

Diary dates for March and April 2010

4 th March	11.00 Lenten Bible Study
11 th March	11.00 Lenten Bible Study
17 th March	11.00 Julian Meeting – George Dobinson
18 th March	11.00 Lenten Bible Study
25 th March	11.00 Lenten Bible Study
27 th March	10.30 Council Meeting
1 st April	10.30 Maundy Thursday
	11.00 Lenten Bible Study
2 nd April	11.00 Good Friday
4 ^h April	11.00 Easter Day
11 th April	12.00 AGM
18 th April	11.00 Confirmation Service

Prayer of the month

Almighty and everlasting God,
you hate nothing that you have made
and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent
create and make in us new and contrite hearts
that we worthily lamenting our sins
and acknowledging our wretchedness
may receive from you, the God of all mercy,
perfect remission and forgiveness;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord
who is alive and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit
one God, now and forever.

Collect for Ash Wednesday

Prayer focus

To make time for self examination; to have the strength to look at ourselves critically; to be able to address our short-comings in the confidence that we are in practice the well-loved children of God

Newsletter - March 2010 St Bartholomew's Church, Dinard



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:

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March, 2010

➤ Notices

Dear Friends,

Hello and goodbye

Have you ever paused to reflect on the words we use to greet each other and to part?

In English, when we meet someone, we might say: 'Hello'; 'Hi'; 'How are you?'; 'Good morning'; 'Good Afternoon'; 'Good Evening'. Whatever the word or phrase we use, whether we are simply acknowledging someone's presence or enquiring after their health or wishing them a propitious time, we are by the tone of our greeting, by the brightness or lack of our smile, recognising the fact that the person we are speaking to is a fellow human being and, by implication, worthy of our attention and respect.

When we're leaving we might say, 'See you soon' in the hope we will or possibly won't! 'Farewell' is too old-fashioned to be in popular use but I like the concern shown for the other person's welfare, his health or her well being. But for a priest surely the favourite must be 'Good-bye' – short for God be with you. I can't think of a nicer sentiment with which to bless a parting.

And in a way, I think blessing or benediction is tied up with the notion of greeting and parting. Surely as Christians, as people of faith, we should be extending the love of God to the people with whom we have contact? In this respect, I rather like the Spanish, 'Adios' – literally commending someone to God, to his keeping. Could we wish anyone anything more?

Father Gareth



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- **Tournebride Monthly Lunch Dates for 2010:**
6/3; 3/4; 8/5; 5/6; 3/7: 14/8; 11/9; 2/10; 6/11; 4/12
Relais de Tournebride - a good opportunity for British and French folk to meet. 14€ includes an aperitif, a four course meal, wine and coffee. **Mike Baber** 02 99 73 56
06/annebaber5050@aol.com
- **John Davey** For all your Home and Garden maintenance needs, including everything from Decorating and Repairs to Computer Problems and Websites, contact John on 06 35 12 91 28 or info@setandsquare.com or visit www.setandsquare.com/services.
- **Martin Saxton (TILEMART)** Qualified & Experienced Tyler & Plasterer. All aspects of house maintenance. French Registered. SIRET No: 518 890 801. Quality Work at Competitive Prices. Fully recommended by satisfied clients. Contact: Tel: 02 96 51 44 13 Mob: 06 31 01 17 69
Email: saxtonmartin@gmail.com
- **Garden Party** Reminder that there will be an initial committee Meeting at La Trauchandière on Sunday 7th March after church to discuss next Summer's Garden Fete – remember to bring your sandwiches.
- **Deadline** for submission of material for the April Newsletter is **midday on Thursday 25th March**
- **137€** was collected at the February Tournebride Lunch towards the cost of this year's British and American flowers.
- **434€** have been donated to-date to defray the cost of the grilles to protect our stained glass – thank you!
- **Church Finances for January**
Income: **1563€** Expenditure: **4472€**
- **Seen in a shop window in Yarm, by John Marshall:**
Shoe, size 12, £55, one only.

Readings in church

March 7 Third Sunday of Lent

Isaiah 55 v1 – 9 Psalm 63 v1 -9 p.1170

1 Corinthians 10 v1 - 13 Luke 13 v1 - 9

March 14 Mothering Sunday

1 Samuel 1 v20 – end Psalm 127 v1 - 4 p.1267

Colossians 3 v12 – 17 John 19 v25b - 27

March 21 Passion Sunday

Isaiah 43 v16 – 21 Psalm 126 p.1267

Philippians 3 v4b - 14 John 12 v1 - 8

March 28 Palm Sunday

Isaiah 50 v4 – 9a Psalm 31 v9 - 16 p.1128

Philippians 2 v5 – 11 Luke 22 v41 – 23 end

Sybil Fagg

Banque Alimentaire - Dinard

I'd like to thank you for your continued generosity. On the first Sunday of each month, several boxes of groceries are delivered to the volunteers of the organization. It is good that people know we care so in March, in addition to the usual appeal for groceries, perhaps we could donate some small gift items such as chocolate treats for the children. May I take this opportunity to wish everyone at St. Bartholomew's my best wishes for Lent and Easter, and to thank you for your continuing support.

Helen Morgan

Lent Appeal

We are again supporting Dar El Alwad Children's Home for refugee and street children which was the focus of our Advent Appeal 2009 - our challenge is to raise more than the 180€ we raised then.

Giving for Life

Last month Val and I joined our daughter and her family in their church for morning worship as we often do. It is an inner city parish with many poor families of different backgrounds and higher than average unemployment. The Vicar, Robert preached a sermon on 2 Corinthians 8 & 9 and I was moved to share my grasp of it with you.

Robert said that these chapters are from the "hottest" letter of St. Paul offering a spiritual health check to Christians. Paul explains that the Macedonians, though down to their last penny and in the most difficult of circumstances had the gift of the Grace of God which enabled them to have a magnificent concern for others. Not only giving of their money but completely dedicating themselves to Christ. He contrasted this to the Corinthian Christians who he knew had faith and had been some of the first to start the work of the Church but had become content with what they had achieved in the past and no longer had the virtue of generosity.

Robert thanked the whole congregation for their support in the previous 12 months. A year in which they had had a special appeal for a new church roof and very high heating costs. He said that he and the PCC had made an error in increasing the Parish budget by 5%. The recession and high unemployment in the area meant that giving to the Church was down by 10% on the previous year leaving a 15% shortfall overall on the budget. Nevertheless £1500 which had been allowed for emergencies was being sent to Haiti together with £200 collection from a wedding on the previous day and the cash part of that day's collection. This would not include the enveloped pledged gifts but the total he expected to be about £2000.

Poor sowing he said, after St. Paul, means a poor harvest whilst generous sowing will bring a bountiful reward. Thank God for his indescribable generosity in sending his Son to save us.

Geoff Carter

So you want to own a chippie ?

*This is the second of two articles written by our Deputy Church Warden,
Bill Hughes about his family business in France.*

We had our comic moments. For instance, people used to ask us for ‘monnaie’ which in French you’ll know means change but at first I thought meant money – wrong! A few times I was asked for ‘portion du frites’. When I produced two packets, they said ‘NON’. I confused du with deux. What’s more, chips in France are crisps! We sold ice lollies called ‘Zit’ – the mind boggles!

One regular came in two or three times a week for a portion of ‘frites’ after having spent the entire evening in a local bar. One night he asked about our vinegar. I did my best to explain that, unlike French wine vinegar, ours was made from malt. He didn’t understand. I tried again. I explained it was made from malt, the same that’s used in distilling whisky. After that, he used to smother his ‘frites’ in vinegar, convinced he was supping whisky!

Another frequent client was a young, married Frenchman who spoke English well. Once he was buying his usual fish and chips when he noticed we were serving mushy peas to an English customer. He asked what they were and the Englishman replied, with a twinkle in his eye, that they were an aphrodisiac. Thereafter, he always ordered mushy peas, a portion for himself and a double portion for his wife!

At the end of our road is a cobbled ramp leading down to the beach. At high tide with a strong, following wind, the waves can break against the buildings. They can often be as high as the buildings themselves before they crash down onto the roadway. There can be more than a hundred folk watching this spectacle. Most folk are wise enough to stand on either side of the roadway or ramp but the inexperienced tourist (quite possibly English) will sometimes walk a little way down

French Proverb of the Month

This month’s proverb from ‘Almanach du Marin Breton 2008’ may be a solution for the absent-minded:

Le bonheur est là où on le place

Last month’s might be paraphrased as follows:

I used to think I made a journey but now I see the journey makes me

Quotation of the Month

Didier Henry, a professeur at Le Lycée Hotelier, asked me what Vitamin was essential for a Christian. Though committed to healthy eating and a balanced diet, I had to confess my ignorance. He replied with a smile – B1.

Grace of the month

The fourth of a baker’s dozen from a former chaplain:

We thank the Lord for food and cheer,
And we note the passing of this year.
This month's the Springtime Equinox:
We'll soon be putting on the clocks.

The Revd Donald Pankhurst

Thank you

The Revd Dr John Marvell wants to say a big thank you all for your prayers and good wishes during his recent stay in hospital. His knee operation was a great success and he’s now well on the road to recovery.

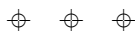
Poem of the month

The third in a series exploring the nature of the incarnation through the humanity of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

***'He ate nothing at all during those days,
and when he they were over he was famished'***

Luke 4 v2

Forty days is a long time to go without food!
At first, the pain is bad; your stomach complains
But, in time, it learns what not to expect.
It subsides, recognising it will not be satisfied.
Your mind is firmly in control of your body
As you exercise the discipline of ascetics;
Arguably anorexics enjoy such pain-control
And it is possible to ignore the craving to eat.
What food haunted your dreams in the night?
The thought of turning stones to bread,
Satan's first inspired temptation?
'Surely Man shall not live by bread alone
But by every word that proceeds from the Father?'
True, such manna is spiritually sustaining
But physically you need to eat too
And, of course, you did: you went on to eat
You accepted with thankfulness what God gave:
Food to eat, to nourish the body, sustain the will
So that when the time came to eat no more,
You could bear the pain until the end.



the ramp to secure a better view. When the waves break, they simply can't retreat in time. Many's the time I've seen people walking past the chippie dripping wet, soaking wet, not in a happy mood.

For the last six months in Paramé, Chris and Joyce ran the chippie without me because I'd been hit by a car resulting in both my ankles being fractured in several places. All I was fit to do was sit and watch!

Through our chippie, we made a lot of friends and we are still in contact with many of them to this day. Like most businesses, we had our good times and our bad times but overall it was a pleasant family business and it was an excellent ten years for all three of us.

Bill Hughes



Geoffrey Emerson a former member of our Church Council is now in a Maison de Retraite at St Brieuc with his wife, Simone. They write:

Dear Friends,

It was charming and friendly to receive your inquiries about our current well-being. For some months now we have been living in this retirement home where we are looked after with care. Naturally we think of you and realize how fortunate we are. The staff here have the right approach and handle us with sympathy and such that we recognise that we are in good hands. Simone and I feel fortunate that Christmas was celebrated in an atmosphere that has been so well organised that one could not wish it to be any different. We were particularly fortunate that Karen, Louise and Rainer were able to be present to make the whole thing wonderful. The New Year is on the horizon and we hope to remain in contact with you and send you our best wishes for the future.

With love from Simone and Geoffrey

Spotlight on Words: A question of romance

*This is the last in the series of seven articles for the Newsletter.
Our Autumn Bible Study will be the book of Ruth.*

The Book of Ruth is a tiny gem well worth the read. Sandwiched between The Book of Judges and the First Book of Samuel, the four chapters of Ruth tell a charming and inspiring love story of Ruth the Moabite, first for her mother-in-law, Naomi, then for her late husband's relative, Boaz, whom she eventually marries and from whose marriage will be born, three generations later, arguably Israel's greatest king – David.

The Levirate law of marriage stated that if a man died childless, i.e. without a son, his widow must be given to the nearest male relative so that they can raise sons in the name of the dead husband. Sadly, Boaz was not the nearest relative. However, it was clear to Naomi that Ruth and Boaz were very fond of each other. So Naomi told Ruth that after the barley harvest, Boaz would hold a great party for all his male workers, that after much food and drink they would sleep in the barn/threshing floor area. After the men had fallen asleep, Ruth was to creep in, 'uncover Boaz's feet', then lie down next to him. In Hebrew, 'to uncover one's feet' is a euphemism for another English euphemism for 'a man to spend a penny' (e.g. 1 Samuel 24 v3). This is why Boaz is surprised and embarrassed when he wakes up during the night and discovers Ruth lying beside him. The following day, Boaz obtains permission from the nearest male relative to marry Ruth. As a sign of their agreement, he took off his sandal and gave it to Boaz in the presence of the elders who sat at the city gate in judgement.

So with a little help from Naomi, Boaz in the end marries Ruth – truly, a more satisfying love story than any by Barbara Cartland!

Pauline Eyre

Epitaphs

*These actual epitaphs from Spanish cemeteries (fortunately in translation)
were sent to me by John Marshall.*

T J C

1967 – 1989

Rest in peace

Now you are in the Lord's arms

But Lord watch your wallet

⊕

Here rests

PJ

1968 – 1993

He was a good husband

A wonderful father

but a bad electrician

⊕

Here is resting
my dearest wife, BJ

1973 – 1997

Lord

please welcome her

with the same joy

I send her to you

⊕

G G G G

1934 – 1989

Rest in peace

A memory from all your sons

(except Ricardo who did not pay any money)

⊕ ⊕ ⊕

Saint of the Month St David

David, Dewi in Welsh, is the patron of Wales and by association poets! His feast day is March 1st. His story is fairly vague, but there is sufficient evidence to suggest that he was the most important British churchman of the early Dark Ages. In the period between the departure of the Romans and the invasions of the Saxons and Angles, it was probably David, Celtic son of King Sant of South Wales, who spread the faith in western Britain.

He founded ten monasteries and became bishop-abbot at Menevia, the Roman port in Pembrokeshire now named St. David's after him. As it was the usual embarkation point for Ireland, it is thought that early missionaries to Ireland may have been instructed by him. Himself a paragon of monastic virtue, his monks followed the harsh regime based on the rule of St. Antony, a desert father. They undertook heavy manual labour, unaided by cattle to help till the soil; they studied the scriptures in silence and never spoke in the monastery unless necessary; they followed a vegetarian diet, supplemented by bread and water.

According to medieval historians, David was either the nephew or uncle of King Arthur. One of his monasteries was reputedly built at Glastonbury (Avalon), the traditional burial site of Arthur. David is also credited with adding a chancel to the thatched church erected for Joseph of Arimathea, whose Holy Grail legend is associated with the site. The relics of St. David were said to have been transported to Glastonbury in the tenth century but were later instated in the present cathedral of his home town. On St. David's Day, Welshmen once wore leeks in their hats in memory of an occasion when they were worn to distinguish the Welsh from the English in battle.

Jackie Twinn, Reader, St Barnabas Church, Colchester

Film Review of the month *'Invictus' – Clint Eastwood 2009*

On a very cold night in the middle of February, on the twentieth anniversary of Nelson Mandela's release from prison on Robben Island, I saw this must-see film with a couple of friends at the cinema in Pleurtuit.

What makes this film so good? It is a true story, 'true' in the real sense of what it means to be true. It is true because it is based on real life: Nelson Mandela assuming office as President of South Africa and his desire to unite his nation, divided by apartheid, through reconciliation embodied in particular by his support for the South African Springboks' attempt to win the Rugby World Cup in 1995.

It is true because the characters and the interaction between them are true. Morgan Freeman has real presence as the charismatic ANC Leader, elected President of a divided nation. Matt Damon plays the South African rugby captain, François Pienaar, with a quiet fitness. An unlikely bond, inspired by Mandela's vision for his country, develops between those around him to bridge the gap between Black and White South Africans.

The climax of the film is the fairy-tale victory by the underdogs over the superior New Zealand All Blacks. The music and the visuals are convincingly impressive even if you don't like rugby! But what is fundamentally impressive about the film is the triumph of the human spirit over adversity, where we are urged to be responsible for doing our best and then more so that we may overcome. 'Invictus' is, at heart, a life-affirming film where Christian love and forgiveness have the power to conquer the evil of violent prejudice.

'Invictus' is really another triumph for a mature Clint Eastwood.

Gareth Randall

Remembering victims of violence

I have known some 19 murder victims of the Troubles in Northern Ireland. **Ted** (25) and **John** (34) my work colleagues in the civil service, **Norman** (17) son of an RUC officer, murdered by loyalists because he had a Catholic girlfriend.

Parishioners **Robert** (18) UDR, **Jimmy** (53) RUC Reserve murdered along with his colleague **Billy** (55) RUC Reserve. **Denis** (33) UDR murdered outside his house and found by his 14 –year-old son. **Alan** (47) killed while trying to keep children safe. **William** (39) Major 1st Battalion Belfast Brigade UVF, allegedly responsible for several terrorist attacks including the Dublin bombings.

Paul (27), **Robert** (31), **Stephen** (14) and **William** (16) both murdered on 'Bloody Friday' 21st July 1972. **An elderly couple** who were my neighbours in north Belfast were both killed when a car bomb exploded underneath their car. Their crime was that the husband was a retired RUC officer. **Thomas** (43) a neighbour in Co. Louth, abducted and murdered. **David** (43), a Presbyterian minister, and **Darren** (24) RUC.

I visited the family of **Jean McConville** (37) three times during their four week vigil at Templetown beach. Jean was a widow with 10 children who was abducted and killed by the IRA because she gave aid to a dying soldier at her front door at Divis Flats, Belfast. One of the "Disappeared", Jean's remains were finally located at Shelling Hill beach, Carlingford, Co. Louth.

I will share with you just one of these 19 stories - **Robert Coggles**, aged 31, who was killed on **16 August 1986**. You remember people as you last saw them, so I always think of Robert as a child. Robert's mother was aged 12 when he was born. He was placed in care as an

infant, and spent his whole life in three different children's homes before moving to Muckamore Abbey Special Care Hospital at 16, from where he was discharged into the community in north Belfast. When he died there was no one to claim his body. The funeral service was conducted by the Prison chaplain assisted by myself and the coffin was carried from the hearse to the grave by the Probation Service staff.

There was one death notice from three friends. You had to be quite brave to be a friend of Robert's. As a teenager, he would often shout abuse at the security forces on the streets. When Robert brought Christmas presents to the Probation Office staff, they knew they were receiving stolen goods! He kept one large jar of coffee in their office - with the lid carefully selotaped, because he didn't quite trust all the staff.

Robert had a stammer and was probably gay. He was murdered by UVF most likely because he had caused offence by saying the wrong thing to the wrong person. I remember that as a twelve-year-old he used to smoke. Instead of telling him not to smoke (which was pointless), I would ask him, "Robert, What is bad for your health?" and he would always say, "Smoking!" Robert had a sad life. He was given up at birth. He never knew the love of his mother and father. He died a lonely death. His body was found in a wooded glen, where it had lain for several days, by someone out walking their dog. Robert is buried in a pauper's grave in Belfast's Roselawn cemetery.

Mervyn Kingston

Easter Flowers

If you would again like to contribute to the cost of the flowers in church this Easter at the same time remembering the name of a deceased loved one, then please give 3€ per person remembered together with their names to Fr Gareth.