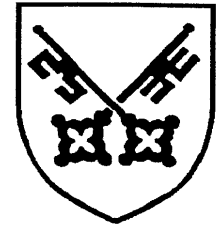


St Peter's Church Magazine



February 2015 issue ❖ 75p (£7 subscription for one year)
St Peter's Church, Newlands Avenue, Didcot ❖ www.stpeters-didcot.org.uk

Intercession

“Intercession is bringing others into the presence of the risen, victorious and loving Christ” said Thomas Merton.

So let's begin with a picture – imagine throwing a stone into a pond, there is a splash – then ripples spread out from that splash.

When you pray for others imagine that picture – place yourself in God's presence, then you bring others.

First, bring your family – those closest to you – photos will help you to remember those for whom you pray.

Next as a member of the Benedictine Community I remember my second “family”.

Living in a road with only 16 houses, I remember each household by name; you have to think how many people you can manage.

Then comes the Church family – St Peter's – using the centre page of this Magazine, remember all who are involved in the life of the Church. Try to put names and faces to those for whom you are praying; also using the weekly newsheet tells you which group of people will be in church that day – children's groups, choir members, the elderly, those with memory problems.

The centre page of the Church magazine also reminds us to pray for a different street in the parish each day.

If you belong to other groups – or support special causes, you could remember those who are involved in those activities. If, like me, you

support an overseas charity, it's good to have pictures of people who live and work in that place.

Then, finally, come back to yourself – pray this prayer, asking for our Lord's protection in your life.

May the Cross + of the Son of God,
which is mightier than all the hosts of Satan,
and more glorious than all the hosts of heaven,
abide with me in my going out and coming in,
By day and by night,
at morning and at evening,
At all times and in all places
may it protect and defend me,
from the wrath of evildoers,
from the assaults of evil spirits,
from foes visible and invisible,
from the snares of the devil,
from all passions that beguile the soul and body;
may it guard, protect and deliver me. Amen.

Whatever you do, leave all your concerns with the Lord.
Intercession is rather like flying a kite – **with one big difference - you need to let go!**
You have placed those for whom you have prayed in God's hands – **leave them there.**

Fr Ernest Adley

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Magazine Subs



Your annual subscription for the coming year is now due—only £7 for a whole year.

Lent Study Groups 2015

This year we are using one of the Church of England's latest course units for our Lent Groups.

Pilgrim is written by some of the Church's leading writers, including Bishop Stephen Cottrell, Paula Gooder, Bishop Stephen Croft and Bishop Richard Atwell. The introduction to the course states:

"Life is a journey. It begins when you're born. It ends when you die. You don't need to be a Christian to know this. But as we get older we do know that there is probably more road behind us than ahead of us.

"So what difference does being a Christian make? Well, the journey of life that ends in death becomes a holy pilgrimage that ends in life. Christians believe that in Jesus, God has walked this earth before us and that with Jesus as our companion and guide we can travel through life differently.

"We can live and travel as pilgrims. We set our sights on God's kingdom of justice and peace; and as we journey home to God, the pathway to our life becomes more meaningful and joyful, and the world a better place.

"This course is designed to help you discover this Christian way of life. It unpacks the basic message and teaching of the Christian faith, and also shows you how to pray and how to live like Jesus. It does this in a way that is reflective and conversational. No one will force the pace. But his course will change the perspective of your life; it might also change its direction."

We are starting with the 4th unit of the course based on The Beatitudes from St Matthew's Gospel:

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

'Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

'Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

'Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

'Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

'Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Matthew 5:1-10

Each session will examine these sayings in more detail, with time for reflection and meditation, before moving on to study.

The daytime group will be led by Jenny Loder and will take place on Fridays at 11.30AM. The first session will meet in the Narthex.

The evening group will be led by the Revd Hannah Reynolds and will take place on Mondays at 7.30PM in the Vicarage. The sessions will last for 1 hour approx.

Anyone interested in attending, please speak to the group leader for more information.

Friday Group dates	Monday Group dates
20 th February	23 rd February
27 th February	2 nd March
6 th March	9 th March
13 th March	16 th March
20 th March	23 rd March
27 th March	30 th March

St Peter's Prayer Group

Prayer is the engine of the Church – it drives everything we do; without it, we stay where we are and stagnate. I am looking for people who are willing to pray for the parish of St Peter's every day and, ideally, to meet once a month as a team to pray.

If you are able to undertake this valuable ministry for us, please let me know.

Revd Hannah

Ordained ministry at St Peter's

(Continued from page 3)

encouraging me or, rather, like a dripping tap, forcing me to eventually do something and stop coming up with very good reasons to say no!

I would encourage everyone to listen, and think, and pray to what God might be calling you to do. Ministry is a rich and varied thing and nothing is impossible with God; we are all called to do something for him.

*Every blessing,
Fran*

Wednesday Fellowship

The Wednesday Fellowship meet ten times a year (members being collected by bus if required) and enjoy coffee, a chat, a communion service and two course homemade meal for a total cost of £6.00.

In December our two Sheilas, Ena, and Jackie excelled themselves as they produced a full two course Christmas dinner for the fifteen members present.

Membership is open to all, and anyone interested in attending our next meal on 11th February should contact Keith on 01235 862936.



Ordained ministry at St Peter's

Whilst I was exploring my vocation to ordained ministry, the one thing I had decided upon was that I wanted to serve within our parish, even though I had the option of being deployable nationally. Why? I have lived (with my late husband) in Didcot for just over 30 years and have worshipped at St Peter's throughout that time, having served 9 years as Church Warden, and then going on to become a Licensed Lay Minister in 2004. Throughout that time, with bereavements and a major health problem, the people of St Peter's have supported me through their actions and through prayer. I believed I was being called to serve the people of the parish, who have become my extended family.

People who have been ordained and serve in their home parishes used to be called 'Ordained Local Ministers', or OLMs; the late Revd Joy served as our OLM. Now they have the title of 'Associate Priest with a Local Focus', something of a mouthful and needing more explanation! The selection guidelines for such priests are the same as for any person going forward for selection for ordination, with an addition. This process involves not just the individual's discernment process but also that of the parish. Without the support of the parish, especially the PCC which needs to formally agree to support the candidate, and without a

Ministry Team, either in existence or in the process of being formed, a person going forward will not be selected.

I am very fortunate that our PCC are very supportive of my ministry and that we already have a Ministry Team in place. But it's not only me that undertakes the training. The whole parish is required to show development as a 'learning community' and over the 18 months of my training there will be opportunities for people to accompany me on the Diocesan 'Rolling Programme', which consists of courses on various subjects, free of charge. At the moment, I am undertaking a course on the Eucharist, accompanied by Tom and Andy (from the choir). It's great to share with them as we can discuss our varied experiences as well as to learn at the lectures – where we get to do quite a lot of thinking and talking too.

Why did I go forward for selection for ordination training and not continue as an LLM? For most of my life I have felt that I have been called to ordained ministry and this has been affirmed in a number of ways and by many people. The reason why I became an LLM is not something to be revealed in such a public way. Suffice to say, over the past 10 years, I have been privileged to serve you all as LLM and that time has not been wasted. But God was there,

(Continued on page 2)

Prayer Intentions: February 2015

<p>1st: Candlemas Readings: Psalm 48; Exodus 13:1-16; Luke 2:22-40.</p> <p>The Feast of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple, at which St Simeon prayed the <i>Nunc Dimittis</i>.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Loyd Road. Our Church Wardens</p>	<p>2nd: Readings: Psalm 1; Hosea 9; 1 Corinthians 12:12-end.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Cockcroft Road, Mowbray Road Those who keep the church and grounds clean and tidy.</p>	<p>3rd: Anskar Readings: Psalm 5; Hosea 10; 1 Corinthians 13.</p> <p>9th Century Archbishop of Hamburg-Bremen. Was responsible for renewing Christianity in Northern Europe, in spite of the Danes.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Barnes Road, Barnes Close. Little Fishes, carers and toddlers groups and PACT.</p>	<p>4th: Readings: Psalm 119:1-32; Hosea 11:1-11; 1 Corinthians 14:1-19.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Edwin Road. Wednesday Church</p>
<p>5th: Readings: Psalm 15; Hosea 12:-end of 12; 1 Corinthians 14:20-end.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Green Road; Green Close. Our Bishop Colin, Arch-deacon Judy and their staff.</p>	<p>6th: Martyrs of Japan Readings: Psalm 19; Hosea 13:1-14; 1 Corinthians 16:1-9.</p> <p>More than 200 Japanese and other Christians were executed for their faith in the year 1597, with more being killed in following years.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Royal Berkshire Close. Persecuted Christians throughout the world.</p>	<p>7th: Readings: Psalm 23; Hosea 14; 1 Corinthians 16:10-end.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Queensway; Hardings Strings. Didcot TRAIN</p>	<p>8th: 2 before Lent Readings: Psalm 65; Deuteronomy 8:1-10; Matthew 6:25-end</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Tavistock Avenue; Bowness Avenue. Our Director of Music and the choir</p>
<p>9th: Readings: Psalm 28; 2 Chronicles 9:1-12; 2 Timothy 4:1-8.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Warner Crescent; Morse Road. Our Sides-people and Welcomers</p>	<p>10th: Scholastica Readings: Psalm 33; 2 Chronicles 10:1-11:4; 2 Timothy 4:9-end.</p> <p>Sister of St Benedict and Abbess at a convent near to her brother's monastery at Monte Cassino.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: South Park Avenue; Downs Road. Alton Abbey and the Community at Wantage.</p>	<p>11th: Readings: Psalm 34; 2 Chronicles 12; Titus 1.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Newlands Avenue. Didcot Community Gospel Choir.</p>	<p>12th: Readings: Psalm 40; 2 Chronicles 13:1-14:1; Titus 2.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Glebe Rd; Lynmouth Rd. The Wednesday Fellowship lunch.</p>
<p>13th: Readings: Psalm 35; 2 Chronicles 14:2-end; Titus 3.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Craven Way; Hillary Dr; Lockinge Close. Our Youth Group, its Young Leaders and Leaders.</p>	<p>14th: Cyril and Methodius Readings: Psalm 46; 2 Chronicles 15:1-15; Philemon.</p> <p>Byzantine Greek brothers who were missionaries to the Slavs.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Cullen Place; Hanover Court. Teachers of Religious Studies.</p>	<p>15th: Next before Lent Readings: Psalms 99; 1 Kings 19:1-16; 2 Peter 1:1-16.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Clarence Pl; Frideswide's Court. Those who provide refreshments on Sundays.</p>	<p>16th: Readings: Psalm 47; Jeremiah 1; Galatians 1.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Wantage Road; Colbourne Road Singing for the Brain and those suffering from Dementia.</p>

Prayer Intentions: February

<p>17th: Janani Lulum Readings: Psalm 50; Jeremiah 2:1-13; Galatians 2:1-10.</p> <p>Archbishop of Uganda 1974-1977, and one of the most influential Church leaders in Africa, he was murdered by Idi Amin's re- gime.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Barleyfields; Elbourne. Those who put together the Church magazine and weekly news-sheets.</p>	<p>18th: Ash Wednesday. Readings: Psalm 51; Daniel 9:3-19; 1 Timothy 6:6-19.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Drake Avenue; Collingwood Avenue. That all at St Peter's might have a holy Lent.</p>	<p>19th: Readings: Psalm 74; Jeremiah 2:14-32. Galatians 2:11-end.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Park Road; Park Close. St Peter's Outreach to the community.</p>	<p>20th: Readings: Psalm 31; Jeremiah 3:6-22; Galatians 3:1-14.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Garden Close; Rutherford Place. Our Lent Groups.</p>
<p>21st: Readings: Psalm 73; Jeremiah 4:1-18; Galatians 3:15-22.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Norreys Road; Norreys Close. Those who read the Scriptures in Church.</p>	<p>22nd: Lent I Readings: Psalm 77; Exodus 34:1-10; Romans 10:8b-13.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Meadow Way; Brunel Road. Those who prepare the intercessions for Sunday worship.</p>	<p>23rd: Polycarp Readings: Psalm 13; Jeremiah 4:19-end; Galatians 3:23-4:7.</p> <p>Thought to be a disciple of John the Apostle, who con- secrated him Bishop of Smyrna. One of the three greatest Apostolic Fathers, together with Clement of Rome and Ignatius of An- tioch. Martyred c155.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Portway; Wheatfields. Northbourne, Willowcroft and St Birinus Schools, and their staff and pupils.</p>	<p>24th: Readings: Psalm 49; Jeremiah 5:1-19; Galatians 4:8-20.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Cromwell Drive; St Ann's Court. St John's Guild</p>
<p>25th: Readings: Psalm 28; Jeremiah 5:20-end; Galatians 4:21-5:1.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: St Hilda's Close; St Hugh's Rise. Didcot Community Hospital, all who use the facilities and who work there.</p>	<p>26th: Readings: Psalm 78; Jeremiah 6:9-21; Galatians 5:2-15.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Campion Hall Drive; Pebble Drive. Didcot Library, its users and staff.</p>	<p>27th: George Herbert Readings: Psalm 55; Jeremiah 6:22-end; Galatians 5:16-end.</p> <p>Metaphysical Poet and Anglican priest (died of TB, aged 39).</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Stonesfield; Mansfield Gardens. Didcot Police Station, our PCSO Chris Wyatt.</p>	<p>28th: Readings: Psalm 84; Jeremiah 7:1-20; Galatians 6.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Linacre Close; Balliol Drive. Churches Together in Did- cot and District.</p>

Notes: 6th February is also the Accession of Queen Elizabeth II in 1952.

14th February. St Valentine is not commonly celebrated in the Church, although he was identified as a saint in 496AD by Pope Gelasius. He is commonly believed to have been a Bishop named Valentinus, who was martyred on 14th February on the Via Flaminia in Rome. His romantic association come from the legend of a 1st Century priest called Valentine who secretly married couples, against the orders of the Emperor Claudius, so that the husbands would not have to go to war.

New Year Visitor

New Year's Day – I am alone yet not lonely. I have my books and the room is filled with music from Vienna, bringing many happy memories. Sitting quietly I am aware of something floating gently towards the patio door, then, fluttering wings outstretched, coming to rest. What beauty was there, what brightness of colour and patterns, which no artist could faithfully portray.

Now came the question. Should I open the door and give this visitor its freedom? Outside, branches of trees and plants were swaying in the wind, fallen leaves were swirling in a mad dance and the drizzly raindrops were becoming heavier. Still, I slid the door open to give my butterfly its chance to venture into the outside world.

But no, my New Year visitor decided to stay with me and, against all predictions, is still alive and well after several days. What joy this tiny creature has brought to me, sometimes just sitting on the door frame with wings closed, but now and then giving me a glimpse of its wonderful reddish inner wings, so beautifully patterned.

And so, as I sit here, I thank my Heavenly Father for all His works created in love for us. And I thank Him for sending this little messenger to remind me that Spring and Summer will come again. Mostly I thank Him for the assurance that one day His Kingdom will come and the earth will be “filled with the glory of the Lord”.

*Muriel Barrington
New Year 2015.*

Easyfundraising.org.uk

Help get our fundraising off to a *Flying Start* in 2015. See poster in church on how you can help when you book your travel with Thomas Cook, First Choice, Virgin Atlantic, thetrainline.com, expedia.co.uk or the AA.

Didcot All Saints' & The Ladygrove Church Services

<u>All Saints'</u>	
Sunday 8:00 AM	The Holy Eucharist (Common Worship Order One, Traditional Language)
10:00 AM	The Parish Eucharist (Except first Sunday of Month)
10:00 AM	Family Service (First Sunday of Month)
6:30 PM	The Holy Eucharist with a hymn and Prayer for Healing (Common Worship Order One, Traditional Language, First Sunday of Month)
Tuesday 9:30 AM	The Holy Eucharist (Common Worship Order One, Traditional Language)

The Ladygrove Church
Sunday 10:00 AM At the Ladygrove Community Centre
(All ages, with Sunday School)

Didcot & District University of the Third Age

DIDCOT & DISTRICT UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month.

The February meeting will be held at 2PM on Tuesday 17th February and our speaker will be **Brian Wood** talking about 'A Rustic Copper'.

Didcot & District U3A is a democratic, self-funded and self-managed organisation which exists to provide educational and leisure activities at

minimal cost. It draws upon the knowledge, experience, skills and enthusiasms of its members to organise interest groups in accordance with the wishes of the membership.

Tel: 07804159993

Email: didcotdistrictU3A@virginmedia.com

Website: <http://u3asites.org.uk/didcot>

Services

Sundays

8.00AM Book of
Common Prayer Holy
Communion.
10.00AM Parish Sung
Eucharist
6.00PM Evensong
(1st Sunday in month)

Weekday Offices

Morning Prayer:
usually said at 8.30AM
on weekdays (except
Fridays) & Saturday.

Weekday Services

Tuesday 12.00NOON
Little Fishes Eucharist

Thursday 9.30AM
Eucharist

**The Sacrament is
reserved at St Peter's
and is available to any
who wish to receive it
in their home or in the
hospital.**

Registers

Baptisms 'made one with Christ'

Connor John Tritton; Austin Liam Tritton;
Millie Grace Jackson Rolstone;
Amelia Maria Kruszynska.

Funerals 'may they rest in peace and rise in glory'

Lily Morey

Subscription and website information

St Peter's offers a few
ways in which one can
keep up-to-date with
events and happenings
at the church—the
website, the monthly
magazine, the weekly
news-sheet.

The website—www.stpeters-didcot.org.uk is
updated on a weekly
basis.

If you would like to
subscribe to the
monthly magazine or
electronically receive
the weekly news-sheet,
please contact the
editor, Margaret
Meardon, on 01235
210525 or email
maurice.meardon@ntlworld.com.

Next issue

Wednesday 18 February 2015 is the next magazine
deadline. Please telephone or email the editor with any
articles—210525 or maurice.meardon@ntlworld.com

Plant Sale



**Saturday
May 2**

Year's Mind for February

- | | | | | |
|----|-------------------|----|------------------------|---------------|
| 1 | Frank Allen | 19 | Clive Hawyes | |
| | Ethel Bridgewater | | Gwendoline | |
| | June Edwards | | Brocklehurst | |
| | Fred Snell | | Reginald Darby | |
| | Dorothy Allen | | Florence Burrows | |
| 2 | Magdalene Purdy | | Frederick McIntyre | |
| | George Lewington | | Gwen Lewis | |
| | Arthur Oliver | | Edith Milton | |
| | Leslie Bateman | 20 | Albert Gurry | |
| 3 | Alice Large | | Linda North | |
| | Eva Cobb | | Winifred Archer | |
| 4 | Audrey Cooke | | Alfred (Jim) Griffiths | |
| | Arthur Burge | | Alan Marshall | |
| 5 | Charles Talbot | 21 | Mabel Akers | |
| | Linda Charlton | | Lilian Hayter | |
| | William Turner | | Norman Dance | |
| 6 | Elsie Cox | | Edwin Marks | |
| 7 | | 22 | Peter Walker | |
| 8 | Marjorie Palmer | | Kathleen Glenn | |
| | Ronald Tredwell | | Norman Warwick | |
| | Axel Johansen | 23 | Edna Barnes | |
| 9 | Amy Hemmings | | Eva Brown | |
| 10 | David Griffiths | | Tina Talmange | |
| 11 | Jason Belcher | | Florence Taylor | |
| 12 | Geoffrey Clarke | | Gordon Soul | |
| | Ian Whittern | 24 | Rose Fernback | |
| 13 | Alfred Burrows | | Ian Humphries | |
| | Brenda Wells | | Robert Jepson | |
| | Victor Polley | | Mary Potter | |
| 14 | Eric Rees | | Philip Humphreys | |
| | Lydia Robinson | | Enid Pointer | |
| | Stanley Johnson | 25 | Alice Knapp | |
| | Fred Watts | | Ethel Berry | |
| 15 | Elizabeth Edmonds | | Alice Cooper | |
| | Eric Blake | | Nancy Spindler | |
| 16 | John Peace | 26 | May Burnage | |
| | Sarah Sheard | | 27 | Leonard Price |
| | Irene Roberts | | | Edith Jones |
| 17 | James Gorton | 28 | Florence Miles | |
| | Cecil Burrows | | Amelia Brown | |
| | Mabel Thompson | | Milun Spasojevich | |
| | Ruby Austin | | | |
| 18 | Alfred Humphries | | | |
| | Alice Burrows | | | |

Church Calendar for February 2015

Sunday 1 Candlemass

8.00AM Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion.
8.45AM Parish Breakfast in Church.
10.00AM Sung Eucharist.
12.00NOON Baptism.
4.00PM Christingle.
(children's activities start at 3.30PM)
6.00PM Choral Evensong.

Tuesday 3

12.00NOON Little Fishes.
7.30PM Didcot Choral Society rehearsal.

Wednesday 4

10.00AM Wednesday Church.

Thursday 5

9.30AM Holy Communion (MU).

Friday 6

6.45PM Choir practice

Sunday 8 Second Sunday before Lent

8.00AM Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion.
8.45AM Parish Breakfast in Church.
10.00AM Sung Eucharist.
12.00NOON Baptism.

Monday 9

10.30AM Alzheimer's 'Singing for the Brain'.

Tuesday 10

12.00NOON Little Fishes.
7.30PM Didcot Choral Society rehearsal.

Wednesday 11

11.00AM Wednesday Fellowship.

Thursday 12

9.30AM Holy Communion.

Friday 13

6.45PM Choir practice

Sunday 15 Sunday next before Lent

8.00AM Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion.
8.45AM Parish Breakfast in Church.
10.00AM Sung Eucharist.
10.00AM Sunday school.

Tuesday 17

12.00NOON Little Fishes
7.30PM Didcot Choral Society rehearsal.

Wednesday 18 Ash Wednesday

9.30AM Holy Communion & Ashing.
7.30PM Holy Communion & Ashing.

Thursday 19 No mass today

Friday 20

6.45PM Choir Practice

Sunday 22 First Sunday of Lent

8.00AM Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion.
8.45AM Parish Breakfast in Church.
10.00AM Sung Eucharist.

Monday 23

10.30AM Alzheimer's 'Singing for the Brain'.

Tuesday 24

12.00NOON Little Fishes.
2.00PM St John's Guild.
7.30PM Didcot Choral Society rehearsal.

Wednesday 25

7.30PM Didcot Community Gospel Choir rehearsal.

Thursday 26

09.30AM Holy Communion.

Friday 27

6.45PM Choir practice.



Priest-in-Charge

The Revd. Hannah Reynolds
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47A Newlands Avenue, Didcot
01235 812114

Email: priest-in-charge@stpeters-didcot.org.uk



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01235 862936
Hugh Collins-Rice
01235 811465



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Mrs Fran Childs
01235 816166