

**Coming soon:
New Season of
Faith at
Work
See Page 7**

FEBRUARY 2014

thespire

stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk

FREE — please take a copy

INSIDE

Opinion

**Dementia, the Pope
and the growing divide
between rich and poor**

Ethical Investments

The right way to profit



Streams in the desert

Women's World Day of Prayer from Egypt

LEADER P3 ■ NEWS P4 ■ AROUND THE SPIRE P5 ■ WHAT'S ON P7

Our Church

Registered Charity No 1129286

Clergy

Vicar

The Revd Peter Vannozi (pictured, right)
Peter was born in Hanwell in 1962, but owes his surname to his Italian great-grandfather. He was ordained in 1987. Peter is a Governor of Hampton Hill Junior School and a Trustee of the Hampton and Hampton Hill Voluntary Care Group.
Telephone: 020 8979 2069
Email: vicar@stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk



Curate

The Revd David Bell
David was born in Skipton in 1952. He is a self-supporting minister, ordained in June 2012, and working during the week in events sponsorship management.
Telephone: 077 1057 2498
Email: davidbell@stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk

Parish Office



Administrator

Nickie Jones

For all general enquiries and hall bookings. The office is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings.

Telephone: 020 8941 6003
Email: office@stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk
Address: St James's Church, 46 St James's Road, Hampton Hill TW12 1DQ

Officials



Churchwarden

Carole Greville-Giddings
Carole has a background in social work, helps run The Ark, and is a chorister.
Telephone: 020 8979 6592
Email: carole.g-g@hotmail.co.uk



Churchwarden

Nick Bagge
Nick is a former television journalist, now working at a local theatre.
Telephone: 020 8783 0871
Email: Nickbagge1@aol.com



Treasurer

Don Barrett
Don works for the Church Commissioners for England, who manage £5bn of assets for the Church of England.
Telephone: 020 8979 3331
Email: donbarrett8@blueyonder.co.uk



Organist / Choirmaster

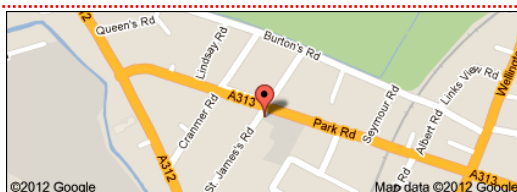
Samuel Draper
Sam joined St James's in October 2010, after graduating from the Royal College of Music.
Telephone: 020 8892 4957

GET INVOLVED

- The more **volunteers**, the more we can do
- Support us by **regular giving**, it's easy to do
- Leave a **gift in your will**, a lasting legacy

Finding us

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



Bell Ringing Susan Horner 020 8979 9380

Brownies Girlguiding.org.uk or 0800 1 69 59 01

Charities and Links Committee
Ann Peterken 020 8891 5862

Children's Champion
Stuart Richardson 020 8890 4854

Church Cleaning Margaret Taylor 020 8979 3961

Church Flowers
Coryn Robinson 020 8979 6786

Churches Together Around Hampton
Ann Peterken 020 8891 5862

Deanery Synod Lesley Mortimer 020 8941 2345

Electoral Roll Nickie Jones 020 8941 6003

Eco-Group Catherine Gash 020 8783 0563

Guides Girlguiding.org.uk or 0800 1 69 59 01

Hall Bookings Nickie Jones 020 8941 6003

Hall Tea / Coffee Rotas
Clare Ryan 079 7234 7956

Mission Partner Link Liz Wilmot 020 8977 9434

Mozambique/Angola Link
Gwynneth Lloyd 020 8943 0709

Music and Worship Committee
Peter Vannozi 020 8979 2069

PCC Secretary Jane Gibson, by email:
janealgibson@hotmail.co.uk

Pew Sheet Nickie Jones 020 8941 6003

Planned Giving Committee
Gwynneth Lloyd 020 8943 0709

Properties Committee
Bryan Basdell 020 8979 2040

Safeguarding Officer
Jane Newman 020 8979 6154

Scout Group Paul Fitchett 020 8941 7186

Servers Lesley Mortimer 020 8941 2345

Sidespersons Janet Taylor 020 8979 0046

Social Committee
Vacant (contact Parish Office)

St James's Ark
Debbie Nunn 020 8979 3078

St James's Players Martin Hinckley 020 8979 0528

Sunday School Catherine Gash 020 8783 0563

Tools with a Mission Janet Nunn 020 8979 6325

Theatre Club Peter Hale 020 979 9287

Visitors' Group Liz Wilmot 020 8977 9434

From the Editor

Our 150th Anniversary celebrations finished in December with the visit of the Bishop of London. After Parish Communion he renamed the hall the Fitz Wygram Hall after our first vicar. On 12 December, the exact day our church opened in 1863, Peter celebrated Holy Communion in the morning, and in the evening the Voluntary Care Group held their annual Carol Concert with the boys from the Chapel Royal Hampton Court as guests. This was a fitting end to celebrations and in the spirit of our first vicar.

This year we have several changes planned for The Spire. The first, *Recipe for Life*, appears this month on Page 6. Griselda Barratt will be featuring recipes connected to religious events celebrated in the particular month. Her first celebrates Candlemas. We hope you enjoy these recipes and will perhaps have a go at making them.

This month we are planning to update our distribution lists and we must say a big 'thank you' to all the people who help deliver The Spire each issue. We shall be contacting those of you who receive The Spire through the door to make sure our lists are still up-to-date.

Best wishes

Janet

Janet Nunn



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.

STORIES, FEATURES

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

Telephone: 020 8979 6325
Email: janunh@btinternet.com

AROUND THE SPIRE

If you have any news, please contact Susan Horner.
Email: smhorner5@yahoo.co.uk

WHAT'S ON

Griselda Barrett is listings editor. If you have an event to be considered for inclusion, contact her.
Email: griseldabarrett@blueyonder.co.uk

WEBSITE / SPIRE BY EMAIL / YOUNG SPIRE

Prill Hinckley is webmaster. If you would like to receive the magazine by email, please contact her. Prill also compiles the Young Spire page.
Email: p.m.hinckley@blueyonder.co.uk

CIRCULATION

the **spire** is available free from church and other outlets. It is also delivered across the parish and posted further afield. Contact Susan Horner:
Telephone: 020 8979 9380
Email: smhorner5@yahoo.co.uk
Write to: 5 St James's Avenue, Hampton Hill, Middlesex TW12 1HH

NEXT ISSUE / COPY DEADLINE

The March issue will be published on 1 March. All copy must be with us by **Tuesday 4 February**.

Credits

PRODUCTION

Design Nick Bagge
Proofreaders Susan Horner and Dick Wilde

PUBLISHING

Printer Justin Hollingsworth 020 8686 4481

the **spire** magazine is printed on paper that is sourced from well-managed forests, as laid down by the Forest Stewardship Council.



© St James's Church 2014. Unauthorised reproduction in whole or part is prohibited without written permission from the editor.

Manuscripts, photographs and artwork are accepted on the basis that the **spire** does not accept liability for loss or damage to them. We cannot print anything subject to copyright. Views expressed in the **spire** are not necessarily those of the PCC of St James.

Please recycle this magazine after use



Come and worship with us!



Sundays

8am Holy Communion
9.30am Parish Communion

Sunday 2 February

Candlemas
The Presentation of Christ in the Temple
Malachi 3.1-5; Hebrews 2.14-end;
Luke 2.22-40

Sunday 9 February

4th Sunday before Lent
Isaiah 58.1-9a; 1 Corinthians 2.1-12;
Matthew 5.13-20

Sunday 16 February

3rd Sunday before Lent
Deuteronomy 30.15-end; 1 Corinthians 3.1-9;
Matthew 5.21-37

Sunday 23 February

2nd Sunday before Lent
Genesis 1.1-2.3; Romans 8.18-25;
Matthew 6.25-end

Mondays-Fridays (not Tues)

9.15am Morning Prayer

Tuesdays

9.30am Holy Communion

1st Thursday in month

6 February
2pm Holy Communion

Next Month

5 March Ash Wednesday
30 March Mothering Sunday
(British Summer Time begins)

DETAILS OF SPECIAL SERVICES AND LOCAL EVENTS ARE ON PAGE SEVEN

Shining a light on the world



*If Candlemas Day be fair and bright
Winter will have another fight.
If Candlemas Day brings cloud and rain,
Winter won't come again.*

Midway between the Winter Solstice (the shortest day of the year) and the Spring Equinox, Candlemas on 2 February had attached to it various proverbs, such as that above. The association of some Christian festivals with the seasons (at least in the northern hemisphere) was perhaps inevitable as the Church often borrowed the dates of pre-existing festivals, and changed them into Christian observances.

This can either be seen as good politics on the part of church leaders in times past, or as compromising Christian distinctiveness, depending on your point of view.

Yet for all this, Candlemas is a distinctively Christian festival, based on an incident in the New Testament, and the use of candles, certainly not something that is exclusively Christian, is an enhancement of the day, but not its meaning. It is also known as the Presentation of Christ in the Temple and the Purification of St. Mary the Virgin.

If we read Luke's gospel, chapter 2, verses 22-40, we find the story of Jesus being brought to the Temple in Jerusalem by Mary and Joseph. In accordance with their religious law, Mary had to be purified after childbirth (a practice that seems in stark contrast to celebrating the gift of a new life), and Jesus is presented to God, again following custom.

The family occasion is interrupted by two elderly people, Simeon and Anna, who in their different ways acclaim Jesus as someone rather extraordinary. He is light and glory. The words of Simeon came to be used in evening Christian worship, and are known as the *Nunc Dimittis*.

YouTube has many fine settings of the words and here is one: www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ov9la3dxiKQ

The custom of candles being blessed and carried on this day comes from the description of Jesus by Simeon. In recent decades, the use of candles on this festival has become more widespread in the Church of England. It is also seen now as a turning point in the Christian year, and not just in the annual cycle of the seasons. Why?

Charity Box Food Storehouse, Feltham

Food banks have existed for many years, but have become more numerous in the UK since the global financial crisis began in 2008. Some act as warehouses for other organisations, but others give out food directly to those who need it. In our local area, the closest food bank is based at the Riverside Vineyard Church in Feltham. Storehouse is a project that reaches out to those in need in our local communities. It is made up of Children's Storehouse, which provides children's clothes, toys and equipment to



families in need, and Food Storehouse, which provides emergency food packages to help when times are tough. All of this is provided free of charge to those in need of help. It operates on the basis of professional referrals. Our Parochial Church Council decided that a food bank was something we wanted to support, and this began in December. It is seen as an expression of support to people in need, and we are happy to support a church of another Christian tradition in its valuable and practical work. A box for donations can be found in the baptistry.

Candlemas is best described as 'bittersweet.' Even as Jesus is celebrated as a 'light to the world' and the 'glory of God's people Israel' Simeon turns to Mary and predicts that she will suffer. The day looks back to the joy of Christmas, but also forward to the sadness of Good Friday.

Birth and death come together at Candlemas with no hint of sentimentality. Not for one moment is a believer in Christ let off the hook — the cross cannot be ignored. A modern hymn puts it like this:

*The candles invite us to praise and to pray
when Christmas greets Easter on Candlemas Day.*

So as the days lengthen (at least for those of us this side of the equator) and the hope of Spring approaches, we are brought face-to-face with the complex character of Jesus.

The different sides of Jesus, leading to both joy and sorrow, are realistic. Jesus's life was lived out in the real world of our human experience. Here and now lives are complicated and varied. Emotions and experiences are often contradictory, and have to be held in tension.

For me, these are held in the Person of Jesus. In him, bright and glorious, but also bleeding and dying, I see the complexity of my own human existence. This gives me hope and the lighting of candles at Candlemas is not to make us feel warm and cosy, but rather challenge us once more about how we respond to Jesus.

If he is what he is said to be, what will I do? Perhaps become more aware of the world in which we live, that needs light in the darkness of so many conflicts, and ways forward to be found?

Another modern hymn puts it like this:

*Longing for light,
we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth,
we turn to you...
Longing for peace,
our world is troubled.
Longing for hope,
many despair...
Christ be our light,
shine in our hearts,
shine through the darkness...*

Candlemas Day brings together these themes at a turn of the year.



Thought & Prayer

Taking time to talk to God

Prayers for Candlemas

Here are some prayers for personal use:



Everlasting Light

Lord God,
you are the source of everlasting light.
Your son, our beloved Lord Jesus
was presented in the temple
forty days after his birth.
He was recognised by Simeon and Anna,
and welcomed as the promised Messiah.
May we, like them, behold the glory of the Lord Jesus.
Grant that we may stand before you
with hearts cleansed by your forgiving love.
May we serve you all our days
and make your name known
as we worship you as our Lord.
So may we come by your grace
to eternal life .
Amen.

Eyes of Faith

Lord give us the eyes of faith,
to see your presence in the world.
Where fear closes our eyes, help us.
Where tears blind us, heal us.
Where busyness keeps us from noticing, slow us.
Where pride gets in the way, release us
Set us free to see your love at work in the world.
Amen.

Help Us to Share

Help us to share friendship with people who live in
countries where there is war. May all people live in
peace. Hear me Jesus

Help us to share friendship with people who are
starving. May all people have enough to eat.
Hear me Jesus

Help us to share friendship with people who are
homeless. May all people have safe and loving
homes. Hear me Jesus

Help us to share friendship with people who are sick
without medicine. May all people receive medical
help when they are sick. Hear me Jesus



Bishop Richard ends celebrations



THE BISHOP OF LONDON visited St. James's on Sunday 8 December for a service of thanksgiving to mark our church's 150th anniversary.

The Rt Revd Richard Chartres was following in the footsteps of his predecessors Archibald Campbell Tait who, on 11 December 1863, came to consecrate the new church of St. James and institute Fitzroy John Fitz Wygram as the first vicar; and of David Hope, who laid the dedication stone of the church hall in 1993.

Bishop Richard was joined by the Mayor of Richmond, Cllr. Meena Bond, Twickenham MP and Business Secretary Vince Cable, and friends and supporters from the local community.

The service began with a piece specially written by composer Brendan Ashe.

Bishop Richard entered through the west door and greeted us. In his sermon, Bishop Richard spoke of what had happened in 1863 – amongst other things, the first section of the Tube was opened, and the Red Cross and Football Association were founded. He said that the Church needs to recover the right sort of confidence, practise compassion, and be open to creativity. So close to Christmas, the bishop reminded us of God's generosity seen in Jesus, and the way in which he embodies God's plan for humanity.



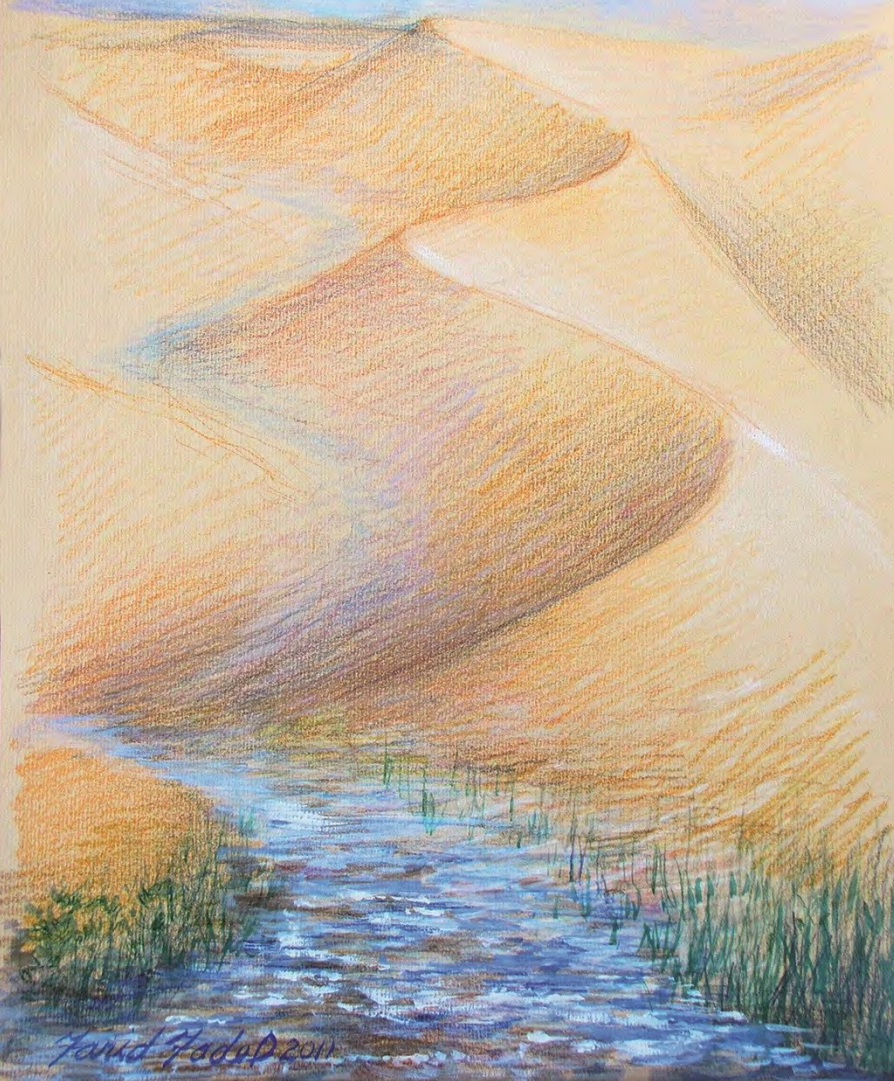
'The 2000 years since the birth of Christ can be viewed as a dreary round of greed and violence, deaf to the love-song of the angels. But there is an energy in the world which flows from the generosity of God who, when he communicated, came in person to draw us into his way of compassion. He is the hope of the world. He is the hope which you determined should be visible in Hampton Hill.'

Music featured strongly in the service — the Choristers of Hampton Hill Junior School sang *The Lord Bless You and Keep You* by John Rutter, and the church choir sang two pieces set to music by Charles Villiers Stanford, Psalm 150 and *Te Deum* in Bb. Joyful singing of hymns combined with this to make it a great occasion of thanksgiving.

After the service, the bishop renamed the church hall the 'Fitz Wygram Hall' accompanied by the mayor and two church members — one aged 8 and one 89! The occasion was a fitting way to crown the year's events and fundraising for the Hampton and Hampton Hill Voluntary Care Group, based at the Greenwood Centre.



The source of



This year's Women's World Day of Prayer service will be on Friday 7 March. It comes from Egypt, where huge changes following the Arab Spring are now causing great instability. Catherine Gash explores the movement's history and the theme of this year's service — the River Nile, the source of the country's life and well-being.



What will you be doing on the first Friday in March? To me, in common with many others, that date means only one thing — the Women's World Day of Prayer, which is held every year on that day in more than 170 countries all over the world.

What is it all about?

Women's World Day of Prayer is a global, ecumenical movement, bringing together Christian women of different races, cultures and traditions in a yearly, common day of prayer.

Through preparation and participation in the worship service, women worldwide learn how their sisters of other countries, languages and cultures understand the biblical passages in their context. They learn of the concerns and needs of those women, to empathize with their problems and to pray with, and for, them.

The powerful motto of WWDP, *Informed Prayer and Prayerful Action*, demonstrates that prayer and action are inseparable and that both have immeasurable influence in the world.

How it all began

The origins of WWDP date back to 19th century North America. In the 1880s, women in the Presbyterian, Methodist and Baptist churches began calling for organised days of prayer for home and foreign missions. This movement soon spread to the Anglican Church of Canada and by 1922, the day of prayer began to be celebrated on the first Friday of Lent.

In 1926 the women of North America distributed the worship service to many countries and partners in mission. The response worldwide was enthusiastic and Women's World Day of Prayer came into being.

The movement arrived in the British Isles in 1930 when the first services were held in Scotland, with England following suit in 1932.

The movement's focus on ecumenism and reconciliation led to great growth during and after the Second World War, drawing women together in prayer and fellowship. Roman Catholic women were able to take a full part in the day of prayer in 1967, after the second Vatican Council.

all Egypt's life



In 1982 the service was prepared by the women of Ireland, both north and south. This striking logo was designed for this service — it represents women kneeling in prayer all around the globe, N, S, E and W, with the cross at the centre.



'It is quite sobering to think what life would be like here in the UK if water were to be as scarce as it is in Egypt'

Is it just for women?

No! The service is certainly prepared by women, but in many countries, including the US and Scotland, it is simply called *World Day of Prayer*. In England, we do regularly debate the issue of retaining 'women' in the name.

In 2012, all the local committees were asked to discuss the pros and cons of this. In Hampton, we felt strongly that we should keep the word 'women' in the name, partly as a gesture of solidarity with all those women around the world who are disadvantaged and have no opportunity to speak for themselves. This view was endorsed nationally with a 90% vote in favour of keeping the name as it is.

The service, however, is for EVERYONE! So if you are not female, don't worry, you'll still receive a very warm welcome!

An international perspective

The service is written by women of a different country each year and that country then becomes the focus of the world's prayers on the day itself, which begins as dawn breaks over the islands of Tonga in the Pacific and continues across each continent until the last services of this special day are held back in the Pacific, on the islands of Western Samoa, thus circling the world in prayer for 36 hours.

WWDP is now celebrated in over 170 countries, with more than 5000 services each year taking place in Britain alone. In recent years services have been prepared by the women of Cameroon (2010), Chile (2011), Malaysia (2012), and last year, France.

Each service has a theme which is relevant to that particular country — the French theme was *I was a stranger and you welcomed me*, addressing the issue of immigration and asylum, something that is very relevant to us in Britain, too.

Streams in the Desert

This is the title of the service for March 2014, prepared by the Christian women of Egypt.

The theme is a difficult concept to appreciate when



The River Nile

we in this country have had so much rainfall, but it is quite sobering to think what life would be like if water were to be scarce.

Egypt is a country steeped in ancient history but where huge changes are taking place. The Egyptian committee wrote this service at a time of great hope, just after the Arab Spring, but with the current upheavals in the country, the people of Egypt need our prayers more than ever.

Come and join us on 7 March!

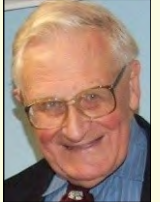
Our services this year will be held at All Saints' Church, 10 The Avenue, Hampton TW12 3RS on **Friday 7 March at 2pm and 7.30pm**. Please come along to either of those (or there is also a service at 10.30am in the Twickenham area). You will find the service interesting, thought-provoking and moving. I hope to see you there!



John Rainbow dies, aged 92

WE WERE very sad to learn of the death of **John Rainbow** on Boxing Day at the age of 92. John has been a member of our congregation for more than 20 years and will be much missed. We send our love and sympathy to Betty at this sad time.

A service of thanksgiving for his life took place at St. James's Church on 13 January. There will be a fuller tribute to John in the next issue of *The Spire*.



New Area Dean is Joe Moffatt



THE REVD JOE MOFFATT is to be Area Dean of Hampton from Easter, in succession to the Revd Derek Winterburn.

Joe is Vicar of St. Mary with St. Alban, Teddington. As Area Dean he will have responsibility within Hampton Deanery and be part of the Bishop of Kensington's Leadership Team.

Ruth Gostling's 90th birthday

CONGRATULATIONS to **Ruth Gostling**, who celebrated her 90th birthday on 26 November. After a spell of poor health at the end of last year, we have been very pleased to see her back in church again in recent weeks.

Ruth and Jack, pictured, now have



further cause for celebration as their granddaughter-in-law, **Liv Lorent**, left, artistic director of Ballet Lorent, was awarded an MBE for services to dance in the New Year's Honours list.



Confirmations at St Paul's



FOUR WORSHIPPERS from St James's Church took a significant step in their Christian lives on 15 November when they were confirmed by the Bishop of Kensington, the Rt Revd Paul Williams, at St Paul's Cathedral.

Congratulations to **Anna Clark**, **Kirstie Craig** (not pictured), **Emily Glover** and **Rosie Orkney**, who were among the 66 candidates, widely ranging in age, for the ceremony, during which Bishop Paul laid his hands on their heads, bestowing the gift of the Holy Spirit. They were then able to celebrate their first communion.

The service reminded all present that we are part of a wider community of Christians in London, and throughout the world.

Shell Seekers' sale raises £200

WELL DONE to our Sunday School, the **Shell Seekers**, pictured below, who raised just over £200 from their sale of cards, cakes and crafts in December. This was sent to the eXcel Project (XLP), a charity which helps to transform the attitudes, behaviour and aspirations of young people, mentioned by Bishop Richard at our anniversary service. XLP serves young people in schools and communities across seven inner-London boroughs.





Candlemas

When is Candlemas?

A long time ago, Christians finished the Christmas season on the festival of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple, or Candlemas.

This is on 2 February, exactly 40 days after Christmas Day. It is always celebrated on the nearest Sunday.

What does Candlemas mean?

Jesus is described in the New Testament as the Light of the World. Early Christians developed the tradition of lighting many candles to celebrate this day and this custom is still followed today by many congregations. The Church also developed the custom of blessing the year's supply of candles for the church on this day. *Mas* means Mass, or Holy Communion, — hence the name Candlemas for this point in the Christian Calendar.

Why do we celebrate Candlemas?



St. Luke's gospel tells us about the *Presentation of Christ in the Temple* when Mary and Joseph took the baby Jesus to the temple in Jerusalem 40 days after his birth. He was described as the Light of the World.



The Story

The baptistry windows behind the font (see below) show the story of Jesus being presented in the Temple. The centre window has the infant Jesus being carried by his mother, Mary. The family meet Simeon and Anna, who have dedicated their lives to God and serve him in that holy place. The left window shows Simeon, a devout old man who recognised Jesus as light and glory, and as he held the baby Jesus he called him a Light to the World. The right hand window shows another devout person, Anna, who also greets Jesus.



Candlemas is a day that holds many customs...

Did you know that the Romans had a custom of lighting candles to scare away evil spirits in the winter? In Scotland in olden days children brought candles to school so that the classrooms could be lit on dull days. When gas lighting arrived the children used to take in coins and give them to their teacher, who was supposed to use the money to buy sweets and cakes for the pupils. The child who took in the most money was declared Candlemas King or Queen and they ruled for six weeks, during which they could take time off for extra play and could be excused from detention!

RECIPE for LIFE

with Griselda Barrett

Stout-Hearted Cake



A *Stout-Hearted Cake* is a fruit cake made and eaten on Candlemas Day (2 February).

Candlemas Day is a celebration of the *Presentation of Christ in the Temple* when candles are lit and blessed. The name of the cake is taken from the main preserving ingredient — it is made with a stout, or dark ale, which is poured into the heart of the cake after it is baked. This is an old way of preserving cakes, like pouring whisky or brandy into Christmas cakes.

These heavier, rich fruit cakes, popular in the 1800s, were welcome and comforting in the colder months, and could be stored in the larder for many weeks, preserved by the ale.

Cakes made with ale, like this one, and Porter Cake are best left to mature for a minimum of a week before eating.

This recipe comes from *Lincoln Cathedral Cookery Book*, published in aid of the fabric fund in 1980.

Ingredients

225g wholemeal (wholewheat) flour
100g plain flour
1/2 tsp salt
3 tsp baking powder
75g natural brown sugar
300 ml stout (such as Guinness)
1 tbsp golden syrup
1 tbsp black treacle (molasses)
75g butter
2 eggs
100g chopped dates
175g mixed dried fruit

Method

1) Preheat the oven to 150°C (300°F or Gas Mark 2). Grease a medium-sized cake tin with a little butter and line it with baking parchment. (It is best to use a cake tin with a removable base to help get the cake out of the tin after baking.)

2) In a large mixing bowl cream the butter and sugar together, then beat in the eggs and mix thoroughly. Add the

golden syrup, black treacle, and half the stout, 150ml, and stir gently.

3) Add in the chopped dried fruit, flour (plain and wholemeal), salt and baking powder.

Mix all the ingredients thoroughly together, adding more stout if necessary to make a pourable mixture.

4) Pour the cake mixture into the prepared cake tin and bake in the oven for about 2 hours. It is cooked when an inserted skewer comes out clean.

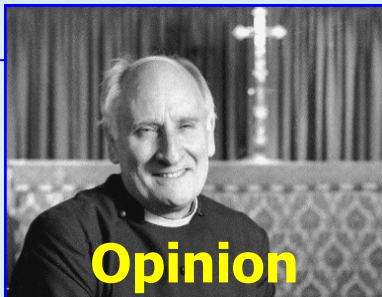
5) Once baked, remove the cake tin from the oven and allow to cool for 10 minutes. Then turn the cake out onto a wire rack.

6) After 30 minutes, while the cake is still warm, place a little newspaper under the cooling rack and carefully pour over the rest of the stout, 150ml, so that the cake soaks it up.

7) When fully cold, wrap the cake in greaseproof paper or baking parchment and store in an air-tight tin for a minimum of one week before eating.



Next Month:
Lancashire Fig Pie



Opinion

with Canon Julian Reindorp

DEMENTIA TEST

Given that dementia is likely to affect directly one-third of the population, and in terms of disrupted relationships probably the whole of it, everyone has a stake in improving how our society responds. In Britain, as elsewhere, spending on research into its treatments is about a fifth of that for cancer. The Government's decision to double its contribution is a very welcome start. It is estimated that coping with dementia costs the world hundreds of billions of pounds a year, so that drugs that could alleviate or arrest it more than cover their cost. The Prime Minister's call for better international cooperation and collaboration in this field, in his capacity as the current president of the G8 summit, is another key initiative.

FOOD BANKS

In this column two years ago, writing about Richmond's new food bank, it looked as if there would be 200 open by Christmas 2012. The Bishop of London in his December sermon at St James's said there were now more than 4000 with three opening every week. It is forecast that by 2015 a million people will be relying on food banks. These are set up as charities, often by churches, to provide food for those who are desperate. Here at St James's, we are supporting the Food Storehouse at the Riverside Vineyard Church in Feltham (see page three).

THE POPE and THE ECONOMY

Pope Francis, in his most wide-ranging statement yet, speaks about radical change in the church, but also in the world's economy. 'Today everything comes under the laws of competition and the survival of the fittest, where the powerful feed on the powerless... Human beings are considered consumer goods to be used and then discarded... Some people continue to defend trickle-down theories which assume that economic growth, encouraged by a free market, will inevitably succeed in bringing about greater justice... This opinion which has never been confirmed by the facts, expresses a crude and naive trust in the goodness of those wielding economic power and in the supposed benefits of the prevailing economic system...we have created new idols.

'The worship of the ancient Golden Calf has returned in a new and ruthless guise in the idolatry of money and the dictatorship of an impersonal economy lacking a truly human purpose.'

RICH and POOR

Commentators say that the bailing out the banks in 2008 was the greatest transfer of assets from the poor to the rich since the Norman Conquest, when the common and freehold land of England were transferred to the owner of William the Conqueror. Last year, 2,700 City bankers earned more than a £1million — 11% higher than in 2011. (There were 177 millionaire bankers in Germany.)

In Britain, the richest 1000 people possess £449 billion. It seems the poor get poorer and the rich get richer..

LONDON'S CHURCH GROWTH

The number of people going to Church on Sunday in London grew by 16% between 2005 and 2012, nearly 100,000 more than 7 years ago. The rise of Pentecostalism, the growth of black churches, and immigrants in the capital all contributed to this.

What's On

with Nick Bagge



NEW

Faith at Work

Saturday 1 February, 9.15-10.15am, St James's Church

The Spring programme of discussions about how our faith impacts on our working lives opens with Moya Meredith-Smith discussing Faith, Science and Free Schools. Please join us for a lively debate.

The series continues with: Saturday 15 February, Jack Gostling and Faith and Building; Saturday 1 March, Carol Bailey and Faith in Many Roles; and Saturday 15 March, Joshua Webb and Faith as a Student.



Traidcraft Roadshow

Saturday 1 February, 10am-4pm, Salvation Army Regent Hall, Oxford Street, London W1C 2DJ

Come and see all the craft products in the new catalogue and get a 20% discount. Contact Ann Peterken for more details.

Making Connections

Saturday 8 February, 10.30am-4pm, St Stephen's Church, Richmond Road (Marble Hill side), Twickenham TW1 2PD

A Hampton Deanery Training Day. See posters in church for more information. Cost £5. To book telephone 020 8941 7221 or email: parish.manager@hampton-church.org.uk.

NEW

Churches Together Around Hampton

Forum, Wednesday 26 February, 8pm, St Mary's Primary School, Oldfield Road (West), Hampton TW12 2HP

Miss Catherine Davis will speak of her experience as head since the church school opened last September. For more information telephone Ann Peterken 020 8891 5862.

NEW

Shrove Tuesday Parish Meal

Tuesday 4 March, 7.30pm, location to be announced

Why not join us for our annual meal to mark the start of Lent? Three courses from a set menu (meat, fish or vegetarian) will cost approximately £14.95. Location to be announced at a later date. Please add your name to the list in church or phone the Parish Office 020 8941 6003 to reserve places. This popular event is a fun night out.

NEW

Ash Wednesday

Wednesday 5 March, 9am and 7.30pm, Holy Communion with ashing, St James's Church, Hampton Hill

Ash Wednesday is a day of penitence to clean the soul at the start of Lent. At these services, worshippers can be marked with ashes as a symbol of death and sorrow for sin. Beginning on Ash Wednesday, Lent is a season of reflection and preparation before the celebrations of Easter. By observing the 40 days of Lent, Christians replicate Jesus's sacrifice and withdrawal into the desert for 40 days. Lent is marked by fasting, both from food and festivities.

Registers for November and December

NOVEMBER	
Baptisms	
16 Emme Elizabeth Brownson, Hampton Hill	7 Kitchener Stanley Gore, 98, Hampton Hill
17 Georgia Robyn Grace Jerwood, Hampton Hill	12 Evelyn Joyce Pugh, 88, Hampton
24 Jessica Elizabeth Shaw, Hampton Hill	22 Leon Xavier Blanchard, 20, Hampton Hill
Funerals	
1 Mabel Winifred West, 97, Hampton Hill	18 Sandra Elizabeth Lee, 56, Hampton Hill

NEW

Women's World Day of Prayer

Streams in the Desert, Friday 7 March, 2pm and 7.30pm, All Saints' Church, 10 The Avenue, Hampton TW12 3RS

Women's World Day of Prayer is an international, inter-church organisation which enables us to hear the voices of women from all parts of the world. Over three million men and women will be praying across the world. This year, the service has been prepared by women in Egypt. We are asked to reflect on our Christian role of being a 'stream in the desert' for those who experience spiritual 'drought'. One of the oldest civilisations in the world, Egypt has long been home to Coptic Christians. Since the uprising in 2011 there has been conflict between religious groupings. Political change affects individual lives and we pray with the women of Egypt for peace. We envisage a great wave of prayer, rising with the sun over the island of Samoa and sweeping across Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Europe and the Americas, coming to rest in American Samoa some 36 hours later. By then WWDP services will have been celebrated in over 170 countries.

NEW

Lent Course

Prophets for Today? Mondays, from 10 March-7 April, 7.15-9.30pm, Fitz Wygram Hall (St James's Church)

Each week we will look at a prophet from the Old Testament:

10 March: Amos — The rich shall be sent empty away;

17 March: Hosea — A broken heart;

24 March: Isaiah — Light shining in darkness;

31 March: Jeremiah — Faith in the city;

7 April: Ezekiel — Restoration man.

Each week we will follow the pattern of the autumn course meeting in the church hall:

7.15pm — Lenten supper of soup, bread, cheese and fruit;

7.55pm — Talk;

8.30pm — Discussion;

9.15pm — Plenary;

9.30pm — Finish.

Notices will be given in church about how to sign up.

NEW

Concordia Voices

Spring Concert, Saturday 22 March, 7.30pm, St John the Divine, St John's Road, Richmond TW9 2PE

Concordia Voices presents its spring concert. Tickets £12 on door (concessions £10) or £10 (concessions £8) in advance from choir members, or by emailing secretary@concordia.org.

NEW

Teddington Choral Society

Spring Concert, Saturday 29 March, 7.30pm, Landmark Arts Centre, Ferry Road, Teddington TW11 9NN

Teddington Choral Society present Pergolesi's Stabat Mater; Vivaldi's Gloria; and McDowall's Magnificat. Conducted by Patrick Martin; the pianist is Geoffrey Bowyer. Tickets are £14 on door or £12 in advance. Telephone 020 8977 7558.



Ethical investments are no more a flight of fancy



This month we see the annually celebrated Fairtrade Fortnight, an initiative of the UK's Fairtrade Foundation which highlights the fair trade products available. Many of you will be familiar with the origins of the fair trade movement, which include the selling of fairly traded goods in your church, along with hundreds of others, every month. From these foundations we are now able to buy Fairtrade goods in a number of different places and every supermarket now has Fairtrade products on its shelves. The growth in the availability of products and also the variety now on offer shows a growing movement led by both producer and consumer action.

To support the further growth of the movement we need to keep working together for trade justice. It is through collaborative action that change happens and we have shown we can pull together to make a difference, but how can we go further this year? Growth of the fair trade movement is a good challenge to face as we see sales in the UK rising to over £1 billion a year. To sustain and drive this growth investment is needed so equipment can be purchased and raw materials paid for to enable increased production, for increased sales and ultimately for increased fair trade.

Loans that are fair and honest

It may be easy to recognise fair trade as an issue of justice, fairness and honesty, but how do these values apply to the finance required to enable fair trade to take place? These were possibly the thoughts of Shared Interest's founders back in 1990 when the world's only 100% fair trade lender was set up to provide access to fair finance. As a community benefit society that acts co-operatively, Shared Interest forms the vital link between UK ethical investors and fair trade organisations needing finance to improve their livelihoods.

Fairtrade producer groups such as Apicoop in Chile, which produces fair trade honey and blueberries, transform the livelihoods of their members and the communities around them. Apicoop started out as a church-led community project that aimed to support smallholder farmers. Today the group has over 300 producers spread throughout the country.

Chino Henriquez, General Manager of Apicoop, says: 'We don't make honey just because we love the bees, which of course we do; we are families working together for a better future.' Members of Apicoop are lent the finance they need for land and hives and in the past 15 years they have lent around \$1 million to their farmers. Like Shared Interest, the group doesn't ask for any security on the loans. As Chino explained, it is 'a matter of trust'.

Apicoop has had a long-standing relationship with Shared Interest with loans being made to support the growth and development of the fair trade honey production. However, the group became worried that their honey production may suffer as a result of climate change affecting their bee populations. The group decided to try growing blueberries on some of their land. Describing the role of Shared Interest in this new venture Chino explains simply: 'If we didn't have access to Shared Interest's finance we wouldn't be here now talking about blueberries.' Chino believes the success and impact of the blueberry project will continue well into the future, and he readily acknowledges the role of Shared Interest in facilitating this.

He concludes: 'We really want Shared Interest members to understand how much impact their investment has. Although they can't see or touch the blueberry field, it has been worth it and will continue to benefit future generations.'

Shared vision with 9000 members

Without our members Shared Interest would not be able to impact on the lives of those putting in a hard day's work for a fair price. Our members share in our vision of a world where justice is at the heart of trade finance. Today we have a membership of almost 9,000 which includes individuals, faith groups, Fairtrade towns, schools and community organisations. With each account holding between £100 and £20,000 we currently have share capital of over £29 million, with which we make loans to fair trade businesses around the world.

Farmer and handcraft makers are always amazed that complete strangers, people they are unlikely ever to meet are prepared to invest their own money to help them help themselves. Giving someone the opportunity to provide for their own families is priceless.

Our finance ensures that farmers are paid on time for their crops, helps organisations purchase raw materials and enables groups to pre-finance orders from their overseas buyers. We couldn't do this without our investors.

By opening a Shared Interest share account with anything from £100 to £20,000 you could play a vital part in the global movement that is fair trade. Your investment may not make you rich, but it will enrich the lives of others.



To find out more about investing in a fairer world call us on 0191 233 9102 or visit www.shared-interest.com.

Sally Reith, left, is the **Engagement Manager** of the Shared Interest Society.

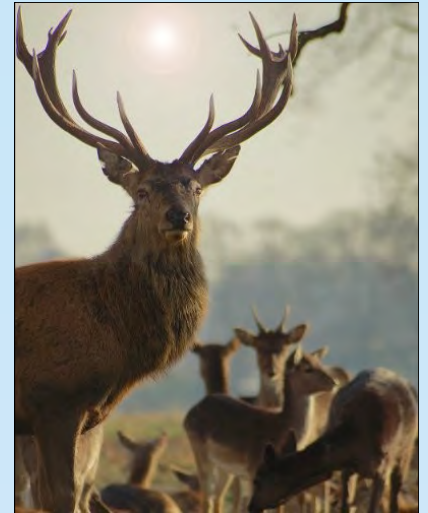
SHARED INTEREST
INVESTING IN A FAIRER WORLD



Songs of Praise

The Story Behind the Hymn

All Creatures of our God and King



All creatures of our God and King
Lift up your voice and with us sing,
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou burning sun with golden beam,
Thou silver moon with softer gleam
O praise Him! O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou rushing wind that art so strong
Ye clouds that sail in Heaven along,
O praise Him! Alleluia!
Thou rising moon, in praise rejoice,
Ye lights of evening, find a voice!

And thou, most kind and gentle death,
waiting to hush our latest breath,
O praise him, alleluia.

Thou leadest home the child of God,
and Christ our Lord the way hath trod:

Let all things their Creator bless,
And worship Him in humbleness,
O praise Him! Alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
And praise the Spirit, Three in One!

This month's hymn is based on St. Francis of Assisi's Canticle (song) of the Creatures or of the Sun. In it, Francis views all creation as praising its Creator.

This hymn version of Francis's words was written by the Revd William Henry Draper (1855-1933), a Church of England priest, and set to a German tune of 1623.

Arranged by the English composer Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958) for the *English Hymnal*, this tune and lyrics have become very popular in churches.

There are seven verses in total, and in each, the singer addresses a part of creation (as did Francis's original) and encourages it to praise God. Even death itself is called on to praise God, and is seen as 'kind and gentle'.

This is true to the spirit of Francis's original canticle. The hymn will be sung at St. James's on 23 February.