

St Mary's Parish Magazine



May - June 2018

50p

Notes from the Editor

Summer evokes images of bright, bright sunshine, golden afternoons with ice cold lemonade and juicy watermelon slices, and a hammock on a warm beach.

During summer, everything seems more vibrant, hopeful, and liberating. Everyone loves summer. Celebrate this beautiful season with some inspirational quotes:

What is one to say about June, the time of perfect young summer, the fulfilment of the promise of the earlier months, and with...no sign to remind one that its fresh young beauty will ever fade.

Gertrude Jekyll (1843-1932)

A perfect summer day is when the sun is shining, the breeze is blowing, the birds are singing, and the lawn mower is broken.

James Dent (1953-)

Summer afternoon, summer afternoon; to me those have always been the two most beautiful words in the English language.

Henry James (1843-1916)

There shall be eternal summer in the grateful heart.

Celia Thaxter (1835-1894)

Tony King

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Footnote:

Copies of the magazine can be posted to your home or friends and relations. Subscription rates are £6.50 for a year (6 editions), including postage. Please contact the Parish Office.

RECTOR'S 2017/18 ANNUAL REPORT

TIMELINES

There has been a great deal of change at St Mary's since the last APCM and my previous Vicar's report. In May we said farewell to Tom Corns who moved on from being St Mary's Director of Music (DOM) to his new post at Sheffield Cathedral. We are enormously grateful to Tom for everything he achieved in his time with us and wish him all the best and God's blessing in his new role. I would like to put on record my own gratitude to Mark Swinton for his hard work as acting DOM, particularly during the very busy Advent and Christmas season and it was a delight to welcome Oliver Hancock from Portsmouth Cathedral as our new DOM in January. Given these changes it is a great tribute to all involved in our musical ministry that we produced three broadcasts from St Mary's in the past year: *Sunday Worship* on Radio 4; *Choral Evensong* on Radio 3 and our *Carol Service* on BBC Coventry & Warwickshire, which were all well received. Congratulations to all who were involved.

In July we welcomed Alycia Timmis as curate-in-training at St Mary's. This is the first time in living memory that we have had someone in that role in church and it has been wonderful to have Alycia, Mark and Miles as part of the St Mary's family. All being well, Alycia will be ordained priest at Coventry Cathedral on Sunday 1st July.

Once again Christmas has been a lively and busy time for St Mary's. After 2016's successes, there was a record number of trees for the 2017 Christmas Tree Festival and yet again a new high in numbers attending our Crib Service on Christmas Eve. Like so much in our church, these were tremendous team efforts and thank you to everyone who contributed.

On a personal basis, I had various works published in 2017: *The Power of Story to Change a Church* (Grove); *Leading by Story: Rethinking Church Leadership* (SCM) co-authored with David Sims; a chapter on 'Folk Music' in *The Bloomsbury Handbook of Religion and Popular Music* (Bloomsbury). Much of the work for these was done during my 2015 sabbatical study leave and I remain most grateful to clergy colleagues, our church office, wardens and lay folk who enabled me to have three months to research and write.

TEAMS

Once again I would like to express my appreciation to all who have worked so hard on our behalf. St Mary's would not have been the church it is without their commitment and as the Vicar I am very, very grateful for all they have done in 2017. Thanks are due to those in our Parish Office (Felicity and Glynis); our Churchwardens (John and Gail), Deputy Churchwardens (David, and Godfrey) and all the PCC (especially John and Mary Adams, Treasurer, and Vicky Bartholomew, Secretary); our vergers for premises (Mark); and our vergers for worship (Sue, John and Phil); Oliver, Mark and Paddy with all who work on the musical side of our life; Vicky, Grahame and all our servers; Catherine and those running the Sunday School; our readers and intercessors; our Family Service leaders; Gill and Carol and all our sidespeople; Alycia, Doreen and all assisting clergy, Kirsteen for our new prayer diary and Tony our magazine editor; for all who are involved in our bell ringing team; for Helen, Brenda and all our flower team; for Sally and those who work as receptionists; our church guides; for Dee and all in our shop; for our bell ringers; for the moneycounters. In addition, I also recognize the continued support of the Friends of St Mary's, the Friends of the Choir, the Guild of Ex-Choristers, the King Henry VIII Trust, the St Mary's Hall Trust, Alison Giles and Craigmyle Fundraising Consultants.

DADDY'S EMPTY CHAIR

A man's daughter had asked the local minister to come and pray with her father. When the minister arrived, he found the man lying in bed with his head propped up on two pillows.

An empty chair sat beside his bed.

The minister assumed that the old fellow had been informed of his visit. "I guess you were expecting me," he said.

"No, who are you?" said the father.

The minister told him his name and then remarked, "I saw the empty chair and I figured you knew I was going to show up,"

"Oh yeah, the chair," said the bedridden man. "Would you mind closing the door?"

Puzzled, the minister shut the door.

"I have never told anyone this, not even my daughter," said the man. "But all of my life I have never known how to pray. At church I used to hear the pastor talk about prayer, but it went right over my head. I abandoned any attempt at prayer," the old man continued, "until one day, four years ago, my best friend said to me, 'Johnny, prayer is just a simple matter of having a conversation with Jesus. Here is what I suggest...'"

'Sit down in a chair; place an empty chair in front of you, and in faith see Jesus on the chair. It's not spooky, because He promised, 'I will be with you always.' Then just speak to Him in the same way you're doing with me right now.'"

"So, I tried it and I've liked it so much that I do it a couple of hours every day. I'm careful though. If my daughter saw me talking to an empty chair, she'd either have a nervous breakdown or send me off to the funny farm."

The minister was deeply moved by the story and encouraged the old man to continue on the journey. Then he prayed with him, anointed him with oil, and returned to the church.

Two nights later the daughter called to tell the minister that her daddy had died that afternoon.

“Did he die in peace?” the minister asked.

“Yes. When I left the house about two o’clock, he called me over to his bedside, told me he loved me and kissed me on the cheek. When I got back from the store an hour later, I found him dead. But, there was something strange about his death. Apparently, just before Daddy died, he leaned over and rested his head on the chair beside the bed. What do you make of that?”

The minister wiped a tear from his eye and said, “I wish we could all go like that.”

WILLIAM PARR



On his father, Sir Thomas Parr's death when he was no more than four, William Parr, as the only son, was left as heir to a reasonable, but not extensive patrimony. His education, both at home at Rye House and later in the household of the Duke of Richmond, followed the most up-to-date humanist teaching, and included Latin, French, mathematics and music. Throughout his life William Parr was a patron of scholars and musicians as well as having scholarly works dedicated to him.

His first introduction to public life was in 1525 when he was appointed, aged about eleven, as one of the companions to be educated with Henry Fitzroy, Duke of Richmond, the illegitimate son of Henry VIII, at the great castle of Sheriff Hutton, in Yorkshire. It is here that William built relationships with many who would be leading religious reformers in Henry VIII's later years, and in the reign of Edward VI.

Advancement through friendship with the King's son was not the only plan for William and, in February 1527 his mother pulled off what appeared to be a master stroke in Tudor politics, when William was married to Lady Anne Bouchier, only child and heir of Henry Bouchier, Earl of Essex. Essex was embarrassed financially, which was probably his only reason for marrying his daughter to a man of considerably lower rank, but for the Parrs it was a splendid opportunity. Lady Anne would inherit the Barony of Bouchier in her own right, and it was likely, with no

male heir to the old Earl, that the King would revive the Earldom in her husband's favour. At the time of the marriage, the couple were too young to co-habit – he was twelve and she just ten. Sadly, the marriage was a complete disaster. Lady Anne could not bear her husband, and refused to co-habit with him when she reached the appropriate age. They did not live together until the 1540s, but the union continued to be one of misery until a private Act of Parliament dissolved it in 1543 after Lady Anne had eloped with another man and was openly living with him. Parr later received the Earldom of Essex, despite the annulment. Whilst William's marriage to Lady Anne had broken down irretrievably, he was not broken-hearted and consoled himself first with an affair with one of Queen Anne of Cleves' maids-in-waiting, and then with a far more long-standing relationship with Elizabeth Brooke, daughter of Lord Cobham.

During the Pilgrimage of Grace, Parr's own lands were threatened and he was part of the King's force sent north to defeat the rebels. He was knighted during 1538 and raised to a barony the year after.

In 1543, Parr was involved in the War of the Rough Wooings, under the Duke of Norfolk. He does not appear to have been a keen soldier, being more inclined to court life, and his appointment as Lord Warden of the Western Marches in April 1543 was probably a mixed blessing. The appointment, and various other honours he received at that time, including admission to the Order of the Garter, was almost certainly a reflection of his sister, Katherine Parr's, new position as Henry VIII's love interest. He did not distinguish himself particularly in this role, and received a couple of reprimands from the Privy Council for “meddling”. After six months, he absented himself, returning to Court in October 1543 where he was at last granted the Earldom of Essex that he had coveted.

In 1547, he was appointed to the new King's Council, under the Protectorship of Edward Seymour, Duke of Somerset and raised to the Marquisate of Northampton. Now in his thirties, Parr was keen to marry again and beget an heir to his fine new title. The annulment of his first marriage did not automatically make him free to remarry, and he requested the young Edward VI to appoint a “commission of learned men” to determine whether he could take a new wife, his former wife being still alive. The commission was slow to rule, despite generous “gifts”. In the end, Parr took the matter into his own hands and married Elizabeth Brooke, but, within a week was ordered to separate from her and never speak to her again, on pain of death. Angry with what he saw as Somerset's unreasonableness, Parr conspired, unsuccessfully, with Sir Thomas Seymour for the overthrow of the Protector. He was not,

however, punished, and, when his friend John Dudley, Duke of Northumberland took over the Protectorship he was restored to his position.

Seemingly better at ceremonial than at politics, and a fluent French speaker, Parr was in charge of the reception of Marie de Guise, Queen of Scots on her journey back from France in 1551. Later in that year a further Parliamentary bill recognised his marriage to Elizabeth Brooke whilst allowing him to keep the majority of Lady Anne Bouchier's lands.

Parr's friendship with Dudley, and, perhaps, his zeal for reformation led him to support the accession of Lady Jane Grey to the throne, and on the overthrow of the conspiracy, he was attainted for treason and stripped of his lands and titles. The new Queen, Mary I, was not personally vengeful, and Parr's attainder was reversed on 25th April 1554, with some of his lands being re-granted to him. The change in religious policy again impugned his marriage to Elizabeth Brooke.

Within weeks of Elizabeth I's accession, Parr was restored to his titles and his place on the Privy Council and his matrimony again recognised. He received various honours and titles under Elizabeth, including a commission as Lord High Steward at the trial of Thomas, Lord Wentworth for the loss of Calais and a seat on the commission for the trial of Thomas Howard, 4th Duke of Norfolk.

Parr's matrimonial escapades were not yet over. Elizabeth Brooke died in April 1565, not having borne any children, and, not long after, Parr fell madly in love with a young Swedish noblewoman, Helena Snakenborg, who had come to England in the train of the visiting Princess Christiana of Sweden. When Princess Christiana left, Queen Elizabeth allowed Helena to remain as her own maid-in-waiting, and encouraged the match with Parr. However, Lady Anne Bouchier was still alive, and it appears that Parr felt unable to remarry until she died in January 1571. Within weeks Parr and Helena married, he fifty-seven, and she twenty-two. Their union was short-lived as, after ailing for several weeks, Parr died in October of that year whilst staying at Warwick Priory, and as he had no children his titles became extinct. He was buried with full ceremony as befitted a Knight of the Garter on 2nd December 1571 in the chancel of St Mary's Church, his funeral being paid for by Queen Elizabeth.

JUNE TRADITIONS

The week preceding Ascension Day is Rogation Week, when many towns and villages used to “beat the bounds”. The clergy, wardens and principal inhabitants toured the parish boundaries. Bread and ale were provided by the parish, and small boys were bumped, beaten or dipped, to impress the local topography on their minds. In some places a broad red arrow was painted on boundary marks. The procession stopped from time to time to hear the parson read aloud from the Gospels. Normally this was done in the shade of an oak tree, and some of these trees are called Gospel Oaks to this day: there is one at Snitterfield, for example. Another, in Birmingham, no longer exists, but it has given its name to an area of the city. Stratford, Kenilworth and Leek Wootton all observed beating the bounds at Rogationtide, though others preferred a different season.

Boundaries were important since they determined who paid tithes to whom, and churchwardens’ accounts include entries such as this, at Hampton-in-Arden in 1762: ‘In Rogation Week expended in walking the Bounds of the Parish in Ale 12:6’. There are similar records at Warwick, where St Nicholas gave up in 1799; St Mary’s continued, though for some reason preferred October for the event. Barford lasted until the 1840’s. Horniblow found someone in 1923 who remembered ‘very clearly’ what went on at another village:

The ‘beaters’ started off on a fine bright sunny morning, but ere long the sky clouded and rain commencing they soon bore a strong resemblance to the proverbial ‘drowned rats’. The boundary line separating Leek Wootton from Ashow was followed as far as the Avon. At this point a boat awaited their arrival, and the churchwarden, in company with other village dignitaries, embarked, and proceeded down the centre of the river, which was the line of demarcation. They were pelted with sods from people on the banks, with the result that the boat had to be beached, as it was in a sinking condition. However, not to be outdone, they took a second boat and proceeded gallantly on. Unknown to them, a quantity of flour had been procured from the mill, and on their passing the bridge the flour was dropped on them, with disastrous consequences, as their clothes were quite wet. It seems to have all been given and taken in part, for the entire party dined together at the Anchor Inn at the day’s end.

Still later, M K Ashby quoted her father, Joseph (1859 – 1919) talking

about Tysoe: 'It is not so many years since the respectable and substantial inhabitants met here [on the green] once a year to beat the boundaries of the parish, to see that the boundary stones had not been moved followed by the court leet of the Lord of the Manor and its jovial associations at the Peacock Inn'. It was no doubt conviviality rather than horseplay which led the villagers of Newton Regis to decide in the 1980s to resume the annual beating of their parish bounds at Rogationtide.

St Barnabas' Day falls on 11 June, and there was a saying

Barnaby bright, Barnaby light, longest day, shortest night

though the rhyme has more properly applied to 21 June since the change of calendar in 1752. In mid-June the High Bailiff of Alcester and members of the court leet with their two official ale tasters tour the town's pubs and clubs. The bailiff knocks three times for admission at each house, and is given two tankards of ale by the licensee. The tasters taste, and if all is well say the ritual words: 'It has a good head, a good colour, a good nose, and is fit for a man to drink.' Other courts leet have fallen into desuetude, as have the officers such as town criers, pinners, bread-weighers and constables, whom they appointed.

On the eve (23 June) of St John's Day fires were lit in the streets of Coventry and Warwick, but this custom only survived until the sixteenth century. Coventry provided feasting, drinking, and a procession of giant figures made of wickerwork. The houses were decorated with flowers and birch boughs.

At midnight on Midsummer Eve, girls might see their future husbands by scattering fern and saying:

*Fern seed I sow, fern seed I hoe,
In hopes my true love will come after me and mow.*

Trinity Week, another moveable date, often falls in June, and was the occasion of the great Coventry Show Fair.

Roy Palmer

The Garden Tomb

Eucharist

A time of celebration

A time of remembrance

A time of sharing

A communion of friends

Sharing the bread and wine together

Giving thanks to God

Reflecting on our shared experiences

Our personal responses

In the small chapel at the Garden Tomb

Filled with love

Love of Christ

Love for each other

Love for our neighbours

Love of those in this land

Praying for Gods peace

Remembering the different layers of life we have seen

The injustice, the inequality, the compassion,

The positivity the creativity, the challenge of life

The love and friendship we have been offered

Grant us, as we share our faith

Compassion, love, trust and honesty

In our dealings with each other

As we break and share Christ's bread and wine

In His name.

Gina Southey

NEVER A CROSS WORD!

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17						18						
								19				
20												
					21							

ACROSS

1. "God with us" and make space for the Spanish waiter. (8)
6. Egyptian god lies about the country. (6)
8. Read about manuscript on what Joseph had. (6)
9. High priest could be an Asian. (7)
10. Finish up in the cathedral environs. (5)
11. Noah had it coming to him! (4)
12. A pair of cardinals seen on Palm Sunday? (3)
13. The German's back, looking the colour of a cardinal's hat..... (3)
14.and I'm back with a note for the wise men. (4)
15. Rohan returns with Abraham's brother. (5)
17. Al copes, in a way, with a disciple of Jesus. (7)
19. Mary's bank? (6)
20. Commander of the Canaanites raises a fuss. (6)
21. Glory age for developing a church feature. (8)

DOWN

2. Ethical tooth decay? (5)
3. Powerless queen gets the point of this OT book. (7)
4. Did Eli once have the sign of Mark? (4)
5. Monk's robe newspaper man lived in? (7)
7. To relent is, perhaps, the act of a confessor. (8)
9. Small plate turning up for Noah's shipmates. (7)
10. Robes? That's put the donkey amongst the chickens! (8)
12. Disbeliever producing two articles on a saint. (7)
13. The surrounding sound of bells. (7)
16. Leo up and having scripture lessons, but looking distinctly glazed! (5)
18. Two pieces of silver for the king of Amalek. (4)

THOUGHT FOR FOOD

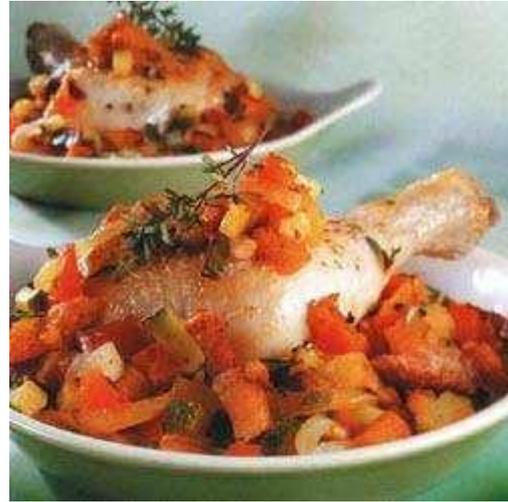
Midsummer chicken

A dish simply bursting with flavour

Ingredients

- 4 chicken portions (such as large thighs or drumsticks)
- 1 tbsp vegetable oil
- 2 rindless, smoked bacon rashers, chopped into strips
- 2 large onions, thinly sliced
- 2 red peppers, seeded and diced
- 2 courgettes, diced

- 4 firm tomatoes, diced
- 4 garlic cloves, crushed
- 2 sprigs of fresh thyme or 1/2 tsp dried
- pinch of cayenne pepper
- pinch of salt
- sprigs of fresh thyme to garnish (optional)



Preparation: 20 minutes

Cook: 45 minutes

Serves 4

Remove the skin from the chicken, if preferred. Heat the oil in a large frying pan or flame-proof casserole and brown the chicken and bacon over a medium heat. Remove with a draining spoon and set aside.

Add the onions to the pan and cook for 5 minutes until softened. Add the peppers, courgettes, tomatoes, garlic, thyme and cayenne pepper. Cook gently for 5 minutes. Season with a little salt. Return the chicken and bacon to the pan. Cover and cook gently for 45 minutes or until the chicken is tender. Turn the chicken halfway through the cooking.

Serve each chicken portion on a bed of the vegetables, with some of the vegetables spooned on top. Remove the cooked thyme and garnish, if liked, with extra fresh thyme. And, of course, a nice chilled white wine!

DON'T FORGET TO SMILE

A little girl walked to and from school daily. Though the weather that morning was questionable and clouds were forming, she made her daily trek to the elementary school. As the afternoon progressed, the winds whipped up, along with thunder and lightning. The mother of the little girl felt concerned that her daughter would be frightened as she walked home from school and she herself feared that the electrical storm might harm her child.

Following the roar of thunder, lightning, like a flaming sword, would cut through the sky. Full of concern, the mother quickly got into her car and drove along the route to her child's school. As she did so, she saw her little girl walking along, but at each flash of lightning, the child would stop, look up and smile. Another and another were to follow quickly and with each the little girl would look at the streak of light and smile.

When the mother's car drove up beside the child she lowered the window and called to her.

"What are you doing? Why do you keep stopping?"

The child answered, "I am trying to look pretty, God keeps taking my picture."

May God bless you today as you face the storms that come your way.

MARRIAGE LINES

In marriage there are three rings - the engagement ring, the wedding ring, and the suffer-ring.

A husband is one who stands by you in troubles you wouldn't have had if you hadn't married him.

Don't marry for money; you can borrow it cheaper.

Remember, man does not live on bread alone: sometimes he needs a little buttering up.

Anonymous!!

MOTHERS' UNION



Mothers' Union is an international Christian membership charity that aims to demonstrate the Christian faith in action through the transformation of communities worldwide.

We are working with people of all faiths and none in 83 countries to promote stable marriage, family life and the protection of children through praying, enabling and campaigning. We support families and communities both in the UK and around the world. Since 1876, when Mary Sumner first brought together parents in her own parish to build their confidence in bringing up their children in the Christian faith, Mothers' Union has grown to over 4 million members worldwide. Our members work around the world bringing hope and practical support to millions of people every year through our parenting, literacy and community development programmes and as part of the volunteer base of local churches.

Find Out More...

Want to be a part of this life-changing organisation? Become a member.

Local membership offers you a chance to engage with like-minded people, reach out to the community where you live, have fun and share new experiences. Local groups meet regularly to pray together, support each other and get involved with local, national and international social outreach and campaigns. In Warwick the group is called MUTo9ether. Our Vision, Mission and Values can tell you more about what we are aiming to achieve worldwide.

For further information about Warwick MUTo9ether please contact Denise Godfrey on 01926 496336 or email valbrant@sky.com and do visit the Mothers' Union website www.mothersunion.org/about-us for more general information.

Summer 2018 Lunchtime Recitals

Fridays at 1:15pm *Collegiate Church of St Mary, Warwick*

18 May Liam Cartwright (All Saints, High Wycombe)
25 May James Druce - trombone
1 June Oliver Hancock (St Mary's, Warwick)
8 June Richard Cook (Worcester Cathedral)
15 June Hans Uwe Hielscher (Marktkirche, Wiesbaden)
22 June Mark Swinton (St Mary's, Warwick)
29 June Laurence Caldecote (All Saints, Northampton)
6 July Richard Hinsley - piano
13 July Rachel Mahon (Chester Cathedral)

Admission free, retiring collection

AND FINALLY

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

ACROSS 1 Emmanuel 6 Israel 8 Dreams 9 Ananias 10 Close 11 Rain
12 Ass 13 Red 14 Magi 15 Nahor 17 Cleopas 19 Virgin 20 Sisera 21 Gargoyle

DOWN 2 Moral 3 Numbers 4 Lion 5 Habited 7 Listener 9 Animals
10 Cassocks 12 Atheist 13 Ringing 16 Oriel 18 Agag

Who's Where in The Warwick Team

Contacts in our partner churches in the Warwick Team include:

All Saints

Revd Diane Thompson (Team Vicar) 492073

St Nicholas

Revd Linda Duckers (Team Vicar) 496209

St Paul's

Revd Jonathan Hearne (Team Vicar) 419814

ST MARY'S CONTACT NUMBERS

Revd Dr Vaughan Roberts (Team Rector)	492909
Parish Office	403940
Doreen Mills (Reader)	494692
Oliver Hancock (Director of Music)	403940
Gail Guest (Church Warden)	885421
John Luxton (Church Warden)	07740 046718
David Benson (Deputy Church Warden)	882207
Godfrey Hill (Deputy Church Warden)	07788 966844

Bell Ringers	492783
1 st Warwick St Mary's Rainbows/Brownies/Guides	403185
Choir	403940
Friends of St Mary's Choir	07549 534339
Collegium	498851
St Mary's Scholars	403940
Flowers	857351
Church Guides	403940
Gift Shop	403940
Sunday School	312861
Friends of St Mary's Church	419991
St Mary's Guild of Servers	07713 997769
Sidesmen	882207
Churches Together in Warwick	428420
Guild of Ex Choristers gec@stmaryswarwick.org.uk	740181
Tony King (Magazine Editor)	497349

Church Council Members

The Rector, the Reader and Church Wardens	
John Adams (Treasurer)	07711 058935
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David Clark	465081
Grahame Edmonds	
Alan Faulkner	
Desmond Jack	495795
Gill James (Synod member)	842024
Frances Humphreys	410723
Tony King	497349
Jayne McHale	497106
Joy Nugent (Synod member)	852565
Carol Warren	493940
Alan Wellan	842828