

THE

KING

JUNE 2026



SUMMER FAIR

Saturday 20 June
at 11.30

The Parish Magazine of St. Edmund the King, Northwood Hills

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. EDMUND THE KING

NORTHWOOD HILLS

VICAR The Reverend Michael Miller (020) 8866 9230
The Vicarage, 2 Pinner Road, Northwood HA6 1QS
e-mail vicar@saintedmundschurch.org.uk

LAY MINISTER Miss Sarah Parnaby (020) 8866 8309

SERVICES Principal Service - Sung Eucharist at 10.00 am every Sunday
Also streamed from our website
Other Services - Said Eucharist
7.15 pm Tuesdays, 6.00 pm Wednesdays,
10.00 am Thursdays, 11.00 am Fridays, Saturdays 10.30 am

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sundays at 10.00 am in the Hall during term time.
Please contact Carol Diggins on 07827 159 586 for more information.

Arrangements for the SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (Confession),
BAPTISMS, FUNERALS, WEDDINGS, and BANNINGS OF MARRIAGE -
please telephone the Vicar.

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MAGAZINE

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FACEBOOK  St. Edmund's Church, Northwood Hills

HOW TO RECEIVE THE MAGAZINE

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If you know someone who does not have internet access and would like a printed copy of this magazine, please contact Steve Castle at steven.castle@saintedmundschurch.org.uk giving their name and postal address (having first obtained their permission to supply this personal information).

We publish a free weekly e-mail newsletter which contains links to the latest edition of this magazine and to The Orbit pew sheet.

You can subscribe to the weekly e-mail by completing the form at <https://tinyurl.com/subscribe-orbit> or by visiting www.saintedmundschurch.org.uk and clicking the “Subscribe” link underneath “Weekly Newsletter”.



JULY MAGAZINE

*All contributions for
the July Magazine
to be with Jenny Jones by*

Friday 19th June

020 8866 7173

jonesjennye@googlemail.com

*The July Magazine
will be available
from Sunday 28th June*

FR. MICHAEL'S LETTER

Dear Friends

It seems to be part of the human condition that we feel the need to find someone to blame for what is wrong with society - immigrants, Muslims, the rich, left-wingers - the list is endless. Yet the truth is that none of these groups is actually responsible for the troubles in which we find ourselves. Scapegoating, it seems, is deeply rooted in society and has been for centuries.

The origin of scapegoating goes back to Old Testament times. In Leviticus, God tells Moses that the priest, Aaron, was to lay his hands on the head of a live goat, confess over it all the sins of the people of Israel, and then send the goat out into the wilderness, carrying those sins away with it. This foreshadows Jesus being taken outside the city to be crucified and taking on the sins of the world. Jesus was, and is, the Divine Scapegoat, whose sacrifice was once for all.

The sad thing is that when groups of people are blamed for what is wrong with the world, we forget one of the most important precepts of our faith: that we are all made in the image of God, and that we should treat all people accordingly.

An ancient rabbi taught that before every human being go thousands of angels, crying, "Make way, make way for the image of God." As Christians, we are called to see those angels dancing before every person we encounter, and to think the best of them, not the worst. (*Liz Stuart, Daily Reflections for Daily Prayer*)

I believe that if we were all to adopt that attitude, rather than scapegoating others, the world would be a much better place.

With love and prayers

Fr. Michael

CALENDAR AND PRINCIPAL SERVICE READINGS JUNE 2026

Principal Service - Sung Eucharist at 10.00 am every Sunday

- 1 Mon **The Visit of the Blessèd Virgin Mary to Elizabeth**
(transferred from 31 May)
Zephaniah 3.14-18, Romans 12.9-16, Luke 1.38-56
- 7 SUN **1st SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**
CORPUS CHRISTI (The Day of Thanksgiving for Holy Communion)
Genesis 14.18-20, 1 Corinthians 11.23-26, John 6.51-58
11.15 am Bring and Buy Sale
- 9 Tues 2.30 pm Women's Guild
- 11 Thur **St. Barnabas, Apostle**
Acts 11.19-end, Galatians 2.1-10, John 15.12-17
- 14 SUN **2nd SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**
Exodus 19.2-8a, Romans 5.1-8, Matthew 9.35-10.8
- 20 Sat 11.30 am **SUMMER FAIR**
- 21 SUN **3rd SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**
Jeremiah 20.7-13, Romans 6.1b-11, Matthew 10.24-39
- 24 Wed **Birth of John the Baptist**
Isaiah 40.1-11, Acts 13.14b-26, Luke 1.57-66,80
- 28 SUN **4th SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**
Jeremiah 28.5-9, Romans 6.12-end, Matthew 10.40-end
- 29 Mon **St. Peter and St. Paul, Apostles**
Acts 12.1-11, 2 Timothy 4.6-8,17-18, Matthew 16.13-19

St. EDMUND'S WOMEN'S GUILD

will meet on Tuesday 9th June at 2.30 pm
for a Talk by Jan Heath
about giving support to children in Sri Lanka.

Followed by refreshments

All are welcome

SUNDAY SCHOOL



at St Edmund's Church

For more information
call Carol 07827 159 586



**BRING - AND - BUY
SALE**

**1st SUNDAY OF
EACH MONTH**

11.15am IN THE HALL

Part of our Eco Church Project

St. EDMUND'S YOUTH GROUP

Meets usually every 2 weeks
on Wednesdays during term time;
7.30 - 9 pm, in the Hall. Open to all aged 10-16.

Contact Steve Castle on 020 8868 0482 for information.

See www.saintedmundschurch.org.uk/youthgroup
for details and dates

FR. MICHAEL'S 20th ANNIVERSARY OF PRIESTING

Will be celebrated at 7 pm on Friday 3rd July
with a Sung Eucharist. It will be followed by a reception in the Hall.
Please keep the date free. Invitations are in the foyer.

FR. PHILIP BARNES' 'SILVER JUBILEE'

Fr. Philip will be celebrating his Silver Jubilee on Saturday 4th July
at St. Stephen's, Gloucester Road with a Sung Mass at 3 pm.
He has sent an invitation to everyone at St. Edmund's
and would be delighted if people could join him.

CORPUS CHRISTI

Mike Godden

Corpus Christi (which is Latin for “the body of Christ”) is the festival of the Church honouring the Sacramental presence of Christ at the Eucharist. The festival is observed each year on the Thursday after Trinity Sunday, or on the following Sunday.

The origin of the feast is attributed to St. Juliana, prioress of Mont Cornillon, near Liège, in what is now eastern Belgium. Her veneration for the Blessed Sacrament was intensified by a vision, which led her to persuade Robert de Torote, Bishop of Liège, in 1246, to order the festival for his diocese. Subsequently, in 1261, when Jacques Pantaléon, formerly Archdeacon of Liège, became Pope Urban IV, he ordered the festival for the whole Church. The original office for the festival was written by St. Thomas Aquinas.

By the middle of the 14th century, the festival had found general acceptance, and in the 15th century it became for a time the principal feast of the Church. The central part of the liturgy was the procession of the Host, which developed into a full outdoor pageant in which sovereigns and princes took part, together with guilds, merchants, magistrates, nobility and clergy.

After the procession, mystery and miracle plays were performed in the public square by members of the guilds. The custom of holding the religious procession outdoors was discontinued in all but the Roman Catholic countries following the Reformation. The performance of miracle plays survived for a long time, especially in England.

The feast is now properly referred to as the Day of Thanksgiving for the Institution of Holy Communion. The office now used still retains the procession of the Host, carried in either a Monstrance or in a veiled Ciborium. The celebration is in a very real sense the embodiment for all time of everything that we have celebrated and commemorated since Christmas Eve, and is the assurance that Christ is with us for ever, in and through the Eucharistic Feast.

**We celebrate Corpus Christi this year on Sunday 7th June.
Do come and join the celebration - at 10 am**



RAISE THE ROOF UPDATE



Dear Friends

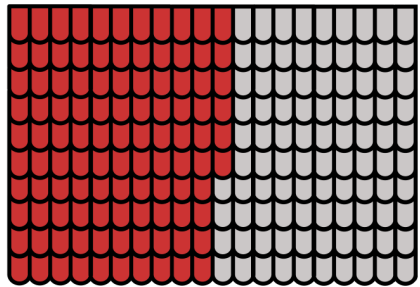
Thank you to everyone who helped at the Plant Sale, which was extremely successful. Thanks to this, along with our continuing Bring and Buy Sales and further generous personal donations we are able to colour in another ... drum roll please ... **3 tiles** bringing our total raised to a whopping £106,000.

Our next major fundraising event is the Summer Fair 11.30am – 2pm on Saturday 20th June. Please pop the date in your diary! If you are able to help, please have a chat with Steve Castle at Church, or call 020 8868 0482.

Personal Donations: An Appeal

We can only reach our fund-raising target through a combination of prayer, collective fundraising events, grants and personal donations.

If, after prayerful thought and consideration, you feel able to make a personal donation towards the Hall and Lady Chapel roof replacement, it would be greatly appreciated.



£106,000 raised £94,000 to raise

Donations may be made in several ways:

- by bank transfer to our account with CAF Bank (preferred method, as we receive the whole amount with no fees taken):
 - account name: PCC of St. Edmund The King, Northwood Hills
 - sort code: 40-52-40
 - account number: 00017222
 - reference “Raise the Roof”
- by online donation via credit or debit card or PayPal by clicking the “Donate here” button on our website: www.saintedmundschurch.org.uk
- by cheque, made payable to PCC of St. Edmund The King (with “Raise the Roof” written on the reverse, please). Cheques may be sent to The Treasurer, St. Edmund’s Church, 2 Pinner Road, Northwood. HA6 1QS.

Thank you for considering a donation. Please continue to keep the project in your prayers as we seek to keep our Hall and Lady Chapel open, safe and available for all in our Parish.

With my best wishes Steve Castle

ST. EDMUND'S SUMMER FAIR

11.30 am - 2 pm
SATURDAY 20th JUNE

TOMBOLA

SIDESHOWS
games for all ages

PLANTS

TOYS

BOOKS

Ice Creams

LUNCHES

CAKES

Bric a Brac

barbecue

Grand Draw

AND LOADS MORE FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY!

ST. EDMUND'S CHURCH, Pinner Road Northwood, HA6 1QS

Summertime greetings to you all.

We were delighted to welcome our friend from Pinner, Fr. Stuart Natrass, on Sunday 19th April, when he came to take our service while Fr. Michael was away. Fr. Stuart preached inspiringly about living the Risen Life. He drew on the Gospel reading of the two disciples who met Jesus on the road to Emmaus; they didn't recognise Him but invited Him into the house, where He revealed Himself to them when He broke bread. Fr. Stuart encouraged us to invite Jesus into our lives and break bread with Him at Communion - he also brought our attention to the dramatic effects of the power of the Spirit on the growth of the early church, as described in the Book of Acts. (Can I urge you again to read this exciting Book!) We were encouraged by his words and very much enjoyed having him and his wife Dorothy with us.

The funeral of Elizabeth ('Elsbeth') Wastell took place at St. Edmund's on Tuesday, 28th April. It was very well-attended, by family, friends (including the Swiss Group she helped to found) and members of the congregation. The flowers were stunning: surrounding candles, arranged in big displays in the chancel, lining the choir-aisle and, in a centrepiece, a floral representation of the Swiss flag. It seemed to sum Elizabeth up: her Swiss nationality, her exuberance, her love of flowers. She would have loved the service, too. Her son-in-law Mark spoke of her warmth, her resilience in the face of difficulties and her devotion to faith and family (see page 13). Her youngest grandson, George, wrote and read a remarkable poem in her honour called '*The Rose Garden*', in which he compared the family to flowers she had nurtured with so much love. The words 'resilience' and 'humour' cropped up - not to mention 'love', something we all received from her. Fr. Michael echoed this portrayal of her in his sermon. The choir sang 'Edelweiss', which was much appreciated.

Later, we gathered at Sandy Lodge Golf Club to celebrate Elizabeth's life with refreshments and shared memories. Flowers again were apposite; on each table was a beautiful spring bouquet, which included the Swiss flag. We are grateful to Elizabeth's family for their hospitality, and Oh, Elizabeth, we shall miss you!

On Sunday 3rd May, we had our monthly All-Age Service. In the Gospel Reading, Jesus speaks of His imminent departure to the Father, which naturally worries the disciples because they don't know where He is going, or how they will get there. Jesus says He is the Way, and that He and God the Father are one. Fr. Michael began his sermon by demonstrating different modes of finding our way on a journey: a road-atlas, an AA route-finder, a satnav, etc. He pointed out that all of these might present problems for those who had to follow them. When trying to find our way to God, however, we needed to look to Jesus Himself, and to follow in His footsteps, imitating the way He lived. And the best way to follow this path was by getting familiar with His life and teaching, through the Bible.

In the Intercessions, we were encouraged to examine another kind of map: a 'Prayer Labyrinth', which depicted a maze or puzzle. We had to trace the winding path from its starting point, while confronting our deep worries and fears, until we reached the middle. There we were to stop and pray, and then follow the path back to the entrance, hopefully gaining a greater awareness of God's presence with us. I definitely needed more time! I kept ending up at the entrance, missing the middle altogether. I shall try again: I see how it can be a useful exercise, especially if our concerns are very deep, and appear to have no clear solution.

On Thursday 14th May we celebrated Ascension Day, with two Eucharists, in the morning (Said) and the evening (Sung). Ascensiontide has always meant a lot to me. It coincides with the glorious explosiveness of nature in the month of May, thus creating a feeling of hope and joy. After the evening Eucharist, we enjoyed a barbecue at the Vicarage. There were about fifteen of us, and it was good to be together, a bit like the disciples, both men and women, who waited joyfully in that room in Jerusalem following the Ascension, for the coming of the Holy Spirit (Acts 1). Thanks to all who prepared and served the food, and to our host, Fr. Michael.

The Plant Sale took place on the morning of Saturday 16th May. Sadly, I was not well enough to attend, but I was delighted to hear of its success, and was able to buy some lovely flowering plants at Church the next day. Marjorie Pimm writes:

“Despite a week of unsettled weather and gloomy forecasts, the sun shone throughout the morning on Saturday 16th May - a welcome sign for our annual Plant Sale. It was encouraging to see a long queue waiting patiently before opening, and several stalls sold out quickly. As always, the event brought the community together, giving neighbours a chance to chat while raising money for our much-needed roofing fund. Plants were also sold in the evening at the Trinity Concert and again on Sunday morning. A huge thank you to everyone who worked hard to organise this event and helped make the day so successful – some of our growers are already potting up plants and sowing seeds for next year’s event! The provisional net profit was £1,400”

Marjorie also reports on recent musical events in the church:

“Two very interesting but contrasting concerts took place over the last month. Harrow Concert Band set sail with a fully nautical programme entitled ‘A Musical Splash’. In the opening item, ‘Theme from Jaws’, turquoise tulle draped behind the orchestra created the impression of a rolling sea, while an occasional whale fin bobbed into view for added effect. The remainder of the first half featured ‘Barnacle Bill’ (the theme from Blue Peter), ‘The Little Mermaid’ Medley and ‘Ghost Ship’. The second half included favourites such as ‘Stingray’, ‘Titanic’ Medley, ‘Sailing’ and ‘Muppets Treasure Island’. It was an enjoyable concert with something for everyone.

“Trinity Orchestra also began with a nautical piece: Benjamin Britten’s ‘Four Sea Interludes’ from Peter Grimes, based on a poem by Aldeburgh poet George Crabbe. The opera is set in a small fishing town on the Suffolk coast, where the fisherman Peter Grimes struggles to make a living amid repeated misfortune. This piece was followed by the much-loved Haydn Trumpet Concerto in E-flat major, played by the gifted Katie Bannister. After the Interval, we were treated to an outstanding performance of Mussorgsky’s ‘Pictures at an Exhibition’ (Maurice Ravel’s version). This piece captures Mussorgsky’s journey through an art gallery, musically portraying his response to ten artworks. It culminates with ‘The Great Gate of Kiev’, bringing the work to a majestic close.”

June is the month of Petertide, the time of Ordinations of Deacons and Priests. Please do pray for local ordinands and those being priested, especially Fr. Joe Grogan from St. Martin’s, Ruislip (whom the PCC met on their Awayday, and who deaconed at our Patronal Festival) and Fr. Benjamin Bloom of St. John’s, Pinner, who is bound to visit us as a ‘locum’ at some stage. Clergy, especially new clergy, need our prayers, particularly in times which continue to change at breathtaking speed.

Have a blessed summer.

ELIZABETH WASTELL R.I.P.

A transcript of the Eulogy at Elizabeth's Funeral, from her son-in-law Mark

On behalf of Suzie, Kitty and all the family, thank you for being here today. Some have travelled many miles and can I say a special thank you to Rolly, Elizabeth's nephew, Gina, Marianne and Roger who have flown in from Zurich.

Born 87 years ago in Wallisellen, just outside Zurich, she grew up with her mother, father and older brother Hans. Her kindergarten school was literally just across the road; her year group continues to meet annually although sadly there are fewer attending each year.

Elizabeth came to the UK in 1957, aged 19, and worked as an au pair in Finchley. What a change in her life style from Switzerland; she remembered finding London, with its smog, a very different and grey world to her home in Zurich.

What an independent, confident and resourceful young woman she must have been to embark on that journey. She was not in contact with her family, no friends here, no mobile phone, no internet - all the support we now take for granted. A journey that today we would think nothing of. She soon settled in and whilst living in north London became a frequent visitor to a coffee bar in Muswell Hill, owned by Walter and his best friend John Ward. It is clear she made an impression on Walter.

After a couple of years, Elizabeth returned home but Walter had other ideas. He was equally resourceful and determined not to let her go and pursued her by car all the way to Zurich. She often told the story how Walter arrived unexpectedly at her home one evening. She was shocked to see that he was wearing, in her words, "*some very unfashionable sandals*", and was concerned about the impression he would make on her parents. Clearly, that didn't make any difference, as they were married in Switzerland in 1959. Elizabeth became part of the big Wastell family who welcomed her with open arms.

Within 12 months Suzie was born and 3 years later Kitty completed the family. Elizabeth and Walter created a very happy home and Walter, John and Walters brother Arthur worked long hours to build their successful hotel group. Suzie and Kitty always remember that home life was full of love, laughter and stability

As a young Swiss woman abroad, she created her own circle of friends, and gathered together Swiss women who were in the same situation as hers., One of the original group, Rosemary is here with us today. Throughout her life she maintained contact with a very wide circle of Swiss friends, and every year without fail she celebrated Swiss National Day.

Married for 22 happy years, Elizabeth was sadly widowed at the age of 43, far too young. Walter was the love of her life and she never remarried. Elizabeth went on to build a new life for herself. Truly an independently minded woman with the motto to get out there and do it for yourself as nobody will do it for you.

She took her City and Guilds in flower arranging which led to Elizabeth meeting one of her longest standing friends Ann who is with us today. For many years, almost until the end, they met every Monday for coffee and a tea cake.

Family was the centre of her world. Even though she was without Walter by her side, the family continued to grow with the arrival of 5 grandchildren, Richard, Tom, Lottie, Dom and George. She has been further blessed with 6 great grandchildren, Lara, Sofia, Alex, Freddie Mabel and Penelope. Nanny was at her happiest when surrounded by them.

She had a mischievous sense of humour, and was well known for her practical jokes. None of us were safe from it. A favourite joke was to claim that her dessert smelled 'off', asking a family member to smell it, only to find their face being covered in trifle.

Elizabeth literally threw herself into family events. At one 18th birthday party, she hid in a garden shed dressed as a chicken, only to burst forth when the birdie song was played. Once seen, never forgotten.

Christmas was a special time that involved the family each performing a turn to earn their tree present. All new family members were expected to actively participate; there were no exemptions. None of us will ever forget Nanny giving birth to a baby panda or the golden sausage puppet show!!!

We are here today in the church she has supported for over 60 years. I know that there are members of the church with us and I am sure you will all recall the wonderful flower arrangements she designed.

On the theme of flowers, after family, her great love was her garden. Her garden was the envy of others and many a time she would return home from a garden centre with her small VW weighed down with bags of compost and trays of plants spread across the cars back seat. More than once, she told me that she thought her tyres were a bit flat !!

What else is there left to say? Elizabeth was the much loved matriarch of our family, a woman of faith, kindness and belief who has passed her values on to 3 generations of her family. We have all learnt a great deal from her.

Forever proud to be Swiss. She would always claim that whatever was made in Switzerland "*was the best*", and I am certain that sentiment applies to Elizabeth herself.

SCHLAFT GUT NANNY
(*Sleep well, Nanny*)



“CONFUSIONS”

Sarah Parnaby

On Thursday 7th to Saturday 9th May, Arrow Players presented ‘*Confusions*’ by Alan Ayckbourn - five interlinked short plays, which, in true Ayckbourn style, was both hilariously funny and hopelessly tragic in equal amounts. Ayckbourn’s plays can also contain moments of squirming embarrassment which, while being comic, are excruciatingly real.

In the first play, ‘*Mother Figure*’, we meet Lucy, a bossy and distracted mum (played convincingly by Holly Baker), whose life revolves around her children. Her husband Harry, away on a conference, has tried to contact her by ringing her well-meaning - if rather more conventional - neighbours Rosemary and Terry (Abbie Moore and Steve Castle), as Lucy never answers her phone. Lucy ends up entertaining them with ‘nursery-teatime’-type refreshments; she treats them so much like small children that they begin to act like them, and their respectable politeness peels off. They finally escape, the phone-call forgotten.

The second play, ‘*Drinking Companion*’, picks up on the absent husband: Harry (Adam Clark), having tried in vain to call his wife, now attempts unsuccessfully to ‘pick up’ two young ladies, Paula (a demure Nicky Setterfield) and the more snappish Bernice (Jade Stygall) in a hotel bar. Growing more and more desperate when his less-than-persuasive banter and unsubtle suggestions prove unproductive, his approach becomes both more coercive and more ridiculous, the drunker he gets. Adam’s disquieting performance was brilliant. Jo Henry was effective as the cool but watchful waiter.

The third play, ‘*Between Mouthfuls*’, was set in the hotel restaurant, centring around two warring couples. It turns out that there’s a connection between the two, as one of the women, Polly, (Holly Baker) has been having an affair with the other’s husband, Donald Pearce (a blustering Mike Warrick) - who’s also her husband Martin’s boss. (With me so far?!) Donald’s wife Emma, who suspects him of ‘playing away’, was acted with convincing waspishness by Donna Bryk.



Martin (Jordan Baker), on hearing about Polly’s misdemeanour, is upset, but clearly more concerned about the possibility of losing his job. The clever thing about this scene was the way one only hears the conversations of the couples when the maitre-d’ (a most attentive and obsequious Jenny Sakal) approaches their table - inadvertently interrupting at inappropriate moments. This called for careful timing, and was beautifully executed. In the end, both the women stomp off, and the two men leave amicably together for a drink.



After the Interval, we were presented with a very different scene in ‘*Gosforth’s Fete*’. Donna Bryk’s character, Mrs. Pearce, appears again in her role as local Councillor. Her public persona is more amenable, although sorely tried by the end of the play, when she ends up both soaked and electrocuted! The fete is a disaster, due both to the frightful weather and the incompetence of local landlord Gosforth (a blundering, amiable Adam Clark) in getting the sound system to work. Gosforth learns from Millie the local school-teacher (played with attractive naïveté by Abbie Moore) that

he's made her pregnant. (Millie is already engaged to the highly moral scoutmaster, Stewart, played with great melodrama by Jordan Baker.) This revelation gets broadcast to everyone when the sound system suddenly bursts into life. Other disasters include a malfunctioning tea-urn, an out-of-control cub-pack, and the late arrival of the Band, by whom the cubs, having fallen off the collapsing scaffolding into their path, are at risk of being trampled sounds like a typical English fete to me! And full marks to Steve Castle as the archetypal bumbling country Vicar! (No, he did NOT use Fr. M as a role-model!)

The final play, 'A Talk in the Park', is very different again: four seats in a park, and five people. A shy young woman called Beryl (Jade Stygall) is joined on her bench by Arthur, (in a creditably creepy performance by Steve Castle) who persistently tries to make conversation with her. She eventually moves to another bench, where she tries to confide in Charles (an uncomfortable Mike Warrick) about her violent husband. Charles is embarrassed, and moves to the third bench, where Beryl (Nicky Setterfield) is sitting. He starts to hold forth about the state of his own life, but she becomes nervous and moves to the fourth bench, where she targets Ernest's ear about her fears and her beloved dogs. Ernest (played by Jordan Baker with credible dispassion) is uninterested and joins Arthur on the first bench, but Arthur is unwilling to hear his story. Each person is desperate to be heard, yet disinclined to listen - leaving Arthur to note, 'might as well talk to yourself.'

The acting was superb, with excellent characterisation and timing. Our congratulations go to the directors, Jade Stygall, Holly Baker, Nicky Setterfield, Mike Warrick and Laura Warrick, and to all the cast. Scenery, costumes and lighting were also very much in keeping with the '70s era (I remember it well!). Well done, all those who were involved in creating such a fine production; thanks also to all who helped behind the scenes and at Front of House. A memorable evening!



 **6th Northwood Brownies** 

Brownies is part of Girlguiding and
open to girls aged 7-10

We meet at St Edmund's Hall
on Wednesday's
5.30pm to 7pm

For more information contact Nicola at
brownies6northwood@yahoo.co.uk

HYMN OF THE MONTH

Mike Godden

The Corpus Christi procession (see page 7) is often accompanied, in the Church of England, by this translation of a mediæval Latin hymn. It is also used for the procession of the Blessed Sacrament to the Altar of Repose on Maundy Thursday. The last two verse (called, separately, “Tantum ergo”) are sung at Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

Of the glorious body telling,
O my tongue, its mysteries sing,
And the blood, all price excelling,
Which the world's eternal King,
In a noble womb once dwelling,
Shed for this world's ransoming.

Given for us, for us descending,
Of a virgin to proceed,
He with us in converse blending,
Scattered He the gospel seed,
Till His sojourn drew to ending,
Which He closed in wondrous deed.

At the last great supper lying
Circled by His chosen band,
Duly with the law complying,
First He finished its command,
Then, immortal food supplying,
Gave Himself by His own hand.

Word made flesh, by word He maketh
Bread to us His flesh to be;
We in wine Christ's blood partaketh:
And if senses fail to see,
Faith alone the true heart waketh
To behold the mystery.

Therefore we, before Him bending,
This great sacrament revere:
Types and shadows have their ending,
For the newer rite is here;
Faith, our outward sense befriending,
Makes the inward vision clear.

Glory let us give and blessing
To the Father and the Son,
Honour, might and praise addressing,
While eternal ages run;
Ever too His love confessing,
Who, from both, with both is one.

The hymn is attributed to St. Thomas Aquinas (1225–1274). He was an Italian Dominican friar and priest, theologian, and philosopher, and is considered one of the most important and influential thinkers in the history of Christian theology and Western philosophy.

There have been a number of translations of the hymn from the Latin, but the version above, used in the New English Hymnal, was made by Rev. Dr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866) who was born in London, educated at Sherborne School and Trinity College, Cambridge, and was ordained in 1842. At the age of 22 he was Chaplain at Downing College, Cambridge, but ill health and his strong support of the Oxford Movement kept him from ordinary parish ministry. So Neale spent the years between 1846 and 1866 as a warden of Sackville College in East Grinstead, a retirement home for poor men. There he served the men faithfully and expanded Sackville's ministry to impoverished women and orphans. He also founded the Sisterhood of St. Margaret, which became one of the finest English training orders for nurses.

Neale wrote or translated many hymns, including “Good Christian Men, Rejoice”, and “O come, O come, Emmanuel”, and produced many books and articles on Liturgy and Church history.

There are a number of tunes used for the hymn, but the one traditionally used in the Church of England is “Pange Lingua”. It is derived from a mediæval Gregorian plainchant “Pange Lingua, gloriosi Corporis mysterium”, which in turn has its origins as far back as Ancient Rome.



The Story Behind The Hymn: Lord, For The Years

(from www.parishpump.co.uk)

This well-loved hymn was written in 1967 by the Rev'd. Timothy Dudley Smith, who later became Bishop of Thetford. He later confessed: “I wrote it on a train when I was very pressed for time. I'm thankful if something I write gets picked up, but I suspect anyone who does something in a rush later regrets that they didn't find time to apply the sandpaper a bit more!”

Dudley Smith had been asked to write a hymn for the centenary service of the Children's Special Service Mission, now Scripture Union, in St. Paul's Cathedral. His commission was to write words that could be fitted to Jean Sibelius's *Finlandia*, as it was to be accompanied by an orchestra with this tune in their repertoire. And so – ‘Lord for the years’ was written.

Dudley Smith need not have worried about lack of time – his lyrics were a ‘hit’ in the cathedral on the day, and went on to become so well-loved that George Carey chose the hymn to be sung at his consecration as Bishop of Bath and Wells, and then again later, in 1991, on his consecration as Archbishop in Canterbury Cathedral.

The hymn continued to be widely sung and loved, until in 2002 Timothy Dudley Smith was asked to write an extra verse for it so that it could even be sung around the time of the Queen's Golden Jubilee.

Many of the words in the hymn were true for Queen Elizabeth herself. She would have celebrated her 100th birthday this April, and her ‘official’ birthday on the second Saturday in June. She did indeed thank God ‘for the years Your love has kept and guided, urged and inspired us, cheered us on our way’.. And so indeed the ‘extra’ verse added for the Queen also held true:

*Lord for our hopes, the dreams of all our living,
Christ and his kingdom one united aim,
Rulers and peoples bound in high thanksgiving,
Lord of our hopes, our trust is in your Name.*

ST. RICHARD OF CHICHESTER - 16th JUNE

Mike Godden

St. Richard was born in 1197 near the town of Wych (now Droitwich, Worcestershire), the younger son of a yeoman farmer. Having worked on the farm for several years, he declined a marriage arrangement with a local Lady, transferred his rights to the family estate, and followed a life of study in the Church. He studied canon law at Oxford, Paris and Bologna. In 1240 he was appointed Chancellor of Oxford University, a post he held for only a few months, until Edmund Rich of Abingdon, a former tutor of Richard, now Archbishop of Canterbury, appointed him Chancellor of the Diocese of Canterbury. Richard shared Edmund's ideals of clerical reform and supported papal rights even against the King. After Edmund's death in late 1240, Richard studied theology at a Dominican monastery at Orleans, for 2 years, leading to ordination in 1242. He served as Parish Priest at Charing and Deal, both in Kent, then was reappointed Chancellor at Canterbury by Archbishop Boniface.

In 1244 Richard was elected Bishop of Chichester, was unable to take up the position because King Henry III refused to accept the appointment, despite Boniface's support for him. The situation was eventually resolved in 1247 by Pope Innocent IV, who proposed to excommunicate Henry unless he relented.

Richard was by all accounts a model Bishop. He was charitable, generous to those stricken by famine, stern but merciful to sinners. He was also diligent in reforming the manners and morals of his clergy, and introducing greater order and reverence to the observance of the Sacraments. He decreed that the Sacraments were to be administered without payment, Mass celebrated in dignified conditions, the clergy to be chaste, to practice residence, and to wear clerical dress. The laity were obliged to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days, and to know by heart the Hail Mary, the Lord's Prayer and the Creed.

Richard died in 1253, and was canonised in 1262. His body lay in a shrine in Chichester Cathedral, which became a site of pilgrimage until despoiled during the Reformation. Richard is remembered in part for a prayer he murmured on his deathbed. The following text is a translation of the prayer, recorded in Latin by Ralph Bocking, a Dominican Friar and friend and confessor to Richard, who was present at his death ..

I thank you, Lord Jesus Christ, for all the benefits you have bestowed on me for the pains and reproaches that you have endured for me, for which that lamentation truly suited you. There is no pain like my pain.

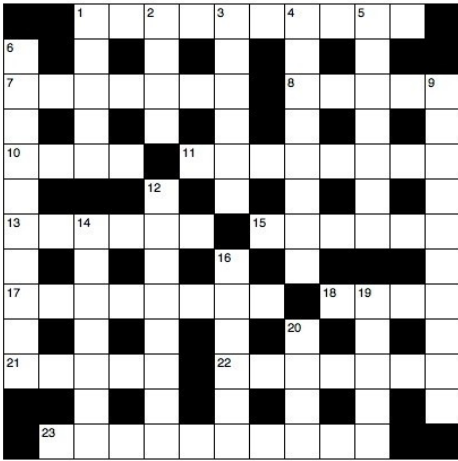
There have been many versions of the prayer over the centuries. The current version, according to the Diocese of Chichester is ..

Thanks be to thee, O Lord Jesus Christ, for all the benefits which thou hast given me, for all the pains and insults which thou hast borne for me:

O most merciful Redeemer, Friend and Brother, may I know thee more clearly, love thee more dearly, and follow thee more nearly.

The last 2 lines appear to have been added in the early part of the 20th century; they don't appear to have been part of St. Richard's prayer.

JUNE CROSSWORD



ACROSS

1. Evil (*Genesis 6.5*) (10)
7. Musician called for by Elisha when he met the kings of Israel, Judah and Edom (*2 Kings 3.15*) (7)
8. The request that led to the institution of the Lord's Prayer: 'Lord, — us to pray' (*Luke 11.1*) (5)
10. 'We are hard pressed on every—' (*2 Corinthians 4.8*) (4)
11. Fraud (*2 Corinthians 6.8*) (8)
13. 'His troops advance in force; they build a siege ramp against me and — around my tent' (*Job 19.12*) (6)
15. Where Rachel hid Laban's household gods when he searched his daughter's tent (*Genesis 31.34*) (6)
17. 'Now about spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be—' (*1 Corinthians 12.1*) (8)
18. Nomadic dwelling (*Genesis 26.25*) (4)
21. 'As for man, his days are like—, he flourishes like a flower of the field' (*Psalms 103.15*) (5)
22. Or I live (anag.) (7)
23. Those guilty of 1 Across (*Romans 13.4*) (10)

DOWN

1. 'God so loved the — that he gave his one and only Son' (*John 3.16*) (5)
2. 'Away in a manger, no — for a bed' (4)
3. Mob ten (anag.) (6)
4. 'Each — group made its own gods in several towns where they settled' (*2 Kings 17.29*) (8)
5. Began (*Luke 9.46*) (7)
6. Speaking very softly (*John 7.32*) (10)
9. Workers Ruth joined when she arrived in Bethlehem with her mother-in-law Naomi (*Ruth 2.3*) (10)
12. Put in jail (*Acts 22.19*) (8)
14. Aceturn (anag.) (7)
16. Discharge (*Acts 21.3*) (6)
19. 'All these—come from inside and make a man "unclean"' (*Mark 7.23*) (5)
20. 'Let us rejoice and be glad and — him glory!' (*Revelation 19.7*) (4)



May Crossword Solution

	O	V	E	R	W	H	E	L	M	E	D			
O		A		E		O		I		A		O		
V	A	L	L	E	Y	S		S	T	R	A	P		
E		U		D		T	O	P		L		P		
R	E	E	L		A		B		T	O	D	O		
F			I	N	C	I	T	E		B		R		
L	O	A	D		R		A		W	E	S	T		
O		B		N	O	T	I	C	E			U		
W	A	S	H		S		N		H		T	H	I	N
I		T		A	S	H		H		I			I	
N	O	A	H	S			E	V	E	R	N	O	T	
G		I		K		L		R		D			Y	
	O	N	E	S	I	P	H	O	R	U	S			

*The Church of St. Edmund the King has been serving
the Parish of Northwood Hills since 1934.*

*The Parish is in the Harrow Deanery of
the Willesden Episcopal Area of the Diocese of London*



*Edmund was the devout young King of the East Angles,
martyred by the Danes for his allegiance to Christ
in the year 869 when he was 29 years old.
The crown and arrows of the church crest
symbolise his Kingship and Martyrdom.*

