

## **SMTB**

St Mary Teddington Bells are hosting another Quiz Night in the Parish Hall on Saturday 28th April at 7.30pm. Last year's quiz was such a success, we hope that this year's will be a sell-out too. A Fish & Chip Supper is included in the ticket price of £10 for adults and £5 for children under 12. Tickets must be pre-booked and are available from Anne Johnson (8943 0405). You can come on your own to make up a team with others, or you can come with your own team of six people (maximum). Proceeds from the evening will go towards buying music and meeting other expenses of the handbell team.

If you are interested in handbell ringing, the team meets in the Parish Office (above the Hall) most Wednesdays at 7.45pm. New members are always welcome.

Three of St Mary Teddington Bells members (Philippa Elkins, Sheila Insley and Jane Wilson) will be ringing in a Concert by the SE Region Bell Orchestra in The Harlequin Theatre, Redhill. The orchestra of about forty will be showing handbells at their most versatile, with music ranging from the Boogie to Sibelius. The concert is on Saturday, 5th May at 3.00pm. Tickets (£7) are available from the box office (01737 765547).

*Sheila Insley*

## **Angola, London, Mozambique**

### **Association, ALMA**

This is an organisation which we in St Mary's have supported through prayers and fundraising for more than 10 years. Our present method of raising money is the contribution you make when you have a cup of coffee in the hall after Family Service each Sunday, raising about £600 each year. This goes to train and equip a Catechist, usually a young man, who will travel around the villages taking medical supplies to the people, as well as assisting the parish priest, and helps to supply him with a bicycle and books. Mozambique is gradually recovering from poverty after years of civil war, and we are happy to help.

*Mary Green*

### **Parish Registers**

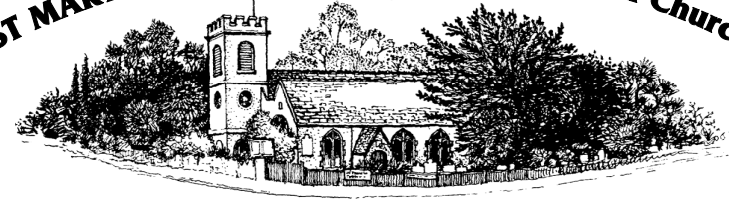
**Funeral** – *We remember with thanksgiving the life of:*

February 27: Beryl Brant.

**Burial of Ashes:**

March 8: Gillian Brimley.

## **ST MARY with ST ALBAN Teddington Parish Church**



## **NEWSLETTER APRIL 2007**

### **VICAR'S VIEWPOINT**

#### **Easter Faith**

At a recent clergy study day organised by our Bishop, the speaker made a very telling remark at the start of his first address – "Christ saved the world so you don't have to".

All of us who are Christians have been called in one way or another by God, and Easter, the festival of the Resurrection, is the time above all others when we remember the saving work of God – the triumph over evil, sin and death. And all of us living in this post-Resurrection faith are called to serve God. Some are priests, most are laity. And we are called, in the words of the Prayer Book General Thanksgiving, "to show forth this faith not only with our lips but in our lives". And to all of us Jesus says: "You did not choose me but I chose you".

That is the important point. Our discipleship is an initiative from God. It is easy to be discouraged these days by secularism in much of our lives. God is not honoured – yet there is a spiritual longing stirring in many people who want more out of life than our consumer society can ever offer. And God be praised for that!

We long for more. We want the world to be saved – often from itself – and we feel that our discipleship is inadequate. But as the conference speaker reminded us – "Christ saved the world so you don't have to". The command from Christ is not that we should be successful (whatever that means in this context) but we should be faithful.

As we celebrate Easter again this month we celebrate a God who is known as Father,

Son and Holy Spirit. We do it with joy and in faith knowing that Jesus' final words before his Ascension are eternally true: "I am with you always – to the end of the world".

As we shall sing on Easter morning

"Soar we now where Christ has led

Following our exalted Head;

Made like him, like him we rise,

Ours the Cross, the Grave, the Skies."

#### **Street Child Africa**

This is a small but growing UK charity based in Thames Ditton which is devoted to improving the lives of African street children. Street Child Africa's partners provide basic social health care on the streets which is advice from a safe adult in whom the children can trust. They provide drop-in centres, medical care, street corner education and life skills. The baby care programme cares for the next generation of babies born on the streets. They are also running training programmes for young African social workers to enable them to work within their own communities.

I am indebted to Duncan Ross who lives locally and got married here for the above information. And I am also delighted that he will be visiting us on Sunday April 29 to preach at Family Communion and tell us further of this important work. I hope that you will make a special effort to come and hear him; he will be available in the hall to answer questions over coffee after the service. Of course this work needs as much money as possible so there will be a retiring collection on this day.

<b>SERVICES:</b>	<b>SUNDAYS:</b> Holy Communion (Prayer Book) 8am Family Communion (Common Worship Sung Eucharist with Sermon) 9.45am
	<b>SUNDAY SCHOOL:</b> (most Sundays) 9.30am for 9.40am in the Church Hall, Langham Road.
	<b>WEDNESDAYS:</b> Holy Communion, 9.30am
	<b>SAINTS DAYS</b> and other days as announced
<b>VICAR:</b>	The Revd. John Cleaver, The Vicarage, 11 Twickenham Road, Teddington TW11 8AQ (8977 2767)
<b>DIRECTOR OF MUSIC:</b>	Mr Harold Lester (8878 0021)
<b>CHURCH WARDENS:</b>	Miss S. Cooper, 3 Thelma Grove, Teddington TW11 9AQ (8977 7206) Mr D. Power, 76 Field Lane, Teddington TW11 9AS (8943 5194)
<b>CHURCH SCHOOL:</b>	St Mary's and St Peter's, Somerset Road, Teddington Headteacher John Logan (8943 0476)
<b>PARISH ADMINISTRATOR &amp; HALL BOOKINGS:</b>	Gillian Burgess (8943 2262)
<b>NEWSLETTER EDITORS:</b>	Susan Jacobs (8943 0503), Sheila Groom (8977 9399) and Veronica Baker

Duncan has asked me to say that Street Child Africa is a charity registered in England (No. 1074832) and is limited by guarantee. The website address is: [www.streetchildafrica.org.uk](http://www.streetchildafrica.org.uk)

### **A Reminder.....**

.....that the Annual Parochial Meeting is in the hall at 8pm on Tuesday April 24. And the meeting for all interested in being confirmed here next February will be after Family Communion on Sunday April 29. In view of Duncan Ross' visit that morning this meeting will take place in the hall and not in Church. It should only last about 15 minutes or so.

### **Joan Pugh**

As this issue of the newsletter was about to go to print we heard with great sadness of the death of Joan Pugh on March 8th. She was a faithful member of our Church for many years, a friend to all of us and, of course, a wonderful flower arranger. We will all miss her greatly and send our love and prayers to her family at this sad time. May she rest in peace and rise in glory. "Well done thou good and faithful servant".

### **From my scrapbook**

From 'Concert at Long Melford Church' by Patricia Beer:

"Those coming out of Church...

...spread all over the churchyard. They scan The Crowd, recognise, smile, and shake hands.

By each tombstone a well-dressed person stands,

It looks just like the Resurrection".

With best wishes to you all for a very Happy and Blessed Easter.

*John Cleaver*

### **Education Sunday – February 4th**

Education Sunday had particular significance this year as it marked the start of celebrations of the 175th anniversary of St Mary's and St Peter's School. The Service of Thanksgiving began with the Processional Hymn during which the standards of the Scouts, Guides, Cubs and

Brownies were brought to the altar. Throughout the service of prayers and praises the hymns were led by our choir and accompanied by our orchestra under Harold Lester's direction and a full congregation threatened to raise our newly-tiled roof.

School Governor Councillor Malcolm Eady and School Headteacher John Logan gave the Bible readings and for the Talk we welcomed Anji Phillips, Director of Education and Children's Resources in the London Borough of Richmond. With a wealth of experience in educational fields and a keen observation of life in general, Anji's words reminded us that in striving for success and the realisation of our dreams we all need to have confidence and to like ourselves. Discouragement can easily smother efforts so it is up to everyone to provide the praise and support that will lead to fulfilment. She cited recent successes of young people in various walks of life and, quoting the previous hymn, ended – "Shine, Shine, Shine".

Finally, Education Sunday this year leaves a fitting gift to St Mary's and St Peter's School – a prayer specially written for the 175th anniversary by our Vicar, John Cleaver. Heard for the first time at this Service it will doubtless soon become familiar and pass into the heritage of our School.

*Penny Thompson*

### **Christian Aid Week 2007**

#### **May 13th-19th**

Christian Aid raises money for the developing world, supporting sustainable projects which, when established, do not require expensive maintenance. Projects include agriculture, health and education. Last year this parish raised £2,300 by house-to-house collections, and this year our team of collectors will again deliver and collect envelopes during Christian Aid Week, 13-19 May. Teddington people are generous in their support, and we are grateful.

*Mary Green*

## **Diary for April**

*Unless otherwise stated there is Holy Communion (Prayer Book) every Sunday morning at 8.00am and Family Communion with Sunday School at 9.45am (Common Worship).*

*There is Holy Communion every Wednesday at 9.30am.*

Sunday 1st	Palm Sunday. Palm crosses will be distributed at both Communion services. Holy Baptism at 12 noon and at 2.45pm. Service for start of Holy Week in the context of Evensong at 6.30pm.
<b>Holy Week</b>	
Monday 2nd	Holy Communion at 9.30am.
Tuesday 3rd	Holy Communion at 12 noon.
Wednesday 4th	Holy Communion at 9.30am. Last meeting of Lent Group in Mina Hogan Room 10.30am-12noon. <i>No meeting of First Wednesday Club.</i>
Maundy Thursday	Sung Eucharist at 8.00pm.
Good Friday 6th	Church open for private prayer from 9.00am. Procession of witness begins from outside the hall at 9.30am. United service on Green outside Methodist Church at 10.30am. <b>The Three Hours</b> in church from 11.30am-2.30pm. 11.30-12.15 Family service, followed by Sunday School 'Happening' (in the Hall). This is the only part of the 3 hours suitable for children. 12.15 The Litany. 12.30 Devotion on 'The Three Crosses' – 3 half hour services. 2.00 Evensong.
<b>Easter Day 8th</b>	Holy Communion at 8.00am. Festival Family Communion at 9.45am.
Sunday 15th	The Season of Easter. Holy Baptism at 12 noon and at 2.45pm.
Tuesday 17th	Teddington Society AGM in the hall at 8.00pm.
Thursday 19th	School term begins.
Friday 20th	The Vicar is on duty in St Paul's Cathedral.
Sunday 22nd	The Feast of St Mark. On this day we pray for our neighbouring parish of St Mark's, Teddington.
Tuesday 24th	Annual Parochial Meeting in the hall at 8.00pm.
Wednesday 25th	<i>No service.</i> Church School Governors meet in the school at 7.30pm.
Friday 27th	Holy Communion at 9.30am.
Sunday 29th	The Season of Easter. Preacher at Family Communion is Duncan Ross ( <i>see Vicar's Viewpoint</i> ). Pre-Confirmation meeting over coffee in hall after Family Communion. Holy Baptism at 12.30pm.

### **Notes from the Vicar**

1. If you would like to make contributions towards Easter flowers in memory of a loved one, please give the money to Jennifer Shaw or the Vicar.
2. 2007 marks the 300th anniversary of the hymn writer Charles Wesley. From April 22nd to June 3rd we shall be singing many of his hymns at Family Communion.