



# St Peter's Parish Newsletter

## November edition 2017

### Letter from the Vicar.

It has taken quite a while to get the Parish Newsletter back off the ground. Regular readers will know we have enjoyed some fabulous offerings with Trevor & Christine and then Susan doing sterling work editing this magazine. It is no easy task; gathering articles, encouraging (arm twisting) members to write for it, finding time to construct a publication and get it printed in ample time. So, before we can begin to consider relaunching this we must first thank them. It is upon their work we are trying to build.

You will also know we have been without a publication for a little while. This is an attempt to resurrect what is an important part of the parish communications system. To make it work we will depend on material from you, dear reader, for you are the source of our inspiration. So please do not be backward in coming forward. If you have something you think will interest us or educate us please do write. You can email to me, write to me, pigeon post me (though I'm not fond of birds!). Whatever way best suit you. It would be good to hear from you. Especially if you have any constructive suggestions on how we might improve. We would like this to be a regular publication but it can only be regular if we have material to put in it. So please don't be bashful.

### **Pilgrim 2017**

The first thing I'd like to tell you about is our Pilgrim Study Programme for this year. It launches on 5<sup>th</sup> December and we are very excited about it. The course will be led by members of the Staff Team. This term will be led by Fr David and he will host the meeting in the Vicarage. The first module explores the question 'What do Christians believe?' using the Decisions of the Baptism service to take us through the basic tenants of the Christian faith. The course is open to those who are thinking of confirmation, those who wish to refresh their Christian knowledge and those who are just curious. For more information there are pamphlets on the information table in church. To book a place speak to me (we have participants already so be quick to make sure you have a place). This first module is six weeks long (three this side of Christmas, three the other side). It can be used as an Advent/Epiphany Course. This is the first of four modules that will roll out through 2018. Although you are encouraged to come to all four, they make sense together, you can pick and choose. Just make sure you get your name down soon as spaces are filling up quickly.

**Advanced dates for your diary:** 28<sup>th</sup> January 2018 is our confirmation service at St Peter's; 15<sup>th</sup> July 2018 will be our 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary. There will be events planned. Make sure you keep that weekend free.

## **Mark James shares his experiences as a Postgraduate at The Royal College of Music's Centre for Performance Science, and his recent participation in ISPS Reykjavik 2017, Iceland.**

Several familiar names in the music world form part of the fabric of the RCM including Sir George Grove, founding editor of Grove's dictionary of music and musicians, and first director of the RCM (1883), plus pillars of church music including, Sir Charles Hubert Parry, Sir Charles Villiers Stanford, Sir David Wilcox and many more.

A year ago I graduated from the Royal College of Music with an MSc in Performance Science. The RCM is unique amongst UK music conservatoires in having an academic Centre for Performance Science. The department aims to support musicians in all aspects of their performing careers. The MSc embraces the topics of music psychology, music education, musician's health and well-being, with a view to reducing performance anxiety, speeding up the learning process of new music, and improving the memorisation of music. To complete the course every student must conduct an original research project. My research question was, how do music conservatoire keyboardists acquire the techniques and skills to read music at sight? I interviewed keyboardists from eight countries.

CPS staff and students collaborate closely with Imperial College next door, realising the original ambition for Albertopolis of promoting progress in the arts and sciences. All performance students have access to the Performance Simulator. The Simulator realistically simulates a concert audience or audition panel. Student's performances are video recorded and emailed to them to reflect on. It was interesting to see how the Simulator was developed while co-running it.

The CPS department hosts an international symposium on Performance Science in a new country around the world every two years. ISPS attracts academics from around the globe who present and debate their most recent research findings. I was fortunate to assist at ISPS Kyoto, Japan 2015. I presented my research findings into sight reading at ISPS Reykjavík, Iceland in August 2017, at the Harpa concert hall (opened 2011). I took the opportunity to see the sights and gave a concert on the acclaimed 1992 Klais organ in the Hallgrímskirkja.

Links for further information.

[www.mjmusicervices.co.uk](http://www.mjmusicervices.co.uk); [www.rcm.ac.uk/research/researchareas](http://www.rcm.ac.uk/research/researchareas) ;

[www.performancescience.org/ISPS2017/](http://www.performancescience.org/ISPS2017/); <https://en.harpa.is>

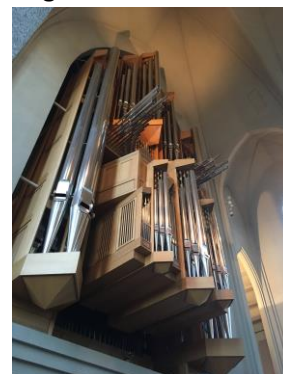
Hallgrímskirkja



Harpa Concert Hall



Organ



## A Fruitful Harvest!

This year's Harvest celebrations have indeed brought much to be thankful for! The Harvest Fayre held on Saturday 7th October was the culmination of many months preparation by the various stallholders. It was wonderful to see it well-attended and to experience the warm atmosphere in the hall and in our beautifully decorated church. We raised c £2,200, to be shared between St Peter's 125th Anniversary Community Project and Save the Children's Flood Relief work in Bangladesh.

The following day Sunday 8th October saw our Harvest Festival service and our Pet Blessing service. Gifts for Ealing Food Bank were gathered at the altar in the morning, while "all creatures great and small" gathered in the afternoon. A truly fruitful way to celebrate the wonders of creation and to share those fruits with others.

October also has a rich harvest of saints, from whose lives and faith we can learn much to help us in our own.

October 4th is the Feast Day of St Francis of Assisi (1181 – 1226). It is no accident that Pet Blessing services are held on the nearest Sunday to this great advocate of our deep connection with all God's creatures. Several people at St Peter's made a pilgrimage to his home town of Assisi this year to pray in some of the places of significance in his life and ministry.

October 15th is the Feast Day of St Teresa of Avila (1515 – 1582), a remarkable woman who relinquished her noble birth to found the reformed Carmelite order of nuns. She was a very lively thinker and writer and her best known work, *The Interior Castle*, is a spiritual classic.

October 18th is the Feast Day of St Luke the Evangelist. St Luke's Gospel is the most complete account of the life of Jesus and the history of the early church is recorded in his Acts of the Apostles. Traditionally St Luke is believed to be a physician and that it was from conversations with Mary, the mother of Jesus, that he gleaned material for his Gospel. If the weather is unseasonably warm and sunny at this time then we should thank "St Luke's Little Summer."

October 25th is the Feast Day of St Crispin and St Crispinian, who were twin Roman saints martyred c 286. The date has resonance as it is the day when the Battle of Agincourt was fought in 1415, and when Shakespeare has his Henry V speak his famous lines rallying his troops:

"And Crispin Crispian shall ne'er go by,  
From this day to the ending of the world,  
But we in it shall be rememberèd-  
We few, we happy few, we band of brothers;  
For he to-day that sheds his blood with me  
Shall be my brother...."



## Keys Music

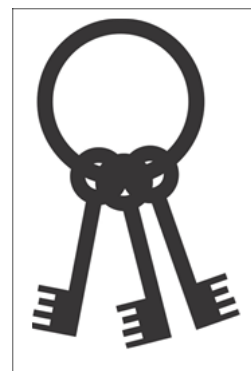
St Peter's Church is about to start a youth music group called 'Keys Music' which will meet in church on Friday's from 4 - 5pm. This is open to all children and teenagers who want to make music either with instruments or with their voices.

It will be run by Fr Michael Selby and Elyn Thomas and will be a workshop style event with refreshments.

**It will begin on Friday 3rd of November 2017 at 4.00pm.**

Bring instruments along if you want to, or just turn up and let us know what you might be able to offer. Our aim is 'To make music while having fun,' so come along and bring your friends, the more the merrier.

For further information speak to Fr Michael or Elyn.




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### November Diary Dates:

1 <sup>st</sup> All Saints Day	19.30 Mass
2 <sup>nd</sup> All Souls Day	
4 <sup>th</sup> Saturday	17.00 Sparklers Party
5 <sup>th</sup> All Saints Sunday	09.15 Pebbles; 10.00 Parish Mass; 17.30 Evening Prayer
9 <sup>th</sup> Thursday	19.30 Men's Beer & Curry
11 <sup>th</sup> Saturday	10.00 Coffee Drop-in; 10.55 Act of Remembrance and silence
12 <sup>th</sup> Remembrance Sunday	10.00 Parish Mass; 17.30 Evening Prayer
14 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday	19.30 PCC Meeting
16 <sup>th</sup> Thursday	10.00 Best Feet Forward Walk; 20.00 The Protestant Reformation—500 Years on (Series of talks arranged by the Newman Soc at Ealing Abbey)
19 <sup>th</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday bfe Advent	09.15 Pebbles; 10.00 Parish Mass; 17.30 Evening Prayer
26 <sup>th</sup> Christ the King	10.00 Parish Mass; 17.30 Evening Prayer

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### Findings by Kathleen Jamie (A Sort of Book publishers. 2005)

There is a power and colour to prose written by a poet. This book is no different. Kathleen is an award winning poet with an eye and ease with nature that is startling, clear and beautiful. In this book she uses her wordsmith skills to gather themes and share travels with their discoveries and magic; from the flight of a peregrine over the hills near her home to the dark winter solstice of Orkney or the beached carcass of a whale on a Hebridean beach. Her words become alive and vivid, painting the scene she shares with us. A beautiful read and perfect for long winter days.

