

@StJames'

Issue 9: May 2014

The Children's Society



Those church members still supporting the Children's Society with collection boxes in their homes may like to know that the total raised by St James in 2013/14 was: £130.75 (this includes £17.91 raised by the sale of remade cards over Christmas, and represents about a third of the total sent to the Society by Jo Barton, the local box co-ordinator).

If any new members of the congregation would like to support the Society by this means (it's a useful way of disposing of small change!), please contact Jo Barton by e-mail (Jbartonbevan@aol.com). She would be happy to provide boxes and explain the process.

Stewardship Campaign

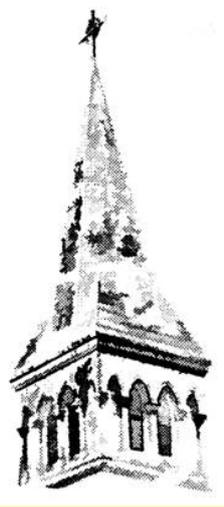
All those on the Electoral Roll will soon receive a letter and information about the Campaign. Please read the information carefully and consider what you might offer be able to offer to share in the responsibilities and costs of St James'.



PARISH AGM 2014

The annual meeting was held after Mass on 27th April 2014, with 32 members/parishioners in attendance. Kerry Thompson very kindly stepped in for the PCC Secretary to take the minutes. The meeting is summarised below but full minutes are available.

1. Maria Flavius was nominated and accepted as **Churchwarden** for the coming year. There were no further nominations and therefore the role of a second Churchwarden remains open.
2. Vera Taggart presented the **Electoral Roll** which as of 27th April 2014 stands at 103 members (61 resident and 42 non-resident). If anyone else wishes to join the Roll they should contact Vera or the Churchwarden(s).
3. **Election to the PCC** – 5 vacancies on the PCC were to be filled and Andy Philpot, Sinead Burniston, Rosemary Ross, Alastair Hume and Vicky Bellamy were nominated and elected.
4. **Election to the Deanery Synod** – 2 vacancies were to be filled and Vera Taggart and Wendy Fisher-Gordon were nominated and elected.
5. **Stewards of the Ministry** – Maria Flavius confirmed that the Welcomers for the year ahead would be: Louise Ahmet, Sinead Burniston, Shirley Chinery, Edith Coates, Maria Flavius, Mark Hodge, Norah Hodge, Grace Joseph, Miranda Jules and Kerry Thompson.
6. **Rotas** will be included on the website -Kerri Allen will arrange this.
7. Susan Sorenson presented the **Treasurer's Report**. Susan noted that St James' did not cover its costs (an overall deficit of £7,800) and did not make its full contribution to the Common Fund in 2013. In order to address this there are plans for a Stewardship Campaign in 2014. Susan also noted there was some unusual expenditure in 2013 (in comparison to other years) due to refurbishment costs. Susan emphasised that the key issues for 2014-5 are (1) to ensure the Church is covering its day-to-day costs and (2) make our full contribution to the Common Fund.
8. **Reports from the Churchwardens, the IgN1te Groups and the Islington Deanery Synod** were included in the "Agenda and Reports" booklet.
9. **Charities** (MOP/TZABA, Children's Society – Jill Hetherington gave an overview of the charity work of St James' in 2013-14. Thanks were expressed for all the generous donations and support for the Lent Savings, the MOP stall at the Christmas Fair and the Quiz Night. (continued on p 2)



Diary Dates for May/June

Sunday 25th May

10am Baptism of Hope Dixey

Tuesday 27th May

7.30pm PCC Meeting in Church

Sunday 8th June

2-5pm Vicarage open as part of the National Gardens Scheme

Sunday 15th & 22nd June

8am and 10am Masses celebrated by Fr Stephen Taylor

Saturday 21st June

7.30pm Cantallini concert

Sunday 29th June

10am Baptism of Isabella O'Brien.

And coming in July...

Sunday 6th July

10am Youth Mass followed by lunch at the Vicarage.

Saturday 5th July

7.30pm Islington Prom Sankta Sunniva Youth Choir from Bergen Cathedral sing popular choral classics.



Services (more details on our website)

Sunday: 8am Mass 10am Parish Mass (All Age Mass 4th May)

Tuesday: 7.30am Morning Prayer 8am Mass

Wednesday: 9.30am Morning Prayer 10am Mass

Thursday: 6pm Evening Prayer 6.15-7pm Office Hour

Friday: 9am Morning Prayer

Parish AGM (continued)

10. **Vicar's report** – Fr John presented a pictorial "Review of the Year". Highlights included activities such as the Harvest Lunch, Christmas Fair, Islington Proms, services with the Richard Cloudesley School and Rotherfield School and community events with local organisations. Sunday attendance has increased by 8% and there was an increased demand for Baptisms and Confirmations. Being a London parish with an ever-changing population and little time to spare is always a challenge, but Fr John suggested that it is through creating a sense of belonging that the parish can survive. The renew agenda commits us to do all we can to provide a home for all so we can grow in faith, and this includes sharing the costs and responsibilities of our Parish. Fr John outlined that there are early-stage plans to partner with Richard Cloudesley School and St John's Roman Catholic Church to provide lunch once a week. However the priority for our Church at present is to care for people searching for faith.

11. **Launch of the 2014 Stewardship Campaign** – all members of the Electoral Roll will receive details in the near future, with a report on the Campaign to be presented on St James' Day, July 20th.

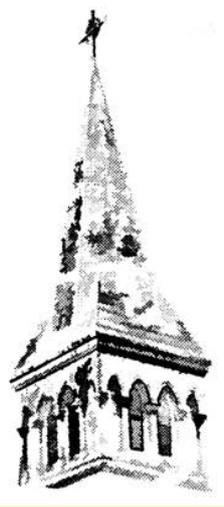
MAPLE plans update

Seven objections were lodged to the plans to re-order the Chancel and install a new AV system, one of whom has become Party Opponent. The response (i.e., from the petitioners (Vicar, Andy Philpot and Maria Flavius as Churchwardens) has to be returned to the Registry by 18th May, along with a letter of rebuttal to the Party Opponent. Both the petitioners and the Party Opponent have to agree that the matter can be decided by the Chancellor of the Diocese, Nigel Seed QC or it goes to a full Consistory Court, sitting in St James' Church, where both have to be legally represented. The response is 12 pages long! We very much hope the case will not go to a Consistory Court (they are, according to the Archdeacon, very rare indeed) as this would incur substantial legal costs for the parish and the Party Opponent. We have no guarantees about dates.

New Notice board

A new notice board is planned for the external door to the right of the Church entrance (the door used to go into the kitchen area, but is now blocked off). The notification will be displayed for 21 days to allow time for any objections (hopefully there will be none) and then the Chancellor of the Diocese will make his decision. The notice board will have a black surround and will be lockable providing a better place to display posters, service times etc.





Message from Dumisani

Jo Barton received a lovely message from Dumisani in response to an electronic Easter card that she sent:

Dear Beloved family

Warm pleasant Easter greetings in the name of the Lord. I am so glad to receive the e-card from you I feel so special thank you very much. I hope you had a lovely Easter. As for me I did, it was such a blessing. I hope, pray and believe you are all well. I am at school now just coming from the Easter break. I am starting my exams in two weeks time.

I am so happy to hear from you. I always feel safe comfortable and loved when I hear from you. Stay blessed all the time.

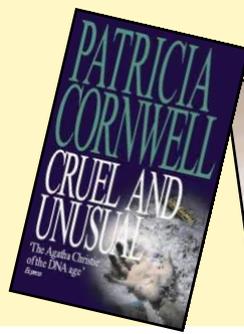
Your lovingly
Dumisani.



Parish Priest: Fr John Burniston
1a Arlington Square, N1 7DS
020 7226 4108
email: vicar@st
jamesislington.org

Churchwarden: Maria Flavius

Hall bookings: 020 7354 9170



Getting to Know You Kerri Allen



Birthday 117th September.

Where were you born? Just outside Coventry in a village called Binley Woods.

How long have you been coming to St James'?
It must be around 3 years now.

Do you have/have you had any special roles at St James'? I am on the PCC and have the role of Publicity Officer, so my responsibilities include keeping the website up to date and creating this newsletter .

Do you have a family? You'll have seen me with my husband, Martin, and our two children, Rebecca and Joseph. We are very fortunate to have both sets of parents still fit and well, so there are three generations of us!

What is your day job? I have been a forensic scientist for over 25 years, but was made redundant from my job with the government owned Forensic Science Service when it closed. I now work as a forensic consultant with my own business.

Did you enjoy school? I went to an all girls school and, on the whole, enjoyed it. We had some pretty tough teachers - the domestic science and history teachers really stick in my mind! 6th form was the best time by far.

What hobbies do you enjoy most? I am a keen gardener and love growing vegetables in the summer as well as flowers. I never have enough room for everything I want to grow though!

What is your favourite kind of music? I have a very eclectic taste in music - classical, choral, opera, folk and lots of 80s pop bands as well as some of the new stuff that our children introduce us to.

Do you have a book that you would like to recommend? I have been an avid fan of Patricia Cornwell's books - they are really well researched and the forensic aspects are pretty accurate. I have also really enjoyed the more gentle 'Scotland Street' series by Alexander McCall Smith.

What kind of food do you enjoy most? That's a really hard question as there's very little that I dislike! I'm always very happy with a large bowl of English strawberries though!

Which person has most inspired you in life, and why? I spent a year in America when I was 17, living with a family and going to school. Ed and Gloria, my host 'parents' have been a great inspiration to me - they have such an open and enquiring attitude to life.

Do you have a favourite place, and if so why is it special? The Lake District holds a special place in my heart. I spent lots of family holidays there as a child. I love standing on the top of a mountain and feeling like I am on top of the world - fresh air and glorious views, what could beat that!