

SERVICES AT THE PARISH CHURCH

Sunday in the Month	8am	9.30am	6.30pm
FIRST	CW HC	Family Worship with children	Evensong
SECOND	CW HC	Morning Worship	CW Holy Communion
THIRD	CW HC	Morning Worship	Evensong
FOURTH	BCP HC	Holy Communion	Evensong

CW = Common Worship. BCP = Book of Common Prayer. HC = Holy Communion

YOUNG PEOPLE'S FELLOWSHIP every Sunday after Evening Service **Sundays**
in Church Centre

FROGS 11-14 years, first Sunday of month 6 p.m. in Church Hall

OTT 8-11 years, 9.30 a.m. in Church Centre

except on first and second Sunday when in Church

SUNDAY CLUB 3-7+yrs, 9.30 a.m. in Church Centre

except on first Sunday when in Church

HOLY COMMUNION Weekdays

Every Wednesday 10.00 a.m. (BCP)

Saints Days and Holy Days as announced

If you would like to book a baptism or wedding, please contact the Parish Church Office.
Vicar's Rest Day: Monday

SIDESMEN and WOMEN

Messrs Bailey, Beasley, Brackett, Crawley, Dunning, Finley, Fleetwood, Grogan, Howie, Johnson, Lattimer, Lea, Matthews, Sherwood, Vigis, Wickham, Wood, Worssam, Wragg, Mrs Ambrose, Mrs Beasley, Mrs. Crawley, Mrs Dunning, Mrs Fleetwood, Mrs Johnston, Mrs Kelsey, Mrs Marchant, Mrs J. Matthews, Mrs Mills, Mrs. Nicholson, Mrs Richardson, Mrs. Twallin and Mrs Wood.

PARISH MAGAZINE DISTRIBUTORS

Mrs Ambrose, Mr Beacom, Mrs Chandler, Mrs Cole, Mrs Davison, Mrs Fleetwood, Mrs Garner, Mrs Greener, Mrs Groom, Mr Housden, Mrs Hubbard, Mrs Hubert, Mr Hunt, Mrs Jeremiah, Mrs Jones, Mrs Keeling, Mrs Lattimer, Mrs Lawrey, Mrs Malan, Mrs Marchant, Mrs Martin, Mrs Mills, Mrs Packer, Mrs Parker, Mrs Raynor, Mrs Redding, Mrs Richardson, Mrs Roffey, Mrs Stevens, Mrs Thomas, Mrs Thompson, Mrs Torry, Mrs Wickenden, Mrs Wills, Mrs Worssam, Mrs Wragg, Mrs Yates, Mrs Young.

JULY 2008

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

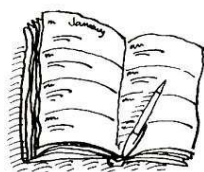
- 1 - **Morning Prayer will be said in Church on Tuesdays and Thursdays each week at 8.15 a.m. and on Fridays at 9.00 a.m.**
2.30 p.m. Homegroup (5 Colets Orchard)
- 2 - 9.30 a.m. 'First Steps' (Oxford Methodist new Hall)
10.00 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP)
2.00 p.m. Interment of the ashes of Helen Clay
7.00 p.m. PCC bring-and-share supper and meeting at (Vicarage)

- 3 - 8.00 p.m. Homegroup (White Cottage, 11 Hillydeal Road)
- 6 - **The Seventh Sunday after Trinity**
 - 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (CW)
 - 9.30 a.m. Morning Worship with children and Prizegiving (CW) including the baptism of Hattie Pope
 - 6.00 p.m. FROGS (Church Hall)
 - 6.30 p.m. Evensong
- 7 - 7.45 p.m. Homegroup (17 Leonard Avenue)
- 8.00 p.m. Fair Committee ('Lorien', St. Michael's Drive)
- 9 - 10.00 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP)
- 12 - 9.30 a.m. Churchyard Working Party
- 1.00 p.m. Wedding of Nicholas Dawes and Emma Gibbon
- 13 - **The Eighth Sunday after Trinity**
 - 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (CW)
 - 9.30 a.m. Morning Worship (CW)
 - 11.30 a.m. Baptism of Cody Hodge
 - 6.30 p.m. Holy Communion (CW)

Material for the August magazine by today, please, to David Matthews, 'Beech Coppice', London Road, Dunton Green, Sevenoaks, Kent.
matthews.dg@lineone.net
- 14 - 7.45 p.m. CAMEO group (17 Leonard Avenue)
- 16 - 9.30 a.m. 'First Steps' (Otford Methodist new Hall)
- 10.00 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP)
- 19 - 1.00 p.m. Wedding of Marc Smith and Katie Pockett
- 3.30-5.30 p.m. Open House at The Vicarage
- 20 - **The Ninth Sunday after Trinity**
 - 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (CW)
 - 9.30 a.m. Morning Worship (CW)
 - 11.30p.m. Baptism of Ryan Francis
 - 6.30 p.m. Evensong
- 21 - 7.45 p.m. Homegroup (17 Leonard Avenue)
- 23 - 10.00 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP)
- 27 - **The Tenth Sunday after Trinity**
 - 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP)
 - 9.30 a.m. Holy Communion (CW)
 - 6.30 p.m. Evensong
- 28 - 7.45 p.m. Coffee & chat (17 Leonard Avenue)
- 30 - 10.00 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP)

Some early August dates

- 3 - **The Eleventh Sunday after Trinity**
 - 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (CW)
 - 9.30 a.m. Family Worship with children (CW)
 - 6.30 p.m. Evensong
- 4 - 7.45 p.m. Homegroup (17 Leonard Avenue)
- 6 - 10.00 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP)



VICAR'S VIEWPOINT

Dear Friends,

Summer is a great season for being outside. We can emerge from behind our double glazing and insulated walls and enjoy being out in our gardens. Stores such as Homebase and B & Q do a good trade in barbecues and outdoor furniture. Clubs and societies hold many open-air events.

As we enjoy our gardens, parks and countryside, we can be aware of both the beauty and the fragility of creation. Not a week goes by without some newspaper articles or TV report on ecological issues. We are much more sensitive to the impact of our lifestyle upon the environment. Our society has at last come to an understanding of the importance of the natural world.

Society in general is only now catching up with the Church, which has for centuries upheld the importance of good stewardship of creation. Throughout the Bible there is a close link between nature and spirituality. Most people are familiar with the poetic story of creation in the opening chapters of Genesis. But there are also significant references to the nature throughout the Bible - in the psalms (e.g. 104); in the wisdom literature (e.g. Job 37 & 38); in the prophets (e.g. Isaiah 40); in the Gospels (e.g. Jesus' nature parables); in Paul's letters (e.g. Romans 1:20); and the Bible concludes with a vision of God's renewal of the whole of creation (Revelation 21).

Many people, if asked to give an account of when they have felt close to God, will mention experiences such as watching a beautiful sunrise, or contemplating the stars on a clear night, or walking through the woods in the autumn. John Ruskin writes of this experience of God through nature:

It is written on the arched sky, it looks out from every star...

it is spread out like a legible language upon the broad face of an unsleeping ocean.

It is the poetry of nature.

It is that which uplifts the Spirit within us.

As we are open the wonder of God's hand in creation, there are two important pitfalls to avoid. We don't want to think of creation as some great cosmic clockwork model that God simply wound up and left it to look after itself (the deist position); neither do we want to think of God acting in a sporadic interventionist manner (e.g. at a specific moment intervening to create humanity, and then on another occasion giving humankind a soul). Rather, we want to discern the hand of God in all his works.

In this, science and religion are partners. Some would impose a division between these two, saying that science is objective, dealing with observables, and tackling questions of mechanism; whereas religion is subjective, dealing with feelings and tackling questions of meaning. And yet both science and religion are inspired by a quest for truth arising from a sense of wonder, and both use models of thought as they seek to understand the world. In the Old Testament, the Bible writers drew on Babylonian cosmology, and in the New Testament on Greek philosophy, as they addressed matters of nature and creation. In science there is not only the older model of predictable Newtonian physics, but now such scientific models as chaos theory. Science may be concerned with "how" question, but any searcher after truth may have the "why" question in mind also; and those who ask the "why" question will be illuminated by answers to the "how" question.

As we enjoy being outdoors this summer, and so draw closer to creation with the sense of wonder that this inspires, may I commend to you a prayer by Lancelot Andrewes which is a great way to begin each day. (*From Common Worship Daily Prayer, p. 109*)

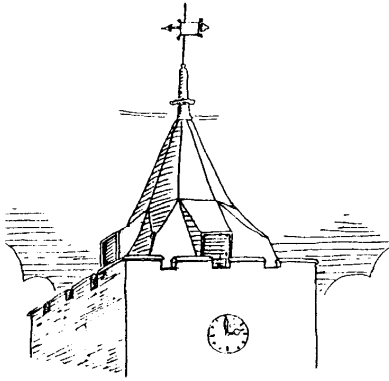
Blessed are you, creator of all, to you be praise and glory for ever.

*As your dawn renews the face of the earth bringing light and life to all creation,
may we rejoice in this day you have made;*

*as we wake refreshed from the depths of sleep, open our eyes to behold your presence
and strengthen our hands to do your will,*

that the world may rejoice and give you praise. Amen.

Enjoy the summer!
Richard Worssam



FROM ST BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH

The Vicar writes in the notices:
Holy Communion Services. We are currently in the long stretch of "Sundays after Trinity". During this period we will be using three different versions of the communion service to allow us to savour the range of liturgical provision to be found in Common Worship whilst always maintaining the same structure. The principal difference between the services will be found in the Eucharistic Prayer; other variations will be found in the preparation for worship, the Gospel acclamation, the

affirmation of faith or creed, the introduction to the peace, the prayer at the preparation of the Table, the post-communion prayer and the blessing. We will use the current version until mid-July.

Over recent months there has been no 6.30pm service on the 4th Sunday of the month. As from 27th July the service on the 4th Sunday will be that of Evensong. On Sunday 31st August at 6.30pm there will be a service based on the Taizé style of worship.

PCC members: a reminder that the PCC meeting on 2nd July will start at 7 p.m. with a bring-and-share meal at the Vicarage.

Family Service with Prizegiving

This takes place on Sunday 6th July when we shall be presenting our Sunday Club and OTT children with prizes for attendance. This event ends the children's summer term: their activities commence from 14th September in the Church Centre.

The popular **cu@5** service will not be taking place during the months of July or August. It will start again on 14th September.

VERSE FOR THE WEEK. During June, Richard encouraged us to remember a verse for each week, one of which was the verse for the week beginning 15th June: 'God demonstrates his own love for us in this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.' (*Romans 5:8*) This Richard described as 'the Gospel in a nut-shell'

* * * * *

MISSION MATTERS

One of the local charities we support is SAYT (Sevenoaks Area Youth Trust). Here are some extracts from a recent SAYT newsletter to give you a flavour of what they do.

SAYT is a Christian Trust founded in 2001, employing 2 experienced Christian youth workers plus some gifted volunteers, in our area, undertaking:

- Detached youth work in towns, streets, estates and villages — to meet young people where they are
- Schools work (often giving support to teenagers facing difficulties)
- Supporting local churches, youth clubs and church youth workers

SAYT remains uniquely placed to reach teenagers in your community — to engage them, help them gain self-esteem and purpose; and demonstrate the Gospel to them in word and deed — challenging and supporting them on their journey. SAYT receives endorsement and commendations from many, including: Mayors, councillors, school head teachers,

Grey Zebra, Police & PCSOs; District, Town & Parish Councils; SENCIO and West Kent Extra. Most important of all we get very positive feedback from young people and local churches.

You may be aware that Jane Down got married last year and left SAYT after several years working with young people in Sevenoaks and Kemsing. By the time you read this we expect to have appointed another experienced Youth Worker into that post. To find out more about SAYT go to their website at www.sayt.org.uk



OTFORD OAST W.I. will meet on Thursday 10th July from 9.30 – 11.30 a.m. at Otford Village Memorial Hall when David and Eleanor Robins, cheesemongers from Sussex, will organise a blind tasting of local cheeses, complete with palate cleansers. There will also be the opportunity to purchase cheeses. There is a free crèche at every meeting. The first visit is free, the second costs £3.00 and annual membership costs £27.00.

Patsy Groom 01959 524156

THE SEVENOAKS LOCAL COMMITTEE OF CANCER RESEARCH UK (registered charity 1089464) will hold a **Summer Fair** in Chevening House Gardens on Sunday 13th July between 2 – 6 p.m. Attractions will include:

- Kent Police Dog Display
- Xtreme Falconry
- Arts and Crafts Stalls
- Live Music, Punch and Judy
- face-painting
- monster slide
- pig roast
- strawberries and cream

and much more. Entry will cost £3.00 for adults and £1.00 for under 16s with free entry for under 5s and free parking.

Evelyn Hubner: 01959 523359

OTFORD AND DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY. On Saturday July 15th the Society has a full-day outing to Faversham, leaving Otford Pond at 9am. Following a talk to the Society in April, we will spend the day in this historic little town. There will be a conducted tour of the town centre in the morning, and in the rest of the day an opportunity to visit any of the twenty-five house in the town that happen to be open for inspection both on that day and on the following Saturday. There will be opportunities for morning coffee, lunch and tea during the day. The cost per head is £25.25. Further information from Cliff or Elizabeth Ward (01959 522384).

THE SEVENOAKS BRANCH OF THE EMBROIDERERS' GUILD: the July meeting will be held in the Village Hall on the 26th, when Tracy Franklin will hold a workshop on contemporary whitework alongside various mini-workshops run by members. Morning sessions begin at 10.00 a.m., afternoon sessions at 2.00 p.m. The meetings end with tea and homemade cake. For further details, contact Jane Barratt on 01732 833588 or Sylvia Grafton on 01732 452117.

3rd OTFORD GUIDES The two current leaders of this thriving unit are giving up at the end of this term and without a new leadership team the unit will sadly have to close. We have two ladies who would like to be part of the new team but we urgently need to

find another to 'spread the load' and maintain the regulated child: adult ratios. We know it is a big responsibility to take on but one that is extremely rewarding. If you can help or would like more information please call either Alison Crawley (Leader) 01959 525128 or Jane Woodrow-Clark (District Commissioner) 01959 523342.

OTFORD VILLAGE MEMORIAL HALL is urgently looking for a new **Hall Manager** to replace Michael, who is now leaving after 10+ year's service. The role involves general maintenance work and liaison with hirers and assisting in the day-to-day running of the Hall. The new Manager would be required to attend the Hall for a couple of hours each morning – Monday to Friday - and to assist with clearing up and locking up after weekend evening social events – currently around nine or ten this year. There will also be occasions when the Hall will need to be opened at other times but we do try to keep these to a minimum. This position would, ideally, suit someone who has taken early retirement and is looking for some part-time work. An attractive salary package is available to the right applicant. For further details or a brief chat please call me, Ron Dullage, Chairman on 01959 522007.

SPOTLIGHT ON

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Chairman: Mr John Allen

Parish Clerk: Mrs B. Darby. Tel: Otford 524808

Otford Roads: It was recently suggested that I indicate the range of highway problems the parish council is presently involved in, rather than write on several subjects, so...

Road Gullies (the drains) There are many apparently blocked or full and need emptying. The Highways Department have been notified of those in Row Dow, Rye Lane, Twitton Lane and Station Road.

Difficulty for vehicles exiting Well Road known to many and we asked the Highways Department if a roundabout could be provided there. The response was that there was no record of any major crash there over a five year period (2002 - 2007) and the cost could not be justified.

Water emerging at end of Park Lane. It has been established that this is spring water, once running in a plastic pipe that is now broken. KCC will investigate and may repair.

Parking in Evelyn Road and Tudor Drive by commuters reluctant to pay the Station car park charges - before the recent increase - has become a problem and the council has asked SDC if residential parking signs ("no parking before 10am") could be introduced there - as in Leonard Avenue & Collets Orchard. We are awaiting a response.

New Vehicle Activated Speed Sign in Pilgrims Way West has not yet been connected to an electricity supply, but this is not within the powers of any level of local government. The electricity supplier decides when this is done. The sign is a consequence of many efforts to get slower High Street traffic that started in earnest in 2001!

Possibility of slip roads from the M26 at Otford received attention recently following a meeting in Seal. Many years ago the DoT stated this option was abandoned in favour of building a full set at junction 5 and it is now KCC Policy TP6 for the slip roads to be built there, at Chevening, under "schemes for further development, post 2011", issued by the DoT in 2003. Clearly, such slip roads would now cause acute problems wherever they were built in the Sevenoaks District.

Pot holes are notified to the Highways Department via computer each month unless thought likely to be a danger to cyclists or deflate vehicle tyres (as one did recently), when the information is passed on by phone.

All these and other road problems will be raised when the council meets with the new liaison officer from the Highways Department and also at a meeting with our County Councillor.

Public Telephone box removal: Notification of the intended removal of the box near the junction of Pilgrims Way west and Telston Lane has only recently been received, with no time left for the council to consult residents. The council will object: it is often seen to be used by drivers and needed in emergencies by residents.

JGA

* * * *

475 years ago



.... on July 4th, 1533, John Frith (Fryth) was burnt at the stake in Smithfield. He was one of the “key players” in the English Reformation. At Cambridge he was acknowledged as the outstanding academic of his year; so much so that he was chosen by William Tyndale to be his assistant as he started translating the Bible into English in 1523. Later, because of his knowledge of the Bible and his logical mind, Tyndale encouraged the young Frith into theological writing. Dr Daniell, in his book on William Tyndale, refers to John Frith as the “ablest English reforming theologian”. In December 1532, John Frith spent Christmas with the new Archbishop, Thomas Cranmer, who records in his diary that they spent many hours discussing together; so it is not surprising to find that the 39 Articles of the Church of England bear the hallmark of John Frith’s biblical theology. The Bishop of Durham, Dr Tom Wright, who did his Phd thesis on John Frith, writes “that Frith deserves to be better known”. There is an opportunity of finding out more about John Frith at Westerham (Frith’s birthplace) in early July at:

**A Celebration of the Life and Martyrdom of John Fryth
Saturday July 5th – 5pm
St Mary’s Church, Westerham**

The Celebration will be a combination of Music (provided by the Sackville Singers, under their conductor Anthony Dawson) and Drama (provided by members of St Mary’s Church). The cost for the event will be £7 (payable at the door).

Brian Raynor

* * * *

Archbishop's Speech at the One World Media Awards

Thursday 12 June 2008

Speech by The Archbishop Of York, Dr John Sentamu, at the One World Media Awards Ceremony. The One World Media Awards focus on the most outstanding coverage of the developing world over the previous year.



Archbishop speaks

Bobby Kennedy, the younger brother of John F. Kennedy, and one time Democratic Presidential Candidate, until his assassination, used to keep in his desk drawer an extract of a copy of a letter sent by the poet John Keats to his brother and sister-in-law, George & Georgiana Keats in 1819. The letter said this:

"While we are laughing the seed of some trouble is put into the wide arable land of events.

While we are laughing it grows and suddenly bears a poison fruit which we must pluck." I thought about the poignancy of this quote only recently whilst watching Peter Taylor's remarkable documentary series *"The Age of Terror"*.

During the programme that deal with the bombing of the American embassy in Nairobi in 1998 Peter Taylor noted that the attack received little coverage in America at the time and almost no-one paid attention to the name of the suspected mastermind of the plot.

Why? Because they were fixated upon the relationship between their President and Monica Lewinsky. The man behind the bombing was Osama Bin Laden.

Just as Keats had written, while the world laughed at presidential infidelity, a poison fruit was growing.

As Taylor said on his programme: "Whilst the world's media was concentrating on Washington and an affair that might not make it into the footnotes of history, in Nairobi history was being written in the ruins of a building and the bodies that were being dug out of it."

The challenge to tell the story of the trouble that grows in "the wide arable land of events" and then to "pick the poison fruit" is one that many of you are all too familiar with.

Through your work as journalists, you tell the world important stories which have to battle against gossip, trivia and celebrity for attention and through your work as aid agencies and workers, who seek not only to pick the poison fruit but to replant the tree and grow a new fruit of hope for men and women who are in need of your help.

In Matthew's Gospel Jesus Christ tells his disciples they are salt and light through their actions: they offer a sign of change and hope to the world around them. And he instructs them, *"Make your light shine, so that others will see the good that you do and will praise your Father in Heaven."* (Matt 5:16)

I give thanks to my Father in heaven for your work as NGOs, as Aid Agencies and as Journalists. It represents a light that shines, like a city on a hill and that offers an alternative path to those who would be seduced by celebrity, trivialised by gossip and depoliticised by cynicism.

Mahatma Ghandi challenged people to be the change they wanted to see in the world. And that is precisely what many of you do. It is a pleasure and privilege for me to be able to give out these awards this evening.

May God bless you all in your continuing efforts to bring your light to bear on the world around you and to give a voice to the voiceless in our world. Continue to be like salt and light to everyone on earth.

Thank you

* * * *

Here is the prayer at the start of the day which Richard referred to in his sermon recently when speaking of practising the presence of God:

When we awake and day begins,
waken us to your presence,
waken us to your indwelling,
waken us to inward sight of you,
and speech with you,
and strength from you,
that all our earthly walk may burst into song
and our spirits leap up to you all day always.
Amen

Eric Milner-White

* * * *



Registers



22nd May
22nd May
10th June

Funerals (Our Sympathy)

Ursula Anna Emmy **Turner** (aged 82) - Cremation
Patricia Dorothy **Williams** (aged 61) - Cremation
Patricia **Waites** (aged 81) - Cremation

Church Offerings in May

Open Collections for charities and Church expenses£ 1,719.27
Freewill Offerings£ 6,041.00