

LLANDUDNO

Cylchgrawn Plwyf
Parish Magazine



30p

November 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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Llandudno

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.

From the Rectory

As I write the world financial crisis continues to rage around us and we are now being warned that it is no longer simply a matter of a crisis in the banking system. The 'real' economy is now beginning to be affected and we are probably entering in to a financial recession in which many will lose their jobs, some their homes and in which businesses will fail. And, as is usually the case in these circumstances, while wealthy and comfortably-off people will face difficult times because of all this, poorer people are likely to face real hardship. It is to be hoped that Governments will do their best to protect vulnerable members of society from the worst effects of the recession should they indeed come to pass.

But without in any way minimizing the suffering that this crisis may bring, it does seem to me that it has provided us with an opportunity to reflect on the way in which our society works and how we order our lives. In the last few decades our way of life seems to have been built more and more upon 'high fliers' making a fast buck out of all kinds of financial dealing and methods of investing, with almost everybody else living on credit. This has enabled most people to live pretty well and to expect always to be able to do so. Maybe the present situation is giving us all a dose



of reality.

As Christians this situation surely provides us with opportunities to review our way of life from the perspective of the Gospels – the sort of values Our Lord teaches us in the Sermon on the Mount for example. And we also have much to learn from the Old Testament. Whilst a lot of consideration has been given recently to what the Bible has to say about sexuality, very little attention is given to what it teaches about financial dealings. A society largely based on credit and on the investing of money with the hope of gaining interest perhaps ought to reflect on such verses as: 'You are not to exact interest on anything you lend to a fellow countryman, whether money or food or anything else in which interest is charged (Deut 23:19) or Psalm 15 which having posed the question as to who is worthy to dwell in the house of the Lord includes among them those who 'do not lend money in hope of gain'.

Of course I'm not so stupid as to think that we are bound, in the very different circumstances in which we live in the 21st century, to take literally commandments given to the people of ancient Israel. It's all much more complicated than that. Indeed I value the dividend I get from shares I own and the inter-

est paid on my savings in the bank as much as anyone else. But when we reflect on the values of the Bible as a whole, and in particular on what it has to say about the whole business of financial dealings and the way we relate to financial matters and possessions in general, then maybe we shall begin to

rethink our values and resolve to live in a more simple and straightforward way and to encourage our society to do likewise. Have a look at Matthew 6: 19 – 34 and see how Our Lord would really like us to live.

Fr John

Rector's Notes

A new Bishop for our diocese

Phew....they only just did it! On the third day of the Electoral College last month I was beginning to think that the members locked in the cathedral would run out of time to decide who our new Bishop would be and that, like last time, the decision would have to go to the bench of Bishops. Then we heard that the Ven. Andrew John, Archdeacon of Cardigan in the Diocese of St Davids had been elected. I understand that he is to be ordained as Bishop in Llandaff Cathedral on Saturday 29th November.



The Venerable Andrew John (right) with the Archbishop.

We have not yet been told when his institution as Bishop of Bangor will be (it's no longer called an 'enthronement'!) but it will probably be early next year. We look forward to welcoming him to the diocese and eventually to our parish.

Remembrance Sunday

Please note that the arrangements for Remembrance Sunday services are slightly different this year. The Civic Service will begin at 9.45 am instead of 10 am in order to give those who are marching more time to get to the Cenotaph for the silence. Our own parish service, which starts as usual at 10.55 am will take the form of the Act of Remembrance followed by a said Eucharist with hymns. We have tried various forms of service at this time in recent years and none of them have been entirely satisfactory – so we'll see how this arrangement works.

Cytûn Conference

A very special conference has been arranged for Wednesday November 12th at 7.30 pm in Llandudno Town Hall. This Conference continues to explore the theme of last year's conference – the issue of climate change seen from a Christian perspective. We are very privileged to have as our principle speaker Sir John Houghton FRS CBE, Cochairman of the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Sir John is an eminent scientist who has held various important posts including professor in atmospheric physics at the University of Oxford and chief executive at the Met Office. He speaks from a Christian perspective and is a founder member of the International Society for Science and Religion. Please do come along on the 12th and bring your family and friends with you.

A Guest Preacher

On Sunday November 16th at the Sung Eucharist, we welcome Mrs Rebecca Colpus as our preacher. Mrs Colpus, who is a Church in Wales Reader, will be preaching on behalf of the Torch Trust, an organization which provides Christian literature and resources to blind and partially sighted people.

Cytûn Lunch

Also on Sunday 16th the annual Cytûn Lunch will take place at the Queens

Hotel (12.30 for 1 pm). I do hope as many of you as possible will come to the lunch as it is an important way of getting to know and maintaining contact with our fellow Christians in Llandudno. The cost of the lunch will be £10 per person and full details will be available in Holy Trinity church.

Our Parish Archives and our Archivist.

For some years now Sue Ridley has been acting as our Parish Archivist. Her duties have involved the care of the extensive Parish Archive kept in the Clergy Vestry at Holy Trinity and also to deal with enquiries from people seeking to trace records of their ancestors or to find family graves in our churchyards etc. Sue has now decided that the time has come to relinquish this position. We are most grateful to her for all that she has done over the years as archivist in particular for the excellent service she has provided to enquirers and for the splendid condition that she has left the collection in.

As it happens much of this archive will soon be leaving Holy Trinity to be deposited in the Conwy County Archive in Lloyd Street. It is the policy of the Church in Wales that parish archives should be deposited in approved Record Offices where they can be kept in better conditions than we can offer in cold and often damp churches. Some of our records are already in the County Archive and the time has

now come for most of the remainder to join them. It will be easy to access these records in the Archive and we may even be able to borrow them back (they remain our property) for special

events. In addition to this the Record Office will provide us with photocopies of most of the registers so that we can continue to deal with enquiries from the public when necessary.

News

The Barnabas Fund

The last Afternoon Teas of the Summer Season were held in aid of The Barnabas Fund and raised the magnificent sum of £400. Very many thanks to Angela and the team who made this possible.

The Barnabas Fund supports persecuted Christians worldwide, firstly through prayer and also in many practical ways. You will find prayer updates at the back of Church – please do take one and include the situations and people in the updates in your prayers. We include them in our prayers once a month on a Thursday when we meet for Morning Prayer with Music, and if you would like any more information, please do speak to me.

We are so privileged to be able to meet freely and safely as Christians, and I think one of the ways we can say ‘thank you’ to God for this is to remember those who do not share in this freedom.

Once again, many thanks to all concerned for the money which has now gone to Barnabas Fund and which will be put to very good use, I’m sure.

Jane

Exploring Worship and the Bible Society

It was a great privilege to host Llanudno Bible Society’s celebration of Bible Sunday on the 12th October in the Church Hall. The theme was ‘Buried Treasure’ and the team (Adele Arrow-smith, Eileen Box, Margot Hughes, Revd Peter Plunkett, Barbara Scott and Judith Williams) put together a very meaningful service around the theme.

There was a most interesting display of bibles – both old and new, Welsh and English and bilingual – and during the service various verses from the Bible which included the word ‘treasure’ were used. There was also an opportunity to come up and take one of these verses out of a small treasure chest to take home and as this was done we sang the hymn ‘Lord, thy word abideth’. By the way, that hymn contains the word ‘treasure’ in one of the verses (you might like to look it up) so it was particularly suitable for our worship that evening.

Ann Rimmer had arranged a beautiful floral display around the theme; Andy Leitch gave us lovely images to look at during the service as well as providing

the words for the songs and hymns; and Kay Morris accompanied us most skilfully as usual at the piano.

The Bible readings were given in Welsh and English on this occasion and we were delighted to welcome people from many other churches in Llandudno to the service as well as parishioners from our own congregation.

We finished our service by singing 'Guide me O thou great Redeemer' in both Welsh and English, alternating the verses between the two languages, so we sang six verses in all! This gave ample time for the collection which went to Bible Society funds and amounted to £77.00.

Tea, coffee and biscuits were then served and provided the opportunity for more fellowship, and proved a happy ending to a meaningful and moving service.

Jane

A Day in Chester



Early on a calm sunny September morning, our small group set off by train from Llandudno station, bound for Chester. We enjoyed a peaceful and sociable journey, exchanging news and views, and watching the countryside roll by. An hour later, the rail link bus whisked us swiftly to join the colourful and busy crowds in the city centre.

A morning to ourselves! Serious shopping, window shopping, exploring small streets or the Dutch market outside the Town Hall, just walking and sitting by the river? We enjoyed making the choice and spending time together.

Soon after mid-day, we assembled by the Cathedral, and made our way to St. Erasmus' chapel, where we found a Holy Trinity link, when Angela's seat was seen to bear a dedication to Eleanor Rimmer, placed in her memory by Norman and his brother.

We attended the 12.30 Eucharist there, and the beauty of the ancient building, the sense of being in a sacred hallowed place, made this a special time.

After a leisurely lunch in the airy and spacious Refectory, we returned to the chapel for a Guild service of prayer and meditation prepared and led by the Rector on the theme 'The Cloud of Witnesses and the three lives of Chester cathedral.'

We thought about St. Werburgh, patron of the early Minster, and the healing of the natural world depicted in her legend, her symbol being a goose. The Benedictine Abbey of medieval times was a school for the service of the Lord, healing through serving the community, and in the present day, the Cathedral is a Christian community gathered around its Bishop, a place of healing encounter with Christ for pilgrims and visitors.

As we travelled home, arriving in Llan-



dudno in time for tea, we reflected on our day, and all that we had learned to increase our understanding of the Guild's healing ministry.

Marion Ketteridge

St Tudno's

Despite rather inclement weather this summer, only four of the open air services had to be held indoors, although there were times when perhaps we should have given out blankets as well as cushions. Even more surprisingly, all of Jane's services were outside though, as the regulars at St. Tudno's will know, she has had a reputation for attracting the worst of the weather!

Many thanks to all who have helped at

St. Tudno's this season: the clergy, organists and all who help at services, give lifts or light the paths for evening services; the openers and those who help move the benches, tidy the churchyard and clean the church; those who give or arrange flowers or bake cakes; and all who attend services and welcome visitors.

Although the main service season has finished, Morning Prayer is said at St. Tudno's at 9.00 am every Saturday and the church is open Saturdays and Sundays throughout the winter. The annual services of Carols by Candlelight will be on Sunday 21 December at 3.00 pm and at 5.00 pm.

Christine Jones & Mark Collins

The Friends of St. Tudno's Church

The Friends' first AGM was held at St. Tudno's on Saturday 20 September and a Constitution was agreed (and later ratified by the PCC) and a committee elected. Refreshments were served after the meeting and some of the gentlemen fitted a new rope to the flagpole. The number of Friends is growing steadily and the committee will be planning future meetings and events.

If you are interested in joining the Friends and being part of St. Tudno's extended family, please contact me or:

The Membership Secretary, Friends of



The Church in Wales flag flying again at St. Tudno's, thanks to the Friends.

St. Tudno's Church, I Glan yr Afon, Boduchain, Tanygrisiau, Blaenau Ffestiniog, Gwynedd, LL41 3RP.

Christine Jones (Friends' Secretary)

Holy Trinity Ladies' Coffee Morning Team

By the time you read this, our Coffee Morning Team will have enjoyed its end of season lunch at the Ambassador Hotel – this year joined by members of the Afternoon Tea Group.

The Coffee Morning Team has handed over to the PCC a cheque for £7,500. This amount is due to the support of our regular locals and holiday makers.

Thanks to all of you. This, also, could not be achieved without a dedicated and hard working team who come along every week and prepare the room and stalls, shop, bake lovely cakes and pies, wash up, make tea and coffee away and do the banking. We also enjoy meeting and chatting to our customers. I say

'Well done team – you deserve a very big Thank You and have now earned a rest until next April.' Thanks again to all concerned.

Dorothy

Parish Fellowship

Every Tuesday at 2.30 pm

We have had excellent speakers since we began our Autumn Season on the 7th October with an open meeting and Afternoon Tea.

On the 14th we had Mrs Ceanne Harper showing a film about the beautiful island of Madeira. On the 21st we had Ian Toffrey to talk about his interesting 'Life as a Paramedic' and on the 28th Vickie MacDonald's 'Travel Talk'.

The programme for the rest of this year is as follows:

November 4th – Professor Weir: 'an Illustrated talk on Germany';

November 11th – Gareth Mann: Royal Visit, 'A policeman's lot'

November 18th – Stuart Rivers will talk about past Llandudno and forthcoming 'Exhibitions in the Chapel';

November 25th – Desiree Blease: 'My time when an evacuee';

December 2nd – Joan Cooper: "My theatrical experiences";

December 9th – closing meeting with Eucharist service in the chapel and fol-

lowed by a Christmas tea in the hall.

December 15th (Monday) – Christmas lunch with the Mothers' Union at the Ambassador Hotel at 12.30 pm;

January 13th 2009 – the Parish Fellowship will resume: '2009 – a Happy New Year'.

Adele

Summer Season Afternoon Teas

This year we held 22 afternoon teas on Tuesday's and 3 sessions on Saturday's, a total of £7,702.11 was raised and paid into the Parish account.

Of this £414.00 was raised for Christian Aid, £245.00 for the Bible Society and £369.24 for the Barnabas Fund.

Thank you to all who have encouraged and supported our efforts and in particular to those who have helped us with home baking.

Angela Pritchard,
(For the Afternoon Tea Team)

Thanks

I would like to thank everybody who contributed to, and helped with ,our Harvest Lunch. Your support was very much appreciated. I enjoyed it – hope you did too.

Marion.

Enjoy the images - Ed.





From the Parish Registers

Holy Baptism

Sept 7th: Katie Elizabeth Williams
of Hazelwood Close, Mochdre

The Departed

Sept 2nd: Heidi Williams (34)
of Church Walks, Llandudno
(Service at Holy Trinity followed by Burial at The Lawns, Llanrhos)

Sept 5th: Amy Sheila Gorst (95)
of Guy's Cliff, Colwyn Bay
(Cremation at Colwyn Bay)

Sept 5th: Thomas Blundell (81)
of Sychnant Pass Road, Conwy
(Cremation at Colwyn Bay)

Sept 5th: Joan Marguerite Venamore (88)
of Eryl Place, Llandudno
(Cremation at Colwyn Bay)

Sept 5th: Doreen Daphne Parry-Jones (85)
of Tan yr Bryn, Llys Bedwyr, Bangor
(Service at St. Tudno's followed by Cremation at Colwyn Bay)

Sept 15th: Lois Mace Burgess (84)
of Bryn Lupus Drive, Deganwy
(Cremation at Colwyn Bay)

Sept 19th: Freda Hill (80)
of Tir Estyn, Deganwy
(Cremation at Colwyn Bay)

Sept 23rd: Joan Olsen (85)
of Gilfach Road, Bryn Pedew
(Cremation at Colwyn Bay)

Sept 26th: Mathenia Dunlop Davies (95)
of Queen Elizabeth Court, Craig-y-Don
(Cremation at Colwyn Bay)

Do This in Remembrance of Me

A series about the Eucharist by Father John

Part 6 – Communion in the Body and Blood of Christ

The most familiar name for this service for many Anglicans is 'Holy Communion', a title based on St Paul's words in I Corinthians 16: *'The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break is it not the communion of the body of Christ'*. The word 'Communion' means a participation in or a sharing in something, in the case of the Eucharist the sharing is of course in the Body and Blood of Christ.

But sharing in the life of Christ is not something we do in isolation. People often used to talk about 'making my Communion' and so implying that this action involved just God and themselves. In one sense this is true: this sacrament gives us personal Communion with Christ, and through it He imparts grace to our souls. But our Communion in the Body and Blood of Christ is also a corporate action – we share together in the life of Christ when we receive the sacrament.

In I Corinthians 16, after the words quoted above, St Paul goes on to say: *'Because there is one loaf, we, though many, are one body; for it is one loaf of which we all partake.'* We come, as the

Body of Christ, to receive the Body of Christ. Receiving Communion is always something we do together – we are united with all of our fellow Communicants, we are one body with them. And so in most parishes today the act of Communion is preceded by the sharing of the Peace, an outward demonstration of our unity in Christ as we prepare to offer the Eucharistic Prayer and receive the sacrament.

And this Communion with others in the Body of Christ at the altar does not just involve those who happen to be with us at any particular celebration. We are united there with every Christian throughout the world and indeed we are also at one with the whole company of heaven. In the Eucharistic Prayer we say: *'And so with the hosts of angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we proclaim the glory of your name and join in their unending hymn of praise'*. When offering the Eucharist and sharing in the sacrament we are in a sense briefly taken out of the world of time and space into the worship of heaven.

The Requiem Eucharist on All Souls' Day is especially meaningful to many people because they feel that in this service they are not just remembering their departed loved ones but are actually united with them in Christ. This sense of unity with all who have gone

before us is not confined to a Requiem but is true of any Eucharistic celebration when we can experience afresh the truth proclaimed in a familiar hymn by

Charles Wesley: *'One family, we dwell in him, one Church, above, beneath; though now divided by the stream, the narrow stream of death.'*

Archbishops Attack City Practices

The two most senior figures in the Church of England have condemned the practices of some financial traders. The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Rowan Williams, attacked 'paper transactions with no concrete outcome beyond profit for traders'. When such trading went badly, it caused 'real and crippling damage', he said. The Archbishop of York, Dr John Sentamu, called share traders who cashed in on falling prices 'bank robbers and asset strippers'.

Dr Williams focused on the financial industry's trading of debts, which he said 'had, with no accountability, been the motor of astronomical financial gain for many in recent years. Almost unimaginable wealth has been generated by equally unimaginable levels of fiction, with no concrete outcome beyond profit for traders. The biggest challenge in the present crisis is whether we can recover some sense of the connection between money and material reality – the production of specific things, the achievement of recognisably human goals that have something to do with a shared sense of what is good for the human community in the widest sense.'

In a speech to bankers, Dr Sentamu said: 'We find ourselves in a market system which seems to have taken its rules of trade from Alice in Wonderland. To a bystander like me, those who made £190m deliberately underselling shares are clearly bank robbers and asset strippers.'

The Archbishop also noted the contrast between the US government bank bailout and the lack of funding for efforts to reduce poverty. The US Treasury has proposed a fund worth up to \$700bn (£382bn) to buy back much of the bad debt held by banks and other financial institutions. One of the ironies about this financial crisis is that it makes action on poverty look utterly achievable. It would cost \$5bn (£2.7bn) to save six million children's lives. World leaders could find 140 times that amount for the banking system in a week. How can they tell us that action for the poorest is too expensive?'

The fact is, we are all tied up in a deeply sinful system – and we love every minute of it. Never mind that it keeps half the world in abject poverty; the main thing is that it keeps me in the

lap of luxury. Love thy neighbour as thyself? I do!! I put 50p in a Christian Aid envelope once a year!! What more could anyone expect? What more could any reasonable god expect?

I wonder what other people think about when we have those few moments, in each Eucharist, 'to call to mind those things for which we need forgiveness'. If I were the devil (now there's a thought!), and I could get all the Christians on earth to concentrate on their petty jealousies and thoughtless words rather than the real evils of society, I would know I had won the battle of good and evil.

Yes, I know that's heresy. Yes, of course we want to be better people who are kinder and more thoughtful and so on. The trouble is that a lot of 'good' individuals are a necessary, but not a sufficient condition to create a 'good' society.

Next week, I shall be 'calling to mind' those people who invented and now operate a system that makes themselves rich and leaves half the world in poverty; politicians who can find billions of pounds to bail out bankers who gambled with – and lost – our money, but can't afford to feed the hungry; and finally my acquiescence in a system that, on the whole, keeps me in the luxury to which I have grown accustomed and ensures that the poor man gets no closer than my gate.

Garth



Plywyf Llandudno
Parish of Llandudno

**Your help
and support
is welcomed
and needed**

PARISH CHRISTMAS FAIR

**Saturday 15 November
in the Church Hall
from 10.00 till 2.30**

- **Refreshments**
- **Entertainments**
- **Competitions**
- **Raffle**
- **Stalls etc**

Letter to the Editor

Why, why, why have we suddenly altered the format of the Bulletin which in the past has always given Parishioners a very clear print out of 'what's on' for the week?

I do not think that the present lay-out does anything but confuse, especially when one is trying to collate the events of the day.

Please could we revert to the old format?

Charles

Attendance Figures for September

Holy Trinity

	Total of Weekday Eucharists 2-6 September		21
Sunday 7th	8.00 am	Holy Eucharist	15
Trinity 16	10.30 am	Sung Eucharist	106
	5.00 pm	Evensong	7
Tuesday 9th	7.30 pm	Holy Eucharist (MU Evening)	17
	Total of Other Weekday Eucharists		38
Sunday 14th	8.00 am	Holy Eucharist	21
Trinity 17	10.30 am	Choral Matins	77
Holy Cross Day		Shortened Eucharist	19
	5.00 pm	Evensong	30
	6.00 pm	Exploring Worship	38
	Total of Other Weekday Eucharists		22
Sunday 21st	8.00 am	Holy Eucharist	15
Trinity 18 / Matthew	10.30 am	Sung Eucharist	86
Apostle & Evangelist	5.00 am	Evensong	7
Monday 22nd	2.30 pm	Holy Eucharist (MU Afternoon)	17
	Total of Other Weekday Eucharists		25
Sunday 28th	8.00 pm	Holy Eucharist	19
Trinity 19	10.30 am	Sung Eucharist	82
Monday 29th	11.00 am	Holy Eucharist	5
St. Michael and All Angels			
St. Tudnos'			
Sunday 7th	11.00 am	Morning Service	19
		Shortened Eucharist	17
Sunday 14th	11.00 am	Morning Service	32
Tuesday 16th	7.30 pm	Compline	14
Sunday 21st	11.00 am	Morning Service	41
	3.30 pm	International Day of Peace Service (Soroptomists)	27
Sunday 28th	11.00 am	Morning Service	29
	4.00 pm	Evensong	20

Calendar for November

Sat 1st	All Saints' Day 11.00 am Bilingual Eucharist 2.00 pm <i>Annual Memorial Service at St. David's Hospice</i>
Sun 2nd	First Sunday of the Kingdom Services at the usual times. Choral Eucharist will celebrate the music of Ralph Vaughan Williams in this the 50th anniversary year of his death.
Mon 3rd	All Souls' Day 11.00 am Requiem Eucharist 7.30 pm Requiem Eucharist
Tues 4th	10.00 am <i>Julian Meditation Group at Stella Maris</i>
Wed 5th	7.30 pm Bible Study Session (Book of Revelation)
Thurs 6th	10.00 am Guild of St. Raphael Meeting 11.00 am Eucharist with ministry of healing 7.30 pm Friends of St. Tudno's Church Cttee Mtg (Rector)
Sun 9th	Second Sunday of the Kingdom/Remembrance Sunday 8.00 am Holy Eucharist 9.45 am Civic Remembrance Day Service 10.55 am Parish Act of Remembrance and Eucharist 5.00 pm Evening Prayer 6.00 pm Exploring Worship
Tues 11th	9.30 pm <i>Eucharist at Ysgol San Sior</i>
Wed 12th	7.30 pm <i>Cytûn Conference at the Town Hall (see article)</i>
Sat 15th	10 am - 2 Parish Christmas Fair
Sun 16th	Third Sunday of the Kingdom Services at the usual times. The preacher at Sung Eucharist will be Mrs Rebecca Colpus representing the Torch Trust. 12.30/1 pm <i>Cytûn Lunch at the Queens Hotel</i>
Sun 23rd	Feast of Christ the King (4th of the Kingdom) Services at the usual times
Thurs 27th	7.30 pm PCC Meeting
Sun 30th	Advent Sunday Services at the usual times. At 5.00 pm there will be a special service for World Aids Day.



J E Jones
Llandudno Parochial Church Council
c/o 17 St. Andrews Place
LLANDUDNO
Gwynedd
LL30 2YR

13 October 2008

Dear Friend,

Greetings in the Name of our Lord Jesus.

We do appreciate the most generous gift of £400.00 from Llandudno Parochial Church Council to the Barnabas Fund to help Christians who are suffering for their faith. We are so glad that you share our concern for these needy brothers and sisters. Gifts made through the Barnabas Fund make a real difference to people who often have nobody else to help them.

May I ask for your prayers about a proposed new law which is being considered by the Iranian parliament at present? It would lay down a mandatory death sentence to any adult male Muslim who converts to another faith, such as Christianity. For women the penalty would be life imprisonment. At the moment the Iranian judges have to turn to Islamic law to prescribe impose the death sentence for apostasy, but if the bill becomes law these penalties will be prescribed in Iranian law itself. The bill also gives the Iranian secular courts authority to convict Iranians living outside the country of crimes relating to Iranian national security; this could be used against Iranian Christians outside Iran who are involved in ministries which share the Gospel inside Iran. Please pray that this bill will not become law.

Thank you for the support for the Barnabas Fund.

Yours sincerely in His service,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rosemary Sookhdeo".

Rosemary Sookhdeo
Director

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Nature Notes

Autumn is a good time for spotting the fruiting bodies of fungi – mushrooms and toadstools – such as these growing on the Great Orme last November. However, my knowledge of fungi species is insufficient to put a name to these or to tell which are edible. (Gavin Maxwell, writing in *Ring of Bright Water*, reckoned that for each edible fungus there was another, almost identical, poisonous one!)



For most of the year the fungi are invisible but soil may contain hyphae (tiny threads of fungal material) of many species, which show their presence only when they produce the fruiting bodies to shed their spores. Unlike green plants, fungi do not produce their own food but derive it from other organisms.

The parasitic fungi infect living organisms and some examples of these are the rusts and mildews on garden plants and potato blight which caused the Irish potato famine (and can still be a devastating disease of this crop).

Other fungi are saprophytes and live on dead or decaying material and are so an important part of nature's recycling system and help to return nutrients to the soil, eg the ordinary mushrooms sold in greengrocers and supermarkets.

There are also some fungi which form symbiotic relationships with specific plants, to the benefit of both. Mycorrhizal fungi infect plant roots and so derive their foods from the host plant but as the strands of fungal hyphae spread out into the soil, water and nutrients taken up by these mycorrhizae ('fungus roots') are passed to the host plant. Mycorrhizal fungi are particularly important in nutrient-poor soils and many heathland trees and bushes, for example, have associated species of mycorrhizal fungi.

Fungal fruiting bodies come in many shapes, sizes and colours and give us a glimpse of an otherwise unseen part of God's creation, while, as Fr. John said in his Letter last month, science helps us to understand the wonders of this creation.

Christine Jones

Great Hymns — How Great Thou Art

I was watching *Tess of the d'Urbavilles* on TV a couple of Sundays ago. One scene was set in a West Country parish church circa 1890 and in common with the rest of the production, the producers had paid the most enormous attention to detail. But something wasn't right – the congregation was singing 'How Great Thou Art!'. 'Surely not' I thought. To be honest, it's not a hymn (or song perhaps) that I know too well as it was not in the repertoire during my formative years even though it has since become a great favourite on *Songs of Praise*.

My suspicions were right for the hymn was not published in English until the mid-20th Century. The original words were written in Swedish by Carl Gustav Boberg (1859-1940). The son of a Carpenter, Boburg was born in Mönsterås and was briefly a sailor and served as a lay minister. He was the editor of a weekly Christian newspaper, *Sanningsvittnet* (*Witness of the Truth*), from 1890 until 1916. Boberg served in the Swedish Parliament for 20 years from 1912 to 1931. He published more than 60

poems, hymns and gospel songs.

After witnessing a storm and the subsequent tranquillity, Boberg composed his poem of nine stanzas (it may have been four stanzas originally) 'O Store Gud' (O Great God). The poem was first published in the *Mönsterås Tidningen* in 1886. The rights were sold to the Svenska Missionsförbundet (Mission Covenant Church of Sweden). The poem somehow became matched to an old Swedish folk tune and was sung in public for the first known occasion in 1888. The story has it that Boburg heard the words being sung to the tune and in 1891, he published both in *Sanningsvittnet* which he now edited. In 1894 the *Svenska Missionsförbundet sångbok* published 'O Store Gud' in 4/4 time (the folk song had been in 3/4).

After 1894 the song made a most remarkable multinational odyssey. It was first translated from Swedish to German by Manfred von Glehn (1867-1924), who had heard the hymn in Estonia, where there was a Swedish-speaking minority. The song became



O, Ho-re Gud, när jag den värld be-fäl-dar, som du har skapat med ditt all-mäktis ord, Hur här bli-
rot-dom le-der lif-veis till-dar. Då et in-tä-sen mäns-tas told ditt förby; Då bli-ster sjä-len ut i lof-tängs ljub: O Ho-re
Gud! O Ho-re Gud! Då bli-ster sjä-len ut i lof-tängs ljub: O Ho-re Gud! O Ho-re Gud!

The Swedish folk tune only has a passing resemblance to the modern arrangement.

popular in Germany, where ‘Wie groß bist Du’ is the common title (the first line is ‘Du großer Gott’). Eventually, the German version travelled to the Soviet Union where a Russian version by Ivan S. Prochanov was distributed in 1927, printed in New York and published with the help of the American Bible Society. An English version was published at this time but without success.

In the summer of 1934 a thirty-four year old British missionary, serving in a remote part of Eastern Europe, set out by bicycle to preach and distribute Bibles high up in the Carpathian Mountains. His name was Stuart K. Hine (1899-1989).

Hine later wrote, ‘the thoughts of the first three verses of “How Great Thou Art!” were born, line by line, amid my unforgettable experiences in those mountains.’

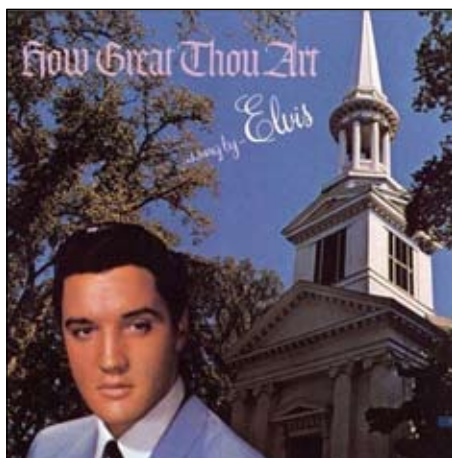
The first and second stanzas were inspired partly by the Russian words of Prochanov’s hymn and partly by the ‘awesome wonder’ and beauty of God’s creation. Stanza three was written as a consequence of villagers expressing their amazement at hearing for the first time the revelation of God’s love.

Hine and his wife were forced to return to England and they ministered to refugees from Eastern Europe. In 1948, the grief and sorrow of these refugees, separated from their loved ones, inspired Hine to write stanza four; a verse of hope for a future reunion in Heaven

‘How Great Thou Art!’ was first published in 1949 in Hine’s gospel music magazine *Grace and Peace*. With a musical arrangement by Hine, the song was copyrighted in 1953, the rights for North and South America being assigned to Manna Music whose editors made some minor changes. The song was popularised by gospel singer George Beverley Shea and became the ‘signature song’ of the 1950s Billy Graham Crusades. *How Great Thou Art* was the title song of Elvis Presley’s second gospel album issued in 1967 which rejuvenated the song’s use in Sweden.

Meanwhile in 1958, Hine published two extra stanzas numbers 3A and 3B though both are not usually printed.

Hymns often suffer in translation and it would seem surprising that one that had been translated three times would have lost some impact. The answer must lie in the fact that Hine’s ‘translation’ is very loose and is more inspired



Elvis Presley's album of 1967.

by previous versions rather than being literal.

So it can be seen that the BBC made a big bloomer when it selected this most loved of 'Gospel songs' for a Victorian church service. The error was prominently covered on *Points of View*.

1. O Lord my God! when I in awesome wonder

Consider all the works (worlds) Thy hand hath made,

I see the stars, I hear the mighty (rolling) thunder,

Thy power throughout the universe displayed:

Refrain. Then sings my soul, my Saviour God to Thee,

How great Thou art! How great Thou art!

Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to Thee,

How great Thou art! How great Thou art!

2. When through the woods and forest glades I wander

And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;

When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur,

And hear the brook, and feel the gentle breeze;

3. And when I think that God His Son not sparing,

Sent Him to die – I scarce can take it in.

That on the cross my burden gladly bearing,

He bled and died to take away my sin:

3A. When burdens press, and seem beyond endurance,

Bowed down with grief, to Him I lift my face;

And then in love He brings me sweet assurance:

'My child! for thee sufficient is my grace.'

3B. O when I see ungrateful man defiling This bounteous earth, God's gifts so good and great;

In foolish pride, God's holy Name reviling, And yet, in grace, His wrath and judgment wait

4. When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation

And take me home – what joy shall fill my heart!

Then shall I (I shall) bow in humble adoration

And there proclaim, my God, how great Thou art!

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Carl Gustav Boberg and Stuart K. Hine.

And finally ...

... spare a thought for the congregation of Trinity Methodist church in Prestatyn whose minister recently interrupted a service dressed as a Tramp.

Though it makes the headlines and raises a chuckle, the incident has a very serious side and begs the question 'what we would do?'

Somehow the idea of Father John or Jane reprising the role sounds most unlikely but the idea of our cosy existence being threatened is very real and I am not too sure that we would handle the situation particularly well.

The world is full of those less fortunate than ourselves and many migrate to the environs of churches. Do they do it because they a genuine search for help or because of a cynical determination to manipulate?

Our Lord's teachings are unequivocal but it takes a exceptional person who

They avoided the smelly tramp at their church service... he turned out to be their minister

By DYVI CRUMP

A SHOCKED congregation spent a service ignoring a tramp who wandered in off the street - but then he whipped off his wig and revealed himself to be their minister.

Yesterday at members of Trinity Methodist Church in Prestatyn were still talking about his performance. The Rev Derek Rigby said he was delighted to have got his message of acceptance across in such a graphic way.

Churchgoers looked aghast as a curate dressed and costumed in the flesh descending on them amidst the morning service.

Continued on page seven and seven.



Rev Derek Rigby dressed as a tramp (main and right), at Trinity Methodist church, Prestatyn (left) in search for his flock's love for three days made the main entrance and made a show of the flock of the disciples.

can live up to His example and not be swayed by our very human attitudes.

I am full of admiration for those churches who ask no questions and make no conditions. I am full of admiration too for those of our own congregation who, very largely unsung, strive to make a difference. Let us not forget.