

In July we celebrate the feast day of James the Apostle, our patron saint. This year St. James' Day is on Sunday, 3rd July. It is an opportunity to give thanks for our fellowship and to rejoice in the life of our parish. It is also a time to be renewed in our own discipleship and to face the challenge of our ongoing mission in Hampton Hill. As we reflect on the example of James, we can learn something of what it means to be a disciple of Christ.

James sets before us an example of how to respond to Jesus' invitation to follow him. The gospels tell us that as Jesus walked along the Sea of Galilee he calls the brothers Simon and Andrew, saying *follow me and I will make you fish for people*. Jesus then calls James and John and they followed immediately.

Along with Peter and John, James was drawn into the inner circle within Jesus' group of disciples. James was present when Jesus restored Peter's mother-in-law to health after a fever. James was there when Jairus, a synagogue leader, summoned Jesus to the bedside of his dying daughter. As Jesus arrives, he is told that the child has died. Amidst the weeping and wailing of grief Jesus says *she is not dead but sleeping*, he goes to the child accompanied by James, Peter, John and her parents. Jesus takes the child's hand and tells her to get up: she began to walk about immediately. Grief and disbelief is transformed into awe and amazement.

James was also present at the transfiguration of Jesus. Jesus' clothes became dazzling white; his face shone like the sun, Moses and Elijah appeared with him. Then a cloud overshadowed them and they heard a voice saying *This is my Son, the Beloved: listen to him!* Then there was silence. They were alone with Jesus. They were also alone with Jesus on the night of his betrayal and arrest. James witnessed the distress and agony of the one he had chosen to follow. In the Garden of Gethsemane James, Peter and John are called to keep awake. Yet they fall asleep while Jesus prays to his Father, asking that the cup be removed from him. Jesus rebukes them, their spirit is willing, but their flesh is weak. A second and a third time their eyes become heavy, they cannot stay awake.

One episode in the gospels reveals a confident, loyal and ambitious James. He and his brother ask Jesus if he'll grant them the privilege of sitting on his right and left in his kingdom. Jesus responds to their request by asking if they can drink the cup that he will have to drink. The confidently declare that they are able to do this. That is your calling Jesus tells them: *the cup that I drink you will drink*. Their request sets off an angry dispute amongst the other disciples. Yet this confrontation leads Jesus on to teach his disciples that they must learn to serve one another. If they wish to be first they must become a slave of all for *the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many*.

In a fourth-century sermon John Chrysostom reflects on James' zealour request. It is not for Jesus to promise seats of honour to his disciples, but he reveals that they will suffer for the sake of him. Discipleship entails service and self-giving. Chrysostom writes: *James, for his part, was not to live long. From the beginning he*

was inspired by so great a zeal, that setting aside all earthly interest, he rose to such pre-eminence that it was inevitable that he would be killed straight away.

James was present when the risen Christ came to his disciples. He received with them the gift of the spirit, the gift of peace. He was commissioned with them to take the message of God's love to all the world. After Pentecost, James went on to preach the Gospel in Samaria and Judea. His passion for proclaiming the Gospel led to his martyrdom. He was put to death by the sword on the order of Herod of Agrippa, who hoped in vain that, by disposing of the Christian leaders, he could stem the flow of those hearing the good news and becoming followers of Christ.

James gives us an example of Christian discipleship. Nothing stood in the way of coming into the presence of Jesus. He followed Christ immediately. We are called to draw near to Christ in our own lives: as we read the scriptures, in our daily prayer, in our Sunday worship. James witnessed the way in which Jesus spent time with people as he taught them, as he ate with them, as he brought the gift of healing into their lives. We too are called to reveal God's love in the midst of friends, families, colleagues and community.

James was confident and ambitious in his desire to follow Jesus. Yet he learnt that discipleship also meant service and humility. His personality led him to preach with passion and zeal. His ferocious commitment led him to set aside his earthly ambition. His own discipleship was costly. We may not be called upon to pay the ultimate price, but we can learn from James' enthusiasm. We are called to use our different gifts and skills. Like James, we may not always understand; we may not always be alert. But our personalities and our flaws can be transformed as we follow the example of Christ. As we learn more of God's love for us so we can grow and flourish. To be a disciple is to learn to love, to gradually align our will with that of our heavenly Father.

It is claimed that in 830 AD James' relics were transferred to Santiago de Compostela in Spain. His shrine remains a centre for pilgrimage today. The cockle shells on the Spanish beaches were adopted as a symbol of James. On St James' Day we will all receive a card decorated with a shell made by our Sunday School. Receive that gift as a symbol of our on-going discipleship. *Julie Gittoes*

This Made A Difference

Like most people I have had several changes in my life, but I think the greatest one I experienced was changing my employment as manager of a general hospital to a Patients' Activities Manager in a large psychiatric hospital, which led to the most wonderful thing that ever happened to me.

This change was brought about by the moving of St George's Hospital from central London to Tooting. As a result, all the smaller hospitals in the Tooting area were closed. This included South London Hospital for Women, where I had been the manager for some years. I did not want to retire as my mother had just died and I thought I would find the loss of responsibility difficult. The only vacancy available

for me was the post of Patients' Activities Manager at Springfield Hospital in Tooting. As that time I had no experience of working in this field.

After much thought and prayer I accepted the post. I had two young men and a secretary to help me, and they organised the recreational activities for the patients. I recruited volunteers to befriend patients and to help us. It was necessary for me to work on Sunday and I helped the Hospital Chaplain, organising volunteers to bring patients from the wards to the hospital chapel.

I trained to become a Reader in the Southwark Diocese and later was encouraged by a Franciscan monk to offer myself for training as a priest. I was ordained in Southwark Cathedral in 1993 and worked voluntarily part time at St Mary Magdalene's Church, Wandsworth Common and at Springfield Hospital.

Throughout this time I kept my link with St James's Church, where I have worshipped since I was nine years old. I left the Southwark Diocese in 1995 and then undertook regular duties at St James's Church. I finally retired from St James's Church in December 2003.

Betty Stewart

Retired formally maybe, but much-loved Betty is still an active member of our worshipping community, facing her difficulties of mobility with never-failing courage and good humour. Editor



Our warmest good wishes to Rosamond MacDowell following her ordination as a deacon at St Paul's on 25th June.

Congratulations and good wishes also to Linda Mann and Darrell Webb who are getting married on 23rd July.

We celebrate St James's Day on 3rd July. There will be a communion service at 11 am; we welcome Fr Huebert Miranda of St Francis de Sales Church who will preach the sermon. The service will be followed by a parish lunch.

The building work on St Paul's Cathedral is now completed. It will be open to visitors during July; special concessionary passes are available to parishioners. The Vicar has four of these passes which can be borrowed from him and returned for re-use. The passes permit free entry for visitors to the Cathedral during July.

MAKEPOVERTYHISTORY

On 11th June Churches Together Around Hampton (CTAH) participated in the Hampton carnival parade to raise awareness about the **MAKEPOVERTYHISTORY** campaign ahead of the G8 summit in Edinburgh later this month. The coalition of aid agencies, church groups and others involved in MPH are campaigning for the alleviation of poverty in Africa and other developing countries. The campaign can be summarised under the following headings: Drop the debt, more and better aid, trade justice. Here are the thoughts and reflections of some of those involved in the parade.

It is very important public witness to remember the desperate poverty around our world.

I am attending this event because I think it is important to take every opportunity to speak up for the poor in the world and ensure they can benefit from the wealth and opportunity that are available to us. I am especially pleased to be speaking out today with a mix of Christians from different churches. If we stand together we can make a difference.

Every time I run my tap and waste water I think of all those people who have to walk miles for less than enough to drink. How can we ignore all those who have so little?

I can't get to Edinburgh so I was glad to be able to march for MPH around Hampton.

To show that we can help our brothers and sisters the world over.

This is important to raise awareness locally to seize the opportunity when the issue is being raised at such a high political level. We can translate this into action at the local - to make it global.

To show that as a member of CTAH we want to raise awareness of the MPH campaign ahead of the G8 summit.

A way of getting alongside the disadvantaged and poor of the world.

I think it is a great opportunity for individuals to actually make a difference by acting together and showing that the poor and disadvantaged are important to us. Also it is a great opportunity for others to see that the **MAKEPOVERTYHISTORY** campaign is alive and active in our community.

It is great to be doing something locally for the MPH campaign, some voices are always better than none.

**SONGS & DANCES
FOR A SUMMER EVENING**

Concordia Voices with Christine Brown, soprano
Neil Ferris, conductor
The Kesh Piano Duo

Saturday 9th July 2005 at 7.30pm
St John's, Smith Square

Tickets: £12.50 Concessions £10
The Box Office, St John's, Smith Square
Tel: 020 7222 1061

PLANNED GIVING UPDATE -

HELP, WE ARE FALLING BEHIND

In 2005 we need to increase our giving for the mission and ministry of our parish by 7%. At the moment we are only achieving an increase of 1%! Your help is needed. Please do take this opportunity to join the scheme. Every contribution, whether large or small, is a significant contribution to the work of our church. For those of us who are already members of planned giving and have been meaning to get round to reviewing their level of giving now is the time to do something about it! Please use the bankers order form opposite and send it to Pip Rowett or alternatively, new members can ask Pip for some weekly envelopes.

Thank you.

Don Barrett

St James's Church, Hampton Hill
Payment by Standing Order

To the Manager _____

Bank/Building Society _____

Address: _____

Postcode _____

Please pay to the account of the Parochial Church Council of St James's Church
Hampton Hill, Middlesex with GIROBANK plc of Bootle, Merseyside, GIR OAA.

Sort Code 72 00 05 A/c No. 2 396 8604

The sum of £ _____ (figures)

_____ (words)

on _____ 20 ____

and on the same date on each succeeding month/quarter/year until further notice,
and debit my account

Sort Code - -

A/c No.

with each payment made. This replaces any existing Banker's Order from my
account to the same payee.

Signed _____ Date _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

I am a UK tax payer and wish all my donations to be treated as Gift Aid.



St. James's Chronicles

Hampton Hill Parish Magazine July 1905

My Dear Friends,

We are in the midst of Summer Treats just now, and they crowd upon one another with great frequency. Fortunately the weather is most favourable so far. The Sunday School Excursion up the River to Windsor, on the 15th ult., was pleasant in every way. The boats were comfortable and well managed by civil and obliging men, and the changing scenes on the banks formed a continuous panorama, pleasant and restful. We were fortunate enough to see Windsor decorated and dressed in its best for the Royal Marriage, and some of our party saw the bride and bridegroom as they drove to the station. Our company numbered 235. We arrived safe home at 9 pm feeling that we had had an ideal outing.

On the 25th ult. The Annual Festival of the Girls' Friendly Society took place in the Vicarage Grounds. Hampton, Hampton Court, Sunbury and Hanworth were represented, and there were about 150 girls present. Prebendary Ram presided at the distribution of prizes, which were handed to the recipients by Mrs Job

On Tuesday, July 4th, we hope to have our Annual Temperance Meeting in the Vicarage Garden A speaker from the parent society will be present, and we shall have some singing, coffee and light refreshments

The Annual Meeting of the Mothers' Union is to take place on Thursday, the 20th. There will be a short service at 3.30 pm, and then we shall adjourn to the Vicarage Garden, when an address will be given, after which we shall have tea.

St James's Day, Tuesday, the 25th, I hope everybody will keep in mind. It has always been observed as a great day in Hampton Hill. This year we cannot have all our doings on the same day, owing to the Day Schools not breaking up until the following Friday. So on St James's Day we shall have Holy Communion at 7.30 and 11 am, and in the evening there will be a choral service at 8 pm. I am glad to say that the Rev. Archibald Boyd-Carpenter, Chaplain to the King, and Rector of St Olave's, Hart Street, E.C., has kindly promised to preach The Friday following will be the Children's Day The Children will march through the Village to the Vicarage, there will be short service in Church, and then there will be tea in the garden and such games as children love

I am, my dear Friends, Yours very sincerely, CHARLES R. JOB

Editorial comment: Occasionally we are asked whether this feature of the magazine is of sufficient interest to be included. However, others

find it not only interesting and sometimes amusing, but also giving a picture of the work, worship and social involvement of our church in the past. It is a tradition of work, worship and social involvement which we continue now, and have faith that this tradition will be continued in our church and many others long after we are all individually just memories. So we will continue these excerpts, though not necessarily in every month's magazine.

VISIT TO CHAPEL STUDIOS

A small group of us went to visit the Chapel Studio in a village near Hemel Hempstead where stained glass experts are restoring our east end windows, having already repaired and replaced all the south aisle windows.

The workshop is, as you might have worked out, in an old non-conformist chapel. It is small but well set out and organized. The studio owner was away but his deputy showed us around and talked us through the various processes used.

The first stage was to take a rubbing of the whole window on an enormous sheet of tracing paper so that the lines of lead were easy to see. Then the window is disassembled and each piece of glass is laid on the corresponding shape on the tracing paper. A craftsman then gets new lead, (in various different thicknesses), and he shapes and fashions it into the exact shapes of the original. The glass meanwhile has been very carefully cleaned and is put piece by piece back in its place like a giant jig-saw. Finally, we saw a man rubbing on some very gloopy brown stuff which gets into all the crevices - a bit like polyfiller for glass I suppose.

Of course my description is very lacking in technical detail, (and correctness I suspect), but I hope you get the general idea. Luckily we had Jack Gostling with us and he asked pertinent questions, because he knows what he's talking about when it comes to most things connected with buildings. All the people at the studios were very engrossed with their very exacting work but took time to show and explain it. We all felt really pleased that our windows have been so lovingly restored in the hands of highly skilled craftspeople, who very clearly enjoy their work and put in a lot of TLC as well as time.

It was an interesting morning out but there was one complaint from Jack - I thought it might be about my driving or my navigation - but No! It was the fact that sadly, as we all needed to be home by lunchtime, we had no time for a drink in the nearby pleasant-looking pub!

Liz Butler

WEST PORCH UPDATE

It may just be it may just be, that by the time you read this the West Porch is (almost) complete. Certainly within the last month we have witnessed an amazing variety of trades active in completing the West Porch of our dreams. The brickies finished most of the brickwork and the master bricklayer has done a fine job on the red rubber bricks around the arch. The electricians have been in and, with a few glitches, have sorted out all the electrical fixings. BT have installed their connection. Carpenters, glaziers, roofers and most particularly the installers of the fine roof lights have all done their work and alongside this various mates, apprentices and others have been active. As part of the cost control we opted to remove the decoration of the works from the contract and it is planned that by July this decoration by members of our own Properties Group should have been completed. Very soon the office and the small meeting room will be in use and we hope to ensure a festive opening for this important work during the autumn. If you have any questions or comments please don't hesitate to make them to the clergy or churchwardens. We are almost there.

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Lesley Brough's Retirement

After nearly 20 years as Brown Owl of 3rd Hampton Hill Brownies I am due to step down at the beginning of July. I couldn't go without making sure everyone knew what a privilege it has been to be part of guiding in Hampton Hill. Without exception everyone who I have had the pleasure of working with has left some kind of lasting memory. I am going to miss it - there is no doubt about that, but it is time for me to hand the reins over to Sarah and Natasha who I know will continue the good work of making guiding something to be proud of both in Hampton Hill and as part of the life of St James's. Please continue to give them all your help and support - it is not easy running a youth organisation in today's hectic world - but I know they are going to love it just as I have! For future reference any contact with regard to 3rd Hampton Hill Brownies should be made to Sarah Reed on 8241 0499.

Lesley Brough

Lesley Brough is a fine example of that well-known St James's phenomenon, "the unsung heroine". For 20 years she has faithfully, skilfully and compassionately run our Brownies every Tuesday evening. The church community, as well as the wider community in Hampton Hill owes her a huge debt of gratitude. Indeed our gratitude goes also to Ian for his considerable input over many years at Lesley's side. Lesley has provided a safe, caring, exciting place for hundreds of our young girls to grow up valuing not only their own skills but working and enjoying themselves together. We are indeed sad that Lesley is retiring but fully understand that after a life long career in Brownies the time has come to move on. We thank her profoundly and wish her many happy and restful Tuesday evenings to come. *B.L.*

FROM THE MAY REGISTERS

BAPTISMS

- 1 Olive Louise East, Hampton Hill
Leo Alexander Nicholson Gillett, Hanworth
8 Harry Ewan Glover, Hampton Hill
15 Grace Alleda O'Brien, Hampton Hill
Henry Oliver Bunkall, Teddington

WEDDINGS

- 28 Kim Denise Angela Endean and Stephen Walters

FUNERALS

- 6 Patricia Phyllis Wood 76
13 Leon and Felix Bunce

DATES TO NOTE

- 3 **ST JAMES DAY** We celebrate the feast day of our Patron Saint with
11.00 only Parish Communion followed by lunch
6 Thomas More and John Fisher Reformation Martyrs 1535
9 1930 at St John's, Smith Square Concert by Concordia Voices:
Songs and Dances for a Summer's Evening
10 **7th Sunday after Trinity**
11 Benedict of Nursia, Abbot of Monte Cassino 550
14 John Keble Priest and Poet 1866
15 Swithun, Bishop of Winchester 862
17 **8th Sunday after Trinity**
19 Gregory, Bishop of Nyssa, Teacher of the Faith 394
24 **9th Sunday after Trinity**
Mary Magdalene
25 Anne and Joachim, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary
26 Brooke Foss Westcott, Bishop of Durham and Teacher of the Faith 1901
30 William Wilberforce, Social Reformer 1833
31 **10th Sunday after Trinity**