



roundabout



Parish Magazine of St. Augustine's Church, Southborough Lane with St. Luke's Church, Bromley Common

50p

Issue 492 May 2018

Who was this Saint?

As I read Katrina's article in the last edition of Roundabout, with its picture of a man with an ass's head, it reminded me of a fresco I saw in a church in Lindos, on the island of Rhodes. Lindos is a popular holiday destination, famous for its acropolis, overlooking the town. In Lindos town itself there is a Byzantine church called the Church of the Panagia, which is unremarkable to look at from the outside, but as soon as you step inside, every inch of wall and ceiling is decorated with amazing 18th century frescoes. These depict many scenes from the Bible and from the life of Christ and there are rows of saints. Amongst these saints there is one with the head of a dog. It seemed so strange and I couldn't read the Greek lettering beside it. As soon as I could, I searched on Google to find out who it was - to my surprise it was St Christopher.



St Christopher is venerated by several Christian denominations as a martyr who was killed in the 3rd century. In western Christianity, according to the legendary account of his life, he was a Canaanite, a giant of a man,



who, because of his strength, carried people across a fast river as a way of serving Christ. One day he carried a child, who became increasingly heavy during the crossing, causing him to use all of his strength. On reaching the river bank, the child revealed himself to be Christ. St Christopher is the patron saint of travellers and Christopher means 'Christ bearer'.

Eastern Orthodox icons sometimes represent St Christopher with the head of a dog, especially from the 17th century onwards. One of the many ideas in medieval times was that there was a race of people with heads like dogs called Cynocephalus. This Byzantine representation of St Christopher may have resulted from their misinterpretation of the Latin term *Cananeus* (Canaanite) to read *canineus* (canine).

This fresco made me think that it is worth trying to find what is behind an image rather than taking things at face value.

Sue Goodger

St. Augustine's with St Luke's
Ascension Day Service
at St. Augustine's
Thursday May 10 at 8 pm

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As members of St. Augustine's and St Luke's, we seek to follow Jesus' command—to share God's love with our community.





Announcement from our Vicar

This year Katrina will be celebrating 25 years of Ordained Ministry. She has been Vicar of St Augustine's for 12 years and will be retiring on 1 July 2018. We will have more details in our next edition of Roundabout.

Bellringers of St Luke's

Following our article in the February edition, further news from the bellringers at St Luke's.

The bellringers of St Luke's rang a quarter peal on Thursday 15 March as part of our district ringing association's annual quarter peal week. Quarter peals can also be rung before evensong, for a special service or to celebrate an important event. We dedicated this quarter peal to celebrate the lives of John Morley, Lay Reader at St Luke's and Dr Paul Haskey, physicist and lifetime colleague of Alastair Scott, one of the ringers.

Most of our ringing consists of several short pieces of five to ten minutes in length. However, a quarter peal is different and a much longer performance of a set length to a specific combination, with the same person ringing his/her bell throughout. In the case of our quarter peal, it consisted of 1260 changes of a method called Plain Bob Minor. A change represents one line of ringing eg 1,2,3,4,5,6 and the quarter peal lasted 44 minutes.

We plan to hold a tower open day in the next month or so when further explanation of the art of bellringing will be given plus the chance to have a go on one of our bells. Anyone who is interested from St Augustine is very welcome.

Chris Lawrance
Tower Captain
St Luke's, Bromley Common
(0208 462 3485)



Donations for Explorer Scout Kenya Expedition - August 2018

The Explorer Scouts will each be taking an extra suitcase with them to take much needed kit and clothes for the Boys' Safe House they will be staying in and working on during their stay. There is a box at the back of St A's church for any donations.

Please see Les, Karen or James Fairhurst for more information.

Items for the extra suitcase are:

Black school shoes (Primary and Secondary)	Towels
Shorts and teeshirts	Single bed sheet (flat type)
Underpants and socks	Footballs
Black smart trousers	Hand tools
Waterproof Lightweight Jackets	



'Thy Kingdom Come': a time to pray

This year, from Ascension Day (Thursday 10 May) until Pentecost Sunday (22 May), we will be joining with the Archbishop of Canterbury and Christians across the world to pray some very familiar words, 'Thy kingdom come'.

It's part of a global initiative in which churches are gathering together to pray that their local communities will be changed and renewed as more people come to know and experience the love of God in their lives.



'Thy kingdom come, thy will be done.' That's what Jesus told his disciples to pray, but what on earth does it mean? Do we seriously expect this prayer to be answered? Is it really possible that the kingdom of God could be seen here and now, greed and injustice banished forever, and individuals and whole communities experience a transformation from darkness to light?

Well if we leave it to the politicians, it certainly doesn't look likely that peace and joy will reign anytime soon. Could prayer really be the way forward?

Maybe yes? And how might this happen? Probably very slowly, one person at a time. That's why we always start with prayer for our friends and neighbours. For this short time, eleven days, would you join me in praying every day for five people you know? Pray that they will know a deeper peace, a peace that passes understanding, that their hearts would be 'strangely warmed' as John Wesley described his own experience.

It reminds me of a quote from a church leader who started praying for healing for members of his congregation. 'Before we prayed, no-one was healed; now we pray and some are healed; that sounds like a step in the right direction.'

At St Augustine's we'll have our Prayer Room open every morning from 9 am to 12 noon. Just drop in and spend some time using one of the resources available or sit quietly and invite God to speak to you in the silence. You might see me there. Or maybe you might even meet God.

Blessings
Alan Mitchell
Licensed Lay Minister

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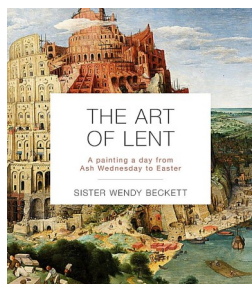
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What Lent Meant to Me



I enjoyed reading about Betty's experience with 'The Art of Lent' book in the last edition of Roundabout and thought I would let you know how I got on with the other book recommended for study this year 'Let your Light Shine'. Each day we were given a short passage from John's gospel, a reflection on the theme and suggestions entitled 'pause', 'pray' and 'witness'. I'm a creature of habit, so I read the designated couple of pages (and gospel reading) at 7.20am with my breakfast, then worked on the 'suggestions' during my lunchtime walk. It was all excellent material, interestingly presented and kept me going as Lent progressed, with a mixture of relevant text and thoughtful insights.

Gradually we worked our way through the 'I am' sayings of Jesus and on Monday of Week 7 it was 'I am the Vine'. We were invited to look at a tree and let God speak to us. There are lots of trees on my walk, so I stopped and looked at one. I considered us all as branches – some stronger than others, some delicate, others searching for light. The branches didn't touch each other so I thought about our need for personal space. And then I saw two stumpy chunks of branch that had been cut off and not allowed to develop further. That happens to people too sometimes, so I prayed for them. I searched the stumps for signs of new growth and reminded God that I've had the lecture on needing to wait patiently several times already. I'd like to think I can be a strong branch supporting others and I reflected on the abundance of healthy new branches waving to all the other eager little branches in the breeze. I concluded that, whatever we are, we are all part of the tree and there is room for everyone (personal space included). Most importantly, the trunk is there to support, encourage and nurture all of us, at whatever stage we may be on life's journey.

Chris Case

An Easter Experience

After all the excitement, enthusiasm and expectations of Palm Sunday, Jesus weeping over Jerusalem and cleansing the Temple, things quieten down as preparations are made for Maundy Thursday, whose name comes from the Latin 'Mandatum', a command - the New Commandment that Jesus gave us. It is the night of the Last Supper, when the particularly atmospheric service of Holy Communion traditionally ends in a quiet dismissal from a darkened and stripped church. This year, though, the drama was heightened as we remembered Jesus washing the disciples feet, Peter's refusal and Our Lord's betrayal by Judas - then after supper, we, too, went out into the garden carrying lanterns for the final prayers and dismissal, gathered around a flaming brazier.



The Good Friday meditation was also highly emotive, where in addition to the traditional prayers, readings and contemplations, we heard poems and dramatic presentations, including monologues from Judas and Peter describing their feelings and motives when betraying and denying Jesus plus arguments about the trial between Pilate and his wife. These gave many interesting and moving insights for us all to dwell on in the days to come.

I was left with lasting impressions - of which one is an appreciation of all the thought and hard work put into the preparation and another that some of the St. A's family have missed their true vocation!

Adrian King

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I Can See Clearly Now

Question – what is the first thing I put on in the morning, and the last thing I take off at night?
Yes, you are right my glasses. I have reached that age when even the simplest tasks are almost impossible without them. I need my glasses to see even the shortest of distances and without them reading is just a blur.

A few years ago I took A Little I Girl Know for her first eye test. She comes from a family of glasses wearers so it was necessary to make sure that her eyes were working well. As we sat in the waiting room I started to worry, how could they test when her knowledge of the alphabet was somewhat weak. A young family came and sat nearby, the boy had a lovely pair of glasses on and the most cheeky smile. I was calm then I realised that there must be ways to do the test as he was younger and maybe his knowledge was the same as hers.

As in many situations I have been in since the birth of A Little Girl I Know I need not have worried - a few letters on the chart similar to the one I am tested on, then pictures and even colours. After a while eye drops were administered and a brief wait for her pupils to react, a few more checks, the decision was made. Yes, she did need glasses to support her eyes. Nothing too strong, just to help her to focus a bit easier especially on the written words at school.



Maybe we need to put on our spiritual glasses and have our eyes open to the word of God in the Bible. In it is so much that will help us to live good lives safe in the knowledge that God is with us throughout our lives whatever the situation we find ourselves in now.

Hallelujah!

Stand Up 2 Cancer



Jess Skinner writes: Since I was really small I have known lots of people who have had cancer in one place or another. My Mum's friend had it three years ago, and has made a full recovery, but I remember Mum being really sad when she heard the news. Everyone reading this I am sure knows somebody who has been affected by cancer.

Recently we enjoyed watching as a family The Bake Off for Stand Up 2 Cancer. I really enjoyed watching the famous people 'trying' to bake. I laughed when Nick Hewer's profiteroles exploded as he tried to pipe in the filling and his cakes were a mess. Then Alan Carr, whose green layer for his rainbow cake ended up in the bin after a failed attempt at making it.

I loved to watch the contestants helping Para athlete Kadeena Cox with the mixing of one of her creations when her multiple sclerosis meant that doing this for such a long time made her arms ache badly.

Cancer Research UK and Channel 4, together broadcast Stand Up To Cancer, an annual fundraising campaign. For more info see : www.standuptocancer.org.uk



Scout Barn Dance – raising funds for Kenya Expedition

Saturday 19 May, 7-10 pm, in St A's church

Catherine Lowe and friends leading the dances.

Tickets £7.50 for adults and £5 for under 16s. - See Les,
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The Alpha Course at St Augustine's with St Luke's and Holy Trinity



The Alpha course came to an end with a celebration Sunday Service on Easter Day. The course was full of fun, film, food and friendship with many people learning new and exciting things about faith, some for the very first time.

Our service on Easter Sunday reminded us about how God transforms people's lives today. We had a moving testimony from someone who found the course on the Alpha Website and came along with her partner. They found the videos and teaching both inspirational and honest with plenty of real life stories which made faith come alive and relevant to us all today. They enjoyed making new friends as did we all. One lady shared her story of healing. During a Sunday morning service in March she came forward for prayer and anointing with oil. The hip pain that had been affecting her for many months completely disappeared and, at the time of writing, she remains pain free. God showing his amazing love for us and that, through the power that is strong enough to raise Jesus from the dead, still heals today.

It was heartening to read the evaluation forms with people finding an increase in peace and love and many valuing the friendships that were made. My hope is those who attend our fortnightly house-groups, will continue to find them a place of love and acceptance but with an increased expectation that Jesus is in their midst willing and ready to act if we ask.

This term the house-groups will be considering the gifts God can give us, gifts that make a difference to everyone. Below is a list of the house-groups with days and times when they meet along with contact details. If you would like to come to a taster session please feel free to contact one of us. No obligation to return if it's not for you but we hope an opportunity to make friends and be accepted for who you are while we explore a God of love and generosity.

Betty Dawson 0208 467 3108	We meet at my house, very close to the church, on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month at 8pm
Christine Regas 0208 285 0060 chrisregas@uwclub.net	We meet at my home on 1st and 3rd Tuesday evenings each month at 8pm
Nigel Pope 0208 467 5921 nigel@thepopes.net	We meet at our home in Hawthorne Road on 1st and 3rd Tuesday evenings each month at 8pm
Nickie Streek 0208 467 9860 office@st-augustines.org.uk	We meet at St Augustine's Chapel on 1st and 3rd Thursday evenings during term time at 8pm

Jenny Warrington, Ordinand in training



The St. Augustine's with St. Luke's team got off to a good start in the first round of this popular interchurch quiz this year. They beat the team from St. Mary of Nazareth, West Wickham, by 84 points to 56 in the first round on 25 March. The team members were: Lucy Adcock, Helen Baker, Liz Carter and Andrew Gurney. The draw for the second round has not been made at the time of writing.

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Parish People



Congratulations to Mr & Mrs Barnes-Mathie

Fin & Jennifer were married in Deerfield Beach Florida surrounded by family and friends - many of whom had travelled from the UK

From the Parish Register

Funerals

We extend our love and sympathy to the family and friends of:

Eileen SAUNDERS



Thanks to everyone for the magnificent contribution of almost 60 Easter eggs to the Food Bank. You are always very generous in giving everyday groceries but I was not sure how a plea for Easter eggs would go down. I need not have worried, so just to warn you, I plan to do the same sort of thing for Christmas - cards, paper, gift tags etc.,
Sheila Griffin

Rest in Peace:

It is with sadness that we have just learnt that **Katherine Collins** has passed away at the marvellous age of 99. Katherine, a proficient singer and pianist, was a member of St Luke's Church for a great many years. She had been living happily in Queen Elizabeth House for the last few years.

Also we remember with fondness **Doreen Tetlow**, who passed away earlier this year.



Margaret **Sperring** known as **Sally**, passed away peacefully in hospital in Aberystwyth on March 6. Widow of **Arthur**, a butcher, mother to Jackie and mother-in-law to Ian, grand-mother to Christopher and Nicola and great-grandmother to Arianwen.

Sally will be remembered by many as she worked alongside Arthur in the butchers shop on Southborough Parade at the Fairway for many years. It was in 1952 that she enquired about a cashier's job. (Arthur thought she was rather too young for such a post and gave her a long column of figures to add up as a test. He added them also and they each had a different answer. He gave her the job anyway and the next day, when she started, she added them again and discovered they had both been wrong!) Ten years later, she and Arthur were married and enjoyed many happy years together. Following Arthur's death in 1997 she moved to Somerset with her mother and became a keen bowls player. In 2015, Sally moved to Aberystwyth, near her daughter and son-in-law. Although she moved away 20 years ago, she always missed Bromley and had many good memories of friends, the shop and their customers.

Here in Bromley most of us are comfortably off and can surely afford to help those in great poverty elsewhere in the world. The charity Christian Aid is holding its annual house-to-house collection and also collecting (19 May only) in the High Street. If you do not receive an envelope, you could take one from church and leave your gift in the office. Otherwise, donations can be made online at caweek.org or by calling 08080 006 006.

Rob Hutchings

'Whoever mocks the poor shows contempt for their Maker' (Proverbs 17 v 5)



Keep your news coming to me either by seeing me in church on Sunday morning or at The Three Cs on a Tuesday morning. Alternatively you may like to email it to me at jackysskinner@gmail.com. Thank you.

Church Directory

Dates for Your Diary		
May 8	Trefoil	8 pm
May 10	Ascension Day Service	8 pm
May 16	Mothers' Union – Building of an Orphanage	2 pm
May 19	Scout Barn Dance	7 - 10 pm

Children and Youth Activities		
Club JC	Helen Baker	07795 007724
Parent and Toddler	Helen Scothern Victoria Bouwer	07909 824099

Scouts & Guides		
Joint Group Scout Leaders	Jenny Owens Sandra Goodwin	020 8467 4702 01689 831654
Beavers' waiting list	Claire Pester	07810 426666
Brownies	Ruth Higginbottom	01689 818104
Rainbows	Helen Scothern	07909 824099
Visit the Scout website— www.23rdbromleyscouts.org		

Church Activities		
Mothers' Union	Christine Sanger	0208 249 7199
Church Rooms	Liz Carter	020 8467 8155
The Three Cs	Jacky Skinner	01689 878452
Roundabout Manager	Lorna Murray	020 8467 0536
Singing Group (Thursday evenings 7.45pm)	Lucy Adcock	020 8467 4535

Worship with us on Sundays	
8am Holy Communion	St Luke's Every Week
10am Morning Worship	St Augustine's 1st and 5th Sunday
10am Holy Communion	St Augustine's 2nd and 4th Sunday
10am Family Service	St Augustine's 3rd Sunday
6pm Holy Communion	St Luke's 1st Sunday
6pm Evening Worship	St Luke's every week except 1st Sunday
6.30pm Holy Communion	St Augustine's 3rd Sunday

Join us during the week	
Mon - Sat 9.15 am	Morning Prayer (not Wednesdays)
Wed 11.45 am	Holy Communion
Tues 10.00 am	The Three Cs
Wed 10.00 am	Parent and Toddler
Thurs 10.30 am	Sally's Exercise Class

Church Staff		
Vicar (Day Off Saturday)	Rev. Katrina Barnes	020 8467 1351
Youth & Schools Minister	Helen Baker	07795 007724
Licensed Lay Minister	Alan Mitchell	07895 070734
Ordinand in training	Jenny Warrington	01689 834375
Reader	Kenneth Gill	020 8467 1260
Reader	Brian Kendall	01689 832304
Churchwarden	Pam Poynter	020 8402 9008
Churchwarden	Viv Emery	01689 861929
Treasurer	David Wardley	07952 736491
P.C.C. Secretary	Johanna Gurney	020 8467 9587
Children's Officer	Helen Scothern	07909 824099

Church Office	
Parish Administrator	020 8295 1550
Open : Monday to Friday (except Thursday) 9.00 to 12.30	

We welcome your emails at: office@st-augustines.org.uk
 You can also find out about more recent and future events in our church by visiting :
www.st-augustines.org.uk


roundabout

JUNE 2018

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