

Diary dates for November and December, 2015

5 th November	10.00 All Souls Service of Remembrance
8 th November	10.50 Remembrance Sunday Service
26 th November	10.30 Council Meeting
28 th November	14.00 – 18.00 Spirit of Xmas Fayre
19 th December	17.00 Carol Service
24 th December	17.00 Crib Service
25 th December	11.00 Christmas Day



Prayer of the month

The night has passed; the day lies open before us.
Let us pray with one heart and mind

Silence is kept

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day, so may the light of your presence, O God, set our hearts on fire with love for you; now and forever.

Morning Prayer, Common Worship



Prayer focus

Those we love who have gone on before us



Verse of the Month

No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known. *John 1 v18*



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



November, 2015

Notices

Dear Friends,

Remembering

November – the month for remembering:

- Guy Fawkes 5th
- All Saints 1st
- All Souls 2nd
- Remembrance Sunday 8th
- Remembrance Day 11th
- Christ the King 22nd

So what do you personally remember? Family, friends, how lucky we are to be alive with the gift of memory?

Of course, not all memories are nice, kind or pleasant and I guess we all have our past demons to lay to rest.

But, as a priest, each time I celebrate Holy Communion, the gift of Christ’s broken body and shed blood for our redemption, I am struck by the words I repeat: ‘Do this in remembrance of me.’ The simple act of taking bread and wine and our remembering Jesus’ death is a powerful reminder of his presence with us, his love for us and the grace he gives us.

There’s so much to remember each November, not least the memory of the summer sun but, as Christians, surely what we should always recall is that the Son of God, Jesus Christ, remembers us in a way we can only guess.

Father Gareth



➤ **Deadline** for submission of material for the Christmas edition of the St Bart’s Monthly is *midday on Thursday 26th November*

➤ **Church Finances for September**
Income: 10,088€ Expenditure: 3,734€



A first for St Bart’s

A big thank you to Carolyn Hewitt, our Communications Officer, who masterminded one of the warm-ups to the British Film Festival here last month in Dinard – a double showing of a Charlie Chaplin black and white silent film masterpiece – ‘The Immigrant’ under the auspices of ‘Amis du Cinéma Britannique de Dinard’. The ‘first house’ at 20.30 on 27th September packed the church and beforehand, there was a chance to have a chat and a glass of Pimms or sparkling wine on a sunny church lawn (290€ raised for the organ). Underscored by Amaury Rosa de Poullouis playing our electric piano, the film, projected onto a huge screen, made the audience gasp with laughter. The subject with a contemporary seriousness and relevance that Chaplin himself would scarcely have guessed was extraordinarily funny while touching on the ways ‘migrants’ are treated. Food for thought. And thanks to all who made our showing possible.



Readings in church

November 1st	All Saints' Day	
Isaiah 25 v6 - 9		Psalm 24 v1 - 6
Revelation 21 v1 - 6a		John 11 v32 - 44
November 8th	Remembrance Sunday	
Jonah 3 v1 - 5, 10		Psalm 62 v5 - 12
Hebrews 9 v24 -28		Mark 1 v14 - 20
November 15th	2nd Sunday before Advent	
Daniel 12 v1 - 3		Psalm 16
Hebrews 10 v11 - 25		Mark 13 v1 - 8
November 22nd	Christ the King	
Daniel 7 v9 – 10, 13 - 14		Psalm 93
Revelation 1 v4b - 8		John 18 v33 - 37
November 29th	1st Sunday of Advent	
Jeremiah 33 v14 - 16		Psalm 25 v1 - 9
1 Thessalonians 3 v9 - end		Luke 21 v25 - 36



Personal Column

Our congratulations to Martin and Clémance Beauchamp who were married here at St Bart's on 3rd October

Our sympathy to Michael and family on the death of his mother, Patricia Brunt, on 29th October and whose funeral was here in church on 3rd November.

The Bartholomew Gospel

Looking back

'God works all things together for good' Romans 8 v28

So I, Nathaniel Bartholomew, I too have come to write my gospel. Written not at the time but out of time. The product of reflection: of what it meant to me then; of what it means to me now.

I know I have not covered all that might be covered. Have either of us the stamina for such a task – I to write and you to read? But what I have written is written to help you understand what we understood – a most wonderful, impossible truth.

Let me try to express our belief in the One God simply:

- ✓ that God our Father loves us enough to have created the universe and, made in his image, to have given us life;
- ✓ that God the Son loves us enough to have given his life for us and that through his Incarnation, the unknowable is making himself known to us;
- ✓ that God the Holy Spirit loves us enough to be present in our lives and therein to inform, inspire and encourage us to be and act as Christians.

A wonderful fact; a wonderful story; truly wonderful.

May you like me through him find in Jesus Christ – the Way, the Truth, the Life – new life in being who you're meant to be.



Film Review of the month
'The Imitation Game' Morten Tyldurn 2014

Okay, so 'The Imitation Game' didn't win Benedict Cumberbatch an Oscar but it was, nevertheless, an impressive, sobering film which artfully captures something of the tragedy, sadness and irritation of Alan Turing's life and his extraordinary contribution to our winning the Second World War.

To be honest, in reality, it would have been seriously difficult working with a man like Turing - exceptionally gifted, a mathematician par excellence, someone somewhere on the autistic spectrum when it came to other people and social interaction.

The film interleaves three time frames: the 1952 uncovering of his homosexuality through his house in Manchester being burgled; his service at Bletchley Park during the Second World War; his time at Sherborne and friendship with Christopher Morcam in the 1920s.

Okay, so the historical and biographical details are shaped to be presented as a piece of drama. The unconventional mind that decoded the German Enigma machine is the film's principal focus rather than his homosexuality. Nevertheless, 'The Imitation Game' is a challenging film that invites us to think outside the box.

I was impressed by Keira Knightley's performance as Joan Clarke and an aging Charles Dance was an excellent Commander Denniston, i/c Bletchley Park, whom Turing understandably seriously irritated.

I first saw it in Dinard with French subtitles and I emerged from the cinema into the night, impressed by this snap-shot on British history.

Gareth Randall

Quotations of the month

If you are not part of the solution then you are part of the problem.
Eldridge Cleaver



Billboards 2 - 4/6

The following is from our Church Warden, Bill:

Notice on the bottom of a jam jar

Do not turn upside down.



Guy Fawkes quip

*The following was sent to me by my friend, Maria Rossi,
former Head of Drama at my old school*

Setting off fireworks before November 5th is bang out of order !



Worry not !

The source of this excellent piece of advice wishes to remain anonymous

If you keep changing your mind, don't worry – at the very least it means that you still have a mind capable of change !



**Odd Words
'Possiblement'**

I'm in one of two artisan boulangeries in the place de la République in Dinard. I'm on the point of going back to England for a fortnight so I say to Madame Gaubert that I might be in for bread before I go on the Tuesday. I'm speaking French or trying to, so I simply say to her, « Possiblement. »

She smiles and gently points out that the word does not exist in French - they say « C'est possible. » Right, so much for the principle of turning an adjective into an adverb in French by adding the suffix 'ment' onto the end of the word. In this case, it's not a possibility - 'possiblement' is simply not said.

And I think well I've just coined a new word in a foreign language. It's great to be linguistically creative but I guess only a real Francophone has any hope of coining a new word and then getting it accepted - possibly - NOT!

Gareth Randall



Comma missing

David Boggis sent us this piece of poor punctuation from the Toronto Globe and Mail and printed in the New Yorker:

'Neatest trick of the week'.

'Her slim legs are crossed elegantly at the knee and at her neck, a colourful scarf is arranged artfully over her shoulder.'

Must have been described a Russian gymnast, back in the day of . . .

**Extra Film Review of the Month
'The Theory of Everything' - James Marsh 2014
Eddie Redmayne – Oscar for best actor 2015**

I really enjoyed watching the DVD of 'The Theory of Everything' and I've no hesitation in strongly recommending you watch it too.

So what is so good about this particular film? Firstly, it's rooted in real life – the story of Professor Stephen Hawking, the famous Cambridge scientist. Then, it has all the elements of a human story: love, illness, kindness, achievement in the face of adversity. The photography is good; the background engaging; there's music, humour and tears.

Essentially, Eddie Redmayne as Stephen Hawking will charm you with his genius, reflecting something of the genius of an exceptional mind in a body that's gripped by motor neurone disease. With a life expectancy of just two more years from diagnosis, now at 74 Stephen Hawking has defied all medical prognostication. What is exceptional about Redmayne's performance is his range which allows him to move from awkward student to an awkward academic with a body whose muscles start to fail.

There is real love interest between him and his wife-to-be, Jane (Felicity Jones) and the screenplay covering 20-odd years is based on Jane's memoir 'Travelling to Infinity – my life with Stephen Hawking'.

Well, it is a sympathetic film and as a non-practising Mathematician (I have got 'O' Level Maths and you can count on me) and a practising Christian, the film has challenges but it left me with respect for a mind of such calibre capable of original thought. The challenge to any Christian is not so much in his ideas but how a loving God can allow such a dreadful disease to affect the body of man with such a mind.

Gareth Randall

To Remember
15th August, 2015

It is poignant that we celebrate VJ day. I used to look after ex-FEPOWS in one of my junior medical jobs and later a friend married an ex-FEPOW who wrote a lovely book about the Burmese railway, which nobody would publish, so he did it himself. Most of them came back to the UK months after VJ day and there was no welcome at the dockside. It had all been forgotten. And the interesting question I found myself asking over and over again was: what sort of recognition do you want from anyone for your survival? After all, most of them had gone into captivity after mass surrender on our part and had not been able to fight so they were not considered heroes. And they had the typical guilt of the survivor and an intense hatred for the Japanese. I was a very naive junior doctor.

Geoff Scott



Tomato Fest

Last month, I shared with you a recipe my sister-in-law, Lin, cooked for us back in September. Let me now pass on this second, simple, tasty meal, a veritable feast of tomatoes.

All you need is oil; a little finely chopped onion; tomatoes of all sorts including some semi-sundried; a little seasoning (for example Herbs of Provence) and some salt and pepper, a couple of slices of bread toasted, all topped with a fried or poached egg.

Simply soften the onion in a little oil, add the chopped tomatoes and cook over a slow heat till the tomatoes all meld. Make the toast, cook the egg, then serve and enjoy. Well good!

Gareth Randall

Dictionary Definitions 3/5

These gems were sent to us by Trish and Tony

HANDKERCHIEF:

Cold Storage.

INFLATION:

Cutting money in half without damaging the paper.

MOSQUITO:

An insect that makes you like flies better.



School humour 3/7

Why did the pineapple go out with the orange?

He couldn't get a date.

Pauline Eyre



Kids in Church 3/7

Peter Campbell forwarded these little gems to us!

After the christening of his baby brother in church, Jason sobbed all the way home in the back seat of the car. His father asked him three times what was wrong. Finally, the boy replied, "The priest said he wanted us brought up in a Christian home, and I wanted to stay with you!".



Questions I shop therefore I am

In one of the summer art exhibitions here in Dinard, there was this delightful statement in English:

‘I shop therefore I am’.

Descartes famously wrote in Latin ‘Cogito ergo sum’; in French, it would be rendered ‘Je pense donc je suis’ and in English, ‘I think therefore I am.’

Descartes proves certainty in the face of doubt by the fact of being. We exist because we are capable of thought. If we can think, then we must actually exist.

So I smile at the thought that one way of knowing we exist is our capacity to buy things. The other day I waited patiently in a queue in Conforama, clutching a touch-sensitive table lamp for the lounge, a cotton rug for the balcony and an impulse birthday present – an hour glass with orange sand. Though I was bored having to wait, I was also delighted with my hat trick of purchases.

So do you get satisfaction out of shopping? Is your ability to buy with cash or on credit something that gives you pleasure? In a life that has a material, physical dimension, is there comfort in the fact that we can use our hard-earned money to shop?

Father Gareth



Teenagers

This gem was sent to me by my friend Phil Elgie:

Tired of being harassed by your parents? **Act now** ! Move out, get a job, pay your own bills while you still know everything.

Organist

John Davey will be stepping down as our organist this month on Remembrance Sunday due to pressure of work. We are truly grateful for all John has done to underpin our worship musically and for masterminding the project to renovate our Alfred Oldknow organ.

It will be good to see him and Laura and little Theo whenever they are able to join us at St Bart’s.

We wish Eric Cordé every success as he joins us as our new principal organist



Did you know ?

On 1st October, at our Thursday morning service of Holy Communion, we remembered Anthony Ashley Copper, Earl of Shaftesbury.

Later that day, Geoff Hook emailed me the following:

Lord Shaftesbury was featured on the London News at lunchtime today, on the 130th anniversary of his death. I did not know that the statue in Piccadilly Circus is not of Eros, God of Love, but his twin brother, Anteros, who was the God of Love for others. It was apparently erected in his honour in recognition of his love of the needy and vulnerable.



Well old

The joy of being old
is I’ve a life-time
to look back on
and to remember
and to reflect upon

School Prize

Dr Michael Frankel, Maitre de Conférences, was going through the books of his late father, Ronald Frankel, MBE, the former Honorary Consul of St Malo and Dinard, when he discovered a school prize which had been awarded to Ron on 4th July 1937 when he was a nine-year-old pupil at Rochelle Street School in the East End of London.

The book, parallel texts in Hebrew and English, the Authorised 'Daily Prayer Book' of the United Hebrew Congregation of the British Empire, has this gem in it which I here quote in full:

Night Prayer for Young Children

Blessed art thou, O Lord our God, King of the universe, who makes the bands of sleep fall upon mine eyes, and slumber upon mine eyelids. May it be thy will, O Lord my God and God of my fathers, to suffer me to lie down in peace, and to let me rise again in peace.

Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is One. Blessed is his name, whose glorious kingdom is for ever and ever. And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.

And these words which I command thee this day shall be upon thy heart; and thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and thou shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and thou shalt be for frontlets between thine eyes. And thou shalt write them upon the doorposts of thy house and upon thy gates.

Blessed be the Lord by day; blessed be the Lord by night. Blessed be the Lord when we lie down; blessed be the Lord when we rise up.

Behold, he that guardeth Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

Into your hand I commend my spirit: thou hast redeemed me, O Lord God of truth.

For thy salvation I hope, Lord.



So what do you think of the prayer ?

The opening speaks of the right order of things where sleep and rest and then waking up again is part and parcel of the proper, God-given order of things.

The second paragraph is the first half of the summary of the Law which Jesus quotes when asked in Matthew's gospel (22 v37) what is the most important commandment.

The third is the Shema, the requirement to inform thought and deed with the precepts of the Law, the Torah.

The fifth is reassuring – that God never slumbers nor sleeps (Psalm 121 v4).

The sixth – Jesus' prayer dying on the cross (Luke 23 v46).

And the last - the ever-present hope of salvation.

Herein, another reminder of the Jewish roots of our Christian faith.

