

Two events happen at the beginning of this month which must be important for us. The one is Pentecost or Whitsun which this year falls on 7th June. The other is the Earth Summit in Brazil, at which leaders of many of the world's countries will meet to discuss, and draw up a strategic plan of action for agreement. Such action is to be designed to safeguard the earth for future generations. We have to make sure that we connect these two events - not only in our minds, but also in our action.

Pentecost is the celebration of God's Holy Spirit of love, justice, hope and peace being poured out into the world. It connects intimately God and God's creation. We have a responsibility, as God's children, to care for creation, of which we are part. More than that, we are entrusted with the earth to use it and enjoy its use for all inhabitants of the earth. The Spirit of God seeks out, and is to be discerned in, actions of love, justice, hope and peace which bring creation closer to that for which we were created - to reflect the glory of God.

It may not seem immediately obvious that the Earth Summit in Brazil reflects the glory of God! But it is an attempt to walk in a path which more clearly is signposted with a respect for the created world, a desire to afford its enjoyment to all people, not simply the rich. We shouldn't be drawn into either cynicism or assumption that everything will be done instantly. The Spirit of God is poured out in the world, that is the message of Pentecost, not separating us or setting us over against the world, but Pentecost demands our action in the world. A world which, as St. Paul reminds us, groans as if in travail, like a woman giving birth.

That is indeed a very powerful image - the Spirit of God forces us into action, to endure the birth-pangs of the new age, more than that; it demands that we struggle, however painful it may be, with confronting the world with, and bringing into being, that love, justice, hope and peace which is the very nature of God.

Of course such a struggle is not just about the massive, global issues that so easily shock and are so easily dismissed - the diminution of the ozone layer or the destruction of the rain forests. It is also about the local, community or personal issues - about our own lifestyle, our own work, our own consumerism. How many of us can truly say we struggle with those sorts of questions as they affect us: with our own use of private cars which pollute; the condition of the Longford River or the Thames; the use of chemicals in our homes and gardens; our diet and our lifestyle.

Pentecost, Whitsun, the celebration of God's Spirit in the world, calls us to examine our commitment to this struggling to live our lives based upon God's love, justice, hope and peace. Let us work and pray that the Earth Summit will fire the vision of the imagination of men and women in authority, and men and women like you and me, to change our lives so that the life of the world may be changed to the pattern of its creator.

*We have not inherited the Earth from our fathers,
we are borrowing it from our children.*

Chief Seattle

A View of the Parish Meeting - the APCM

One year ago, I attended my first APCM. It was held on a Sunday after the parish communion service. When this year's APCM was announced as an evening meeting, I was not sure what APCM stood for, whether it was the same meeting as I remembered from a year ago, and what its purpose was. So I asked, and the answer that I got and my view of this year's meeting follow shortly, but first, back to last year. .

I found the meeting interesting as a report on lots of activity, but I did not really see where it fitted into the church year. However, one function of the APCM is to elect Parochial Church Council (PCC) members, and last year, I joined the PCC for the first time. Consequently I have seen how the parish affairs have been run and been party to many of the decisions taken. Suddenly the APCM took on a new light. The responsibility and trust placed on me - and on all the PCC members - was now under the spotlight as any member of the parish could now inspect our work and praise or criticise.

So did they praise or criticise? Well, before I tell you, I will tell you how the meeting was run. In a cold, cold church the meeting was warm, friendly and informal. The Vicar gave a spirited report of the year as he saw it, praising and thanking the many people so actively involved in this parish, for their time and talents. (This is something that has impressed me too.) He also challenged the assembly on the need for a wider or possibly different view during the decade of evangelism. He talked about the balance of inward looking to outward looking activity. Other speakers then covered important and innovative aspects of this parish's year: Finance, including Stewardship (planned giving) and fund raising, Fabric and property including Wayside and the Hall, Dawnlight. Again each speaker talked about success and disappointment and future plans. It struck me that perhaps the hardest thing to do at a meeting like this is to get the balance right between self-congratulation and self-criticism.

So what did the meeting think? In the main, everyone was very pleased by the corporate and individual efforts of the parish, and the way the PCC had discharged its responsibilities. This is not to say that there were not some very telling comments which certainly made me think about what I would like to do with and for the parish next year. If, as I hope, the coming year is as active and successful as the last, then I shall hope to see a positive and self-congratulatory meeting next year, with just cause.

Andrew Craig

The P.C.C.

At the Meeting of Parishioners on 30 April, Lesley Mortimer was warmly thanked for her work as a Churchwarden for the past five years. Margaret Taylor was appointed in her place to serve with Alan Taylor who was re-appointed as Churchwarden.

The Annual Church Meeting which followed elected Sue Blay as a Deanery Synod Representative to serve in place of Charles Dobson who has had to resign. Our other representatives are Lesley Mortimer and Pip Rowett (both previously elected).

The Parochial Church Council (P.C.C.) comprises the Vicar as Chairman, the two Churchwardens, the Deanery Synod Representatives, our Readers Hannah Stanton (and Alan Taylor), and the following who were elected at the Church Meeting:

Ann Davis	Terry Baldwin
Corinne Evans	Andrew Bye
Mona Gow	Andrew Craig
Margaret Hobbs	Jack Gostling
Rachel Lloyd	Richard Melville
Moya Meredith-Smith	John Meredith-Smith
Ruth Mills	Roger Rajan
Marion Nevill	David Taylor
Margaret Revis	Dick Wilde
Eila Severn	

We wish them an interesting and productive year.

Our new Churchwarden

Margaret Taylor hails from northern climes, a once large mining village called Wath-on-Dearne near Rotherham. An only child, Margaret's Father was in the sales office of the local colliery and afterwards was with the Coal Board. Her Mother, Nellie, whom many of you will have met, was a teacher and knew everyone in all the generations of children with whom she came into contact. She died recently well into her nineties. Margaret went to the local Grammar School and later to Bedford College, London. After leaving London, she spent eleven years in Birmingham, working for Cadbury's at Bournville in the advertising department. She and David met in Birmingham at their local church and social club.

Margaret and David - he by the way is a Lancastrian - were married in March 1960 and moved to London. After six months in a flat by the river in Twickenham, they moved to Teddington where their children Helen, Nicholas and Sandy were born. They all went to Bishop Wand School at Sunbury. Helen and Sandy are both married and Nicholas ties the knot later this year.

For a number of years as her family grew older, Margaret ran the students' bookshop at St. Mary's College, Strawberry Hill, a post she has only just relinquished, she is consequently very well read and very knowledgeable about books, writers and

literature in general, and was, I suspect, a good listener to any student with a problem who needed to talk. This is one of Margaret's great strengths as her numerous friends will testify, and she loves to cook and entertain.

Her other abiding passion is antiques and bric-a-brac, especially plates. Her walls abound in all sorts of curious and interesting objects and she is quite an expert in glass and pottery.

Before coming to St. James's, Margaret and David were members of St. Mary's, Twickenham, where David sang in the choir. Their Christian faith inspires all they do. Margaret has been active on our Liturgical and Stewardship Committees and for several years she has organised our Christian Aid Week collection. Recently she has started running a Traidcraft stall in church on a once-monthly basis.

We welcome Margaret as a Churchwarden and we give her our support in all that she hopes to achieve.

Helen Taylor

Long ago, brahman Dhamika, rajah Koranya had a king-banyan tree called steadfast, and the shade of its widespread branches was cool and lovely. Its shelter broadened to twelve leagues - none guarded its fruit and none hurt another for its fruit.

Now then came a man who ate his fill of the fruit, broke a branch and went away. Thought the god dwelling in that tree: 'How astonishing it is, that a man should be so evil as to break a branch off the tree, after eating his fill. Suppose the tree were to bear no more fruit.'

And the tree bore no more fruit. From the Buddhist Scriptures

* * * * *

Concert in Church

Organ and Violin

8pm on Saturday 20 June

Marcela and Lennert den Boer



Marcela and Lennert are local residents. Marcela has played the organ in Czechoslovakia and Canada, where she was a recital organist for twenty years and organist at Calgary Cathedral. Lennert was principal violinist of the Canadian National Youth Orchestra and concert violinist of Calgary Orchestra.

The Offertory at Parish Communion

If you have been to Parish Communion or the Monthly Informal Service recently, you will be aware that at the offertory we now take a collection in church. At our recent Annual Parochial Church Meeting we decided to continue this for a year to see what changes this might make to our overall financial situation. So far our collections in church are about double what they were last year.

But, please: The most important factor in bringing about financial stability for our church is **regular planned giving** - for details of this contact either of our Recorders, Ron Bridges (979 6865) or Dick Wilde (979 8887).

If you do give by planned giving then please feel free to pass the plate on, or if on any particular Sunday you have a sum left over or available then feel free to offer it in the collection.

The church is all of us, without all of us contributing as we can, carefully and responsibly, we cannot hope to continue to work effectively in proclaiming by service, care and compassion that which we claim, that

All things come from you,
And of your own do we give you.

Brian Leathard

A wise rabbi was walking along a road when he saw a man planting a tree. The rabbi asked him, 'How many years will it take for this tree to bear fruit?' The man answered that it would take seventy years. The rabbi asked, 'Are you so fit and strong that you expect to live that long and eat its fruit?' The man answered, 'I found a fruitful world because my forefathers planted for me. So I will do the same for my children.'

The Jewish Midrash

Lazarus

We were fortunate to have the fine bronze-finished sculpture 'The Raising of Lazarus' on view in the Baptistry over Easter. This piece, the work of Bridget Paton (Stuart Ward's sister), is of Lazarus trying to free himself from his winding sheet. The elongated body and arms emphasise his imprisonment and the sideways tilted head shows his struggle. The style is medieval in its intensity, to give us something compelling and convincing.

The symbolism of resurrection is appropriate for this season. It reminds us how Christ awakes us from death, but that the subsequent release to freedom cannot be achieved without struggle on our side.

David Taylor

More About the Earth Summit

This month, leaders from around the world will be meeting in Rio de Janeiro for what is potentially one of the most important international gatherings of this century. UNCED (the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development) will be attempting to hammer out a master plan for the environmental protection of this planet and the sustainable development of its inhabitants.



At the same time, and also in Rio, many non-governmental organisations, including the churches, will be making their voices heard at Global Forum '92. This will include a conference organised by the World Council of Churches together with the World Wide Fund for Nature.

Anglican churches, including the Church of England, have submitted statements to those preparing for the main conference. Its report affirms that we all share and depend on the same world, with its finite and often non-renewable resources. God has created, redeemed and sustains the world. We are stewards. This implies caring management, not selfish exploitation - a concern for both present and future as well as self. It has implications of discipline, attitudes and relationships for individuals, organisations and states.

One of the major outcomes of the Earth Summit is expected to be the Earth Charter. This will be a charter of rights or basic principles of conduct of nations and peoples regarding the issues of environment and development. It will provide a moral framework for all the discussions and the World Council of Churches has been especially concerned to focus attention on it.

The World Council of Churches also has emphasised the impossibility of addressing the issues of environment and development in isolation from one another. Social justice for all people and eco-justice for all creation must go together. It has tried to ensure that the agenda is a truly international one, that the voices of the South are heard and not just those of the industrialised North.

No doubt the other great faiths of the world, many of which were represented at the meeting at Assisi in 1986 under the chairmanship of the Duke of Edinburgh, President of the World Wildlife Fund, will also have expressed their concern about the global environmental crisis which has come upon us.

Let us hope that the cracks in the walls of our environment will not just be papered over, that the leaks will be repaired and the marvellous structure of creation saved before it falls about us. Words must give rise to actions and to sacrifices by us all. Only

if the peoples of the world work together with a common purpose, and not separately in their own interests, can we look forward to a happy and healthy life for our children's children and for the children's children of all of our fellow human beings. Earth Summit must be a real beginning along that road. We pray that it will be.

Ron Bridges



*I was walking along the beach
When I saw a pool.
The waves were plastic bottles
And the pebbles were bottle tops.
The ripples were silver paper
And toffee wrappers swam around like fish.*

*Then I remembered a pool
Where the pebbles were solid gold
And the ripples were silver stars
And rainbow fish darted
Through crystal water.*

Alex Marples, aged 8 years.

Children's Society

Throughout June, I shall be emptying the Children's Society boxes. Please bring them to church when you can and I will return them to you at a later date. I have been the Honorary Secretary of the society at St. James's for about sixteen years, taking it over from Olive Wright. The number of people holding boxes has increased to about forty and each year we send in something in the region of £400. I would very much like someone else to take over this task. It's not very onerous but it is very worthwhile. If you would like to know more about what is involved, please speak to me any time.

Helen Taylor



This year we are going to Leeds Castle, near Maidstone, Kent. Set in 500 acres of farmland with lakes, streams and waterfalls, there is an aviary, duckery, maze, secret grotto, museum and the castle itself, set on two islands in the midst of a tranquil lake.

A coach will leave St. James's Church at 10.00 on Saturday 20 June and return to Hampton Hill about 18.00.

The cost of the coach and entry to the castle and all areas and attractions will be £10.00 per adult and £9.00 for Senior Citizens and children under 15.

See poster in church and put your name on the list. Seats will be limited so do not delay. If further information is required please contact me on 979 2964.

David Lloyd

* * * * *

Rise like the Sun

A Festival of Freedom and Hope for 1992

(Organised by Christian Aid and CAFOD)

Bristol 17 - 19 July

Cars and a Minibus will run from the parish on Saturday 18 July

Top Speakers from other Countries

Wild Goose Worship Group from the Iona Community

Jabbok Drama Group

Vigils, workshops, street theatre,

buskers, dancers, musicians, etc., etc.

activities for all ages

Crèche

* * * * *

Children's Race Day

The Scout Group with help from the Hampton Hill Association will be organising this event on Saturday 18 July at the Holly Road Recreation Ground. As well as the races, there will be a tombola and various stalls run by local charities. Make a note in your diaries, and if you would like to help ring Mr. S. Bridges on 941 3964 before 21.00 any day.

Chris Swift

Chris, who spent some time with us in the parish two years ago, is to be ordained priest in Blackburn Cathedral on Saturday 27 June.

We rejoice with him and pray for him in his future ministry.



Stewardship

Stewardship giving over the past four quarters, and for the preceding four quarters, was as follows:

April - June	1991	6,042	1990	5,493
July - September	1991	5,713	1990	5,436
October - December	1991	6,149	1990	5,862
January - March	1992	<u>7,501</u>	1991	<u>6,802</u>
		25,406		23,593

Thus, giving over the last financial year was 7.7% up on that for 1990/91.

From the Registers - April

Baptisms

5	Shannel Adams	3 Edwin Stray House, Glebe Way, Hanworth
	Laura Jane Clarke	105 Rectory Grove, Hampton
	Michelle Amy Cash	89 Rectory Grove, Hampton
13	Richard Eric Walker	47 Wordsworth Road, Hampton
26	Barrie David Fish	50 Homefield Road, Walton-on-Thames

Funerals

13	Thomas Derrick Garmston Hyde	40 Connaught Road, Teddington	Aged 63
14	Margaret Kathleen Gale	51 Connaught Road, Teddington	Aged 64
23	James Dennis Seal	66 Uxbridge Road	
24	Frank Tokley	21 Winifred Road	

Sunday Evening Services

Normally, Sunday Evening Services at 6.30pm are as follows:

- First Sunday in Month - Choral Evensong
- Second Sunday in Month - Prayer and Praise
- Third Sunday in Month - Service of Prayer for Healing
- Fourth Sunday in Month - Open Forum - a short act of worship and
and time to think or speak together
- Fifth Sunday in Month - Prayer and Praise

Dates to Note

Jun.	3	14.30	Women's Forum, Princess Alice Hospice Update, Wayside
	7		Pentecost
		18.30	Choral Evensong with Choir
	9	14.00	Editorial Board, 8 Parkside
		20.00	Tuesday Club AGM, Wayside
	11		St. Barnabas the Apostle
	17	20.00	Women's Forum, The Prevention and Cure of Cancer, led by Ruth Mills, Wayside
	20	20.00	Concert in Church - organ and violin
	23	20.00	Tuesday Club, Tony Kirkham - Plant Hunting in Korea, Wayside
	24		The Birth of St. John the Baptist
	27		Chris Swift to be ordained priest, Blackburn Cathedral
	28	18.30	Summer Meditation in Music and Words
	29		St. Peter the Apostle



Advance Notices

Jul.	1	14.30	Women's Forum, Wayside
	3		St. Thomas the Apostle
	7	20.00	Tuesday Club: Miss Wright - Thailand, Wayside
	15	20.00	Women's Forum, Wayside
	18		Outing to Rise like the Sun, a Festival of Freedom and Hope, Bristol
		14.30	Children's Race Day, Holly Road, Recreation Ground
	21	20.00	Tuesday Club: Summer Supper, Wayside
	22		St. Mary Magdalen
	27		Celebration of St. James's Day

COPY DATE FOR JULY ISSUE: 14 JUNE