

AROUND THE SPIRE

The Parish of Saint James the Apostle

Quedgeley & Kingsway

June 2018 Number 34

PARISH PROGRAMME for June...

HERE ARE THE MAIN EVENTS IN THE PARISH THIS MONTH

SUNDAY - FIRST AFTER TRINITY - June 3rd

PARISH EUCHARIST & S.T.J. 10.30a.m. with special arrangements for children and refreshments.

SUNDAY - SECOND AFTER TRINITY - June 10th

PARISH EUCHARIST & activities for children 10.30a.m.

SUNDAY - THIRD AFTER TRINITY - June 17th

PARISH EUCHARIST & activities for children 10.30a.m.

HOLY BAPTISMS 1.00p.m.

SUNDAY - FOURTH AFTER TRINITY - June 24th

PARISH EUCHARIST & activities for children 10.30a.m.

TUESDAY 26TH - CITY DEANERY SYNOD 7.15p.m.

SATURDAY 30th - HOLY MARRIAGE - 1.00p.m.

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

Copies available in the church and on line at
www.quedgeleychurch.org.uk

Copy for July MAGAZINE—to Father Hugh no later than Sunday
10th June

Editorial

'I DON'T HAVE THE TIME!'

I wonder how many times, like me, you who are reading this article, have said just that? But of course it is just not true is it? We all have the same amount of time at our disposal, as the hours and minutes of each day tick away!



O.K. - of course it is true that in total the length of our earthly lives will differ from person to person, and we all know of people whose span of years is tragically cut short. But what I am seeking to share with you as your editor is to encourage you to approach the time we have at our disposal in the 'here and now' in the best possible way – and what follows is a way to do just that.

In 1954 a French priest, Michel Quoist compiled a book of prayers called 'Prayers of Life' which quickly became a best-seller through its earthly appeal to apply prayer in all sorts of times and occasions. It was translated into many languages and said so much to many people who soon discovered that his novel approach to prayer helped to transform their life conversing with God.

I am one of those people, and in particular his prayer 'Lord I have time' rang many bells with me, and I well recall that I was introduced to this book and way of praying in the autumn when I had just started my training for the priesthood at Durham. Our college chaplain, the Archdeacon of Auckland read this poem on time in the dramatic way which the author intended. I would love to have opportunity of relating this prayer to you as our chaplain did – I know I could not do it as well as he did, but I would love to have a go sometime. Suffice it for the present to quote Father Michel's introduction in the book, for this particular prayer, "People complain that they haven't enough time. It's because they look at their lives from too human a point of view. There's always time to do what God wants us to do, but we must put ourselves completely into each moment that he offers us."

So good luck dear Reader in your adventure into prayer! May it be a real step forward as you seek to be one of the disciples of our present age

Fr. Hugh

Editor

From the Rector



Dear Parishioners and Friends,

Our Summer Fayre takes place in a few weeks' time (7th July) in the church yard. This is another opportunity for us to raise much needed funds for the upkeep of the church. They'll be some attractions for the kiddies, a bouncy castle and children will be able to have their photo taken with the Unicorn who will be making a star appearance between 12noon and 1.30pm. Refreshments including a barbecue will be available. We are already selling raffle tickets and nearly all members of our congregation have books to sell!

Whilst we look forward to the annual summer fayre in the churchyard, we do ensure that the internment area used for ashes is cordoned off and the fayre does not overflow into the main section of the church yard.

It was great to have Bishop Rachel, celebrating the Holy Eucharist with us last month. It was her first official visit to St. James' here in Quedgeley and Kingsway. I am also grateful to the choir from Fieldcourt Infant Academy who came to sing the 'Lord's Prayer' to us and 'He's got the whole world in his hands'. It was a lovely occasion and everyone joined in.

Looking forward to seeing you all at our Summer Fayre on the 7th July, in the church yard at 12noon.

With every blessing

Fr John

Parish Priest and Rector

Other dates for your diary

July 29th - Will be your Saint James Church – Patronal Festival

September 9th – Confirmation Service.

Saturday September 29th. Feast of St Michael & All Angels - Fr Hugh's 50th Anniversary as a Priest. Special Eucharist in Gloucester Cathedral at 12.30p.m.



SUMMER FAYRE

SATURDAY

7th JULY

Saint James' Church Yard

School Lane Quedgeley

GL2 4PN

If raining

Quedgeley Community Centre

School Lane Quedgeley

12noon—4.30pm



**Stalls Refreshments Music
Raffle**

YOUR EDITOR ON LOCAL RADIO!

Recently I was interviewed by Richard Atkins of BBC Radio Gloucestershire about our magazine.

He stated on the air that this was one of the best parish magazines that he receives each month.

He was particularly interested in this SITS VAC item, and asked me to let him know in a few weeks how much response it has attracted.

A big problem here - in a month this item and its requests for help in the parish have attracted - NOT ONE REPLY!

So come on folks, don't let me down! None of these items are time consuming or dangerous by are really important as a part of the life of the parish - so here goes with the item again.

I LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR REPLY!!



Help if we can

A very successful Show was held in the Quedgeley Community Centre resulting in over 40 messages of praise being received. We were so pleased that the Mayors of Cheltenham and Gloucester were able to attend once again along with the Chairman of Quedgeley Town Council.

Plans are progressing well for the World War 1 Centenary Tournament which is on July 1st at Fishers Meadow in School Lane, Quedgeley. Big support from the emergency services and other groups and after a parade to the site led by Paramedic Motorcycles and Police Horses and bands, static and arena displays will take place with Police, Ambulance and Fire Services, Severn Area Rescue and much more. The afternoon will finish with a Drum Head Service led by our Chaplain the Reverend John Ward and featuring the Cotswold Male Voice Choir, Gloucester Brass and the Lone Piper with Colours and Standards and a March Past afterwards.

Other things coming along, Boot Sale at Fishers Meadow on Sunday July 8th from noon. Trip on the River Thames from Windsor on Sunday 12th August with time in Windsor. Few seats left on the coach. There is a Fun Day at Kingsway Sports Field on Sunday 26th August and the bi-annual visit to the National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire on Thursday 13th September, booking now. Quiz night on Saturday 13th October. Trafalgar Dinner on Saturday 20th October.

The Executive Committee are so very grateful for all the support received from all over the county and beyond. We are always looking for new supporters to join with us on fund raisers.

Steve Smith

**POEM FOR BISHOP RACHEL ON HER VISIT TO SAINT JAMES
CHURCH—22ND APRIL 2018**

Bishop Rachel we welcome you, to St. James' church Quedgeley in GL2.

I was in Gloucester Cathedral for your inauguration, the service was special – a fine revelation – to see so many clergy in one great location was awesome, uplifting and thanks for the invitation.

Two lady priests I know “Caroline from Longlevens” and “Caroline from Fairford” both said “Good Heavens – fancy seeing you on College Green today” as we enjoyed our ice cream and drank Elderflower Pressee.

We have many activities here so please take a look – Chatterbox & Chitchat & Open the Book for which Liz runs a very good team who visit two schools weekly – it's part of a scheme to take God's word to pupils who join with acting, we know by their welcome on young lives they're impacting.

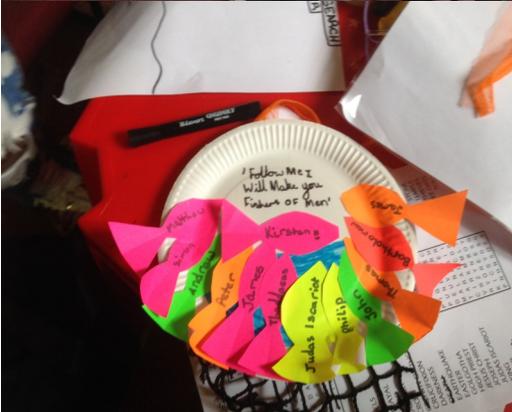
There is Chit Chat for the elderly or lonely and sad and Chatterbox for little ones where fun can be had. Thanks to Jackie and her crew there's so much to do not forgetting Angie with Knit and Natter and Shirley's Poetry Group too.

Monthly at STJ's parents and kids are such a good bunch, sing hymns, say prayers, do crafts then devour a good buffet lunch.

PLEASE PRAY FOR US BISHOP RACHEL as we do for you. May God bless you and keep you 'cause Gloucester really needs you.

Pam Westwood 17th April 2018 for St. James' Poetry Group





Last month we welcome the Revd Jenny d’Esterre to Saint James’ in Quedgeley. Jenny will be working alongside Fr. Hugh Broad and Fr. Ian Robb, assisting our Rector Father John Ward. Jenny will be focusing on the Kingsway area so if you see her out and about in Kingsway don’t be shy please stop and say ‘Hello’. Here Jenny tells us a little about herself. Revd Jenny can be contacted on 01453 890384 Mobile—07540322744 revdjenny@gmail.com

I’m a wife, mother and grandmother and I grew up in north Bristol where I was involved in my local church, Holy Trinity, Westbury-on-Trym, from a very early age where my faith was nourished and nurtured over the years. Before marriage I worked as a legal secretary and later went into teaching, both in Bristol and Gloucester. I’ve been a Headteacher of 2 Primary Schools, worked as a Special Educational Needs & Disability Officer for South Gloucestershire LA and before I retired, I ran the Primary Pupil Referral Unit for children with social, emotional and behavioural difficulties. This enabled me to fit in work alongside part-time ordination training at WEMTC with the necessary residential training commitment.



I’ve been a Governor of two Community Schools and was Chair of Governors at a church school for many years and I’m currently a member of the Diocesan Board of Education.

I was ordained by Bishop Michael 15 years ago as a Self-Supporting Priest and was originally licensed to my home Benefice of Slimbridge in 2003.

Since retiring from my secular employment I’ve been Priest in Charge of a Benefice of 5 churches in the south of the Diocese for 6 years before moving to Matson as a part-time Associate Priest.

For relaxation, I enjoy spending time with my family, cooking, gardening, reading and sewing.

"Times and Seasons": The Christian Year

"Ordinary Time" - Or, if you grew up using the Book of Common Prayer, you may still refer to "Sundays after Trinity". I remember a priest who often referred to this particular season as "The long green afternoon of the Church" - long, because it takes up almost half of the year; green, because that is the colour of the vestments we use; and afternoon because it follows on from all the major events of the year before we begin the round again!

You know of course that we condense all the events of Our Lord's earthly life and ministry into less than twelve calendar months; we reach a climax at Easter, when we celebrate his victory over death, and his sending of the Holy Spirit to the Infant Church on the feast of Pentecost. After this, our Sunday readings tend to concentrate on the things Jesus said and did, and how the first Christians set about carrying on his work and sharing his message.

The Sunday immediately after Pentecost is known as "Trinity Sunday" when we celebrate, not an event as such, but one of the principal tenets of the Christian faith – that the God we worship is revealed in three particular ways, which we refer to as Father (the Creator), the Son (the Redeemer), and the Holy Spirit (the Sanctifier – the one who makes us holy). No other world religion speaks of God in this way: the Father who created the universe, the Son who came to redeem and save that creation, and the Holy Spirit who came to give life to the people of God. It is therefore right that we mark this belief with a special celebration.

The Sundays which follow are "ordinary" in that they are not particular "festivals" - although every Sunday (the first day of the week) is an anniversary of the Resurrection of Jesus. That is why Sunday is the principal "holy day" for Christians, the day when we make worship, and especially the eucharist, a priority. (I was once in a church where the priest insisted that on every Sunday throughout the year one of the hymns was an "Easter" hymn; I leave it to you to decide if that was a good idea!)

Green is the liturgical colour of the season because it is the natural colour of the created world around us. Scientists tell us that "green" is the result of sunlight reacting with the chemical chlorophyll; gardeners know that plants deprived of daylight soon lose their greenness no matter how much we feed and water them. We could easily describe "green" not as Fr Hugh's favourite colour but as God's own colour, because He makes it!

Of course, the weeks of Ordinary Time do not continue un-interrupted. There are other festivals to be observed, such as our own Patronal Festival when we celebrate the lives of St James and St Mary Magdalene, and give thanks for those who established and built the church in this parish all those years ago. This year our Patronal falls on July 29th and we hope that everyone will be in church to celebrate the day and also to re-dedicate themselves as members of the Body of Christ on Earth – the Church of God.

An important day which occurs soon after Trinity Sunday is the day often referred to as “Corpus Christi”, a Latin term meaning the Body of Christ. It is a day set aside for a special thanksgiving for the gift of Holy Communion, the sacrament which Jesus himself gave to the Church, and through which He continues to do so today. The Eucharist is such a special gift that it is right to take time to remember how it began, and to give thanks that we are all continually invited to take part and so receive God's grace, given through the physical forms of bread and wine.



“Do this in remembrance of me; remember I am with you always.” We celebrate “Corpus Christi” on the Thursday after Trinity Sunday, and there will be a celebration of the Eucharist in St James at 7.30pm.

We may call it “Ordinary Time”, but there is really nothing ordinary about being a Christian. The New Testament is full of evidence of how people's lives were changed by their acceptance of the teachings and way of life given and demonstrated by Jesus. Down the centuries that has continued to be true; men and women all round the world have found their lives transformed by surrendering to Christ. Over and over again He takes what we call “ordinary” and makes it “special” through His grace, and so we find Heaven in Ordinary.

“Teach me, my God and King, in all things thee to see...” (George Herbert “Hymns Old & New 629”)

To be continued.....Fr Ian

To make your smile ...

I always take my wife morning tea in my pyjamas . But is she grateful? No, she says she'd rather have it in a cup.

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!

Each week most of our tables are full and we are still welcoming new faces.

If you haven't been to see us yet why not pop in after your trip to Tesco's or one of the other retail units in the area? We have plenty of yummy refreshments, including homemade cake and sandwiches. Fruit is always available. There are the daily newspapers to read or board games to play. We are open every Thursday morning in the church between 10.00am and 12noon.

We'd love to see you!

If you would like more information on Chit Chat then please visit our website www.quedgeleychurch.org.uk



Saint James CHATTERBOX

... *time for fun!*



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

We never stop! Our thanks go to Lin Norman who each week comes up with new and exciting craft activities. Last week the children made their own paper rockets!

Unfortunately, we did have to close our doors for one week. A group of people from NATWEST set up their own community project and were keen to come to Quedgeley and help out.

The church's carpets were cleaned, the loo painted and the kitchen scrubbed down. They even had time to paint the toilets at the Q Club and go on a litter pick. Our grateful thanks goes to them.

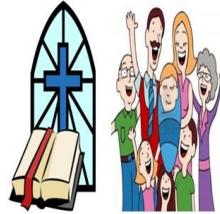
Saint James' Summer Fayre takes place next month at the church (7th July) from 12noon. We are already collecting tombola prizes for our stall. I do hope as many people will attend as possible and support us.

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

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



STJ's
Family Worship and
Praise



www.quedgeleychurch.org.uk

...with laughter and fun!



Come and
join us for

SUNDAY 1st July
10.30am

Thomas the Doubter



Saint James' Church School Lane
Quedgeley

Worship . Arts and Crafts . Free buffet
lunch