



St Jude's Church Englefield Green

Anglicans and Methodists
working together

May 2011
Number 11

ST JUDE'S CHURCH NEWSLETTER

The Ship

A member of a church, who previously had been attending services regularly, stopped going. After a few weeks, the preacher decided to visit him.

It was a chilly evening. The preacher found the man at home alone, sitting before a blazing fire. Guessing the reason for his preacher's visit, the man welcomed him, led him to a comfortable chair near the fireplace and waited.

The preacher made himself at home but said nothing. In the grave silence, he contemplated the dance of the flames around the burning logs. After some minutes, the preacher took the fire tongs, carefully picked up a brightly burning ember and placed it to one side of the hearth all alone, then he sat back in his chair, still silent.

The host watched all this in quiet contemplation. As the one lone ember's flame flickered and diminished, there was a momentary glow and

then its fire was no more. Soon it was cold and dead.

Not a word had been spoken since the initial greeting. The preacher glanced at his watch and realised it was time to leave. He slowly stood up, picked up the cold, dead ember and placed it back in the middle of the fire. Immediately it began to glow once more with the light and warmth of the burning coals around it.

As the preacher reached the door to leave, his host said with a tear running down his cheek, "Thank you so much for your visit and especially for the fiery sermon. I shall be back in church next Sunday."

We live in a world today, which tries to say too much with too little. Consequently, few listen.

Sometimes the best sermons are the ones left unspoken.

Silent Sermon

Village Centre

The Village Centre and Rendezvous Community Café has now had its doors open to the public for over 7 months.

Serving hot and cold drinks, home made cakes and light snacks, Rendezvous is already living up to its name as being a great place to meet with friends, some old and some new.

If you haven't found us yet, we are in Victoria Street, almost opposite Albert Road. Open Monday to Friday 9am-4pm plus other times as advertised on our website:

www.villagecentre.org.uk



Rendezvous



Your Residents' Association needs **YOUR** support
Join us
and help us make a difference to our village
visit: www.EnglefieldGreen.org.uk
contact via: englefieldgreen@hotmail.com

**2011 Concert Series
in St Jude's Church**

Just a Song at Twilight
with Francis Thomas (baritone)
and David Groves, (piano)
**Saturday 7th May
4.00pm**

Piano Recital
with Polina Gerasimenko
**Saturday 21st May
4.00pm**



COFFEE MORNING
**Saturday 14th May
10.00-11.30am
outside St Jude's**



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May Diary

- 1 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP said) 9.30am Youth Communion Service 6.30pm Taizé Service
- 4 Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion (said)
- 7 Saturday Concert 4.00pm Just a Song at Twilight Francis Thomas (baritone) and David Groves, (piano)
- 8 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30pm Family Communion 6.30pm Evensong and Sermon
- 10 Tuesday 2.30pm Bright Hour at the Village Centre
- 11 Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion (said)
- 14 Saturday 10.00-11.30am Coffee Morning outside Church
- 15 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Family Communion *Traidcraft goods on sale after 9.30am service*
- 18 Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion (said)
- 21 Saturday Concert for Japan Relief Polina Gerasimenko – Piano Recital
- 22 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion 9.30am Family Communion
- 23 Monday Wesley Day supper at the Village Centre
- 24 Tuesday 2.30pm Bright Hour at Aldwyn Place, Larchwood Drive
- 25 Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion (said) 8.00pm Church Council meets
- 27 Friday 8.00pm *For Such a Time*, prayer-time for young people and others, at the Village Centre
- 29 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Family Communion

All events take place at St Jude's Church unless otherwise marked

The Church is open every Saturday 2-4pm for tea and a chat and to discuss weddings and baptisms

A Pack of Cards

It was quiet that day, the guns and the mortars, and land mines for some reason hadn't been heard.

The young soldier knew it was Sunday, the holiest day of the week.

As he was sitting there, he got out an old pack of cards and laid them out across his bunk.

Just then an army sergeant came in and said, 'Why aren't you with the rest of the platoon?' The soldier replied, 'I thought I would stay behind and spend some time with the Lord.'

The sergeant said, 'Looks to me like you're going to play cards.'

The soldier said, 'No, sir. You see, since we are not allowed to have Bibles or other spiritual books in this country, I've decided to talk to the Lord by studying this pack of cards.'

The sergeant asked in disbelief, 'How will you do that?'

'You see the Ace, Sergeant? It reminds me that there is only one God.'

The Two represents the two parts of the Bible, Old and New Testaments.

The Three represents the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit.

The Four stands for the Four Gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

The Five is for the five virgins there were ten but only five of them were glorified.

The Six is for the six days it took God to create the Heavens and Earth.

The Seven is for the day God rested after making His Creation.

The Eight is for the family of Noah and his wife, their three sons and their wives – the eight people God spared from the flood that destroyed the Earth.

The Nine is for the lepers that Jesus cleansed of leprosy. He cleansed ten, but nine never thanked Him.

The Ten represents the Ten Commandments that God handed down to Moses on tablets made of stone.

The Jack is a reminder of Satan, one of God's first angels, but he got kicked out of heaven for his sly and wicked ways and is now the joker of eternal hell.

The Queen stands for the Virgin Mary.

The King stands for Jesus, for he is the King of all kings.

When I count the dots on all the cards, I come up with 365 total, one for every day of the year.

There are a total of 52 cards in a pack; each is a week - 52 weeks in a year.

The four suits represent the four seasons: Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter.

Each suit has thirteen cards – there are exactly thirteen weeks in a quarter.

So when I want to talk to God and thank Him, I just pull out this old pack of cards and they remind me of all that I have to be thankful for.'

The sergeant just stood there. After a minute, with tears in his eyes and pain in his heart, he said, 'Soldier, can I borrow that pack of cards?'

Please let this be a reminder and take time to pray for all of our soldiers who are being sent away, putting their lives on the line fighting.

Annual Meetings

At the Annual Meetings which took place in Church after the 9.30am service on Sunday 10th April, we were delighted to re-elect Brian Summers and Geoff Chew as churchwardens for another year.

Our treasurer presented accounts which showed that it is becoming more difficult to make ends meet (increasing costs and sadly, a number of stalwarts have died). If you feel you would like to support the work on St Jude's Church, please email the treasurer on the address shown below.

Taizé Service

New at St Jude's Church is a monthly Taizé service. This will take place at 6.30pm on the first Sunday of each month. The next one is on Sunday 1st May.

Evensong

Once a month (on the second Sunday) we have a traditional service of Evensong at 6.30pm (the next one is on 8th May). There are well known hymns to sing and a not-too-long sermon. Do come along and join us.
