

LLANDUDNO

Cylchgrawn Plwyf

Parish Magazine



Town Council Civic Service, 28 July

50p

September 2013

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

At Holy Trinity we really love angels. We must do – there are almost 50 of them around the church! There are angels and archangels in quite a few of the stained glass windows; we have golden angels on the top of the 4 High Altar riddle posts; three archangels on the High Altar reredos; stone angel roof bosses, carved wooden angels on the clergy and choir stalls, and last but not least Handel Edward's large angel at the back of church.



On the last Sunday of September we will have an opportunity to celebrate the ministry of the angels – the real ones this time – as we keep the great Feast of St Michael and All Angels (Michaelmas).

But what exactly will we be celebrating on that day? Are angels actually real spiritual beings or should we think of them as purely mythological – lumped in with the likes of fairies, goblins, mermaids and suchlike? Perhaps they should just be seen as metaphors for God's desire to communicate with us (the word 'angel' means a 'messenger') protect us and defend us from evil. And when we pray: 'Therefore with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven' perhaps we are just using 'angelic' language to talk about something which is really beyond our understand-

ing – the mystery of the life of heaven.

And yet although for many people belief in angels is just part of humanity's superstitious past, for many others angels are very real. There has actually been a great rise in interest in angelology in recent years and if you go to the 'spirituality' section of a bookshop you will almost certainly see several books on the subject.

You are probably wondering by now where I stand on all this. Well I believe



angels are indeed real spiritual beings. For one thing they play such an important role in the biblical story that it is difficult to 'write them out' even if one wanted to do so. And if there is a spiritual world beyond the material one we now inhabit then it is quite logical to believe that spiritual beings of various kinds inhabit that world. In addition there is the evidence of many sensible, level-headed, men and women who claim to have seen angels. For all these reasons I am persuaded of their reality, though I respect the views of those who take the opposite view.

Angels appear in many places in Holy Scripture and have a variety of roles. In the Old Testament God is often known as 'The Lord of Hosts' – 'a host being an angelic army which fights evil and also performs other functions in the cosmos: guarding places and people, punishing wrongdoers, communicating the will of God, and revealing God's word' ('Angels' by Linda Proud, Pitkin Guides). And we are all familiar with

the roles of the three Archangels mentioned by name in the Bible – Michael, who tramples down Satan, Gabriel who brings God's message to Mary that she is to be the mother of the Lord, and Raphael who brings healing to God's people.

The Church eventually came to believe that there were nine 'choirs' of angels, grouped into three orders or hierarchies: First order: Seraphim, Cherubim, Thrones; Second Order: Dominions, Powers, Virtues; Third Order: Principalities, Archangels, Angels.

All this seems very complicated and needn't worry us too much, and there isn't space here to go into great detail about the matter. But as we approach the Feast of St Michael and All Angels I invite you to open your hearts and minds to the ministry of the angels – God's messengers – who are sent to guide and protect us.

Fr. John

News and Notices

The Hall – good news at last!

As many of our readers will already know, barring last minute delays, the work on Holy Trinity Hall will go ahead on Monday September 9th and is expected to last eight weeks. During that time we will have no access to the hall or the kitchen. This means that:

- All groups which normally meet in the Hall will either have to find alternative accommodation or cease to meet until the work is completed.
- The last summer coffee morning will take place on Wednesday 4th September.

- Sunday School will meet in the Choir Vestry for the duration of the work.
- There will be no tea/coffee after the 10.30 am Sunday Service.
- The toilet in the Choir Vestry will continue to be available, and the upstairs gents' toilets will be available for part of the time. We will not have access to toilets at the far end of the Hall and so regrettably there will be no disabled toilet facilities until the work is complete.

We apologise for all the inconvenience the work will cause but expect that you will feel it was worth the hassle when you see the refurbished Hall, hopefully early in November

Fr. John

HTC150

Following regular articles in our Church magazine by William Maidlow we should all be aware that the year 2015 will mark the 150th anniversary of the laying of the foundation stone here at Holy Trinity Church.

A few members of the Church have joined the 150th Anniversary Planning Group which has been formed to pool ideas and liaise with other Church parishioners and groups on how best to celebrate the occasion.

As a member of this group I have been asked to write a short booklet on the

history of Holy Trinity Church. I hope to start this by covering the period prior to 1865, the year of the laying of the foundation stone, exploring the reasons why there was a need to build our Church, and include items of interest as the Church has developed over the last 150 years.

I would like to include in the booklet any photographs that may show events that have taken place over the years or people that have been involved with the Church along with any stories that can be related to special occasions, as well as details of the Church organ, bells, stained glass windows, the choir or any other Church group.

If you have anything which you feel would be of interest to be included in the history of Holy Trinity Church, any photographs or stories, then I would be obliged if you pass them on to me, the Rector or any member of the 150th Group.

You can contact me at Church or email items to me at john.horsfield3@btinternet.com marking your email Holy Trinity Church.

Many thanks.

John Horsfield

Editor's note: I have high resolution scans of photographs loaned to me for a presentation I put on for a Holy Trinity Open Day three or four years ago. Should you wish to contact John on this matter, please mention it if your images have already been scanned.



The coffin of Craig John Roberts arrives at Holy Trinity Church.

Funeral at Holy Trinity

On 8 August, the funeral of Lance Corporal Craig John Roberts took place at Holy Trinity Church. Twenty-four-year-old Lance Cpl Roberts was one of three soldiers who died following an exercise for SAS selection in the Brecon Beacons on July 13, one of the hottest days of the year. Many members of the public stood outside the church for the service which was given full military honours.

Lance Cpl Roberts, originally from Penrhyn Bay, was a member of the 3rd Battalion of the Royal Anglian Regiment, a Territorial Army unit based at Bury St. Edmonds.

The service was led by the Rev Peter Whitehead, Chaplain to the 3rd Battalion Royal Anglian Regiment, and the Rev Canon John Nice, Rector of Llandudno.

St. Tudno's

Sunday 14th July was very warm with a light breeze. A minibus full of people from Age Concern made their annual visit, boosting the congregation to 53 adults and a few children. Revd David Jenkins led the service, with Michael Thomas playing the organ. The gospel reading and address were on the theme of the Good Samaritan.

The weather was overcast with a breeze on Sunday 21st July, a welcome brief respite from the heat wave. Canon John Nice led the service, accompanied by Denis Cartwright playing the organ, and there was a congregation of 29. The gospel reading and address were on the theme of Mary and Martha and the importance of finding time to be still and quiet in the presence of the Lord.

On Sunday 28th July 39 sat outside, again enjoying the sun. Revd Derek Simpson led the service, accompanied by Michael Thomas playing the organ. The gospel reading and address were on the theme of prayer. At 4.00 pm a service of Healing and Wholeness, organised by the Guild of St. Raphael, was held at St. Tudno's. The service was led by Canon John Nice, accompanied by Michael Thomas playing the organ and there was a congregation of 16. The reading and address were on the theme of Jesus healing the paralytic man, as told in Luke 5, 17-26. This was a particularly lovely, moving service.

Early on Sunday 4th August there was heavy rain, which cleared to a hot, bright morning. Canon John Nice led the service, accompanied by Denis Cartwright playing the organ. The gospel reading and address were on the various components that define one as a person and also on our attitudes towards different types of riches, particularly the riches of living Christian lives.

On Friday August 9th Jonathan Richards, on classical guitar, and Deborah Barker,

with her own, poetry entertained an audience of 65 and gave an evening of great pleasure. The music ranged from Splendid Sarabandes through Bluesy Bits, Animal Antics, Rites & Rituals and works from Iberia, including the ever-popular composer Albeniz. In between, Deborah read her own poetry which proved to be thoughtful, moving and insightful.

In the interval refreshments, provided by the Friends, were served under a gazebo and on the tombstones! All were much appreciated.

It was lovely to see a full church and to hear enthusiastic applause. A very successful evening for which many thanks to all involved.

On Sunday 11th August there was a cold wind but it was fairly bright and summery. There was a congregation of 48, including some of the choir from Holy Trinity, who were able to join us as they were enjoying their summer holiday. Revd Derek Simpson led the service, accompanied by Michael Thomas playing the organ. The gospel reading and short address were on the theme of being ready to see Christ's love in our everyday lives.

Compline was on Tuesday 13th August. The lovely, contemplative service was led by Revd Derek Simpson and there was a congregation of 10.

On Sunday 18th August the weather was fairly bright and a little windy. There were one or two clouds hovering but

nothing looking very threatening. The Rector led the service and Gaynor Nice played the keyboard for the first few hymns, which were sung outside. The reading from the letter to the Hebrews and address were on the theme of the Christian life being like a race that takes a lifetime to persevere in and that is assisted with fellowship through a church.

Halfway through the sermon there was a sudden, heavy downpour of rain – fortunately there were a number of young men in the congregation who were happy to carry the sound system inside! Ray Stythe-Jones played the remaining hymns on the organ and a few people walking in the area came to shelter in the church. The morning service was therefore quite eventful but still very enjoyable.

Stephanie Searle, Shirley Georgeson and Christine Jones

At St. Tudno's in September

St. Tudno's is open every day and Morning Prayer is said on Saturdays at 9.00 am. The open air services continue each Sunday at 11.00 am until the end of the month and the free taxi departs from Holy Trinity at 10.30 am. On Sunday 1 September the open air service will be followed by a shortened Eucharist in the church.

The last service of Compline by Candlelight for this season will be on Tues-

day 10 September at 7.30 pm. The last service of the summer season will be Harvest Festival at 4.00 pm on Sunday 29 September and the service will be followed by refreshments.

During the service a collection of packets or tins of food will be taken for Conwy Food Bank. This was a great success last year and we hope to repeat it this year. Although the summer season ends at the end of September, St. Tudno's now has a winter season with Sunday services once a month. We look forward to seeing you at St. Tudno's.

Christine Jones and Shirley Georgeson.

Friends of St. Tudno's Church

On Saturday 7 September the Friends of St. Tudno's will be holding an open day and mini fair at St. Tudno's for 10.00 am – 5.00 pm. This will include tours of the church and churchyard, a slide show of old pictures of St. Tudno's, refreshments and some stalls.

If you would like to learn how St. Tudno brought Christianity to this area in the sixth century, how the church was saved by the generosity of a Victorian gentleman or see a double-headed dragon, then listen to a talk on the church. If you would like to hear the story of the dog which saved Manchester United football club, visit the grave of John Bright's son or see some remarkable carvings, then join a churchyard tour. After this,

perhaps you would like a cup of tea or coffee and some home made cakes and the chance to enjoy the peace and beauty of St. Tudno's Church, on the hillside overlooking the sea.

The Friends' AGM will be on Saturday 21 September, beginning with the Friends' Eucharist at St. Tudno's at 11.00 am. The preacher will be Canon Bob Griffiths of Rhoscystennin parish and you are all warmly invited to join us for this service. We will have lunch at the Queen's Hotel at 12.30 pm (please contact Vernon Morris to book a place), followed by the AGM itself at 2.00 pm.

The day will end with membership renewal and the annual slide show. We hope as many Friends as possible will be able to attend. If you have been thinking about joining the Friends, you would be very welcome to come along for the day, join in the fellowship and learn more about us and our work to support St. Tudno's.

Christine Jones

Great Orme Exploration Society at St. Tudno's

On Thursday 15 August we were delighted to welcome members of the Great Orme Exploration Society (GOES) to St. Tudno's, for an exploration of the churchyard. This was a return visit, as last year we managed to cover only half the churchyard, hearing

stories of some of the people buried there. This time we covered the other half of the churchyard, despite the rain and the people whom we talked about included Llandudno's silhouettist, the founder of Wellington (now Wrekin) College in Shropshire, Caroline and Herbert Keeling (who donated Holy Trinity's bells) and casualties of the Boer War and two World Wars.

We also looked at some unusual and remarkable carvings and finished the evening with tea and cakes – which were much appreciated! If this has whetted your appetite, do come to St. Tudno's for the church open day on Saturday 7 September (see previous article), when the Friends of St. Tudno's will give a shorter version of the churchyard tour.

Christine Jones



'I've heard the rector has a problem with squatters moving into the belfry.'



These photographs were taken during the Mother's Union annual Mary Summer Day Afternoon Tea held at the Queen's Hotel on Monday 5 August.





Calendar for September

Sun 1st

Trinity 14

Services as usual for the 1st Sunday plus:

	12.30 pm	Holy Baptism
Mon 2nd	7.30 pm	150th Fund Raising Group meeting
Tues 3rd	10.00 am	'Julian' meditation group at Stella Maris
Weds 4th	10.00 am	Final Summer Coffee Morning
Thurs 5th	10.00am	St. Raphael Guild Meeting
	11.00 am	Eucharist with Ministry of Healing
	7.30 pm	150 Group meeting
Sat 7th		Friends of St Tudno's – Mini-Fair at St. Tudno's
	1.00 pm	Cytûn Lunch at Llanrhos Schoolroom

Sun 8th

Trinity 15

Services as usual for the 2nd Sunday plus:

	12.30 pm	Holy Baptism (Exploring Worship Services are suspended until the work on the Hall is completed)
Mon 9th		Work on the Hall (hopefully!) begins
Tues 10th	7.30 pm	Compline by Candlelight at St. Tudno's
Thurs 12th	11.00 am	St. Raphael Guild Eucharist with a talk by the Revd. Linda Mary Edwards followed by lunch at the Queens Hotel.

Sun 15th

Trinity 16

Services as usual for the 3rd Sunday plus:

	12.30 pm	Holy Baptism.
Thurs 19th	7.30 pm	Deanery Conference
Sat 21st	11.00 am	Eucharist for Friends' of St Tudno's Church. Preacher: Canon Bob Griffiths, Rector of Rhoscystennin
	12.30 pm	Friends' Lunch at the Queen's Hotel followed by the AGM at 2.00 pm

Sun 22nd

Trinity 17

Services as usual for the 4th Sunday plus:

	2.30 pm	Holy Baptism.
	3 00 pm	Service for Llandudno Soroptomists at St. Tudno's.
Thurs 26th	7.30 pm	PCC Meeting

Fri 27th 2.30 pm St. Raphael Guild Eucharist at the home of Dennis Wiley

Sun 29th St. Michael & All Angels (Trinity 18)
Morning services as usual for 5th Sunday (last Sunday of St. Tudno's Summer services).
 4 00 pm Harvest Festival service at St. Tudno's.
 No Evening Prayer at Holy Trinity.

Attendance Figures

Holy Trinity Church

		Eucharists to July 6th	24
July 7th	8.00 am	Holy Eucharist	21
Trinity 6	10.30 am	Sung Eucharist	79
	5,00 pm	Evening Prayer	2
		Other weekday Eucharists	23
July 14th	8.00 am	Holy Eucharist	11
Trinity 7	10.30 am	Family Worship	87
Sea Sunday		Shortened Eucharist	19 + 1
	5.00 pm	Evening Prayer	3
		Other Weekday Eucharists	22
July 21st	8.00 am	Holy Eucharist	14
Trinity 8	10.30 am	Sung Eucharist	63
	5.00 pm	Evening Prayer	6
		Other Weekday Eucharists	23
July 28th	8.00 am	Holy Eucharist	11
Trinity 9	10.30 am	Sung Eucharist and Mayor's Sunday Service	216
		No Evening Prayer	
		Other weekday Eucharists	3

St Tudno's Church

Sunday 7 July	11.00 am	Morning Service	40
Sunday 7 July	11.45 am	Shortened Eucharist	15
Tuesday 9 July	7.30 pm	Compline	10
Sunday 14 July	11.00 am	Morning Service	57
Sunday 21 July	11.00 am	Morning Service	29
Sunday 28 July	11.00 am	Morning Service	39
Sunday 28 July	4.00 pm	Healing Service	16

PARISH REGISTER

Holy Baptism

*July 7th: Brodie Dillon Johnston &
Charlie Jack Johnston*

*July 21st: Sahara-Rose Wood &
Layla Alexa Wood &
Phoenix James Mckennzie Wood &
Amazen-Sky Wood*

August 4th: Amelia Louise Jones

August 11th: Jensen James Miller

Holy Matrimony

*August 9th: Llïon Iestyn Hughes and
Rosemary Jane Davies*

The Departed

*July 26th: Lady Iris Brierley aged 91
Service at Holy Trinity Church followed by
internment at The Lawns Cemetery, Llanrhos*

*August 8th: Lance Corporal Craig John Roberts
aged 24
Service at Holy Trinity Church followed by
cremation at Colwyn Bay*

Sunday Rota

1st Sep

Reader	Peter La Trobe
Sidespersons	Joyce Crosby Doug Prichard Barbara Yates Pat Ridler
Eucharistic Ministers	Angela Pritchard John Ridler

8th Sep

Readers	John Ridler Pat Ridler
Sidespersons	Marion Heald Sandra Davies Cath Lloyd Mary Rees
E Minister	Angela Pritchard

15th Sep

Reader	Eileen Box
Sidespersons	Ray Millington Gwen Robinson Linda Blundell Cath Lloyd
Eucharistic Ministers	Stan Whittaker Cath Lloyd

22nd Sep

Reader	Ann Rimmer
Sidespersons	Joyce Crosby Doug Prichard Barbara Yates Angela Pritchard
Eucharistic Ministers	John Ridler Marion Heald

29th Sep

Reader	Sandra Davies
Sidespersons	Pat Ridler Judith Williams Vernon Morris Ben Edwards
Eucharistic Ministers	Maggie Leitch Stan Whittaker

6th Oct

Reader	Eira Jones
Sidespersons	Dorothy Trent Terry Dewer Ron Illidge Wendy Stewart
Eucharistic Ministers	Angela Pritchard Cath Lloyd

Armed Forces Day at Coventry Cathedral

Last month, I wrote about a recent visit Maggie and I made to Hereford Cathedral. After a few days in Somerset, we found ourselves in Coventry so we decided to visit the Cathedral there – not for the first time. It was a Saturday but when we arrived, the Ca-

thedral was closed in preparation for a service. Outside the cathedral, soldiers and cadets as well as many others were mustering as it was 'Armed Forces Day'. Ironically, I had my full veteran's regalia (blazer, slacks, squadron tie etc) back in our hotel room. Nevertheless, very

casually dressed, we decided to attend the service – more of which later.

I was barely 11 years of age when the present cathedral was consecrated but can remember the event very well. Perhaps my most lasting image was of the helicopter lowering the flèche spire into place. I was aware that the new cathedral had replaced an earlier cathedral that had been destroyed by bombing during the Second World War but did not realise until quite recently that there have been a total of three cathedrals in the city.

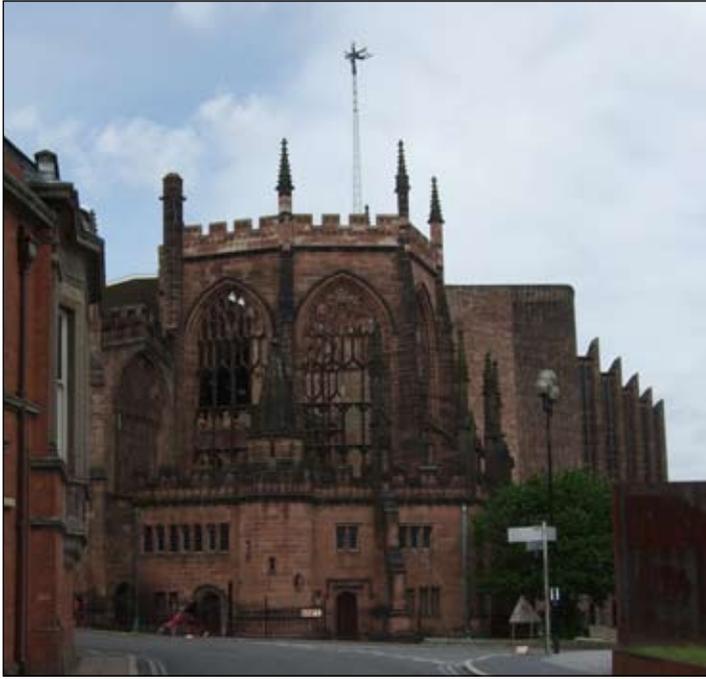
The first cathedral in the city was St. Mary's Priory and Cathedral. This was founded around 1100 AD when the

Bishop's see was moved from Lichfield to what was a small Benedictine monastery. Rebuilding began and by the middle of the 13th century, the cathedral was 425 feet in length.

Throughout this period, this part of the city of Coventry was particularly well-served with handsome churches – a literal stone's throw away from St. Mary's Priory and Cathedral were the churches of the Holy Trinity and St. Michael. Both these churches had impressive steeples but it is unknown whether St. Mary's had any steeples though some believe it may have had three. This would have made a very impressive skyline.



The spire and ruins of the second Coventry cathedral. The spire of Holy Trinity Parish Church is in the background.



The modern cathedral is at right angles to its predecessor.

The cathedral lasted until 1539 when it was dissolved by King Henry VIII. The King had offered the cathedral buildings to the people of Coventry but they had been unable to raise sufficient funds so the King had ordered the buildings to be destroyed. It was the only English cathedral to be destroyed during the Reformation. The See of Coventry and Lichfield was moved back to Lichfield.

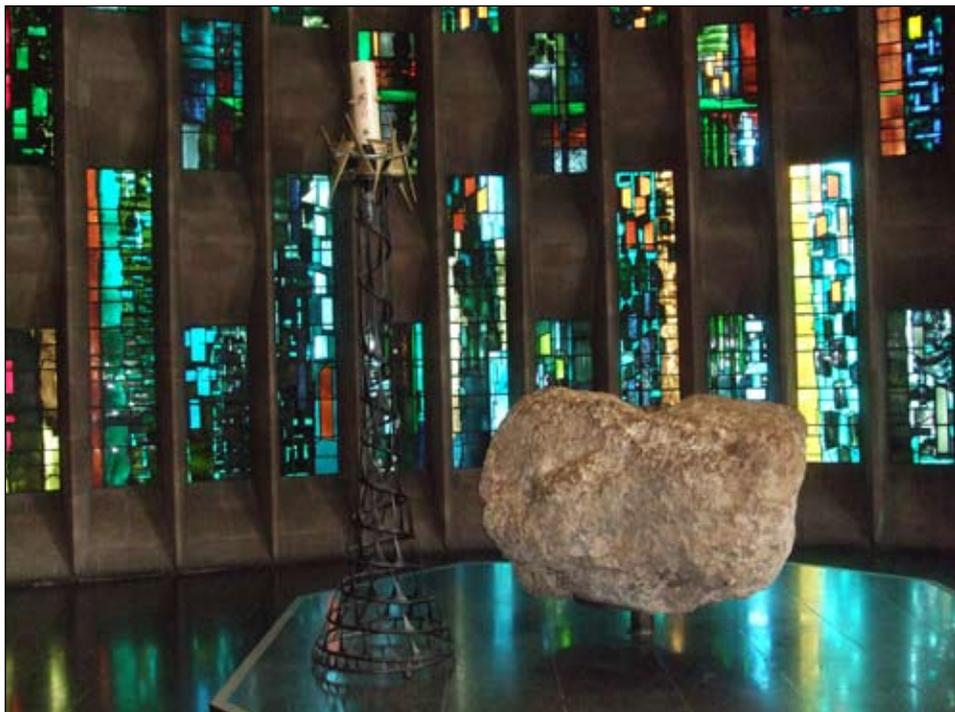
It was less than 100 years ago in 1918 that the existing Diocese of Coventry was created in its own right. St Michael's Church, constructed during the 14th and 15th centuries, was one of the largest parish churches in England when it was elevated to cathedral status. However, on 14 November 1940, the building was bombed almost to

destruction. Only the tower/spire, the outer wall, and the effigy/tomb of its first bishop survived.

In 1950, a competition was held to find an architect to design a new Coventry Cathedral. Over 200 designs were submitted, the winner being the architect Basil Spence in association with Ove N Arup Consulting Engineers. Spence's vision was to leave

the old cathedral in ruins as a garden of remembrance and construct a new building orientated North/South alongside – the two buildings effectively becoming one church. Though the new building was entirely modern in design, the use of sandstone for its construction provided unity with its predecessor.

The foundation stone of the new cathedral was laid down by Her Majesty the Queen in March 1956. The cathedral was consecrated in May 1962. Although the building's modern design had been something of a talking point, the cathedral rapidly achieved iconic status, helped by its themes of reconciliation and its bold features, notably the huge tapestry of Christ designed by Graham



The baptistry.

Sutherland and the Baptistry window by John Piper. The stained glass windows in the nave were angled so they could not be seen by the congregation as they looked towards the altar but were fully visible when they turned round.

Certainly by visiting Coventry Cathedral you get two very different experiences. The new cathedral has a totally different atmosphere to our Gothic cathedrals that are layered with the aura of passing ages with its minimalist shapes and lack of clutter. The ruined cathedral, on the other hand, has an amazing sensation of antiquity, peace and tranquillity. Even without a roof, this remains a house of God.

The Coventry Cathedral Armed Forces Day service followed a familiar pattern. After the dignitaries arrived, the Peace Bell on the liturgical north side of the cathedral was struck three times which was followed by a call to service by a bugler. The procession to 'Praise my soul the king of heaven' was led by the Korean Veterans Association in recognition of the 60th anniversary of the end of the Korean War this year.

The first part of the service concluded with an Old Testament reading followed by a hymn 'Christ is the world's true light' sung to *Nun Danket* – a tune that would have been out of favour in 1940. How times have changed. The New Testament reading was followed by the

song/hymn 'I vow to thee, my country' which was branded in 2004 by Stephen Lowe, the then suffragan Bishop of Hulme, as being 'totally heretical.' The sermon by the Very Reverend John Whitcombe, the Dean, was followed by the anthem 'My hope is in the understanding' by John Stainer. Prayers were followed by the fourth hymn, 'Lord, for the years', the Commitment, Blessing and the National Anthem. I am no expert but I thought the organ to

be extremely fine.

After the service, the Parade made its way to the Lady Godiva Statue in Broadgate where the Lord Mayor and the civic party took the salute.

Armed Forces Day in the United Kingdom is an annual event celebrated in late June to commemorate the service of men and women in the British Armed Forces. Formerly known as Veterans' Day, it was the first observed in

2006. The name was changed in 2009. Although it is an official event, it is not a public holiday. This year, the Day was centred upon the city of Nottingham. Over 300 similar events were held throughout the United Kingdom including the one we attended in Coventry. As far as I have been able to ascertain, only eight were held in Wales, the nearest at Trevor between Wrexham and Llangollen. I just wonder if there exists the enthusiasm to hold such an event in North Wales.



The iconic 'East' end of Coventry Cathedral.

Andy Leitch

The Lindisfarne Diaries

Following the fascinating account of Andy and Maggie's visit to Hereford Cathedral in last month's Magazine, and of the celebrated *Mappa Mundi*, readers might also like a brief account of an Exhibition featuring another pearl of British History, the Lindisfarne Gospels. Rarely seen outside the British Museum where



they have resided since 1753, the richly decorated Gospels are regarded as being among the finest exhibits in the national collection. Created in about 700AD in memory of Cuthbert, Bishop of Lindisfarne, who died in 687, the richly coloured and intricate lettering which illustrate the Gospel texts are a testimony to the skill and dedication of monks who toiled, often by candlelight, to produce these magnificently illustrated texts. Northumbria at that time was a point of contact for both Celtic and Saxon art, and to gaze at the beautiful lettering inevitably begs the question about the use of the term 'Dark Ages' to describe the period.

The Exhibition, in Durham's Palace Green Library, also includes other artefacts from the time, such as items from the spectacular Staffordshire Hoard, found near Lichfield in 2009. These items, and perhaps our own coffin lids

in St. Tudno's, along with the Gospels, are an eloquent testimony to the skill and craftsmanship of the time. The survival of the Gospels is a dramatic story in itself, with Viking marauders, Henry VIII's commissioners, and religious reformers all posing serious threats to the Gospels. It is cause for celebration that, thanks

to the skills of dedicated keepers, and advances in the technology of conservation, these magnificent manuscripts can be preserved for posterity.

The Exhibition also includes a hands-on digital display, which allows the visitor to turn some of the pages of the Gospels on computer screens. If you're lucky, you may also be able to take advantage of a calligraphy workshop that provides an insight into how gold leaf was applied, how the intricate patterns were designed, the use of vellum and parchment, and how the inks were made. You can even try your hand at calligraphy. If you can, go to Durham and see the Exhibition, which is on until the end of September. It made me think of a term frequently used these days by youngstersawesome!

William Maidlow

From the Parish Pump

Digging Wells

As the battle for Aleppo raged this summer, and the people were beset by crippling shortages of essential supplies, the Barnabas Fund was busy helping to dig wells in Christian areas to provide clean water for around 400,000 residents.

The besieged city's water supply, along with other vital public services, had been disrupted as a result of the heavy fighting between President Bashar al-Assad's troops and opposition fighters. Aleppo's main pump was damaged last year, and the back-up one can supply only around half the demand, leaving many places without an adequate supply. Some areas receive water for only 10-12 hours twice a month.

Christian Aid Floods' Appeal

Christian Aid has launched an emergency appeal to provide assistance to communities and pilgrims affected by recent flash floods and landslides in northern India. At least 20,000 people were missing as recent heavy and incessant rains hit the region in June, with the state of Uttarakhand most affected.

Over 60,000 pilgrims visiting shrines in the area were left stranded as damaged roads and bridges made the area inaccessible. The death toll is likely to exceed 5,000 according to Disaster Man-

agement Minister Yashpal Arya. More than 100 villages have been severely affected in Rudraprayag, Chamoli and Uttarkashi districts with up to 1,000 homes damaged or washed away.

Christian Aid local partner organisation CASA has distributed food, bottled water, blankets, shelter and medicines. Fellow CA partner organisations SEEDS and IGSSS will also provide humanitarian assistance and plan to help to rebuild homes and livelihoods. Christian Aid has released an initial £100,000 for the relief effort.

Is Religion Good for Your Pet?

Do animals benefit – or suffer – thanks to religion? That is the subject of a new research project at Oxford.

Inspired by Baptist Preacher Charles Spurgeon's claim that a person cannot be a true Christian if his dog or cat is not the better off for it, the Centre will explore whether religious traditions are animal-friendly. Do religious people and religious institutions benefit animals? Are they more or less likely to be respectful to animals – either those kept as companions or those used for other human purposes?

The project is being organised by the Oxford Centre for Animal Ethics. It will be multidisciplinary, multifaith, and draw in not only theologians and religious

thinkers, but also other academics including social scientists, psychologists, historians, and criminologists. 'We want to know whether religion makes any difference for animals', says Oxford theologian, Professor Andrew Linzey, who is Director of the Oxford Centre for Animal Ethics. 'We often hear of how religion is detrimental to human rights, but is it also detrimental to animal protection?'

Churches Condemn U-turn

The Government has 'broken its pledge' to introduce a minimum unit price for alcohol. The Church of England, the Methodist Church, the United Reformed Church, the Salvation Army and Quaker Action on Alcohol & Drugs are 'deeply disappointed that the Government has abandoned this vital policy'.

So says a statement from the mainline Churches in England. They were responding to a recent announcement by Jeremy Browne, the Minister for Crime Prevention, that minimum unit pricing will remain 'under consideration'.

'His claim that there is not enough 'concrete evidence' to implement it flies in the face of five years of medical research,' say the Churches. They point out that there were more than 1.2 million alcohol-related hospital admissions in 2011-12 in England, and the cost to the NHS was £3.5 billion. The total bill to the taxpayer caused by

alcohol misuse, including crime and lost productivity, is currently £21 billion.

'Research has shown that the main driver of problem drinking in the United Kingdom is the increased availability of cheap, strong alcohol... a minimum unit price of 50p could save around 3,000 lives a year.'

Gospels for the Roma

A translation of the gospels in the Roma language was recently launched in southern Serbia.

The Roma or Romani people – often called 'gypsies' – trace their ancestry back to India and worldwide speak several different forms of the Roma language. The one spoken in Leskovac, where the launch took place, is around 800 years old. It's spoken across the former Yugoslavia, Romania and Bulgaria, reaching some 8.5 million people.

In Leskovac some 10,000 Roma have already become Christians, since the first person converted from nominal Islam back in 1976. Attending the launch at the church in Leskovac was 70-year-old Batijarevic Ferija, who had walked 4km to attend the service. It was the first time that she'd left her home since suffering a stroke in February. 'This is the most important evening of my life,' she said, clutching her copy of the Gospels. 'We have a saying, this is 'balm for my soul''.

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Conwy Food Bank

Newsletter August 2013

Thank you

Our grateful thanks to all supporters for providing us with regular donations of food to distribute food parcels to people in crisis in the local community. We have seen a huge increase in the number of parcels given out and we couldn't do this without the help of our supporters.

Numbers

In the first 6 months of our third year- February to July 2013, we have given a **total of 310 parcels including a record 70 in July alone.**

This compares to 193 in the same period last year- **an increase of 60%**
This includes a total of 107 family parcels with **225 children** between them
- the number of family parcels is also up by 60%.

Food

After such a busy spring and early summer, the stocks of most foods are getting quite low but **we do have plenty of :**
Soup, Baked Beans, Tea Bags and Baby food.

We would appreciate donations of these items:

Breakfast Cereals

Tins of Chicken in White sauce,

Tins of minced beef & onion

Tins of Meat Balls

Tins of Hot Dog Sausages

Dried soya mince, burger or sausage

mix, Bolognese mix

Savoury Rice

Instant Mashed potato

Tinned Carrots and Sweetcorn

Small tins of Ham or other cold meat

Jars of Sandwich paste

Jars of Pasta sauce

Sugar

Tinned Fruit

Biscuits

Jam, Marmalade, Peanut Butter or

Chocolate Hazelnut Spread

Deodorants

Shampoo

Website: www.conwyfoodbank.co.uk

There is a list of food needed on the website which is updated regularly.

Contact us

Email conwyfoodbank@gmail.com

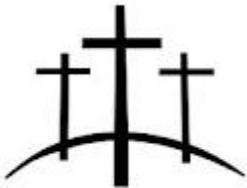


FREEDOM

Today, in this country, it is quite safe to talk about religion. If you want to go to church or Sunday School you can, and if you don't want to, you are not forced to go. Some people at school or work might poke fun at you for being a Christian but that is all. We can all read the Bible in our own language and are free to ask questions. But it hasn't always been like this.

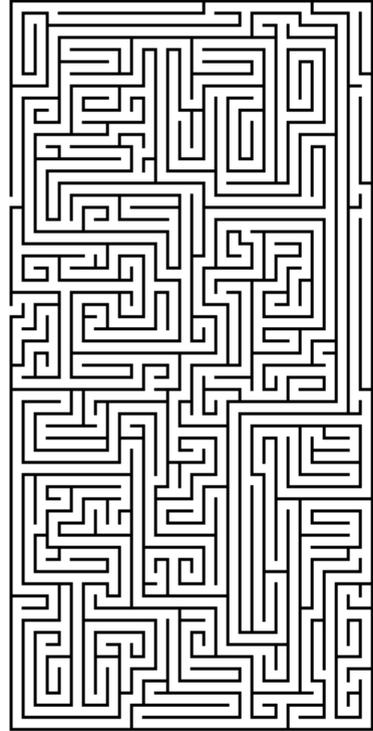
Over the centuries many men, women ... and children suffered for their beliefs. Christians were killed by other Christians who argued that their way was the right way and everyone else was wrong.

Jesus told us that we must love one another – isn't it good that today all Christian churches are working together for peace? And isn't it about time? Nearly two thousand years ago Jesus died for all of us.



A-MAZING

Can you find your way through this maze? Both the exit and entrance on the left hand side.



Adam and Eve are sitting around Eden when a leaf floats down from a tree. Eve points and says, excitedly: "Look Adam, an invisible man."



What's green, curly and religious?
Lettuce pray.

Goldenrod

The native goldenrod (*Solidago virgaurea*) should be in flower on the

Great Orme during September. It is a

perennial plant which tends to grow in rather dry and rocky areas and a good place to look is up the 'zig-zag' path from West Shore. The bright gold flowers appear similar to those of common ragwort (*Senecio jacobaea*) – both are members of the *Compositae* (daisy) family – which is also in flower at this time. These two plants can be distinguished by a quick look at the leaves: those of ragwort are divided or pinnate, while the leaves of goldenrod are long and tapering, as shown in the picture here.

Like ragwort, goldenrod provides a valuable source of pollen and nectar for bees and other insects in late summer and in the past the plant was used for wound healing. The species of goldenrod commonly grown in gardens is a native of North America, *Solidago Canadensis*.

Christine Jones



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Faith in Mongolia

In just 20 years, Christianity in Mongolia has gone from zero to 3% of the population. There are now 100,000 Christians, many of them under 30. Much of this may be due to the reach of a Christian radio station in the country.

FEBC's Mongolia Director says 'We want to see our country transformed. In order to do that we must demonstrate the love of God'. FEBC Mongolia 'Wind-FM' was established in 2000 in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia's capital city and broadcasts 24/7 on 104.5FM. It is the only Christian Radio Station and is considered a trusted voice in the community. For details visit www.febc.org

The Women of Northern Iraq

The Christian radio station TWR has announced that it can now offer its popular daily 15 minute programme, Women of Hope, in the Kurdish Sorani language. This is aimed specifically at women who live in northern Iraq. Kurds in northern Iraq risk rejection from their families and societies if they profess a Christian faith. But in the safety of their own homes, women in northern Iraq can now learn more about Christianity, and consider relevant topics such as God's view on healthy family relationships or reconciliation and how to apply it in their lives. Including Kurdish Sorani, the Women of Hope programme is aired in 64 languages around the world.

Coffee Time

Cryptics (*thanks and courtesy Barbara Cartwright*).

All begin with letter 'U'.

1. In conflict, ruins map design. (2,2,4)
2. Lauren's disaster, imaginary. (6)
3. A world body, it's just single things, though. (5)
4. Not missing the mark when the United Nations are going wrong. (8)
5. Too few marks to get through a subway. (9)
6. Exploits us two ways. (4)
7. Rued mistake about first of dairies' milk holder. (5)
8. A hut rebuilt in American State. (4)
9. Awkward in an ugly fashion. (8)
10. Some soldiers embracing females is not suitable. (5)

Results for August

1. Iberia
2. Takes off
3. Hotel
4. Hawaii
5. Crews (cruise)
6. Minorca
7. Cyprus
8. Seine
9. Florida
10. Ice cream

St. Tudno's Church,
Great Orme

Open Church Day

Saturday 7 September
10.00 am – 5.00 pm

☪ Church and churchyard
tours

☪ Refreshments

☪ Stalls

☪ Consult the churchyard
records and Books of
Sponsors

