

LLANDUDNO

Cylchgrawn Plwyf
Parish Magazine



30p

June 2008

Services

Holy Trinity Church, Mostyn Street

Sundays

- 8.00 am Holy Eucharist
- 10.30 am Sung Eucharist (1st, 3rd & 4th Sundays)
- Matins followed by shortened Eucharist (2nd Sunday)
- Combined Matins and Eucharist (5th Sunday)
- 5.00 pm Evening Prayer
- 6.00 pm Exploring Worship - in Church Hall (2nd Sunday unless notified otherwise)

Weekdays

- 8.30 am Morning Prayer (Tue, Wed & Thurs)
- Holy Eucharist with Morning Prayer (Fri)
- 9.00 am Holy Eucharist (Wed)
- 11.00 am Holy Eucharist (Thurs & Major Saints' Days)
- Holy Eucharist in Welsh (Sat)
- 5.00 pm Evening Prayer (Tue, Wed, Thurs & Fri)

St Tudno's Church Great Orme

- 9.00 am Morning Prayer (Sat)
- 11.00 am Open Air Service (Sun from end of May to end of September)
- On the first Sunday of each month, the service is followed by a shortened Eucharist in the church.

The pattern of Sunday and Weekday services sometimes changes. Please check the calendar in each month's magazine and the weekly bulletin.

The Rector is in Holy Trinity Church on most Saturday mornings from 11.30 - 12.00 to see parishioners on any matter – for confessions, spiritual guidance, the booking of baptisms or weddings etc.

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www.llandudno-parish.org.uk

The deadline for copy for any edition is the 7th of the previous month. Please leave copy in box near pulpit in Holy Trinity Church or e-mail:

editor@llandudno-parish.org.uk

Copy may be on disk, printed or handwritten.

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A Letter from the Rectory

We all need friends - it's impossible to imagine life without them. They care for us, put up with our failings, stick with us through thick and thin and are always there for us. Almost two hundred years before the birth of Christ a Jewish scribe called Ben Sira wrote '*A loyal friend is something beyond price, there is no measuring his worth*' (Ecclesiasticus 6:14). I'm sure we would all agree with that!



But it isn't only human beings who need friends. Ancient churches need friends too; they need folk who will care for them, cherish them and protect them. This month we are inviting you to become a friend of one of these ancient churches – our own St. Tudno.

On Saturday June 7th at a special Eucharist we are setting up a new group to be called '*The Friends of St. Tudno's Church*' and we hope that people from near and far will want to join and become official friends of St. Tudno's church.

For many years now cathedrals and other large churches have had groups of Friends to help in the care of their buildings and their work. More recently smaller churches all over the country have begun to follow suit and we have now decided that it is time that St. Tudno had its own group of friends.

But why do we need such a group? Surely St. Tudno is already well cared for by our parish and is supported in all kinds of ways by large numbers of people from far and wide. Certainly St. Tudno's is a well loved place. I am always being asked if we conduct marriages there, or if someone, often from miles away, can be buried in the churchyard. The comments written in the visitors' book are evidence of how much this little church means to so many people. What would having a '*Friends of St. Tudno's Church*' add to all this?

I suppose that what we are really trying to do is to tap in to all this love and goodwill and to harness them more effectively by gathering together those who care for St. Tudno's from near and far. It will be a way for people to keep in touch and feel that they are involved in what is going on.

Of course there is a financial aspect to this. The subscriptions paid by those who want to be members of the '*Friends of St. Tudno's Church*' will help us to look after our ancient church. And the '*Friends*' may also be able to help with money raising activities.

But finances are only one aspect of what we hope a '*Friends*' organization will be able to contribute. They will

also surely have a part to play in what goes on up at St. Tudno's: our worship, our mission to provide a space for solitude, quietness and prayer in a busy and distracted world, and above all our concern that visitors may encounter Christ in that place of holiness founded by St. Tudno back in the sixth century, and which has been a place of worship ever since.

Although '*The Friends of St. Tudno's Church*' will be inaugurated on 7th June and membership application forms are already available much of the work in setting up the group has yet to be done. We will probably have the first meeting in the early autumn to elect officers and a committee, a simple constitution will have to be drawn up, and the exact relationship between the parish and the *Friends* sorted out. Regular newsletters will have to be produced and events planned.

Meanwhile I invite you to share in this exciting project – come along on June 7th be in at the start! Naturally we would like all our own parish family to be members, but we also hope that members of other local churches and indeed those of no religious commitment who value St. Tudno's would also want to join. And then there is the vast army of visitors to Llandudno who have grown to love the place – I'm sure you would agree that there is no shortage of potential members!

By the time this is published a new season of St. Tudno's Sunday services

will have already begun and we will be looking forward to St. Tudno's Day on Thursday June 5th when we will celebrate a Eucharist to commemorate our founder and patron, St. Tudno. Before this service I will lead a pilgrimage walk from Holy Trinity to St. Tudno's beginning with Mid-day Prayers at the parish church at 12.30. Do join me if you are able to do this walk. After the Eucharist a small group will then visit St. Tudno's well, perhaps the place where the saint baptized converts to the faith of Christ.

Two days later on Saturday June 7th the Dean of Bangor will preach at the Eucharist I referred to earlier in this letter when we shall inaugurate '*The Friends of St. Tudno's Church*'. I look forward to sharing these events with you

Fr John

Rector's Notes

The Diocesan Pilgrimage

I am delighted to see how many of you have said that you are coming on the coach to Rhoshirwaun and Aberdaron on June 21st. It should be a truly memorable day as we join many others from throughout our diocese to follow the pilgrim way towards the Holy Island of Bardsey taken by countless souls throughout the centuries. It will be a day to rediscover our roots but also to witness to our faith as something as vital and relevant today as it was to

the Celtic pilgrims of ancient times. We look forward to sharing in the great diocesan Eucharist to be celebrated on the beach at Aberdaron and to feel part of a large Christian family. We pray that our Bishop Anthony will be well enough to be with us on that day.

To help us prepare for the Pilgrimage there will be a special time of reflection and prayer at Evening Prayer on Sunday 15th June.

The New Noticeboards

It was a real ‘red-letter’ day for me when the new notice boards at Holy Trinity and St Tudno were installed last month. Before then we had a motley collection of dilapidated apologies for notice boards which gave a very poor impression of our parish and its activities. We now have some splendid notice boards giving clear information about what is going on in the parish and showing that we mean business. Our



thanks go to Andy Leitch for his work in planning these boards and to Brian Lawrence Signs Ltd., for making them.

You will have noticed that the new notice boards are all in the same colour and format and include our new parish logo – the triquetra – giving us a ‘house style’ or ‘corporate image’ which hopefully will become recognized by locals and visitors alike. Like it or not, it is important these days to have such a corporate image if you want to be taken seriously by the world at large.



Hymnody and Harmony

This is the name we are giving to our Summer Event this year which we hope our parishioners and visitors will support. Harmony refers to the blending of colours in the many flower arrangements there will be in Holy Trinity, all to be based on hymns. Gwen Robinson is coordinating this part of the event and I am sure that with all the talent we have in the Parish the flower arrangements are going to be very beautiful.

The Hymnody refers to the fact that there will be an organist available to play people's favourite hymns on request (for a small sum) to enjoy as they go round the church.

We hope also to have refreshments available in the Church Hall and arrangements are in hand for this - Holy Trinity has a very well deserved reputation for its refreshments, and if you think you can help with baking or serving, please see either Dorothy Trent or Angela Pritchard.

If anyone would like to run a stall in the Choir Vestry or has other ideas, please do come and discuss your idea with me.

So please could you put the dates for this event in your diaries:

Friday and Saturday, the 27th and 28th June from 10.00 am - 4.00 pm.

The Parishioners have always been

wonderfully supportive of our events over the past few years, so I know that we can make this a successful occasion also.

Please see me if you want to know any more, and in the meantime let's start looking forward to another happy occasion as we work together to make Harmony and Hymnody a successful occasion, not only for fund raising but also as an opportunity to praise God through flowers and music.

Jane

Sidespersons

June 1st & June 29th	Dorothy Trent Roy Rees-Jones Sandra Davies Doug Pritchard
June 8th & July 6th	Kath Lloyd Mary Rees Judith Williams Joyce Crosby
June 15th	Annabel Jones Angela Pritchard Eira Jones Eileen Roberts
June 22nd	Pat Ridler Margot Hughes Stan Whittaker Ray Millington

Calendar for June

Sun 1st	Trinity 2 (Pentecost 3) Services at the usual times.
Tues 3rd	10.00 am <i>'Pilgrimage of Prayer'</i> meditation group meets at Stella Maris
Thurs 5th	St. Tudno, founder of the Church in Llandudno Pilgrimage Walk from Holy Trinity to St. Tudno's beginning with Mid-day Prayers at 12.30 2.30 pm Eucharist at St. Tudno's followed by pilgrimage to St. Tudno's Well (no Eucharist at Holy Trinity)
Sat 7th	2.30 pm St. Tudnotide Eucharist and inauguration of 'The Friends of St. Tudno's. Preacher: The Very Revd. Alun Hawkins, Dean of Bangor. Refreshments will be served after the service.
Sun 8th	Trinity 3 (Pentecost 4) Services at the usual times
Tues 10th	7.30 pm Compline by candlelight – St Tudno's
Thurs 12th	10.00 am Guild of St Raphael meeting 10.30 am Eucharist with ministry of healing 7.00 pm Eucharist for PCC. Members. During this service PCC members make an act of commitment for their work in the year ahead. 7.30 pm PCC Meeting
Sun 15th	Trinity 4 (Pentecost 5) Services at the usual times. Evening Prayer today will include a special time of preparation for the Diocesan Pilgrimage.
Sat 21st	Diocesan Pilgrimage to Aberdaron 8.15 am Blessing of Pilgrims in Holy Trinity 8.30 am Coach departs 1.30 pm Wedding
Sun 22nd	Trinity 5 (Pentecost 6) Services at the usual times 12.30 pm Baptism
Tues 24th	Nativity of St John the Baptist 11.00 am Eucharist
Fri 27th – Sat 28th	Harmony & Hymnody Flower Festival

Sat 28th 10.30 am Ordination Service at the Cathedral
 (Priesting of Carol Roberts and Hugh Jones)

Sun 29th SS Peter & Paul, Apostles (Trinity 6)
 Services at usual times with the addition of
 4.00 pm Pet Blessing Service at St Tudno's

Attendance Figures for April

Holy Trinity

	Total of Weekday Eucharists (1 - 4 April)		23
Sunday 6th	8.00 am	Holy Eucharist	13
Easter 3	10.30 am	Sung Eucharist	84
	5.00 pm	Evensong	9
	Total of Other Weekday Eucharists		31
Sunday 13th	8.00 am	Holy Eucharist	17
Easter 4	10.30 am	Sung Eucharist	81
	5.00 pm	Evensong	10
	6.00 pm	Exploring Worship	56
	Total of Other Weekday Eucharists		34
Sunday 20th	8.00 am	Holy Eucharist	17
Easter 5	10.30 am	Sung Eucharist	115
	5.00 pm	Evensong	14
Monday 21st	2.30 pm	Holy Eucharist (Afternoon MU)	17
Friday 25th	11.00 am	Holy Eucharist	7
St. Mark, Evangelist	Total of Other Weekday Eucharists		35
Sunday 27th	8.00 am	Holy Eucharist	19
Easter 6	10.30 am	Sung Eucharist	97
	5.00 pm	Evensong	8
	Total of Other Weekday Eucharists		2

From the Parish Registers

Holy Baptism

20th April: Sarah Rebekka Owen
of Maes Yr Orsedd, Llandudno

20th April: Amelia Overend & Emily Grace McCabe
of 6 Station Terrace, Llandudno Junction

The Departed

1st April: David Thomas Hinton (56)
of Dyffryn Road, Llandudno
(Service at Holy Trinity followed by cremation at
Colwyn Bay)

7th April: Joan Elsie Davies (89)
of Queen Elizabeth Court, Craig-y-don, Llandudno
(Cremation at Colwyn Bay)

8th April: William Austin (89)
of 19 Gogarth Avenue, Penmaenmawr
(Cremation at Colwyn Bay)

23rd April: Margaret Elizabeth Baker (81)
of Marlborough Place, Llandudno
(Service at Holy Trinity followed by cremation at
Colwyn Bay)

30th April: Wilfred Percy Evans (86)
of the Oval, Llandudno
(Cremation at Colwyn Bay)

Spring Prayer and Praise

On 13th April we held our monthly ExploringWorship service. Since these services commenced in February 2006, under the leadership of Revd Nigel and latterly under Revd Jane's leadership, we have had some truly wonderful and spiritual services.

Usually the services are prepared by a team of four or five people with an oversee from Revd Jane but the Spring Prayer and Praise was wholly written and devised by Revd Jane.

The member of the youth group, TRYGS – with very little rehearsal – were exceptional in the dramatisation they performed. The music Jane selected fitted beautifully with the readings and prayers. All of us who took part would like to thank Jane for her hard work and for enabling us to continue with Exploring Worship. Our next service is on June 8th, when all are welcome.

Barbara Scott



Members of the Mothers' Union enjoy a Chinese takeaway.

St. Tudno's

St. Tudno, matchmaker – again

We have previously reported on a number of couples who, according to their messages in the Visitors' Book, have become engaged at St. Tudno's Well. St. Tudno's matchmaking skill has worked again. Congratulations to David, who proposed, and Donna, who accepted, at St. Tudno's in April.

St. Tudno's in June

This will be a busy month at St. Tudno's and there are plenty of opportunities to enjoy a variety of services there.

The regular open air services will be at 11.00 am on Sundays and on 1 June the open air service will be followed by a shortened Communion service in the church.

St. Tudno's patronal festival is on Thursday 5 June and this will be celebrated with a Eucharist service in the church at

2.30 pm, after which a small group will make a pilgrimage to St. Tudno's Well, by kind permission of the landowners. Please speak to one of us or the Rector if you would like to join the group.

The annual St. Tudno's Tea will follow another Eucharist service at the church on Saturday 7 June at 2.30 pm. This will also mark the inauguration of the Friends of St. Tudno's Church and we are delighted that the Dean of Bangor, the Very Revd Alun Hawkins, will be the preacher.

The first service of Compline by Candlelight for this season will be on Tuesday 10 June at 7.30 pm – please see one of the clergy if you would like a lift.

The month ends with the biennial Pet Blessing Service, to which all pets and their owners are welcome. We look forward to seeing you at St. Tudno's.

Christine Jones & Mark Collins

Bellringing

On Sunday afternoon 4th May a quarter peal of 1260 Grandsire Doubles was rung for Evensong and to mark the 21st Llandudno Victorian Extravaganza Festival. The ringers were: Lynn Ferriday 1, Jason Walker 2, Stuart Raggett 3, David Raggett 4 (C), Thomas Raggett 5, and Stan Whittaker 6.

**The next Exploring
Worship will be on
8 June at 6pm.**

Do this in remembrance of me

- a series about the Eucharist by
Father John

Part 2 — The Presence of Christ in the Eucharist I

Last month we saw why the Eucharist is the most important service of the Church. In this service we meet Christ in the most profound way. He is present in the Eucharist in a variety of ways:

1. **Christ is present in the gathering of his people.** When we gather to offer the Eucharist we represent in microcosm the wholeness of the Church as the Body of Christ. Christ is present with us in the gathering of his people – Whenever two or three are gathered in my name.....
2. **Christ is present in the priest who presides at the service.** The Anglican tradition is clear that an ordained priest must preside at the celebration of the Eucharist, and that there cannot be a Eucharist without a Priest. By the same token a Priest cannot celebrate without a congregation. Throughout the service the presiding priest



represents the presence of God with his people, but during the Eucharistic Prayer (the consecration) the Priest stands in the place of Christ and performs the actions of Christ at the Last Supper.

3. **Christ is present in the proclamation of the Word of God.** The reading of God's word in the scriptures is a vital part of every Eucharistic celebration. Although it is very important that we read the bible regularly as individuals, the reading of scripture is particularly important when God's people are gathered together to hear it proclaimed. The Word of God (Christ) speaks to his people in the reading of the words of scripture. When there is a sermon at the Eucharist Christ is proclaimed as the words of scripture are expounded.
4. **Christ is present as we perform the 'Eucharistic Action'.** At the Last Supper, Jesus took bread and wine, blessed them, broke the bread and gave both bread and wine to his disciples. At the Eucharist the priest repeats his actions and so we are drawn in to the offering of Christ.

There is a fifth way in which Christ is present in the Eucharist but it needs an article all of its own so we'll deal with this one next month.

Coffee Morning Team — Ready for 2008



PERSONAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Mrs Edwina Crawford of 'Merville' 22 North Parade, Llandudno would like through this magazine, to thank all those who have sent messages of sympathy and wishes for a complete recovery following her recent fall. They are all very much appreciated and encouraging her to get back on her feet again as soon as possible. She hopes that those to whom she has not been able to reply in person will understand given the present circumstances and the sheer number of such communications.

Edwina wishes to add that the treatment which she has received both at Glan Clwyd and now Abergele hospitals

has been second to none and she cannot thank all the staff there enough for the most professional care and attention with which they have treated her.

Parishioners are welcome to place announcements to other parishioners in this magazine. Please send the to the Editor whose details are on page 5 or e-mail to editor@llandudno-parish.org.uk.

The magazine will also print your small commercial advertisements for a very nominal fee. Please contact the Magazine Treasurer whose details are also on page 5.

We are happy to accept quarter, half or whole page advertisements for a modest yearly fee. Please contact the Magazine Treasurer for full details.

*Now it's summer,
please support our*

**Tuesday
Afternoon**

Teas &



**Wednesday
Coffee
Mornings**

in the church hall

Advertisement
deleted

Editorial

Amazingly, this is the sixth edition of the Parish Magazine that I have produced and I would like to thank everybody for their kind comments. I would also like to thank those who have contributed and would encourage more contributions.

The Anglican Church is a very broad one and we are only too aware of how issues such as women bishops and sexual orientation can cause schism. In persuasion, Anglicans range from Catholic to Evangelical to low-church and, inevitably, in a Parish such as ours, not all the people are going to agree with all the people all of the time.

Your editor is going to remain firmly on the shelf on such issues and will let these be the domain of contributors. If you, the readers, are concerned that this magazine is adopting a bias, then the solution lies in your hands.

But above all, this magazine is an unofficial record of what happens in the Parish. We do have official records but they do not fully record the history of the ordinary people: things that we might dismiss as unimportant to record yet are so important to later generations who want to know about how people lived.

It may not have escaped your notice that this edition, like the last one, has 36 pages whereas the usual number

has been 28 or 32. This will certainly not escape the notice of our Treasurer when the invoices from the printer arrives and my guess is that the price of the magazine will have to rise or I shall be ordered to trim it down.

I understand that the price of the magazine has been static for some time and to be frank, 30p does not buy much nowadays. I fear a rise may be inevitable to retain this number of pages.

There is another form of revenue and that is advertising. It is not easy to attract advertisers, and it is just as hard to retain them. By supporting our advertisers, you support the Parish. And when you do respond to an advertisement, please mention how you found out about the goods or services that you are buying.

Interestingly, it is as easy to produce this magazine in colour as it is in black and white. So whilst the advertisements, largely inherited by my stewardship, are in black and white, I produce the photographs in colour and these can be viewed a week or two after normal publication on the Parish's Web site in a cut-down edition of this magazine.

I am sure many of you have friends and family who retain an interest in the life of the Parish so please tell them about our Web site at www.llandudno-parish.org.uk.

Walking the Pilgrim Trail

This month the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Aberdaron and Ynys Enlli (Bardsey Island) will take place and pilgrims who wish to will have the opportunity to walk the last few miles from Rhoshirwaun to Aberdaron. In late early September 2004 my friend Jill and I walked the northern route of the Pilgrim Trail from Clynog Fawr to Aberdaron (the southern route follows the other coast of the Llyn Peninsular) and I thought that you might like to have a 'taste' of the trail.

Several years before, Jill and I had walked the much longer Pembrokeshire Coast Path, carrying camping equipment most of the way and living on dried food for 12 days, so we decided that we would have a bit more luxury on this holiday – by carrying the camping gear as little as possible and eating out when we could. Much of the original Pilgrim Trail has been taken over by busy roads but a long distance path has now been developed around the Llyn Peninsular and we endeavoured to follow this as far as possible.

On the first day we drove past Clynog Fawr, pitched my backpacking tent at a campsite a couple of miles from Trefor and left Jill's car at the bus stop in Trefor village. This had to be carefully timed to allow us to catch the lunchtime bus back to Clynog Fawr (there were not many buses to choose from).

We began our walk by visiting St. Beuno's Church in Clynog Fawr, where there are displays on the Pilgrim Trail and previous Diocesan Pilgrimages. The church is large, light and airy and well worth a visit, though the separate chapel was locked when we were there.

The path out of the village was not as popular as the guide book suggested and we fought our way up a steep valley through dense woodland and bracken, wishing that we had taken the longer, but undoubtedly quicker, route by road. We were eventually rewarded by an easy walk across the open moorland by Bwlch Mawr and Gyrn Goch, then down the hill to Trefor and the prospect of our first meal out.

However, the guide book let us down again and we discovered that there was no longer anywhere to eat in Trefor, so we had a rather interesting menu that evening, depending upon what was available in the village shop which could be cooked on a camping gas ring and didn't require a tin opener.

On the second day we drove back to the bus stop in Trefor and walked along a pleasant country road to Llanaelhaearn, to visit another of the pilgrim churches. The small church was attractive from the outside but after traipsing around the village and being directed from one person to another,

someone eventually suggested that the person with the key lived in Trefor. Another steep climb took us up the hill to the Iron Age settlement of Tre'r Ceiri and splendid views along the Lleyn Peninsular.

Tre'r Ceiri comprises the very well preserved stone walls of a large number of circular huts, set within a high stone rampart. Apparently, later generations could not imagine that it had been built by ordinary men and so it acquired its present name of 'Town of the Giants'.

We decided not to make the detour to the main summit of Yr Eifl, the highest point on the Lleyn but continued down the hill and across farmland to the next pilgrim church at Pistyll. A delightful little church, this used to have an infirmary nearby and the floor of the church is strewn with rushes and herbs, recalling the healing plants which would have been administered to the pilgrims. The path across the farmland was clearly marked on the map but in reality had a tendency to enter a field and then disappear, requiring a long search for a way out. As we were rather keen not to miss the last bus from Nefyn, we abandoned the path and finished that day's walk by road.

Nefyn has another of the old pilgrim churches but the present parish church is a Victorian building and the original one is now a maritime museum – and even the gate was locked when we got there. Before catching the bus back to Trefor, we found somewhere to have a

meal in Nefyn and so returned there by car later in the evening.

The third day reminded me of mountaineers setting up advance camps before tackling a major peak, such as Everest. We were up bright and early to pack away the tent and gear and drive to Porth Colmon, where we pitched the tent and left the sleeping bags, food, etc, before driving to Aberdaron to park the car and catch a bus to Pwllheli and then another one back to Nefyn (as you've probably gathered by now, the bus timetable was one of our most important pieces of equipment).

We reached Nefyn at lunchtime to start a glorious coastal walk to Porth Colmon. This was our longest day's walk, of about 15 miles, so we didn't venture inland to visit the churches at Ederon or Tudweiliog but watched seals basking on the rocks and contented ourselves with Llangwnnadr church at the end of the day. I was particularly keen to visit this church as the patron saint, Gwynhoedl, was one of St. Tudno's brothers. The brothers chose their sites well and St. Gwynhoedl's church is as peaceful as St. Tudno's, though it's three times the size, having been well endowed by pilgrims.

On the fourth day, we had to carry the camping equipment for several miles and though we didn't have a bus to catch we were supposed to be meeting Jill's parents at Porth Oer. However, by the time that we'd packed up all the gear and carried our now heavier

rucksacks along the cliff top walk, Jill's parents had given us up and returned to their motor home, leaving a message for us with the proprietors of the beach café (we're not sure what sort of flattering description enabled them to recognise us instantly!).

We tracked down Jill's parents at their campsite and so were able to leave the camping gear with them, before continuing to the tip of the Lleyn at Mynydd Mawr, a flying display by the choughs and a view of Ynys Enlli across the sea. We reached Aberdaron after about 45 miles of walking and found the church and village busy compared with all the other places we had visited.

St. Hywyn's Church overlooks the beach and will be a lovely setting for the Diocesan Pilgrimage. The poet R.S. Thomas was the incumbent here for a number of years and there is an exhibition about him in the church. In

the village is 'Y Gegin Fawr' ('The Big Kitchen'), an old eating place where pilgrims could claim their last meal before making the hazardous crossing to Ynys Enlli – but it was closed by the time that we arrived. We collected Jill's car from Aberdaron and returned to her parent's camp site, as we were all booked on the boat trip to Ynys Enlli the next day.

The next morning the four of us were on the beach at Porth Meudwy, a mile or so from Aberdaron, waiting for the boat to pick us up, when we got a message that the sea was too rough and the boat would not be sailing – however there would be another chance the next day. As we couldn't get to Ynys Enlli, we walked back along the cliffs to Aberdaron, so that Jill and I could have our meal at 'Y Gegin Fawr' – but there was a festival in the village and they were serving only sandwiches. The following day, the message that the



Ynys Enlli from Mynydd Mawr.

boat would not be sailing came before we reached Porth Meudwy and as Jill and I had to return to our respective jobs we were unable to complete the Pilgrim Trail on the island.

Since then, Mark and I have made three trips to the Lley in the hope of reaching Ynys Enlli but each time we have been thwarted, as either the sea has been too rough or there have not been enough passengers for the boat to put out. In the past, pilgrims from many places must have come together at Aberdaron while waiting to make the crossing to Ynys Enlli, the Island in the Currents. This month, pilgrims from all over the Diocese will come together at Aberdaron, so why not come too?

Christine Jones

Dedicated to Llandudno's Patron Saint
Visit the Ancient church of St. Tudno
Great Orme

Open daily in summer, Saturday & Sunday in winter (weather permitting)



Rwyd Llandudno
Parish of Llandudno

Services:
11.00 am last Sunday in May till last Sunday in September — open air (weather permitting)
9.00 am every Saturday: Morning Prayer

This poster is now on the new Holy Trinity notice board (see page 10).

The Parish Share or Quota for 2008 is

£68412



The Quota is the sum of money that we have to give the diocese each year to forward to the Church in Wales to pay the stipends of our clergy. We were able to pay this sum last year by using our reserves. This year the Quota is 4.51% more than 2007 and it seems certain that we will not have the reserves to pay it.

Please consider revising your regular giving so the Parish can pay its dues.

If you are a payer of income tax or capital gains tax, please declare your regular giving and donations as 'Gift Aid'. This is a scheme where HM Revenue and Customs refunds the tax you paid on earning your gift.

So if you make a donation of £10, the Parish receives an extra £2.50 at no cost to you.

Please contact Stan Whittaker, the Gift Aid Secretary. (Tel: 596796)

In Bloom in June

During June, the grassy slopes of the Great Orme are spangled with golden flowers and dominant amongst these is the common rockrose (*Helianthemum nummularium*). The papery petals are a bright yellow with a mass of deeper yellow stamens in the centre and the flowers can be up to 2.5 cm (1 inch) across. The flowers start appearing in May and the plants should be in full flower in June, with the delicate petals fluttering in the breeze.

Despite the English name, rockroses are neither members of the rose family nor are they restricted to rocky areas, though the smaller, and less common, hoary rockrose (*H. canum*) is more likely to be found among rocks. They are found on limestone, such as the

Great Orme, Little Orme and Nant y Gamar, and the common rockrose can form large mounds intermingled with grass.

The Latin name *Helianthemum* provides another indication of the plant's preferences, though the name is itself derived from the Greek *helios*, sun, and *anthe-mon*, flower. Our native rockroses are truly flowers of the sun, as the flowers open with the morning sun and close again in the evening, following the suggestion of Thomas Ken's hymn:

*Awake, my soul, and with the sun
Thy daily stage of duty run;
Shake off dull sloth, and joyful rise
To pay thy morning sacrifice.*

Christine Jones



Great Hymns — Eternal Father

The following advertisement appeared in a national newspaper in 1858: 'To the clergy and others interested in hymnology. The Editors of several existing HYMNALS being engaged, with others, in the compilation of a book which they hope may secure a more general acceptance from Churchmen, would be very thankful for any suggestions from persons interested in the matter.'

This appeal for the forthcoming *Hymns, Ancient and Modern* provoked a huge response, predominantly from country clergymen. Some sent samples of their own work for consideration by the editors of the projected new volume. Amongst them was William Whiting (1825-1878), Choirmaster at Winchester College, who submitted the manuscript of a hymn that he had written for one of his charges who was due to sail to America.

Whiting's original first stanza was:

*O Thou who bidd'st the ocean deep
Its own appointed limits keep,
Thou Who dost bind the restless wave,
Eternal Father, strong to save;
O hear us when we cry to Thee
For all in peril on the sea.*

Revised by the compilers, 'Eternal Father' was to become one of the most popular of all Victorian hymns.

The editors of the *A&M* turned to one of their most favoured composers to

provide a fitting tune. 'Melita' was written by the Rev. John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876). Dykes was on the Chapter of Durham Cathedral before becoming Vicar of St. Oswald's, Durham. 'Melita' is an archaic word for the island of Malta where St. Paul was shipwrecked (Acts 28). Dykes wrote over 300 hymn tunes which he released to what we now call the 'public domain'.

Whiting originally had similar high ideals for his words. He told the *A&M*: 'The only profit I have had is knowing that I have written anything which has proved of service in Divine Worship.' Nevertheless, some references state that the *A&M* obtained the copyright for two guineas and published its first edition in 1861. Whiting later reworked the hymn, the changes are shown below in round brackets ().

*Eternal Father, strong to save,
Whose arm [hath bound] (doth bind)
the restless wave,
Who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep
Its own appointed limits keep:
O hear us when we cry to thee,
For those in peril on the sea*

*[O Christ, whose voice the waters heard
And hushed their raging at thy word,
(O Saviour, whose almighty word
The winds and waves submissive heard)
Who walkedst on the foaming deep
And calm amid its [storm] (rage) didst
sleep;*

O hear us when we cry to thee
For those in peril on the sea

[Most holy] (O sacred) Spirit, who didst
brood

Upon the [waters] (chaos) dark and
rude,

And bid [their] (its) angry tumult cease
[And give, for wild confusion, peace:]
(And gavest light and life and peace:)

O hear us when we cry to thee
For those in peril on the sea.

O Trinity of love and power,
Our brethren shield in danger's hour,
From rock and tempest, fire and foe,
Protect them whereso'er they go:

[Thus evermore shall rise to thee]

(And ever let there rise to thee)

Glad hymns of praise from land and sea.

Our own *Hymns, Old and New* uses the later version but reverts to the original for the third stanza apart from the first line.

The hymn is essentially four prayers: the first to God the Father, the second to God the Son, the third to God the Holy Spirit and the last to the Holy Trinity. The verses refer to God forbidding the waters to flood the earth (Psalm 104), Jesus' miracles of stilling a storm and walking on the waters, the Holy Spirit's role in the creation of the earth in the Book of Genesis, and a reference to Psalm 107.

The hymn rapidly proved popular in the English-speaking world and became beloved by both seafarers and landlubbers alike. In 1879, Charles Jackson Train

inaugurated the present practice of concluding each Sunday's Divine Services at the Academy with the singing of the first verse of 'the Navy Hymn'.

The hymn was translated into French and appeared in the *Nouveau Livre Antique*, a hymn book used by the French Navy. The refrain is:

*Vois nos pleurs, entends nos sanglots
Pour ceux en péril sur les flots.*

*(See our tears, hear our cries
For those in peril on the sea.)*

As the century turned, many considered Victorian hymn tunes as over-sentimental and Dykes was frowned upon in some circles. 'Melita' was retained by the *English Hymnal* (1906) with a note (of disapproval?) that the hymn could be sung to 'Vater Unser' (Luther/Bach). *Songs of Praise*, musically edited like the *English Hymnal* by Ralph Vaughan Williams, dropped 'Melita' altogether and substituted a folk tune 'Lodsworth'.

As noted earlier, Dykes wrote over 300 hymn tunes. Only some have remained in common usage, but those that survive remain influential: 'Nicaea' (Holy, Holy, Holy), 'Gerontius' (Praise to the Holiest), 'Dominus Regit Me' (The King of love), 'Dies Dominica' (We pray Thee, heavenly Father), and 'St Bees' (Hark my soul).

Apart from Whiting's revisions, the hymn is noted for its numerous parodies and alternative stanzas. Some hymnals in the USA have substituted stanzas two and three with lines writ-

ten by Robert Nelson Spencer which are prayers for those travelling by land or air (Missionary Service Book, 1937). This version is still found in some US hymnals.

2. *O Christ, the Lord of hill and plain
O'er which our traffic runs amain,
By mountain pass or valley low,
Wherever Lord thy brethren go;
Protect them by Thy guardian hand
From every peril on the land.*

3. *O Spirit, Whom the Father sent
To spread abroad the Firmament;
O wind of heaven, by Thy Might,
Save all who dare the eagle's flight;
And keep them by Thy watchful care
From every peril in the air.*

A modern Episcopalian hymn book in the USA has the opening line of the first stanza '*Almighty father, strong to save*', stanzas two and three as above, and the very last line '*Glad praise from space, air, land and sea.*' The hymnal also prints the traditional version.

Also, several attempts have been made to make the hymn inclusive of soldiers and airmen by writing new lines to stanzas two and three.

The US Presbyterian church produced a booklet for use by the armed services in 1943 with an aviation stanza:

*Lord, guard and guide the men who fly,
Through the great spaces of the sky;
Be with them traversing the air,
In darkening storms or sunshine fair.
O God, protect the men who fly,
Through lonely ways beneath the sky.*

These words were not new taking the first stanza of a 1915 hymn and adding the last two lines of the last stanza. The original 1915 hymn by Mary Hamilton remains the official hymn of the US Air Force.

The US Navy adapted the last four lines of the 1943 'aviation' stanza as:

*... Be with them always in the air,
In dark'ning storms or sunlight fair.
O, Hear us when we lift our prayer,
For those in peril in the air.*

These are the words sung at a funeral scene in the 1983 film about the Project Mercury astronauts, *The Right Stuff*. A stanza was specially written for Astronauts in 1961.

Other stanzas exist for the US Marine Corps, US Navy Seabees, US Navy SEALs, Submariners, Women's Forces, Naval Nurses, Antarctic Service, Coastguards, the Wounded, those at Home, the Armed Services, and the Dedication of Ships. Clearly, most of these additional verses had their origins in the USA, many being written for the various arms of the US Navy to supplement 'its' hymn. Fortunately, perhaps, space precludes the printing of these 'additional' verses but those with a fascination for these things should visit the US Navy Web site at <http://www.history.navy.mil/faqs/faq53-1.htm>

The 'Navy Hymn' was sung or played at the funerals of Presidents Franklin Roosevelt, John Kennedy, Ronald Reagan and Gerald Ford. It is documented

that the hymn was sung whilst the Titanic was sinking though, according to some who delight in film goofs, the version sung in the film *Titanic* (1997) was the one written in 1937.

The hymn is sung, somewhat anachronistically, by the congregation during performances of Benjamin Britten's 1957 opera based upon the mystery play *Noye's Fludde*.

Quite what Whiting and Dykes would have made of the extraordinary progression of their masterpiece is difficult

to judge. I trust that they would have been both bemused and flattered.



William Whiting and John Bacchus Dykes.

Caption competition

Many thanks to all who entered the April Magazine Caption Competition. We had some wonderful entries which I think you will enjoy reading. Here they are:

'Have you met my new friend?'

The Revd Jane Allen - Vicar of Bray.

'Me Jane! You donkey.' (Apologies to Tarzan)

'I don't care what you say Vicar, the Sermon on the Mount did not mean sitting on a donkey.'

'Can I have one too?'

'Meet our new Curate (the one on the left!).'

'Hey, how come I get all the donkey work!'



Jane smiled as she realised she had found a way to park free on the new church car park.

Jennie and Jane. 'After our success

in Llandudno we are now going on tour, finishing in the West End.'

'For my next trick I am going to leap onto his back and do three somersaults while galloping around the church.'

'They told me I was going to church, but now we are not allowed inside. They think that one of us might make a mess in the aisle.'

'There is the sign of the cross on my back. Is there one on hers?'

'I like Church. It's much nicer than my stable. Why can't I live here?'

'This grass is going to make room for more cars. Get rid of all cars, I say, and get more donkeys to eat the grass. I'm putting that in my manifesto.'

'And I demand double-time on Sundays too.'

'I wouldn't feel too secure stood here if that was McDonald's behind me.'

'Do you like my donkey jacket?'

Jane's bought a floral hat in the hope that they will both be at 'Royal Asscot' - 'You tell her!'

'Where's the loo? I've been hanging on for ages.'

One prays with the masses - whilst one brays with the asses!

'We are just off to KFC for a bargain bucket.'

Calamity Jane's idea of 'Park and Ride' has let no donkeys on the beach.

'Jane, I've left some carrots in the vestry for your friend.'

It's going to be a tight fit in the pulpit on Sunday when Jane gives her Sermon on the Mount!

'I'm browned-off with these ass-inine comments.'

As you know, the only entry that was banned was ***Which one is the donkey?*** Someone then commented to me that I hadn't banned ***Which one is NOT the donkey?*** Fortunately, no-one actually submitted that in writing! It was very difficult to choose the winning caption, and there were three that I really deliberated over. In joint second places are the following entries:

'I may be wearing a halter, but at least I'm not the one in the dog collar' by Gillian Blackwell and

Age and Weight restrictions apply on some rides. Please observe for your safety! by Margot Hughes.

But the winning entry in the end had to be the one sent in by Stan Whittaker, Captain of our Belltower:

Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's ass.

Congratulations to Stan, Margot and Gillian.

Jane