

Calendar for

August

- S 2 **TRINITY 8**
0800 Holy Communion (said) Common Worship rite
0930 Holy Communion - with a crèche Congregational
1100 Mattins Congregational
- M 3 2000 Internal Affairs
- S 9 **TRINITY 9**
0800 Holy Communion (said) Common Worship rite
0930 Holy Communion - with a crèche Congregational
1100 Mattins Congregational
- S 16 **TRINITY 10**
0800 Holy Communion (said) Common Worship rite
0930 Holy Communion - with a crèche Congregational
1100 Mattins Congregational
- S 23 **TRINITY 11**
0800 Holy Communion (said) Common Worship rite
0930 Holy Communion - with a crèche Congregational
1100 Mattins Congregational
- Sa 29 0930 Churchwarden's Surgery at "The Larder"
- S 30 **TRINITY 12**
0800 Holy Communion (said) Common Worship rite
0930 Sung Eucharist - with a crèche
1100 Choral Mattins and Holy Baptism



VOTE GOD INSTEAD

WITH the electoral race now well and truly on, the air is buzzing with choices. Choice of politicians, policies, panaceas, promises, performance. We've heard it all before.

But I believe there's still an even more vital choice needing to be made. Many never consider it as they plod or push their way through everyday life – with so much emphasis today on becoming better-off people. What about better people?

It can't be denied that the way millions of us ordinary folk choose to be – personal conduct, motives and standards – cuts the most ice in determining the way a country goes.

This could be the time to choose a complete turn-around from our damaged or neglected standards of honesty, conscientiousness, clean living. It could affect the whole country's ethos and influence.

Countless Britons over the centuries have found faith and obedience to God as their guiding force and inspiration for important reforms and advances in every field. But now the trend seems to be to bury faith and its influence as passé. No wonder our social problems mount.

So – will we or will we not now choose to seek actively for the ways that God would have us follow, empowered by Him as we aim to live His standards of honesty, purity, unselfishness and love?

We have it on good authority (the highest, in fact), that those who seek will find.

Hastings Observer 19 June 2009

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EWELL PARISH NEWS

The monthly newspaper of St Mary the Virgin

No.439

August 2009

60p



Sharing the Love of Christ, the Light of the World, with the people of Ewell

CHANGE - 2009 STYLE

At this year's Hay-on-Wye Literary Festival Archbishop Williams went very public with "Sometimes, during the wordier manifestations of Anglicanism, a strong Quaker urge comes upon me for silence. A church that took God seriously would be moving in and out of silence like that a lot more than we seem to be doing."

Britain's twittering, chattering classes are now ear-battering in their calls for change. Our voting systems, Houses of Parliament, Political Party Funding, Bank of England, Monarchy, Business practices - all, it seems, must be changed.

The lack of positive workable suggestions shows the clamour to be non-intellectual, rather a great rambling of unease in the deep dark vaults of our moral misgivings.

William Penn, Quaker founder of Pennsylvania, was at the heart of British politics throughout a long life and knew a thing or two about monarchs and ministers, probably as much as our Archbishop today

Penn's conclusions were clear -

Though good laws do well, good men do better. Governments, like clocks, go from the motion that men give them... Let men be good, and the government cannot be bad; if it be ill they will cure it. But if man be bad, let the government be ever so good, they will endeavour to warp and spoil it to their turn.. Men must choose to be governed by God, or they condemn themselves to be ruled by tyrants.

Williams and Penn present one simple blinding fact. It is we British who need to change. Not our

systems, not our laws. We ourselves.

How?

We move in and out of silence for a start.

What each of us realises in the privacy of our own silence we put into collective public action. We at St Mary's can collaborate with others who practise the same discipline.

Only one thing is necessary. Honestly. Which is not difficult since we all know when we are being dishonest.

And Love helps. Love of our brother. Penn named his state capital Philadelphia from the Greek word Philos (love) and Adelpnos (brother).

An ideology of Honesty and Love could unite all British people in a war against individualism and materialism. It would give every person their chance to play a full part in a national struggle against selfishness.

For us not to take this positive step against evil, leaves us open to the harsh criticism of those old-style religionists who used to say-

If you won't believe in God,
And you won't believe in sin,
Don't think it very odd
To stay stuck in the mess you're in!

We need to love those politicians who don't "do society" and don't "do God", while praying that we find a new generation who do both.

St Mary the Virgin, Ewell Parish Church

*Garden Party
Saturday 19 September 2009*

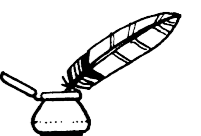


Time: 2.30 - 4.30 p.m.

Venue:

46a Ewell Downs Road

**Tickets £4 after services on Sundays
and from the Parish Office**



Father Russell writes

My first column in Ewell Parish News seems like a good opportunity to provide some biographical details by way of introduction.



I grew up in Lancashire, and after school in Blackburn, I went up to Magdalen College, Oxford, to read physics. It was in Oxford that I became more involved with the Church, and I was baptized and confirmed in my college chapel. After graduating, I spent some time working as an IT consultant, but I was also discerning a vocation to the priesthood. I then went to Cambridge to study for ordination, living at Westcott House theological college for three years and studying through Selwyn College. I returned to Oxford diocese as a curate, where I served in a benefice of three village churches, and then moved to be priest-in-charge of a parish in Oxford itself, where I still am as I write. I have been in my current parish for four years. It is a part post, so I have combined it with other jobs: running a diocesan internet project, working with the Archdeacon of Oxford, and being catechist and assistant chaplain at Exeter College. I have been sure for some time that I want to return to working fully in parish ministry, and I was very pleased indeed when the Bishop of Guildford telephoned me following the interview process to ask me to become the next Vicar of Ewell.

This summer promises to be a very full one. In July, I have to complete my part-time Master's degree in canon law. Then in August, I am getting married. My fiancée, Elaine, is a barrister in chancery who works mainly in London. Like me, Elaine is excited about the move to Ewell: on the interview day we were made so welcome, and were struck by the friendliness of everyone we met. So we're looking forward to

St Mary the Virgin EWELL PARISH CHURCH 020 8393 2643

Website: www.stmarysewell.com

CLERGY

Vicar designate:

The Reverend Russell Dewhurst MPhy BTh

The Reverend Patrick Miller MA PhD (Honorary)

READERS

Mr Reginald Saunders MA MEd 020 8393 5550

Mrs Wendy Varney 020 8393 5212

CHURCHWARDENS AND SEQUESTRATORS

Mr David Crick 07850 709461

Mr Jonathan Gocher 020 8224 5942

SUNDAY AT ST MARY'S

0800 HOLY COMMUNION

0930 SUNG EUCHARIST

The Wayfarers and the Sunday School meet in conjunction with this service, and there is a Creche provided in church.

There is coffee in the church hall between the Eucharist and Mattins on Sunday mornings, and a chance for members of the congregation to meet or visitors to be welcomed to St Mary's.

1100 MATTINS

(Third Sunday in each month SUNG EUCHARIST to the Book of Common Prayer Rite)

1830 EVENING WORSHIP

1700 - Choral Evensong (2nd Sunday in the month)

Details are on the Notice Board or on the Weekly Notes.

Occasionally there are variations from this pattern; details are given in this paper, on the Notice Board or on the Weekly Notes available on Sundays.

ON WEEKDAYS

The Eucharist is normally celebrated at present on Tuesdays at 1000, and at other times as printed on the Weekly Notes. Most of the Weekday services take place in the Parish Room (entry through the door on the Church Street side of the Church).

THE PARISH OFFICE

Administrator:

Mrs Lynne Yuille 020 8393 2643 (Office)

Office email: parishoffice@stmarysewell.com

St Mary's Church is in London Road, Ewell, and the Parish Office is in the Sacristy on the south side of the church.

The Office hours are normally 9.30-13.00 Mon, Tues, Wed and Fri, but please check before visiting as appointments are usually needed.

The postal address is:

C/O Ewell Vicarage, Church Street, Ewell KT17 2AQ.

CHURCHWARDEN'S SURGERIES

The churchwardens normally hold two surgeries each month. Please see the calendar on the back page for details.

"Think for yourself, and let others enjoy the privilege of doing so too."

Voltaire

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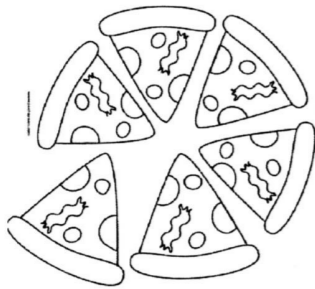
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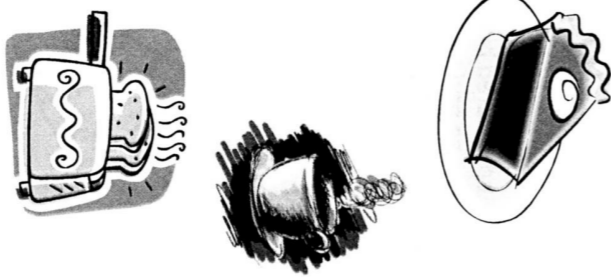
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Produced by the Diocese of Bath and Wells, Youth and Children's Parish's Team
26 July 2009

Did you know that while one half of the World is worried about being over-weight, the other half is going hungry?
Did you know that if all the food was shared out equally, there would be enough for everyone?
Makes you think.



Can you work out this riddle?
My first is in PORK and in PIE
My second's in TALL and LONG
My third is in COFFEE and in TEA
My fourth is in CHANT and SONG
My fifth is in BUTTER and in TOAST
My last is in MY and YOUR
My whole is enough for you and me
And also a whole lot more!



beginning married life together in a new community and in a new home. After we return from honeymoon in September, I will tie up the loose ends here in my Oxford parish and prepare to move house to Ewell Vicarage. The collation -- the service in which the Bishop formally makes me the Vicar of Ewell -- will then take place on 13th October.

Neither Elaine nor I know Surrey much at all, so we're looking forward to getting to know Ewell and the surrounding area. I enjoy exploring the countryside, and particularly village churches. Another hobby of mine is playing board games, especially modern European-style board games. I like to read books about history, and I am slowly working my way through Trollope's novels.

In my first few months in the parish, I intend to spend as much time as possible getting to know everyone and finding out how everything works. To begin with I will simply 'slot in' to the current pattern of services and events. As a first priority, I'm looking forward to meeting everyone connected with St Mary's, from the youngest members of the children's groups to those who have been attending the church for many decades. Like any new Vicar, I will bring my own ideas and aspirations for the church, but I have no fixed agenda to impose on the parish. I will need to learn from you, so that together we can discern the way ahead for St Mary's.

October is still a few months away, so please do continue to support all those who are doing such splendid work in keeping the interregnum running so smoothly; and please keep me and Elaine in your prayers, that God may watch over us as we prepare for the big changes that this summer and autumn will bring.

Russell Dewhurst

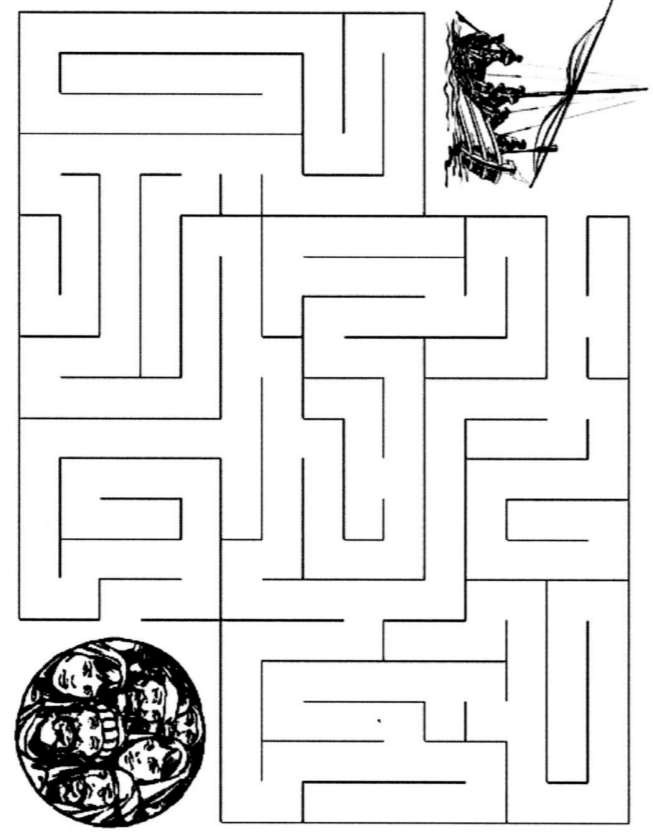
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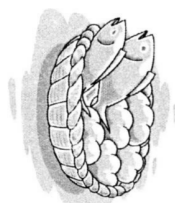
The Missing Surplices
*Oh where have all the missing surplices gone?
Stuffed into cupboards, hanging up all wrong,
Each for himself, putting anything on.
Reg joins the procession in one far too long.
Patrick's been missing since Corpus Christi,
Now Susanne's ironing a surplice that's strange to her.
Our clergy take part in processions with solemn dignity,
So watch out hasty, careless surplice snatcher,
The church wardens David and Jonathan are on the case.
Is this what happens during an interregnum?
No vicar in charge to supervise the place.
But Russell Dewhurst is coming,
He'll be installed by a Bishop and an Archdeacon
At a service where gleaming white surplices will be a beacon.*
Marion Rao

Help Jesus and the disciples find the way to the crowd



A wordsearch to solve!
Boat crowds followed
town landed Jesus
healed sick loaves
fish thanks people
satisfied twelve left
basketfuls

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J Z C S L R E V X J Q E Z N T
E I B A A I L V W X G A X L B
S L A T N P V R O L L L U N E
V L S I D N E Z U C N E W Z S
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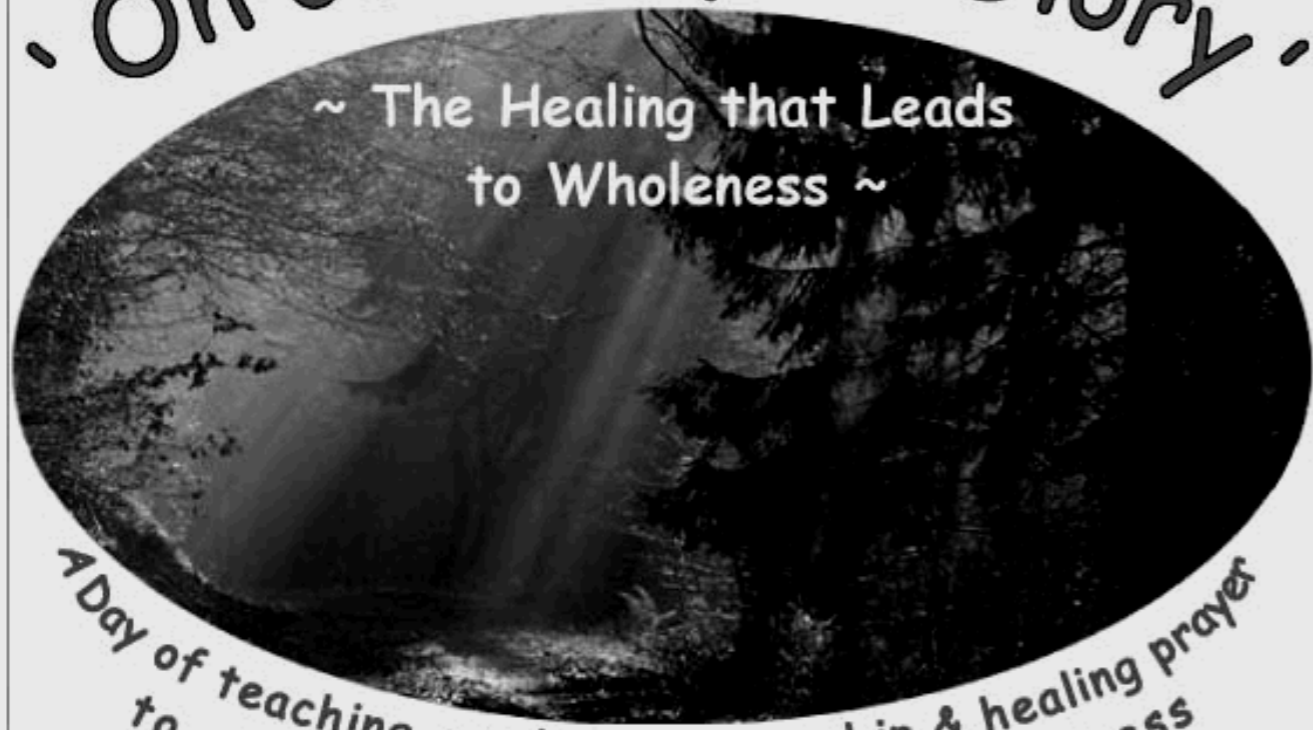


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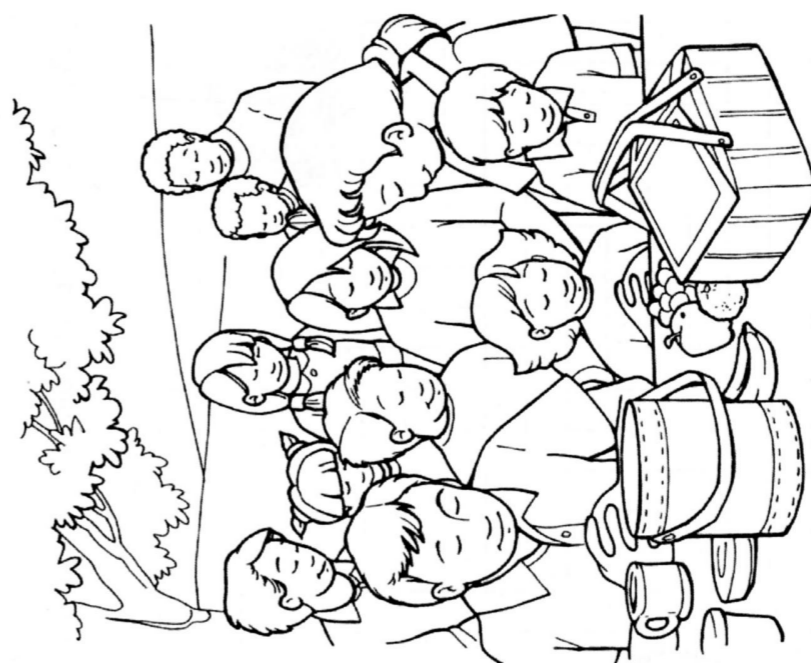
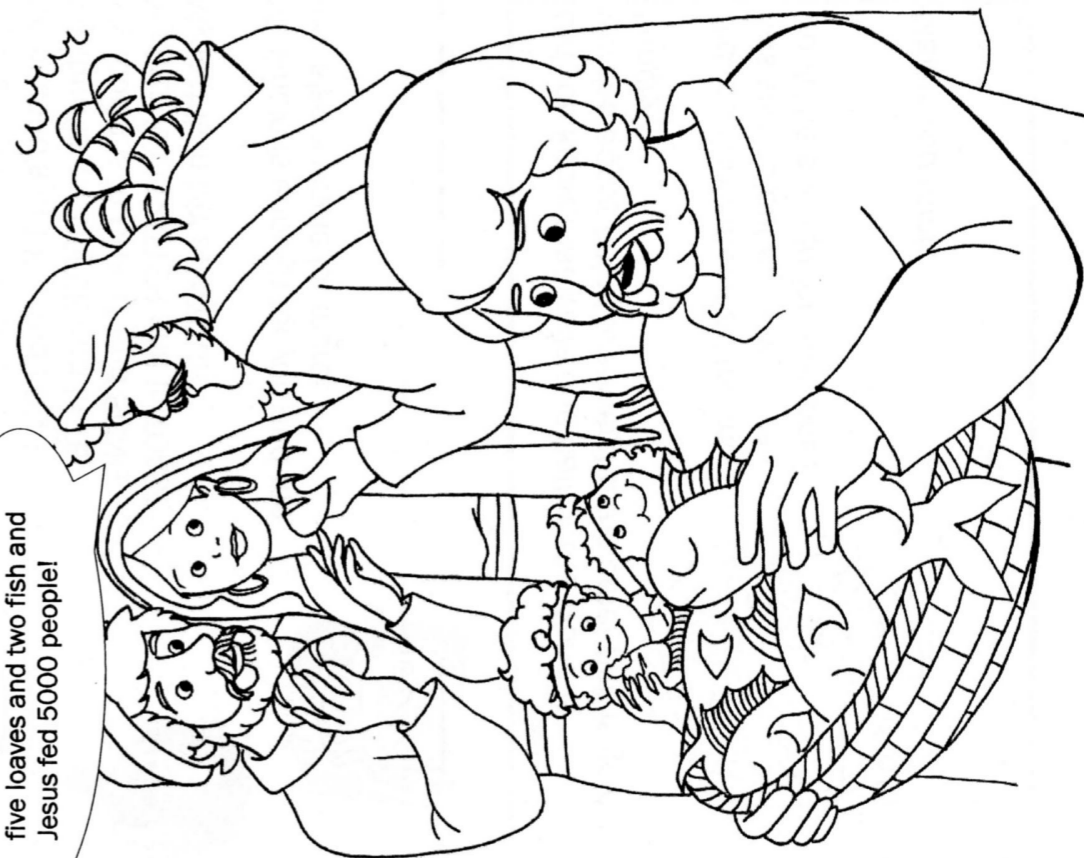
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Young Church Mag

26 July 2009, the Seventh Sunday after Trinity: John 6: 1-21

One boy shared his meal of
five loaves and two fish and
Jesus fed 5000 people!



During the summer it is nice to go for a picnic. Some
people say Grace before a meal. Grace is a prayer of
thanks for the food we eat.

The bread is warm and
fresh,
The water cool and clear.
Lord of all life, be with us,
Lord of all life, be near.



Aramaic, language of Jesus, gets new lease of life in Syria

Damascus-backed academy aims to preserve world's oldest living tongue

Ilyana Barqil wears skinny jeans, boots and a fur-lined jacket, handy for keeping out the cold in the Qalamoun mountains north of Damascus. She likes TV quiz shows and American films and enjoys swimming. But this thoroughly modern Syrian teenager is also learning Aramaic, the language spoken by Jesus.

Ilyana, 15, is part of a big effort to preserve and revive the world's oldest living tongue. Last November she started classes at the newly established Aramaic Language Academy in the picturesque village of Maaloula, where the residents speak more or less the same language as Galileans did 2,000 years ago.

"My father speaks Aramaic but my mother doesn't as she's from Lebanon," Ilyana said. "I want to be fluent. I don't know too much about the Aramaic language but I do know it's ancient."

Aramaic is a Semitic tongue related to Hebrew and Arabic and was once the day-to-day language of parts of modern-day Syria and Israel. Christ's lament on the cross was uttered in Aramaic: "Eli, Eli, lama sabachtani" (my God, my God, why host thou forsaken me?)

The long decline of the language accelerated as the region opened up in the 1920s when the French colonial authorities built a road from Damascus to Aleppo. Television and the internet, and youngsters leaving to work, reduced the number of speakers. Recognised by Unesco as a "definitely endangered" language, Aramaic is spoken by just 7,000 people in Maaloula, and about 8,000 in two other nearby villages, one now wholly Muslim.

But things are looking up, particularly since the University of Damascus founded the language academy, with government help. The facility has modern premises, a bank of PCs, new textbooks, a teaching staff of six, and 85 students at three levels.

"When I was at school over 30 years ago we were not allowed to speak Aramaic," said Mukhail Bkheil, standing behind the counter in Abu George's souvenir shop in Maaloula's main square. "Now, thanks to President Assad we even have an institute teaching it." Syria being Syria, there are political sensitivities, not least because "Arabisation" was a key feature of government education policy after the Ba'ath party came to power in the 1960s.

"In Syria there are a lot of minority groups - Circassians, Armenians, Kurds and Assyrians - so it's a big decision to allow the teaching of other languages in government schools," said Imad Reihan, a pillar of the Aramaic academy. "But the government is interested in promoting the Aramaic language because it goes back so deep into Syria's history."

Reihan and colleagues were delighted recently when a Unesco team visited, and they are now hoping for funds to

allow them to collate the vanishing words into proper dictionaries.

Improbably, Aramaic was given a boost by a Hollywood film, Mel Gibson's controversial *Passion of the Christ*, which was released in 2004 before the academy was set up.

Observers say the opening of the school has shown a more relaxed attitude by the regime. Considering the bitter enmity between Syria and Israel, which dispute sovereignty over the Golan Heights - declared an Israeli occupied territory by the UN - it is striking that Aramaic letters are so similar to the Hebrew of rabbinic texts. It is one reason, perhaps, why the only Aramaic sign in Maaloula is on the academy. "Otherwise people might think some buildings were Israeli settlements," joked one visitor from Damascus.

Linguists say Syria is doing well in fostering this heritage. "Aramaic is actually pretty healthy in Maaloula," said Prof Geoffrey Kahn, who teaches Semitic philology at Cambridge University. "It's the eastern Aramaic dialects in Turkey, Iraq and Iran that are really endangered."

Ian Black Maaloula

The New "FOCUS"

A grassroots magazine to encourage spirituality – for Guildford diocese & beyond

"Focus" was re-launched at Easter, continuing its role as an open forum drawing on the breadth of the Christian tradition.

Topics covered at Easter included:

Street Angels
Book review of "The Shack"
The meaning of "Retreat"
Prayer
Biofuels
What it means to forgive
An Anglican Abroad
Guildford Diocesan Prayer Fare
World Community for Christian Meditation
Atonement

"Focus" is published three times a year, sponsored by the *School of Prayer* at St. Nicolas' Guildford, with an editorial team comprising: Canon Andrew Norman, Bishop Ian Brackley and Sally Lowe

The next edition will be published in August. Subscriptions for the remainder of 2009 cost just £5.00. Please make cheques payable to St. Nicolas' PCC and send to Sally Lowe, 50 Strathcona Ave, Bookham, KT23 4HP – 01372 454934 – lowest50@tiscali.co.uk

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SUGGESTED PRAYERS

Prayer of the Ox

Dear God, give me time.
Men are always so driven!
Make them understand that I can never hurry.
Give me time to eat.
Give me time to plod.
Give me time to sleep.
Give me time to think.

Prayer of the Butterfly

Lord!
Where was I?
Oh yes! This flower, this sun,
thank you! Your world is beautiful!
This scent of roses ...
Where was I?
A drop of dew
rolls to sparkle in a lily's heart.
I have to go ...
Where? I do not know!
The wind has painted fancies
on my wings.
Fancies . . .
Where was I?
Oh yes! Lord,
I had something to tell you:
Amen.

Prayer of the quiet heart

O God, grant that when under attack or criticism I may stand before Thee in a spirit of integrity, wanting only the truth of each situation and thy will to respond to it.

O Lord, I know that I can never expect complete certainty, but can only act in faith.

I know that if I act in faith and move forward in what I believe is thy will, Thou canst direct me and correct my course if it be wrong.

If I am paralysed in fear, Thou canst not guide me.

Let me fear nothing except to be faithless to Thee; nor let me be consciously defensive; nor hit back on those who attack; nor become bitter or self-pitying; nor fail in the desire for truth and the expression of unfailing good will.

For the sake of him who came to bear witness to thy truth and embodied thy love, even Jesus Christ, my Lord.

When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered he did not threaten; but he trusted in Him who judges justly. 1 Peter 2:23.

PARISH PROFILE: MARIA BIRD

I was born in Balham and until the age of 10 lived in Streatham and Mitcham. When I was 10 we moved to Stoneleigh and I have lived in the Stoneleigh / Worcester Park / Ewell West area ever since. I am the eldest of three and have a brother and sister.

I attended Stoneleigh County Middle School (as it was then) until the age of 11 when I started at Nonsuch High School where I stayed until completion of my A Levels.

I started working for Barclays Bank where I have been ever since leaving school. During my time in the bank I have worked in Ashted, Walton on Thames, Croydon, Mayfair and for the past 4 years or so in Canary Wharf. I work within the International part of the bank and have travelled to some of the countries where the bank has operations including South Africa, India, Egypt, Tanzania and Dubai.

Outside of work I am involved with Epsom and Ewell district scouts and my involvement has includ-

ed being a Cub Scout Leader and also Assistant district commissioner, as part of this role I was involved in organising the district's activities to celebrate the 100 years of scouting in 2007. My involvement now is with the service team which is involved mainly in the setting up of activities for the district.

I also enjoy cooking and travelling, recent holidays have included trips to China, Hong Kong and South Africa.

I have been regularly attending the 9.30 service at St Mary's for the past 4 or 5 years and was confirmed at Guildford Cathedral during the Easter Vigil last year. I am currently in my second year as a member of the PCC.

In September last year Nigel and I married at St Mary's where we are both involved in serving on a Sunday morning and during the interregnum have been involved in setting up the Sunday morning rotas and ensuring that everything is set up and ready for the various Sunday services.



OH, I DO LIKE TO BE BESIDE THE SEASIDE!

The words of this popular song came forcibly to mind on 18 June when a party from St. Mary's Coffee Morning spent a splendid day at Eastbourne.

As always, it was excellently organized by Joan Boulden and Lynne Yuille who even managed to order a fine, sunny day, with a gentle breeze.

The outward journey passed quickly, enlivened by a quiz prepared by Eileen and Martin (from A. & E. Longhurst) and, on arrival, we went our separate ways. Everyone seems to have enjoyed Eastbourne's attractions, some taking a stroll along the promenade, or sitting at ease on the pier. Some visited the Wish Tower area, some even went shopping, as the coach driver had obligingly stacked shopping trollies in the boot of the coach. We're told that our very pleasant coach driver, Chris, also had a good day, having brought his T-shirt and shorts to replace his uniform.



The day passed swiftly and quite a few members of the party enjoyed forty winks during the return journey.

We are all very grateful to Joan and Lynne for the work which, each year, they put into organizing these outings, and we look forward to the trip to Christchurch on Thursday 10 September.

E.M.M.P.

CRAFTZONE

Craftzone is a project involving people from local churches that started in 2004. The team spends 5 afternoons with Year 6 pupils [10-11 year olds] presenting the Gospel through video clips, games, small group discussion, craft and testimony. It is running in two schools this year: Auriol and Riverview, with a pilot at Danetree.

I joined the team at Riverview School in June and was so impressed by the interest and enthusiasm shown by these children. They listened intently, thoroughly entered into the spirit of the games, did beautiful craft work to take home, and discussed with careful thought and searching ideas.

Thank you to everyone at the school for making us so welcome, and we pray that the children will take forward to their secondary schools an assurance of God's love and purpose for them in their lives.

Sarah Stovell

HOPE 2009

Churches Together in Ewell celebrated their 2nd year hosting a family fun afternoon at Bourne Hall on the last Sunday in June. Last year our prayers were answered when we hoped for a break in the rain, but this year we were able to give thanks for a glorious sunny day.

The lawns looked very festive with many gazebos providing crafts, puppets, pageant, refreshments and prayer. There was live music and testimony from the main stage throughout the afternoon.

St. Mary's lantern making, reflecting Holman Hunt's painting "Jesus, the Light of the World", was very popular with over 60 "customers" keen to really get stuck in! The glue flowed very freely, and the stapler and hole punch provided a lot of amusement in the creativity, but the resulting lanterns were really a delight to see. We would like to especially thank Susanne Miller who not only designed the lanterns, but also made decorations for the gazebo together with a large Mission Statement board. Please take the Hope "leaflet" at the back of the church, in which you will find a contribution from one of our congregation. Over 200 of these were given out at Bourne Hall!

Thank you to those who contributed cakes, and those who came and enjoyed a very ecumenical occasion full of fun and Hope.

Sarah Stovell

COFFEE MORNINGS

WE MEET EVERY WEDNESDAY
FROM 10.30 am – 12 noon
IN THE CHURCH HALL

DO COME AND JOIN US

COACH OUTING



Join the coach party to the historic town of Christchurch which is dominated by the magnificent 900 year old Priory Church on Thursday 10 September for just £10.

For further details and to make a booking, contact Joan Boulden or Lynne Yuille with names together with the money ASAP. **DON'T DELAY – BOOK TODAY!**

GUILDFORD CATHEDRAL FLOWER GALA

"Feast for the Soul"

- An extravaganza of over 70 spectacular displays of flowers created by some 300 flower arrangers from Churches and flower clubs across Surrey and NE Hampshire (Sybil and her team included) promises to transform Guildford Cathedral.

Add to that –

A market marquee adjoining the Cathedral with over 30 stalls including crafts and specialised foods.

A refectory and marquee serving coffee, lunches and afternoon teas.

A well stocked bookshop and giftshop.

And

A coach to take you there on Thursday 1 October.

What could be better?

The coach will depart 915 for 930 from outside the church hall and leave the Cathedral 1400 to return to Ewell.

Seats cost £10 each (we have No subsidy for this trip) an can be booked by giving names together with the money to Joan Boulden or Lynne Yuille. There will be an entrance charge of £5.50 per person which will be payable on arrival at the Cathedral. This promises to be an exciting and special occasion which many of St Mary's "people" will wish to experience.

So

DON'T DELAY – BOOK TODAY!