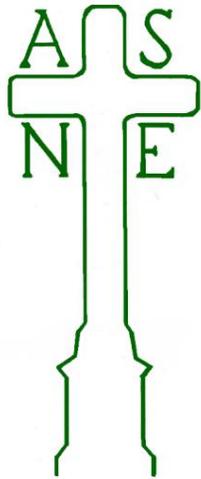


All Saints Magazine



November 2019

Free

Editorial

Thank you for picking up our magazine, we hope you find it interesting and will pass it round to family and friends.

As it's November and you may be thinking about bonfire night, we have an article from our Vicar Annette about the burning of incense at church services.

Our Parish Profile this month is a reflection on our Reader, Rita's 50 years of marriage

Then a short piece about a parishioner's holiday in Rome, to see the Vatican, among other things.

Our centre spread contains the diary dates for church activities, Notices, Baptisms, Funerals, and Weddings, followed by more information about Church Events.

In our Churchwarden's slot we have a picture feature of our recent Michealmas Fair, followed by short reports of other recent events.

Finally we have the answers to our regular monthly quiz; an amusing twist on the Lord Prayer; and an item from the past that may be of interest.

We thank our regular and new advertisers/sponsors whose support continues to enable us to provide the magazine free, and enables us to promote other charitable activities (see below).



All Saints Church New Eltham, Bereta Road, se9 3UT

**Adults - £6,
Children Under 16 - £6
Limited tickets available.**

Local Business sponsors

**Cake Sale
&
Raffle**

Why Burn Incense?

How to get a difference of opinion immediately in church is to burn incense. Deemed by evangelicals a popery and by Anglo-Catholics as essential, there is actually good biblical precedent for burning incense before the altar of God.

Incense and liturgy

Liturgy is the formal public worship of the church. The liturgy of the church is made up of the liturgy of each individual Christian, and should be the best we can possibly offer to God. Christian worship erupts out of our love of God and our desire to express that love. As such we should worship him with 'all our heart, with all our soul, with all our mind and all our strength.'(Mark 12:30). Good liturgy is designed to stimulate just such a response in us, by exciting the senses and feeding our imagination.

One of the elements of good liturgy is, for example, the use of colour and movement provided by colourful vestments and altar frontals, candles and procession and the like. Singing and chanting is another important element of liturgy stimulating as it does the sense of hearing. The use of incense enables fuller participation in the liturgy by stimulating the sense of smell. It also provides colour, movement and sound as the thurible is swung and its chains clink and tinkle.

Incense as symbol

Symbols help to point our minds in the direction of invisible realities, and speak to us in a language often richer than words alone. As a symbol, incense is exceptionally rich in associations. Of its many possible associations, two are particularly worthy of a mention here

1. In Matthew chapter 2 verse 11, we read of the magi bringing frankincense as a gift to the Christ Child. In the words of that well loved carol '*incense owns a deity nigh*', which means that incense is a sign of our belief in the real presence of Christ, the son of God. What was good enough for the wise men is surely good enough for us!
2. In the book of the Revelation, the burning of incense is an important part of the worship of heaven. In chapter 5 verse 8, we read of 'golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints'. When we burn incense it is a symbol by which we remind ourselves that our prayers, like the incense, ascend to the throne of God and mingle with the prayers of the saints in heaven.

The offering of incense

At the heart of the worship in the temple in Jerusalem was sacrifice. The sacrificial offering was usually an animal, but the fruits of the earth were also offered, including incense. There was even a special altar set aside for the burning of incense

With the destruction of the temple by the Romans in AD70 the sacrificial worship of the Old Testament came to an end. For Christians, of course, the necessity for sacrifice had been brought to an end by the all sufficient sacrifice, 'once only one and one for all' of Christ on the Cross.

Our human need to offer thanksgiving and sacrifice to God remains, however, and in our daily lives Christians have the opportunity to give the best of themselves back to God in service to each other. In our worship we have the opportunity to offer tokens which represent ourselves. Incense is a token of the best we have to offer. In St Paul's letter to the Corinthians chapter 2 verse 15, we read, 'For we are like a sweet smelling incense offered by Christ to God, which spreads among those who

are being saved and those who are being lost. For those who are being lost it is a deadly stench that kills; but for those who are being saved, it is a fragrance that brings life' (Good News translation)

In Holy Communion, the Eucharistic Sacrifice, we join our offering with that of Christ himself on the cross. The Burning of Incense at Communion reminds us that Christ sacrifice is real, and just as present with us today as it was when he died on the cross, and as it is in eternity.

And so the most natural and appropriate time to burn incense is when the Lord comes among us in person, in the Eucharist, when '*incense owns a deity nigh*'. In the same way we burn incense at Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament- a particularly beautiful and moving service in which Our Lord is worshipped, present in person in the consecrated host, and in which his blessing is sought.

Incense is traditionally burnt at particular points during services notably during the *Te deum* and *Benedictus* at Mattins and during *the Magnificat* at Evensong. It is occasionally used at other times, such as at funerals, and also when objects or places are blessed

Annette

Gerald and Rita Mather—celebrating 50 years of marriage

We were married on 16th August 1969 at St. Barnabus Church, Eltham. I do remember the weather was kind to us that day and the sun was shining.

Let's look back to 1969—it may be before some of you were born. Catherine Zeta-Jones, Michael Schumacher and Steffi Graff were born in that year. In July Neil Armstrong was the first man to walk on the moon and the supersonic Concorde made a maiden flight.

Shopping costs of course were much cheaper; petrol 7d a litre; pint of milk 6d; car tax £25; white sliced loaf 8½d; TV colour license £11; and a pint of beer 10d.

I think you will agree that much has changed since 1969, when we were married and established a home.

We moved into a house in Welling, this was in a bad state of repair, so immediately Gerald, helped by my dad and some friends set about putting it to rights.

In 1971 our home expanded and our first son Steffan was born and then in 1974 our second son Simon was born, he now lives in Australia.

After a few years the house became too small, so we moved again into our present house. Again Gerald and my dad put on their DIY hats and put the place to rights. Like other people's homes, it has been a place for joys and sorrows and sharing dreams. A place where our children took their first steps, where grandchildren visited or even stayed.

Two of our grandsons live in Australia but the third has his home with us. We are lucky to have this talented grandson, Aaron, one of All Saints organists.

Of course we always had cats, who were treated like babies, particularly a favourite I had, a white Persian named Sophie.

I can't really say there is any secret to being together of 50 years. I think it goes back to our original vows to love, honour, care (and for me I said obey) for one another, not just in the early days, but every day with its ups and downs. Yes, we have had some downs—when Gerald had a heart attack; when our eldest son caught meningitis; when I was involved in an accident, then the car wouldn't start and we were all trying to get to school; and when one of us was ill we were there for each other across half a century. It's weathering those storms together, when you thank God we have each other. And of course there has been disagreements and then not bearing grudges, when one of us has to back down or more often than not we come to a compromise. But then we are reminded that no-one is perfect and we are still individuals, although we have been together for 50 years.

But then we remind ourselves we are still in love, and that is what has kept us going through the ups and downs. But then our house, like us has changed over the years and so has our marriage, we believe we have moved with the times. We adapt and we adjust.

Christ's first miracle was at a wedding, it was all about change—turning water into wine. At weddings I think that the dreaded dilemma that nobody wants to face, is what to do if the wine runs out. At our wedding we had plenty of spirits, but as it was a hot day, everybody wanted cold beer, so the inevitable happened we ran out of beer. So Gerald and David (our best man) went to the off-licence to buy some more. We certainly hope we won't run out of wine today.

Wedding Anniversaries are not necessarily about gifts. There is an exhaustive list of what anniversary years represent, year 1 paper, year 2 cotton, year 3 leather and so on, until 25 years silver. Yes, we had a party but we also went to Israel, where we renewed our vows in the church at Cana. 40 years, our Ruby, again another party. And I was lucky as Gerald brought me a ring with a ruby, and today I shall receive a ring with 5 diamonds each one representing the 10 years we have been married—so 5 diamonds, 50 years.

But Anniversaries are not just about gifts. It is an occasion when we can be thankful to God for the many years together.

In the Epistle to the Corinthians, Paul talks about love. This is all about Agapé—Greek word for love. In the new Testament it is used to designate a love that is unselfish, caring about the concerns of another person. He tells us in the first two statements. Love is patient. Love is kind. Patient means not being in a hurry, having time for each other. Love is kind, being considerate of others and in our case of each other. Then follows a series of negatives. Paul tells us what agapé love does not do: it does not envy; it does not boast; it is not proud; not rude and not self-seeking; not easily angered and keeps no record of wrongs.

And lastly love never fails. I think we have weathered many storms in the last 50 years together and I thank God that we will have many more years together.

Rita

Rome, September 2019

I enjoyed my visit to Rome, but it was very crowded and hot.

Our local guide advised us to go in January or February when there are very few visitors. There were lots of very good organised trips,



View of the Senate.



Pantheon—has an open roof with holes in the floor so rain can run away. Also shows our Italian tour guide with her red flag that we had to follow.



Hole in the roof!

but free time was really enjoyable when we could visit unimpressive looking churches in side streets which were really beautiful and quiet inside. We also found ice creams, coffee and cakes. Very good



Colosseum and part of the Forum.

Had breakfast in the Vatican at 7.00am – there was already a half mile queue of people outside who were waiting to buy tickets. Saw the Sistine chapel and St Peters, both very crowded and noisy... I found it hard to take it all in but am very pleased I went.

Cynthia Peacock

Diary Dates for November 2019

Sunday 3rd	ALL SAINTS DAY (transferred)
	3.00 pm Holy Communion and Confirmation with Bishop Karowei, followed by Afternoon Tea
Wednesday 6th	6.30 pm Evening Prayer
	7.45 pm CTNE monthly prayer meeting at Novar Christian Fellowship
	8.00 pm PCC meeting
Thursday 7th	11.00 am Holy Communion
Saturday 9th	1.00 pm Wedding of Alaoma & Rob
Sunday 10th	REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY
	9.30 am Holy Communion
	10.45 am Act of remembrance
	4.00 pm All Souls service of recollection
Wednesday 13th	10.30 -12.00 Fair trade cafe
	6.30 pm Evening Prayer
Thursday 14th	11.00 am Holy Communion
Saturday 16th	2.00 pm Concert for Demelza
Sunday 17th	10.00 am Family Communion
Wednesday 20th	6.30 pm Evening Prayer
Thursday 21st	11.00 am Holy Communion
Saturday 23rd	7.00 pm Quiz Evening in the Hall
Sunday 24th	10.00 am Holy Communion
Wednesday 27th	10.30 -12.00 Fair trade cafe
	6.30 pm Evening Prayer
Thursday 29th	11.00 am Holy Communion
Sunday 1st December	ADVENT SUNDAY
	10.00 am Holy Communion
	4.00 pm Christingle

Please check the weekly news sheet for any change

Parish Pump

Funerals

8th October, Kenneth Elliott.

25th October, Hazel Joan Hooper.

Weddings

25th October, Andress and Lawrence.

100 Club

The October prize was won by Emily Williams (nee Fancett).

Quiz Results.

The September Quiz prize of £16.50 was won by Simon Garson, whose entry was picked from the correct quiz sheets returned.

Confirmation Service

This year we have moved our All Saints Day (usually 1st November) service and celebration lunch to the 3rd November to coincide with the confirmation of four of our congregation by Bishop Karowei. The service will be followed by a bring and share afternoon tea in the Hall.

Quiz night

Ged and Brian will be hosting a Quiz night on Saturday 23rd November at 7.00 pm for a 7.30 start. Entry will be £5 per person, maximum team size of eight. There will be prizes and a raffle, so bring your friends, your memory, and your own drinks and nibbles.

Monthly Charity.

This month we are raising money for Crisis, a charity that provides support for the homeless.

All Saints Choir

The Choir will be meeting in the Church vestry on Wednesday evenings at 7.30 to 8.30. Rehearsals for the Carol concert start on 13th November. If you are interested and would like more details please contact Aaron Mather by e-mail at anjmather@gmail.com. All abilities welcome.

Future Events—December

Wednesday 4th, CTNE monthly prayer meeting 6.30 at All Saints

Saturday 14th, CTNE Carol singing outside the Co-op 10.30 to 11.30 am

Sunday 15th, Nativity Service 10 am

Sunday 15th, CTNE Carol Service 6 pm. at All Saints

Michealmas Fair

A selection of the goods that were on sale and the sales volunteers preparing for the opening.





The sale, on the 28th September, was our major fundraising event and, with donations, raised £760.45 on the day. This should be enough to cover the church energy bills for the next three months.

Our thanks go to all the volunteers, donators and supporters for their help in keeping the church going.

Photos courtesy of Emma Lewis

Harvest

Harvest was once again a splendid occasion, Our Sunday school challenging us to keep the peace, to tur-nip bad behaviour in the bud, and lettuce pray to God our father as we pray for the world. Our gifts this year were different from previous years as we were no longer collecting goods for the Falconer Trust but only cash donations, we were however collecting for the food banks and both Bexley and Greenwich food banks have benefitted from your generosity and the generosity of all our uniformed organisations, as well as St Olave's and Dulverton Schools.

Bayeux Tapestry

On Sunday 13th October – the eve of the Battle of Hastings, Michael Lewis who works at the British Museum gave an excellent talk on the Bayeux Tapestry or the Canterbury Embroidery as maybe it should more accurately be known. It was informative and interesting without being too heavily academic.

Who would have known there was so much to it, the Battle of Hastings only taking up a small part of the story at the end. Was it made to glorify Bishop Odo's part in the proceedings; or as a record of the deeds and might of William the Conqueror; or was it Edith's, the wife of Edward the Confessor, legacy; or that of Matilda – William's wife? There is so much to this piece of cloth and Michael bravely lead us through it.

A good evening, and let's hope we have a few more lectures, or items of interest evenings too (*for more information about the Bayeux Tapestry see the article in our October 2018 edition, still available on our website*).

Evelyn's Piano

Evelyn learnt to play on her Grandmother's piano from the age of 8 years old. Her piano has recently been housed in church but has not been used for a long time. It is now going to a local family, Ravi and Kaminika and their two children, who are 7 and 5 years old. The children have recently taken up piano lessons and now have Evelyn's piano to practice on at home. It is so nice that Evelyn's piano has gone to another home to be loved and used again. The family also made a kind, gift aided, donation to All Saints Church.

(The space left by Evelyn's piano has now been taken up by a more modern piano, to facilitate choir practices).

Answers to the October Quiz sheet

General knowledge

- | | |
|---|-------------------------|
| 1. What is the thirteenth letter of the alphabet? | M |
| 2. How many bottles of champagne are there in a magnum? | Two |
| 3. When you pit a cherry, what do you do? | Remove the stone |
| 4. Which London palace has a maze? | Hampton Court |
| 5. Which Womble was named after a town in the Isle of Mull? | Tobermory |
| 6. Which castle has St. Georges Chapel? | Windsor Castle |
| 7. Where in London are there gates named after Margaret Thatcher? | Downing Street |
| 8. Who was divorced from Mark Phillips? | Princess Anne |
| 9. In 1979 who sang about Walking on the Moon? | Police |
| 10. What can be an Island, a sweater or a potato? | Jersey |
| 11. What are birds of a feather said to do? | Flock together |
| 12. How many sides has an octagon? | Eight |
| 13. Which musical is named after a fairground ride? | Carousel |
| 14. Which is the second largest city in England? | Birmingham |
| 15. How long is a Member of Parliament elected for? | Five years |
| 16. Which political party won the election in 1945? | Labour |
| 17. What does the word "Bolshoi" mean? | Big, Large Grand |
| 18. How many strings are there on a Spanish guitar? | Six |
| 19. Which children's author wrote "Gangsta Granny"? | David Walliams |

Our Father who art in Hendon,
Harrow be thy name,
Thy Kingston come, thy Wimbledon,
In Erith as it is in Hendon,
Give us this day our daily Brent,
And forgive us our Westminster,
As we forgive those who
Westminster against us,
Lead us not into Temple Station,
But deliver us from Ealing,
For thine is the Kingston,
The Purley and the Crawley
For Esher and Esher,
Crouch End

Anon

From the Archives – snippets from the November magazine of 1939, price twopence

SOUTH LONDON CHURCH FUND

The Annual South London Church Fund Service, which, under normal conditions, would have been held in the Cathedral, on Thursday, November 16th, is cancelled.

The Bishop is anxious that as far as possible parochial contributions to Diocesan and Overseas Work, should not be forgotten amid the many other calls on the incomes of Church people in consequence of the War.

It is moreover important that the South London Church Fund should receive as much of the quota as possible before the end of November.

The Bishop has therefore requested that in each Church, a Sunday be appointed, as soon after November 16th as may be convenient, on which a solemn offering may be made of the contributions which would have been made at the Cathedral.

This will be done in our Church on Sunday, November 26th, and all the offerings at the Services on that day will go towards the Quota.

By the way our Quota has been increased from £49 to £60, and we are asked to send £60 this year.

The South London Church Fund has always been a great help to us, and at the present time they are paying £80 per year towards the stipend of an Assistant Priest.

They gave us £50 about three years ago, towards the cost of a new boiler, and for many years before we became a separate parish, they paid £200 a year towards the stipend of the Priest-in-Charge.

Many poor Parishes in the Diocese could not carry on without the assistance given by this Fund.

So far this year, we have paid £20 by grants from the Duplex Free Will Offering.

There are no entries in the "Church Logbook" for November 1979:

Note: In 2020, according to the diocese, the average cost of maintaining a vicar in a parish is £81,200. Our Quota pledge is currently £28,600, increasing to £29,000 next year.

We hope to provide "snippets" from the relevant month of 80 and 40 years ago.