

AROUND THE SPIRE



July 2018 - Number 35

**THE PARISH OF SAINT JAMES THE APOSTLE
QUEDGELEY and KINGSWAY**

PARISH PROGRAMME for July...

HERE ARE THE MAIN EVENTS IN THE PARISH THIS MONTH

SUNDAY 1st July, TRINITY 5:

Parish Eucharist (said) 9.30am

S.T.J.'s Family Service & Praise 10.30am with refreshments

World War One remembrance 11.00 & 2.00 Fisher's Meadow

SATURDAY 7th July, PARISH SUMMER FAYRE from 12 noon

See separate notices

SUNDAY 8th July, TRINITY 6:

Parish Sung Eucharist 10.30am with activities for children

Holy Baptism 1.00pm

TUESDAY 10th July, PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL – Community Centre, 7.30pm

WEDNESDAY 11th July, PARISH OUTING TO COVENTRY CATHEDRAL & CITY

SUNDAY 15th July, TRINITY 7:

Parish Sung Eucharist 10.30am with activities for children

Holy Baptism 1.00pm

FRIDAY 20th July, EUCHARIST WITH HEALING MINISTRY 4.00pm

SUNDAY 22nd July, TRINITY 8:

Parish Sung Eucharist 10.30am with activities for children

SUNDAY 29th July, PARISH PATRONAL FESTIVAL

Parish Sung Eucharist 10.30am with activities for children

Followed by refreshment time.

Further details of weekday services and events are to be found in the WEEKLY NEWSLETTER published each Sunday. Copies are always available in the Church.

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COPY FOR August MAGAZINE - to Father Hugh no later than Sunday July 15<sup>th</sup>.

Electronic or Back Copies can be made available if required. Please email the Editor, [hugh.broad@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:hugh.broad@yahoo.co.uk), if required.

# **"GET ON THA BENDERS LAD!"**

When I was a student at theological college I had a very wise and patient spiritual director - a priest of long standing.

I visited him on a regular basis to make my confession and seek his spiritual counsel - advice on how I might improve my ways!

Many times he would utter those words in the title for this Editorial!

In other words he was saying that in any given situation I would be a much better Christian if I prayed more.

I can now recall, over half a century later, many examples where I have found myself in situations where it is difficult to respond, and how much it helps to just take time out and pray through a situation before taking action of any kind.

DOES THIS APPLY TO YOU, DEAR READER?

Please remember that we are here to help you if we can. We have in this parish now a group of experienced priests, mostly retired who would be only too willing to offer you a listening ear and the benefit of their advice - do please contact one of us if you wish.

SO GET ON THA BENDERS!

Yes, it does help to pray, even if sometimes we don't feel like it!

I close this feature with a quote from a very helpful little booklet - "TRY PRAYING". There are a few copies in church, if you can't find one do let me know and I will get one for you.

*Try Praying - it's easier than you might think.*

*The number of ways to try praying is equal to the number of people alive today.*

*It's in our hearts, actions and words.*

*It's individual, unique and there for you to experience on your own terms, in your own way.*

***Father Hugh – your Editor***

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From the Rector

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

On the 29th July we shall be holding our Patronal Festival at Saint James' Church. A patronal festival is seen as the church's birthday and at Saint James' we shall be giving praise and thanking God, for the life and work of Saint James' who was one of Jesus' disciples. The three shells that you see on the red flag, (which will fly from the flagpole in the church yard on the 29th) is the emblem of Saint James who was also a fisherman. I hope as many people as possible attend this event as there will be a 'birthday' lunch following the service and another chance for a community get-together. We are also exploring the idea of celebrating the event with a 'Gift' day.

The Church Parish Office is available for arranging Christenings/Baptisms, Weddings and Marriage blessings and takes place in Saint James Church every Wednesday evening between 5.30pm & 6.00pm or a Saturday morning between 9.00am & 10.00am – it is hoped to open a Church Parish Office in Kingsway in the near future.

DATE	FORTH COMING EVENTS AT ST.JAMES	TIME
7 JULY	SAINT JAMES SUMMER FAYRE	12.00pm*
11 JULY	AWAY DAY TO COVENTRY CATHEDRAL	08.30am
29 JULY	PATRONAL FESTIVAL	10.30am
9 SEPTEMBER	CONFIRMATION with BISHOP ROBERT	10.30am
29 SEPTEMBER	Fr Hugh – 50 YEARS A PRIEST - Cathedral	11.30am *
7 OCTOBER	STJ'S COMBINED HARVEST SERVICE	10.30am
11 NOVEMBER	REMEMBRANCE SERVICE	10.30am*
11 NOVEMBER	BEREAVEMENT SERVICE	4.00pm
24 NOVEMBER	CHRISTMAS FAYRE	TBC
	*Possible time change	

For more information about Saint James please visit our

Website: www.quedgeleynews.org.uk or

Our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/saintjameschurchquedgeley/>

With every blessing

Fr John

Parish Priest and Rector

FROM THE REGISTERS IN APRIL & MAY

HOLY BAPTISM:

- 14th April STACEY WATTS (Adult), Chivenor Way
15th April HONEY SCRIVENS, Ardea Close
FREDDIE CHAMBERS-JONES, Pelsall

13th May GRACE & GEORGE SHERRATT, Park Drive
20th May COLLIENNE JAYNES=BURGESS (Adult), Oxford
VICTORIA GEDDING (Adult), Cheltenham
IESTIN MARTIN, Bristol Road
RILEY WATTS, Chivenor Way
"Welcome to the Lord's Family"

HOLY MARRIAGE:

- 27th April ZAK TYERS & MELISSA CORNWALL
28th April LEE SUMMERS & LISA CAMPS
18th May CALLUM FLEMING & JADE MATTHEWS
"Those who God has joined together"

FUNERALS:

- 3rd April MIKE ATTWOOL (85)
10th April NICK WILLIAMS (59)
11th April JUDITH EVANS (72)
16th April DOROTHY MOUSDALE (94)
28th April BILL PERRY (ashes)

12th May FLORA KNOWLES (ashes)
17th May MATTHEW APPLEBY (ashes)
"Rest Eternal grant to them O Lord"

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## ***Snippets...***

It's better to **GIVE** than to **LEND**, and it costs about the same!

*Lovell Cornwall*

## ***ON A PERSONAL NOTE:***

*On Saturday September 29th I shall be celebrating 50 years as an ordained priest!*

By kind permission of the Dean & Chapter I shall be privileged to mark this by celebrating the Holy Eucharist in the Quire of the Cathedral at 12.30pm

It is my hope that many of you who are reading this will want to be with me to mark this occasion, and there will be a social gathering in the Chapter House after the service.

More details next month when I shall be asking for names of those who would like to join me.

So for now, please note the date and time in your diary or calendar.

***Fr Hugh*** xx

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You Visit St James' church regularly...

BUT how well do you know the building?

Did you spot this 'Vase' ...?

It's on the altar in the South Aisle...

...Answer on page 12!



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## ***Snippets...***

Word.....CARPENTRY..... ...Definition? ...A way in for exotic fish!!

...And ...Before the age of the computer, a website was a spider's home.

...A memory was something that faded with age,

...And a mouse was a small furry creature with whiskers and a long tail.

*Lovell Cornwall*

# Saint James CHATTERBOX

*...time for fun!*

[www.quedgeleychurch.org.uk](http://www.quedgeleychurch.org.uk)



## **Parent, Baby and Toddler 'Drop-in' St. James Church Quedgeley** **Every Tuesday 9.30am - 11.00am**

### **ALERT**

We are very grateful to our volunteers who help us each week. Unfortunately, due to ill health and family commitments we have fewer helpers than usual. Whilst we are currently 'holding the fort' the present situation is unsustainable in the long term.

If you could spare a couple of hours on a Tuesday morning, (doesn't have to be every Tuesday) to help wash up, prepare refreshments and help tidy away after the event, then please give me a ring on 01452 721062 or drop me a line at [jacqueline.lhall@btinternet.com](mailto:jacqueline.lhall@btinternet.com)

Keep up with our events and activities by visiting our Facebook page.

<https://www.facebook.com/StJamesChatterbox/>

**Situation vacant** - St. James' Chatterbox, Tuesday 9.30am – 11am,  
(Hours of work 9.30am- 12noon) – volunteer.

The role is for a general helper to work alongside four other volunteers. The role will include help setting up the toys and craft activity, serving refreshments and tidying away toys and cleaning up after the sessions. It would suit anyone who enjoys socializing with people, likes working with children and their parents.



# SAINT JAMES' CHURCH AT WORK AND PLAY



Father John at  
the Kingsway  
Big Lunch with  
the Saint  
James  
Tombola and  
Plant Stall in  
the background



June  
showing the  
quilt she's  
made to  
friends





**Di's rather splendid Garden – which she  
'*opened*' again in aid of church funds on  
Sunday 20th May...**





# SAINT JAMES CHIT-CHAT

*Relax and meet new friends !*



**EVERY THURSDAY AT SAINT JAMES CHURCH**  
**QUEDGELEY 10.00AM - 12NOON FOR THE NOT**  
**SO YOUNG BUT YOUNG AT HEART!**

We partnered up with Chatterbox during June selling plants and having a tombola stall at the Kingsway Big Lunch. We raised over £300.00 towards the upkeep of Saint James' Church. It was a great day and we are already planning next year's venture.

This month we'll be holding a similar stall at our church's Summer Fayre to be held in the grounds of the church. Let's hope we do just as well!

Chit Chat is open every Thursday morning from 10.00am -12noon. We are just around the corner from Tesco and you'll always be greeted with a warm welcome. So do come and join us!

If you would like more information on Chit Chat then please visit our website [www.quedgeleychurch.org.uk](http://www.quedgeleychurch.org.uk)

Give us a ring on 01452 721062 if you'd like more information.

Jackie

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The Servers Story, by Shirley Anne Wilce.

The Bells ring out in all their glory.
This is my church and here is my story.
My robe is white and very long.
We walk out together to the sound of a song.
We serve our Lord at the foot of the altar
and pray He forgives us when we falter.
We pray with our hearts for sick and the dying.
It's as much as we can do to stop us from crying.
We serve the people the bread and the wine.
Which have turned into flesh by intervention divine.
Feet on these stones for many years have trod
as people down the ages have served our God.
I thank you Lord for blessing me
to serve as I do and to be free.

©Shirley Wilce 2018

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# Life\*

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The most recent visit to the Somme and the Ypres Salient saw 48 people travel many of whom had relatives buried in various cemeteries and wreaths were laid. Also visited was the Hill 62 Museum with its great selection of pictures of the era and many souvenirs.

The highlight of the visit was the Menin Gate Ceremony held every day of the year (including Christmas Day) where our group laid 12 wreaths from their groups and organisations and the Guest for the night was the Mayor of Le Touquet in France.

We took (as we always do) some youngsters with us, this year the Police Cadets, Fire Service Cadets and an Army Cadet who also laid wreaths at the Menin Gate.

The weather was the best I have ever experienced there with the temperature exceeding 90 degrees each day and so sun tans were also the order of the day. We have already arranged a date for next year and some 18 names on the list so far.

*Steve Smith - Chairman 2016-18*

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You Visit St James' church regularly...

Did you spot this 'Vase' ...?

It's on the altar
in the South Aisle...





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## ***A married couple...***

A married couple in their early 60s are celebrating their 40th wedding anniversary in a quiet romantic little restaurant. Suddenly, a tiny yet beautiful fairy appeared on their table. She said, 'For being such an exemplary married couple and for being loving to each other for all this time, I will grant you each a wish.' The wife answered, 'Oh, I want to travel around the world with my darling husband.' The fairy waved her magic wand and – poof! – two tickets for the Queen Mary II appeared in her hands. The husband thought for a moment: 'Well, this is all very romantic, but an opportunity like this will never come again. I'm sorry my love, but my wish is to have a wife 30 years younger than me.' The wife, and the fairy, were deeply disappointed, but a wish is a wish.! So, the fairy waved her magic wand and poof!... The husband became 92 years old. The moral of this story: Men who are ungrateful should be careful what they wish for! And remember all fairies are female.....

*Val Harris*



# ***“Times and Seasons”: The Christian Year***

“Saints' Days” - The seasons of our Calendar are interspersed with days which are dedicated to Christian men and women who, down the years, have been given the title “saint” or “Blessed”. For example, 25th July is the day set aside for remembering St James the Apostle, the patron saint of our church. Remembering the saints and seeking their prayers on our behalf has a long history; Judas Maccabaeus had a vision in which he saw the prophet Jeremiah praying, with arms outstretched, for the whole of Israel. This vision gave Judas confidence in his determination to lead Israel to freedom again. (2 Maccabees ch. 15. v 12).

In the New Testament, the letter to Hebrews reassures us of the “Cloud of Witnesses” which surrounds us and intercedes for us, and St John the Divine recorded in his Revelation that the martyrs of the Church stand around the throne of God in prayer.

But it is thanks to the teachings of St Paul, writing about the mystical body of Christ, in which all the members have a particular duty or office, that we learn that those of number who have died in faith are called to the duty of praying for the Church on earth. “We are fellow-citizens with the saints, and of the household of God”. (Ephesians ch 2 v 19).

When Bishop Polycarp of Smyrna was martyred in 156AD his followers expressed their determination to “celebrate the birthday of his martyrdom” for all the days to come. (They used the word “birthday” quite deliberately because they believed that the end of an earthly life was the beginning of a heavenly one.) So began the practice of remembering those who had passed into new life, and the seeking of their prayers for those who still struggled here below. Many of the leaders and teachers of the Early Church supported this custom, adding that those who had given their lives to Christ while not necessarily suffering the martyr's death, were also worthy of remembrance as they too had been received into Christ's Kingdom, where they shared in the ministry of intercession.

By the time of the Middle Ages many superstitions and strange practices had come to surround the custom of remembering the saints, and groups and individuals had gained financially from pilgrims seeking out places where saints had died or had ministered, or indeed had been seen in mystical appearances. So the Reformation across Europe fiercely repudiated the practice – shrines were removed or destroyed, property was confiscated, and worshippers were “persuaded” to give up the tradition of seeking the prayers of the faithful. In England, the Thirty-nine Articles in the Book of Common Prayer (1662) warn against the extremes of some aspects of venerating the saints, but since the

Oxford Movement in the 19th century, the practice of remembering the saints with honour has very much continued, and indeed has grown to include those of our own generation who were lights in their own day.

Jesus reassured the twelve that they would eventually be with him in the kingdom, living a new life, with new work to do. St Paul wrote about the “mystical body of Christ” to which we all belong – either struggling here on earth, or raised in glory to heaven. The followers of Polycarp were correct; we cannot forget or ignore those who have gone before us in the faith. They are now closer to God and surely pray for us; it is right that we continue to give thanks and praise for them.

The most well-known and highly-honoured of the saints must surely be the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of Christ, for without her simple answer to God “Let it be to me as you have said”, the story of salvation would not have unrolled. It is right to remember her with love and gratitude – for her own self-sacrifice and for the love and care she still shares with the people of God. There are several days during the year which are dedicated to her:

2nd February – when Jesus was presented in the Temple as her first-born and declared to be the “Light to lighten the Gentiles”

25th March – The Annunciation – when Gabriel announces that she had been chosen by God to be the mother of his Son.

31st May – The Visitation – Mary and her cousin Elizabeth share in their joy that God has chosen them to work for him in bearing John the Baptist, the Forerunner, and Jesus the Christ himself.

15th August – The Assumption – at the end of her earthly life, Mary was gathered to heaven so that the Church on earth and in paradise might continue to honour her.

8th September – Traditionally kept as the birthday of Mary.

8th December – God's plan of salvation was not a spur-of-the-moment decision. Mary's part in that plan was in place from the moment of her conception. She was indeed “full of grace” from the very beginning.

We honour the saints because during their lives on earth they were people like us who were able to overcome all the trials and temptations that confronted them and were able to hold on to the “pearl of great price” which they had found, and so became examples for us to follow, with honour and love.

*To be continued...                      Fr. Ian*

# Who's Who in the Parish

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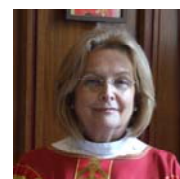
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EXTENDED CHURCH OFFICE, in the vestry

...for the Calling of Banns of Marriage; Holy Baptisms; Marriages etc.

WEDNESDAY: 5.30 – 6.30pm

SATURDAY: 9.00 – 10.00am

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