you !

“Real isn't how you are made” said the Skin Horse. “It's a thing that happens to you. When a child loves you for a long, long time, not just to play with but REALLY loves you, then you become 'Real'.

“Does it hurt ?” asked the rabbit.

“Sometimes,” said the Skin Horse, for he was always truthful. “When you are Real you don't mind being hurt.”

“Does it happen all at once, like being wound up,” he asked, “or bit by bit ?”

“It doesn't happen all at once,” said the Skin Horse. “You become. It takes a long time. That's why it doesn't often happen to people who break easily, or have sharp edges, or who have to be carefully kept. Generally, by the time you are real, most of your hair has been loved off, and your eyes drop out and you get loose in the joints and very shabby. But these things don't matter at all, because once you are Real you can't be ugly, except to people who don't understand.”



Tea Towels

The latest St Bart's Tea Towel, designed by Barry Jordan and printed in green, is now available to buy - 5€ each or 5 for 20€ - sold in aid of church funds.

Film Review of the month
'Quartet' Dustin Hoffman - 2012

Music to the ear without being a musical; a delight to the eye without any help from CAG technology; art and artistry as a true mirror on real life; British comedy which made me laugh out loud; and sad enough to make we want to cry: 'Quartet' is British cinema at its best.

Set in Beecham House, a retirement home for professional musicians, named after the conductor, Sir Thomas Beecham, the plot of 'Quartet' revolves around the Annual Gala Concert to celebrate Verdi's birthday, an event which needs to raise sufficient funds and donations to guarantee the home remains open. The tension comes principally from the relationship between Reggie Paget (Tom Courtney) and his former wife, Jean Horton (Maggie Smith), who joins Beecham House shortly after the start of the film. Their past history and their mutual but denied love is played out against the possibility of singing the quartet of the film's title from 'Rigoletto' for which they had been famous in the past.

The two other members of the quartet consist of Wilf Bond (Billy Connolly) and Cissy Robson (Pauline Collins). Wilf is a loveable rogue, outrageously flirting with all the 'attractive' women and Cissy is a sympathetic portrayal of someone on the edge of Alzheimers clutching her capacious bag to her for comfort. And there are host of other famous names not least Michael Gambon and Andrew Sachs.

Grim ? Not really. 'Quartet' sympathetically treats old age and failing powers with realism and respect and it is life-affirming of what is past and of the present, however little there may be left.

'Quartet' is a must see – you'll love it – there's so much to enjoy and so much that may touch you.

Gareth Randall

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Black Holes

While we're on the subject of physics, I see scientists are in the News again talking about black holes of all things. Frankly, I don't know what they see in them.

Nathan Jordan



Up-to-date organist

After the Service, the vicar approached his organist to ask whether the music could be more up-to-date. His reply was quick and sharp, "No chance. I make it up as I play it."

John Marshall



Court reports 6/12

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

ATTORNEY: Is your appearance here this morning pursuant
to a deposition notice which I sent to your attorney?
WITNESS: No, this is how I dress when I go to work.



?? ? (4/6)

Peter Campbell forwarded the following question:

Why doesn't Tarzan have a beard?



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Recipe of the month

Many of you that were at the Recent Soup Lunch at Diana's asked for a copy of my 'Potato, Carrot and Cheddar Soup' so here it is and hope that you enjoy again.

- ✓ 2 tablespoons olive oil
- ✓ 6 yellow potatoes cubed
- ✓ 3 large carrots peeled and diced
- ✓ 1 pinch salt to taste
- ✓ 1 teaspoon garlic salt
- ✓ 1 teaspoon onion powder
- ✓ 1 (32 ounce) carton chicken broth (or home made)
- ✓ ¾ cup shredded sharp Cheddar Cheese
- ✓ ¼ cup chopped flat leaf parsley



- Heat oil in a pot over medium heat.
- Cook and stir the potatoes and carrots in the hot oil (10 minutes).
- Season with salt, garlic powder, and onion powder.
- Pour in the chicken broth over the mixture.
- Continue cooking until the potatoes and carrots are soft (10 – 15 minutes).
- Pour potato and carrot mixture into a blender.
- Stir the soup before leaving it on to puree.
- Return the pureed soup to the pot.
- Stir the cheddar cheese into the soup until melted.
- Serve and garnish with parsley.

Victor Pumfrett

Odd Words

An occasional series looking at odd usage or the odd choice of a word or a phrase.

'more cleaner'

The PM programme on Radio 4 is frequently my evening source of news. On Friday 12th April, I was listening to a feature on the latest electric car from Nissan – 'The Leaf'. Before I owned a Citroën C3, I had two Micras, followed by an Almera and they were, all three, excellent cars to drive.

Now the question about whether electric cars are useful in helping to minimise climate change is open to debate. It depends on who is doing the assembling then the interpretation of the figures. From my point of view, I'd love to drive something more environmentally friendly but I doubt the mileage range would get me from Dinard via Portsmouth to my home to the north of London.

But what I heard from one proponent of the electric car was this interesting claim that the Nissan Leaf is without a doubt 'more cleaner'. The comparative of an adjective in English is formed either by adding the suffix 'er' to the end of the adjective or placing the word 'more' in front of the adjective left unchanged. So a car could be 'cleaner' or 'more clean' depending on whether you have sufficient energy to wash it! But it can never be 'more cleaner' – unless of course you're writing advertising copy then what more better phrase could you want?

Gareth Randall



The Bartholomew Gospel

Over the next 30 months in our St Bart's Monthly, I shall publish a chapter a month of the Bartholomew Gospel, a retelling of the gospels through the eyes of our patron saint. I trust you will enjoy reading it as much I have loved writing it.



1 Who am I ?

'Bartholomew' Mark 3 v18; 'Nathaniel' John 1 v45

I am my father's son.

At my circumcision, eight-days-old, I was named Nathaniel (a gift of God) by my father, Tolmai. To him, I was his gift from God.

I was his only boy. Outside the family, I was known as Tolmai's son - Bartolmai - Bartholomew to you.

When I became one of Jesus' disciples, it was natural for them to call me Bartholomew and the name stuck. It's what Matthew, Mark and Luke all call me in their Gospels and in Acts. But not my friend, Philip. He knew me as Nathaniel and it was to his Nathaniel that he came that day to tell me he had found the Messiah. So young John, innocent John, John a son of thunder, kindly followed my friend's example, using my familiar name in what he wrote of me.

So are there two of me? No, not really: just me, my father's son.



My parents lived in Cana of Galilee and that's where I grew up. A prosperous family, we were not rich but never short of anything. It

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)***

Training update

As you read this Ron will be arriving !

The following is a training update Ron sent me on Tuesday 7th May

Training hard for my cycling event at the end of the month.

Tomorrow (8th May) the training run is to Mont-Saint-Michel (100kms) and I am averaging now 250kms per week at an average of 25kms/ph.

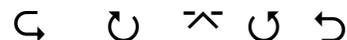
Although the event is 650kms, I only have to average 16kms/hr.

There will be 288 leaving Paris and a further 1200 and still rising will join us at Blackheath for the final run-in down the Mall and the finish in Horse Guard's Parade for a Service at the Cenotaph.

We are also expecting a contingent of US Marines.

As promised I will let you have my personal reflections and those of our team 'The Four Musketeers' shortly after the end of the ride.

Ron Kirk



Women's World Day of Prayer

This year the service in March was prepared by Christian women in France, and it was a good service. I was privileged to lead the local service in a neighbouring church of St. Ann Ings near Windermere. We prayed for you in the Temple Protestant Church at St. Servan, especially mentioning Valerie Trevino your representative and at the end of the service, I presented to the head of catering a St. Bartholomew's tea towel.

Heather Pankhurst



An authentic ear

Lord,
give me an ear to hear
what is being said to me;
give me right judgment
to discern clearly;
give me understanding
to interpret rightly;
and the wisdom to know
how best to respond.



was said we were of noble blood but I'm not sure. But of this I am sure: we were good Jews, trying to live the good Jewish life according to the Torah, the Law of Moses. And, of course, we did.

Each year at Pesach (Passover) we travelled some ninety miles south to Jerusalem to offer the annual sacrifice in the Temple. We stayed with our relations in the city and shared the Passover meal with them there. Passover is a special time. It reminds us that the angel of death had passed over us because the blood of a lamb smeared on the lintel of the door to our homes showed him we were part of G-d's Chosen People. The food symbolically reminds us of the time we were slaves in Egypt: the lamb, the unleavened bread (matzah), the bitter herbs, the charoset (a paste made with fruit, spices, wine and matzah meal). The youngest male at table, I remember asking the four questions: 'Why, on this night . . . ?' Food has always been important to us as a people and in that Seder meal, we Jews were united by the act of eating and drinking and talking together as family and by the knowledge of what we shared: that we were His Children whom He has called from slavery in Egypt to freedom in the Promised Land.

I loved the Temple - a magnificent place, full of wonder and mystery where, even as a boy, I felt the awe-inspiring presence of the One whom we worship, whose true name we were forbidden to pronounce, forbidden even to write in full. Instead, we called him Lord - Adonai.

And He speaks to us. Not in the Aramaic we use everyday nor in the Greek the Romans use but in Hebrew, the language of the Covenant between Him and us, his Chosen People - 'I will be your G-d and you will be my people,' wrote the prophet Jeremiah. It is the language of our scriptures which my father read aloud in the synagogue where we went each Sabbath to worship Him.

And He is with us: present in our daily prayers; present as we remember Him each time we stop to eat and drink; present as we wash our hands or wash the food we eat. Then we were waiting for Him to send the Messiah, the Son of David, who would set us free from foreigners and restore the Kingdom of Israel to us, His children.

So I grew up a healthy boy, an honest boy, a cheerful boy with a ready, encouraging smile. I learnt to read Hebrew, became a son of the Law, Bar Mitzvah, and took my place alongside my father in synagogue. And when news reached us that John the Baptist was proclaiming the coming of the Messiah and baptising folk in the Jordan, I was thrilled that what we longed to see might soon be here with us.

With my father's blessing, I went south and saw John for myself. I heard what he had to say and there I was baptised by him and there I first met my friend, Philip. Philip was from Bethsaida, a town on the northern edge of the Sea of Galilee where his father was a fisherman.

John looked like a prophet of old. Wild-looking from the wilderness, he was dressed in a garment of camel hair, a leather belt round his waist and sandals on his feet. People said he fulfilled what was written in the prophet Isaiah: 'Look I am sending my messenger ahead of me; he will clear the way for you. A shout goes up in the desert: Make way for the Lord! Clear a straight path for him!' Exciting or what? And his message made us wild with excitement. 'Repent and be baptised!' As Jews, we knew all about sin and doing wrong and the need to purify ourselves from the moral taint that defiles us. That's what being kosher and trefah mean, being pure and clean or being unfit to touch or eat. Ultimately, to be able to stand pure in the sight of the Lord is the dream all we Jews share. And here was John, a prophet of the old school, calling us to confess our sinfulness and to be washed clean in the Jordan, the river through which we once had crossed into our Promised Land.

And I went down to the river, left my clothes on its bank and was immersed in the living waters of the Jordan. As the waters flowed over me, John held me safe. Dripping wet from my ritual bath in the open air, I returned to the bank to dry myself and dress. I felt like a new man. It felt like a new beginning. It was wonderful.

And there, as I said, I first met Philip. We were the same age and shared the same excitement at being baptised and the prospect of what was to come. We ate together, stayed the night together, returned home together the following day.

And that was how we became friends. We were two young men with this in common: Jewish lads who believed in the One to come and who shared the joy of being awake at the dawning of a new age.



A new day

New hopes; new challenges.
Live: eat; drink; enjoy.
While I can, what I can.
Thank God!



Quick quip

Just finished this book all about Anti-gravity. I couldn't put it down!

Nathan Jordan