

# Pentacost

Sunday 19th May is the Feast of Pentecost or Whitsun as it was known for many years. The origin of the word is obscure. It has been suggested that it was called White Sunday because those who were baptised on that day wore white garments, or because it was the beginning of summer when women and girls would wear new white dresses to church. The word Pentecost was used until after the Norman Conquest, when the word whit came into common usage, perhaps due to a misunderstanding. Some writers thought it was a way of saying “wit” or wisdom. So it was the day when the Holy Spirit gave wisdom to the church. For us the word wit also means a kind of humour, the sharp and observant intelligence that makes you smile. I love this connection, because it broadens the work of the Holy Spirit beyond “religious” things, into the human qualities which give us such joy and fun.



The gifts of the Holy Spirit are many and various. The original story of Pentecost tells us about the disciples speaking in different languages. This can be understood in several ways. Speaking another language helps us to connect with people who are different from ourselves, it broadens our sympathies and helps us to look at things from another perspective. The Bible was written in another language and when we understand that, we can see that our fixed notions of what the words mean are only one way of looking at them.

We also say of those who we find strange or difficult that they are coming from a different place or speaking a different language from us. If we are particularly bemused by them, we might say that they are on a different planet. If I am mainly a ‘feeling’ person, it can be hard for me to make a real connection with someone who operates out of their capacity for logical thought. Making connections is the work of the Holy Spirit, so when we learn to listen sympathetically to another, when we can put ourselves in their shoes or learn their language, it is always an opening for the Holy Spirit to take us deeper into our own being, to enrich us through a new breadth of soul.

We often think of the Holy Spirit as our conscience, an inner reminder of right and wrong. I like this thought and find it to be true for me. But I need to guard against human cultural ideas that have become internalised. The assumptions and conventions of our society can masquerade as the voice of the Spirit, so that we assume someone to be bad because they are different.

We can also think of the Holy Spirit as our inner consciousness. What is consciousness? Maybe it is the unique human capacity to observe ourselves, to watch our thoughts and emotions and, with part of ourselves to stand outside them and be aware of them. There is something else in us which is deeper than passing thoughts and emotions. When we stand back and observe. I wonder if this is what Buddhists mean by detachment. I know, though I seldom experience it, that this is what I am looking for in my own silent prayer. To be aware of a divine indwelling. To be aware of God’s compassionate gaze, and somehow to see myself with God’s eyes.

The wise Franciscan monk Richard Rohr has a litany of 63 names for the Holy Spirit in his book “The Naked Now”. Here are a few of them.

Space between Everything

Indwelling Presence

Compassionate Observer

God's Tears  
God's Happiness  
Implanted Hope  
Filled Emptiness  
Sacred Wounding  
Holy Healing  
Reminder of the Mystery  
Truth Speaker  
The Welcoming Within  
Defence Attorney  
Bridge Builder  
Inner Breath  
Wind of Change  
Stable Witness  
God's Secret Plan  
Homing Device  
Overcomer of the Gap

How do you experience the Holy Spirit?

**Tom**

# May from St Michael's

By the time you read these notes, spring will be far advanced, and the forty days of the Easter festival fast passing. However, at the time of writing Holy Week and Easter are still fresh in the mind. Once again St Michael's did it in style, with sung Passions at each end of Holy Week, daily masses, and Moreira's setting of the Stabat Mater at Spy Wednesday Stations. The sombre and beautiful Good Friday Tenebrae was sung and read to great effect, and proved as popular as ever. A recent newspaper article described this office as "now defunct": rumours of its death seem to be exaggerated, as many other churches have also been singing Tenebrae in recent years! The great celebrations of Holy Saturday's First Mass of Easter and the Easter Day Mass were, as usual, splendidly affirmative occasions, with a particularly rumbustious Haydn setting adding swing and swagger to Easter morning.

"Christ is risen! He is risen indeed – Alleluia!" Two perceptive modern thinkers gave us good reason to make our Easter acclamation with renewed confidence this year. One of them was our own Canon John Thurmer, who gave a typically thought provoking sermon about the Resurrection on Low Sunday. He ventured a reconciliation of scientific and theological opinion, suggesting that Christ's risen body's ability to move through solid objects might be something to do with modern discoveries about the permeability of matter at the quantum level. This kind of thing used to be the province of science fiction writers, who have long speculated about the possibility of teleportation. There is nothing new under the sun, though. My Lenten re-reading of the 14th century masterpiece "The Cloud of Unknowing" yielded

"Our Lord had been dead and was clothed in an immortal body just as we shall be on Judgment Day. Then we shall be so different in our

new body-soul natures that our bodies will be able to move in as many directions, and as swiftly, as we now move in thought.”

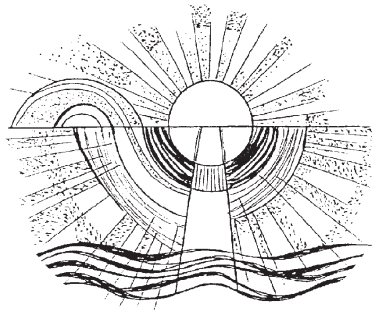
Canon J.T. did not sidestep the physical nature of Christ’s rising, which brings me to my other Easter thinker. On Holy Saturday there is now broadcast a seasonal equivalent of the Christmas Eve carol service from King’s College, Cambridge. As one of the readings, the Chaplain gave us Seven Stanzas at Easter by John Updike. The poet stresses the necessity of owning and celebrating the concrete nature of the Resurrection “or the Church will fall”.

*“Let us not mock God with metaphor....  
Make no mistake  
If He rose at all, He rose as his body”*

Why not check out the rest of this glorious poem, if you didn’t hear the Welsh Chaplain’s sonorous reading?

This will be the last time I write for New Leaves. It has been a privilege and a pleasure to make this contribution to the life of the parish. Now it is time for fresh ideas and insights from a new writer.

**Mike McDonald**



*“A warm thank you to Mike for his always erudite and forthright articles. Mike is also stepping down as Chapel Warden at St Michael’s after many years service. His commitment to the church and his work on behalf of St Michael’s is greatly appreciated by all of us.”*

**Tom**

<b>St David's Eucharist</b>		<b>May</b>
<b>May 05 : Sixth Sunday of Easter</b>		
Reading 1	Ezekiel 37: 1-14	Gina Redman
Reading 2	Acts 16: 9-15	Clive Wilson
Gospel	John 14: 23-29	
Time of prayer		Helena Walker
Junior Church: tba		
<b>May 12 : Seventh Sunday of Easter</b>		
Reading 1	Ezekiel 36: 24-28	Emma White
Reading 2	Revelation 22: 12-14, 16-17, 20-end	Geoff Crockett
Gospel	John 17: 20-end	
Time of prayer		Ann Watts
Junior Church: Sarah Harrison		
<b>May 19 : Pentacost <i>Family Service - Something different</i></b>		
Reading 1	~	~
Reading 2	~	~
Gospel	~	
Time of prayer		~
<i>No Junior Church</i>		
<b>May 26 : Trinity Sunday</b>		
Reading 1	Proverbs 8: 1-4, 22-31	Helen Hopwood
Reading 2	Romans 5: 1-5	Hilary Todd
Gospel	John 16: 12-15	
Time of prayer		Margaret Grimsey
Junior Church : Susan Mitchell		
<b>June 2 : First Sunday after Trinity</b>		
Reading 1	I Kings 8: 22,23, 41-43	Suzi Leather
Reading 2	Galatians 1: 1-12	Rachel Hough
Gospel	Luke 7: 1-10	
Time of prayer		Sarah Black
Junior Church: Helen Sail		

# **Parish Retreat 2013**

# **ABBEY HOUSE**

## **Glastonbury**

**Fri 22nd – Sun 24th November 2013**

Have you ever been on a Retreat? Would you like to join one?  
If so, we are holding a Retreat for the Parish from Friday  
22nd until Sunday 24th November 2013 at the “Abbey House,  
Glastonbury – a wonderful setting for such a weekend.

The cost of the weekend will be about £130, plus travel.

If you would be interested in joining Fr. David &  
Fr. Andy please sign the list in either Church.

Further details will follow later in the year; however please do  
not hesitate to contact Fr. David if you have any questions.



Abbey House Website:  
**[www.abbeyhouse.org](http://www.abbeyhouse.org)**

# The Gender of Bishops

Anglicans Alpha and Omega probe a difference of opinion

**Alpha** Is it not true that, when constrained by known facts and rational argument, we have to accept female bishops, otherwise we discriminate against women?

**Omega** Rational argument is fine, but you come unstuck when you say “known facts” because there could be perfectly good unknown reasons why bishops should always be men.

**Alpha** That’s good science, but it fails to solve the problem, because, if including women is possibly wrong, then excluding them is possibly wrong, so whatever we do is possibly wrong.

**Omega** That’s also good science, but can’t we rely on conscience?

**Alpha** Not if we want a united church as I do. As is well-known, different consciences say different things. For example my conscience is in favour of female bishops, but yours isn’t.

**Omega** So, whatever can we do? Like you, I long for a united church.

**Alpha** I find it helpful to subordinate intuition to reason.

**Omega** So do I, but there are still snakes in the grass, because not all reasons are known to us.

**Alpha** Good, but when we lack knowledge, it can be helpful to experiment.

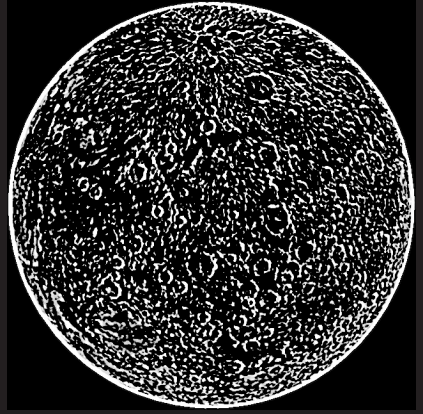
**Omega** Any particular experiment?

**Alpha** May I suggest letting some women become bishops before deciding whether or not such gender integration is wrong.

**Omega** You may.

**Charles Argall**





# London Moonwalk 2013

If you would like to sponsor three members of our congregation  
who will walking this marathon walk through the night  
**May 11th** in aid of Breast Cancer Research.

Speak to

**Glynis Harflett**

**Mary Kirkland**

**Mollie Curry**

# Now is the month of Maying.....

In my time as a Parish Priest in Wiltshire the month of May was always marked in a very special and memorable way. One of the five parishes for which I had responsibility was Great Wishford. A small village with a fine church dedicated to St. Giles it was some ten miles from the city of Salisbury.

The special celebration took place on May 29th. - Oak Apple Day. Early in the morning the villagers [including myself as Rector] would go up on to the downs above the village as the church bells rang out. The object was to find oak apples to wear during the day and also to collect boughs with which to decorate the houses. After breakfast we would journey in to Salisbury Cathedral where as Rector I would affirm our rights at the High Altar to gather wood during the coming year from Grovely Woods. This ancient ceremony was followed by dancing on the Green with the women holding faggots of wood. It was then back to the village for a celebratory lunch followed in the afternoon by a carnival procession and maypole dancing in the village. It was a fun day but always with a serious note as the ancient customs of Oak Apple Day were remembered. In some places similar ceremonies take place to remember the restoration of the Monarch in 1660 by Charles II.

May has always been the month dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary, the roots of which go back to Medieval times but it was not until the 18th. century that the month took on a new prominence. At that time May became known as “The Month of Mary”. Many customs grew up which included the adorning and crowning of Mary’s statue in churches, May devotions and processions and a special emphasis on the recitation of the Rosary.

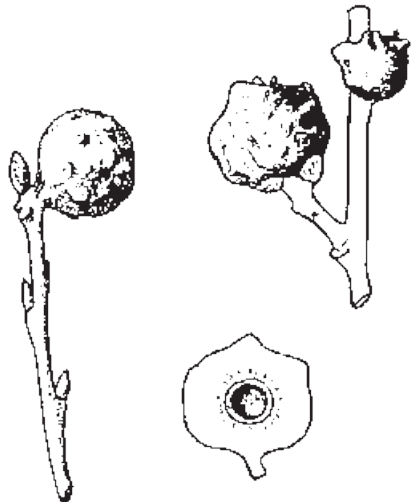
Throughout the history of the Christian Church great devotion has been given to Mary of her special relationship with Jesus as his mother.

However she has also be the focus of controversy. For some devotion and prayers to her have always been a special part of their spirituality, whilst at the other end of the spectrum she is regarded simply as the mother of Jesus.....full stop!

Mary has an important part in the story of our Redemption and that cannot be denied. In a very special way each day is a sort of Mother's Day when we can turn to Mary to ask for her prayers and deepen our love for Christ. Mary who held the baby Jesus in her arms and who prayed for him at the foot of the cross always points our way to her Son.

*Hail Mary, full of grace  
Blessed art thou among women and  
blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.  
Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners  
now and at the hour of our death.  
Amen.*

## **Fr. David Hastings**



# Just for fun *the Devon/Cornwall Quiz*

*Answers to the Quiz are printed in the magazine.*

*Many thanks to all who took part.*

*£50 was given to Christian Aid, and £50 to St David's  
Church Funds as a result.*

Geoff Crockett earned a box of chocolates as the outright winner with 32 correct answers out of 34. Lesley and Paul Gush came second equal with Barbara and David Allin, with 29, and Cathy Knowles third with 28. A great effort, and we hope it was indeed for fun!

Note: No 2, Jacobstowe and Port Isaac were both accepted as the original printout was wrong. This did not affect the list of winners.



We believe in life before death

Please see below the answers to the South West Quiz.

Thank you very much for your support.

### Answers to South West 2012 Quiz

<b>Cornwall</b>	
1 Minnie's little home	Mousehole
2 The harbour of Esau's brother	Port Isaac
3 Not your rule	Mylor
4 The gecko, for example	The Lizard
5 The little town is split	Crackington
6 Mere servants	Minions
7 Stroll by the little church	Chapel Amble
8 Canonised fairly	St Just
9 Desert ship crossing	Camelford
10 Asian royalty	Indian Queens
11 Capital trainee	London Apprentice
12 Recreation area	Playing Place
13 Call to the Godrevy lighthouse	Hayle
<b>Devon</b>	
14 Creepy crossing	Ivybridge
15 Town of the royal smear	Kingsteignton
16 Baby Scottish monster	Totnes
17 Topping up your phone	Crediton
18 Vacation sensible	Holsworthy
19 Ale	Beer
20 Beats gammon	Topsham
21 Tiny sharp garden tool	Pinhoe
22 Hard place to live	Stonehouse
23 Farmyard fixing	Barnstaple
24 To the Atlantic he cries	Westward Ho!
25 Can also dip in tea	Dunkeswell
26 Slightly soiled Sierra	Muddiford
27 Foolish way in	Follygate
28 Dust the bacon	Powderham
29 Amphibian upon a Brother	Newton Abbot
30 Norse word for puffin	Lundy
31 See? A beautiful harbour	Clovelly
32 The monarch's fashion	Kingswear
33 Twixt wane and wax	Halfmoon
34 Speedy male bunny	Buckfast

#### Christian Aid South West Team

Please respond to:

35a The Parade ☐  
Exmouth  
EX8 1RH  
Tel: 01392 888888

Isaac Watts Church ☐  
Winchester Road  
Southampton SO16 6TS  
Tel: 023 8078 6666

# Calling all Dancers and Ballet Lovers...

In addition to the *Royal Academy Quarterlies* offered in the last New Leaves which are still available,

**Michael Gray** has in addition 86 monthly copies of *Dance Expression* dating from 2000 to May 2009.

A few copies are missing, but all are in impeccable condition. They cover all forms of dance, ballet, ballroom, modern and jazz. A4 format or larger, copious illustrations.

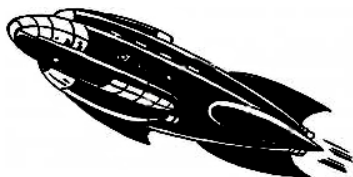
Michael can be contacted on 01392 434812 and a suitable donation to St David's Church would be appreciated.

## ...and Science Fiction fans

Some of you out there must read Science Fiction. **Michael Gray** on 434812 has available about 140 copies of *ANALOG* running from April 1962 to March 1975. They are in good readable condition .

A donation to St David's will secure.

Each issue has between 100 and 150 pages which will probably be more than most people read in a year!





## STAGE 5

This stage begins at the West Door of St. David's Church and can be linked with Stage Four of the walk.

Proceed down the footpath to St. David's Hill, cast your eyes to the left and right and observe the variety in the design of the houses and other buildings.

There were in fact very few houses built along this route in to the city before 1850, and the road was mainly bordered by small farms and market gardens. In 1816 only six houses are mentioned in an Exeter Journal including those of a shoemaker, a harness maker and a timber merchant. The construction of the Iron Bridge in 1834 made access much easier and the arrival of the railways ten years later brought new employment, more trade and wealth and a demand for more houses.

By the 1890's there were over seventy houses on St. David's Hill, but there seems to have been no overall plan. Hence on the east side there is an attractive assortment of Victorian styles with modest front gardens. Homeowners at this time included a printer, a surgeon, a baker, a cabinetmaker and railway inspector. Houses on the west side were built on a grander scale, in groups of three or four with long front gardens, but sadly many of these are no longer private residences and have been converted for business and commercial use.

Walnut House, across the road from the church footpath, is an exception. This is a distinguished, well-proportioned, late 18th century

Georgian house, one of the oldest and arguably the most attractive house on St. David's Hill. The property is now a Barristers' Chambers. Interestingly, the house stands at right angles to the road and would have enjoyed extensive views across the Exe until the neighbours arrived! A certain gentleman called George Tucker lived in the property for over 30 years, before the house became the residence of the Otton family in 1908.

Otton's Ironmongers, some parish pensioners will recall, was a very popular shop in Fore Street for over a hundred and fifty years. The main entrance is now that of the Real McCoy Arcade and the shop premises were a labyrinth of small rooms on two floors, containing an infinite variety of tools and stock for household repairs and improvements. It was locally referred to as the city's largest 'help yourself to it' store, and many people did just that! It was well known that shoplifting losses were higher than the norm.



Reg Otton, a bachelor, was the last of the family to run the business. When he died in the 1970's he left the business to his staff, who sold the premises and moved to Marsh Barton before selling to Jewson's.

As we turn left into St. David's Hill, number 54, was in the 1940's the residence of the Chief Constable when Exeter had its own City Police Force. It was later turned into two flats for police families, and is currently a B & B establishment.

Continuing along the pavement past the alley to Little Silver look out for number 28. Professor W.G. Hoskins, the well-known local historian was born here in 1908. His grandfather provided the locals with their daily bread from his bakery on St. David's Hill in the 1890's and his son continued the family business. Grandson, William, did not knead the dough. He won a scholarship to Hele's School in 1918 before attending



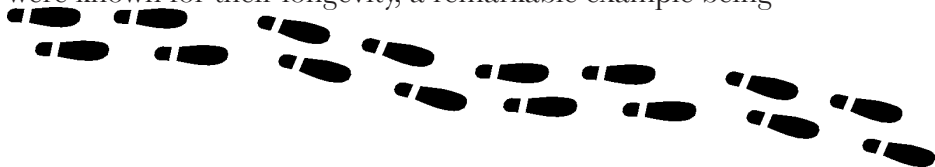
University College of South West England, now Exeter University, to study Economics. His academic career began at the University College of Leicester, before he became a Reader in Economic History at Oxford and later Professor of English Local History at Leicester University.

His book *The Making of the English Landscape* (1955) was a best seller and formed the basis for two series of television programmes of the same name for the BBC in 1972 and 1976. Another of his books *Two thousand Years in Exeter* was first published in 1960 and is the most comprehensive study of our city. W.G Hoskins died in January 1992.

The large houses on the opposite side of the road have been converted into private schools, St. Wilfrid's, and The Globe Language School.

St. Wilfrid's School moved here in 1950 when the orphanage on this site, run by the Sisters of St. Wilfrid's, closed. The school was the vision of The Rev. John Gilbert Pearse, who was concerned for the welfare of the many poor families who lived in Exeter's West Quarter. He founded the community of St. Wilfrid's, a Church of England Order of nuns in 1866. In 1870 he opened a school in Bartholomew Street offering forty places, but due to its popularity it moved to larger premises in the Mint in 1900, and from there to St. David's Hill fifty years later.

St. Wilfrid's was a school for girls with some junior boys, but when the Mount Radford School in Heavitree closed in 1967, St. Wilfrid's became fully co-educational. The Sisters who were in charge on the school were known for their longevity, a remarkable example being



Revd. Mother Lillian, who remained in control of the school and its finances until she was ninety-nine! (One can only assume she could not shed the work habit.) She died in 2004, one week before her 108th birthday.

On the left in Haldon Road is the St. David's Institute. For many years this was the parish hall, but is now part of a new development.

Again on the west side past Haldon Road is the Exeter Community Centre. Built in 1860 it was the West of England Institution for the Blind, but is now the base for a number of clubs and societies and is also used for training courses.

This is a convenient place to end Stage 5 before going downhill. It is a relatively short walk and is best linked to the next stage, when we consider the impact of the Iron Bridge and play I-Spy Something Beginning with “F”.

My thanks to Liz Orme for Richard’s notes as a Redcoat for the St. David’s Hill area and to Diana and Jeremy Symes for details of St. Wilfrid’s School.

**Martyn Hopwood**

hopwoodmartyn@gmail.com



Devon Home Library Service -  
bringing books and more to people in their homes

The Devon Home Library Service works in partnership with the WRVS (Women's Royal Voluntary Service). It aims to provide library books, (including audio books on CD, and large print books) to those people in the community who through ill health or disability can no longer visit the library.

After discussing with the clients the sort of books they like, (eg romantic fiction, travel books, particular authors), WRVS volunteers choose books for their clients which they deliver to them from once a fortnight to once every six weeks, depending on the needs of the client, at a mutually convenient time. There is **no charge** for the service and there are **no fines** on books!! Clients may keep the books for as long as needed and may order books they particularly want to read.

Large print books, cassette tapes and audio CDs as well as ordinary print books are available. Some clients prefer non fiction such as biography and travel books, other prefer romantic novels or murder mysteries!

*For those people who love reading or just browsing through books, but are confined to their home, this service offers a chance to have access to the library as well as a visit from a friendly face on a regular basis. Often clients and volunteers make lasting friends so there is satisfaction on both sides.*

We really want to promote and extend the service to reach as many people as possible!

If you would like to use the service, or know of someone who would, please contact Julia on 01392 757725 or email [crichton-smith9@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:crichton-smith9@hotmail.co.uk)

**W**e remember that the first day of Summer is celebrated in Oxford by the choir singing from Magdalen Tower early on May morning:

*Ye doctors philosophic one and all,  
I challenge ye to prove this happy day  
That, though the year may yet come to its fall  
We should not joyously go gather May  
With which fair garlands sweet we make  
To deck our dwelling places ere we take  
Our true loves and as at their feet we fall  
We vow to them that we'll be true always.  
Come, sober ancients, leave your dullness,  
All unheeded, to the past and now awake!  
Taste joy and happiness and who shall call  
You fools that a new fuller life you take  
And go now on a far, far better way  
Than e'er you dreamt of 'fore this first of May.*

Another ditty from college days at Leicester:

*Oliver Nollege, a cat about College  
attended the lectures assiduously.  
He gained information  
befitting his station  
from lectures he heard  
in S7 you see.*

*He had a sincere wish  
to know when the dogfish  
arrived, tho' his interest  
was culinary.  
But when in the Library  
not even bribery  
tempted him out for  
Refectory tea.*

*The Registrar sadly  
heard Oliver gladly  
announce his intention  
to go on the spree.*

*For Oliver's knowledge  
brought fame to the College  
when Oliver gained  
a First Special degree.*

Paul Shepherd in the late Fifties

Michael has available for anyone interested in literature a pile of offerings from Clearwater Books, Ulysses Books and Peter Riley Books going back twenty years or so. They might be helpful in valuing a collection of poetry and prose by well known authors of the later twentieth century.

Exeter 434812

**Michael Gray**

# St David's Junior Church

*"I have been coming to junior church for ten years, our junior church has a warm and friendly atmosphere that welcomes children of all ages."*

Esther

*"I really enjoy the craft work."*

Rose

*"It was fun planning and acting a play about kindness to others."*

Grace

Our aim in Junior Church is to provide a safe and happy environment in which we can encourage our children to learn and grow in their individual faith. It runs every Sunday morning (except for the Sundays when there is a 'Something Different' service) between 9:30 and 10:40. The children meet by the chairs at the back of the church, attend the adult morning service at 9:30 for the first five minutes and then split off for their own activities in the parish room downstairs. Children come back to the church to receive a blessing or communion and to share what they have been doing with the rest of the congregation, then return to the parish room for a final prayer or to complete any activities.

Junior Church hopes to be of lively interest to all children – occasional visitors as well as regular attendees at church. We aim to link our activities with the themes being covered in the main church service, but try to present them in a more child-focused way. We hope this will enable the children to feel a valued part of the church and to learn about God in a way that is relevant to them.

Some 40 children attend junior church regularly, and on a typical Sunday we would expect to have between 12 and 20 children, with an age range from 3 to 16. Children do not have to attend every week, although regular attendance helps them to feel part of the community and to make friends. Our daughters are now nine years old and have

been attending junior church since they were three: they have particularly valued the opportunity to make friends with children of all ages.

We have a team of experienced leaders and helpers who work to make each week as exciting and relevant as possible. There are always at least two adults running each session, and all our regular leaders and helpers are CRB checked. Our sessions involve a range of activities including games, craft, drama, songs, bible stories and prayer. Occasionally we will use the cleared area of the churchyard for games and storytelling. We try to be as flexible as possible, and to adapt what we are doing to suit the ages and numbers of children attending.

Parents/carers are welcome to join in the junior church sessions with their children – this is how I first became involved. If this becomes a regular occurrence we would ask that they should be CRB checked in accordance with current child protection guidelines. We welcome new members to our team, and if you are interested in helping with junior church please ask to be introduced to one of the team over coffee (which follows every service).

**Helen Sail**



# St Michael's Pipe Organ Project

Music, Education and Heritage on  
Mount Dinham



Our blog at

**[www.stmichaelsmountdinham.wordpress.com](http://www.stmichaelsmountdinham.wordpress.com)**

is gathering posts on peregrines, lectures, music and  
hopefully soon the organ build.

Our website is still there at

**[www.stmichaelsmountdinham.org.uk](http://www.stmichaelsmountdinham.org.uk)**

but only as a holding page for the blog, our soundclick site  
and our nestbox camera.

The rest of the site is being redesigned by **Yello Studio** to  
enable us to inform, educate and entertain with the activities,  
research and products of the HLF Project.

**Richard Barnes**

for St Michael's Heritage and Music  
Development Group





# Music at St Michael's

## May 2013

Back in March, on Passion Sunday, the choir had a little trip to East Budleigh organised by Erika. After a pub lunch and rehearsal, we sang Evensong in All Saints', a church which was already a couple of hundred years old when Walter Raleigh was born nearby in 1552. Who knows if William Byrd's contemporary music was sung in rural Devon in the late 1500s? The strains of Purcell and Greene were more than a century away. It was a joy to sing this music for an Evensong congregation of 60 people, who had also come to hear a talk about Thika Diocese in Kenya.

Thanks to Fr David and the music team for leading our pilgrimage from the sorrow of the Cross to the exuberant joy of Haydn and Handel on Easter morning. Unlike Pope Francis, our Maundy Thursday foot-washing was an all-male ritual, as was the original Last Supper, but the Apostles immediately extended the sharing of the bread and wine, Christ's Body and Blood, to the women and children who also followed Jesus.

This year, May is packed full of festivals, from Rogation Sunday on the 5th to Corpus Christi on Thursday the 30th. Our music list, subject to our old electronic organ behaving itself, is as follows:-

### **Sunday 5th May Rogation**

**10:45am Mass with Procession**

Setting: Mass in F *Darke*, Motet: If Ye Love Me *Stopford*

**6:00pm Evensong and Benediction**

Responses: *Byrd*, Psalms 126 & 127

Canticles: *Noble* in B minor, Anthem: If ye be risen again with Christ *Gibbons*



## **Thursday 9th May**

### **7:30am     Matins for Ascension Day**

sung from the West Gallery, and followed by breakfast. 40 days after Easter and the end of Our Lord's time on Earth.

## **Thursday 9th May Ascension**

### **7.30pm     Mass**

Setting: Mass in C & F *Stanford*, Motet: Coelos ascendit hodie *Stanford*

## **Sunday 12th May Easter VII**

### **10:45am     Mass**

Setting: Missa 'O Quam Gloriosum' Victoria, Motet: O God the King of Glory *Purcell*

## **Sunday 19th May Pentecost**

### **10:45am     Mass**

Setting: Mass in F *Wood* (a favourite at St Michael's), Motet: Tu es Petrus *Palestrina*

## **Sunday 26th May Trinity Sunday**

### **10:45am     Mass**

Setting: Missa Aeterna Christi Munera *Palestrina* (1525–1594), Motet: Benedicta sit Sancta Trinitas *Agostino Agazzari* (1578–1640, *who worked in Rome and Siena*)

## **Thursday 30th May Corpus Christi**

### **7:30pm     Mass with Procession**

Setting: Mass for 4 voices *Byrd*, Motet: O sacrum convivium *Byrd*

On Low Sunday, Canon Thurmer led us from the Resurrection appearances of Jesus to the Big Bang via the Large Hadron Collider, to illustrate the surprising nature of the matter we are made from and the forces which shape us. Next day, as we celebrated the Annunciation, Fr David showed us Mary as both Mother of God and first Christian believer. As so often at St Michael's, sermons to make us think, not tell us what to think.

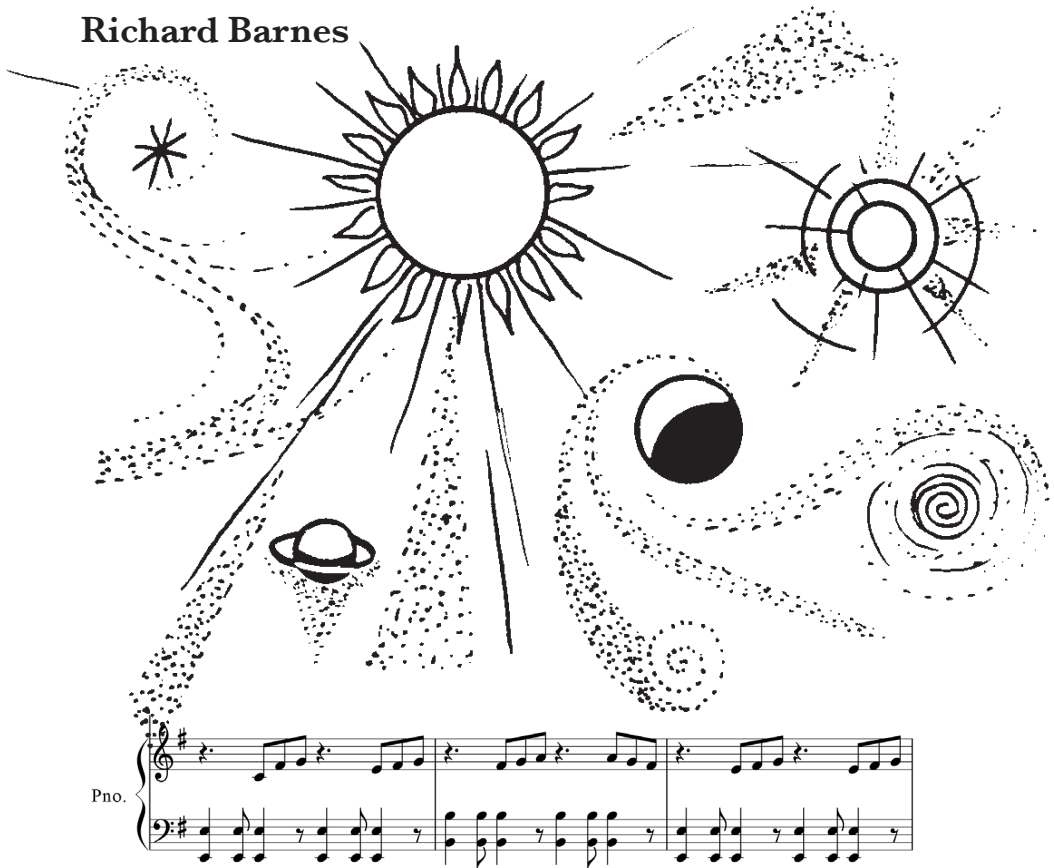
As we contemplate the Holy Trinity, we should perhaps not think of an atom with a subordinate Son orbiting the Father under the force of the Spirit; rather more like three equal partners, held together by generous

mutual love, and each allowing the other to influence human hearts and lives - perhaps a model for our churches too.

For me, a modern image of the Ascension is the scene at the end of the Doctor Who episode “Planet of the Ood”, set in the year 4126. Having freed the gentle and musical Ood race from 200 years of slavery to Humanity, the Doctor and Donna Noble (pacem?) return to the Tardis on a mountain top. While a dozen Ood stand in an arc, singing their song of freedom and farewell (in Latin with a counter-tenor voice, naturally), the Tardis dematerialises in front of them. The Ood have their society to rebuild, and the Doctor has more worlds to save.

Whatever the details of your faith and mine, all are welcome to join us at St Michael’s to celebrate these great Christian holydays,

## Richard Barnes



# Dates of Note

## May

### 9 Ascension Day - 40 Days with the Risen Christ

40 days after Easter comes Ascension Day. It may seem crazy to call it Eastertide when Easter is clearly over! - but these are the 40 days during which the Risen Christ appeared again and again to his disciples, following his death and resurrection.

The Gospels give us little of Christ's teachings and deeds during those forty days. Jesus was seen by numerous disciples: on the road to Emmaus, by the Sea of Galilee, in houses, etc. He strengthened and encouraged his disciples, and at last opened their eyes to all that the Scriptures had promised about the Messiah. Jesus also told them that as the Father had sent him, he was now going to send them - to all corners of the earth, as his witnesses.

Editor: if you want to add more detail to Christ's appearances, the stories can be found in Matthew 28; Mark 16; Luke 24; and John 20.



# May 19: Pentecost/Whit Sunday

## – the birthday of the Church

Pentecost took place on the well established Jewish festival of First-fruits, which was observed at the beginning of the wheat harvest. It was exactly 50 days after the Passover, the time of Jesus' crucifixion.

A feast day to celebrate the country's wheat harvest does not sound exactly world-changing, but that year, it became one of the most important days in world history. For Pentecost was the day that Jesus sent the Holy Spirit - the day the Church was born.

Jesus had told his apostles that something big was going to happen, and that they were to wait for it in Jerusalem, instead of returning to Galilee. Jesus had plans for his apostles – but he knew they could not do the work themselves – they would need his help.

And so the apostles and disciples waited in Jerusalem, praying together for several days. And then on that fateful morning there was suddenly the sound as of a mighty rushing wind. Tongues of flame flickered on their heads, and they began to praise God in many tongues – to the astonishment of those who heard them. The curse of Babel (Genesis 11: 1- 9) was dramatically reversed that morning.



That morning the Holy Spirit came to indwell the apostles and disciples of Jesus: and the Church was born. The Christians were suddenly full of life and power, utterly different from their former fearful selves. The change in them was permanent.

Peter gave the first ever sermon of the Christian church that morning: proclaiming Jesus was the Messiah. His boldness in the face of possible death was in marked contrast to the man who had denied Jesus 50 days before. And 3,000 people responded, were converted, and were baptised. How's that for fast church growth!

Of course Pentecost was not the first time the Holy Spirit had acted in this world. All through the Old Testament there are accounts of how God's Spirit guided people and strengthened them. But now, because of Christ's death and resurrection, he could INDWELL them. From now on, every Christian could have the confidence that Jesus was with them constantly, through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.

## **May 30: Joan of Arc** — saving France from the English

How far would you go to respond to God's call on your life? When as the daughter of a peasant family in Champagne in 1426, 14 year old Joan heard heavenly voices calling her to 'save France' from the English, she decided to obey the call, no matter what the consequences.

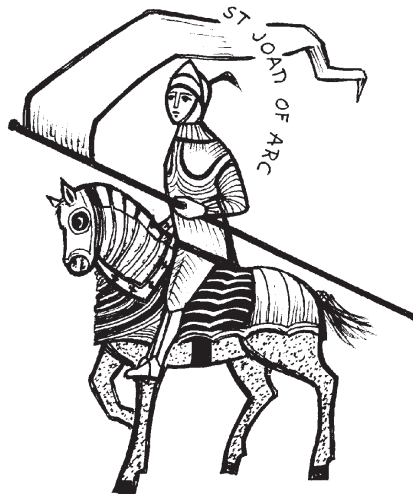
Teenage girls who want to rescue their country from foreign troops were considered every bit as crazy back then as now. But Joan eventually came to the notice of the Dauphin (Later Charles VII) who decided to make use of her obvious ability to inspire people – in this case, the French, to fight. And so Joan, dressed in white armour, rode at the front of the French army when they relieved Orleans in April 1429. Her pres-

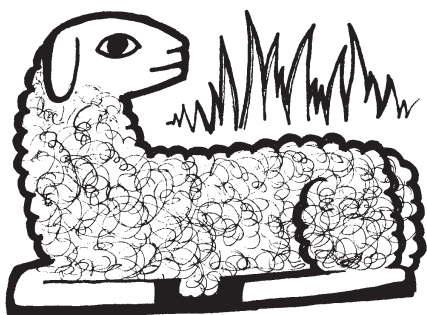
ence and belief in her divine calling to get rid of the English, did wonders for the morale of the troops, who loved her even more when she sustained a wound in the breast, and made little of it.

A campaign in the Loire followed, and then in July the Dauphin was crowned at Rheims with Joan at his side, carrying her standard. More battles followed that winter, until Joan was captured and sold to the English. They attributed her success to witchcraft and spells, and imprisoned her at Rouen. She was brought before judges, where her spirited and shrewd defence were outstanding.

But the judges declared her false and diabolical, and she was condemned to die as a heretic. She was burnt at the stake in the market-place at Rouen on 30 May 1431. Joan died as she had lived; with total faith in God and certainty that she was obeying his will for her life. She died with fortitude, looking at a cross and calling on the name of Jesus. Her ashes were thrown into the Seine.

Joan's integrity and courage are what shine down the centuries. Here is a patron saint for you if you feel that God is calling you to do something extraordinary: something that is way, way beyond your comfort zone; but something that could right wrongs and make a difference in the world. Are you up for it?





## St BONA of PISA

### May 29th

Bona was born in Pisa, Italy in 1156. When she was 14 she made her first journey, going to see her father who was fighting in the crusades near Jerusalem. On the way back she was captured by pirates in the Mediterranean. Rescued, she set out again, this time taking with her a large number of pilgrims to make the 1,000 mile journey to the shrine of St James at Compostella in Spain.

Bona became an official guide on this famous pilgrimage route and made the journey 9 times, “full of energy, helpful, and unselfish, ready to reassure with her smile those who were sick.”

In recent times St Bona has come to be associated as the patron saint of travellers along with St Christopher; and in particular of couriers, guides and air-hostesses.



## TRAVELLING ON...

There are lots of journeys recorded in the Bible. Can you find the answers to these travel questions?

*Answers at the bottom of the page.*

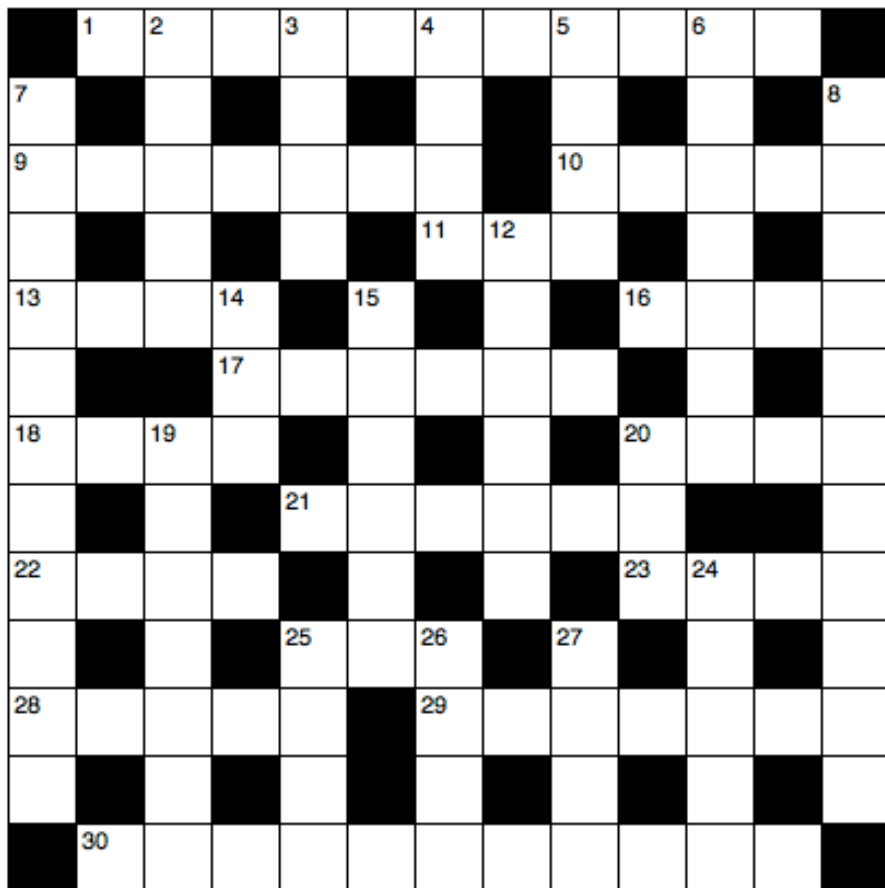
1. Where Paul was ship-wrecked on his journey to Rome (Acts, chapt. 27)?
2. Where was there no room for Mary and Joseph when they journeyed from Nazareth?
3. Which country did Joseph's brothers travel to find food? (Genesis, chapt.42)
4. Why does the Bible always say that people were 'going up' to Jerusalem?
5. When Moses led the people out of Egypt, what did he take with him? (Exodus, chapt.13)
6. Which of the 4 horsemen of the Apocalypse rides a red horse? (Revelation)



**Answers:** 1. Malta 2. in the inn  
of Bethlehem 3. Egypt 4. because  
Jerusalem is built on a hill, so  
whatever direction you come from,  
you will always be going up to it.  
5. Joseph's bones 6. War.



# May crossword



## Across:

1 Overpowered (Deuteronomy 11:4) (11)

9 'The — are mantled with corn' (Psalm 65:13) (7)

10 'Each man—a sword to his side'(Exodus32:27)(5)

11 On the death of Jesus the curtain in the temple was torn from— to bot-  
tom (Matthew 27:51) (3)

13 Stagger(Isaiah 28:7)(4)

16 'Anyone,then,who knows the good he ought——and doesn't do it, sins'  
(James 4:17) (2,2)

- 17 Stir up or provoke(Acts13:50)(6)
- 18 Burden(Luke11:46)(4)
- 20 'As far as the east is from the—,so far has he removed our transgressions from us' (Psalm 103:12) (4)
- 21 Sign(Luke23:38)(6)
- 22 'After that,Jesus poured water into a basin and began to—his disciples' feet' (John 13:5) (4)
- 23 The nature of the seven ears of corn which swallowed up the good ears in Pharaoh's dream (Genesis 41:23) (4)
- 25 Has(anag.)(3)
- 28 'This is the account of Shem,Ham and Japheth,—sons' (Genesis 10:1) (5)
- 29 'I will...make them drunk,so that they...sleep for—and— awake' (Jeremiah 51:39) (4,3)
- 30 Paul said of him,'he often refreshes me and is not ashamed of my chains' (2 Timothy 1:16) (11)

## **Down:**

- 2 Worth (Matthew 13:46) (5)
- 3 'A bruised — he will not break' (Matthew 12:20) (4)
- 4 'Suddenly a great company of the heavenly — appeared with the angel' (Luke 2:13) (4)
- 5 Slip (anag.) (4)
- 6 'Take an awl and push it through his — — into the door, and he will become your servant for life' (Deuteronomy 15:17) (3,4)
- 7 Bountiful (2 Corinthians 8:2) (11)
- 8 'Therefore, as we have — , let us do good to all people' (Galatians 6:10) (11)
- 12 Acquire(2Timothy2:10)(6)
- 14 Container cover(Numbers19:15)(3)
- 15 'He...became obedient to death,even death on——!' (Philippians 2:8) (1,5)
- 19 Refrain(1Peter2:11)(7)
- 20 'She began to—his feet with her tears'(Luke7:38)(3)
- 24 One who worships Brahma,Vishnu or Shiva(5)
- 25 'Give to everyone who—you'(Luke6:30)(4)

26 'I lift up my eyes to the hills;where does my—come from?' (Psalm 121:1) (4)

27 One of those whom the Lord said would be taken from Jerusalem and Judah as judgment on them (Isaiah 3:2) (4)

*Solutions on the following pages - No need to wait a month to see if you're right!*

## **St. Sidwell's Church of England Primary School and Nursery**

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**Headteacher: Mrs. Anne Hood**

**Tel: 01392 255551 Website: [www.st-sidwells-ce.devon.sch.uk](http://www.st-sidwells-ce.devon.sch.uk)**



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# Barbara's Edible Stall

Please keep bringing and buying.

We need you!

NEXT DATE:

**SUNDAY MAY 19th**

**Jane Woodman**



# Crossword solutions

## May answers

**ACROSS:** 1, Overwhelmed. 9, Valleys. 10, Strap. 11, Top. 13, Reel. 16, To do. 17, Incite. 18, Load. 20, West. 21, Notice. 22, Wash. 23, Thin. 25, Ash. 28, Noah's. 29, Ever not. 30, Onesiphorus

**DOWN:** 2, Value. 3, Reed. 4, Host. 5, Lisp. 6, Ear lobe. 7, Overflowing. 8, Opportunity. 12, Obtain. 14, Lid. 15, A cross. 19, Abstain. 20, Wet. 24, Hindu. 25, Asks. 26, Help. 27, Hero.

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*originally published in Three Down, Nine Across, by John Capon (£6.99 BRF)*



**The deadline for inclusion of articles for  
the **June** issue of the parish  
magazine is **Sunday May 10th 2013****

Any information and articles you'd like to submit for inclusion in future issues should be sent to Ashley and Johanne via St David's Church or our email: [thedairy@btclick.com](mailto:thedairy@btclick.com)

**If you have images of any events of interest to the  
Parish community please send them to us.**

**Please send digital files via email if at all possible - thanks!**



**Thank you** to Graham Lerwill for organising the printing of this magazine - his hard work is much appreciated.