

Services

Holy Trinity Church, Mostyn Street

Sundays

8.00 am Holy Eucharist

10.30 am Sung Eucharist (1st, 3rd, 4th

& 5th Sundays)

Matins followed by shortened Eucharist (2nd

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 & 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)

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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.

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.



Plwyf Llandudno Parish of Llandudno

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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.

From the Rectory

Recently I had the pleasure of welcoming Year 2 children from Ysgol Tudno to Holy Trinity Church. We spent some of the time during the visit looking at the nativity windows in the apse at the east end of the church. Working from left

to right, the children had no problem recognising what the first window portrayed – they could see Mary and Joseph and the infant Jesus lying in his manger, not to mention the cow and the donkey in the background. So they knew that this window represented the birth of Christ. The second window was easy for them too – the children soon identified the Magi with their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.



Technically, the Parish Share is a voluntary contribution



But when we looked at the third window the children were stumped. They could see Mary and Joseph, but who was the old man holding Jesus in his arms and what about the old lady standing beside him? I wasn't surprised

that they had no idea what event was being portrayed here – after all it doesn't normally figure in school nativity plays!

This third window portrays of course the Presentation of Christ in the Temple. This was the occasion when Our Lady and St. Joseph fulfilled the requirements of the Mosaic Law on the fortieth day after his birth by offering their first born son to God, bringing with them the poor man's offering of two turtledoves or pigeons to redeem him (in the window these are shown in a small cage at the front of the scene). In the Temple they met the aged Simeon who had believed for many years that he wouldn't die before seeing the Christ - and recognised Jesus as such when he saw him in the Temple. Simeon uttered the words we now know as the Nunc Dimittis as he took lesus in his arms: 'Lord now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace according to thy word'. An old lady - Anna - who had also been waiting for the Christ to come - also praised God.

The Presentation of Christ (also known as Candlemas) is celebrated liturgically on Sunday 2nd February. You may think that Christmas is many weeks behind us but in fact because this is the last event in St. Luke's nativity narrative it is only with the Feast of the Presentation that the Christmas/Epiphany season finally comes to an end.

This feast is full of meaning. The offering of Christ in the Temple foreshadows his crucifixion. Indeed Simeon warns Mary that 'Behold this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed (and a sword will pierce your own soul also)'. So as well as marking the end of Christmas, the Presentation also looks forward to Lent, Holy Week and Easter. We see that as Christians we are offered

to God together with Our Lord and must be prepared to follow his Way of the Cross.

But this is also a Feast of Light. Because of Simeon's words that Jesus is 'a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel' it became the custom to process with candles on the feast of the Presentation (hence 'Candlemas'). Jesus is the light which has come into the world — a light in which we can share and which we are called to take to others.

Have a good look at the Presentation Window and reflect upon the wonder of this event. I look forward to celebrating this great feast with you all.

Fr. John

News and Notices

Holy Trinity 150



We are now a month into 2014 – an opportune time to remember that less than 12 months from now we will be beginning our

celebration of the 150th anniversary of the laying of the cornerstone of Holy Trinity Church. For some time now the 150th Planning Group have been working hard to plan these celebrations and later this year the full programme will be published. In the autumn we will be preparing for the year with a time of prayer and reflection.

Llandudno Hospital Chaplaincy

We understand that on the departure of Canon Bob Griffiths the Hospital Trust has decided not to appoint a Chaplain to replace him. This means that there is now no regular visiting around the wards by a chaplaincy team and that Communion is no longer available to

patients on a regular basis. It is therefore vital that the Rector is informed immediately if any of our parishioners is in the hospital as an inpatient so that he can visit them and make the sacraments available if required.

Fr. John

Bell Ringing

The handbell ringers were busy in the weeks before Christmas entertaining a number of local groups at their Christmas events and lunches. The team also rang for the Parish Christmas Fair and the Christmas Eve Nativity service.

Going out to local groups is always enjoyable and especially so when we invite some of the audience to come up and 'have a go'. The results vary between being surprisingly good and being hilariously funny.

One group we entertained was members of the Rotary Club of Llandudno and the 'new recruits' did extremely well. There are some photographs on the bells' page of the Parish website. We were especially pleased to receive a letter (below) from one of the guests at this event who had obviously enjoyed hearing our handbells.

We still require a few more ringers for both our tower bell team and our handbell team, so if you would like to join us you will be most welcome.

Stan (tel 01492 596796)

Dear Tower Captain, Stan,

I hope that this letter finds you well. I am writing to pass on my sincere best wishes to you and the Handbell Ringers of Holy Trinity Church, Llandudno.

My husband and I were fortunate to have been guests the Rotary Club of Llandudno's recent Christmas Dinner and it was with great delight that we had the pleasure of listening to the Handbell Ringers. The signs were absolutely beautiful and we thoroughly enjoyed particular part of the evening.

I would be grateful if you could pass on my regards and best wishes to those who performed on the evening and may I also wish you all continued success for the future.

> Yours sincerely Janet Finch-Saunders AM/AC

Memorial Trough

The Churchyards Committee will soon be planting up the big trough – to be renamed the Memorial Trough – in time for Easter. If you would like to make a donation in memory of a loved one, please hand your donation to William Maidlow, or to one of the Churchwardens. Cheques should be made payable to Llandudno PCC, and the envelope marked 'Memorial Trough'. Please make sure you include details of who the donation is in memory of. While we cannot guarantee to include the plant of your choice, if you would



One of the smaller troughs (already planted) with the Memorial Trough inset.

like to include suggestions, we will do our best to oblige.

William Maidlow

Parish Fellowship

The Parish Fellowship Spring Programme has now started and will continue every Tuesday afternoon until 11 March. We extend a warm welcome to anyone who would like to join us. Membership costs £6 per annum. For Nonmembers attending individual meetings, the cost is £2 (includes a contribution to tea and biscuits). The full programme is displayed on the Fellowship notice board and below.

Tuesday 2nd February: India (Vicky Macdonald)

Tuesday 11th February: Keep taking the Pills (Loes Gwynn)

Tuesday 18th February Hawaii (Mrs Kathy Smith)

Tuesday 25th February: Island hopping in the Azores (Mrs Gwyneth Peters)

Tuesday 4th March: Brahms (Mr Brian Lewis)

Tuesday 11th March: Closing Meeting

Vernon Morris

St. Tudno's

The services of Carols by Candlelight were held on Sunday 22 December but the Friends of St. Tudno's began preparation the day before, assembling and decorating the Christmas trees and setting out the candles. On the Sunday morning some of the team worked in the cold winds to set out lights along the paths through the churchyard. The church looked beautiful by candlelight, with the Nativity set before the altar and everybody holding lit candles. Both services were well attended, with 104 at 3.00 pm and 90 at 5.00 pm. Holy Trinity Choir attended the earlier service, at which Norman Rimmer played the organ, while Pauline Bigby played for

the second service and lessons were read by members of the Friends.

Over winter, the church is open weekends and Wednesdays, weather permitting and Morning Prayer is said at 9.00 am on Saturdays (in bad weather, please contact the Rector to check that there will be a service). Sunday services are held once a month over winter and the service on 23 February will be a Eucharist to celebrate St. David. We look forward to seeing some of you there.

Shirley Georgeson and Christine Jones



Carols by Candlelight at St. Tiudno's.



The evening group of the Mothers' Union had a quiet evening led by the Rev Jane Allen on Tuesday, 14 January.

Thanks I

My family and I would like to thank members of Holy Trinity Church for their cards following the death of our Mum, Helena Maidlow. We have been touched by the expressions of sympathy and comfort we have received, and we thank you all very much indeed.

William Maidlow, and family

Thanks 2

We would like to thank you all so very much for your recent donations of food and other items. We have been incredibly busy and we are very glad of your support.

December was our busiest month ever with 78 food parcels being distributed, and we have already given 35 parcels in January. We are hearing reports of benefit payments being stopped with no warning, which is leaving people in a crisis situation and needing our assistance.

Due to the generosity of our supporters during the Harvest Festival and Christmas period, we are very well stocked with: soup, baked beans, pasta, rice, and tea bags.

We would appreciate donations of the following:

- Coffee
- Tins of chicken in white sauce
- Tins of minced beef & onion
- Tins of meat balls
- Tins of meat curry
- Tins of hot dog sausages
- Tins of sweet corn
- Jars of sandwich paste
- Instant mashed potato
- Packet cheese sauce mix
- Savoury rice
- Jars of Pasta Sauce
- Sugar
- Tomato ketchup
- Fruit squash
- Jelly
- · Angel delight or similar
- Toilet rolls
- Deodorants
- Soap
- Nappies size 4 & 5
- · Baby wipes
- Dog food

Your kindness and generosity is much appreciated.

Conwy Food Bank www.conwyfoodbank.co.uk

Thanks 3

On behalf of The Mission to Seafarers I would like to thank you and everyone involved with the Llandudno PGG for the generous donation of £300.00.

The Mission to Seafarers works 365 days a year in 250 ports worldwide to support Seafarers and to give specialist help in a crisis. Your donation will be

used to further our work in offering practical help and spiritual support to those who work at sea.

As a charity, we rely completely on the generosity of our supporters, without you we simply couldn't continue our work.

Thank you again for your support.

Kind regards

Nicky Jackson Regional Fundraiser

Messy Church

On Advent Sunday we were able to organize another long awaited fun afternoon in the newly furbished church hall. Our theme this time was Conifers and Candles and was centred around the Jesse Tree giving us a lot of scope for story telling and preparing crafts to illustrate many of the best loved stories in the Old Testament leading up to the birth of Christ. We entertained about thirty five children and their parents so it was a busy time and the children soon got stuck in to all the activities.

The afternoon began with a welcome from Fr John and some action songs led by Gaynor, Ray and Ruth who are a huge asset to Messy Church with their musical ability.

We decided to make a variety of Christmas decorations depicting the bible stories so that they could be placed on our church Christmas tree later in

the month. Roz came up with lots of ideas and templates, which was very helpful to the rest of us. The children also produced some lovely Christmas tree crafts that had been prepared by Gaynor and Ray and they were able to take them home to display for Christmas. Biscuit decorating is also popular at Messy Church. Thanks to Kristina and Eira who helped the children make lovely star biscuits to represent God's creation of the world.

Caroline Race was able to share her artistic skills with the children producing candle cards using wax-resist. Our other craft leaders were Bryan Hughes, Shirley Georgeson, Julie Harvey and three of the mums, Amy, Ruth and Lisa. Many thanks to you all for your patience and hard work.

We always have a range of ages attending Messy Church so we are grateful to Jean for providing some activities for the little ones who are able to use the toddler group equipment. Our messy sessions are always followed by a short period in church for story telling, puppets and singing, again following the theme.

Finally, it was time for tea and the children and their parents sat down for a feast of baked potatoes and beans or pasta with tomato sauce. This was followed by ice cream and jelly, cakes, soft drinks and tea.

Around 4.30 pm it was time to say farewell! Our small but willing band of helpers cleared up the debris, washed

up the dishes and probably ate the left over cakes!! Many thanks to Eira and Jennifer for their support and especially to Kristina and Angela for organizing the catering arrangements.

We are a happy group working together to promote the Christian gospel to children and their parents. We want to show them that we are a welcoming church and nurture them as surely they must be our future if the church is to survive in the long term.

We would welcome anyone who feels they could support the work of the Sunday School and Messy Church with their own talents or by giving us support in a helping role.

Sandra Davies on behalf of the Children and Families' Committee



'It may well attract more young folk to join the congregation but I still prefer the old church notice board.'

PARISH REGISTER

The Departed

November 27th: Howell Jones, aged 85. Cremation at Colwyn Bay.

November 29th: James (Jímmy) Cooper, aged 85. Crematíon at Colwyn Bay.

December 20th: Helena Rose Mason, aged 95. Cremation at Colwyn Bay.

January 21st: Freda Windle, aged 74. Cremation at Colwyn Bay.

January 24th Helena Maidlow, aged 94. Cremation at Colwyn Bay.

Calendar for February

Sun 2nd	The Prese	The Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Candlemas)		
		Services at usual times for the 1st Sunday.		
		Candlemas ceremonies will take place at the		
		10.30 am Sung Eucharist.		
Tues 4th	10.00 am	'Julian' meditation group at Stella Maris		
	11.00 am	Cytûn Council at St. John's Methodist Church		
Sat 8th	12.00 noon	Eucharist & meeting for Walsingham Pilgrims		
Sun 9th	Fourth Sunday Before Lent			
		Services at usual times for the 2nd Sunday with the		
		addition of:		
	12.30 pm	Holy Baptism		

Weds 12th Thurs 13th Fri 14th	6.15 pm 10.00 am 11.00 am 7.30 pm	Visit to Freemasons' Hall St. Raphael's Guild Meeting Eucharist with Ministry of Healing PCC meeting St. Raphael's Guild visit to Chester Cathedral
Sun 16th	Third Sur	nday Before Lent Morning services at usual for the 3rd Sunday.
Sun 23rd	Second S	unday Before Lent (Creation Sunday) Services as usual for the 4th Sunday with the addition of: Morning Worship at St. Tudno's (celebration of St. David)
March		

Sat 1st St. David, Patron of Wales 11.00 am Bilingual Eucharist

Attendance Figures

December 1st Advent 1 December 5th	8.00 am 10.30 am 5.00 pm	Holy Eucharist Sung Eucharist Evening Prayer Eucharist at the Trinity Centre Other weekday Eucharists	14 91 6 3 17
December 8th Advent 2	8.00 am 10.30 am	Holy Eucharist Choral Matins Shortened Eucharist	21 77 17
December 13th	4.00 pm 6.00 pm	Christingle Service Exploring Worship Guild of St. Raphael Eucharist at Denis Wiley Other weekday Eucharists	41 + Children 25
December 15th Advent 3	8.00 am 10.30 am 5.00 pm	Holy Eucharist Sung Eucharist Evening Prayer Other weekday Eucharists	14 78 3 28

December 22nd	8.00 am	Holy Eucharist	20
Advent 4	10.30 am	0.30 am Sung Eucharist	
		No Evening Prayer	
	3.00 pm	Carols by Candlelight at St. Tuc	Ino's 104
	5.00 pm	Carols by Candlelight at St. Tuc	lno's 90
December 24th	5.00 pm	Crib Service	71 + 32 children
Christmas Eve	11.30 pm	Midnight Mass	165
December 25th	10.30 am	Holy Eucharist with Carols	140
Christmas Day			
		Other weekday Eucharists	18
December 29th	8.00 am	Holy Eucharist	18
	10.30 am	Holy Eucharist	60

Sunday Rota

2nd Feb			Doug Prichard
Reader	Christine Jones		Barbara Yates
Sidespersons	Ron Ilidge	Eucharistic	John Ridler
	Wendy Stewart	Ministers	Maggie Leitch
	Annabel Jones		
	William Maidlow	23th Feb	
Eucharistic	Angela Pritchard	Reader	Eira Jones
Ministers	Cath Lloyd	Sidespersons	Pat Ridler
			Judith Williams
9th Feb			Ben Edwards
Readers	Ray Stythe-Jones		Dorothy Trent
	Gay Stythe-Jones	Eucharistic	Stan Whittaker
Sidespersons	Marion Heald	Ministers	Angela Pritchard
	Sandra Davies		
	Cath Lloyd	2nd Mar	
	Ray Millington	Reader	Vernon Morris
E Minister	Marion Heald	Sidespersons	Terry Dewer
			Ron Ilidge
l6th Feb			Wendy Stewart
Reader	Sandra Davies		Annabel Jones
Sidespersons	Linda Blundell	Eucharistic	Cath Lloyd
	Joyce Crosby	Ministers	John Ridler

Bishop Selwyn in New Zealand

By Christine Jones

Shortly before my trip to New Zealand in November, I visited Lichfield Cathedral with members of the Guild of St. Raphael. One of the aims of my trip was to carry out a 'recce' for an outing by the Friends of St. Tudno's this summer but I was also keen to see the memorial to Bishop George Augustus Selwyn, first Anglican Bishop of New Zealand. Bishop Selwyn's memorial is in the Lady Chapel and the walls around the Bishop's effigy are covered with tiles featuring important events in the Bishop's ministry, including scenes of

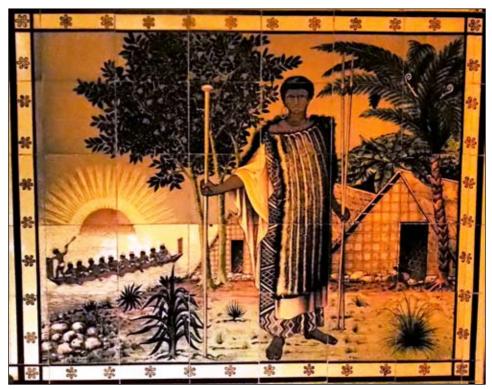
New Zealand.

When I arrived in New Zealand I began to discover what a remarkable man Bishop Selwyn was. A short article like this cannot cover all of his very active ministry but I hope that my 'encounters' with Bishop Selwyn will give some indication of his role in the early church in New Zealand.

In 1841, at the age of just 32, George Augustus Selwyn was consecrated Bishop of New Zealand at Lambeth Palace and in December set sail for his new diocese with his wife Sarah, arriv-



The memorial to Bishop Selwyn in Lichfield Cathedral.



One of the tiles depicting Bishop Selwyn's life in New Zealand in Lichfield Cathedral.

ing in Auckland in May 1842. Accounts of the Bishop's activities show that after a short time in Auckland he and Sarah sailed to the Bay of Islands (in the north of the North Island), where a Church Missionary Society mission had been established 11 years earlier.

After a couple of weeks there, the Bishop left Sarah at the mission and set off on a six month tour of part of the North Island, as his first Pastoral Visitation. It is reported that during this he travelled 2,277 miles: 1,180 by ship, 249 in canoes or boat, 86 on horseback and 762 on foot. This set the pattern for his ministry in New Zealand: a few weeks

at home (later in Auckland) followed by a longer period travelling.

The Bishop had learnt Maori on the journey to New Zealand and was very active in ministry to the Maori, by whom he was known as Pihopa Selwyn, as well as the Pakeha (Maori for Europeans). A Visitation at the beginning of 1844 took the Bishop as far as Stewart Island, to the South of the South Island, travelling along the coast in small schooners.

At the end of 1847 the Bishop set out on his first voyage to Melanesia, to visit some of the many Pacific islands within his Diocese (this area was larger than intended as a clerical error on his documents, which was never corrected, gave the limitation of his diocese as 34°N instead of 34°S!). Over a 10 year period he completed 10 voyages to Melanesia, accompanied by Sarah on some of the later ones.

As the Bishop travelled around he held services, performed baptisms, confirmations, marriages and ordinations, organised and eventually established new dioceses. He was also involved in buying land for churches and schools and in setting up schools and a theological college for Maori and Pakeha men. Bishop Selwyn's support for the Maori in land disputes brought him into some conflict with Pakeha settlers.

One of Bishop Selwyn's tasks on his first arrival in Auckland was to ensure that a cemetery was provided for the developing town, which had a population of 1900 by 1842. The Crown granted two parcels of land on hills separated by a road leading south from the harbour. The land was divided up to form Anglican, Roman Catholic, Wesleyan, Presbyterian and Jewish cemeteries. These were in use from 1842 until 1886, when they were closed (apart from some burials in existing graves) after concerns about overcrowding and public health.

In the 1960s a motorway extension encroached on the Anglican and Roman Catholic sections and more than



The Symonds Street Cemetery.

4000 graves had to be moved. Today the Symonds Street Cemetery, as it is now called, is a public reserve, or park, providing a quiet space in a busy part of the city, with a mixture of European and native trees shading graves overgrown with rambling roses, while native bush (forest / woodland) flourishes along the motorway embankments.

In 1854 the Bishop and Sarah returned to the UK for several months, during which the Bishop petitioned for New Zealand to be divided into several dioceses and for the church there to be self governing. Bishop Selwyn resumed his busy life in New Zealand but also instigated a special building project. In

1844 he had purchased some land in what is now the Parnell area of Auckland as a site for another cemetery and a chapel, intending to use the chapel during his time in Auckland.

The chapel was built of local scoria (similar to pumice but a heavier rock) and sandstone and was completed that year but soon suffered structural problems and collapsed in 1847. However in 1856 the Bishop instructed a new chapel to be built on the site, this time constructed of wood, and in 1857 the Constitutional Conference for the New Zealand Church was held there and on 13 June the Constitution of the Church in New Zealand (now The



St. Stephen's Chapel, Auckland.



Selwyn Library.

Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia) was signed on the altar.

The chapel, dedicated to St. Stephen, is situated on a hill overlooking one of the many bays around Auckland and so the position is somewhat reminiscent of St. Tudno's – apart from the very busy container port below St. Stephen's! Services are held there once a week but the chapel is otherwise locked, so the Precentor of Auckland Cathedral, Revd Tony Surman, kindly leant me the key to this delightful little chapel and while I was there a few other visitors took the opportunity to look inside too, so it was even more like being at St. Tudno's – and if I'd stayed there much

longer I might have ended up giving guided tours!

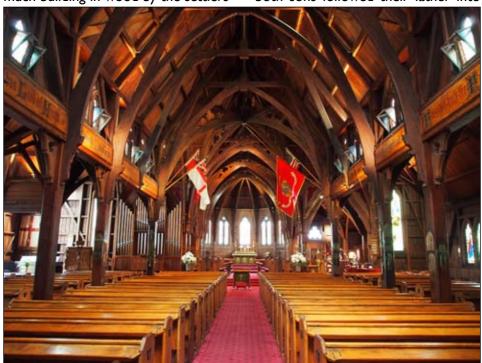
In 1858 Bishop Selwyn was made the first Metropolitan (or Primate) of New Zealand and continued his extensive travels. He somehow found time to amass a large collection of books and in 1861 a library to house them was built in Parnell, close to the present Auckland Cathedral. Revd Tony took me to see the Selwyn Library and though it is now used as a meeting hall a photograph shows it in Bishop Selwyn's time, crowded with book shelves and with two canoes suspended from the beams - gifts from the people of Melanesia during some of his tours there. Like many of the buildings of that time,

the library is constructed of wood and the architect, Frederick Thatcher, also designed St. Stephen's Chapel and other churches for Bishop Selwyn.

In 1867 Bishop Selwyn returned to England to attend the Lambeth Conference and was asked, and eventually persuaded, to accept the see of Lichfield. In 1868 the Bishop returned to New Zealand for a farewell tour and I caught up with him again at Old St. Paul's Church, Wellington, at the south of the North Island. This is another beautiful wooden church designed by Fredrick Thatcher which functioned as a cathedral but which has been superseded by a stone built cathedral. Two of the reasons for much building in wood by the settlers

were a plentiful supply of native timber and fear of earthquakes – there had, for instance, been strong earthquakes in Wellington in 1848 and 1855. I finished my holiday in Wellington and the Bishop held his farewell service at St. Paul's. In Lichfield Diocese, Bishop Selwyn resumed his practice of visits throughout his see and he died there in 1878. However, at Old St. Paul's the Bishop is described as being 'devastated' to leave New Zealand and is quoted as saying 'They don't know how much I love New Zealand.'

Sarah and the Selwyns' two sons must have seen very little of the Bishop during their time in New Zealand but both sons followed their father into



Old St Paul's, Wellington, built on land purchased by Bishop Selwyn in 1845.



Bishop Selwyn's crest in his library.

the church. The Selwyns also had a daughter but sadly she died at four months old, never having been seen by her father, who was away on one of his Visitations. Sarah's role in the early mission and service of the Church in New Zealand is commemorated in one of the new windows in St. Mary's Church, Auckland, mentioned in last month's article on Auckland Cathedral.

Links between Lichfield and Auckland Cathedrals are maintained and on the outer wall of the stone built part of Auckland Cathedral is a plaque surmounting an old block of stone. The inscription on the plaque reads: 'This

stone was laid by John, Bishop of Auckland, on the thirteenth day of June 1957, being the one hundredth anniversary of the signing of the Constitution of the Church of the Province of New Zealand. It rests on stone from Lichfield Cathedral.'

The land for the cathedral had been purchased by Bishop Selwyn, who passed the site again on return from one of his Visitations in 1843 and who wrote in his diary '... my last pair of thick shoes being worn out ... I was obliged to tie my insteps with pieces of native flax' and 'I hope [the cathedral] may hereafter be traversed by the feet of many bishops better shod and less ragged than myself.'



A portrait of Bishop Selwyn in Auckland Cathedral.



St BERNADETTE

In February 1858 Bernadette was 14 years old and lived with her family in the little town of Lourdes in the Pyrenees in France. While she was out collecting wood to keep the family warm Bernadette had a vision of St Mary, the Mother of Christ. The lady in blue and white appeared 18 times in all and asked Bernadette to tell the priests to make a procession to the grotto where she appeared and to build a chapel there. At first the priests didn't believe Bernadette's story because she was only a poor, uneducated girl.

People who were ill came to bathe in the spring of water that appeared at the Grotto and in time a large church was built. And still today pilgrims from all over the world visit the shrine.

What happened to Bernadette? She became a nun. When they asked her if she was sad that the visions had ended she answered: 'I was like a broom. When the sweeping is finished you put it behind the door and forget about it.'

WATER WORDS

All the answers to this Bible Quiz are to do with water. Answers at the bottom of the page.

- 1. Where the disciples fished (Mark 1).
- 2. It parted to allow Moses and the Israelites through (Exodus 14).
- 3. Jacob met his future wife here (Genesis 29).
- 4. Paul was on his way to Rome when this happened (Acts 27).
- 5. How Jonah travelled when the sailors threw him overboard (Jonah 1).
- 6. The river in which Jesus was baptised (Matthew 3).

REFERENCE



Why was Moses hidden quickly? It was a rush job.

What do you call small rivers that flow into the Nile?

Juveniles.

1.Sea of Galilee 2.The Red Sea 3.at a well 4. he was shipwrecked 5.in a large fish or whale 6.River Jordan

Grazing Management

Maes-y-facrell nature reserve on the Great Orme is currently receiving its winter management at the teeth of three delightful Welsh mountain ponies. The ponies are very efficient at reducing coarse grasses and so helping the broad leaved plants to flourish. When the Friends of St. Tudno's visited the area with one of the voluntary wardens in the summer, we were told how much the ponies had helped this once neglected site and were shown some of the rare plants which grow there. However, it was explained that the grassland could now be improved further by the closer grazing provided by sheep. The sheep which roam the Great Orme at different times of the year do help to provide some grassland management.

The goats are browsers, rather than grazers, so their preference is not for grass but they do help to keep gorse

and scrub in check - and those goats which have been sent to other conservation sites are valued for this role. The Management Plan for the Great Orme aims to keep the goat population at a size which can be sustained by the vegetation on the Orme, though the goats don't always appreciate this and sometimes prefer the change of diet offered by a nice hedge! Goat kids may be born from February onwards, so this is the time to repeat the annual warning from the Country Park Wardens. A nanny may leave her young kid resting while she is grazing, returning regularly to feed it. A kid on its own is therefore very unlikely to have been abandoned and should not be disturbed. If you are concerned about a goat kid, please report it to one of the Country Park Wardens on 01492 874151.

Christine Jones



From the Parish Pump

Modern Slavery

A coalition comprising 15 leading antislavery organisations has welcomed the Modern Slavery Bill, but calls for it to be strengthened. The call came late last year as the government issued their draft bill and Frank Field MP published his evidence review, including an estimate that there are 10,000 victims of slavery in the UK.

The coalition of anti-slavery groups went on to publish a briefing paper that called on churches to take up the work of 18th century abolitionists: 'The transatlantic slave trade was banned in 1807 and slavery was abolished across the British Empire in 1834, yet it is still with us today. Children are sold into slavery to pay family debts; people pay for passage, only to be trafficked over borders and find forced labour conditions rather than freedom ... this must end.'

Dr Dave Landrum, director of advocacy at the Evangelical Alliance, said: 'For evangelicals this is unfinished business. We've been fighting slavery for hundreds of years, and we are still at it today. This coalition is calling on churches to meet with their parliamentary representatives and urge them to take a strong and uncompromising three-prong stance against all shades and forms of modern day slavery when the bill comes up for debate at Westminster.

Frank Field MP's evidence review also proposed similar measures to improve the draft bill which will be considered as it begins its parliamentary passage.

Nola Leach, chief executive of CARE, commented: 'The government must seize this opportunity to set a new standard in the care and protection of survivors. A bill without victims at its heart will be only a half measure.'

Terry Tennens, executive director of International Justice Mission UK, said: 'An independent anti-slavery commissioner is of vital importance in winning the battle in eradicating modern slavery in the UK'.

Major Anne Read, anti-trafficking response co-ordinator for The Salvation Army, said: 'We are keen to join with all those who are calling on government to make every possible effort to eradicate the evil trade in human beings.'

Ben Cooley, chief executive officer of Hope for Justice, commented: 'The Modern Slavery Bill is a strong signal to traffickers that we won't tolerate their terrible trade in human lives.'

Protecting Children

The UK Churches Child Protection Advisory Service (CCPAS) has produced a

booklet 'Safeguarding in a Digital World' which contains over 100 links to various websites and other documents. CCPAS works closely with a number of other Child Protection Organisations both in the United Kingdom and more widely.

Safer Internet Day

Safer Internet Day will be celebrated in over 100 countries on 11th February. It will run under the slogan 'Let's create a better Internet together' and will aim to promote the positive power of the internet to allow people to create, share and connect. There are now 31 European Safer Internet Centres, coordinated by Insafe, which also runs the SID website www.saferinternetday.org which lists resources and details about events happening in each country.

Scheme for Young Vicars

Young people are being given a taste of life behind the dog collar with the recent launch of the Church of England Ministry Experience Scheme (CEMES), run by the Ministry Division.

The scheme, which began late last year in four dioceses, is a one year programme of theological teaching, practical experience and personal development for young people aged 18-30 who are considering future ministry in the church. The scheme was set up to encourage more young people to

consider being involved in ministry and focus on the nine criteria used in the selection of clergy.

The scheme is currently being run in the dioceses of Sodor and Man, Newcastle, Peterborough and the Stepney area of London. Ministry Division are working with 15 more dioceses interested in the scheme, with a view to provide a CEMES programme in every diocese.

Foster Care Extension

The church-based fostering and adoption campaign, Home for Good, has welcomed the government's recent move to extend the age at which children can remain in foster care.

The Department for Education is imposing a legal duty on councils to provide financial support for those who want to stay longer with foster carers. Children in care will now be able to stay with their foster parents until their 21st birthday if they wish to.

Dr Krish Kandiah, a director of the Evangelical Alliance, one of the organisations behind Home for Good, says this move makes absolute sense. 'To expect looked-after children who will already have experienced trauma in their lives, to leave home at 18 is optimistic if not negligent,' he said.

He went on: 'Many are just not ready to leave home at 18 and face the big wide world.

When we consider our own children, some of whom stay at home well into their 20s, why should we expect all foster children to be chucked out at 18?

Krish, who has both adopted children and provided foster care for many years, says there are many sad stories of some children who have had to leave prematurely just because they reached 18. 'As foster carers we have looked after many babies whose parents aged out of the care system at 17, and then immediately became pregnant so that they could access the help and services that they needed. Sadly for many of them their children were then taken into care themselves and the cycle continues on.'

Home for Good is working with churches to encourage them to foster or adopt children. More than 20,000 Christians attended National Adoption Sunday services last month to learn more about fostering and adoption.

Brigid of Ireland d. c. 525

Brigid, you could say, was the female Patrick of Ireland. Her feast is February I.

Historical facts about this first abbess of Kildare may be scarce, but her Lives, written from the 7th century, tell many anecdotes and miracles which over the centuries have become deeply rooted in Irish folklore. Brigid came from a village near Kildare, of parents of humble origin, and is said to have been baptised

by Patrick and become a nun at an early age. She is credited with founding the monastery of Kildare, a powerful influence for Christianity in Ireland.

The miracles attributed to Brigid show her to have been a woman of great compassion and generosity. There are stories of how she could multiply food, especially butter, for the poor. Other stories tell of her changing her bathwater to beer, in order to satisfy the thirst of unexpected visitors. Even her cows gave milk three times the same day, to enable visiting bishops to have enough to drink.

Brigid's cult grew rapidly in Ireland, where it became second only to that of Patrick. In England, there were at least nineteen ancient church dedications in her honour (the most famous is St. Bride's Fleet Street). There is also St. Bride's Bay, Dyfed, which underlines the strong connection between Irish and Welsh Christianity. St. Brigid is patron of poets, blacksmiths, and healers. She is usually depicted with a cow lying at her feet, which recalls her phase as a nun-cowgirl.

February 14, St. Valentine's Day

There are two confusing things about this day of romance and anonymous love-cards strewn with lace, cupids and ribbon: firstly, there seems to have been two different Valentines in the 4th century — one a priest martyred on the Flaminian Way, under the emperor

Claudius, the other a bishop of Terni martyred at Rome. And neither seems to have had any clear connection with lovers or courting couples.

So why has Valentine become the patron saint of romantic love? By Chaucer's time the link was assumed to be because on these saints' day -14 February – the birds are supposed to pair. Or perhaps the custom of seeking a partner on St. Valentine's Day is a surviving scrap of the old Roman Lupercalia festival, which took place in the middle of February. One of the Roman gods honoured during this Festival was Pan, the god of nature. Another was Juno, the goddess of women and marriage. During the Lupercalia it was a popular custom for young men to draw the name of a young unmarried woman

from a name-box. The two would then be partners or 'sweethearts' during the time of the celebrations. Even modern Valentine decorations bear an ancient symbol of love — Roman cupids with their bows and love-arrows.



There are no churches in England dedicated to Valentine, but since 1835 his relics have been claimed by the Carmelite church in Dublin.

Coffee Time

Cryptics (thanks and courtesy Barbara Cartwright).

All are colours.

- I. This fruit is not cheap. (5)
- 2. The colour of the clarets. (7)
- 3. I yell "ow", cowardy custard! (6)
- 4. We agree not to differ on the colour of the shed. (5)
- 5. My Australian friend said that the medal was a bonzer colour! (6)
- 6. Royal blood? (4)
- 7. The French cat gave a confused soft mew. (6)
- 8. Studied the Communist newspaper, we hear. (3)
- 9. The sailor goes to sea. (10)
- 10. Get ready to cross the road. (5)

Results for Jan

- I. Week
- 2. Wise
- 3. Wand
- 4. Worthwhile
- 5. Westerns
- 6. Wheelie Bin
- 7. Waistcoat
- 8. Wed
- 9. Weapon
- 10. White