

I'm an ESTJ, what are you? Put another way, let's celebrate our differences!

LEADER COLUMN

PETER VANNOZZI



I am an ESTJ. What are you?

This kind of question was not infrequently heard at clergy training events in the 1980s and 1990s. The intention was not to discover what kind of alien being another person was, but rather to identify their personality type.

The 'Myers-Briggs Type Indicator,' (MBTI) used by some in the business world and other walks of life, suddenly landed on 'Planet Church.' A pattern not infrequently observed is that the Church cottons on to something several years after the secular world has forgotten about it.

This is not really fair on the MBTI which, if the internet is anything to go by, is a still much used tool. What is it? Essentially a questionnaire is answered which results in a person being identified as one of sixteen personality types, each referred to by letters - hence 'ESTJ' above.

This was my designation when I undertook a Myers-Briggs workshop some years ago and stands for 'Extrovert-Sensing-Thinking-Judging.' I suggest you have a trawl on the web if you would to find out more!

The danger of such a personality indicator is that people are forced into a mould of someone else's making. It can be very determinist: 'Well, of course you think that, because you are an INFP.'

Yet perhaps there is something in it. I recall at the workshop I attended the 'extroverts' being sent to one end of the room and the 'introverts' to the other.

After about 15 minutes the workshop organiser pointed out that the introverts had just sat silently waiting for the next session, while the extroverts had not stopped talking!

At least the point was made that people are different, and realising why this was could be very helpful.

On 29 June a festival is celebrated that at least partially highlights difference. The differences could have presented dangers, but actually resulted in a great richness in the early Church. The feast is that of Peter and Paul.

Since early on in the Church's life, the two saints have been linked together on 29 June, which tradition holds to be the day of their martyrdom in AD 64. Paul is supposed to have died by the sword, and Peter by being crucified upside down, as he did not feel worthy

to die the same way up as his Lord.

The two men are greatly contrasting. Paul was educated, a pharisee. Peter was uneducated in academic terms, a fisherman. Paul was zealous in matters of faith. Peter was keen, but then denied Jesus three times. Paul never backed away from trouble. Peter ran away.

Paul was not a follower of Jesus during his earthly life. Peter was with him from near the beginning of his ministry. Paul was the apostle to the gentiles. Peter apostle to the Jews. Paul wanted to throw open the doors of the Church to people of every race.

Peter was more cautious, to begin with. Paul articulated and formulated aspects of the Christian faith as we now know it. Peter was the rock on which the Church was built. I wonder what personality type each would have had!

The combining of two quite different men on the one day presents us with a complementary picture.

So often people struggle with difference. Another person's differences may seem to be a threat to me. At worst, I may want to obliterate them so I do not have to see their difference.

The Christian Church and Christians can be as bad as anyone else at failing to perceive the place of all within the Christian and wider communities.

Paul's image of the Church as the Body of Christ should be all we need to know - each part of the body has a unique and honoured place, and each contributes to the good of the whole. Yet this can be a hard thing to hear and to internalise.

Perhaps the celebration of two very different people on the same day can give us some sense of how things should be.

Whether one is an ESTJ, INFP, ENFP, ISTJ, or something else totally different, the complementarity of people within the Body of Christ should be celebrated and not seen as a threat.

Our uniqueness is surely a gift of God along with the place that every person can have within the loving purposes of God.

One book about the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator was entitled *I'm OK - you're OK*. There are limits to the title - what place is there for sin? Are we *really* just all right as we are with no need for change?

Yet it does point to God's unconditional love for us, for **me as me**. That includes ESTJs, INFPs ... and all the rest.



The monthly column of news and events from Hampton Hill and beyond.

We are very pleased that **Jean Western** has now returned home after her successful hip operation. Jean says, 'Thank you to all the people who thought of me, prayed for me, sent cards and flowers and visited me. I felt you were all supporting me.'

The funeral of **Willoughby Goddard** was held in St. James's on 24 April. Although probably best known for his TV work - he is still remembered as Landburger Gessler, the villain of the 1958-59 TV series *William Tell*, and his last appearance on screen in *Porterhouse Blue* in 1987 - he had a long career in theatre, including spells with the RSC, the Royal Court, Chichester, the Old Vic and in the West End. His Mr Bumble in the Broadway production of *Oliver!* was well received. He also played Sir Toby Belch in *Twelfth Night* and the voice for the bear in an advertisement for Fox's Glacier Mints. Throughout his career he made a virtue of his bulk, which brought him a wide variety of character parts. He married the actress Ann Phillips, with whom he had a son.

We were very sorry to hear of the death of **Anne Hale**, who was a regular member of our 8am congregation with her husband Peter. We send our sympathy to Peter and their children David and Caroline.

Congratulations to Tina and Mike Bunce on the arrival of their granddaughter **Mercy Mabel**, a daughter for Bella and Graeme.

The parish **Quiz Night** on 26 April raised £400 for Christian Aid. Thank you to all who supported it. News of the Christian Aid Week collection will be in July's *Spire*.

Thank you to the members of the **Young Church** who took part in a sleep-over and then prepared breakfast on Mother's Day (2 March). They raised a total of £255 for the Bishop's Lent Appeal to build three schools in Angola and Mozambique. Well done!

Alice Taylor, daughter of Rodney and Janet, married Richard Hewitt in Wales on 17 May. We send our congratulations and best wishes for their future together.

*Do you have any news to share?
Send your contributions to Susan Horner.*

Registers

For April:

Baptisms

- 5 Emily Mary Pinsent, Sunbury.
- 27 Nicholas James and Oscar Anthony de Havilland, Hampton Hill.
- 27 Charles Ronald Fox, Hampton.

Wedding

- 5 Daniel O'Connor and Suzanne Nunn.

Funerals

- 3 Rose Eileen Wise, 87, Hampton Hill.
- 24 Willoughby Wittenham Rees Goddard, 81, Twickenham.



YOURS FAITHFULLY

WITH RICHARD MELVILLE

Because I've lived and worshipped in Hampton Hill for so many years, I assume most St James's folk know me - even though I don't know them!

My first association with St James's must have been at infant's stage and learning more about Christianity under the careful, yet cheerful teachings of 'our very own' Betty Stewart - and that was when Sunday School was at 3pm. It really was church three times each Sunday when I became a choirboy here and right through to the time I attained (descended?) to being a bass.

My 'best friend' was the vicar's son and we grew up together. So 'becoming a Christian' in my case was hardly a decision as I knew and know no different. Of course one has doubts - I envy those who don't, either believers or non-believers, but I sympathise with the latter as their lack of faith is often characterised in times of trouble.

Fortunately for me I've not been 'tested' in the way that millions of Christians are daily everywhere in the world, but I do know the difference that being a churchgoer has made to my own little world and for that, I am most truly grateful.

When I was approached with a view to becoming a churchwarden - apart from all the fun and frivolity I was told would accompany such a role - I felt that I would really have to think more about what being a Christian entailed.

It's relatively easy to be a 'Sunday attendee', but when you are expected to represent your faith 'on your sleeve', then that's when comfort zones are eroded. You're never too old or mature to learn from others. Thank you Liz! It's a great life isn't it?

P.S. Don't feel bashful in accosting me any Sunday and introducing yourself - I'm usually at the sound desk at the back, twiddling the controls.



Our mission: not impossible

From influencing Hampton Hill to the world community

In previous issues we have described the work of some of the groups which keep the church running smoothly, and those trying to reach out to the parish as a whole, whether church members or not. Our mission should not, and indeed does not, stop there - we are concerned with the whole Christian church, secular matters, the country and the world. Mission implies active participation, and where we can, however modestly, we try to exert a Christian influence on this wider community. This is sometimes by active membership of other organisations, sometimes by gifts. In the final part of this series, we look at some of our links to the wider church and world community.

Schools

For many years St. James's Church has had connections with local schools, centres of the wider community of the parish. Peter Vannozi is a governor and vice-chair of the Governing Body of Hampton Hill Junior School, and regularly goes into the school for assemblies.

Classes from the school also visit the church as part of their religious education. Peter also visits Carlisle Infant School.

Lady Eleanor Holles School welcomes Peter to the junior department to take assemblies and into the senior school twice a term for the celebration of Holy Communion.

Recently the Revd. Julie Gittoes and Peter have visited Hampton Community College together, and they hope to work jointly with the college.

The Deanery Synod

A deanery synod is a part of the government of the Church of England. A 'deanery' is a collection of parishes, and 'synod' means 'council.'

The synod consists of all licensed clergy and a certain number of lay representatives from each parish in the deanery. Deanery synod members are the electorate for the diocesan synod and the



BEHIND THE SCENES

CHURCHATWORK

PART SEVEN: KEEPING IN TOUCH/WIDER LINKS

General Synod. St. James's is in Hampton Deanery and elects five lay members to the Deanery Synod.

A deanery synod does not have a great deal of power, but can have influence when significant matters are referred to it by a diocesan synod or the General Synod. It provides a forum for the sharing of information between churches locally, and between the diocese and national church, and the local church.

Churches Together around Hampton

Churches Together locally is part of the wider Churches Together in England, seeking to bring together different Christian denominations.

In Hampton, Churches Together holds regular meetings of the ministers of the eight member churches, and holds a forum several times a year bringing together lay people and clergy. There are shared activities, such as Christian Aid Week, and the distribution of hot cross buns to commuters in Holy Week.



Peter Vannozi with Hampton Hill Junior School Head Teacher Bill Jerman

ALMA reminds churches in two very different settings of their oneness in the Body of Christ

ALMA

The Angola-London-Mozambique-Association had its origins in a link between the Anglican Dioceses of Angola and Mozambique and the Willesden Area of the London Diocese.

In 1998 this became a diocese-wide link and a covenant was signed by the bishops committing the dioceses to a mutually enriching partnership.

The tenth anniversary will be celebrated with a special service at St. Paul's Cathedral on Sunday 13 July at 6pm. ALMA reminds churches in two very different settings of their oneness in the Body of Christ, and the common commitment to the gospel of Jesus Christ.

St. James's supported the diocese-wide Lent Appeal in 2008 for money to build schools in

Angola and Mozambique. Look out in the July issue of *The Spire* for more about ALMA.

Church Missionary Society (CMS)

The Church Missionary Society is an organization that is dedicated to mission. CMS supports 700 people in mission and works in over 50 countries around the world, with offices in Singapore, Seoul, Nairobi, Cape Coast and a headquarters in Oxford.

We, as a church, support CMS through our annual donation. This money helps sponsor Joanne Udal in Sudan. Her letters are posted on the church notice board regularly.

CMS is focusing on the Five Marks of Mission in 2008 as a Lambeth Conference takes place this year. The five marks are 'Proclaim, Teach, Respect, Seek and Renew'. Nothing can be done without money so fund-raising is important. Later this month there will be a sponsored climb of Ben Nevis. Individually people can make annual donations to help the organisation.

Look out for the regular CMS magazine which Gwynneth Lloyd, our church contact, leaves at the back of the church and the monthly *Prayerlines* booklet next to the vestry.

United Nations Association

St James's Church is affiliated to a local branch of the United Nations Association which generally exists to promote the work of the UN. Our church representative is Dennis Wilmot.

This very active branch of UNA has a new chairman, Councillor Virginia Morris, and has just won the region's important Steven's trophy for its work.

The branch is currently looking for ways to celebrate the 60th anniversary of one of the UN's most important instruments, The Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Recent activities included an address by Zac Goldsmith, Director of *The Ecologist* magazine, about how to make a difference to the environment at the local level.

The branch works with up to four local schools during the summer term using Model UN General Assemblies, where students represent different countries, debating an issue like climate change.



Perhaps he's heard that we're losing our churchwarden

ECOGROUP

WITH CATHERINE GASH

Recycle your mobile phone

If you have a new mobile phone, please don't throw your old one away! It can be recycled to benefit a charity. On the Eco-group noticeboard (in the Church Hall corridor), you will find a selection of freepost envelopes for recycling phones - please help yourself!

Dalai Lama - A Wise Man from the East?

'It is fascinating. In the West, you have bigger homes, yet smaller families; you can travel anywhere in the world, yet you don't cross the road to meet your neighbours; you have more food than you can eat, yet that makes many who are overweight miserable. I don't think people have become more selfish, but their lives have become easier and that has spoilt them. Too much choice brings no real freedom.'

Green Tips for a better world

Lights Out

Turn the lights out every time you leave a room. A fluorescent light left on for 15 minutes uses 500 times more energy than if temporarily switched off. Energy-saving bulbs last ten times longer than conventional ones and use 75% less power. They cost more, so concentrate on rooms that are most in use.



Meeting of Parishioners

The Meeting of Parishioners was held on the 20 April, attended by about 50 parishioners and chaired by the Vicar.

The main business was to elect the two churchwardens for the coming year. **Elizabeth Wilmot** was re-elected. **Liz Butler**, having served for the customary five years, did not stand for re-election. Elizabeth Wilmot thanked for her cheerful and unstinting hard work during her whole period of office, in particular for the extra duties entailed during the interregnum. A presentation was made on our behalf.

Richard Melville was elected and will serve with Elizabeth. Richard has lived in the parish for most of his life and has actively assisting in the running of the church for many years.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)

The APCM followed immediately afterwards. The minutes of the last meeting were agreed, and the numbers of the revised Electoral Roll presented. There are now 257 members, up from 235.

The election of the PCC followed. This consists of the Vicar, the two churchwardens, our five elected representatives on the Deanery Synod, all as ex-officio members; also up to 11 ordinary elected members. An additional two members may also be co-opted to the PCC.

The five Deanery Synod members were elected unopposed. They are: **Liz Butler, Lesley Mortimer, Ann Peterken, Pip Rowett and Rodney Taylor**. The ordinary members were elected unopposed. They are: **Nick Bagge, Clive Beaumont, Jennifer Greville-Giddings, Martin and Prill Hinkley** (shared membership), **Gwynneth Lloyd, Susannah Nettleton, Janet Nunn, Betty Rainbow, Coryn Robinson, David Taylor and Dick Wilde**. At the later PCC meeting **Anne Cowlin** was co-opted as a member.

A list of those volunteering to act as sidespersons was agreed by the meeting.

A report from the churchwardens was presented by Liz Wilmot, followed by one from Janet Nunn, the secretary of the PCC, outlining the major business conducted over the past year.

Treasurer Anne Cowlin said there had been heavy unexpected expenditure over the past year due mainly to problems with the finalisation of the contract with the builders of the West Porch. Due to this unusual expense we had a net loss of liquid assets.

Had there not been these problems there would have been a small gain. The inspection of accounts had not yet been completed, so the APCM would have to re-convene formally to approve them.

The Vicar's report outlined the progress of our Mission Action Plan, the work of our Eco Group, our co-operation with the Greenwood Centre and the Voluntary Care Group. He was pleased that the financial problems surrounding the West Porch construction were almost at an end. He said that a new curate might be assigned to us next year.

The new PCC met afterwards and **Janet Nunn** was appointed as its secretary. **Anne Cowlin** was co-opted and appointed as treasurer. A Standing Committee was also appointed.

YOUNG SPIRE

WITH PRILL HINCKLEY



What Priests Wear

- There are special terms for the clothes worn by priests and others when they are 'on duty'.
Draw arrows from the pictures to the correct titles and descriptions

Cope

Stole

Alb

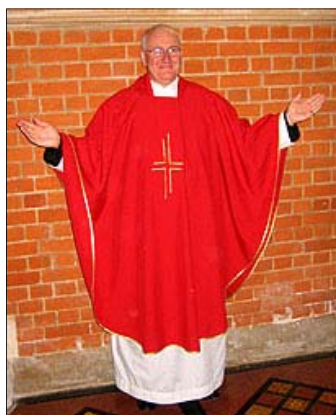
Cassock

Hood

Clergy Shirt

Chasuble

Surplice



Over the cassock the priest puts on a loose tunic made of white linen or cotton, with wide or moderately wide sleeves, reaching to the hips or to the knee. Over this the priest wears a long black scarf.

This is traditionally a black shirt with a white collar. The dog collar is its nickname.

The priest puts this on first. It is a plain, black, lightweight, ankle-length garment with long sleeves and fastening up to the neck. Bishops wear a purple one. Our choir members wear blue ones with white surplices.

Over the alb and stole the priest wears a special coloured, ornate, circular garment with a hole in the centre for the wearer's head. This can be one of four colours depending on the time in the Church Year.

Over the alb the priest wears a long, narrow garment draped around the neck so that it hangs down in front of the wearer. This can be one of four colours depending on the time in the Church Year.

This is a very long cloak, open in front and of any liturgical colour. It may be worn on festal occasions, at any act of worship or during a procession.

When wearing the black scarf, the priest may also wear this.

The priest wears this for Holy Communion. It is a plain, white, lightweight, ankle-length tunic with long sleeves. It is generally worn with a rope girdle tied around the waist.

If you need help, go to the appropriate page on the Young St. James's section of the website.

By Betty Rainbow

A few weeks ago our friend Tony Sursham, a retired architect and artist, invited us to accompany him on a week's cruise around the Aegean Sea, visiting lands in Greece and Turkey where St. Paul had taken his vibrant message on his second and third missionary journeys.

As you can imagine, we were delighted to join him and found ourselves in the last week of March flying to Athens and later that day, joining the cruise ship *M/v Cristal* in Piraeus.

There were a few hundred people on the ship, many Americans and Greeks and some British. Our party numbered about 30 and had been organised by Crimson Holidays, a Christian travel agency started by Bob Fleming to introduce 'ordinary people, including those with no particular faith, to the gospel and to the lands of the Bible'.

On the first day we were able to see the city of Athens by coach and then walked up to Mars Hill where St. Paul had preached 'to the giants of philosophy, logic and learning' while awaiting the arrival of Silas and Timothy.

Then we left for the harbour and joined the ship, finding our way to our cabin - all fresh experience for us! Dinner was at 6.30pm. By this time we had begun to meet our party. We marvelled at the standards in the dining rooms in feeding so many.

Next morning we were up early to join the excursion by coach to see other parts of Athens and also to climb up to the magnificent Acropolis, high above the city. Joining the coach again we left for Corinth, a major trading city where Paul had stayed. We visited the ruins of the city and crossed the narrow nine-mile long canal.

The travel pattern had begun to emerge. We would sail at night and arrive in the next port of call in the morning. And so we found ourselves at Thessaloniki, the second city of Greece, founded in 316 BC, and in Paul's day on a bustling trade route.

Here we saw the ancient city walls, a wonderful Byzantine orthodox church and a more modern memorial to Paul where, to our amazement, Paul appeared and spoke - a clever, inspired actor!

We also visited Vergina, ancient site of Aigai and the first capital of Macedonia, where there are extensive ruins and a museum of excavated, golden treasures.

Next day we arrived in Kavala. It was built on the ancient city of Neopoli where Paul, Timothy and Silas landed after a two-day journey from Troas. A most memorable experience was to walk on the Egnatia, the Roman road where Paul had walked.

We saw the ruins of Philippi, then moved to the river Gangites, the probable site where Lydia, the woman who sold purple cloth, got baptised and changed. We read from Acts 16, including the moving story of how Paul and friends were thrown into prison, miraculously released and went to Lydia's home.

This is a wonderful story of the early Church. A beautiful, fairly modern Orthodox

Ephesus



Journeying across Greece and Turkey Following St Paul

church has been erected close to the river where anyone can bring their baby to be christened. The church has modern stained glass windows depicting Paul and Lydia. For us the visit to the river was one of the highlights of the trip.

Then we sailed for Istanbul, former capital of the Byzantine empire and still the centre of the Greek Orthodox Church even though since 1453 the city has been in Moslem hands - truly East meets West.

There were wonderful buildings to see - a feast of history. We visited the Blue Mosque with its six minarets. We saw St. Sophia, built around 537 AD and which for a thousand years was the largest church in Christendom. Then it became a mosque and is now the Museum of Byzantine Art!



Then on to Topkapi Palace, once home to royal Sultans. There was a magnificent treasury of jewels and jewelled objects. After that the Grand Bazaar where we got a sense of the hustle and bustle of this most interesting city - and bought Turkish delight.

Still in Turkey, our ship sailed into Dikili visiting Pergamum where the gospel had been preached at an early stage.

The following day we arrived at Kusadasi, a fine port from which we could visit the magnificent ruins of Ephesus. Only 40 per cent of Ephesus has been excavated and there is a steady programme of work to be carried out.

The amphitheatre can hold 24,000 people. It had been a major excursion from the ship and some one thousand of us took part in a late Easter communion service there, led by an Episcopalian bishop from America and assisted by pastors and clergy from different denominations. It was a sunny if cool day and a great experience to remember that Paul had often preached there.

We took to the bus again and, after a most

delicious lunch in a Turkish restaurant, we stopped at Mount Koressos. Situated in a small valley, here we went to visit a humble chapel on the site of the little house where Mary resided after the crucifixion, looked after by John. It is believed she spent her last days there. It is cared for by a small order of nuns.

What struck us was the peace of the area, the absolute stillness. Despite controversies, the Christian world still favours this belief that Mary lived there and the site has been officially sanctioned by the Vatican. The present and previous Popes have visited it. Outside Ephesus there are impressive ruins of the Basilica of St. John.

Just to keep us in touch with realities of 21st Century living, we visited a carpet showroom offering the best Turkish carpets. A delightful girl demonstrated how the carpets are made - always a double knot is used!

As you can imagine, all these sights and experiences caused much discussion and we enjoyed conversations with the rest of the party at dinner back on the ship, invariably quite wide-ranging too.

Bob Fleming travelled with us. Each evening he gave an introductory talk to all the parties giving information about what we would see and experience the following day. There was also a Baptist pastor and his wife in our group who gave leadership and much care. They were widely experienced - he from Edinburgh and she from Northern Ireland.

There was an opportunity most days before dinner for the group to meet - or those who wished to - to attend a bible study given by the pastor as well as time for informal prayer.

The final full day of our holiday had arrived and we were visiting the island of Patmos. It was a gloriously sunny day and we enjoyed the steep climb up to the monastery, founded in 1088 in honour of St. John the Divine and it has been a place of scholarship and religious enlightenment ever since.

We saw the museum full of treasures - books, manuscripts, mosaics, icons, medieval textiles and vestments. Here it is said St. John dictated the book of Revelations in AD95.

Close by the monastery was the Grotto of the Apocalypse. We walked down 44 steps to visit the cave and saw the niches in the wall that mark the pillow and ledge used as a desk. The cave was a lovely chapel. We noted the three-fold crack made 'by the Voice of God emphasising the honour of the Trinity - Father, Son and Holy Spirit'.

Next day we disembarked and returned to Athens for the flight home.

You will have to search elsewhere to study St. Paul himself. We just had a glimmer often from comfort of what the journeys must have been like - long distances and great hardship with many difficult people and situations to face. At the same time much joy when people like Lydia were moved to follow Jesus.

We are now taking more time to read the Acts which are really the story of the foundation of the Early Church. We are so grateful to have experienced this journey.