

*Annual Income £20    Annual Expenditure £19.19s.06d    Result: Happiness*

*Annual Income £20    Annual Expenditure £20.00s.06d    Result: Misery*

## Chapter 12, David Copperfield, Charles Dickens

Mr Micawber's insight into the definition of human happiness or misery may not be the whole truth but it certainly has some truth in it. We at St James', like every individual and family, have to plan our income and expenditure. We do this on a careful annual budgeting basis with monthly monitoring of our income and expenditure. Much of this task is done quietly and behind the scenes but, on occasions, we need to go very public when problems arise. The first thing to say, however, is a huge thank you to those who give generously, indeed sacrificially, particularly through planned giving (what we used to call stewardship). This enables us to plan ahead and make commitments in terms of our expenditure which is crucial to the mission and ministry of our parish church. However, during 2005 for very understandable reasons, our income has slipped by some 10% while our expenditure has gone up by about 5%. While Mr Micawber may by now be spinning in his grave when he hears such news, nevertheless it is not something over which we need to panic, However, it is certainly a situation which we need to rectify.

Our income is made up as follows. We have budgeted for a total income of about £105,000 in 2005. Of this about £60,000 comes through planned giving. Further we receive about £20,000 back from the Inland Revenue on that portion of our income which is gift aided. But this is 10% down on what we need to cover our budgeted expenses. Mr Micawber's spins are speeding up! Unless we increase our income to our planned levels for 2005 we shall end the year in the red on our general account. This would mean that we would have to take money out of our very small reserves and we would have to cut our activities for 2006 to cope with our continued reduction in income.

So if we look at the expenditure side of our parish accounts we see that by far the biggest part is our contribution to the Common Fund. This is the housekeeping fund for the whole of the Diocese of London. **Please** do not think that this is a one way contribution. It is not. We receive back in this parish two priests, their stipends, pensions, National Insurance contribution, the training of future generations, the work of a children's adviser, social justice adviser and a variety of other central functions. The Common Fund makes the Diocese work. We, in a relatively affluent

part of the Diocese, have a moral responsibility to enable the mission of the church to continue in every part of the Diocese and we gladly contribute to the Common Fund. But after that, our expenditure comes in smaller chunks. We are committed to modelling good stewardship of our resources and so give away 10% of our income to local, national and international charities. The cost of the expenses of your parish clergy in a year is about £8000 and the administration of the parish about £5000. We pay over £5000 in insuring the church and hall each year and we are committed to spending on our children's work, magazine, employing an organist and so on. None of these is a big sum or out of control in any way. Cumulatively in 2006, unless we increase our income, they will add up to a Mr Micawber nightmare.

Can you help? We ask that you consider once again how much you can give to the ministry and mission of the parish church. Can you increase your giving by the rate of inflation, say 3% or, by the rate of your pay rise? Can you consider making a gift to the church under the gift aid scheme? If you are a tax payer we can recover the amount of tax you have paid on that sum for the church's purposes. Can you consider giving a gift to the church monthly by standing order (or at any other interval) or using envelopes each week which can be gift aided? There are many ways in which we can give to the mission and ministry of the church in our parish, Diocese and even wider.

As, inevitably, our thoughts and sights become more focused upon Christmas do remember that the basis of our giving is that God gives everything for the love of this world. That's Christmas, and so as we wait for Christmas during the season of Advent give some thought even before that, please, to making an appropriate and lasting gift to the mission of God's church through a gift to St James' in 2006. If you want to talk about it further please don't hesitate to contact me or any member of the planned giving group. We will be more than happy to supply you with the relevant materials, details and help ease your way into increasing your giving to our parish church. Thank you.

*Brian Leathard*

## **WEST PORCH**

The Parish Office in the West Porch is now open

**MONDAY - FRIDAY 9am to 12 noon**

Telephone: 020 8941 6003 (answerphone out of hours)

Please use this number for routine parish business.

The phone is checked regularly for messages which can be left at any time.

In emergency, please continue to call the Vicar on 020 8979 2069

or the Curate on 020 8941 4424

## Mass Lobby for Trade Justice

Wednesday 2 November, 12 - 6 pm in Westminster

[www.makepovertyhistory.org](http://www.makepovertyhistory.org) [www.christianaid.org.uk/campaign](http://www.christianaid.org.uk/campaign)

A mass lobby is when a large number of people go to Parliament to raise the same concern with their MP at the same time. On this occasion thousands of people from all over the country are in Westminster to call on the UK Government and its partners in the European Union to:

- stop pushing poor countries to open their economies through world trade talks
- respect poor countries' right to decide on trade policies to help end poverty and protect their environment.

The lobby is part of the **MAKEPOVERTYHISTORY** campaign strategy for 2005. This widely supported movement has been calling for effective progress in three fundamental areas:

### *Trade Justice Drop the Debt More and better Aid*

The G8 Summit at Gleneagles in July took some positive steps on debt cancellation and increased aid, but there was no mention of trade. Debt cancellation and increased aid are necessary, but not sufficient commitments. Fairer trade rules are essential if the poorest countries are to have a chance to trade their way out of poverty and rich countries must be prepared to give ground without anything in return.

The Mass Lobby is timed to have maximum effect ahead of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) ministerial meeting in December in Hong Kong. Do pay heed to what is said and written about the lobby so that you are better informed for the WTO meeting next month. And use the websites to stay in touch and find out more.

*Ann Peterken*

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### **SATURDAY 5 NOVEMBER: COFFEE MORNING**

at SS Peter and Paul, Church Road, Teddington  
10am to noon. Souvenirs, Christmas puddings, books etc.  
FREE coffee before 11am



**Lifeboats**

### **TUESDAY 6 DECEMBER Evening of Christmas Music**

with the Staines Salvation Army Band - including audience participation.  
Commences 7.30pm at Teddington Baptist Church, Church Road, Teddington.  
Entrance by donation. Refreshments will be served afterwards when gifts, Christmas puddings etc. will be on sale.

*More details of the above can be obtained from Jill Goddard on 01784 211 977*

# *This Made a Difference*

About seven years ago I met someone who was to have a profound influence on my life, although I did not realise it at the time. The meeting took place at the funeral of a friend.

Prior to this meeting I had virtually given up church attendance for many years and had settled into a deep spiritual rut. Coming from a pretty strict Roman Catholic background with a lamentable ignorance of the Anglican Church (I am still fairly baffled at times!), not only was I made very welcome at St James's Church, but from the beginning I felt at home celebrating the Eucharist and gradually I have come to understand a *little* better the meaning of the words 'one holy, catholic and apostolic church'.

The Holy Spirit works in wondrous ways, and I thank God for that meeting and for the many moments of inspiration and grace that I have been privileged to receive through Brian's ministry and friendship - a heartfelt 'Thank you, Brian and may God continue to bless your apostolic work' - we are blessed indeed . . . .

*Barbara Grant*

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## THE WEST PORCH

Maybe as travellers pass  
their eyes are drawn  
towards the softly lighted altar

to glimpse perhaps some spiritual calm;  
an offering of comfort and relief.

Or maybe turn from harm some troubled mind,  
or sanctify some faltering belief.

*After reading the July issue of The Spire*



*From an interview with Anne Graham, daughter of Billy Graham:*

Funny how simple it is for people to trash God and then wonder why the world is going to hell. Funny how we believe what the newspapers say and question the "Gospel of Jesus Christ". Funny how everyone wants to go to heaven provided they don't have to believe, think, say or do anything that Jesus and His Church teaches.

# KEEP THE PROMISE

## A Vigil for

Kensington Episcopal Area



THURSDAY 1 DECEMBER 2005 7.30pm

St Stephen's Church, Shepherd's Bush (on the corner of Uxbridge and Coverdale Roads. Nearest tube Shepherd's Bush, Hammersmith and City Line).

Please come and share in this witness for World AIDS Day, led by Bishop Michael and Rev. Sarah Archer. The vigil will have a special African focus, with participation from the parish community.

World AIDS Day helps us remember the 40 million of God's People across the world who live with HIV/AIDS and who need our help and compassion. Around 95% live in developing nations, which include London's link countries of Mozambique and Angola, but we must not forget the thousands in our own country and city. Every community within the London Diocese has families who are seeking God's love and compassion as they live their lives in the shadow of HIV.

A healthy population is essential for a country to develop. In September 2000, the United Nations pledged to accomplish a set of eight goals to reduce human suffering across the globe by 2015. Three of these **Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)** relate to health matters, with goal number six specifically calling for action to combat and reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases.

Subsequent gatherings of world leaders have agreed to various shorter-term targets to act as yardsticks on the way to 2015. In June 2001, a United Nations declaration set four targets for the end of this year, but two are not being met: reducing the HIV prevalence by 25% among under 25s in the most affected countries and cutting mother-to-child transmission by 20%. The 3 by 5 Initiative set the target of providing anti-retroviral treatment to 3 million people by the end of 2005. And this July the G8 leaders committed to providing access to anti-retroviral drugs for everyone living with HIV/AIDS by 2010.

Talk and good intentions count for nothing if money and actions do not follow. Missed targets can easily be re-issued with new words. So the theme **Keep the Promise** for this year's World AIDS Day is an appeal to governments and policy makers to ensure that they meet the targets they have agreed to in the fight against HIV and AIDS.

**YOU** are invited to the vigil at St. Stephen's on 1<sup>st</sup> December. Bring a friend, car full, bus, as many as you like, to hold God's People who are living with HIV and/or AIDS in Prayer.

# HELP!

**Avoid us going into the red in 2005**

**Our costs up 5%**

**Our income DOWN 10%**

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**A HUGE GAP**

**Can you help?**

**It costs £350 a day to pay for our church**

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I would like to help the mission and ministry of St James' Church in 2005. I can contribute £ \_\_\_\_\_ per month. Every gift small or large is an important part of being the family of the church. If you can gift aid your contribution then it stretches even further.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Tel/Email \_\_\_\_\_



## St James's Chronicles

Hampton Hill Parish Magazine November 1905

My Dear Friends,

Most of our organisations are now afloat for the Winter, and a fair start has been made with most of them. The Missionary Working party has begun with many new members. In future the proceeds will be divided between the two great Missionary Societies, and it is proposed that instead of sending the work as hitherto, the articles made shall be sold, and the money sent.

The Band of Hope has commenced with a large accession of members, and it is hoped that much good work will be done during the winter. The United Band of Hope Service at St. Alban's Church on the 23<sup>rd</sup> inst., was very largely attended.

Nurse Rixen, who has been with us for three years, has just resigned because she was about to be married. Many people who have had her assistance will remember her with gratitude, and all our good wishes will go with her in her married life. I am glad to say the committee have appointed Nurse Gertrude Smith to take the place of Nurse Rixen, and she comes with very strong recommendations.

The Annual Conversazione is fixed for Tuesday, the 7<sup>th</sup> inst., in the Victoria Hall. The doors will be open at 6.45pm. The Entertainment will be provided by the Westminster Pierrot Troupe. The tickets will be a shilling, and the proceeds will be given to the Curate's fund and the Treats' fund. I hope we may, as usual, have a thoroughly congregational gathering. Tickets may be obtained from the District Visitors, and Mr Makepeace.

We had our first Men's Service for the season on Sunday, the 22<sup>nd</sup> inst., when about sixty men were present. The next service will be on the 19<sup>th</sup> inst., at 3.30pm. The subject of the address will be "Imperishable Property".

The Bishop has asked us to invite all our lay helpers to come to the Holy Communion on Sunday, the 19<sup>th</sup> inst., that as workers we may join together in seeking God's special blessing at the same time that others, all over London, are doing the same thing. I would therefore warmly ask all our helpers to come at 8 o'clock on the 19<sup>th</sup>, i.e. Church Officers, Day and Sunday School Teachers, Choirmen, District Visitors, and all others who are engaged in any Church work. I hope all will come. I believe it will strengthen our work.

I am, my dear Friends,

Yours sincerely,

CHARLES R JOB

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**CHRISTMAS LIGHTING-UP PARADE Hampton Hill High Street**  
**Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2005    Shops will be open late**

## BAPTISMAL TEA PARTY

A recent Sunday afternoon saw the annual Baptismal Tea Party take place in church. Sixty or so people enjoyed a very pleasant couple of hours meeting old friends and new. It was also a chance for the children to explore the church and for their parents to browse through the Baptism Register. This was all accompanied by a sumptuous tea, provided by many willing church members.

Thank you very much to every one who helped to make the afternoon another resounding success.

Debbie Nunn

## PARISH VISITORS

We are looking for one or two people to join our team of parish visitors. It is rewarding work, not at all difficult or arduous and we hope it helps our hard worked clergy a little.

Our visiting is mostly to the families of children and infants prior to their baptism, and to the elderly and housebound. We occasionally make hospital visits.

Our baptism visits involve showing the families a welcoming face, answering any questions they may have and telling them about the service. They have already been interviewed by a member of the clergy. It is usually quite straight forward for us and it is a joy to be able to welcome them on the day of baptism and their child as a new member of Christ's body, our church.

Each member of our team has one or two housebound or elderly persons whom they visit as and when they can, fairly regularly. We feel that some of the visitees are quite lonely and would probably be glad of more visitors. Two or three times a year we bring our visitees (those who are able) to the church hall for a tea party. We provide the food and those of us with cars fetch them and take them home. This is also a rewarding activity for us as it seems to give the people great enjoyment. Many of them have known each other for a long time but can no longer get together. We hold a visitors' meeting every two or three months to report or discuss anything that has cropped up. We usually meet on a Sunday after the service. It would be a real help to have one or two more people on our team, so if you would like to give it a try or to know more about it, please telephone Brian (020 8979 2069), or Julie (020 8941 4424) or Greta (020 8979 6222).



**LEAF SWEEP & GUTTER CLEAN**

**from 9.30am on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December**

**All helpers welcome!**

**THREE STUDY EVENINGS**  
based on the book *The Kite Runner* by *Hanif Kureishi*  
Mondays at 8pm in the upper room of the hall  
on 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> November

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Many congratulations to Marjorie Smeed who celebrates her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on 6<sup>th</sup> November.

Thank you to all those who contributed goods and money to our Harvest collection for the Upper Room. The collection taken at the Harvest Service came to £500. This, together with the food, clothes and toiletries will make a huge difference to their work.

Congratulations to Maria Beaumont who has successfully completed her holistic massage course and is now open for business.

Please remember in your prayers Dorothy Edmonds and Rose Frier who have been unwell recently.

We send our best wishes to our young people beginning University courses this term, among whom are: Aneurin Young (medicine at Imperial College London), Ruth Williams (theatre design and costume at Croydon), Andrew Clay (surveying at Bristol), Venetia Barrett (chemistry at New College Oxford), Nadine Rajan (law at the University of Kent at Canterbury), Lucy Newman (geography at Birmingham).

We are very sad to record that Megan Parry, a faithful member of our congregation for many years, has died. We send our love and deepest sympathy to Elizabeth and David and all her family.

Our application for a Civic Pride Award for matched funding has been successful, so we are now able to tidy up the north-west corner of the churchyard.

There has been an attempted break-in to the church and hall recently. Please make sure you lock them completely if you are the last to leave (and take care to secure your own homes, too!).

## **FROM THE REGISTERS**

### **BAPTISM**

18 Noah Thomas Imi, Hampton Hill  
Henry James Ridgley, Teddington

### **WEDDINGS**

3 Joseph Richard Payne and Catherine Elizabeth Jones  
24 David James Clements and Claire Louise Prescott

### **FUNERALS**

19 Jeremy Shales

## **DATES TO NOTE IN NOVEMBER**

- 2 Commemoration of the faithful departed (All Souls Day)  
20.00 Parish Communion - if you have names of those to be remembered  
in this service please contact the parish office as soon as possible  
07.00 am Commuter Communion
- 3 Richard Hooker, priest and teacher, 1600  
14.00 Holy Communion
- 6 **Third Sunday before Advent**  
09.30 Information Service followed by Sale of Charity Christmas cards
- 7 Willibrord of York, Bishop, 739
- 8 Saints and Martyrs of England
- 10 Leo the Great, Bishop of Rome, teacher, 461
- 11 Martin, Bishop of Tours, 397
- 13 **Second Sunday before Advent (Remembrance Sunday)**
- 16 Margaret, Queen of Scotland, reformer of the Church, 1093
- 17 Hugh, Bishop of Lincoln, 1200
- 18 Elizabeth of Hungary, 1231
- 10 Hilda, Abbess of Whitby, 680
- 20 **Christ the King, 09.30 Parish Communion**
- 23 Clement, Bishop and Martyr, 100
- 25 20.00 Concert in Church for piano and cello
- 27 **Advent Sunday 09.30 Parish Communion**
- 28 PCC Meeting
- 30 Andrew the Apostle
- 7 Dec 07.00 am Commuter Communion

**CONFIRMATION** will take place on **SUNDAY 4<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER** at **St MARY'S CHURCH, HAMPTON**. If you are considering Confirmation, please speak to one of the clergy.

### **ALL SOULS**

In the lightness of being our beloved dead  
Have gone beyond our field of sight and sense  
Weightless, free, having shed their burdens  
Asleep in some deep rest - "They are at peace".  
Like us they wait in hope for the sound  
The unimaginable sound heralding]  
Our rising and reunion in the clouds  
Meeting our Lord in untrodden air.

Sometimes it seems such metaphors - frail  
Vehicles of speech are all we have  
Yet in the living context of our faith  
They serve to strengthen and console as  
We kneel to pray for them what we ourselves  
Desire - rest, peace and constant light.

*Dorothy Murray 1994  
South African Associate, CSMV*