



News from Bungoma, p3



Man with a mission, p5



Growing into lay ministers, pp 6 & 7

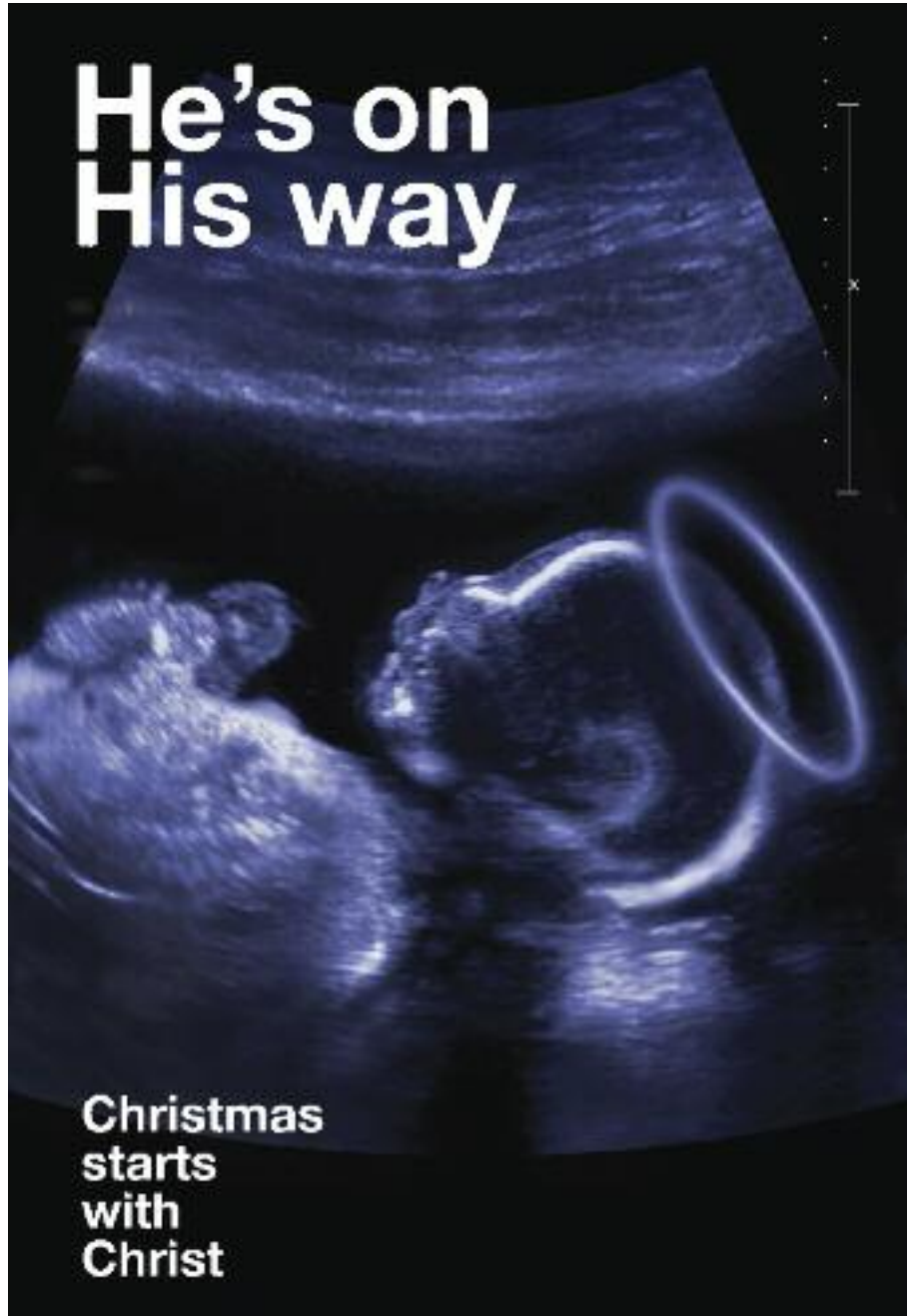


Portico, pp 10 & 11

Winter 2010

Cross Keys

You can download this image from: www.churchads.net



This eye-catching image, which will feature in a nationwide poster campaign during December, is just one example of how the Christian faith is being communicated to a new generation. Churches in our diocese are also finding new ways to communicate. See pages 4 and 5 of Cross Keys to see how.

Wider church news

Giving up

Tax-efficient giving by church members continued to increase in 2008, according to the latest statistical figures from the Church of England. It reached an average of £9.77 per giver per week. Total voluntary giving rose to £8.31 per electoral roll member per week.

Clergy loss

The number of full time paid clergy fell by 128 in 2009 due to retirement and other losses, compared with 182 in 2006. Another 491 candidates were accepted to train as clergy in 2009, making a total of 1338 currently in training. Some 564 were ordained in 2009, 10 fewer than in 2008. One in six people in training are under 30 years of age.

Youth not hostile

Generation Y (people born since 1982) have not inherited the rebellious hostility to the Church of their parents' generation, according to the findings of a new study *The Faith of Generation Y* (Church House Publishing, £14.99). However, for many of them religion and spirituality is seen as irrelevant for day to day living. For most young people, faith is located primarily in family, friends and their selves as individuals, defined as "imminent faith". The book says that "the challenge to the Church is to provide them with the opportunities to explore and to learn about a narrative belief of which they know little."



We helped Beryl read

Beryl can now read and write thanks to a life-changing literacy skills project supported by the Church and Community Fund (CCF). She is one of many helped by the fund which has launched a new web site www.ccfund.org.uk. It tells of parish-linked community projects around the country which secure £500,000 in grants each year. Among them were training for Street Pastors, and workshops for the elderly.

Protect refugees

The Archbishop of Canterbury has expressed concerns about the protection of refugees in the UK. "There's an ongoing policy question about why asylum seekers are not allowed to work," he said during a visit to the Refugee Council. "I'm also concerned about the issue of protection and that people sent back to their countries are not monitored."

Election results

Every five years the entire General Synod is re-elected giving 378 people a chance to bring the social and ethnic diversity of contemporary society to the Church of England's governing body.

The elections have just taken place in all 44 Church of England dioceses, and the results can be viewed at www.generalsynodelections2010.org.

The Church of England Diocese of Peterborough Cross Keys – Winter 2010

A quarterly publication distributed free of charge to the 350 parish churches in The Diocese of Peterborough.

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www.peterborough-diocese.org.uk

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"Christians should stand and be counted"

In his address to the Diocesan Synod meeting on 9 October 2010, Bishop Donald said that "we may well need to stand up as Christians over the coming months in the debate about cuts in public spending."

He highlighted the campaign, Not Ashamed, which encourages Christians to stand up and be counted. Wednesday 1 December is designated as Not Ashamed day when Christians are encouraged to wear a symbol of their faith. "Don't wear a cross to say my life is sorted," added Bishop Donald. "The cross is a sign of brokenness."

You can find out more at www.notashamed.org.uk



You can help make the shoebox Bible

A huge wall of shoeboxes is building up in the Diocesan Education Office, as church schools and parishes take up the challenge to illustrate verses from the Bible in three dimensions within a standard sized shoebox.

The idea is to represent most of the Bible—an estimated 3000 boxes—and display them at Peterborough Cathedral from 29 May until 10 June 2011 as part of the celebration of the 400th anniversary of the King James Bible.

Not just church schools but church and parish groups of all ages are invited



A Bible shoebox illustrating Joshua chapter 1, verse 9 "... for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

passage is already spoken for!

Standard sized shoeboxes can be supplied for you to use, free of charge. Entrants are asked to use bio-degradable materials

in their display.

The person to contact is Christine Burnett on 01604 887060, or email education@peterborough-diocese.org.uk.

Travellers bring news from Bungoma

Melvyn Hunter from Whitefriars Rushden and Pam Walden from All Saints Kettering, with four students, travelled to our link Diocese of Bungoma in September. Their plan was to visit about 20 of the parishes and schools which have specific links with our diocese.

By the end of their trip they had covered 34 churches and schools, inspected water storage tanks being constructed with help from the UK, attended a Kenyan wedding and, with great sadness, had the privilege of seeing Mama Caren Wabukala laid to rest in her home village of Kibeu. Mama

Caren, wife of Archbishop Eliud of Kenya (former Bishop of Bungoma) had died suddenly in Nairobi during their visit.

“We were, once again, overwhelmed by the reception and hospitality of the Bungoman people,” said Melvyn. “We arrived at the end of a dry period and food was a little scarce, yet they still gave us as much as they could from the little they had. They welcomed our prayers and offered prayers for us. They



Above: Mama Caren lies “in state” in the family garden

Left: The water storage tank at Tunyo

Bottom left: Katie blowing bubbles for some school children



continually told us how much of a blessing we were to them without realising how much of a blessing they are to us,”

“We found that the churches and schools with links to the Peterborough Diocese were generally making better progress than those without. All were so pleased with even the smallest of gifts coming through from this diocese.

“We were very much concerned about the lack of pay to all clergy... Only two of the parishes that we visited had a collection that was capable of supporting anyone: nearly all

the rest survive because of help from other members of their family.

“We had been tasked with viewing some of the water storage tanks that have already been put in place and measuring up suitable locations for future tanks. Katie, one of the students with us, said how bizarre it is to be in a country where there is so much rain and yet children are still dying from infected water.”

You can read Melvyn’s full account on our website at: www.peterborough-diocese.org.uk/bungomatrip.pdf

For further information please contact Bungoma link officer, Clive Evans on 01327 842909 or email cliver.evans@tiscali.co.uk

Bishop on the move

Bishop Frank, seen here with his wife Canon Alison White at his farewell service in October, is to be installed as Assistant Bishop of Newcastle on 27 November. The service will take place at St Nicholas Cathedral in Newcastle.

The process of appointing a new Bishop of Brixworth is underway. There is a national process for appointing a suffragan bishop. It is hoped that a name will be recommended to the Queen early in the new year. If all goes according to plan it is likely that the next Bishop of Brixworth will be consecrated and take up his office in June 2011.



Great and Little Houghton get messy



It was in March this year that things started getting messy at Great and Little Houghton. A group of young parents decided it was time to start a “messy church” style group as a way of connecting with families who might come to church only occasionally, if at all. “We asked the vicar, Richard Stainer, and he was delighted to give his support,” said Alison Gibson.

Using their own ideas as well as those from Messy

Church (www.messychurch.org.uk), the team set up a monthly after school event at Great Houghton village hall. The session includes crafts and activities around a Christian theme, finishing with a meal. Families from Little Houghton are bussed in after school.

“We have had great support”, said Alison. “The church pays for the hall hire and several of the older members come along and help. The school has also been very helpful.” Between 70 and 100 adults and children now attend the group, which is a considerable number from the two small villages. Enthusiasm for the group continues to grow. “It’s been amazing,” said Alison. “Now the children are so keen they ask if they can help write the prayers or run a craft table.”

iPraise at Flore



iPraise is a series of occasional interactive worship services specifically for ages 11 and upwards. They take place at All Saints Church at Flore in Daventry Deanery but are attended by youngsters from churches around this rural area, along with their friends.

Each service takes a theme and the evening includes live music, short workshops and activities, a speaker and Holy Communion. At the end there is free pizza for everyone. The theme of the most recent iPraise, held near to Remembrance Sunday was *Christians under fire*, with a speaker who had recently returned from Baghdad. If you are interested in taking a group along to iPraise, please call Ann Slater on 01327 342201.

Expanding youth work at St Jude’s, Peterborough

The young people at St Jude’s Peterborough, who are mainly in the 14-17 age range, can look forward to the start of a new, regular time to hang out with friends within a Christian ethos. “This is an area that was selected as a priority during our Church Review last year,” said Catherine Keating, one of the organisers. The mission grant is helping to provide multi media equipment for the group to use.

Small grants to help fresh ideas get started

The diocesan mission fund is made up of money from the Church Commissioners and some diocesan resources. As well as funding new minister posts in the major new housing areas of the diocese (see page 5), a portion is also set aside for small grants to parishes so that they can expand their ministry into a new area.

These small grants, of between £250 and £2500, are mainly for the purchase of equipment that will help a church or group of churches to develop new congregations within their parish. The projects described on pages 4 and 5 are examples of such projects.

If your church would like to make an application to the Mission Fund please contact Paul Adams, Stewardship and Funding Officer, on 01604 887071 or email: paul.adams@peterborough-diocese.org.uk

New Children and Families worker at Daventry Holy Cross

When Canon Michael Webber was appointed Team Rector of Daventry, he soon realised there was an urgent need to have a new baptism policy, particularly at the town church of Holy Cross.

A small group of baptism visitors was formed and this group helps in the preparation leading to a baptism. But there was a need to follow up those baptism families who expressed more interest in the church, so that they could be encouraged to get to know other young families and perhaps consider joining a “Start” course.

The mission grant helped towards employing a part-time Family Worker to do this work. The Worker has just been appointed and is now planning coffee mornings and other activities.

Northampton's pioneer sets to work



Andrew Dunlop is the new Pioneer Minister for Northampton West. He started his job, which is funded by the Church Commissioners and the Diocesan Mission Fund, in October this year. His brief is simple: to investigate and set up fresh expressions of church for people living on the new housing estates at St Crispins and Upton. "Basically, I have been asked to do what I think is best," says Andrew.

He says he views his task with almost equal amounts of excitement and trepidation! The population of these new estates is already around 4,000 and more building is planned for 2011. There are primary schools both at St Crispins and Upton and community facilities, although not yet in place, are on their way.

"Loitering with intent seems the best way to start", says Andrew, who introduces himself to his neighbours as the "community minister". He has joined the newly formed residents association at St Crispins and is getting to know people by helping at their events. He is also a member of the local gym at Sixfields. "It's described as a health and well being centre so I am hoping that spiritual well being will be seen as a natural part of this", says Andrew.

Andrew hopes to build up from a small team of people who meet regularly for prayer and Bible study, and who share the vision of seeing God's kingdom grow. Some residents have already been living on the St Crispins estate for five years and are keen to develop a sense of community.

If you would like to receive Andrew's prayer letter you can contact him at revajdunlop@gmail.com or follow his blog at pioneerminister.wordpress.com



Help from The Band at Desborough



Portable equipment for the worship band at Desborough means that they can perform at community events, as well as go to the smaller village churches in their benefice. Already they are lined up for a community all age service on Remembrance Sunday, which will run in parallel with the more traditional services at church.

"Remembrance is particularly important for Desborough this year," said Priest in Charge Paul Seaton-Burn. The funeral of 19 year old soldier Aiden Howell took place in the town in January after he was killed in Afghanistan. "To provide an accessible act of public worship that can connect with younger people and families meets a real need." The band is also booked for the town's Christmas music festival. In the long run, it is hoped they will help with a new form of church for the growing housing developments to the north of Desborough.

Please pray for



Heart for Welbourne

Having a Heart for Welbourne

It was a desire to see the people of Welbourne, a distinct area in the densely populated parish of Werrington in Peterborough, transformed by the love of Jesus that prompted some members of the parish church to begin to pray and then to act.

Rachel Smith, who is chair of governors at Welbourne Primary School explains: "In the first year we met as a small group to pray. Then in the second year we started a Family Fun night at the school once a term, with activities and a meal. Each night had a Christian theme like Faith, Hope and Love.

"Now we are building on that with a monthly evening called SPLASH – standing for a Safe Place to Live and Share Hope. It runs from 7pm-8.30pm in the school.

"Many of our guests at SPLASH are single parents who can't normally go out in the evening so they really enjoy

coming." Everyone knows that these events are run by Christians and a quiet space is nearby where people can talk and receive prayer if it's needed.



Each year a new group of students embark on training for ministry in our diocese. They might be training for a specific lay ministry, or perhaps exploring a call to ordination.

Whatever their expectations as they begin the course, many are surprised by the effect it has on them. On pages 6 and 7 some of the students tell their stories so far.

You can read more student stories on our website at www.peterborough-diocese.org.uk/ministry/stories.htm

Maureen Luke: I have been a Christian for many years. For some time I have believed that God had a particular work for me to do. Eventually, after much prayer and discussions with my family, I approached my incumbent and was recommended for a place on the Lay Ministry Course.

This raised many questions for me. What level of study would be required? How much depth was needed for each assignment? Would enough support be available from the tutors? As I think back over the past year, none of these things were a problem. The team of tutors has helped me to understand the different aspects of the role of a Reader and we have looked at the many facets involved in sharing the Good News. The training has been really important in bringing to the fore topics that I had not considered before.

The level of help and encouragement that I have received during my first year, not only from the team but from those I am training with, has been exceptional. I am privileged to be training alongside such great people.

As I enter my second year, I am confident about the direction in which God is leading me. I know that I am where God wants me to be and that once I made myself available to him, he would provide me with everything I need. My spiritual walk has moved to another level and my reliance on God continues to escalate.

Joining the Lay Ministry course was born out of a desire to share the simplicity of God's love with others. The course is giving me greater insight into God's word and is helping me to ensure that my foundational knowledge is comprehensive and as factual as possible. I look forward to the months ahead with a willingness to learn and an enthusiasm that matches my personality!

Maureen Luke (pictured below at Skegness with her family) is from Emmanuel Church, Weston Favell.



Peter Dalrymple:

I started this course with a mixture of excitement and trepidation.

I was excited because I had explored Reader training many years ago but was told I needed more experience.

I was finally fulfilling that call. In between I had served on the PCC, Deanery and Diocesan Synod and as churchwarden. As part of the process of discerning my call I stepped down from parish commitments. I needed to see what it was that God was calling me to do, rather than do things because I had done them before or they needed doing.

I had some trepidation because I knew that the learning process would affect me personally. I knew I could study in an academic way, but this course would show me how my faith affected my relationships and my lifestyle. It was learning that would change me, not learning for the sake of knowledge.

The course has been challenging at times and some of the deadlines have been tight. Some of the ways of learning are not my natural forte but the tutors and other students have helped me to work on this.

One of the highlights was the residential weekend in January. It was an opportunity to get to know people in a more relaxed way. We represent a range of traditions and spiritualities, but the great thing is that we all want to learn from each other's traditions. As I learn about other types of spirituality my faith and experience of God is being strengthened, deepened and definitely challenged.

Peter Dalrymple is from St John's with Emmanuel, Werrington.



Glen Brooks: My conversation with the Diocesan Director of Ordinands (DDO), which led to me joining the course, is still fresh in my mind. Would I be able to handle the assignments, would I fit in, would I be able to continue to be a churchwarden? Well I can say “yes” to the first two points and “so far so good” to the third!

Although I am following Reader training, I am not aiming to be licensed as a Reader. Let me explain. For over twenty years



I have felt a gentle but insistent tap on my shoulder from God but I have done my best to ignore it. I couldn't accept that God would use an ordinary person like me. I left school with very few qualifications and in no way did I consider myself an academic. But about two years ago the feeling that he was asking me to trust him, and take the next step, became steadily stronger. I plucked up the courage to speak to my vicar and we started to meet regularly. He affirmed my sense of call, and put me in contact with the DDO.

She suggested that I undertake the course as a “ministry explorer”. I have found the course to be challenging and informative, but also enlightening and very enjoyable. We have covered topics as varied as Mission Shaped Church, the role of liturgy, and the Cycle of Church Charisma! The assignments have not been easy but God really does equip you if he asks you to do something. I also particularly enjoyed the residential weekend. After a full programme which included uplifting worship and my first exposure to “café church”, I returned home mentally exhausted but conscious that I was slowly growing and moving forward.

So have I become a “reflective practitioner”? Maybe not yet, but I'm not the same person who started the course. Alongside my newly acquired knowledge I've experienced real spiritual growth. It has certainly benefited my prayer life. It is also a real privilege to study alongside a wonderful and diverse group. God really does call people of every background, age, gender and experience, and that mix is definitely represented on the course.

Glen Brooks is from St Peter with St James, Brackley.

Dawn Spokes: I have never had the opportunity for formal study concerning my faith before and I was excited to learn that Peterborough Diocese ran courses for people like me, who work voluntarily in their parishes. After my two years study I hope to be licensed as a Lay Pastoral Minister.

I am a library assistant at Wootton Fields library. I worship at the parish church and I am the first point of contact for people requesting baptisms. I thought the course would help me to engage with people more confidently about my faith and cement my role within the parish.

It is a long time since I have undertaken studying at the level encouraged by the Adult Education team, but I have found that I enjoy learning about God and am spurred on to want to learn more by the enthusiasm of the course leaders. I have had my perceptions challenged and learned to understand other points of view. I am becoming better equipped to share the Good News with the people in my parish.

I look forward to seeing everyone week by week. It's great to be around people who have the same passion for wanting to share the love of God with all those they come into contact with. If you're reading this and longing to join in, my advice is to go for it!

Dawn Stokes is from St George the Martyr, Wootton.



Irene Milburn: I had a strong inner feeling of wanting to be involved in pastoral work but it never occurred to me to enter formal training. When I left school, full time work was my only option. College and university were not within my working class family roots and academically I felt far below average.

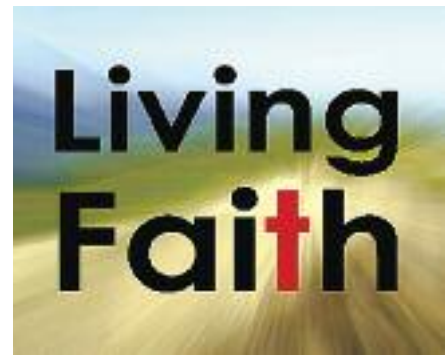
When I saw an advert for the Lay Ministry training course I was not over enthusiastic. God had other plans however, and I unaccountably saw another advert and also an article about formal training. After much personal prayer and encouragement from our Reader I went along to an open day and later I was accepted for training.

The first class was a total shock. Reading lists, assignment deadlines, portfolios, learning journals. How was I to accomplish all the work while working full time? Was this the “little pastoral course” I had expected?

Over time my study skills have changed from being unconfident, chaotic and laborious to challenging, structured and motivating. This course is satisfying my thirst for learning and my walk with God has deepened immeasurably.

Irene Milburn is from St Jude's, Peterborough.

Feed your faith with a Living Faith course



Anyone who would like to know more about their faith is invited to apply for a place on one or more of the Living Faith modules. These short courses form part of the training for Licensed Lay Ministers in the diocese but they are also open to others. These are the topics that are on offer during the Spring and early Summer Term 2011.

Weds 5, 12, 19, 26 January and 2, 9 February

Ethics – Responding to Moral Issues

OM7. A framework for examining ethical issues and helping participants to understand a variety of Christian approaches. £40 per person.

7.30pm at The Almoner's Hall, Peterborough Cathedral.

Thurs 6,13, 20, 27 January and 3, 10 February

Reading the Old Testament

OM3. Exploring the background to the Old Testament and its theology through examining particular texts.

7.30pm, Bouverie Court,

Northampton. £40 per person.



Thurs 6,13, 20, 27 January and 3, 10 February

Pastoral Care in ministry & mission

OM5. Practical skills and understanding for being alongside people. £40 per person.

7.30pm, Bouverie Court, Northampton.

Weds 18, 25 May, 8, 15, 22, 29 June

Working with adults

OM11. Exploring skills or working with adults in groups including how adults learn, group dynamics, leadership and facilitation skills. £40 per person.

7.30pm at The Almoner's Hall, Peterborough Cathedral.

For more information contact Gillian Spokes on 01604 887048 or email adulted@peterborough-diocese.org.uk

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WHAT'S ON IN DECEMBER 2010

Fri 3 – Mon 6, Rothwell Christmas Tree Festival, at Holy Trinity Church, Rothwell. Open Fri 6pm-9pm, Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 12 noon-5pm, Mon 10am-12 noon. Admission £2. Accompanied children free.

Sat 4 – Sun 5, Everdon Advent Flower Festival. 12 noon-4pm daily at St Mary's Everdon, near Daventry). Theme: "The Changing Seasons". Stalls, refreshments. Free entry.

Fri 3 – Sat 4, Walgrave Christmas Tree Festival at St Peter's Walgrave. Open Fri 5pm-9pm, Sat 10am-5pm. Live music, refreshments, secret present room, new gifts at clearance prices, etc.

Sat 4 – Sun 5, Langham Christmas Tree Festival at St Peter & St Paul's Langham. Open Sat 10am-7pm, Sun 10am-5pm. Admission £2.50. Accompanied under 10s free. Christmas Fayre in village hall, Sat 10am-4pm. Tel: 01572 724032.

Sat 4, Abington Antiques, Books and Collectables Fair, 10am-4pm in Abington Church Rooms, Park Avenue North, Northampton. Admission is by donation. Tel: 01604 716136.

Sat 4, "God Save the King!", music by G.F. Handel. Northampton Philharmonic Choir, 7.30pm at St Matthew's, Northampton NN1 4RY. Tickets £18 reserved, £14 unreserved. Tel: 07958 768661. www.philharmonicchoir.co.uk

Fri 10, Sat 11, "Winter Wonderland" at Launde Abbey. David Kent, West End musical theatre star sings numbers from contemporary and classical musicals. Tickets inc. mulled wine, supper and coffee, £25 per person. Overnight packages, £50 per person. Party groups welcome. 7pm both evenings at Launde Abbey. Booking essential on 01572 717254 or visit www.launde.org.uk

Fri 10 – Sun 12, Sat 18 – Sun 19, Crick Christmas Tree Festival at St. Margaret's Crick. Mon 13, concert by the choir "Collage" and Fri 17 Children's Activity Night with Santa. All proceeds to the restoration. Tel: 01788 824670.

Sat 11, Cathedral Christingle service, 3pm at Peterborough Cathedral. Tel: 01733 343342.

Sat 11 – Sun 12, Sat 18 – Sun 19, Weedon Bec Christmas Tree Festival at St Peter & St Paul's Weedon Bec. Open Sat 11, 11am-4pm, Sun 12, 2pm-4pm, Sat 18, 2pm-4pm, Sun 19, 2pm-4pm. Free entry. Stalls, refreshments. Sat 11, 7pm-8.30pm Bell Ringers' Carol Concert and entertainment, free entry. Sun 12, 10.30am Benefice Holy Communion.

Sat 11, Richard III Society Carol Service, 3pm at Fotheringhay Church. All welcome.

Sun 12, Launde Abbey Sunday lunch and tea, includes visit to Father Christmas, and nativity service. £16.50 per person, under 12s £13.50, under 3s £3. Family £57. Booking essential on 01572 717254.

Mon 13 – Fri 17 Launde Abbey Christmas lunches in the calm and beautiful setting at Launde. £15.50 per person, under 12s £10, under 3s free. Booking essential on 01572 717254.

Sat 17, Cathedral Christmas concert by candlelight. Peterborough Cathedral Choir and Festival Chorus with His Majesty's Sagbutts and Cornets, directed by Andrew Reid. 7.30pm at Peterborough Cathedral.

Tickets from 01733 355315.

Sat 18, Christmas Joy – Carols for All. Northampton Bach Choir at 7.30pm, St Matthews Northampton NN1 4RY. Tickets from St Giles Music, Choir Box Office or on the door. www.northamptonbachchoir.org.uk

Sat 18 – Sun 19, Newborough Christmas Tree Festival at St Bartholomew's Church, Newborough.

Fri 24, Cathedral Christmas Eve Services, 4pm Readings and carols, 8pm Bethlehem Now! Carols with the Salvation Army Band of Peterborough, 11.30pm Holy Communion.

Sat 25, Cathedral Christmas Day services, 8am Holy Communion, 10am Choral Matins, 11am Sung Eucharist, 3.30pm Festival Evensong and procession.

Tues 28, Feast of Holy Innocents. Service of remembrance for those who have lost children, 11am at Peterborough Cathedral. Tel: 01733 343342.



Diocese of Peterborough Adult Education

The DNA of being a Christian

A course for church members with questions about the Christian faith.



Sometimes it can feel as though we are not meant to ask questions, or if we do, we receive packaged answers which do not satisfy. This course explores key topics with the help of people whose lively faith is forged in the midst of questioning.

Attend all the sessions, or just the ones that interest you.

**Wednesdays at 7.30pm
at Bouverie Court,
Northampton NN4 7YD.**

1 December – God as Trinity
led by Dominic Barrington

**19 January – Eternal life
and the Holy Spirit**
led by John Hall

**16 February – Christian
Believing**
led by David Painter

**2 March – The Church
and Mission**
led by Miles Baker

Topics still to come:
**Jesus Christ, Worship
Evil and suffering, Moral issues**

£3 per session.



To book call 01604 887049
or email: adulthood@peterborough-diocese.org.uk



Introducing our latest issue...

Welcome to extracts from the September to December 2010 edition of our recently launched Cathedral magazine, Portico.

Published three times a year our intention is that Portico (also meaning door) should provide an open door for finding out more about our magnificent Cathedral Church, which may well inspire a visit in the future.



If you would like to read the full 8 page version or our corresponding Service & Events Guide please visit our website where you can subscribe to a hard copy sent by post or an electronic copy sent by email, alternatively call 01733 355315 or simply send an email to the 'Portico' editor Sarah McGhie: sarah.mcghie@peterborough-cathedral.org.uk

The Very Reverend Charles Taylor,
Dean of Peterborough

THE CATHEDRAL CARES



The Dean and Mayor set to join 300 peo

Adopt a stone

Peterborough Cathedral has recently undertaken an extensive conservation project for the West Front - arguably the finest Gothic construction in England. Now the scaffolding has been removed, the glory of this wonderful stonework is there for all to enjoy.



To help safeguard this great Cathedral Church for future generations we have launched Adopt a Stone, a simple way to preserve a piece of history for yourself or your friends or family. You can come to the Cathedral Shop or office and choose one of our six attractive greeting card adoption packs.

The stones are blocks, shaped or carved. Prices range from £25 to £100. Shaped and carved stones can only be purchased by calling 01733 355315 or email trust@peterborough-cathedral.org.uk

YOU COULD BECOME A CATHEDRAL BENEFACTOR

A legacy from you will help to safeguard the ministry, music and fabric of Peterborough's great Cathedral Church for generations to come

Please ask for details from The Company of St. Peter, The Cathedral Office, Minister Precincts, Peterborough PE1 1XS
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E-mail: trust@peterborough-cathedral.org.uk
Peterborough Cathedral Development and Preservation Trust
Patron: HRH The Duke of Gloucester KG GCMG
Registered Charity No. 1171548

THE COMPANY OF ST. PETER

The Dean along with His Worship The Mayor of Peterborough, Keith Sharp, will be joining 300 people outside Sainsbury's at Bretton Centre to "sleep rough for a night for those who sleep rough every night."

Peterborough Cathedral has actively supported Peterborough Soup Kitchen (PSK) for many years. Teams from the congregation staff the mobile canteen on 2 evenings a month, whilst others make and donate loaves of sandwiches for distribution.

The Dean will be writing about his experiences which you can find on our website www.peterborough-cathedral.org.uk, or for more information on the event please visit www.peterboroughsoupkitchen.org. Here is a brief extract. At the time of publishing Portico the PR campaign has just begun, with a photocall with The Evening Telegraph (see left) and the Dean has had a night out delivering soup and sandwiches to the homeless and disadvantaged...

"... we followed our noses which led us to the kitchen. We had 40 minutes to get food prepared and the van loaded. Trays of sandwiches and cakes and urns of soup, coffee, hot water and juice are all served from the van, which urgently needs replacing. With much grinding of gears, clattering of machinery & near suffocation from diesel fumes we arrived at the distribution point.

Some would complain – and indeed they do – that we shouldn't be feeding people who have been foolish enough to land themselves in such a situation. The same could be said of The Good Samaritan. But it wasn't the Samaritan's role to judge nor is that the task of PSK. Rather it is quite simply to meet the most basic of human needs – food and drink. Is that really too much to ask?"

For details on how to sponsor the Dean please go to www.justgiving.com/Charles-Taylor

ple to sleep rough for Peterborough Soup Kitchen

Heritage Festival

The Cathedral was, once again, the setting for one of the City's major annual events – the Heritage Festival. The Precincts burst into life over the weekend of July 3rd and 4th with over 25,000 visitors streaming through the Norman Archway.

All aspects of historical life were on display, from medieval markets through to living history encampments in the grounds, including Roman Soldiers, Norman Knights & Napoleonic Redcoats. Vikings camped in the Deanery Gardens under the watchful eye of a Norman castle which was especially reconstructed on Tout Hill providing hours of entertainment.



Chorister entry age group lowered



In September 2011 our educational provision for choristers will change when a new Junior Department opens at The King's School, Peterborough. The new department will house 60 pupils aged 7-11 across four year groups, the majority of whom will be choristers. Boys and girls in the Junior Department will move up to the senior part of the state-maintained church school at 11.

From September 2010 we will be auditioning to form a younger choir of girl choristers who are currently in school years 2-6. In December we will also audition boy choristers currently in school years 2 and 3. All these choristers will start at King's in September 2011, and the younger girls will begin rehearsals in January 2011.

We have enjoyed a very positive relationship with Peterborough High School which has given an excellent education to the younger boy choristers for over 15 years. It is nevertheless desirable to be able to educate all the choristers in future at the Cathedral School, to widen access to choristerships, and to offer girls the same opportunities we currently offer boys. The extra capacity in the service and rehearsal schedule which this expansion allows will mean that the Choir can flourish and contribute even more to the worship in the future.



Chilean chaplain to visit Northampton

St Giles Church, Northampton, is looking forward to a visit from long standing CMS partner, Alf Cooper, from 5-7 March 2011. Alf is protestant Chaplain to the President of Chile, Sebastian Pinera and was at the Chilean mine during the recent rescue drama.

“Many of the miners went down as atheists, unbelievers or semi-believers and they have come up to a man testifying that they were not 33 but that there were 34 down there - that Jesus was there with them and that they had a constant sense of his presence and guidance,” he said in an interview on Five Live.

Alf has worked in Chile since 1975 and was pastor of a church in Santiago until he became a presidential chaplain in May this year.



Photo: Alf Cooper (centre) with Catholic Chaplain Luis Ramirez and President Sebastian Pinera.
Photo: Alex Ibanez

Bishop Donald joins Wellingborough’s brightest



Bishop Donald lent a hand to children from All Hallows and All Saints churches in Wellingborough in October when they set up a stall in the busy shopping centre.

The children had combined forces to become the Light, Bright Halloween Team and were handing out goody bags with an activity sheet, sweets and a battery-operated tea-

light to other children who were passing by. The idea was to offer an alternative to the more gruesome aspects of Halloween that often dominate the shops at this time of year.

After a while children started arriving at the stall in such numbers that all bags were handed out in record time.

This beautiful rabbit was in the congregation at St Martin’s Welton recently, for an animal blessing service.

In all there were twenty people, seven dogs, two rabbits and a parrot. One Border collie barked enthusiastically throughout the second hymn, and the parrot seemed to know when birds were mentioned in “All things bright and beautiful” and chirped along excitedly.

Photo: Chrys Tremththamor



Putting Jesus back into Easter

It’s hard to believe that, out of the whopping 80 million chocolate Easter Eggs sold each year, not one of them mentions Jesus on the box.

That was until the Manchester-based Meaningful Chocolate Company launched The Real Easter Egg in October this year.

The Real Easter Egg is the first and only Fairtrade chocolate Easter egg to explain the Christian understanding of Easter on the pack. Its profits also support charity and development projects – buying everything from medical equipment for new mums here at home, to chickens and fresh water for farmers in Africa.

In order to persuade supermarkets of the demand for The Real Easter Egg in time for them to stock up for Easter, church schools were asked to place orders by 1 December 2010.

From January ordering opens up to anyone who would like to order 12 or more of the eggs. You will find an order form on the website in the new year: www.RealEasterEgg.co.uk.