

JULY 2017

SPIRE

HAMPTON HILL'S PARISH MAGAZINE YOUR FREE COPY

**TOWER TOURS
BELL-RINGING
BBQ / DRINKS
GIANT SLIDE
GAMES
12-4PM**

Saint James

FISHER OF MEN

Our open day - Sunday 9 July

stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk

HERE TO HELP

VICAR

The Revd Derek Winterburn

Derek, pictured right, was born in Orpington, Kent, and ordained in 1986. He has served in several London parishes. He aims to grow the church by reaching out to the community, and in particular to young families. Derek is a keen photographer, which he combines with a daily walk or cycle ride. He is happy to be contacted at any time other than on Fridays (his day off).

Telephone: 020 8241 5904

Email: vicar@stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk

CURATE

The Revd Jacky Cammidge

Jacky was born in Abertillery, South Wales. She is a self-supporting minister, ordained in July 2015. During term time she runs the Hampton Hill Nursery School owned by her family and housed in our church hall.

Telephone: 074 9677 0505

Email: curate@stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk

PARISH OFFICE

Nick Bagge

The administrator deals with all enquiries, including baptisms, weddings and funerals, and hall bookings. The office is open weekdays.

Mon, Wed and Fri: 9.30am-12.30pm

Tue and Thu: 12.30pm-3.30pm

Telephone: 020 8941 6003

Email: office@stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk

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St James's Road, Hampton Hill TW12 1DQ

CHURCHWARDEN

Gwynneth Lloyd

Gwynneth is a retired nurse who loves travelling. She has a son who lives in Edinburgh.

Telephone: 020 8943 0709

Email: glloyd274@btinternet.com

TREASURER

Nick Harris

Nick is an executive director of a finance company, based in the heart of the City of London. He is married to Minnie, with a son, William.

Telephone: 020 8943 2025

Email: nicholasjharris@gmail.com

ORGANIST/CHOIRMASTER

Mark Blackwell

Mark is an accomplished parish organist with 40 years of experience of playing in churches and cathedrals. He also puts on concerts and recitals. During the week he runs his own accountancy company.

Telephone: 077 6814 6879

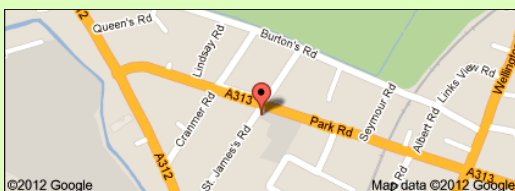
Email: organist@stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk

WE NEED YOU!

St James's relies on volunteers to run a busy church. If you have any spare time do join us!

FINDING US

St James's Church is on the corner of St James's Road and Park Road with ample parking in the road.



WHO TO CONTACT

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Bell Ringers Susan Horner 020 8979 9380

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Church Cleaning Team

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St James's Players

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Theatre Club Peter Hale 020 979 9287

Visitors' Team Liz Wilmot 020 8977 9434

Welcome Team Janet Taylor 020 8979 0046

THIS ISSUE

JANET NUNN

July is always a special month for us with the celebration of our patronal festival. This year the Bishop of Kensington will be celebrating with us on 9 July. The actual date for St James is 25 July, but for many years now we have transferred our celebrations to be clear of the school holidays.

In the centrespread, Prill Hinckley has looked back at the different ways we have celebrated this occasion and the Shell Seekers have produced ten paragraphs about St James on Page 8.

Last year at the Hampton Court Flower Show there was a small garden designed to commemorate the pilgrimage of St James to Santiago de Compostella in Spain. It was a lovely garden, decorated with pink scallop shells (the symbol of St James). A staff and big scallop shell represented the pilgrimage and Spanish plants were used for the planting. Needless to say, I had to take some photos!

The front cover shows the garden and on the back page there is a small image of the staff and a scallop shell to illustrate the symbol of James.

There are more details about the day on



Page 7. Do come and explore the church, perhaps climb the tower, and join us for a refreshing glass of Pimm's!

Best wishes

Janet

Editor

Cover picture: the Spanish garden at the Hampton Court Flower Show 2016

The SPIRE is published nine times a year for the Parochial Church Council of St James.

We make no charge for this magazine, but we hope that you will contribute towards the production costs to enable us to expand our important outreach across the parish.

If you are a regular reader please consider making an annual donation. Cheques should be made payable to The PCC of St James and sent to Spire Appeal c/o the Parish Office.

Vicar's View



'I won't ask again, which choir member put bubble mixture in the organ blower?'

STORIES, FEATURES

If you have ideas, or would like to write for the magazine, contact the Editor, Janet Nunn.

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Email: janunnhh@btinternet.com

AROUND THE SPIRE

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WHAT'S ON

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WEBSITE / YOUNG SPIRE

If you would like to receive the magazine by email, please contact Prill Hinckley. She also manages the website and Young Spire page.

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CIRCULATION

The SPIRE is available free from church and local shops. It is also delivered across the parish and posted further afield. Further information from Susan Horner:

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NEXT ISSUE / COPY DATE

The Aug / Sep issue is published on Fri 28 July. The copy deadline is Tue 4 July.

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Don't worry, have faith



In the discussions after the tragedy of the Manchester bombing, I was struck by a remark made by one commentator. He said that a tiny minority of people move from mainstream Islam to become Islamist by being persuaded to take aspects of their faith, usually referred to lightly, and weaving them into an altogether different story.

He gave as an example how the hope for a utopian Muslim nation can be exploited to give cause for fighting for an Islamic State.

We may remember that previous suicide bombers have been persuaded on their course of action by various promises of rewards in the next life. What a person believes about the future may powerfully direct their actions in the present.

A walk on the dark side

There is a clear parallel with the history of Christianity. Looking back 500 years to European society then it is clear there was a great fear of death.

Popular religion saw our earthly life as brief preparation for the real thing - to be spent either in eternal blessedness or everlasting torment.

Michaelangelo's *Last Judgement*, seen above, dramatically depicts this division in high art, and it was echoed in churches across the continent in their own 'Doom paintings'. A great religious industry grew up to meet this dread, and offer ways of easing the passage to heaven.

Luther's re-thinking

In 1517 Martin Luther ignited the Reformation by calling the church back to Jesus' preaching and teaching: namely, that only God forgave, and he forgave those who turned to him.

As a young man he had wrestled with a fear of death and judgement. Through his brushes with death, his heart-searching, and his reading of the Bible, he concluded that faith was not something to be

'We do not need to worry about the next world. We can trust God with this, and instead concentrate on making a difference here and now'



Martin Luther ignited the Reformation

achieved (a virtue in itself), but simply was trusting God and his promises.

Differences, then unity

This theological conviction then became caught up with many issues of church and national politics. There were violent words and actions for decades. There were and continue to be real differences of beliefs between the Reformation churches and the Catholic church. But time has tempered the division and both sides have learnt from each other. Last October, the Catholic and Lutheran Churches agreed to work together for unity with a new conviction.

Released from grip of fear

But the Reformers' rediscovery that a person might be assured that their eternal future was secure 'by grace, through faith' released them from the fear of death and judgement. Rather, it allowed them to direct their energies to serving God and loving people in this world.

Calvin tried to establish a city state, based entirely on Christian principles, in Geneva; other protestants laboured for similar aims in England and Scotland.

Sowing seeds of hope

Luther himself is quoted as saying 'If I knew the world was to end tomorrow, I would still plant an apple tree today.'

Although it is likely that he did not say this, it is notable that the epigram originated the German Confessing Church, which used it to inspire hope and perseverance during its opposition to the Nazi regime.

What we believe about the future (even whether we believe there is future) shapes how we use our time here and now. Luther, five hundred years ago this year, reminds that we do not need to worry about the next world, when we trust God's promises and that frees us to make a real difference here and now.

WHAT'S ON IN CHURCH

You will receive a warm welcome at any of these church services or events

Sundays

Holy Communion (said)
0800-0830

Parish Communion

0930-1030 (except 9 July)

together at eleven

1100-1145 2 July

followed by crafts and refreshments

Mon-Fri

(but not Tuesdays)

0915-0940

Morning Prayer

Tuesdays

Holy Communion

0930-1015 4, 18, 25 July

Holy Communion and Coffee NEW

1000-1100 11 July

on the second Tuesday of the month

Faith at Work

Saturday 1 July

0915-1015 Faith in Working Hands
with John Daly

Ark Playgroup

Mondays 3, 10, 17 July

1015-1215 For toddlers and
parents / carers

Rock Choir

Wednesdays 5, 12, 19, 26 July

1030-1200 rockchoir.com

PCC Meeting

Thursday 6 July

1930 in the hall

St James's Day

Sunday 9 July

1100 Service of Celebration with the
Bishop of Kensington, followed by
a barbecue lunch and fun for all
the family in the vicarage garden,
including a giant slide and games.
The open day also includes a chance
to climb the spire and ring the bells

Summer Learning

Thursdays 13, 20 July

2000-2130 in the hall

13 July How to lead a Bible Study

20 July Les Miserables - A gospel drama

Film Club

Sunday 16 July

1630-1910 Les Miserables

musical, starring Hugh Jackman,
Russell Crowe and Anne Hathaway

Building Development

Monday 17 July

2000-2130 with the Revd Jonathan Rust,
the Diocese of London's
Parish Development Specialist

NEWS IN BRIEF

Church's new toilets are now complete

THE CHURCH'S new toilets have come into operation — just seven weeks after building work began.

The two toilets, one suitable for wheelchair users and with baby changing facilities, are in the west porch, opposite the parish office and complete the immediate projects to improve the church facilities and make the building more welcoming.

Our Ark playgroup for toddlers and the Hampton Hill and Teddington Rock Choir, who both regularly use the church, are delighted about the new facilities. The toilets also make it easier to use the church independent-

ly of the hall. In the past weddings, funerals and concerts in church have needed access to the hall's toilets, limiting hall hires and resulting in a reduced income from bookings.

Derek, our vicar, said: 'Not having toilets acts like a barrier to attracting new churchgoers, particularly if they have young families, but these facilities are also important for many of our older parishioners.'

Other improvements to the church include a sink in the vestry, power sockets in the south aisle, and extra storage cupboards in the children's area, where there are also new tables.



Lots of fun at a Teddy Bears' Picnic held in the vicarage garden on 4 June

Churchwarden steps down



NICK HARRIS has stepped down as churchwarden. It follows a change to his job in the City and a much-increased workload. Nick will continue as PCC treasurer. He took on both roles in 2015 shortly after Peter Vannozzi had announced he was leaving St James's. During that time Nick also chaired the Church Growth Working Group.

Christian Aid total increases

THANK YOU to all those who collected door-to-door or counted the money during Christian Aid Week, and particularly to Elizabeth Wilnot and Linda Webb, pictured, for co-ordinating the collection. The total this year was **£3636**, slightly up on last year. It will be used to help some of the world's most vulnerable people, including refugees, as described movingly in the April / May Spire.



Ramani's mother dies



WE WERE sorry to learn of the death of Ramani Leathard's mother, Thilaka Hitchcock. She died at the vicarage in Chelsea on 30 May at the age of 86, surrounded by her family, after struggling with a long-term respiratory condition.

Thilaka was known to many of us during her frequent visits from Sri Lanka while Brian Leathard was our vicar, together with her husband John, who sadly died during Brian's time here. When the family moved to Chelsea she retained contact with her many friends in Hampton Hill.

Her funeral took place at Christ Church, Chelsea, on 13 June. There will also be a service in Colombo later this year.

Celebrating



All the fun of the fete... St James's Day has always been a day to celebrate friendships



PRILL HINCKLEY

Hampton Hill has always made a big thing of its Patronal Festival. This is probably because we remember how much the whole parish owes to the church and especially its first vicar, the Revd Fitzroy Fitz Wygram.

The September 1892 issue of our magazine stated: 'Our annual festival is a great day with us... evidence that we are united together as a community, which claims to have its foundation resting upon the rock of the Church of Christ. Named after the first martyr of the apostles, our festival is the time above all others when we should be endeavouring to preserve and consolidate the unity of spirit which should exist in all communities'.

James appears to have been the first leader of the Jerusalem church, around which the very first Christians gathered to be nurtured, protected and encouraged in their faith.

Celebrations for up to three days

From the earliest reports about St James's Day in the 1880s, it appears that the celebrations took part over two or even three days. What actually happened and when it happened seemed to vary from year to year, but there was always one afternoon put aside mainly for the children.

Their day started with their teachers, at the schools in School Road, the girls in clean white

We certainly know how to celebrate our saint's day — and this year will be no exception — but the records reveal long weekends with brass bands and talks as well as some of the more usual activities.

pinafores. Between 500 and 600 children were formed into line and marched, following the Hampton Hill Brass Band, through the bunting-lined streets to the church. A short service was held in the packed church and then the procession was re-formed and the children marched round a 'racecourse' staked out in the vicarage grounds, which at that time extended down the whole length of St James's Road.

Food, glorious food...

They then filed into circles of seats, arranged respectively for the boys, girls, and infants. The hundred flags, which had been carried in the procession, now decorated the vicarage grounds. As soon as grace had been sung, the children set to work in 'good earnest' on the bread and butter, buns, cakes and tea.

Then, they scattered in all directions to watch or



Daisy chain... the Sunday School children parade in their flowery bonnets in 1908

for 154 years



Food, glorious food... a simple repast of two courses (with second helpings!)

take part in activities and games, including Punch and Judy, coconut shies, 'bell in the ring' and tug-of-war. The archives noted that Sunday School teachers 'kept guard over the swings' — even then health and safety was important!

There were races arranged in which every child could try for a prize, involving wheelbarrow, sacks, three legs, and eggs and spoons. The day also included maypole dances, recitations, presentations and prize-giving.

A full afternoon of activities

During the afternoon there were informative talks about mission, and plants and flowers were sold. Not to be outdone, the adults had their own games, including bobbing for sugar plums, the 'basket trick', and quintain (jousting).

The band played during the intervals and many people started dancing, 'delighted,' records reveal, 'to trip it gaily on the green sward, when the shadows of evening fell.' More than 1,200 people regularly attended the celebrations.

Sunday in God's house

On Sunday the celebrations were 'carried into God's House'. Services in the beautifully decorated church were always very well attended. 'We were enabled to join together in the spirit of love and unity, and to offer our united service of praise and thanksgiving unto God.'

There were usually two morning services and a choral service in the evening.

Over the decades celebrations were gradually scaled down with St James's Day being held on just the Sunday.

In 1991, however, at the beginning of the Revd Brian Leathard's incumbency, the celebrations extended to three days once more with a Flower Festival, Open Day, exhibitions, trips up the spire, music in church and a barbecue. On the Sunday the whole Parish worshipped together at 1100 and then moved to the vicarage garden for lunch.



The following year, Beating the Bounds by Bike, pictured above, was introduced to fill the gap between the service and lunch, the latter being a barbecue at the vicarage or a picnic in Bushy Park.

This year's celebrations...

This year, we will be joined by the Bishop of Kensington, the Rt Revd Dr Graham Tomlin, for our 1100 service. It will be followed by a barbecue lunch and then the tower is open to explore and people can try their hand at bell-ringing. Other attractions include a giant inflatable slide, a scavenger hunt and face painting.

St James's Day continues to be a special day, celebrating our patron saint and symbolising the relationship between church and community that has existed for 154 years.



After the vast array of food... a time to rest, talk and play



Rodney's lasting legacy

RODNEY TAYLOR'S

contribution both to the life of St James's and that of the wider community was immense, so it was no surprise that so many people attended a Requiem Mass in church to celebrate his life.

Rodney grew up in Enfield and subsequently qualified first as a clinical psychologist and then as a doctor specialising in gastroenterology.

He joined the Navy and in addition to research and clinical practice at the Royal Naval Hospital, Haslar, he saw active service in the Gulf War, Kosovo, Bosnia and Northern Ireland.

On leaving the Navy he worked as Medical Director and Consultant

Gastroenterologist at Ealing Hospital. After retirement he continued to lecture in Medical Ethics and Bioethics. Rodney also became Chairman of the Mulberry Centre for those affected by cancer.

He took the diplomas in History of Medicine and Philosophy of Medicine of the Worshipful Society of Apothecaries, then joined the Society, becoming Master Apothecary 2012-13, pictured right.

Rodney married Janet, also a doctor, in 1972 and they had three children, Alice, Romilly and Beatrice and seven grandchildren. The family moved to Hampton Hill in 1988 and joined St James's Church.

Rodney had a deep faith and served the church in many capacities, including as a server and intercessor, PCC member, and as churchwarden from 2002-07, which included an interregnum. Recently, he led a discussion on *End of Life Issues* only a few weeks before he died. He was also a wandsman, or usher, at St. Paul's Cathedral.

Rodney was a keen sailor and enjoyed horseriding. He enjoyed travel, visiting the theatre and opera, and loved singing.

In 2006 Rodney was diagnosed with Myelodysplastic Syndrome (MDS), a rare bone marrow cancer. He entered a clinical trial of a new drug treatment with azacitidine and for five years his illness was kept in check, enabling a near-normal life. He joined the charity MDS UK Patient Support and rapidly



Rodney delivering a petition to the Prime Minister

became its chairman. He considered his involvement in the successful campaign to have azacitidine approved by NICE, which included a visit to Downing Street, to be his greatest achievement for the charity.

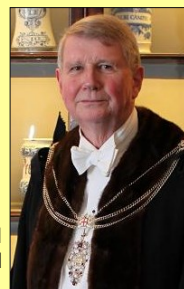
However, the disease progressed to acute myeloid leukaemia, needing chemotherapy and a stem cell transplant. After two difficult years with lengthy hospital stays he decided against further intervention and he died peacefully at home on 3 May.

A Requiem Mass for Rodney was held at St James's on 1 June at which the church choir and Concordia Voices sang Fauré's Requiem. Rodney had been a member of both these choirs for many years.

We shall all miss Rodney's kindness, commitment, wry humour and wisdom.



Tania Mathias, left, then Twickenham MP, with Janet and Rodney at a parliamentary reception



Hola amigos, esto es Sevilla!



Seville's Plaza de Espana, part of a city that has plenty of surprises for visitors



EMMA BAGGE

Half-term normally means a week off from school, lounging around on the sofa watching TV, eating junk food and most of all NO HOMEWORK! But not this time...

I was among 75 Year 8 students from Turing House School who went on a life-changing experience to Seville, Spain.

Now, you'd think of hot weather when I say the word Spain, but would you believe me if I said in the summer it can get up to 50°C (122°F)? Well, it's true, though luckily for us we didn't have to survive that sort of heat... as it only got up to 40°C (104°F)!

On the first day, we went on a walking tour of the town centre in the blazing heat. We walked for about three hours through the impressive Plaza de Espana, and the beautiful Parque de Maria Luisa.

The next day we went to a Spanish school where we learnt some useful phrases, which helped when we went shopping later to buy delicious churros dipped in chocolate!

Flamenco show

After this we went to a wonderful flamenco show, where the dancing and guitar music was so impressive. We also learnt about the history of flamenco and how it goes back to the Middle Ages when gypsies came to Spain from Asia, bringing their culture with them.

We were so lucky because the next day we saw the Procession of El Rocío, with ladies in gorgeous flamenco dresses riding horses or sitting with their children in carriages decorated with flowers. I felt sorry for the bulls though, as they had to pull the carriages for miles and it was so hot!

The procession went past the Cathedral of Seville, which I discovered was the biggest temple of Spain and the third largest of the Christian world.

On the final day we visited the 14th century Alcazar Palace, which had stunning halls and galleries with mosaic tiles and golden-domed ceilings. A boat trip down the River Guadalquivir past the Tower of Gold was a great way to end the trip.



Enjoying some shade in the Parque de Maria Luisa. I'm eighth from the left!

Our Sunday School, the Shell Seekers, starts in church from 0930 every Sunday during school terms and parades into the hall, except when there is an all-age service in church. We welcome new members. Come along for a trial visit, or ask one of the clergy about it and find out how much fun it can be.



From isolated village to this



Modern-day Nazareth, but an isolated village in Jesus' time



LAURENCE SEWELL

Nazareth was the childhood home of Our Lord; the New Testament makes reference to 'Jesus of Nazareth' on 17 occasions. According to Matthew's Gospel (2: 23) Joseph and Mary returned to their home town of Nazareth with their infant son following their flight from Bethlehem, where Christ was born, to Egypt. It was in Nazareth that Jesus grew up and spent his youth before beginning his ministry when he was about 30.

According to the Gospel of Luke (1:26), Nazareth was the home village of Mary as well as the site of the Annunciation, when the angel Gabriel informed Mary that she would give birth to Jesus. Regrettably, the gospels also record that Jesus was not very welcome back in his home town once his ministry had begun and his Nazarene compatriots were not persuaded by his teaching; Luke (4:28) and John (1:46).

Just an isolated village

Nazareth was a relatively isolated village in the time of Jesus, with a population of probably not more than a few hundred persons. Historically, very little is known about Nazareth and apart from the New Testament, Nazareth is never mentioned until the Byzantine period (in the 4th century AD). Archaeological excavations have confirmed that the town was only a small agricultural village during the Hellenistic and Roman periods.

Nazareth is located in northern Israel, some 90 miles north of Jerusalem and about 16 miles west from the Sea of Galilee. It is situated in a natural bowl atop the Nazareth ridge of hills, which rise to about 490m (1,600ft) north of the Jezreel valley.

Nowadays, Nazareth is the capital and the largest city in the Northern District of Israel, one of the six administrative districts in the country. There are essentially two parts to the city: 'old' Nazareth, predominantly inhabited by Arab citizens of Israel, numbering 75,000; and 'upper' Nazareth, designated as a separate administration in 1974, and home to the 40,000 Jewish

residents. Nazareth is the only urban area in Israel with a majority Arab population.

Archangel Gabriel's announcement

Visitors come to Nazareth to make pilgrimage and to see the many churches and monasteries representing the different Christian faiths. The most significant religious site is the Church of Annunciation, marking the spot where the Archangel Gabriel announced the future birth of Jesus to Mary (Luke 1:26-31).

This was a former Byzantine church, the ruins of which were replaced in 1966 when the Roman Catholic Church constructed a new basilica, dominating the old city's skyline and which became the largest church building in the Middle East.

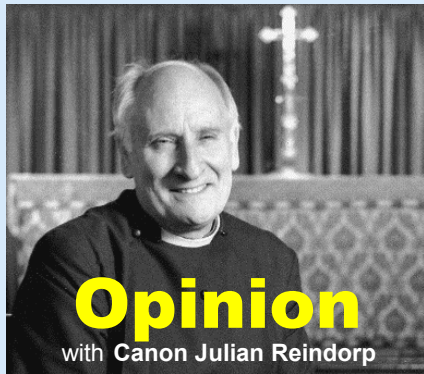
The Upper Basilica has a lantern-topped cupola, shaped like an inverted lily to represent the glorification of Mary. In the dimly lit lower church, a sunken enclosure shelters the Grotto of the Annunciation, the traditional site of Mary's house, and remnants of churches from the Byzantine (4th century) and Crusader (12th century) periods. The walls of the courtyard and the upper church are decorated with a series of vivid mosaic panels donated by Catholic communities around the world, depicting Mary and the infant Jesus in styles that reflect the cultures of their countries of origin.

Now a must-see destination

Nazareth is on the Jesus Trail, the 40-mile hiking and pilgrimage route in the Galilee region, established in 2007 and connecting many sites from the life of Jesus and his ministry - a 'must-see' destination on any pilgrimage tour of the Holy Lands.



Right: The Church of Annunciation



Opinion

with Canon Julian Reindorp

ON THE MARGINS

Living comfortably in Hampton Hill, I am often reminded of those who live very differently. We do not see the homeless or the hungry on our finely installed new High Street pavements. Writing this just after the searing tragedy of the Manchester bombing, this week's papers included items about nurses and police officers going to food banks; with rents out of control and pay frozen, professionals sharing their terror at facing a hostel, or the streets; and a homeless teacher saying 'I wouldn't talk about it, I was so ashamed. I'm proud to be teacher, but if I can't keep a roof over my children's heads, what does it say about my value to society?' A record 60% of British people in poverty live in a household where someone is in work. The risk of falling into poverty is especially high for families in private rented housing.

HOLIDAY HUNGER

Up to three million children are at risk of 'Holiday Hunger', particularly in the six-week summer holidays, according to a cross-party group of MPs and peers. As a result, children who eat poorly over the holidays are vulnerable to malnutrition and falling behind in their education — a significant and growing problem. The group call on government ministers to put some of the money raised as part of the planned tax on sugary drinks into setting up support schemes with local churches and charities.

POVERTY IS MANY THINGS

A poem from Church Action on Poverty:

Poverty is never being told what you're entitled to but always being told.

Poverty is being shown up then put down. It's missed payments and mistrust. It's always answering questions but never answering the door.

Poverty is hiding in plain view. It's hiding.

Poverty is high bills and low pay. It's higher costs And lower self-esteem. It's invisible scars and visible pain.

Poverty is cold. It's damp.

Poverty is ignored and abandoned. It's sanctioned and sectioned. It's late payments and early deaths.

Poverty is overworked, underpaid everyday people.

Poverty is people. It's children. Babies. Not... 'them'. Us.

Poverty is many things, but it is not acceptable. It needs you, it needs us, it needs action. Today.

DRIVERLESS CARS

I have always preferred cars with gears to change than an automatic. I can't imagine a driverless car! Ford has just named the head of its driverless cars division as their new chief executive. Globally, some forecasters estimate there will be 10m cars with some form of autonomy on roads by 2020.

WORLD CHRISTIANITY

The most recent figures in a world of 7.5 billion people: 2,480,000,000 are Christian, 1,784,000,000 are Muslim, 1,032,000,000 are Hindus, and 527,000,000 are Buddhist; other religions 858,000,000; non-religious 834,000,000. Christians are increasing in numbers at a greater rate than the population in general, and Muslims are increasing at a much faster rate than Christians because in many cases they are younger and have bigger families. Pew Research Centre reports that 'babies born to Muslims will begin to outnumber Christian births by 2035.'

TOGETHER AT 11

I hesitate to describe our new service at St James's to people because it is very different to what many of us are used to. But it works and clearly people of all ages feel involved, and Derek and his wife, Sandra, and Jacky are at home there. I realise too that I retired just in time, as Derek is a master of all things technical when they work, and copes as if it is all planned when they don't! It is worship, learning, involvement all in one. Do come and see.

CHARITY BOX

SUPPORTING TWO GOOD CAUSES

How a small box of tools changes lives



JANET NUNN

I have been a collecting centre for Tools With A Mission (TWAM) since 2010 and I have used my garage to store tools for carpentry, electrics, plumbing, gardening, anything connected with sewing or knitting, laptops and computer monitors — and even bicycles.

Back in April I had my 20th collection with the charity's new van. Everything is done by volunteers; from collecting to driving the vans to Ipswich, unloading and sorting the equipment, repairing where necessary, and then making boxes or kits ready to be shipped by sea to their destination.

TWAM's current project is focussing on providing people with boxes of tools. It is amazing to see how a simple selection of tools can change someone's life. One tool kit costs roughly £25 to send to Africa and may be given to a newly-trained parent so they can work and pay for their children's education, put food on their table and keep a roof over their heads.

This year, St James's is giving the charity a donation of £400 from the budget.

TWAM are about to send another two huge containers to Lubumbashi in the war-torn area of the Democratic Republic of Congo. These will immeasurably help people and communities scarred by war, giving them the chance to work themselves out of poverty.

Whilst writing this article I have had the offer of a whole garage of tools from a house that is being cleared — this is what makes TWAM so worthwhile. The loan of my garage to collect tools is the first step to helping so many people.

Disability and Development Partners (DDP)

Disability and Development Partners (DDP) has reached its 25th year of helping to improve the lives of disabled men, women and children in developing countries. St James's has been a loyal donor and continues its support this year.



Originally known as the Jaipur Limb Campaign, the charity focused on providing rehabilitation services to amputees and campaigning for the ban on landmines. The change of name in 2005 reflects its expanded scope to other disabilities, including the deaf and mentally ill.

DDP is a small charity with an annual income of about £675,000. Its office has just relocated from London to Norwich and there are typically three members of staff. It does not have offices or staff overseas, working instead with local partners in the various countries to help them deliver programmes and initiatives that benefit disabled people. People with disabilities can be easily overlooked in any society, but all the more so where there is poverty.

DDP currently supports partners in Nepal, India, Ethiopia, Mozambique and Burundi and you can read about their life-enhancing work at www.ddpuk.org.



LOCAL EVENTS

St James's Day celebration

Sunday 9 July from 1100

The sun always seems to shine on our patronal festival. This year Bishop Graham will be at our service. It will be followed by a barbecue lunch, served, with continued good luck, in the vicarage garden. We'll also be serving a variety of drinks, including glasses of Pimm's. There will be plenty to occupy our younger members, including an inflatable slide and games. We hope a Scavenger Hunt will be as successful as last year's nature trail. Our open day extends to the spire, and from 1300-1500 visitors can ring the bells and climb the tower for unrivalled views over the surrounding countryside. We look forward to welcoming many visitors from Hampton Hill to our celebration.



TEDDINGTON CHORAL

Saturday 1 July at 1930, Kingston Parish Church
Mass in Blue. Tickets £15 from teddingtonchoral.co.uk



CAR-FREE SUNDAY

Sunday 2 July, St James's Church

Can you get to church without a car, or at least car-share?

HOLY COMMUNION AND COFFEE NEW

On the second Tuesday of the month, Holy Communion will start at 1000 instead of 0930 and be followed by coffee and conversation.

REGISTERS

MAY

BAPTISMS

- 14** Jessica Scarlet Louise Frank, Hampton Hill
- 14** Samuel William Dennis Healing, Teddington
- 14** Harlow Stewart, Hampton

BLESSING

- 14** Alexander Timothy George Jones Younger, Hampton Hill

FUNERALS

- 11** Robert Edward Carey, 89, Hampton Hill
- 15** Doris Olive Denton, 95, Twickenham



Fisher of men and early martyr



THE SHELL SEEKERS

He is the patron saint of Spain, as well as of pilgrims, and he became the first martyr of the apostles, having spent forty years spreading the gospel. Despite that, very little is known of his early life. He lived in the tiny village of Capernaum, where Jesus first began calling men to follow him, and was one of Christ's most trusted followers.

So, who is he?



There are several people called James in the English Bible. Most significantly there are two of the twelve apostles, and also the brother of Jesus. 'Our' James is one of the apostles: James the brother of John, and Son of Zebedee.

(The other apostle James is called in Luke's Gospel 'the Younger James' and has been linked by churches with Philip – so the church in Whitton is Ss Philip and James).

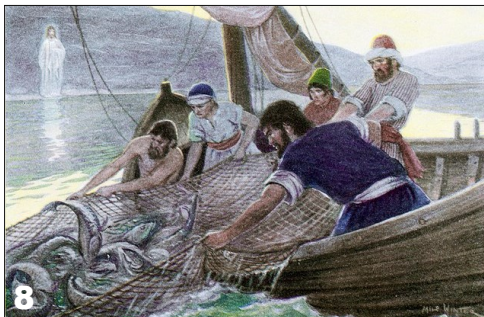
Meet his mother



The gospels suggest that the mother of James and John was Salome, the sister of Mary (Jesus's mother). That would make Jesus and James cousins. Their kinship begins to explain why Jesus moves to Capernaum from Nazareth and calls James and John to be among his first followers.

Family of fishermen

Zebedee's family were fishermen and appear to be prosperous: they worked in partnership (with Simon and



Andrew), they had employees and were free to start and stop work when it suited them. Jesus spoke about fishermen, fishing and fish.

Special friends, but no favours...

James was one of Jesus's inner circle (with John and Simon Peter) and as such was present at the transfiguration (as in the West Window in St James's) and when Jesus was in the Garden of Gethsemane.

This closeness and family relationship perhaps encouraged the brothers and their mother to request that Jesus would give them a special place in his Kingdom - but Jesus did not promise them that.



...rather, a promise of suffering



Instead, Jesus told them that they would have to 'drink the cup' of suffering that he faced. This was fulfilled when James was killed by King Herod Agrippa in about 44 AD. He became the first apostle to be martyred.

Traditionally this has been said to be in Jerusalem's Armenian Cathedral —

dedicated to St James. It is said that his head is interred there.

Bound for Spain

A 12th century tradition suggested that James had preached in Spain before his martyrdom. Then it told how his body had returned from Jerusalem to be enshrined in Santiago de Compostela, in NW Spain.



From the 11th century it became the centre for pilgrimage, perhaps the greatest of the medieval period.

Symbolic Scallop Shell

Associated with the pilgrimage (and then with St James) is the symbol of the Scallop Shell. The shells were commonly found on the shore en route and graduated from being souvenirs of the journey to a badge of the pilgrims. Symbolically the grooves of the shell meeting at single point represent the convergence of pilgrims at St James's tomb.



To be a pilgrim...



There are now a number of popular routes to Santiago de Compostela – all may be described as part of the Camino de Santiago – the most popular is from the French side of the Pyrenees. It is a Unesco World Heritage Site.



What's in a name?



There are no people called James in the Hebrew Old Testament or Greek New Testament. James in our Bibles is really Jacob. John Wycliffe, followed by the Authorised Bible switched from Jacob to James. (This explains the name of the Spanish city of Santiago, derived from Santa Jacobus, and why followers of King James II were Jacobites.)

One among eleven



There are 11 churches dedicated to St James in the Diocese of London (amongst 500+ worshipping communities).

We are the only one in the Kensington Episcopal Area — and the only one being visited by the Bishop of Kensington, the Rt Revd Dr Graham Tomlin, on our celebration of St James's Day, Sunday 9 July. We hope to see you there!