

St. Botolph's Chronicle

February & March



Happy New Year

A View from the Rectory

Dear Friends,

For quite a few months now we have been thinking about the dreams that we have for our church and have been discussing what we need to do to start making our dreams reality. Achieving those dreams will involve change. Not change for the sake of change, but change in order to make it easier for others to come and find out about Jesus. We know that the world has changed significantly, and so to attract people to come and find out more, we must alter some of ways we do things.

On 16th January, the PCC considered the responses to the “Dreams for our church” questionnaire, discussed a number of proposals and agreed to implement a number of changes to help move our church forward. The changes that we will introduce from February will involve changes to our pattern of worship, to our Sunday provision for children, our outreach to the wider community and in our faith development. The changes are outlined below: -

Worship Our pattern of worship will be as follows: -

First Sunday	All Age Worship
Second Sunday	Holy Communion
Third Sunday	All Age Communion
Fourth Sunday	Holy Communion
Fifth Sunday	Praise Service with Celtic Communion

Bread will be used for most communion services. Wafer and gluten free wafer will be available.

Clergy will dress appropriately for all services but not necessarily in clerical vestments.

Children

Sunday School will be available at all services except All Age.

Outreach

We will work to develop a monthly Café/Messy Church in School.

Baptism preparation and Wedding preparation meetings will be held three or four times a year to assist parents and couples to better understand baptism and marriage. A “Thanksgiving for a Child” service will be offered as an alternative to baptism

Faith Development

Bible Study will take place on the 4th Sunday of the month at 4pm.

I spoke about these changes in our church service on 28th January and a number of our church family spoke to me about them. I am aware, however, that some people were not at church on that Sunday, so if you would like more information about the changes, then please let me know and we can arrange to meet. I pray that God will continue to bless us our worship and our outreach into the wider community.

Every Blessing

Mark

<p>From the Registers</p> <p>BAPTISMS. Jan: - Perry Cook</p> <p>WEDDINGS:</p> <p>FUNERALS: Dec;- Margaret Haigh</p>

Funeral Notice

Mrs Jean Porter, a long-time member of St Botolph's Church sadly died on 9th January. Her funeral will be held on Thursday 8th February at 1.50pm at Lincoln Crematorium. Jean's family invite all who knew Jean to join them at the funeral service.

Women's World Day of Prayer

Women's World Day of Prayer is a worldwide, ecumenical movement involving men and women of all ages and denominations. It aims to encourage informed prayer and prayerful action 365 days of the year. The movement provides a voice for women in countries where they have no other voice and is part of a huge unstoppable wave of prayer on one special day each year.

This year's service has been written by the women of Suriname, which lies in the north eastern part of South America. It is concerned with the care of our planet, which is a subject very important to us all and includes an opportunity to promise to do something that will make a difference.

St Botolph's Church is hosting the service this year. It will be held on Friday 2nd March at 1.30 pm. Everyone, men and women, young and older, are very welcome to attend and we look forward to sharing this service with you. Refreshments will be served after the service.

Pauline Coulson.

What's on in church over the next two months

Sunday 4th February at 11 am All Age Worship – Jonah & the whale- with activities for the children and a talk for adults with Bishop Nicholas

Sunday 11th February - at 11 am Holy Communion

From this Sunday during communion services there will be Sunday School available for children

Wednesday 14th February – at 7.30pm Ash Wednesday service

Sunday 18th February - at 11 am All Age Holy Communion

Sunday 25th February - at 11 am Holy Communion

Sunday 4th March - at 11 am All Age Worship

Sunday 11th March – at 11am All Age Communion for Mothering Sunday

Sunday 18th March - at 11am All Age Holy Communion

Sunday 25th March - at 11am Holy Communion for Palm Sunday

Holy Week

Thursday 29th March – 7.30 pm service for Maundy Thursday

Friday 30th March – 9.30am Service of reflection then Walk of Witness

Sunday 1st April – Easter Day

6 am – Service of the Light

11am Holy Communion for Easter

Dates for your Diary

Friday 2nd March - Women's Day of Prayer, 1.30pm at St. Botolph's

2nd – 6th April - Spring Harvest at Butlins, Skegness. More details can be found on www.springharvest.org If you would like to join others for a day visit please speak to Rev. Mark as it is hoped to have a group going together.

9th – 17th June Celebrations for the 800th Anniversary of St. Botolph's Church including a Medieval Weekend, watch this space for news of what will be on that week culminating in the Bishop of Lincoln re-dedicating the Lychgate in a service on **Sunday 17th June**

Your Parish Administrator

Who Am I?

Hello everyone. I've been working with the parish of St Botolph's Quarrington now for over a year and you'll have seen my name as a contact on the pew sheet. However, I thought it was about time that I told you a bit more about me.

I was born in Boston and lived there with my family, Mum, Dad and elder brother, until I was eighteen when I moved to Canterbury to do my degree. It was at university that I met my husband, Richard, who hails from Portsmouth. After we graduated we stayed in Kent and I became a Library manager and Richard became a cook.

Eventually, Richard retired from his job due to ill health and we decided it was time to follow our dreams. So, we bought a canal boat and set sail for four years. We mainly travelled on the southern canals, and it was an experience which I shall never forget. However, all good things must come to an end and we decided that we had to come back and live on land again.

We moved to Lincolnshire to be near my family and especially my Mum who had not been well. Thus, we found our house in Pointon and managed to sell the boat.

I then started working as Activities Co-ordinator at a residential home for older people in Bourne, a job which I thoroughly enjoyed and found very rewarding. Six years on, however, it was time to move on and looking for something I could do self-employed, I hit upon painting and decorating. I have been trading as 'The Paint Lady' ever since.

Two years ago, the job as Parish Administrator for St. Botolph's Quarrington caught my eye, partly because for 20 years of her working life, my Mum had been Parish Administrator of St Botolph's (the Stump) in Boston. I can't claim to be following in her footsteps exactly, but here I am, enjoying both my jobs and hoping I can continue supporting the congregation, the PCC and Rev. Mark.

Thank you for making me feel very welcome

Maria

A ♦ MEDITATION

BY • CARDINAL • NEWMAN

GOD has created me to do Him some definite service; He has committed some work to me which He has not committed to another.

I have my mission—I may never know it in this life but I shall be told it in the next.

I am a link in a chain, a bond of connection between persons. He has not created me for naught. I shall do good, I shall do His work.

I shall be an angel of peace, a preacher of truth in my own place while not intending it—if I do but keep His Commandments.

Therefore I will trust Him. Whatever, wherever I am, I can never be thrown away. If I am in sickness, my sickness may serve Him; in perplexity, my perplexity may serve Him; if I am in sorrow, my sorrow may serve Him. He does nothing in vain. He knows what He is about. He may take away my friends, He may throw me among strangers. He may make me feel desolate, make my spirits sink, hide my future from me—still He knows what He is about.

Bible Study

“From: Paul—an apostle not sent from men or by a man, but by Jesus the Messiah, and God the Father, who raised him from the dead— and all the brothers who are with me. To: the churches in Galatia. May grace and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus, the Messiah, be yours.”

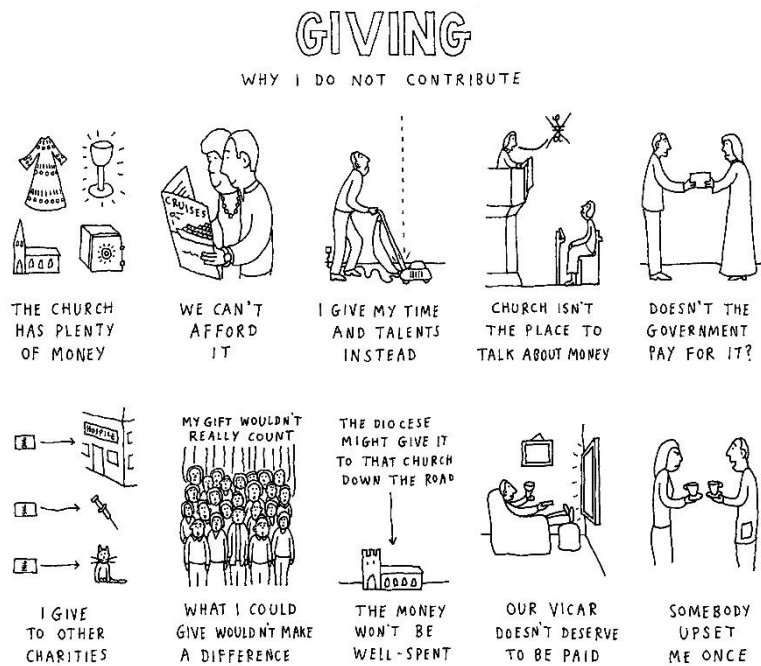
This was the first part of the text that was studied at the new Bible Study Group. On Sunday 28th January at 4pm the doorbell started ringing at Barbara and Jimmy Jones’ house as people arrived. A warm welcome was offered with tea, coffee and biscuits available on arrival. Then Rev Mark introduced the text to be studied: St Paul’s letter to the Galatians verses 1-9. The study guide led us through a series of questions helping us to think more deeply about the words on the page as well as putting the text into its historical context. We were encouraged to think about how the text spoke to us as well as what impact it would have on our daily lives during the coming week.

The session finished with a short time of prayer.

We were asked to think of a name for this group and reflecting on this I wondered about ‘Cornerstone’ as the study of the Bible helps to put Jesus firmly as the cornerstone in our Christian

lives, however I'm sure others will come up with some interesting ideas too.
If you're interested in joining the group, have a chat with Rev Mark to find out more.

Sally Anne Caunter



CartoonChurch.com

Cartoon by Dave Walker, originally published in the Church Times

The Lamb

Little Lamb, who made thee?
Dost thou know who made thee?
Gave thee life, and bid thee feed,
By the stream and o'er the mead;
Gave thee clothing of delight,
Softest clothing, woolly, bright;
Gave thee such a tender voice,
Making all the vales rejoice?
Little Lamb, who made thee?
Dost thou know who made thee?

Little Lamb, I'll tell thee,
Little Lamb, I'll tell thee,
He is calléd by thy name,
For He calls Himself a Lamb,
He is meek, and He is mild;
He became a little child.
I a child, and thou a lamb,
We are calléd by His name.
Little Lamb, God bless thee!
Little Lamb, God bless thee!

William Blake.

I think it is very beautiful and spiritual and remember it from school, many moons ago!
With thanks to Pauline Coulson

WHO'S WHO

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REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Tiddlywinks: held in the Church room every Tuesday (during term time) 10am – 12 noon; a group for children between birth and 5 with their carers to meet in a warm safe environment to play and chat. Coffee, tea, squash, biscuits and cake provided.

Vestry Hour with Rev. Mark Thomson: held in the church room every Wednesday between 6 and 7pm to book Baptisms, Weddings or just to talk to Mark. No appointments needed.

Mid-week Communion: Wednesday at 10 am in church

1st Thursday – Men's group at The Horseshoe (see Rev. Mark)

2nd Wednesday – Ladies group (see Rev. Heather)

Coffee morning – last Friday of the month