



Parish News



Vol 1 No 1: May 2016

Letter from the Vicar:

It has been a few months since the last edition of our Parish Chest. Susan Peatfield did a brilliant job of editor but as with all things in life, good things have to come to an end. So thank you Susan and we hope that is not the last we will hear from you in print.

As a stop gap, we have decided a shorter, pithier publication could be produced until such time as someone feels able and willing to step up and take on this valuable piece of parish communication. And here is the first edition.

It has been interesting to note how many of you have expressed sorrow at the passing of the Chest and a desire to have something in its place.

Joni Mitchell, in her iconic song 'Big Yellow Taxi' reminds us 'you don't know what you've got 'til it's gone' when you pave paradise and put up a parking lot (1970).

When tradition or the norm is taken for granted and changes are made without adequate thought or reflection, we can often be left mourning what we have lost. We hear of climate change, the

destructive effects on vegetation and species extinction; of exploitation of our natural resources; of the destruction of our heritage; all events accompanied by the cry of loss as the damage is done.

Change can however be good. It can help growth and development. Gardeners know that plants left to their own devices can choke each other or pass on diseases. Plants need nurture and thinning and planting in the right place.

This year we are beginning the process of writing a new Mission Action Plan. It will be based upon the outcomes of our Parish Reflection Programme of last September (can you remember back that far?) and the Bishop of London's Capital Vision 2020 programme (CV2020). What we ask of you is your prayerful support as initially the Mission Team and finally the PCC will explore what our new Mission Plan will look like and what areas of our life it will seek to help grow and influence. This may not sound the most exciting piece of parish life...but it can be.

With love and prayers,

Fr David

St Peter's Church

Mount Park Road, Ealing W5 2RU

020 8997 3655 | www.stpeterealing.org.uk



APCM 2016 News:

Sunday 24th April 2016 saw the next instalment of our Annual Parochial Church Meetings. These are held annually (as the name might suggest) to elect officers to the PCC, Deanery Synod (every three years), to receive key parish reports and the annual accounts.

Our church wardens are elected at a preceding meeting of the Parishioners, normally held right before and as part of the programme of the APCM.

This year we elected three people to three of the five vacancies and then co-opted one other leaving one vacancy (any takers?). Our PCC 2016-17 now consists of:

Chair: Revd David Neno; **Ex-officio Members:** Revd Dr Margaret Joachim; Susan Peatfield

Churchwardens: Angus McAvoy; Moira Babary

Elected Members: Susan Brewin (PCC Secretary); Alexandra Pridgeon; Linda Foster (Treasurer); Sarah Hare; Ann Lazarow; Keith Win; Rodney Reid; Christine Bates; Ryan Thomas

Deanery Synod Representatives: Val Stephens; Jane Bradshaw

If you have not yet had your copy of the Annual; Reports please pick up a copy at the Churchwardens' desk.

Ealing Churches Winter Night Shelter Breakfast. A report from Elizabeth Newton

I went to the prayer breakfast on Saturday 23rd April to mark the end of the 2015-16 season. There were about 35 people representing the different churches involved as well as Trustees and, of course, Alison Wood, the Project Co-Ordinator. It was lovely to be able to give her a warm send off as she is retiring in the summer.

We said prayers of thanks for the season completed as well as for the forthcoming recruitment of a new co-ordinator. We also prayed for each guest in turn with a little update on their progress. You may be interested to know that 48 people stayed in the shelter over the 4 months and it appears that about three quarters of the guests now have accommodation.

We hope you can help when winter approaches in November this year. We'll keep you informed of developments and updates.

Parish Retreat to Douai Abbey 22-24 July 2016

Retreating:

At times we need space in life. Space to think and pray, to evaluate where we are, where we have come from and where we are going, space to just be. Retreating is not about running away but recharging, regrouping and preparing for the days to come. To retreat is to reengage with God and yourself.

Our retreat this year takes the form of a 48-hour period of silence and reflection along with time for fellowship. Leaving on the Friday afternoon from St Peter's church we will arrive to tea at the Abbey by 4pm and from then engage as much or as little as we like in the worship life of the Abbey Community. Silence will be kept within the Abbey Guest house and grounds from Compline the night before until lunch the following day. The cost of the stay is £130 plus transport. Booking forms are available on the Parish Information Desk.

More information on Douai Abbey can be found on: <http://www.douaiabbey.org.uk/>

If you have any contributions to make to our Parish Newsletter please let Fr David have them by Sunday 15th May. If you can please send them to david.neno@virginmedia.com.