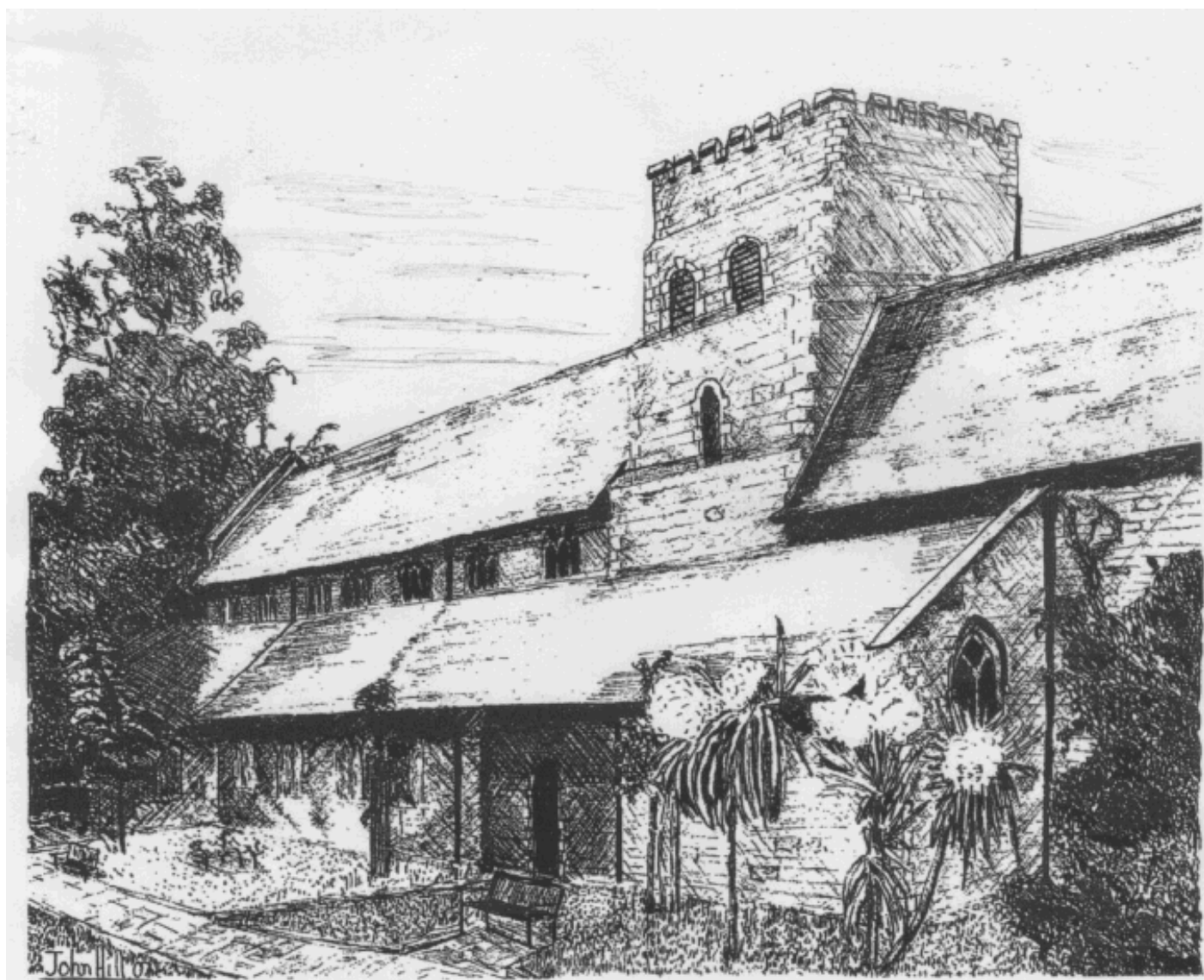


# CHRIST CHURCH

## MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND

### PARISH MAGAZINE



John Hill 2007



Teddy Bears Picnic  
13th August 2008



*Harvest*  
Harvest Supper  
14th September

August  
2008

**Back to Church Sunday**



28th September 2008

Who's Who at Christ Church		<a href="http://www.christchurchgravesend.org.uk">www.christchurchgravesend.org.uk</a>
Vicar	Sue Brewer	352643 suec@brewer86.plus.com
Hon. Ass. Priest	Jacqueline Littlewood	560106
Hon. Ass. Priest	Peter Wibroe	
Church Warden	Christine Sewell	745443
Church Warden	Peter Shearan	566215
PCC Secretary	Julie Hill	568265
PCC Treasurer	Stanley Bond	534510
Reader	Rosemary Austin	358702
Reader	Sheila Brown	356339
Reader	John Hougham	352138
Reader	Betty Martin	352696
Reader	Martin Sewell	745443

Deadline for September magazine: Sunday 24th August .

Put on peg in the vestry, or hand to a Churchwarden,

or email: [ianbbrown@phonecoop.coop](mailto:ianbbrown@phonecoop.coop)

#### Inside this month's magazine

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Christ Church Hall  
is available for hire.  
Contact: Mrs Joan Bennett  
01474 568585

Well equipped. Very  
suitable for meetings  
and children's parties.

Welcome



Back to Church Sunday

*You are  
specially  
invited*



Sunday September  
28th 2008

Thank you for reading the Christ Church magazine – and welcome.

All sorts of people read this magazine – regular worshippers at Christ Church, people with historic connections with the church, those who are linked to us through brownies and cubs or through the pre-school... maybe you just picked up this copy on a friend's coffee table! Whoever you are, we hope you find something of interest and that you will visit us again.

At Christ Church we try to offer a warm welcome to all – whether through the pages of the magazine, the website or when you visit the church in person. Every visitor is a VIP... a very important person to us.

If you haven't been in church for a while, had you considered coming back to church to try it out? Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September is 'Back to Church Sunday'. All over the country churches will be offering a warm welcome to visitors on that day.

At Christ Church we promise a short, straightforward service at 10am. We promise not to be pushy, but you will be made welcome and every guest is a VIP. Why not come along and try us out.

Sue Brewer

# A CHURCH WARDEN'S NOTES

## The Church gardens

It is over a year now since work began to improve the church gardens. It all began when the corner plot by the car park had been cleared of trees and bushes. John Hougham told us that he wished to dedicate some trees in the area in memory of Peggy; they are now the centrepieces. Later the Mothers' Union planted a rose tree. There was also the beginnings of a mixed hedge along the rear of the triangular plot. At the same time, and still during the Interregnum, the Garden of Remembrance reorganisation began.

Since then, and as a result of requests in the Weekly Newsletter, donations of plants have been steadily coming in, so that the corner plot in particular is now filling up. The round bed by the hall, which had lost its central bush to old age, is now surrounded by sedum, and this year's crop of poppies has been a colourful surprise. We have had to say farewell to the rose bushes in the two front beds; they are well past their sell-by date; it is best not to replace them with roses for some years.

At the last PCC meeting it was agreed that we had need of a Garden Group to oversee the flower beds; we had already had some volunteers to join it, and indeed, at the last Working Party in July they had already made a start in taking stock of what we had. We also have an overseer for the Garden of Remembrance, although clearing the bins from there is a job which needs tackling: they can become very heavy.

Christ Church is a public building, and a particularly fine one. The surrounding area should reflect that; since we are aware of that, we have agreed to employ a new garden firm to keep it in good order, who will be starting work very soon. We are confident that everyone will be pleased with their work. The individual beds will continue to be the task of the Garden Group. If you think you can help with donations of plants, Ann Thrush, Lesley Harries and Mary Sargeant will be only too pleased to discuss it with you.

## Christ Church Hall

Towards the end of August the Hall windows are being completely replaced. The present ones are now 25 years old and showing their age. Once that is done, we shall need to purchase new curtains, and to have the flooring resealed. This will be costing the church a good deal of money.

Peter Shearan

# Detling - Here we come!



Hastily after a delicious cup of Christ Church coffee eight of us met in the car park and left for an afternoon in Detling to attend the ordination of eleven Deacons to the Priesthood at the Kent showground. The weather was indeed breezy and luckily sunny. However we soon

found an area with some shelter from the wind and sat down on the grass for a picnic lunch.

Immediately several of Sue's friends and colleagues from Dartford descended upon us and everyone was soon greeting one another like old friends.

After lunch we all went into the huge marquee for the ordination service. Bishop Michael paraded in full and beautiful regalia and the service was underway. Bishop Michael spoke movingly and with understanding to each ordinate during the service.



Finally the service culminated in communion where the Bishop who didn't realise that those of us on the periphery of the congregation hadn't finished started to finish the service. He soon got the message and told us to do what comes naturally. We all started to sing the final communion hymn in unison (even me), until communion for all had finished.

Then after the final hymn and blessing it was a round of applause for the new ordinands.

We wish them God's blessing as they begin the road of ministry in this the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

Steve and Jasmine Humphries.



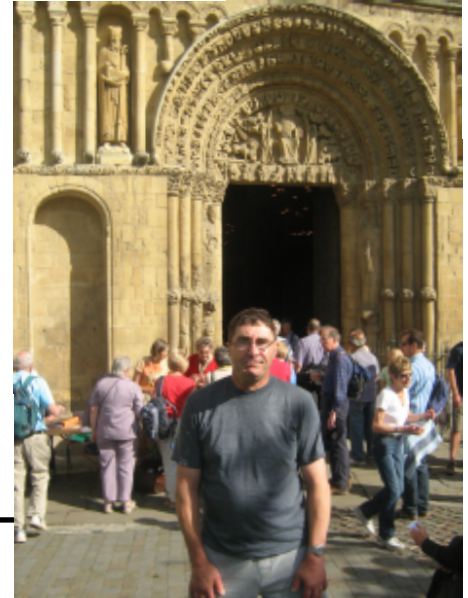
Photographs by  
Pam Kilby



## Walk for the children of Zimbabwe

Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> July dawned somewhat uncertain so far as the weather was concerned and so I packed the wet weather gear by way of insurance against the rain. I had arranged to walk with a group from St John's church Meopham, 18 in all, and having been introduced to my fellow walkers, we set off just after midday, by which time the weather was ideal for walking, blue sky dotted with white cloud and a gentle breeze blowing.

Colin outside Rochester Cathedral after completing the walk.



Heading first in the direction of Cobham we walked alongside a rape field, onward into a wheat field and eventually through an apple orchard, (Yes I was tempted but no I didn't sample the goods). As we approached Cobham the church bells were in full peal, surely this wasn't in our honour? No, there had been a wedding and as we passed by we waved at the happy couple, who were having photographs taken, by way of good luck. Soon afterwards we passed the guests, in all their finery and were give some funny looks as if we were intending to gatecrash the proceedings.

Onward through Cobham village and the first check point where we were deemed all present and correct, then on to the Darnley Mausoleum, where we stopped for lunch. Suitably refreshed we continued on our journey via the North Downs Way. We had been given to understand that it was all down hill from here, well it was to begin with but then downhill became very much up hill and for the first time since leaving Meopham I was forced to take a breather, that is apart from lunch of course.

Eventually we arrived along side the M2 Bridge over the Medway on the London bound side and having crossed to the coast bound side, via an underpass, we proceeded to cross the bridge using the pedestrian walkway. Those of you and I guess this means most of you, who have crossed the bridge by car will know how quickly the crossing takes. I can assure you however, that walking it seemed to take forever. By this time the Cathedral was in view and our spirits rose.

Continuing via Borstal and a very pleasant walk along the banks of the Medway we reached our second check point and, blessed relief, liquid refreshment. The last leg beckoned and soon we had reached our destination in a little over three and a half hours.

The service in the Cathedral following the walk can only be described as a time of joyous praise and thanksgiving, due in no small way to a UK based Zimbabwean choir whose enthusiastic singing had to be heard to be believed.

All in all, the whole day had been a great time of fun and fellowship by the end of which, I had made a host of new friends from St John's.

Finally, many thanks to everybody at Christchurch who sponsored me to the tune of, £225.00.

Colin Parsonson



Choir made up from singers

## A prayer for Zimbabwe

Loving God, we pray for the nation and people of Zimbabwe in this time of darkness and oppression. Let your light so shine in that land that the darkness may be banished and the people may be allowed to live free from tyranny and restriction, in accordance with your will. We pray this in Jesus name. Amen

Young people need us

On a regular or casual basis

Undertaking varied needs

Talking and reading

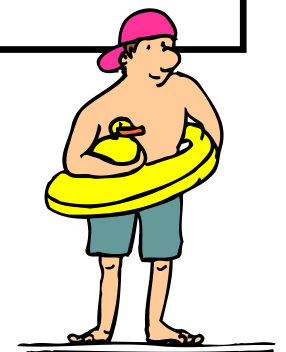
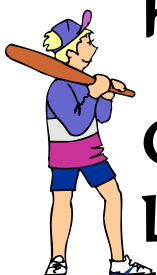
Have you time to spare

Chatty and co-operative

Loving thro' service

Uniting in fun and friendship

Bringing Christian care to the youth of today



Calling all adults interested in working with young people.

Join us for a meeting at the vicarage on Wednesday 27th August at 7.30pm.

Child's Last Name: .....

Child's First Name: Aly  
Full Reference No: 145469/CCS/043  
Sponsor's Name: Mrs J A Hill



Letter from Aly, the  
Palestinian boy  
Christ Church sponsor.



الحمد لله  
لقد أشرت السنة الدراسية على زيارتي  
انتمت لنا المدرسة حلة ترفيهية ولعب  
ورقصنا وفي حيا كثيرا "تكا" لاله العلي

Dear Auntie  
I hope you're fine I inform you  
that the school year is over, for that  
the direction arranged an  
enjoyable party we  
had fun



Happy holiday to you and thank you  
for your love and help and also for  
your nice letter.  
God bless you  
on behalf of your  
child Aly  
Teacher

Teddy  
Bears  
Picnic



Under 5's and all who  
have been baptised at  
Christ Church in the  
last few years with  
mums, dads, carers  
and older brothers and  
sisters.

Come to a teddy bears  
picnic 2pm Wednesday  
13th August.  
Remember to bring  
your teddy!







## God's Gang

**'Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.' Psalm 67.5**

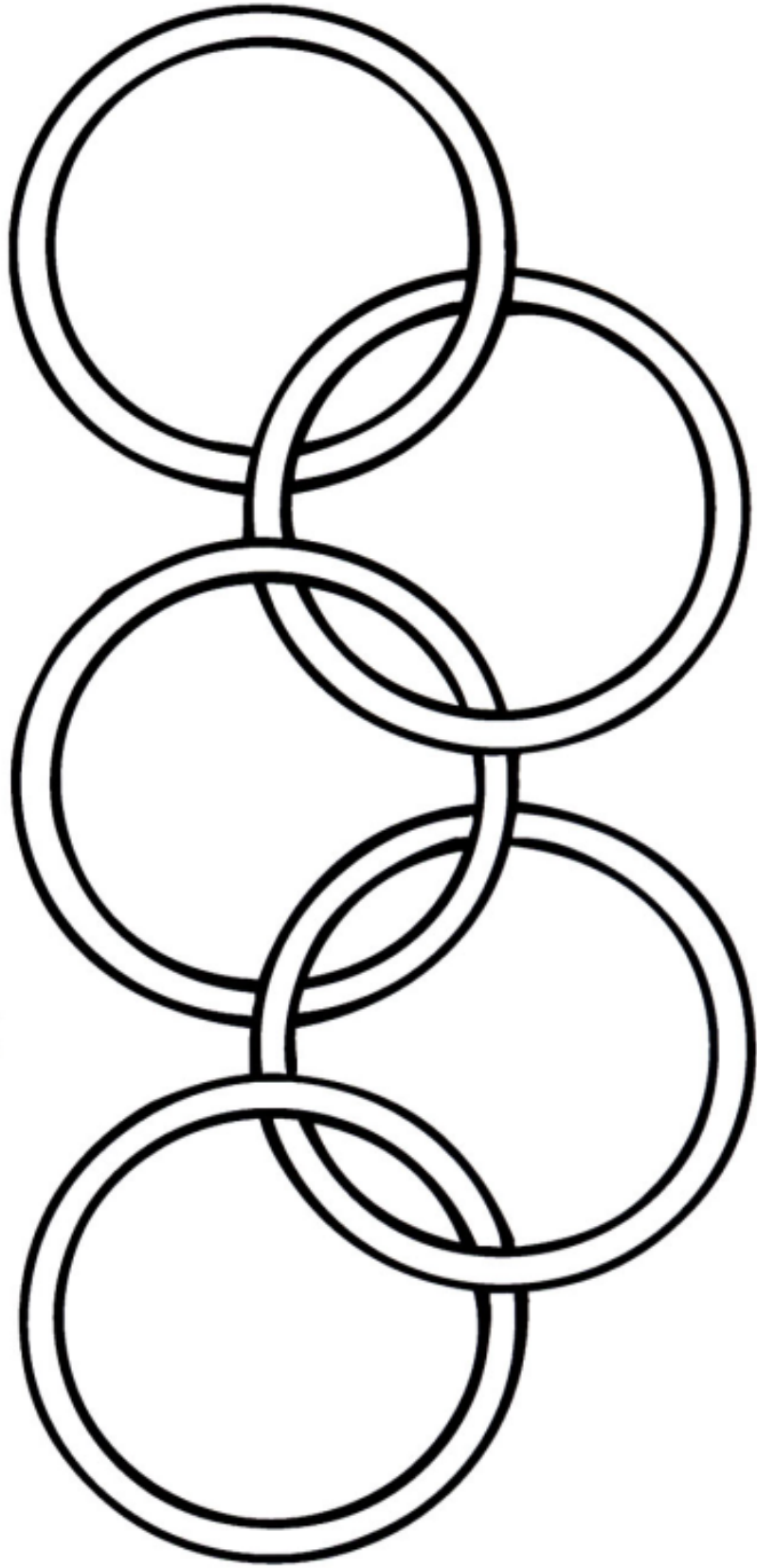
The Olympic movement uses many symbols but the best known is probably that of the Olympic rings.

These five intertwined rings represent the unity of five inhabited continents (with America counting as one single continent).

They appear in five colours on a white background on the Olympic flag. These colours, white (for the field), red, blue, green, yellow, and black were chosen because each nation had at least one of these colours in its national flag.

As a special celebration of the Olympics, colour each ring in the Olympic colours.

Inside each circle write some of the things you would like to praise God for.



## SUNDAY EVENING SERVICES AT CHRIST CHURCH

During the next few months there will be a variety of styles of worship at the Sunday evening services at Christ Church. As well as many services that are 'perennials' and familiar to many, and the usual regular opportunities to worship with our brothers and sisters of the Deanery and the local ecumenical group, there will also be some changes.

Why not come and join us, for instance, at a sung service with prayer for healing in October?

There will no longer be an evening service in Christ Church every week – to check times and details take a look at the weekly notice sheet, the website or this magazine.



### Evening Services between August and Christmas:

- 31<sup>st</sup> August 6.30 pm Songs of Praise at St Aidan's Church with the Local Ecumenical Group of churches
- 14<sup>th</sup> September 6 pm Harvest Evensong
- 28<sup>th</sup> September 6.30 pm Deanery Choirs Festival at Southfleet
- 5<sup>th</sup> October 6 pm Songs of Praise at the Salvation Army Citadel with the Local Ecumenical Group of churches
- 12<sup>th</sup> October 6.30 pm Sung service with prayer for healing
- 2<sup>nd</sup> November 6.30 pm Authorisation of Pam Kilby as a Pastoral Assistant at St Alban's Church, Dartford
- 9<sup>th</sup> November 4 pm Service for the Bereaved
- 23<sup>rd</sup> November 4 pm Pre-advent worship at St Mary, Denton with the Local Ecumenical Group of churches
- 30<sup>th</sup> November 4 pm Christingle
- 7<sup>th</sup> December 4 pm Ellenor Hospice Lights of Love service
- 14<sup>th</sup> December 6.30 pm Carols by Candlelight
- 21<sup>st</sup> December 6.30 pm Service of lessons and carols

**Back to Church Sunday**



28<sup>th</sup> September 2008

# S T R

## RECOGNISING A STROKE

remember the first three letters S T R

Sometimes symptoms of a stroke are difficult to identify, unfortunately the lack of awareness spells disaster.

The stroke victim may suffer severe brain damage when people nearby fail to recognise the symptoms of a stroke. Now doctors say a bystander may be able to recognise a stroke by asking three simple questions

Ask the person to SMILE

Ask the person to TALK – to SPEAK A SIMPLE SENTENCE (Coherently, eg: It is a sunny day)

Ask the person to RAISE BOTH ARMS

ANOTHER "sign" of a stroke is this: Ask the person to "stick out" their tongue. If the tongue is crooked, if it goes to one side or the other, that is also the indication of a stroke.

IF THE PERSON HAS TROUBLE WITH ANY ONE OF THESE TASKS CALL 999 AND DESCRIBE THE SYMPTOMS.

Remember the three letters S T R

Betty Martin thought the following might be useful information. She got it from the Soroptimist Newsletter.



**mothers union**

christian care for families worldwide

### Staying home in August?

If you are not away on holiday in August why not come and join us at two social events which will also raise money for Mothers' Union Projects.

7th August 2.30pm  
Garden Party at Julie Hill's house.  
34 Whitehill Road

21st August 10.30am  
Coffee morning at Jasmine  
Humphries' house - 27 Pine  
Avenue

50p entry, raffle and bring and buy. ALL WELCOME

# Choir Music at Christ Church Music Group

The choir enjoyed preparing and singing the music for Choir Sunday. After the service we have an annual tradition of all of us going out to share lunch together with our significant others, it is always a pleasant occasion and a time when we can thank Gwyneth for all her hard work and to socialise with each other. The summer is always a busy time for us in the choir with weddings to sing at, there has to be a strong commitment as we are often depleted due to holidays.



Some members of the choir have been members for a very long time, so from time to time in future issues of the Magazine there will be profiles of those who have been awarded special Royal School of Church Music Medals for long service.

We will soon be on holiday from choir practice but not before we have started practising music for Harvest. The Autumn is a very active time for music in our Church. After Harvest there is a gradual increase in momentum up towards Christmas with The Remembrance Service for the Bereaved, then Advent and before we know it we are practising Christmas Carols again. It can be quite demanding on our time especially our younger members who have school work to be done.

We all hope to return in September refreshed and renewed after our Summer Break.

Pam Kilby Jul 08

Although the music group do not sing on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in August, it does not mean that we have the month off! We are hard at work learning a Gaelic Blessing, Helen has put the familiar words to a new tune and we will be singing this to the congregation at the 10 o'clock service on 14<sup>th</sup> September, as part of the Harvest service. In the evening, at the Harvest Supper, we shall be singing 2 songs, and Helen and Becky will be playing a duet. Don't forget we are always pleased to welcome new members!



Gill Campbell

Tickets are now on sale  
**HARVEST SUPPER**

which is on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> September this year following a slightly earlier Festal Evensong (6p.m.)

Due to tighter health and safety rules, we are only able to seat 100 people for the supper so

**BUY YOUR TICKETS EARLY!**

We must also ask for money when you purchase your tickets this year: £2.50 for children (12 or under) and £5 for adults which still represents very good value. The entertainment is the ever popular home grown variety.

**Holy Baptism***Suffer little children to come unto me*

1 <sup>st</sup> June	William Thomas James Ryan Holly Angel Matthias Benjamin Thomas Seamons Harry Edward Absalom Ethan Alan Thompson
15 <sup>th</sup> June	Christopher David Swift
6 <sup>th</sup> July	Scarlett Hannah Reeves
20 <sup>th</sup> July	Kaci-Mai Danielle Allison Daniel James Bowie Cohen Davis Toulson Ruby Mae Rowe

**Holy Matrimony***We congratulate*

21 <sup>st</sup> June	Matthew John Fincham and Kelly Louise Finch
28 <sup>th</sup> June	Floyd Sumner and Christina McGovern
18 <sup>th</sup> July	Dean Anthony Outram and Joanna Katherine Eve Henderson








**Rest In Peace***We commend to our Lord*

13 <sup>th</sup> June	Beatrice Mary Watson
21 <sup>st</sup> May	Jack Buckett
1 <sup>st</sup> June	Michael Frederick Sampson
24 <sup>th</sup> June	Dorothy Eva Gear
25 <sup>th</sup> June	Hilda Hood Hodges
29 <sup>th</sup> June	Rachel Betty Davis

Julie Hill

What's on this month?

# August

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
Highlights this month !  Teddy Bears Picnic 13th August 2008					1 Office hours  Lammas	3 Working Party
3	4 Music group 8 pm	5	6 Alexander Flemming's birthday	7  MU Garden Party Choir	8 Beijing Olympics Start  Office hours	9 Football Season begins
10 Tisha B'av (Jewish) 	11 Enid Blyton's birthday	12	13 Teddy Bears Picnic 	14 Choir	15 VJ Day Office hours	16 Raksha Bandhan (Hindu) 
17	18 Lailat al Barai'ah (Muslim) 	19	20 PCC Meeting	21  MU Coffee Morning Choir	22 English Civil War begins (1642)  Office hours	23
24 Deadline for magazine entry Notting Hill Carnival	25 Summer Bank Holiday	26 Back to Church Sunday meeting 6pm	27 Youth Club meeting @ Vicarage 7.30	29	30 Office hours	31 St Aidan's Songs of Praise 6.30

# What happens at Christ Church?

## Sunday Services

For further information contact  
the Church Wardens

8.00 am Holy Communion (said)

10.00am Communion with crèche & God's Gang

On the 2nd Sunday Uniformed Organisations parade

Evening Service - summer 6.30pm Winter 4.00pm

## Weekday Services

Holy Communion (said)

Monday and Saturday 8am.

Tuesday & Thursday 7.00am.

Wednesday 10.00am

## Office hours

Please note that Office hours changed in March. The new time is 6:30pm until 7:30pm but is still on a Friday.

## Clubs

There are a wide variety of clubs for you:-

Daily Christ Church Pre-school (2½ upwards)

Monday Cubs; Music Group; Brownies

Tuesday

Wednesday Guides; Mothers Union (1st Wednesday)

First Steps (for Pre-School) 2nd Wednesday 1.45pm

Thursday Beavers; Brownies; Choir Practice

Friday Scouts; Amateur Dramatics; Parent and Toddler

Saturday Working party (1st Saturday)

Sunday Christ Church Youth Club