

The feast day of our patron saint, James, falls every year on July 25th. We celebrate our patron saint not only because it is traditional so to do, but rather because in honouring him we are connecting ourselves to him. In connecting ourselves to him we are pledging ourselves to make our own the marks of discipleship which he showed.

So who was he? This James was one of the apostles, one of the twelve disciples called by Jesus to follow him. James, and his brother John, were fishermen, sons of Zebedee. Along with the other disciples he spent time with Jesus, travelled with him, went to temple and synagogue with him, was present at healings and disputes. He was clearly a good friend to Jesus. The gospels tell us that it was Peter, John and James who were present as witnesses at the Transfiguration of Christ- remember it was on this occasion that they jumped to the wrong conclusion and wanted to build shelters or huts for Moses, Elijah and Jesus. Later the gospels record that James was also present in the Garden of Gethsemane on the night before Jesus's crucifixion. It was Peter, James and John who were unable to stay awake- 'could you not watch with me for one hour?'

Our knowledge of James doesn't stop there for we know that he played a big part in the very earliest days of the church in Jerusalem. He appears to have been perhaps the first leader of the Jerusalem church, possibly the first prototype bishop, around which the very first Christians gathered to be nurtured, protected and encouraged in their faith that in Jesus of Nazareth the true nature of God was uniquely revealed. Jesus as the human face of God. In 44AD James was put to the sword by Herod Agrippa I to placate the Jewish opponents of Christianity.

Of course many stories built up about these apostles and others in the earliest days of Christianity and by the seventh century the story of James having travelled to Spain to preach the gospel was widespread. It was further claimed that after James's martyrdom his body was brought from Jerusalem to Spain. Certainly by the Middle Ages the shrine of St. James, at the town named after him, Santiago de Compostella, had become one of the greatest centres of pilgrimage, with thousands of pilgrims making both a physical and spiritual journey to honour this hugely popular saint. In art James is often shown as a pilgrim, because of this early mission legend, and his sign is traditionally a cockle shell, perhaps marking his association with the sea. Certainly the Spanish saga claims that the shell is because it was prevalent on the beaches of northern Spain where James first set foot, in modern Galicia.

None of the saga can be proven, that is not its purpose after all. The point rather is about calling and response. Jesus of Nazareth called James at work, called James into a dynamic growing community, in which life was never easy. Indeed, it appears that half the time the disciples didn't even understand the question, let alone the answer. At St. James's Parish Church, we are aware that things are still the same. Jesus calls all sorts of people to follow him, through the witness of today's saints, as they live their lives, go about their work, bring up their children, care for their neighbour, as they love because God has first

loved us. And furthermore we too, like James, our patron, are called to live and worship and serve, in other words to follow Jesus, in a community where we too struggle to find the answers.

So please do join us, the saints who struggle to follow Jesus of Nazareth in 1997. With James as patron you will be in good company, even the Body of Christ.

Brian Leathard

St James's Day

will be celebrated on

SUNDAY 20 JULY 1997

11.00 Parish Communion

**Preacher: The Venerable Malcolm Colmer
Archdeacon of Middlesex**

followed by

Barbecue Lunch

and at

1400 BEATING THE BOUNDS BY BIKE

You are very welcome to our celebrations

Tickets for the Barbecue are available in Church from Sunday 6 July

The Church will be open (including the Spire)

from the end of the service until 1600

THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

Many members of our congregation have collecting boxes for this organisation, but how many of us are aware of the variety of work it undertakes? In London, among many other projects, the Society

- works with local organisations to review and improve the care, education and health services available to children under eight
- works to protect young people from violence and abuse, particularly those who are 'on the street'
- works with primary schools in Lambeth and Wandsworth to provide additional support for pupils in mainstream schools and reduce exclusions
- has projects with young people on remand and those experiencing poverty and homelessness
- helps to provide advocacy, guidance and advice services for young people.

If any other members of the congregation would like a box to support this worthwhile work, Pip and Anne Rowett would be happy to supply one.

The Chairman of the Hampton Deanery Children's Society Committee will shortly be retiring and the Committee is seeking someone willing to take on this commitment. Anyone interested should contact Brian.



At the end of May I went away with the Cubs and Scouts to our group camp at Braggers Wood camp site near Christchurch in Dorset. This was my first real taste of camp as Beavers, being too young, do not camp. We had a week of glorious weather which, combined with activities such as archery, canoeing, camp skills, backwoods cooking, walking, days on the beach and a visit to a water leisure complex, led to a superb time for all. This was a pleasant surprise for me, as I expected it to be a week of hard work and I thoroughly enjoyed myself. I was also pleasantly surprised by the standard of camp cooking, which (with the exception of one meal which I didn't like) was very good. A pat on the back to our camp cooks, Venture Scouts Charles and Paul. I'll definitely be back again next year!

After a very worrying time recently as regards our new HQ, work should have started clearing the site by now. Our new builders, a German firm called Bilfinger Berger, have agreed to stick with the original costs that we had worked out with Gostlings. Most other builders we approached wanted to charge a much inflated figure, so our thanks go to them.



After an immense amount of work by Linda Bournnell and Kim Nielsen (and others I'm sure), the Hampton Hill Fun Day will take place at the Holly Road recreation ground on Saturday July 12th. There will be stalls, too numerous to mention, a treasure hunt, food, a tea tent, games, challenges etc as well as the usual races. This day bears no relation to our Fun Sports day of old and really does promise to be quite an event. Projected start time is currently 10.30, but watch for posters locally. Please do come along, enjoy yourselves and support your most local charity!

Does anyone remember last year's summer quiz, "6 s on a d"? Well this year we've produced an equally fiendish brain teaser to while away those hours on the beach. All the answers are stations on the London tube map; the questions are in a cryptic form, ranging from the obvious to the obscure. No one managed the full 100 correct last year, although some got very close and we're

hoping this quiz will be to the same standard. The prize will be one third of the total pot, all profits going to group funds, so please buy a copy for yourselves and sell as many as you can to family, friends, work associates, etc. The price per sheet is £1 and all entries must be returned (to any leader) by the end of September.

*Paul Fitchett 0181 941 7186
Beaver Scout Leader, Third Hampton Hill*



Christian Aid

This year, for the first time, we achieved our long-desired aim: to reach a total of more than £2000. Many, many thanks to all our loyal, hard-working collectors, to the Young Church members who cleaned shoes and sold cakes and to Chris Hodges who gave a most delightful song recital, much enjoyed by all his audience. My sincere thanks also, of course, to all those who gave this year, more generously than ever. The figures look like this:

House-to-house collections	£1680
Young Church	122
Song Recital	125
Donations	<u>187</u>
Total	£2114

Our Open Gardens Day on 15th June will also benefit Christian Aid, so the eventual total will be greater and I will give the grand total in next month's magazine. In the meantime, thank you all again and may I tell you about the conversation I had recently with an Indian friend of Ramani, who was here on a visit to London from his small charity which is partly financed by Christian Aid. He told me that £50 was sufficient to keep two Indian families for the rest of their lives! He talked about a scheme to promote home gardening; the gardens are usually no more than 15-20 square feet in size, but properly maintained can produce a very adequate amount of food. Lack of water means that most crops have to be deep-rooted perennials and there is usually one tree. Imagine how intensive the gardening must be on a plot 4'x5'!

Margaret Taylor

ON JACOB'S WELL



Always I choose the sixth hour
when no one else is there
to see me going, a Samaritan woman,
my shadow moves before me,
I live in the shadow of my shame

feeling the heat on my back
I hurry on the stony turning path
to fetch water -

like the other day
when I came and found him resting by the well
weary looking, his feet dusty of long walk
quietly asking for water to drink -

and from cool depths of the well
I draw water - cold it shone like crystal
spilling on his feet
and as he drank feeling refreshed
he quietly talked about the gift of God's spirit
life giving

like water.

I could tell
he was a prophet -
for at that moment around us
there appeared a garden like an oasis
with lush green palms and the most beautiful
blooms

and the fragrance
of his words was like the gentle spring rain
bringing me a peace I had never known -
so quietly they touched my spirit so vulnerable
so vulnerable..

Now I thirst that living water
like an empty well.

Anja Clarke



MY WORK AS A PERIPATETIC CLASSROOM ASSISTANT

I have worked for nearly ten years as a part-time Peripatetic Classroom Assistant for children with special educational needs in mainstream schools. I am a member of a team employed by the borough of Richmond: we could be sent to any school in the borough, which is long and thin, stretching from Hampton to Kew, to work with children aged 5-16 years.

Our brief is to enable visually impaired and physically disabled children to access the National Curriculum in mainstream schools. Not all the children need full-time help, so we could be in two or three different schools in a week, or even a day, covering different lessons. We may work with a child just for PE/games lessons or practical subjects such as science and the many technologies. We may be required to go swimming with a child. This all makes for a very varied and interesting job.

We are also required to be able to teach children touch-typing and I.T. skills. This area of the curriculum has come more and more to the fore over the years and these skills are very useful in enabling children to do well in the many subjects at secondary level. Touch typing also helps those with dyslexia and other learning difficulties.

Work may have to be adapted or enlarged for individual children. We have to liaise with outside agencies such as occupational, physio and speech therapists and implement the programmes they draw up. We have to write reports and attend review meetings, where the children's progress and future plans are discussed under the guidance of an Educational Psychologist. Close communication and co-operation with the teacher is essential and we need to be innovative and adaptable as well as diplomatic and discreet.

We also attend monthly inservice training and various courses, including first aid, which broaden our knowledge of the various disabilities we may meet and provide strategies to deal with them.

At the moment, I am working at a secondary school with a 15-year-old in a wheelchair: she suffers from cerebral palsy. My main duty is to scribe for her in all her lessons, which makes for a very interesting day; I have filled some gaps in my science education! It also gives me an insight into the life of a person in Year 10, which I am certain has made me more sympathetic towards Suzanne, also in Year 10, as I have first-hand experience of all the pressures put upon her. I have one big advantage though - no homework! We shall be doing our GCSE's at the same time next summer. Last year we were possibly the only mother/daughter in the country to do the same SATS exam.

I count myself really lucky to have a job which I enjoy so much: I think my favourite subject is French, with Maths much further down the list! At the other end of the age-scale, working with a five year old can be just as rewarding and enjoyable. How many people, when it gets to Monday morning, can say they are looking forward to work?

Debbie Nunn

PARISH WEEKEND 1997 - WYCHCROFT

Plans are being made for the next Parish Weekend. It is from Friday evening, October 31st to Sunday afternoon, November 2nd and will be at Wychcroft, Bletchley, near Godstone. The house has lovely surroundings and Betty, who has stayed there previously, assures me that the food is good. The staff are certainly very pleasant.

Those who came to the previous weekend enjoyed it enormously and we see no reason why this one should not be just as enjoyable. There will be a bar, a free afternoon to get to know each other better - or to find some solitude! - and an evening's entertainment, as well as some serious thinking, a service and time to talk to fellow members of the congregation.

The theme of the weekend will be the ministry of the people - and ministry doesn't just mean wearing a dog-collar or taking a service. What are YOU doing as one of the people of God? We hope to have some help with thinking about this from the diocesan ministry development adviser, Lawrence Smith. - Come and exploit his expertise!

Children will be catered for - they are part of our parish too!

It will cost £65 each - reduced rates for children. We do understand that £65 is a great deal for some people to find. Anyone who would like to extend their payments over the period we have left, please start making contributions towards the fee through Elsie Whittle. If even that is too much for you, then talk to Brian or me. Your presence is more important than your fee! Any special arrangements will be treated with the strictest confidence.

Application forms will be available very soon. In the meantime, please write the dates in your diary, and start saving.

I would be very pleased to hear from anyone who would be willing to help, either on a general basis or with specific areas in mind. Offers of ideas and suggestions, likes and dislikes would also be much appreciated.

Ruth Mills - 977 5165

ST. JAMES ORGAN FUND APPEAL (FINAL) STATUS 12TH JUNE 1997

This note was intended to be a final brief review of this activity and show the total amount raised. Although all Appeal events have been completed we don't yet have a final figure for the amount raised. We await the ticket money from the last Appeal Concert, the addition of some interest and possibly a few further donations (2 were received this week). The total as at 12th June was £17,326. Given our original appeal target of £12,000 (towards a total organ overhaul, repair, renewal and enlargement cost of around £18,000) this is a quite magnificent result.

There were 95 individual donations. It would usually be invidious to pick anyone out but we must mention Prill Hinkley's raffle of her lovely painting of St. James Church which raised £571. There were 9 concerts or musical soirées,

2 barn dances, a reading of Under Milkwood, a Strawberry tea and a retiring collection at a special service. The "Organ Donor" scheme whereby people sponsored Organ Pipes either for themselves/family/friends or in Memoriam for some loved one was a great success. The scheme has raised £7,435 and all but a few of the smallest pipes have been sponsored. We will shortly be considering the exact form of plaque or other memorial to commemorate visibly those who contributed in this way.

A very special thanks is due to our organist Geoffrey Bowyer whose idea this was, who conceived and organised most of the special events and whose energy and enthusiasm were a major contribution to the success of this appeal. Above all, however, our thanks go to all of you who contributed your money, your time and your talents which raised all this money in little more than 18 months. Those of you who came to hear the Organ recitals on 7th June will realise what a splendid instrument we now have - and what talented organists to play it!

Jack Gostling & Pip Rowett Joint treasurers St. James Organ Appeal



We are very pleased to announce that our two new Churchwardens, Ruth Mills and Dick Wilde, were duly sworn in by the Archdeacon at a visitation on 5th June. Just as we were going to press, we heard that Ruth has passed her B.A. degree in Theology - well done. It is also our pleasure to note that our retiring Churchwarden Margaret Taylor and her husband David are celebrating the birth of a new grandson.

Congratulations and our best wishes to the new arrival and all the family.

Regretfully, we have to note that Billie Williams had a fall and is recovering at home. Dennis Leatherdale is at home again after a stay in hospital and David Adams has had a heart by-pass operation. We remember these friends in our prayers and their families too.

There was a grand organ recital in the Church on Sunday afternoon, 8th June. It was a gala occasion and the Mayor was present. The recital was to celebrate the début, officially, of the new organ in the Church. Many organists from other Churches came to play on the new instrument and the congregation were led by the choir in singing hymns. Afterwards there were refreshments in the Church Hall - a most enjoyable afternoon.

On 15th June we welcomed to Parish Communion the Esterhazy Singers, whose Chairman is our own Andrew Misikin, and the singers also performed a concert of summer music in Church in the evening.

On 24th June the Hampton Choral Society gave a concert by candlelight. Altogether these three musical events were notable occasions for the Parish's music lovers.

Rosalie Meyerowitz

CHILDREN'S CORNER

July 25th is St. James's Day and this year we will mark the occasion with a barbecue and bicycle ride on 20th July. Last year was the first time my family celebrated with this parish and we all had a great time; but who was St. James? James the Great was the son of Zebedee and Salome and the brother of St. John. He was a fisherman with Peter and Andrew. They all left their work to become followers of Christ. They were called Apostles.

After Jesus was crucified Herod Agrippa I ordered James to be killed for being a Christian. The man who accused James was so impressed by James's bravery that he became a Christian and was also killed with James.

James became the patron saint of Spain and appeared as a spirit many times on a white horse, leading the Spanish armies to victory. He is also the patron saint of pilgrims and is often pictured with a Bible, a pilgrim's staff or scallop shells. Next time you are in the Church, take a look at the mosaic of St. James on the wall near the chancel and see how many of these he has with him.

Don't forget to come and join in the fun on July 20th as we remember St. James, and bring your bike!

Sally Highley



Meet in Bushy Park near the United Reformed Church entrance
at 12.00 o'clock on Sunday 13th July.

Bring with you:- balls; bats; newspapers; books; food and a rug.

Enjoy yourself with your friends of St. James's.

For further information see Lou Coaker or 'phone her on 979 2040.

See you there.

FROM THE MAY REGISTERS

Baptisms

- 11 Otilie Chadwick, Letterbox House, 58 Windmill Road
25 Joseph Raymond Patrick Coleman, 66 Wordsworth Road
18 Jay Daniel Percival, 145 Hanworth Road

Weddings

- 3 Mark Hanington and Sonia de Laurenzy
Stephen Parsons and Carey Lockwood

Funerals

- 12 Olive Hazelwood, 7 The Wilderness 83
28 Edith Mills, 23a Park Road 81

DATES TO NOTE IN JULY 1997

- 2 1430 Women's Forum Invitation Service in church. All Welcome.
The Preacher is our Churchwarden, Ruth Mills.
3 St. Thomas the Apostle
11 Benedict, Abbot of Monte Cassino, 550
12 Parish Outing to Suffolk. See notice in church or contact David
Lloyd.
13 St. James's Sunday School and their Friends Picnic in Bushy Park
15 2000 Parochial Church Council
16 2000 Hampton Council of Churches Meeting at St. Francis de Sales
2000 Women's Forum Summer Party (+ spouses)
20 **ST. JAMES'S DAY, OUR PATRONAL FESTIVAL**
1100 PARISH COMMUNION
22 St. Mary Magdalen
26 Anne, Mother of the Blessed Virgin Mary
27 1400 Hampton Council of Churches Summer Rounders Afternoon.
Denmead School. All welcome.
29 William Wilberforce, Social Reformer, 1833