

St Bart's



March, 2017



Services

Sunday 11.00 Holy Communion (with hymns)

Thursday 10.00 Holy Communion (said)

A warm welcome to all who worship with us.

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



March, 2017

Dear Friends,

In truth

What is the ninth commandment ?

According to the King James Bible, Exodus 20 v16 simply states, 'Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour' or, if you prefer the more modern NRSV, 'You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.' So, with just the form of the second person in dispute, what exactly is it to bear false witness ?

To my mind, to bear false witness is not to tell the truth, simply to lie. Here is the clear injunction to us, an unequivocal command, not to lie but to tell the truth. And, of course, as Christians, the words of Pontius Pilate at the trial of Jesus will echo in our minds - 'What is truth ?' (John 18 v38)

Truth is that which is objectively a reflection of reality. Something is true if it corresponds to the verifiable facts. Something is true if it is an accurate account of what is provable, what is actually, unequivocally real.

Nowadays, we seem to be living in a post-truth society, where false news is circulated on the internet, where holocaust denial can be

expressed because it fits the prejudice and world view of those who articulate the misinformation.

As Christians, we are enjoined to tell the truth. But, sadly, we now seem to be living in a time when the truth is anything we fancy it to be as long as it squares with how we want to make sense of what we see rather than what is there to be seen. So how reliable is our witness ?

God help us !

Father Gareth



Notes on the Council Meeting

26th January, 2017

January - cold, dark, less than comfortable but, for the first time ever for me at St Bart's, our service of Holy Communion before the Council Meeting had only men in the congregation ! But Carolyn then Ann joined us for the meeting itself which, as ever, was minded to put the care and growth of our church at the centre of our discussions.

David Bargioni was welcomed as a co-opted member of our Council, taking up responsibility as our second Archdeaconry Synod Rep alongside Paddy.

The meeting considered our organ, our organist, our organisation of concerts, meals and functions for the coming year. So much to look forward to, not least the joy of an Easter Day in St Bart's with an Easter egg hunt and an Easter bonnet competition (can I get shot of my biretta ?) and a parish lunch to be held the following Sunday.

Lots of ways are being planned to raise money for the church but planned giving is to be encouraged as the bedrock for healthy finances to meet the ever rising costs of running a growing church.

That said, our Advent Appeal raised 500€ for the Little Sisters of the Poor and our Lent Appeal is aimed to raise money for new carpeting in the church, in particular, to replace the aging red carpet in the central aisle and that in the sanctuary. An active approach with a tree stump in the entrance to the church, knocking in a sponsored tack at 2€ a time, is hoped to raise a four figure sum - bang on target, we trust !

A well attended service during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity was held in St Bart's on 23rd January, at which Pasteur Eleanor Belutaud preached.

Father Gareth



Notices

➤ **Deadline** for submission of material for the April edition of St Bart's is *midday on Thursday 30th March*

➤ **Church Finances for January**

Income: 3,067€ Expenditure: 4,372€



Easter Flowers

If you would like to make a contribution to the Easter Flowers in church this year and at the same time remember a loved one, then David or Bill or I would be delighted to receive your contribution and the names you wish to be remembered (if you can, 5€ per name or whatever you can afford).

Father Gareth



ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

**English-speaking meeting
Tuesdays at 6.00p.m.
(first Tuesday in the month - an open meeting)**

Maison des Associations de la Source
bd André Aubert
22100 Dinan

aadinananglophone@gmail.com

Tel Richard C. 02 96 31 60 91



BLOCTEL

If you are annoyed by frequent phone calls trying to sell you things and have not read the circular sent out with your phone bill, this may be of interest.

A simple letter can be sent to Société Opposetel asking them to block such nuisance calls. The service is free and will take effect for a period of three years.

Simple forms are available at the back of the church - just add name and address, date, telephone number, sign and post

David Morgan



Farewell to the refugees

As most people who attend St Bart's will know - as well, certainly, as those who read this newsletter - this congregation has been generously supporting a group of young Afghan refugees housed for a few brief months at an EdF facility in St-Cast, near where I live in Matignon. Alas, no more. They have been moved out and dispersed elsewhere.

The people I spoke to at the EdF facility seemed vague about where they had gone, but the city of St-Brieuc, administrative capital of Côtes d'Armor, was mentioned. My guess - and it's no more than that, for want of any official comment - is that some have gone to St-Brieuc but not all.

The refugees numbered 31 when they arrived last autumn but were down to 18 by the time they were moved out. The others had received UK Home Office approval to enter Britain.

In the time they were at St-Cast, this congregation, here at St Bart's, provided generous and ample help and support to the refugees - all of them young men - passing them books to read in English (their preferred language) as well as games, clothes, soap and shaving kit. One perhaps odd need they expressed was for socks. Well, you

generous people responded well to that one - especially David Norris (I know it's not done to single people out, but I find this an exception) who went to the trouble of buying lots of *brand new* pairs for them.

All the help and support that you have all provided has been received well and with much gratitude. Alas, they are no longer within our geographical reach to keep up the good work. But well done, everyone, anyway!

David Boggis



'Judas Iscariot – Redeemed ?' In love

Baptised
by John
in the Jordan,
looking
for the coming
of the Kingdom,
he seemed
an answer
to my prayer.

Good,
so good,
so very good
to be a unity
in harmony;
to be at one
with one I liked,
be one of his,
one of twelve,
feel real,
really me,
the me
I should be:

good,
serving
the good;
loving,
loving God,
loving others,
loving self
unselfishly.
What more
could I want,
could I do
but serve you
and in service
find out why
I
in truth
have worth
in God's eyes ?



How things change

It's 9.22 on the 31st December 2016. I've completed 233 steps and my current heart rate is 76 bpm. Ten minutes ago, having finished my shower, exiting with some difficulty due, let's say, to a degeneration of the lower back, it was 117bpm. But it was 107bpm when I tried to get my socks on !

To the best of my knowledge, in the house there's neither GP nor a personal trainer - whatever they may be. None of these in my days - the simple approach was allotment gardening or walks up the mountains which surround the Rhondda Valley(s). Draught beer was also thought beneficial for one's health, a practice enjoyed by miners after hours exposed to dust in the mines.

I'm not wearing a watch but thanks to Linda, I'm wearing a Fitbit. If only I had the requisite knowledge, I could link this to my Smartphone and have a weekly dialogue with it, providing me with a more detailed account as to how my body is managing to cope with advancing years.

Both taking of blood pressure and pulse rate once the domain of a real, live GP for a fee, you can 'be done' with a GP on line. I do hope

the requisite Medical Liability Policies are in place and you've read the fine print.

The same applies, much to my dismay, to the legal profession and for the sum of £99.99, you can enter the world of the legal professionals and, if you wish, you can explore the rule in *Ryland v Fletcher*. This deals with a nuisance being brought on to one's land and then that nuisance escapes. I have experience of that but it did not need a visit to the Court of Appeal, just some choice words from my wife ! I am not sure what the Master of the Rolls or the reasonable man on the top of the Clapham omnibus would have to say about this.

But I digress - back to the world of watches. I do have a Fitbit on one wrist which renders a watch redundant. I do have one for 'day-to-day' occasions and a gold one kindly purchased for a milestone birthday by Linda.

But unlike my grandfathers, both Socialists and active, I do not have a waistcoat so their days of fob watches, be they full or half hunters, are gone forever. Do you remember Gerald Narbarro and Leo Abse, MP for Pontypool, who for budget day dressed accordingly and was the first MP in the house. They both were resplendent in waistcoats and fob watches. These guys had class.

Recently, I came across a press article where the 'watches' of Premier League Managers appeared on a listing almost like the Times 100 most wealthy individuals. The 'top' performer had a wrist watch valued at £44,000.

They are in a very commercial market place and if their employers are prepared to gamble on success, so be it. The cost of failure runs into £m's. Other, however, value and reward their employees with minimum-hour contracts.

To be continued.

Ken Ivin

Monmouthshire,

31st December 2016



Lent

Six Days in Seven

Abstain

Refrain

Contain

Disdain



Cat call

Outside

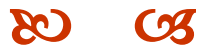
in the dark

in the cold

a lonely cat's cry

plaintively calling

expressing unease



The best way to prepare beans on toast ?

Firstly, prepare the beans. This entails opening a tin of beans which are already prepared and ready to use. Opening the can takes dexterity and skill. If care is not taken, fingers can get cut on the sharp edge of the tin. This means blood will drip into the beans, which will enhance the flavour. The beans are then emptied into a saucepan and heated.

The next step is to prepare the toast. The bread is put into the toaster and when ready 'pops up.' The first time the bread will probably come out black. This is no use as it crumbles too easily, although charcoal is good for the digestion. After about six tries, the bread will be a light brown. By now, the beans will be bubbling and sticking very nicely to the bottom of the saucepan. The beans will now look more like soup. Cheese can be added which improves the flavour and helps the beans to stick more rigidly to the saucepan. For improved results, ketchup and brown sauce can also be added which kills the taste of the beans completely.

The whole mess is now ready to eat. Most people will not have the taste for such gourmet food and will dump the content into the trash bin.

I have been asked to produce this exceptional meal at many a gourmet restaurant but have refused because they will try to pinch my recipe !

Bill Hughes



Question ?

Could a dishonest blacksmith
ever be accused of forgery ?



The hart of the matter ?

Venison meat balls from Tesco for lunch on Sunday.

But my question is not of how best to cook the deer but one of pronunciation, one of saying 'venison' in a manner that might endear you to those who hunt.

So how many syllables do you think it is meet and right to use when accurately pronouncing the meat of choice ?

Is 'venison' properly rendered in three or better in just two syllables - in parallel with how one would say the word medicine ?

What would one say if one were truly upper crust and living in Hertfordshire ?



A sign of the time ?

Sent to us by Richard Finch from a friend in the States

A Roman walks into a bar, holds up two fingers and says

"I'll have five beers, please."



Film Review of the Month

'Sing Street' - John Carney 2015

Released in the UK in May 2016, I first saw 'Sing Street' with helpful French subtitles in the cinema in Dinard in early December.

'Sing Street', a pun on 'Synge Street', the name of the state school in Dublin run by Christian Brothers to which 15 year-old Conor (Ferdia Walsh-Peelo) is to be transferred from his fee-paying, private school run by Jesuits.

Southern Ireland, 1985, the capital, and things are not going well for Conor's mum (Maria Doyle Kennedy) and dad (Aiden Gillen) - financially in dire straits, their marriage on the rocks. As his world turns upside down, Conor finds inspiration and focus in music.

His new school is a nightmare. Bullying boys; incompetent teachers; an unpleasant Head. A chance encounter with a girl, Raphina (Lucy Boynton) on the steps of a house opposite the school, opens Conor's eyes to the possibility of a new world, a new life.

He forms a band with the help of his new-found friend, Darren (Ben Carolan), and rabbit-loving, musically-talented Eamon (Mark McKenna) with whom he writes songs that they perform on video with Raphina.

'Sing Street' is essentially a love story with music, a boy finding his girl, finding himself. True, it has elements of a fairy tale but it set against the harsh reality of dodgy parents; dodgy schooling; his older brother, Brendan (Jack Raynor), having made a hash of his life but there is the profound truth that life is, as the French subtitles suggest, 'gai-triste'.

Okay, so why bother to watch it ? Simply for its joie de vivre. And it did win last year's Dinard British Film Festival.

Gareth Randall



Extra Film Review of the Month

'La La Land' - Damien Chazelle 2016

'La La Land', not a state of madness as I thought but, according to my Collins English Dictionary, LA reduplicated is slang for Los Angeles where the film is set in the present and, by association, la la land is a place remote from reality !

That said, with 14 nominations for the coming Oscars, 'La La Land' is a really good, feel-good film, genuinely charming, full of light and colour, song and dance, not remotely real but a sharply observed romance that starts badly and ends sadly, a relationship that changes with the seasons. At its heart, 'La La Land' is about personal fulfillment in the face of adversity by dint of commitment, hard work and with the help of others.

It stars Emma Stone as Mia and Ryan Gosling as Seb. Right from the outset, with an outrageous opening song and dance sequence during a traffic jam on a dual carriageway fly-over, through a heavenly song and dance on a hill-top observatory on a star-lit night, to an on-Seine song and dance on a Parisian film set, 'La La Land' will get your feet and hands tapping.

I saw the version dubbed in French with French sub-titles for the songs in January in the cinema in Dinard so I may well have failed to catch some of the subtleties of the dialogue but the drift is very much a girl-boy relationship, a budding actress/playwright and a would-be jazz pianist. So it might strike a chord with you ?

Well, 'La La Land' did bring a smile and sunshine to a winter's day and I shall certainly get the DVD when it is released but will it come up trumps and be voted more Oscars than any other film this year ?

Gareth Randall



What four ?

Book/Film Review of the Month

'The Jungle Book'

Rudyard Kipling - pub 1894

Zoltan Korda - 1942

Wolfgang Reitherman - 1967

Jon Favreau - 2016

Set not in Calais but in India during the Raj, this Christmas brought me the latest DVD of 'The Jungle Book' from Disney, a present from my friends, the Johnstones, back in England.

It was a delight to watch and triggered a memory in the back of my mind of seeing an earlier Disney cartoon version; of seeing the first Korda film starring Sabu as Mowgli; and, of course, of reading as a boy Kipling's book (a piece of cake ?)

Well, what recommends the latest version of the story is the degree of sophistication in its making. Mowgli is a real boy (Neel Seth); the rest are computer generated imagery (CGI). It is comic, serious, exciting, engaging and yes, you'll love it.

But each of the four expressions of this ancient tale has something to offer: in parallel but distinctive - different in detail but in spirit the same. At the heart of each, a man cub, Mowgli (little frog), a child lost in the jungle, adopted by a wolf pack. Understandably, a naked boy who necessarily, for the sake of decency, is wearing nicely laundered, red shorts in each of the three films.

The animals are real characters in their own right: Akela, the wolf, Baloo the bear, Bagheera the black panther, Kaa the snake and, of course, Sher Khan, the tiger, villain of the story. I love the way they act, interact with Mowgli, freely offering him love and friendship, education and security. There is, in the background, the danger of the jungle, the fascination with and fear of the red flower - fire - which only Man knows how to use and, ultimately, the need for Mowgli to return to his own folk.

Each of the four versions treats the story differently, the three films drawing on Kipling's tale, each presenting a delightful Boys' Own story, a tale of family, of growing up, of belonging and of confronting danger. Each has a different take on Mowgli as to what it means to be a boy changes. The first Disney version is gifted with songs, sticky tunes like 'Bear necessities' and a quartet of vultures like a 60s pop group. The Sabu film has a range of human characters, some really more morally evil than Sher Khan, and the animals are real.

The book is fuller, darker, the magic of Kipling's prose weaving pictures in your imagination - so much more than one story with chapters on 'Rikki-Tikki-Tavi', the mongoose, and on 'Toomai of the Elephants' - the inspiration for the first Sabu film - 'Elephant Boy' made in 1937.

To suggest you tackle all four is probably an ask too much but there is so much to appreciate here and by talking on such a mammoth (elephant ?) task, the rewards will well repay your effort.

Enjoy !

Gareth Randall



Seedy humour

David Morgan heard the following on the 'Today Programme':

The shortage of lettuce seeds to buy in the shops
may be the tip of an iceberg.



Odd Words

'JAM'

Just about managing

For me, jam here is normally apricot or mirabelle but then there is also a jar of Sylvie's damson or plum, Tanya's medlar or Gladys's marmalade to enjoy.

Then, on Radio 4, I hear JAM is an acronym, too, for those in society having difficulty coping financially. Two different definitions:

- People who are struggling to make ends meet including mortgage repayments.
- People who are struggling to put food on the table.

I grew up in the East End of London and life wasn't always that easy for my parents bringing me up but I thought things had generally got better for ordinary folk over the years. Perhaps not.

As Christians, care of and concern for our neighbours is a central tenet of our faith. And one positive thing we can do here in France is support our local Banque Alimentaire. What do think ?

Gareth Randall



Definitions of Wisdom in French 2/6

Michael Frankel sent me these little gems

Quand vous lancez un bébé en l'air, il rit parce qu'il sait que vous l'attraperez.

C'est ça la CONFIANCE.



Schoolgirl Humour

The name of the girl standing between two football posts ?

Annette



Little gems 2/11

Sent to us by Peter Campbell

Notice in a hospital waiting room:

Smoking helps you lose weight -

one lung at a time !



Wise Words

Quotations and quips, submitted by the late Donald Soum.

A safe investment is an investment whose dangers are not at that moment apparent.

Lord Bauer

Always acknowledge a fault. This will throw those in authority off their guard and give you an opportunity to commit more.

Mark Twain

It is assumed that when anyone gets into debt, the fault is entirely and always that of the lender.

Bernard Levin



What Father Gareth hasn't said yet 2/11

Word play from David Norris.

A cartoonist was found dead in his home.

Details are sketchy



Quotations of the month

Many take no care of their money till they come nearly to the end of
it, and others do the same with their time

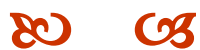
Goethe



A possible prayer of those mature in age

May I have the good fortune
to forget the people I never liked,
to run into ones I do like,
and eyesight good enough to tell the difference.

Bill Hughes



Crackers 2/11

Snippets from Xmas Crackers given me by Jim MacCormack

What did one pig say to another pig ?

Will you be my pen pal ?

Readings in church

March 5th 1st Sunday of Lent

Genesis 2 v15 -17, 3 v1 - 7

Psalm 32

Romans 5 v12 - 19

Matthew 4 v1 - 11

March 12th 2nd Sunday of Lent

Genesis 12 v1 - 4a

Psalm 121

Romans 4 v1 - 5, 13 - 17end

John 3 v1 - 17

March 19th 3rd Sunday of Lent

Exodus 17 v1 - 7

Psalm 95

Romans 5 v1 -11

John 4 v5 - 42

March 26th Mothering Sunday

1 Samuel 1 v20 - end

Psalm 34 v11 - 20

2 Corinthians 1 v3 - 7

John 19 v25b - 27



Diary dates for March and April, 2017

1 st March	10.00 Ash Wednesday
24 th March	11.00 Start of Lent Bible Study
25 th March	10.30 Council Meeting
9 th April	12.00 Church AGM
13 th April	10.30 Maundy Thursday
14 th April	11.00 Good Friday
16 th April	11.00 Easter Day



Verse of the Month

For the Son of Man came not to be served, but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.

Mark 10:45



Book of Common Prayer

'Quotation of the month' - 11/20

Forasmuch as *N* and *N* have consented together in holy wedlock, and have witnessed the same before God and this company, and thereto have given and pledged their troth either to other, and have declared the same by giving and receiving of a Ring, and by joining of hands; I pronounce that they be Man and Wife together.

Solemnization of Matrimony



Prayer of the month

Merciful Lord,
 absolve your people from their offences,
 that through your bountiful goodness
 we may be delivered from the chains of sin
 which by our frailty we have committed;
 grant this heavenly Father
 for Jesus Christ's sake, our blessed Lord and Saviour,
 who is alive and reigns with you,
 in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 one God, now and for ever
 Amen

Collect for Fourth Sunday in Lent



Prayer focus

How best to prepare for Easter.

