

August & September
2019



GRIDIRON

The Magazine of the Parish Church of
Saint Laurence Upminster
£1



St Laurence Patronal Festival 11-8-19

Service times

Sundays	Weekdays
Holy Communion 08.00	Tuesday, Morning Prayer 08.45
Sung Parish Mass 09.30	Wednesday & Thursday
Sunday Schools 09.30	Wednesday Evening Prayer 16.30
Evensong 18.30 <i>(see Parish Diary for details)</i>	Wednesday Mass 11.00
Footsteps	Celtic Worship
<p>This Service for pre-school children and grown-ups normally takes place monthly on a Monday at 09.30 in the Lady Chapel. Services on 30th September.</p> 	<p>A group meets 19.30 to 20.15 on a Monday evening, once a month in the Lady Chapel, for Celtic worship (Celtic prayers, music, hymns and, from time to time, Communion). Services on 5th August and 9th September.</p> 
<i>Additional services on Saints' Days are shown in the Diary in the back pages.</i>	

Baptisms These are administered during public services. Please contact the Parish Office to make arrangements.

Wedding Banns Please contact the Parish Office to make arrangements.

Confessions By appointment with the clergy.

Please inform the Parish Office or the Fr Roy of anyone who is ill or in need of a pastoral visit.

See back pages for useful telephone contact numbers

www.upminsterparish.co.uk

Parish Office  01708 220696

parish.office@upminsterparish.co.uk

From Fr Roy

There can be no doubt that many people here in our town of Upminster work hard. Many people have worked hard to gain professional qualifications and now undertake difficult and exacting jobs. Whilst for many these jobs are well paid, they also make many demands. Our work though is only one part of our lives. For many people family life brings its own rewards, but this too can drain us of our reserves of energy.



Amazingly, as well as coping with work and families, many people in our Church also take an active part in the running of the parish. There can be little doubt that we are a hard-working group of people. Since I have been part of this parish I have seen for myself how people can show great resilience and seemingly limitless energy. Thank you all for your continuing hard work.

This current edition of *Gridiron* takes us from late summer into early autumn. This is the peak holiday period and can provide us all with an opportunity to take some time away from work, away from the normal routines of our lives, to rest and to relax. Holidays are an important part of our lives and they help us to maintain our health and well-being.

Rest days and holidays have their origins in the Bible. The Old Testament books of Genesis, Deuteronomy and Leviticus set a pattern for our lives which remains important to us today. The Bible identifies three rest periods: the Sabbath, the Sabbatical and the Jubilee.

The Sabbath is first mentioned in the book of Genesis in the story of the creation. God, having worked for six days, rested on the seventh. He blessed this day and hallowed it with the name of Sabbath. The Ten Commandments require us to keep the Sabbath holy. The Jewish Sabbath is traditionally on Saturday but for Christians the Sabbath became associated with Sunday, the day of the resurrection.

In earlier years nearly everyone took Sunday as a day of rest, but in today's more secular-focused society this practice has become much less common. However the principle of having a day free from work each week is important. We all need a day off, and we should do all we can to protect it.

The book of Leviticus introduces two other rest periods. The Sabbatical occurs every seven years. This is a period of rest not just for people but also for the land. Leviticus requires that once every seven years the land is not ploughed and no crops are planted. Instead the people were to eat the pickings from the fruit trees as well as whatever might grow from the land of its own accord and on what they have stored from the previous harvest. In this way the land was allowed to rest which was seen as an important step in maintaining the health and productivity of the soil.

Finally Leviticus commands the Jubilee year which occurs every seventh year: that is every forty-nine (or possibly fifty) years. The Jubilee year was not just a rest for people or for the land but was a time for a fresh start in personal and business relationships.

The Old Testament sets out a clear pattern of living which suggests that work should be interspersed with regular rest days and with longer holidays. Taking time away from our normal pattern of living is good for our physical, mental and spiritual health, as well as adding enjoyment to our lives. Whatever your plans, I hope you have a good holiday.

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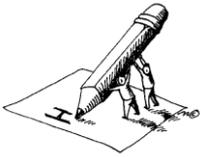
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From the Editors

Dear Readers

This edition covers the end of the Summer and the beginning of Autumn and the countdown to Christmas!

The groups within the church have been very busy and there are two excellent reports about the BBQ and Fete and the Camping Week. Also some thought-provoking words from Father Roy on finding time to have a rest – hopefully the weather will allow us to sit and reflect in the warmth of the sun!

Arlette Wiggins, Editor

From the Parish Registers

BAPTISM

We welcome into the family of the church and pray for:

23 June Peyton Andrew Jackson

FUNERAL

We offer our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of:

13 June John Rose

October and November Magazine Deadline

Items for inclusion in the October and November edition of *Gridiron* should reach the editorial team by 6th September. We would prefer to receive items by e-mail at gridiron@upminsterparish.co.uk. Paper copy is acceptable but should be submitted to us as early as possible. The October and November Magazine will be on sale from 29th September.

Thank you for your sponsorship...

Porchtalk has been sponsored for the year in memory of Gerald, Samuel and Barbara Giles, from their daughters and sisters, Hazel Harman and Mary Breading.

The Communion Bread and Wine has been sponsored for September.

Rector's Board

Lance Jackson

The new Rectors of Upminster Board is at last erected in the tower area. The decision was necessary as there was no more room on the old board following the inscription of Fr. Michael's name.

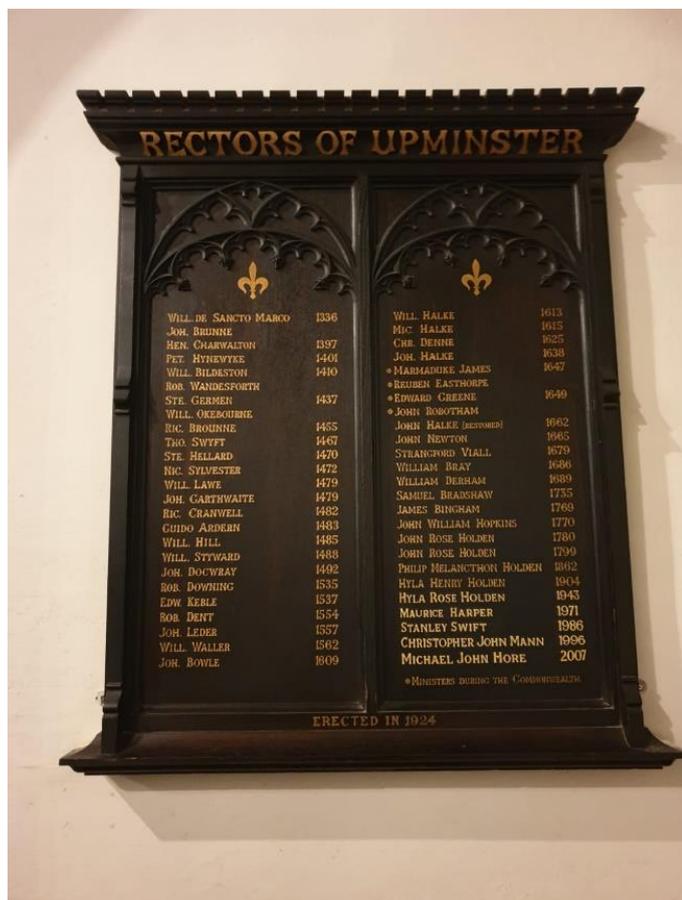
Several members of the PCC tried to obtain quotations for a new one but some quotes were too expensive and others asked did not return a quote.

After about two years after Susannah's arrival I felt some fresh effort was required to solve the problem. I had previously visited Robert Thompson's craftsmen's carpentry business at Kilburn, near Thirsk and was most impressed by their professionalism. Their quotation, based on my sketch, was accepted by the PCC and the faculty of their working drawing, the repositioning of the old board and the erection of the new one was duly obtained from the diocese.

An anonymous donor has generously paid for the positioning of the boards.

Susannah is our first lady on the board so I suggested to her that she may wish to include her maiden name as well, to which she happily agreed.

We are sure the children will be looking for the new mouse very soon as this is the signature of all Robert Thompson's English oak carpentry.



Some details about the names on the Rector's Board

Melvyn Gallagher

Looking forward to the arrival of the new Rector's Board, the names and dates on the existing one mean very little to many of us. Some rectors were highly regarded both within the Church establishment and the Parish, whilst others caused friction and even scandal!

Being close to London and financially a very desirable living, it was often on the market and pluralist rectors were common in the 15th-16th centuries. Absentee rectors held the living between 1492 and 1678 and eight of the eighteen 15th century rectors resigned, one deprived of the living in 1554 for marriage and another in 1558 for non-residence. John Bowle, rector, 1662-78 and William Derham, 1689-1735, were Royal Chaplains and scholars, the latter well known for his scientific experiments commemorated by the wall plaque beneath the tower.

Michael Halke, 1615-24, was described as 'a frequenter of taverns, a striker and fighter'. He was bound over to keep the peace and, in 1618, was accused of getting his maid pregnant. An assistant curate took the services in 1619 and by 1620 Halke was suspended, although he still lived in the rectory until 1624 when he was deprived of the living.

No less than five members of the Holden family held the living between 1780 and 1971. The first two, both named John Rose, were rectors between 1780-99 and 1799-1862. There were several disputes with local farmers regarding the payment of tithes and one sued Holden in 1800. These disputes caused much ill feeling with parishioners, so much so that some left to worship at the 'Old Chapel' and elsewhere. P.M. Holden, rector, 1862-1904, became unpopular after marrying his mistress in 1873 and for twenty years was involved in many disputes which, again, helped to promote non-conformity in the parish. It was H.H. Holden, 1904-1943, who revived the popularity of the church, it being restored and enlarged during 1928-9, resulting in what we see today.

**You can advertise in Gridiron from as little
as £6.60 per issue. Please contact
Maureen Gourley 01708 640747
mlgourley@talktalk.net**

Archdeacon's visitation at St Edward's Church of England School, Romford, for the admission of Churchwardens on 20th May 2019.



Tea and Talks at the Old Chapel

August - November 2019

WED 14 AUGUST, 10.30am - KEITH FINCH – HISTORY OF WILLIAM MORRIS

WEDNESDAY 11 SEPTEMBER, 10.30AM – BOB EDWARDS – HISTORY OF STUBBERS

WEDNESDAY 9 OCTOBER, 10.30AM – LOIS AMOS – ROMFORD CIVIC SOCIETY

WEDNESDAY 13 NOVEMBER, 10.30AM – DAVID WILLIAMS – CITY OF LONDON GUIDE

Tea and Talks take place at the Old Chapel on the 2nd Wednesday of the month.

Admission for Friends of the Old Chapel is free (Annual membership is only £5.00), otherwise £2 per person including refreshments.

No booking is required.

www.theoldchapelupminster.co.uk

The Old Chapel. Sacred Heart of Mary Girls' School, Saint Mary's Lane,
Upminster, RM14 2QR

The Upminster People Project 2018

by Rob Brabner

The photographic exhibition of Upminster People continues at Havering Museum until 10th August. The museum is at 19-21 High Street, Romford, close to Romford Market. Open Wednesday to Saturday, 11am to 5pm. Many St Laurence members are portrayed, including Rector Susannah, Richard with his CD release, Father Roy and Jean, Lance and his Morris Minor, Paul Hagan playing the piano, Chris Mowat sweeping the church paths and some of our ladies who arrange the flowers, plus many more activities in and around the church. There are also photos of events in the church hall, dog training, charity functions and the Children's Society Box Opening event. Over 1,000 photos were taken with plenty of variety of activities, shops, businesses, churches, sport and leisure in Upminster and Cranham - a real slice of life of our local area.



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Feast of Corpus Christi - Thursday 20th June

Chris Mowat

The feast of Corpus Christi was first proposed by Thomas Aquinas to Pope Urban IV and was established in 1264 extending to the whole Roman Catholic Church. Henry VIII abolished it in England in 1548.

It was later reinstated in the Church of England and is also known as the Day of Thanksgiving for the institution of Holy Communion, being celebrated on the Thursday after Trinity Sunday. Only two months before, we celebrated the Last Supper on Maundy Thursday but that is part of the more solemn, sombre time in Holy Week as Jesus has his final meal with the disciples. In contrast, Corpus Christi allows us to emphasise the joy of the institution of the Eucharist which is at the heart of our worship here at St Laurence.

This year we were joined by the Revd. Marion Williams, Rector of All Saints, Cranham, whose choir also came to join members of our choir in providing the music for the service. As the Revd. Marion said in her sermon “...the bread and the wine in the Eucharist are the main reason for us to come to church and partake of Jesus’ great gift”.

The Eucharistic Prayer for the service also contains the following words “...In this great sacrament you feed your people and strengthen them in holiness, so that throughout the world the human family may be enlightened by one faith and drawn together in one communion of love”.

It is a feast in the Christian Year which passes many by, but one which is important. Certainly it enabled the choirs and congregations of St Laurence and All Saints to be drawn together this year in thanksgiving for the institution of the Eucharist.

Lunchtime Concerts



5th September, Hope Lavelle & Claire Habbershaw,
Soprano and Piano

19th September, George Chittenden, Organ (St Maria, Helsingborg)

Free admission with retiring collection
for the continuance of music at St Laurence Church

Support the Children's Society - become a Box Holder

Rob Brabner

For many years St Laurence Church has been a keen supporter of the work of The Children's Society, which was formerly known as The Church of England Children's Society. Many church members support their work by taking home The Children's Society charity box, where those odd coppers or pieces of change can be collected. Once a year the boxes are open at the time of the fundraising event which is held around May/June in our own parish hall.



You can help. Have a word with Sally Thompson or one of the church sidemen/women if you would like to take home one of the charity boxes; all contributions are very much appreciated. Just a few pence a week are fine - it can be surprising how much can be collected over the year.

Do check out the activities of the Children's Society on their website. They carry out pioneering work with children and vulnerable teenagers. For those of us grateful for a safe and loving upbringing this is a great way to show our thanks and to support those who are in a much more difficult situation in their formative years.

Diocesan Course of Christian Studies

St Laurence is one of the centres for the diocesan Course of Christian Studies, which is a 2-year course designed to deepen understanding and experience of the Christian faith.

The lead tutor of this group is Revd. Jenny Heinink. It will run on Wednesday evenings in school term time and anyone is welcome to join. The cost is £50.00 per term.

Further information about the content of the course is available at www.chelmsford.anglican.org/ccs. If you have any queries you are welcome to contact Jenny on jennyheinink@hotmail.com.

To sign on to the course, contact Diane Hardy, Administrator, Course of Christian Studies. Tel 01245 294499 or dhardy@chelmsford.anglican.org

Summary of PCC Meeting held on 8th May 2019

PCC: Cheryl Goddard was welcomed as a new member. Richard Brasier and Deborah Masterson were co-opted. Chris Mowat was appointed as Vice Chairman, Tony Bloomfield as Treasurer, Beryl Speed as Secretary, Colin and Margaret Jarvis as Assistant Churchwardens.

Churchwarden: There was an urgent need to find another Churchwarden.

Fundraising: All were urged to support the fete to be held on 15th June.

Stewardship: It was considered desirable to hold a stewardship campaign during the autumn and discussions took place on what form this should take.

The Friends of St Laurence Music: A proposal has been put forward to form the Friends of St Laurence Music, which would bring all the musical elements of the church under one umbrella. This was given PCC approval and would now go forward for further consultation.

Church Building Improvements Project: Research is being carried out into grant-making bodies to determine which ones to approach.

CCTV: Quotes have been obtained to replace the camera that was taken and also the existing one with dome cameras. The need for greater security and more cameras was discussed and further quotes will be obtained.

Notice Boards: Four new notice boards have been ordered and these will probably be ready in about four weeks.

Electoral Roll: The number remains unchanged at 154.

Other matters discussed included the annual Mass for the PCC, finances, church gutters, electrical work at 6 Gaynes Park Road, the new website, safeguarding, Churches Together matters, and lights for the trees at Advent.

David Pickthall Big Band Concert

Saturday 7th September 2019 at 7pm.

In aid of the Church Building Improvement Fund.

Contact 01708 220696 for tickets.

Unmissable event!

Upminster Windmill Open Days

August open days – Saturday 17th & Sunday 18th

August – 1pm - 4pm

Bread and Bread making demonstrations

September open days – Saturday 21st and Sunday

22nd – 1pm – 4pm

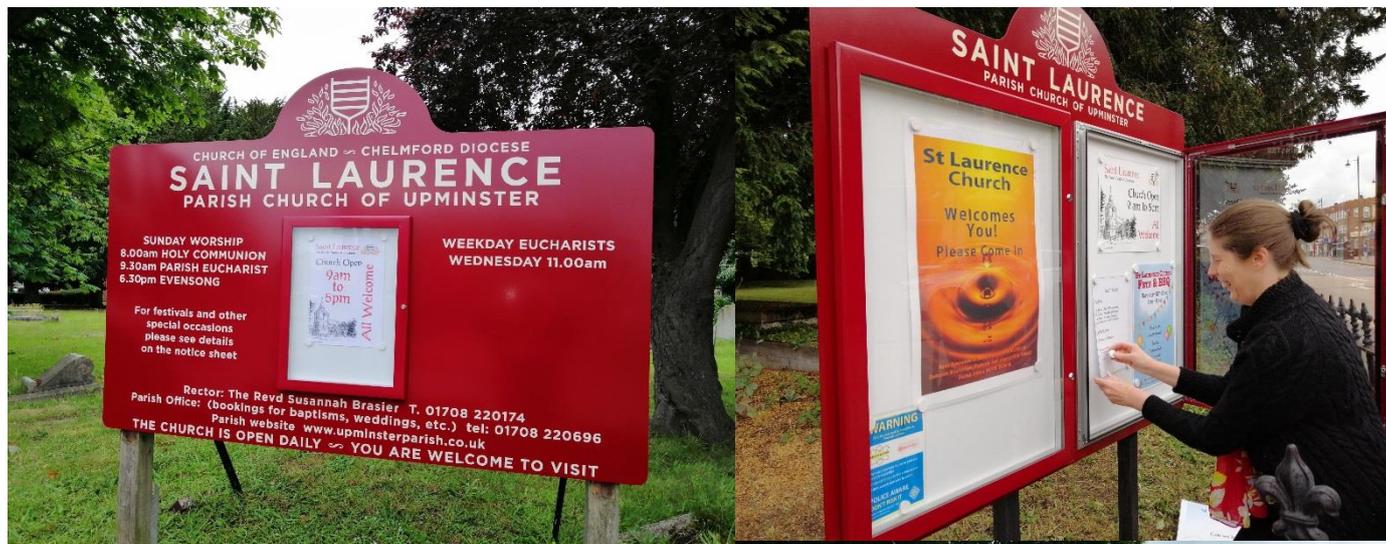
London Open House weekend and Restoration
Exhibition

These open days are free although donations are gratefully accepted.



We are always looking for volunteers to help with the garden, workshop, Visitor Centre and, when the windmill opens, guiding. Why not pop over on our Tuesday Volunteer day and see what we do and have a chat. We are a friendly bunch.

New Notice Boards



The new church notice boards were organised by Colin Jarvis. They have been well received by the public (and the Parish Administrator!).





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Local Organiser: Rob Brabner 01708 457578

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St Laurence Church is a regular supporter of The Friends of Essex Churches "Ride & Stride" which raises funds for repairs and improvements for churches of all the mainstream Christian denominations in Essex and the London Boroughs that remain within our Chelmsford diocese area. With our church's Building Improvements Project we are likely to be seeking support from the "Friends" in the near future.

We will once again be seeking your support in 2019. This year the event is scheduled for **Saturday 14th September**, and once again we will combine this with the **Heritage Open Day**, so we hope to be welcoming quite a few visitors to the church on that day.

Would you be prepared to join the team of walkers or cycle for the event? Please speak to Rob Brabner who will be organising this (see below)

Would you be willing to be one of the stewards to welcome visitors - we will be preparing a rota for the full day so could you spare an hour or so between 9am - 6pm?

Would you be prepared to provide sponsorship for our team of walkers/cyclists? You can sponsor on the basis of the number of churches we visit on the day. However by far the most popular method is to provide a one-off amount, whatever you choose. Whatever is donated, 50% supports the work of The Friends of Essex Churches Trust and the other half supports St Laurence Church's own Building Fabric Fund so this is a wonderful way to support your local church and also other local churches.

For those who would be interested in joining the St Laurence walkers, we are likely to hold a small walk visiting local churches on Saturday 14th September, but the main walk will take part on Saturday 21st September, which is **London Open House Day**, so many of the City of London Churches will be open. A few years ago we visited some of the City churches, this proved to be a very popular event and a most enjoyable day, so we hope to repeat this and perhaps visit a few more churches that we haven't visited before.

For more information please speak to Rob Brabner in church or give me a call on 01708 457578 or email on robertbrabner@icloud.com.

BBQ and Fete on 15th June

Andrew Lillington

After much anxiety around the weather, which produced one of the wettest weeks of the year so far, Saturday 15th June arrived with clouds but no rain and every now and then a hint of blue sky which enabled us to set up all the stalls outside.

This joint venture with the Choir Association who organised their traditional BBQ, Bar and Tombola and with a variety of volunteers running stalls ranging from knitting, crafts, board games, treasure hunt, lots of wonderful cakes and two tortoises for good measure, we were able to offer an enjoyable afternoon of entertainment to many people visiting Upminster.

I think that having both the cake and flower stalls at the front of the Church hall helped to encourage the public to come and see what was going on. Our thanks to Joy's School of Dance for putting on a demonstration from a number of the classes which proved very popular.

We had several younger people volunteering their time, from helping to put up bunting and setting up the gazebos, to running an Origami stall and someone releasing a number of butterflies in the churchyard which made quite a sight.

We were fortunate to have so many people turn up in the morning to get everything ready and also for those who gave up their afternoon to run the different stalls. The BBQ and Fete really was a communal effort.

It was a pleasure to see so many people who were not 'known to the church of St Laurence' come into the grounds and who clearly enjoyed taking part in a community activity. I saw a number of families / groups go into the Church and, hopefully, some who went into the church on Saturday may choose to come again on a Sunday.

On behalf of the Church Improvements Building committee may I extend our sincere thanks to everyone who was involved in any way in making the day such a success. As always, thank you for your continued support.

May I give you advance notice of our event on the 7th September when we are pleased to invite back David Pickthall and his Big Band – please look out for the posters and details in *Porchtalk* during August.



Carry on Camping (or “never believe the Met Office”)

Chris Mowat

“Temperatures soaring into the 30s; use plenty of sunscreen; get out the barbecues...” So the Met Office warned us for the last week of June.

As many of you will know, or have actually experienced, well over 40 years ago, the then St Laurence Wives Group started the Camping Weekend at Sizewell Beach near Leiston in Suffolk. Over the years this has been



extended to almost a week. Families have grown up and moved away, others have come and gone, but the tradition continues and this year was no exception with a group of enthusiasts continuing the tradition.

The advance party led by Rita Pike and Steve and Diane Merron pitched camp on Friday 21st June, with Malcolm and Laura Charlton arriving on Monday 24th. Following a tortuous journey through numerous roadworks, Mary and Jim Greig also arrived on the Monday, lodging in a well-appointed apartment on the site. Yes, it is not all tents, caravans or camper vans – there are static caravans, apartments, lodges and pods available for hire on the large site known as Beach View, sited on the cliffs at Sizewell Beach which is part of the Suffolk Heritage Coast.

Nancy and I arrived on the Tuesday following the previous night’s rain. The wind was strong but the sun was shining and, thanks to the help of others and the masterly supervision of Rita Pike (the Tent Master”), our tent was erected and by early afternoon we were all shipshape. We were looking forward to a few days of hot dry weather! Ha Ha!

The following two days saw us experiencing very overcast conditions coupled with a strongish cold north-east wind off the North Sea. Jumpers and fleeces were the order of the day. However this did not stop us visiting Aldeburgh with its variety of shops and interesting buildings and Southwold, home of Adnams Brewery and many individual retail outlets. Despite the weather, a very brave person stripped off and went swimming in the sea! Not one of us.

By the Friday afternoon the Met Office's forecast came good and the sun came out, the wind moderated and we then enjoyed excellent weather until we left on the Sunday morning.

Rita's daughters and family had joined us on the Thursday which meant we could participate in the annual Boules Competition. The competition was hotly fought with last year's winner being knocked out before the final round. Graham Milner, Rita's son-in-law and a former winner, was anxious to claim the trophy. However, in the Final, he was up against another former winner in Malcolm Charlton who was determined to succeed. The Final was played on the Saturday afternoon before the usual barbecue. The atmosphere was tense, the crowd on the edge of their seats, (or was that the effect of the white wine?), the sun shone and the battle commenced, the first reaching 12 points becoming the winner.

The game was evenly balanced with each player scoring points in their favour. Malcolm stormed ahead but Graham ("the Mauler") Milner fought back to level and then with some decisive shots he triumphed to lift the trophy yet again. The crowd clapped and Rita presented the trophy to the worthy winner - we are sure that he must practise all year round as he now has a permanent place on his mantelpiece to display the trophy!

As the evening sun started to set, we were able to all sit together and barbecue, enjoying good food, friendship and fellowship, which is what the few days are all about.

Time certainly slows down in that part of Suffolk. There are delightful towns such as Aldeburgh and Southwold to visit; the RSPB Reserve at Minsmere; Thorpeness with its Meare and its "The House in the Clouds"; Snape Maltings; good pubs, lovely villages and great beaches. This year the fields and hedgerows abounded with poppies which they have not done for many a year.

It is always an opportunity to recharge the batteries and certainly Nancy and I had a great time as usual. Despite the Met Office prediction, the couple of days of dubious weather did not put us off and thankfully it stayed dry throughout our stay.

Our thanks must go to Diane Merron who did all the booking arrangements, as well as to Rita for being the Tent Master. Thank you Diane and to everyone who made the few days away in "the land that time forgot" so enjoyable.

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Lorna Allen

Louise Harrington

Hello and welcome to another *Gridiron* and today Lorna Allen is being interviewed. Lorna is an alto in the choir.

Louise: What made you want to sing in the choir?

Lorna: When I joined St. Laurence Church in 2006, my husband Jeremy was the choir director. My son Patrick sang in the choir and my other son James sang in St Andrew's church choir. When my daughter Hannah was old enough to join the choir, it seemed the natural thing for me to do so as well. It was lovely being involved as a family. This is something I miss now that Jeremy plays at St. Mary's Church in Saffron Walden.

Louise: Have you sung in any other choirs apart from St. Laurence's?

Lorna: When I first moved to Upminster, before I got married, I joined the 'Sound Company' choir. This was run as an evening class and conducted by John Morris. It was a good way to meet new people. I met Trevor and Arlette Wiggins for the first time. Arlette sang in the alto section.

I have sung with Jeremy's current choir. We spent a week singing services in St. David's Cathedral, then more recently in Llandaff Cathedral.

Louise: What is your favourite song in the choir and why?

Lorna: That's a really difficult question. I enjoy singing a variety of pieces. I do have some favourite hymns: Jerusalem the Golden, The Day thou Gavest Lord is Ended and Love Divine are probably my favourite hymns because they all have such beautiful, lyrical tunes. I often associate them with weddings and funerals I have been to!

Louise: What instruments do you play and what do you like about them?

Lorna: I can play the viola, violin and piano. My main instrument is the viola. I studied viola and piano at The Royal Academy of Music and that's where I met Jeremy, a fellow viola player and organist. There are now 3 viola players in our



family! The viola has a lovely rich, mellow tone and is really satisfying to play in an ensemble. It's a bit like singing the alto part in a choir!

Louise: What celebrations do you enjoy singing at in the church's calendar and why?

Lorna: I particularly enjoy the build up to Christmas in the choir, firstly the Advent Service then the Nine Lessons and Carols: it is a chance to work on a varied repertoire at a really special time in the church's year. There is great camaraderie in the choir.

Louise: What other hobbies do you enjoy doing other than singing in the choir?

Lorna: When I have time, I enjoy reading, going to the cinema and baking cakes. High on my list of things I enjoy is eating cake and drinking tea!

CATCH UP TIME

Nick Butler



The August bank holiday 2018 came and went but I do not recall saying: A WHOPPING THANK YOU for helping me to raise a whopping £1,451 by taking part in the Queen Eleanor Cycle Ride for “Friends of the Connection at St. Martin-in-the-Fields”. Many parishioners also joined our family in the garden to enjoy a 70th birthday party too! Thank you, too, to all who were able to join in those festivities. It means a lot to enjoy your friendship and such happy memories.

It was during these four-day rides each year that Paul and I developed our plans for a trial Cycling-pilgrimage from Winchester to Canterbury in October 2018, to be followed by a “biggy” across Spain to Santiago de Compostela following “the French Route” from Saint-Jean-Pied-de-Port on the East side of the Pyrenees.

One moment that is so special on the QECR is our closing service at the end of the ride. Having assembled at the West Door of Westminster Abbey, we are led up the North Aisle as a Choir is rehearsing for Evensong. Quietly we mount the stairs into the Plantagenet chapel housing the tomb of Eleanor and under the Shrine of Edward the Confessor. This chapel is immediately east of the screen behind the Abbey's High Altar. During the Prayers, a small wooden



cross, made by a Parishoner in Harby where Eleanor died in December 1290 and which has been carried at least once by each cyclist, is placed beside Eleanor.

Returning to the work and needs of charities like The Connection, it is disturbing to realize how the number of rough sleepers on London's street still increases. I have just read how in Waltham Forest between April 2018 and March 2019, 137 rough sleepers were counted compared to 94 over the same period 2017-18; also how the number of rough sleepers logged on London's streets also rose by 18 per cent last year to 8,855; in 2014 the figure was only 940. Surely something has to change. Are we happy as a parish to see such increases in poverty and suffering? I am sure that prayer will guide us in how to approach elected leaders with our concerns.

The Connection continues to provide emergency accommodation 7 nights a week for 70-90 rough sleepers, 365 days a year.

Each day, pairs of street walkers leave the control room to contact rough sleepers around Westminster, endeavouring to build supportive contacts with them. They try to record names and details and invite any that wish assistance to make a visit to the Connection. To help relationships grow, street-walkers often act as messengers, setting up appointments for the next few days or letting clients know if they have letters at the Connection to collect. In March I was able to join a street team and was impressed by their "soft-touch" and depth of knowledge of individual rough sleepers. They were able to use their knowledge to point out those whom they knew to be beggars rather than genuine homeless people.

The Connection at St Martin-in-the-Fields continues to provide all the services required by all who have no place to call home: meals are available at very subsidized prices, using suppliers such as FareShare and others with surplus. A laundry runs 24/7, there are showers; also there is counselling, advice, access to medical services and assistance to get off the streets by either rekindling relationships with relatives or establishing a new life in secure accommodation with employment.

Hear our prayer today for all women and men, boys and girls who are homeless this day.

For those sleeping under bridges, on park benches, in doorways or bus stations.

For those who can only find shelter for the night but must wander in the daytime.

For families broken because they could not afford to pay the rent.

For those who have no relatives or friends who can take them in.

*For those who have no place to keep possessions that remind them who they are.
For those who are afraid and hopeless.
For those who have been betrayed by our social safety net.
For all these people, we pray that you will provide shelter, security and hope.
We pray for those of us with warm houses and comfortable beds
that we not be lulled into complacency and forgetfulness.
Jesus, help us to see your face in the eyes of every homeless person we meet.
Empower us to work for justice and peace through words and deeds,
and through the political means we have.
Give us open hearts to greet and meet the homeless people in our
neighbourhoods.
in your name we pray. Amen.*

Next Month: Winchester to Canterbury

A Prayer – Peter’s Vision

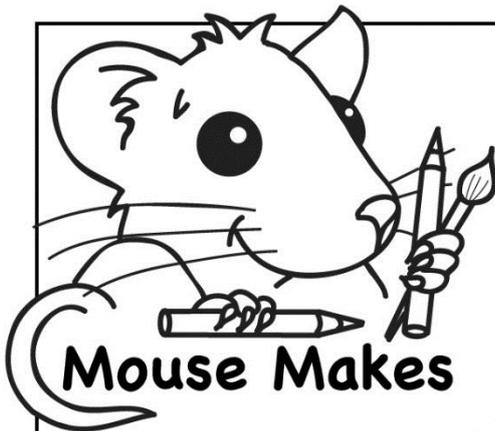
Nigel Beeton

Peter knelt upon a roof –
He’d gone up there to pray;
He’d gone to seek his Father’s face
In the middle of the day.
He saw a sheet of dodgy food
And heard an angel say,
“I know you’re hungry, Peter, so
Come, eat you fill today!”

But Peter gazed with horror at
This gift of food, divine;
Filled with things he mustn’t eat
Like birds, and prawns, and swine.
“I can’t eat that!” he said to God,
“Leviticus’ line:
“I may not eat this kind of stuff
“Not now, nor any time!”

This drew a sharp response from
God,
“Who do you think you are?
“What food did you expect, perhaps
“A bowl of caviar?
“A champagne sorbet? Quails’ eggs?
“And then a nice cigar?
“No! Food that I’ve declared is good
“You have no right to bar!”

So help us Father, as we seek
Your guidance from above;
Our prejudices, fears, and sins –
Those may you rid us of!
Buy may your Holy Spirit come
Upon us, like a dove
That we may very clearly see
The visions of your love.



Who did Jesus choose as His first disciples?
 _____ and

Matthew 4:18

Which disciple was a tax collector?

Matthew 10:3

Who was John's brother?

Matthew 4:21

Which disciple betrayed Jesus?

Mark 3:19

Which Apostle wrote Revelation?

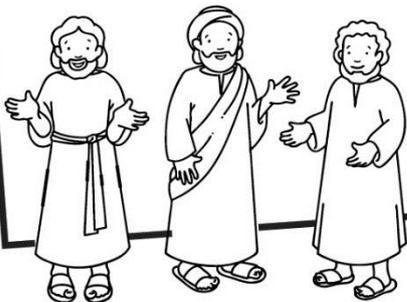
Revelation 1:1

Who became the Apostle to the Gentiles?

Acts 13:9
 Acts 9:1-18

In the time of the disciples it was usual for men to have two names. Which second name belongs to which Apostle?

JUDE	BOANERGES
MATTHEW	SIMON
JOHN	DIDYMUS
PETER	THADDEUS
THOMAS	SAUL
PAUL	NATHANIEL
BARTHOLOMEW	LEVI



DID YOU KNOW?

Some of the Apostles recorded the stories of Jesus and wrote about what it means to be a Christian.

Matthew and John wrote gospels.

Paul wrote many letters to the new Christian churches. (Look at the New Testament to see how many he wrote.)

James, Peter, John and Jude all wrote letters.

John wrote the book of Revelation.

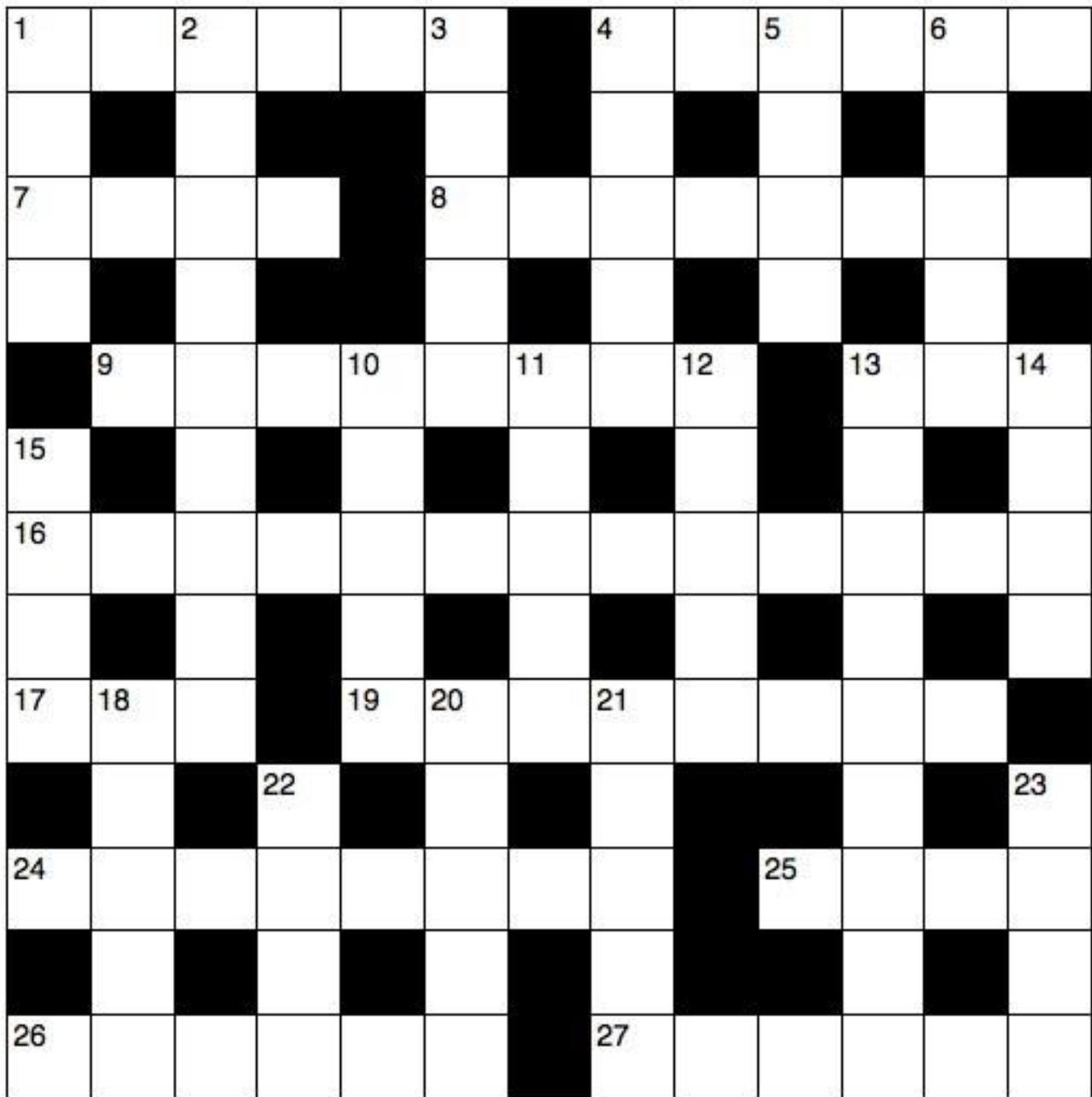
DID YOU KNOW?

Four of the disciples were fishermen: **Andrew, Peter, James and John**. They would have used **two** different nets to fish: a circular one in shallow water and a large dragnet in deep water.

A J O J E S J U D P A U L J
 T M J U D M A T T H E W A E
 J A O D J A M E S I M O N S
 A T H A D D E U S L E H D U
 M T N S M A T T H I A S R S
 E N O T H O M A S P E T E R
 S A B A R T H O L O M E W S

Can you find **JESUS** and all the Apostles in the word search?
 PETER • JAMES • JOHN
 ANDREW • PHILIP
 BARTHOLOMEW
 MATTHEW • THOMAS
 THADDEUS • SIMON
 JAMES • JUDAS
 MATTHIAS • PAUL





Crossword

Across

- 1 'I pray that out of his glorious - he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being' (Ephesians 3:16) (6)
- 4 'Saul's father Kish and - father Ner were sons of Abiel' (1 Samuel 14:51) (6)
- 7 'Praise the Lord, O my - ' (Psalm 103:1) (4)
- 8 See 5 Down
- 9 Laws (1 Kings 11:33) (8)
- 13 'Who of you by worrying can _ a single hour to his life?' (Luke 12:25) (3)
- 16 Artistry (Exodus 31:5) (13)
- 17 'Your young men will see visions, your _ men will dream dreams' (Acts 2:17) (3)

- 19 How David described his Lord (Psalm 19:14) (8)
 24 'If this city is built and its - - restored, you will be left with nothing in Trans-Euphrates' (Ezra 4:16) (5,3)
 25 'The holy Scriptures, which are able to make you - for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus' (2 Timothy 3:15) (4)
 26 Intended destination of arrows (Lamentations 3:12) (6)
 27 Eve hit (anag.) (6)

Down

- 1 'For I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find - for your souls' (Matthew 11:29) (4)
 2 Where Peter was when he denied Christ three times (Luke 22:55) (9)
 3 Remarkable early 20th-century Indian evangelist, a convert from Hinduism, - Sundar Singh (5)
 4 'Now the king had put the officer on whose - - leaned in charge of the gate' (2 Kings 7:17) (3,2)
 5 and 8 Across The Lover describes this facial feature of the Beloved thus: 'Your - is like the tower of Lebanon looking towards - ' (Song of Songs 7:4) (4,8)
 6 'Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled - your waist' (Ephesians 6:14) (5)
 10 Trout (anag.) (5)
 11 Easily frightened (1 Thessalonians 5:14) (5)
 12 The ability to perceive (Ecclesiastes 10:3) (5)
 13 One of the clans descended from Benjamin (Numbers 26:38) (9)
 14 "It is one of the Twelve," he replied, "one who - bread into the bowl with me"" (Mark 14:20) (4)
 15 Resound (Zephaniah 2:14) (4)
 18 Traditional seat of the Dalai Lama (5)
 20 Precise (John 4:53) (5)
 21 Build (Ezekiel 4:2) (5)
 22 Beat harshly (Acts 22:25) (4)
 23 Darius, who succeeded Belshazzar as king of the Babylonians, was one (Daniel 5:31) (4)

Answers to the June / July crossword are:

ACROSS: 8, Grandchildren. 9, Pro. 10, Marvelled. 11, Strut. 13, Startle. 16, Babysit. 19, Orate. 22, Eucharist. 24, Map. 25, Commissioners.

DOWN: 1, Egypt's. 2, Favour. 3, Edomites. 4, Thorns. 5, Blue. 6, Armlet. 7, On edge. 12, Tea. 14, Adoption. 15, Lot. 16, Breach. 17, Become. 18, This So. 20, Armies. 21, Expose. 23, Avid.

August Charity of the Month: Bloodwise



Bloodwise is the UK's leading blood cancer research charity. When David and Hilda Eastwood lost their daughter Susan to leukaemia in 1960, they wanted to do what they could to stop other families from having to go through the same thing. So they started fundraising to find a cure. Bloodwise is their legacy.

Blood cancer is the fifth most common cancer in the UK. And while huge progress has been made in improving treatment since they started in 1960, it is still the third biggest cause of UK cancer deaths – taking more lives each year than breast or prostate cancer. Even for those who survive, the long-term effects of treatment can be devastating.

Bloodwise funds world-class research, ensures everyone affected has access to the right support at the right time, and campaigns for better treatments.

September Charity of the Month: USPG



United Society Partners in the Gospel was founded in 1701. They are the Anglican mission agency that partners churches and communities worldwide in God's mission.

They aim to bring people together from different parts of the global church in mutually enriching conversations, to increase understanding and deepen their discipleship as inter-cultural Christians.

They make connections between the dioceses and communities of the Churches of Britain and Ireland and those overseas and seek ways in which faith and action can go hand-in-hand. They look to strengthen the unity and capacity of the Anglican church by promoting education and leadership and by learning from each other.

They accompany churches of the Anglican Communion in their struggles against injustices associated with gender, climate change, migration, the human rights of indigenous people and inter-religious living. They support Christians across the world to form communities of hope and resistance and strive to give a platform to the faithful among those with power in the secular world.

Parish Diary for August

See inside front cover for regular Sunday service times

Thurs	1 st	11.30am Funeral
Sun	4 th	7th Sunday after Trinity, 9.30am Sung Parish Mass, 6.30pm Said Evensong
Mon	5 th	<i>Oswald, king, martyr, 642</i> 7.30pm Celtic Worship
Tues	6 th	<i>Transfiguration of Our Lord</i>
Wed	7 th	<i>John Mason Neale, priest, hymn writer, 1866,</i> 7.30pm Church Building Improvement Committee Meeting, Parish Office
Thurs	8 th	<i>Dominic, priest, founder of the Order of Preachers, 1221</i>
Fri	9 th	<i>Mary Sumner, founder of the Mothers' Union, 1921</i>
Sat	10 th	<i>Laurence, deacon, martyr, 258</i>
Sun	11 th	St Laurence Patronal Festival, 9.30am Procession & Sung Parish Mass, 4.00pm Cream Tea, Main Hall, 6.30pm Said Evensong
Tues	13 th	<i>Jeremy Taylor, bishop, teacher of the faith, 1667</i> <i>Florence Nightingale, nurse, social reformer, 1910</i> <i>Octavia Hill, social reformer, 1912</i>
Wed	14 th	<i>Maximillian Kolbe, friar, martyr, 1941</i>
Sun	18 th	The Blessed Virgin Mary, 9.30am Sung Parish Mass & Procession, 6.30pm Said Evensong
Tues	20 th	<i>Bernard, abbot, teacher of the faith, 1153</i> <i>William and Catherine Booth, founders of the Salvation Army, 1912</i>
Sun	25 th	10th Sunday after Trinity, 9.30am Sung Parish Mass, 6.30pm Said Evensong
Tues	27 th	<i>Monica, mother of Augustine of Hippo, 387</i> Parish Office closed 7.30pm Adventurers' Meeting, Parish Office
Wed	28 th	<i>Augustine, bishop, teacher of the faith, 430</i> 8.00pm CM&FG Meeting, Parish Office
Thurs	29 th	<i>Beheading of John the Baptist</i>
Fri	30 th	<i>John Bunyan, spiritual writer, 1688</i>
Sat	31 st	<i>Aidan, bishop, missionary, 651</i> 1.00pm Wedding

Details of dates, times and venues of all meetings and events need to be recorded in the Parish Diary (Parish Office 01708 220696)

Parish Diary for September

See inside front cover for regular Sunday service times

Sun	1 st	11th Sunday after Trinity, 9.30am Sung Parish Mass, 6.30pm Said Evensong
Mon	2 nd	<i>Martyrs of Papua New Guinea, 1901, 1942</i>
Tues	3 rd	<i>Gregory the Great, bishop, teacher of the faith, 604</i>
Wed	4 th	<i>Birinus, bishop, 650</i>
Thurs	5 th	1.05pm Lunchtime Concert
Fri	6 th	<i>Allen Gardiner, missionary, founder of the South American Mission Society, 1851</i>
Sat	7 th	7.00pm David Pickthall Big Band Concert
Sun	8 th	12th Sunday after Trinity, 9.30am Sung Parish Mass, 6.30pm Said Evensong
Mon	9 th	<i>Charlies Fuge Lowder, priest, 1880</i> 7.30pm Celtic Worship
Fri	13 th	<i>John Chrysostom, bishop, teacher of the faith, 407</i>
Sat	14 th	9.30am – 6.30pm Ride and Stride and Heritage Open Day
Sun	15 th	Holy Cross Sunday, 9.30am Sung Parish Mass, 12 noon Baptism, 6.30pm Taizé Prayer
Mon	16 th	<i>Ninian, bishop, apostle of the Picts, c432</i> <i>Edward Bouverie Pusey, priest, 1882</i> 8.00pm Choir Association Meeting
Tues	17 th	<i>Hildegard, abbess, visionary, 1179</i>
Wed	18 th	7.30pm PCC Meeting, Parish Office
Thurs	19 th	<i>Theodore, archbishop, 690</i> 1.05pm Lunchtime Concert, 11.15am Service at Little Gaynes Home
Fri	20 th	<i>John Coleridge Patteson, bishop, and companions, martyrs, 1871</i>
Sun	22 nd	Harvest Festival, 9.30am Sung Parish Mass, (Parade Service), 12 noon Baptism, 6.30pm Said Evensong
Tues	24 th	11.15am Service at The Oaks Home
Wed	25 th	<i>Lancelot Andrewes, bishop, spiritual writer, 1626</i> <i>Sergei of Radonezh, monastic reformer, teacher of the faith, 1392</i>
Thurs	26 th	<i>Wilson Carlile, founder of the Church Army, 1942</i>
Fri	27 th	<i>Vincent de Paul, founder of the Lazarists, 1660</i>
Sun	29 th	Michael and All Angels, 9.30am Sung Parish Mass, 6.30pm Said Evensong
Mon	30 th	<i>Jerome, translator, teacher of the faith, 420</i> 9.30am Footsteps



Get in touch with

St Laurence Church Corbets Tey Road Upminster, Essex RM14 2BB

Rector

The Reverend Susannah Brasier

Revd Susannah is currently on maternity leave. In emergencies and in the need of a priest please contact Fr Roy or the Churchwarden.

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Pastoral Assistant	Deborah Masterson deborah.masterson@upminsterparish.co.uk	01708 760485
Parish Office	Joanne Chapman parish.office@upminsterparish.co.uk	01708 220696
Churchwardens	Christine Foot (<i>contact via Parish Office</i>) parish.office@upminsterparish.co.uk	01708 220696
Hon Secretary PCC	Beryl Speed beryl.speed@ntlworld.com	01708 228793
Hon Treasurer	Tony Bloomfield tony_bloomfield@aol.com	01708 223601
Planned Giving	Steve Roome (<i>contact via Parish Office</i>) parish.office@upminsterparish.co.uk	01708 220696
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