

**JANUARY
2007**

2.....

News
Church contacts
Pulpit Humour

3.....

Leader
What's On
Prayer

4.....

Confirmation Special

5.....

Yours Faithfully
Charities and Links

6.....

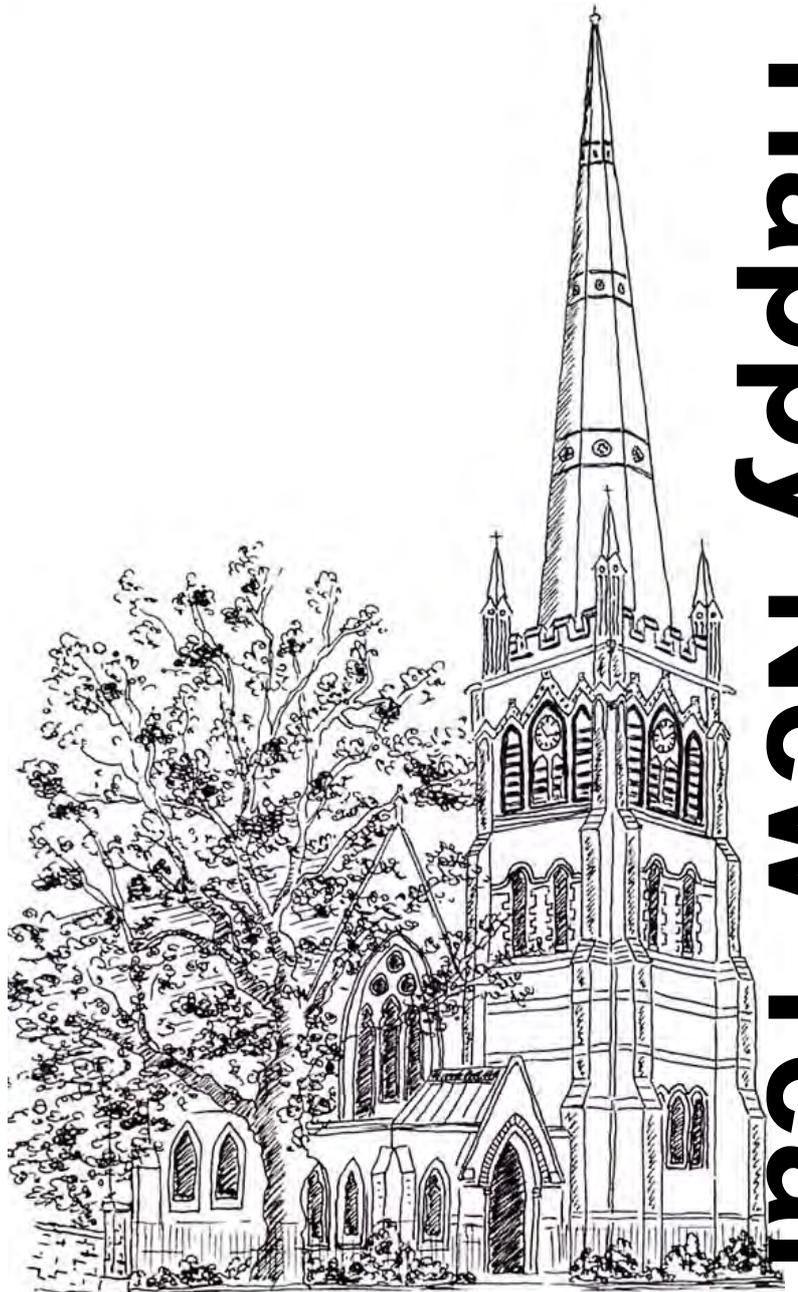
Jays' Page

7.....

From the Archives
Round the Spire
Registers
Crossword

8.....

Services at St James'
Music at St James'
Events at St James'
Dates to Note



Happy New Year



Visit St James' Church online at
www.stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk



WHO'S WHO

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■ Paul Fitchett 020 8941 7186

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All copy for the next issue must be with us by:



Email or post to Parish Office (as above)

Please email all your website submissions to the address listed above



WELCOME

Getting to the point in 2007

If you are resolved to make 2007 *the* year, take a few tips from **John Rainbow**, who learnt the hard way

I have reached the age when I have begun wondering how many more New Years I shall see in; how many more Ashes Series I shall enjoy (or not, as the case may be!); whether I shall ever get round to starting the book/booklets I have long contemplated writing; and - more enticingly - shall I ever do my Desert Island Discs?

Some hope, that, but at least I am unlikely to suffer the dismay of Herbert Morrison, the former Labour cabinet minister, who was reputed to have carried the titles of his eight choices around in his pocket in full anticipation of being called - but never was!

But New Years are also a time to recall with gratitude earlier events which have helped shape the future course of one's life in a more constructive fashion than hitherto envisaged. One such in my case took place some years ago when I was encouraged to participate in the Churches Television Training Course, then located at Bushey, Herts.

This was designed not to tell you *what* to say about your Christian faith, but how to express what you already believed and had experienced more convincingly to others. It took place over three days at a cost of £15 per day plus £1 for lunch. Not on offer today, but I can give you, if you read on, some tips for free!

The 30 or so participants had each to undergo five tests, the results of which were then played back on screen in front of the two professional media representatives and the others for assess-

ment. The first test was to speak in front of the camera *without notes* to hold the viewers' attention for three minutes on a subject of your own choice.

The only piece of advice given on the whole course was that on this test, do not preach a sermon during which you could easily lose your way (one clergyman did!) but tell a story the gist of which you could always hang on to.

So I did; a true one, which I entitled *The Uncommon Sense of God*. It was suitably commended (and you'll be delighted to know that scripts are still available!).

The next three tests passed without due concern, but then I came a cropper on the last one, aimed to convince viewers that you had got something unforgettably important to say.

'What was that all about?' said the first professional. 'I was wondering the same thing,' said the second. 'Another 15 seconds and the programme would have ended without the viewers even hearing your punchline - that's if they had not already switched off with boredom!'

So they urged: 'Start with your main point, rather than leading up to it (finally), because even if the listener doesn't go along with it at that stage he or she is likely to stay long enough to find out how you are going to justify it - and may even be won over!'

A salutary lesson learned - and as I was asserting that *God's Power* was the strongest and most necessary one available to us amidst all the other ones contending for our allegiance in the world today, it needed to impact people's minds early enough to register rather than when too late!

What is your 'main point'?

A Happy New life-changing Year to you all!

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© www.yorkcoursing.co.uk

...I wonder if I could have a quick word with the flower arrangers at the end of this service...?

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York Lent Course on CD

The York Courses 2007 Lent Course, *Can we build a better world? Learning from William Wilberforce*, has been released on CD/audio tape. This year's participants include the Archbishop of York, Dr John Sentamu (right); Lord Griffiths (Minister of Wesley's Chapel, London); and Actress Wendy Craig (*Butterflies and The Royal*). Further details are available from: York Courses, PO Box 343, York YO19 5YB. Telephone 01904 466516, or online at: www.yorkcourses.co.uk.



WHAT'S ON

Events for January

**Living with other faiths**

9 January, 19.45-21.30, St Paul's Church, Shadwell. A five-week course, every Tuesday, for Christians on the theology and practicalities of engagement with other faiths. Includes a visit to a local mosque. Free, but suggested donation £2. Hot meal at 19.00 for £3.50. 020 7780 1600.

Trajectory Chasing**Getting a Grip on The Bible**

20 January, 10.15-16.00, London School of Theology, Green Lane, Northwood, Middlesex HA6 2UW. It's not easy to integrate both the Old and New Testaments. Lectures will focus on big issues of interpretation, how the Bible can be used to create doctrine and how to use the Bible in a post-modern culture. Cost £26 (incl. lunch). Mrs Doreen Rosser 01923 456230.

Retreat: Sharing God's Planet

22-25 January, The Royal Foundation of St Katharine, London. Sustainable living involves body, mind and spirit. Through prayer, teaching, music and storytelling, participants explore how concern for the environment can be part of Christian discipleship. Three-day residential course. Cost £225 (£175 conc), including private room with en-suite facilities and all meals. Elizabeth Foy 020 7489 1011.

Being a Poet

Starting 27 January, 10.00-12.45, St Marylebone Healing and Counselling Centre, 17 Marylebone Road, London NW1. Three meetings, exploring the personal and spiritual journey through the work of three English-language poets. January 27 David Jones; 24 February Edward Thomas; 24 March Allen Tate. Cost £20 each or £50 for all three (conc £10/£30). 020 7935 5066.

A prayer for humility

O God, since you created everything we can see, hear and touch, may we constantly acknowledge your bounty. And since you sustain everything we can see, hear and touch, may we always be mindful of your strength. Thus may we walk the path of life with a spirit of humility, knowing that in all things we depend on you.

*Mozarabic Sacramentary
3rd century*

LEADER



A new year, a new vicar

As 2007 begins, Rodney Taylor looks to the future with news of the appointment of the Revd Canon Peter Vannozzi (pictured).



The irony of my title when I wrote the Leader for The Spire published in October 2006 was rather lost under the blue pencil of the editorial process. My title had been 'LEADER FOR OCTOBER 2006', followed by, 'What an ironical title! The Leader for October 2006? What Leader? Who is the Leader? Is there a Leader?'

There followed much about Brian, his departure and the interregnum. I concluded, saying, 'For us together, this is the season to lead. We, the parish, are the leader, as we prepare for a new incumbent and Vicar of Hampton Hill.'

I signed the article in very small italic script at the bottom, because the magazine committee said that people liked to know who had written pieces for *The Spire*.

Unfortunately when it rolled off the mighty St James' Press, the title was 'LEADER RODNEY TAYLOR'! Not what I meant at all - and definitely not true!

At that stage we were just beginning the interregnum. Brian had announced his departure in April, just after Easter 2006, at which point the planning started. His last service was on Sunday 17 September 2006, followed by farewells, good wishes, and a sense of apprehension in the congregation - and certainly in the churchwardens!

Clergy had been invited to take services, the rotas were planned, the readings sorted, the hymns selected - and people came! We had committed to 'business as usual', and it seemed to be working. I am delighted to say that it has continued to be so.

We have had the privilege of a great variety of clergy coming to take our various services. After the initial realisation that none of them was Brian, or even like Brian, not even

remotely like Brian; it became very clear that each of them had a new slant to put on our faith in leading our services in their own styles. We have had the Bishop, the Archdeacon, various priests from neighbouring (and remote) parishes, curates, readers, retired clergy, non-stipendiary ministers, a hospital chaplain, an Army padre, workers from Christian charities - a whole variety of clergy, all from an enormous diversity of backgrounds in their other lives, who share our faith and have added value to what we do, by exploring different ways of interpreting it.

Peter is an experienced priest who has worked in places that give him a range of experiences to bring to Hampton Hill

Many people have said that, after the initial feeling of loss when Brian left, they have found this a new and eye-opening experience. It has all the tingle of going to a different service in a different church with a fresh interpretation of our beliefs - without having to get on a bus. In preparing ourselves for a new Vicar of Hampton Hill, this is a valuable exercise of exploration and challenge. It is helping us to focus us on what is really important to us, and what we really want for the future. All this without the cancellation of a single service; though one weekday Holy Communion service did turn into Morning Prayer. Thank you so much to all who have made this possible.

I hope that you already know that the position of Vicar of Hampton Hill has been offered to, and accepted by, the Revd Peter Vannozzi. We were enormously pleased to be able

to announce that, very appropriately, on Advent Sunday.

On Tuesday 20 March 2007 he will be instituted by the Bishop of Kensington and inducted by the Archdeacon of Middlesex at St James'. That will be only 11 months since the announcement of Brian's departure, little more than six months since his last service, and only five-and-a-half months since he ceased to be our vicar on his own institution at St Luke's and Christ Church, Chelsea.

Peter's appointment to St James' was announced on the same day in the Cathedral Church of All Saints, Wakefield where he is at present Vice-Dean and Canon Pastor. Before that he was vicar of a parish in Dulwich for eight years.

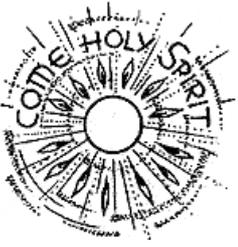
Previously he had been a vicar in Northwood Hills, and had had two curacies, the first in Kenton and the other one as curate-in-charge in Fleet in Hampshire. He is an experienced priest who has worked in places that have given him a range of very important, challenging and relevant experiences to bring to Hampton Hill.

He has been an area Dean - twice - so he knows all about the organisational side of how the church works. He has also trained three curates (two of whom are women), been Assistant Diocesan Director of Ordinands and a Reader Training Tutor, so he has experience of that role of the clergy as a supporter, teacher and trainer of those in the ministry. He has been a School Governor in challenging circumstances.

We welcome Peter to his new parish. We look forward to his arrival in March, to his ministry and to his presence amongst us. We have a new leader for 2007 - we have indeed.

Welcome, Peter.

CONFIRMATION



Julie Gittoes explains why the recent confirmation service should encourage us all as we continue to profess our faith

Spiritual journey goes on

Brothers and sisters, I ask you to profess together with these candidates the faith of the Church

These words, which the Bishop addressed to the whole congregation on the feast of Christ the King, remind us that whatever else we say about confirmation, it is an event which takes place within a community of faith. Candidates approach confirmation with their own personal questions, reasons and expectations. The one thing they have in common is that confirmation is the continuation of the journey faith begun in baptism.

In baptism we become members of the body of Christ, trusting in God for our growth in faith. From that moment on experience, circumstances, relationships and our engagement with the Christian community all contribute to our spiritual journey. Sometimes we have a strong sense of God's presence and purpose in our lives; sometimes we wrestle with challenges and doubts. Throughout, the Holy Spirit who guides and sustains us.

In confirmation, we celebrate to-



PRILL HINCKLEY

gether - as God's people - the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives. We celebrate with those being confirmed the reality of life lived within the love of God.

It has been a tremendous privilege to share with candidates (from St. James' and All Saints') this particular stage of their journey in faith. I was delighted and encouraged by the sheer enthusiasm of our young people as they prepared for confirmation. Whether we were talking about the Bible, prayer, the Eucharist, living as a Christian or our under-

standing of God, they continually came back to the importance of the church community. Similarly, our adult classes were grounded in a sense of fellowship as we reflected together on our experience of God, of our hopes, challenges and commitments. It was a wonderful opportunity to share together something of our spiritual journey and to deepen our understanding.

In the confirmation service, the Bishop addresses each candidate personally: God has called you by name and made you his own. He then prays that they will be confirmed by the Spirit who has called them. And so their journey continues - with us.

We are all transformed day-by-day by the same Spirit. We all share in the same spiritual food in the Eucharist. Together we are the body of Christ in our community. Let us be refreshed and encouraged by those newly confirmed as we continue to profess together the faith of the Church in our lives.

■ **The Worship/Services section of our website has more information and pictures about confirmation, as well as other services.**

GENEVIEVE BAGGE



VIEWPOINT

The Children

Thoughts from the children about being confirmed - before the confirmation:
This expresses what they were looking forward to about being confirmed

'Confirming our faith in the church'; 'Helping us to go in God's way all our life'; 'Feeling more grown up'.

Thoughts from the children about being confirmed - after the confirmation:
This expresses what they felt after being confirmed

'Confirmation means: confirming our faith in the church; helping us to go in God's way all our life, and it also makes us feel more grown up.'

Emma-Lee, Alice and Stella

'Now we look forward to taking communion. We feel like we belong to the church. We feel more grown up.'

Alice, Emma-Lee, Olivia, Emily, Olivia, Isobel.

'The service was quite long. The Bishop took great care and time with every single person being confirmed. He made us all feel special. When he put his hands on our heads he squeezed our heads very tightly - so tight that it hurt! The bread tasted good. The wine had a really weird taste like cherryade, or off-Ribena. We felt so excited about tasting the wine and bread for the first time.'

Alice C, Emma-Lee, Emily, Olivia, Isobel, Laura, Alice and Ursula

'Being christened is when your family decide to bring you into the church. Confirmation is different because it is your choice. That's when you decide that you want to belong to the church. I did not realise it was

such a big event. I loved it

when my family and godparents came to visit us for this special day. My grandparents travelled all the way from Thurso in Scotland'

Emma-Lee Peterson

'Being confirmed made me feel special and I felt more grown up and part of the church and community. The wine tasted a lot like cherryade and the bread stuck to the roof of my mouth. I liked having oil on my head but I was a bit afraid to rub it off.'

ST JAMES' CANDIDATES

Harry Taplin
Emily Taplin
Olivia Nettleton
Isobel Nettleton
Katie Tucker
Francesca Bratt
Laura Kittleson-Clifford
Ursula Calder
Emma Lee Peterson
Alice Coaker-Basdell
Stella Young
RIGHT: Becky Taplin
Darrell Webb
Nick Bagge
Sarah Richardson



What's it all about then?

What is confirmation?

Its meaning has developed a great deal since the first days of the church. In the very beginning, only adults were baptised, becoming members of the Church through both a water baptism and a laying-on of hands. As whole families came to be baptised, children and babies with their parents, no distinction was made - all received baptism and 'confirmation' and could immediately share in



Communion. But as the church grew, it became impossible for a bishop to be present at every baptism. Increasingly the second part of the ceremony was delayed until a bishop could be present. It is a common misunderstanding that in this sacrament we 'confirm' the words said for us at our baptism. We do, as independent, free people, but that is a new meaning, introduced to explain the split rite. As the bishop stretches out his hands we recognise the ancient meaning; it is the Holy Spirit who 'confirms', in its root meaning of 'gives strength'. He encourages us to live as those who consciously 'turn to Christ'.

Why bother?

One obvious answer is that Confirmation is a part of our tradition, but more importantly, it can make a real difference in people's lives. It gives us a chance to think about our baptism and about what it means to be a Christian. We have a chance to reaffirm our membership in the Church and repeat those baptismal promises. Confirmation can also be a spiritual awakening.

What do you want from it?

If you've already been confirmed, you're more mature now. You've recited the Creed, a statement of your beliefs, Sunday after Sunday. You've learned more about your faith. But does your head follow your heart? God always offers us the grace to live up to our baptismal promises. So the question is, what difference will we allow



Confirmation to make in our lives? If Confirmation does not seem to have the expected or desired effect, it is not that God has failed us. When confirmed you renew the promises that your parents made for you at your Baptism: to believe in God, to be a

member of the Church, to avoid sin and lead a moral life. Jesus once said, 'Not everyone who calls me Lord, Lord, will enter the Kingdom of heaven, but only those who do the will of my Father' (Matthew 7:21). Saying the words is not enough; choosing to do God's will is necessary.

Living up to Confirmation

1. Learn more about what it means to be a Christian. Read the Gospels (Matthew 5-7 is a good place to begin) to see what Jesus asks of his followers. Find one part of your life to improve.
2. Think about your own hopes and ambitions, your own values and ideals. Then ask yourself how these compare with the Gospels and the teachings of Christ.
3. If you find differences between the way you are and the way you think a Christian should be, make some honest judgments about the way to go.
4. If you want to change, be practical. Don't try to change everything at once. Pray about it, and ask for guidance from someone you respect.

It could be you!

Whatever your age, if you are interested in being confirmed in 2007, look out for details of friendly, informal adult and children's confirmation classes.

Yours faithfully

Welcome to the first in a new monthly series in which we ask some of our parishioners, old and young, about their faith and what St James' means to them.

Jack Gostling



NICK BAGGE

Before his retirement Jack was a director of Gostling Builders. His practical skills and knowledge of all aspects of the building trade have been of incalculable value to St James' Church for over 40 years. His bass-baritone voice is highly valued by two choirs. Jack and Ruth have three children, four grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

When and why did you come to St James'? Ruth and I became a committed member after joining the newly-formed Stewardship Scheme in 1961. We were recruited by Margaret Robinson, a neighbour in St James's Road.

What do you value most about St James'? Its place at the centre of our community, open to all for the basics of marriage, baptism and funeral; but providing beyond, fellowship, spiritual refreshment and comfort when needed, welcoming young families - our future!

How did you become a Christian? Being a member of All Hallows, Twickenham, as a choirboy/server from the ages 10-18, with confirmation at 14.

What is it in Christianity that particularly inspires you? Love

What difference does being a Christian makes to your life? I can't imagine life without it.

What is the most useful lesson you have learned in life so far? Gratitude for the many blessings we enjoy, and that we only get out of life as much as we are prepared to put into it.

CHARITIES & LINKS COMMITTEE



Slavery abolished? Sadly not



Abolition of the Slave Trade Bicentenary 1807-2007

25 March 2007 will mark 200 years to the day that a Parliamentary Bill was passed to abolish the slave trade in the British colonies. After 20 years of lobbying, the Bill marked the beginning of the end of the Transatlantic Slave Trade.

It should not distract us from the shocking fact that the United Nations calculates there are at least 12.3 million slaves today - comprising those in forced labour, bonded labour, child labour, trafficked prostitutes and sweated pittance-wage labour.



In the midst of the events and news reports that will mark the bicentenary, the London Diocese Lent Appeal 2007 will connect us to the current issues and give us a way to do something about it -

to be a 21st century Wilberforce. More on this in next month's *Spire*.

ALMA website

ALMA - London's Link with the Anglican Church in Mozambique and Angola - has launched its own website to help raise awareness and keep parishes informed.



Do take a look and feed any comments to Elizabeth Wilmot, our parish ALMA rep. The website address is: www.almalink.org

Special collections in 2006

These are the collections taken during the year, over and above the planned donations from our annual budget.

Listing them here helps to make everyone aware and gives an opportunity to say thank you to all who gave.

- £388 for the football team at Hegongo Holy Cross School in Tanzania
- £295 for the Upper Room in Hammersmith (Harvest Festival)
- £260 for the Shooting Star Trust (Youth Concert)
- £234 for Combat Stress (Remembrance Sunday)
- £356 for The Children's Society (Christingle service)

All of last year's charitable donations are clearly displayed in church.

THE JAYS

God had trouble with the children too!

Whenever your children are out of control, you can take comfort from the thought that even God's omnipotence did not extend to God's children.

After creating heaven and earth, God created Adam and Eve. And the first thing he said was: 'Don't.'

'Don't what?' Adam replied.

'Don't eat the forbidden fruit,'

God said.

'Forbidden fruit?'

'We got forbidden fruit?'

'Hey, Eve...we got forbidden fruit!'

'No way!'

'Way!'

'Don't eat that fruit!' said God.

'Why?'

'Because I am your Father and I said so!' said God, wondering why he hadn't stopped after making the elephants.

A few minutes later God saw his children having an apple break and was angry.

'Didn't I tell you not to eat the fruit?' the First Parent asked.

'Uh huh,' Adam replied.

'Then why did you?'

'I dunno,' Eve answered.

'She started it!' Adam said.

'Did not!'

'Did too!'

'DID NOT!!'

Having had it with the two of them, God's punishment was that Adam and Eve should have children of their own.

Thus, the pattern was set and it has never changed.

But there is reassurance in this story. If you have persistently and lovingly tried to give them wisdom and they haven't taken it, don't be hard on yourself.

If God had trouble handling children, what makes you think it would be a piece of cake for you?

Jokes Corner!

The teacher said: 'Stand up all the children who want to go to heaven.' They all stood up except Jack. 'Don't you want to go to heaven, Jack?'

'Not yet, Miss,' said Jack.

☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺

A man fell off a cliff, but managed to grab hold of a branch on his way down. He hung there and shouted to the top, 'Is anybody up there?'

'Yes,' came the reply. 'God is up here!'

'Can you help me, God?'

'Yes.'

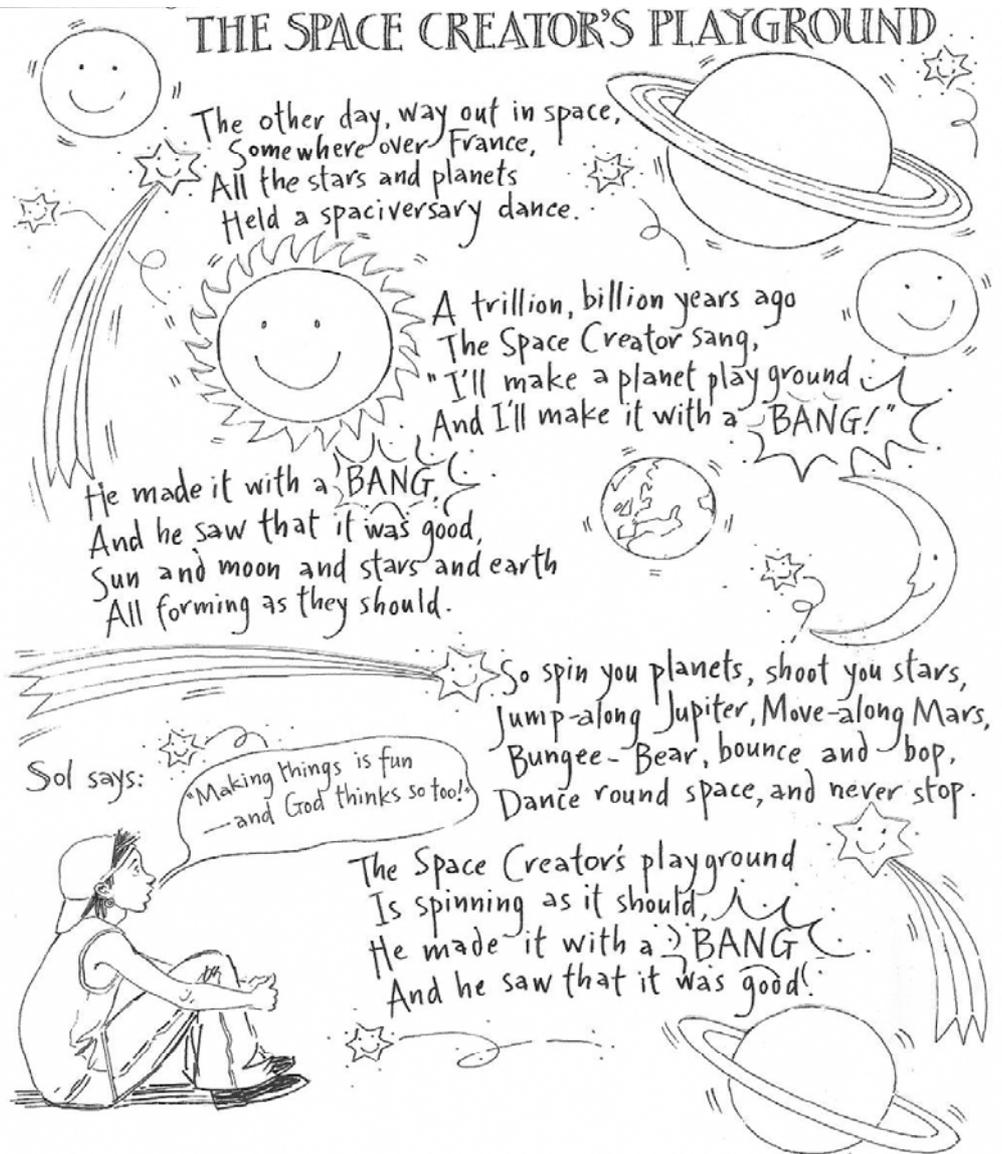
'What do you want me to do?'

'Let go of the branch.'

There was an agonizing pause.

'Is there anybody else up there?'

RAINBOW RHYMES Poems and promises for you to colour and cut out



Genesis 1:1,10 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.....and God saw that it was good

Wise Men by Daphne Kitching

Once there were some wise men,
They didn't know the way,
But they were looking for it.
They followed the star.

They were scholars, they were searchers,
Who didn't know the truth,
But they were looking for it.
They followed the star.

Although they were wise, they were puzzled,
They didn't know the meaning of life,
But they were looking for it.
They followed the star.

The star stopped over Jesus.

They were wise men,
They were wise men looking for
The way, the truth and the meaning of life.
They found Jesus.



FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Hampton Hill Parish Magazine.



Prill Hinckley dusts off the very first issue of the parish magazine for November 1884

The launch into the world of so small a craft as a Parish Magazine is an event, to those at least who are to be answerable for its contents, which involves no little anxiety and thought.

The Editor craves the indulgence of its readers for all the shortcomings of the new publication, and assures them that it will, as far as possible, be conducted with a view to their convenience and advantage.

Its design is to place on record the various little events of parochial life, which are especially interesting to those who have taken part in them, or have been otherwise connected with them; to give statistics and financial statements of the various institutions of the parish; to give notice of the services of the Church, and

of any parochial events which are to take place; and to give the Vicar an opportunity of communicating with his parishioners as occasion may require.

Although it is not intended to open the columns of the new Magazine to personal correspondence, the Editor, nevertheless, will be thankful to receive contributions of articles for publication, and any hints which may be suggested for its improvement.

With the hope that some little benefit may result from its publication, this small Magazine is commended to the kind reception of the inhabitants of Hampton Hill.

■ Visit our website for much more from the archives, as well as an ever-expanding history section



Thank you to all who worked hard on 2nd December, either leaf-sweeping, gutter cleaning or preparing Christingles.

The Christingle service was the usual joyous occasion and £356 was given in the collection for the work of the Children's Society.

Two engagements have been announced: Sarah Clay to Chris English and Matthew Horner, who works in Erlangen, Germany, to Marina Ernst. Congratulations to them all.

The Carol Service was a most enjoyable start to our Christmas celebrations. Many thanks to the choir and orchestra.

Ros McDowell is to be ordained in Holy Innocents Church, Hammersmith, on 6th January. Please remember her in your prayers.



St James' History Group/The History of St James' Church

A small group is interested in extending our knowledge of the history of St James' Church. We will be using existing information and collecting additional memorabilia, artefacts and recollections which will be conserved, catalogued and archived for the future. This will supplement and continue the story of St James' Church, recorded by Margery Orton in her book, *The Birth and Growth of Hampton Hill*.

The written and pictorial version of the story of St James' Church will eventually be made into binders for display in the church and also recorded on our church website. The history section on the website is already

being developed by building up archival evidence and using extracts from this, including past magazines, PCC minutes and information provided by local people.

Margery Orton's book is a key source of information and this has been reproduced in full on the website. We are particularly interested in the last century but would obviously welcome any additional information/material from any era to supplement what we already have.

If you would like to be involved in or contribute to this long-term project please contact Prill Hinckley or Coryn Robinson.

A centre of activity run by young people



Has the excitement of Christmas passed? Unsure what to do? If you're aged 11-19 and live locally, the Hampton Youth Project could solve the problem. Despite its name, it's a youth centre, based at 32 Tangle Park Road, open five evenings a week. Regular activities include basketball, dance, drama, Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme, football, as well as the chance to just pop in, chat to the youth workers and chill with your friends.

Inside this huge building you'll find an internet suite, darkroom, full-size sports hall, DJ room, art area, tuck shop, and a massive lounge complete with pool table, comfortable sofas and a plasma television.

Although there are youth workers on hand every evening, the most important people, as far as running the centre, are those on the members panel. This is made up of young people who attend the youth club. They decide what the programme of

events should be, represent the view of Hampton young people at local and borough level, collect subscriptions and run the tuck shop.

The club is part of Richmond Youth Service and all workers are police-checked and fully trained. Membership cost just £5 a year, and most of the activities are free. To find out more drop in, contact Tony Wilson, senior youth worker, 020 8288 0864, or visit their website: www.hamptonyouthproject.co.uk

REGISTERS

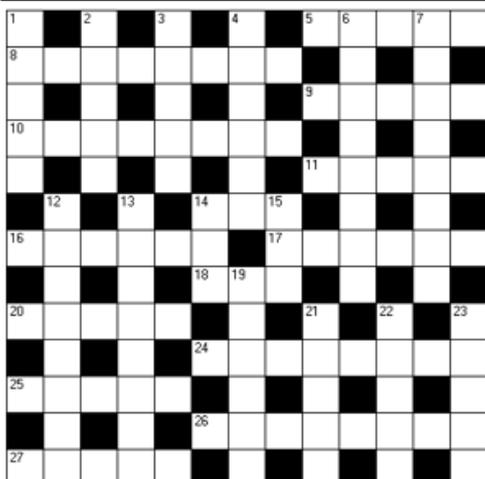
For November:

BAPTISMS

19 George William Proudman, Hampton Hill

WEDDINGS

4 Howard Michael Smith and Lara Jeffries



Crossword No 200701

Across

- 5 See 14 across
- 8 Scottish celebration on the eve of 14, 5, 18 across (8)
- 9 eg NIV, New English, or Good News (5)
- 10 Divine or deified ruler (8)
- 11 Grain threshed by Gideon in Judges ch. 6 (5)
- 14, 5 and 18 January 1st (3,5,3)
- 16 Japanese religion (6)
- 17 Part of the sword which, in addition to the blade, pierced the king's belly in Judges ch. 3 (6)
- 18 See 14 across
- 20 Martin Luther King had one (5)
- 24 Lake _____, today's name for the Sea of Galilee (8)
- 25 Name of two Old Testament books (5)

- 26 Pharisee teacher in Acts ch. 5 (8)
 - 27 When this has swept by, the wicked are gone, according to Proverbs ch. 10
- Down**
- 1 Colour of manna in Exodus ch. 16 (5)
 - 2 Concur (5)
 - 3 Perform like Herodias' daughter in Matthew ch. 14 (5)
 - 4 Building in which Vashti gave a banquet in Esther ch. 1 (6)
 - 6 Festival celebrated on January 6th (8)
 - 7 .of sound and _____ stock (Jer 2,21) (8)
 - 12 Member of a 19th century reform movement in Britain (8)
 - 13 Put a stop to wrath, imperil (8)
 - 14 Land east of Eden, where Cain went to live (3)

- 15 For what reason (3)
- 19 The fat of an _____ found dead (Lev 7,24)
- 21 Proverbs ch. 12 compares a disgraceful wife to this in her husband's bones (5)
- 22 Note whose length is equal to two crotchets (5)
- 23 Devotional song (5)

December's answers (200612) Across: 5 Carol 8 Nicholas 9 Saint 10 Shepherd 11 Stamp 14 Inn 16 Manger 17 Advent 18 Egg 20 Radio 24 Nativity 25 Minor 26 Melchior 27 Plays Down: 1 Gnash 2 Screw 3 Bothy 4 Barren 6 Adaptive 7 Ornament 12 Gamaliel 13 Agrimony 14 Ire 15 Nag 19 Goatee 21 Pitch 22 Civil 23 Myrrh

MUSIC



Friday 2 February

20.00 Musical Recital, St James'. Once again our local talented musicians will delight us with a varied programme. There will be music from our own St James' Recorder Ensemble, clarinet, voice and piano/organ. We are very fortunate to have such talent in our congregation, please come and support and enjoy the socialising afterwards with a glass or two of wine.

EVENTS

Saturday 6 January

11.30 Ordination, as priest, of Ros McDowell, at Holy Innocents Church, Paddenswick Road, Hammersmith, London W6 0UB. Tel 020 8748 2286. Featuring performances by Concordia of Ecce Sacerdos, Little Organ Mass and Lo, the Full Final Sacrifice.



Sunday 21 January

18.30 Service for Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, St Theodore's Catholic Church, Station Road, Hampton.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is a worldwide movement of Christians of many denominations, languages, races and cultures, who are engaged in praying and working for the unity of Christians in the service of the wider redemption, unity and peace of all peoples. Every year the dates are the same, 18-25 January, regardless of the days of the week. It is about being faithful to the prayer of Jesus Christ, as seen in John 17 'that they may be one'. The verse chosen for 2007 is: 'He even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak'. The Bible reading is Mark 7:31-37.

DATES FOR JANUARY

- 1 **The Naming and Circumcision of Jesus**
- 2 Basil the Great and Gregory of Nazianzus, Bishops, Teachers of the Faith, 379 and 389
- 6 **The Epiphany**
- 7 **First Sunday of Epiphany**
- 10 William Laud, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1645
- 11 Mary Slessor, Missionary in West Africa, 1915
- 12 Aelred of Hexham, Abbot of Rievaulx, 1167
- 13 George Fox, Founder of the Society of Friends (the Quakers), 1691
- 14 **Second Sunday of Epiphany**
- 17 Antony of Egypt, Hermit, Abbot, 356;
Charles Gore, Bishop, Founder of the Community of the Resurrection, 1932
- 18-25 **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**
- 19 Wulfstan, Bishop of Worcester, 1095
- 21 **Third Sunday of Epiphany**
- Agnes, Child Martyr at Rome, 304
- 22 Vincent of Saragossa, Deacon, first Martyr of Spain, 304
- 24 Francis de Sales, Bishop of Geneva, Teacher of the Faith, 1622
- 25 **The Conversion of Paul (see below)**
- 26 Timothy and Titus, Companions of Paul
- 28 **Fourth Sunday of Epiphany**
- The presentation of Christ in the Temple
Thomas Aquinas, Priest, Philosopher, Teacher of the Faith, 1274
- 30 Charles, King and Martyr, 1649



SERVICES

Sunday

08.00 Holy Communion
09.30 Parish Communion

1st Sunday in the month

09.30 Informal Service

Monday-Friday (except Tues)

09.15 Morning Prayer

Tuesday

09.30 Holy Communion

1st Wednesday in the month

07.00 Commuter Communion

1st Thursday in the month

14.00 Holy Communion

▶▶▶ BEHIND THE LINES: THE CONVERSION OF PAUL

This is the conversion of the greatest ever apostle of the Christian faith. Born as 'Saul' at Tarsus, and brought up as a Pharisee, he persecuted the Christians and watched with satisfaction the first Christian martyrdom, the stoning of Stephen. Then on his way to Damascus Saul had a vision of Christ that stopped him, literally, in his tracks. He realised that this Jesus whom he was persecuting was in fact the Messiah for whom he had longed. Saul changed overnight. He took a new name, Paul, and became an evangelist for the cause of Christ. He became a leader in the early Church, and his special calling was as an apostle to the Gentiles. He wrote many epistles to the young churches he founded - and thus, inadvertently, wrote a great part of the New Testament. Life as the greatest apostle was hardly full of perks: he was stoned, beaten, mobbed, homeless, hated, imprisoned, and finally martyred. Tradition has it that he was beheaded in Rome in AD 64, and buried where the basilica of St Paul 'outside the walls' now stands.

For the latest news and updates please refer to the pew sheets or log on to our website