

Parish Magazine



July 2007

St. James'

Christleton

30p

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Christleton

Flower Festival

St. James' Church

13th - 15th July

Journal for July

Sun 1 **The Fourth Sunday After Trinity: Proper 8**
 8.00 am Holy Communion - Order 2
 10.30 am Sunday School - Parish Hall
 10.45 am Parish Communion with Baptism - Order 1
 6.00 pm The Crew Youth Group - Parish Hall
 6.30 pm Evensong - followed by refreshments
 Prayer Link Road: Greystone Road and Ring Road
 Neighbourhood Link: Lynda Disley

Mon 2 10.45 am Holy Communion at Tarvin Court Nursing Home
 11.20 am Holy Communion at Oaklands Nursing Home
 7.45 pm PCC Meeting - Parish Hall
 Tues 3 9.00 am Holy Communion for **ST THOMAS**
 Wed 4 10.45 am United Communion - followed by refreshments
 Thur 5 7.45 pm Lesson Readers and Intercessors - Rectory
 Fri 6 6.30 pm Choir Practice
 Sat 7 Sunday School Outing

Sun 8 **The Fifth Sunday After Trinity. Proper 9**
 8.00 am Holy Communion - Order 1
 10.45 am **FAMILY FLOWER SERVICE - Outside**
 Followed by Barbecue
 6.30 pm Evensong
 Prayer Link Road: Grove Gardens
 Neighbourhood Link: John Carruther

Mon 9 2.00 pm Mother's Union - Parish Hall
 Wed 11 10.45 am Holy Communion – followed by refreshments
 Fri 13 10.30 am - 6.00 pm **FLOWER FESTIVAL**

NB: Last day for contributions to August magazine, preferably earlier, to The Rectory (335663) or you can e-mail your document to christletonmag@hotmail.co.uk

Sat 14 10.30 am - 6.00 pm **FLOWER FESTIVAL**
 THE VILLAGE SHOW - PARISH HALL

Sun	15		The Sixth Sunday After Trinity - Proper 10
		8.00 am	Holy Communion - Order 1
		10.45 am	United Parish Communion
		12 noon - 5.00 pm	FLOWER FESTIVAL
		6.30 pm	FESTAL EVENSONG
			Prayer Link Road: Haslin Crescent
			Neighbourhood Link: Ann Smith
Tues	17	8.00 am	Church Ramble Group leave for Betws-y-Coed. Contact David Cummings 332410
Wed	18	10.45 am	Holy Communion - followed by refreshments
Thur	19		Churches Together Committee Away Day – Brown Knowl
Fri	20	6.30 pm	Choir Practice

Sun	22		MARY MAGDALENE: (Trinity 7)
		8.00 am	Holy Communion - Order 1
		10.45 am	Matins - Common Worship
		6.30 pm	Evening Communion - Order 1
			Prayer Link Road: Hawthorn Road
			Neighbourhood Link: Jayne Roscoe

Wed	25	10.45 am	Holy Communion for ST JAMES
Sun	29		The Eighth Sunday After Trinity - Proper 12
		8.00 am	Holy Communion - Order 1



Rector's Sabatical

A reminder that the Rector will be on Sabatical leave during August. Please contact either of the Churchwardens for all Parochial enquiries.

The Rector's Letter

Dear Friends

Say it with Flowers

We look forward to welcoming everyone to our Flower Festival at St James on Friday 13, Saturday 14 and Sunday 15 July. We also have our usual Flower Service on Sunday 8 July outdoors. So we shall certainly be 'saying it with flowers' this month! I am not closely involved in the planning of the Festival, but I offer my own personal observations on the themes that have been chosen. Have you ever wondered at the richness, colour, scent and variety of all the wonderful flowers that God has given us? They are in themselves a parable of the richness and diversity of God's creation and his goodness to us. To me, to deny the existence of God raises at least as many questions as to affirm it. If there is no God, how do we account for the experience and expression of beauty in nature and in art? – to say nothing, for example, of recognising a moral code if there is no moral absolute, or the experience of faith, hope and love – and so I could go on!

In the Genesis Creation story we read: "God saw all that he had made, and it was very good." (Genesis 1:31) God delights in his creation, and invites us to share with him in caring for it. Of course we should be careful not to assume that all creation exists just for the benefit of humans, but should delight in its diversity for its own sake. As I write, the Springwatch series on television is being enjoyed by millions. So many are thrilled just to see the wonders and processes of nature unfolding before their eyes and want somehow to be involved. I was impressed to hear and see a farmer talking of his appreciation and sense of satisfaction in restoring the natural balance in a stretch of river and its surroundings so that the wildlife was returning. The theme of our Flower Festival is Our World. In the immortal words of Louis Armstrong's song: "What a wonderful world!" The Flower Festival will be an opportunity to appreciate, in the beauty and message of the flowers, what a wonderful world we live in. I hope, and pray, that will naturally follow on to an appreciation that 'our world' is God's world, lovingly created by him, in which he invites us to live.

Jesus always used nature to teach us the deepest truths of the Kingdom of God. He talked of great plants growing from tiny seeds, and of the importance of the care and nurture of the plants as a parable of the word of God growing in our lives. He also said: "consider the lilies, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these." As we look at the displays of

flowers, perhaps we can heed Jesus message not to be anxious, but to see, in them, the assurance of God's love for all his creation. But there is a further message as well. I can only marvel at the eye and skill of those who arrange flowers so beautifully. Skill, yes, but surely even those who arrange the flowers would concede that there is something more to it than that. As with all art, writing and music there is an element that is 'given'. After all the preparation, practice and refining of the skill there is an intangible 'extra' where we feel we become part of something greater than ourselves, and which 'comes' or is 'given' almost despite ourselves. That, to me, speaks of the privilege of sharing in God's creation to the extent we become 'in tune' with it so God can work through us.

The message of the Flower Festival will also remind us of our responsibility to care for our world and live in harmony with creation. We shall consider the realities of conflict, pollution, exploitation and greed resulting in the destruction of our world. And so we are called to live more responsibly in such ways that balance will be restored, the hungry fed, pollution reversed and compassion and healing brought to our wonderful but weary world. For our appreciation of our wonderful world should always lead us to our responsibility to be good stewards of all that God has entrusted to us.

The Flower Service continues the tradition of people bringing flowers to St James to be placed on the graves of all those who have gone before us, as a tribute to their lives and our connection with them in the communion of saints. It also reaffirms our commitment to uphold their values and faith and continue their work to pass on the faith to succeeding generations. For "the grass withers, and the flowers fade, but the word of our God endures for ever." (Isaiah 40:8)

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Peter Lee". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Prayer of the Month

Norah Field

Lord God, Creator of our world and source of all beauty, we give thanks for the loveliness of flowers, and for the gifts of joy and hope and comfort which they convey to us.

In loving your creation, help us, our Father, to love and serve you better, and to glorify you in all your works. We offer this prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Christleton Flower Festival



13TH – 15TH JULY
at
St James' Church

FRIDAY 13TH JULY

10.30am to 6.00pm

SATURDAY 14TH JULY
(also "CHRISTLETON SHOW")

10.30am to 6.00pm
2pm Parish Hall)

SUNDAY 15TH JULY

12noon to 6.00pm

Sunday Church Services

HOLY COMMUNION

8.00am

UNITED PARISH COMMUNION

10.45am

FESTAL EVENSONG

6.30pm

- Parking available - Refreshments -

All Enquiries :- Telephone (01244) 332005

and in days gone by



St James Day / Flower Festival

This picture is the best picture we have of Canon Lionel Garnett leading the Flower Service procession. It was taken by Reg Morgan in 1908 and shows boys probably from The Boys School (now the Parish Hall) with boaters on, watching the procession near the Village Green. All the children in the procession are dressed in their “Sunday Best” and carry bouquets of flowers to place on untended graves after the service, following local tradition. Evidence seems to show that this service was held outdoors in the church grounds between the diagonal line of yews and Pepper Street, where the original John Sellers Trust School once stood. Lionel Garnett was a most inspirational rector, and instigated or restored ceremonies which have now become firm village traditions, The Flower Service, The Village Fete, Beating of the Bounds and The Village Show.

DC

CATHEDRAL NEWS



The Plant Sale raised £3,200. Thanks to all who supported it.

Saints' Windows in the Cloisters

Matthias the Apostle. As he could bear witness to the Resurrection of Jesus, he was chosen to replace Judas Iscariot. He preached the Gospel for more than 30 years in Judea, Cappadocia, Egypt and Ethiopia. Matthias is remembered for preaching the need for mortification of the flesh with regard to all its sensual and irregular desires.

Died: stoned to death at Colchis in 80 AD; some relics in the abatical church of Triers, others in Saint Mary Major in Rome.

Patronage: alcoholism: carpenters: reformed alcoholics: smallpox, tailors.

Saints Day: 14 May

On 17th August all being well, a party of pilgrims will set out from the Cathedral to Russia. Sarah Dennis (daughter of Canon Trevor) is Russian speaking and will be the leader. She works for a UK based charity that works with partner organisations in Russia supply-

ing them with expertise and advice, and sometimes money. It sounds a very interesting pilgrimage.

Christian Aid
We believe in life before death

CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK YOU

to all who helped to make our Christleton Christian Aid week so successful. We managed to cover every road in the Parish in our house-to-house collection and achieved a record £3349.60.

In addition, David Cummings gave an interesting illustrated talk on "The Land of the Pharaohs" and donated the gross takings of £230.00, which was extremely generous. Thanks also to those who helped to organise the May Family Service, the cash collection from which added £254.20 to our total.

The summary looks like this

House-to-house collection	£3349.60
David Cummings' talk	£230.00
Family Service collection	£254.20
TOTAL	£3833.80

Collectors, counters, contributors in any way, thank you for making the week so worthwhile.

Fiona Lee

St. James' Christleton Parish Magazine

Christleton Village Show



IT'S THIS MONTH !!



Saturday 14th. July
In Christleton Parish Hall

Your final chance to enter the 'acclaimed' Christleton Village Show. If you haven't got a show schedule, they are still available from Paul Jackson at the Post Office, there is still time to choose some categories and plan your entries. (There's probably not enough time to grow a plant from scratch) but there are many other categories you can choose from.

This years show is a special. During the same weekend there is also a Village Flower Festival centred on St James Church when, in addition to the skills and abilities our village community has to offer on display at the Parish Hall, you can see spectacular floral displays in and around the Parish Church.

We are hoping that as many as possible will also show Hanging Baskets or Flowering containers at the front of their houses to add to the floral picture of the village. If you do show Baskets or Containers why not enter them in the Hanging Basket Section of the Village Show, you don't need to be an expert and you may win a trophy.

If you decide not to enter then come to the afternoon exhibition and enjoy a lot of good company as well as the outstanding quality of the exhibits - it's the best 50p's worth you'll ever find. (Only 25p for children)

The theme this year is "Recycling" and the Theme Trophy will go to the exhibit(s) which best portray this. Entry for any of the categories doesn't cost much, is great fun and you could win a trophy – there are lots of them.

We urgently need help on the day to receive and arrange exhibits etc. If you can help (PLEASE) contact any of the committee below.

David or Beryl Cummings - 332410, Janet Brown – 335785. Charles Smeatham – 335209. Margaret Croston – 335955 - Sue Haywood – 01829 741814, Chris Marsland – 335424, June Pearson - 335101, Judith Butt – 335296, Iris Foster, Sue Rees, Christine Abrams, Edward Elliot, Sarah Donald

July 2007

The work of the World wide Church

Visit of Ian & Clare Grey to Christleton

Recently we were very privileged to spend an evening with Ian & Claire, who gave a very enjoyable insight into their lifelong work with the Pampulma people in Ghana. We had a taste of Ghanaian food and drink as we listened to their inspiring story, and through an interactive computer display saw some of their activities and met many of their friends and colleagues. Claire outlined their daily life, and the way in which they interact with the community, whilst Ian explained how they have changed the way of life of the people by creating a written language through the medium of the gospels. He did this by listening to them talk, and creating an alphabet based on the things he heard, and the sounds they made. The result is that through the translation of the Gospels, people from this very primitive society can now read, and have access to a more informed and



creative life. Ian has also taught many of the younger men to work with him, and they act as teachers within the community. They are not paid with money, but with the gift of animals, so they can create a living environment from which the local people can benefit. They are very dependant on the weather for their food, as there is always going to be a dry season, when

food is scarce, but given good will they are beginning to create a better system for their communities, both through education, the growing of suitable crops and caring for their animals. Thanks to Bob and Gwen Knight for inviting Ian & Claire, and to all who helped on a most enriching and rewarding evening.

Printed below is a taste of the work Ian has done, the translation of the 23rd Psalm in the Tampulma language of N. Ghana.

My Lord God is like a sheep gatherer for me;

he (emph) cares for me all the time.

*He takes me to the bush staying place that I habitually
can eat and be resting.*

*He takes and shows me the water lake which is a lying down place
that I habitually can drink water.*

He (emph) also lets my spirit be strong.

*He is teaching me the good work road following
that his name sees honour.*

Even if I live in the middle of a catching place (big trouble)

*Or in the death living place, I will not be fearing anything
because you who are my God are staying with me.*

How you are following me with your walking stick

And are protecting me, that takes fear away from me.

Even when people come to me that they hate me

You will give me food that I eat in front of them.

You take oil and pour it on my head to welcome me,

and fill my calabash with water even that it overflows.

I already know how you are working good works

and standing in one place in your love for me.

and are letting me keep long in the time

that I am living in this world.

I also know that I will live in the house of the Lord my God

Even for the time which does not have an end.

Notes.

The Tampulmas love to sprinkle emphatics around in their language.

It's more natural in the African mind that when animals rest in a hot climate beside a lake or a pool that they will also drink, and in Tampulma you can't let the verb "drink" stand on its own so we added "water"

The "Habitually" is a particle which can be inserted in the verbal phrase to indicate that this was done, not continuously, but on a regular basis.

The Hebrew word for the "valley of the shadow of death" actually means "valley of the deep darkness" and not of death particularly. So we have translated "big trouble" and added "the death living place".

The phrase "standing in one place" describes how God is faithful in his love for us.

July 2007

AMBLING AROUND AMSTERDAM

Ambling is hardly the correct word, as we spent most of the time dashing from pillar to post in an attempt to get out of the gales and downpours. One thing that struck us is how adept the Dutch are in riding their bicycles with umbrellas up. I also believe Dutch children can ride a bike before they can walk.

Apart from their riding side saddle and without lights at night, we saw a lady with a box on her back pannier containing a very noisy little white terrier. In Utrecht station a lady passed by pushing a pram containing a dog and she was also leading another dog on a lead! Cats and dogs are freely allowed in cafés and, after our clean air policy it was unpleasant to be subjected to people smoking before, during and after their meals.

The large, permanent Flower Market along one of the canals is a sight for sore eyes – wonderful colours,



species of flowers and enormous bulbs – not to mention Starter Sets of Cannabis for 4 euros and even cannabis lollipops for 1 euro! We weren't tempted.

Two big exhibitions were on – one in Rembrandt's House of his sketches and drawings, on loan from the Kupferstichkabinett (print room) in Berlin –and another in the Amsterdam Hermitage Museum, and on loan from St Petersburg, of treasures discovered in the Persian Gulf area.



Rembrandt was one of the greatest draughtsmen of all time and his drawings show his great creative imaginings. He used many stories from the Bible as the subject of his paintings, as well as mythology and

representations of everyday life. Two of the most interesting were a drawing of his bride, Saskia, and a sketch of a naughty boy, his mother struggling to hold him, with an exasperated look on her face. It was interesting to see his studio as well as the many rooms in the large house he and his family occupied during the time he was at his best.

The Persian exhibition ranged from as far back as 728 to 550 BC when the Medes ruled over Persia and also included articles as late as 1979. The Medes were a people who had a great impact on the Persians. From the early BC articles was an earthenware dish with red painting with a little goat figure in the centre. The centre of the dish was hollow underneath to make it easier for the priest to hold the dish when making a libation (a liquid offering). A gold and turquoise neck ornament of the 4th century BC had been plundered from a burial mound and like many other objects in the display case came from Peter the Great's collection. Fragments of prayer rugs, beautiful tiles, manuscripts and court clothing of silk, gold and silver thread all added up to a wonderful display that kept us out of the wet and gave us much to think about.

Margaret Croston

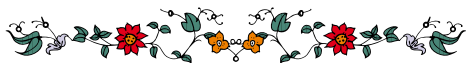
The River

Three men were hiking through a forest when they came upon a large, raging violent river.

Needing to get on the other side, the first man prayed, "God, please give me the strength to cross the river." Poof! God gave him big arms and strong legs and he was able to swim across in about two hours, having almost drowned twice.

After witnessing that, the second man prayed, "God, please give me strength - and some tools to cross the river." Poof! God gave him a rowboat and strong arms and strong legs and he was able to row across in about an hour after almost capsizing once.

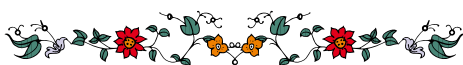
Seeing what happened to the first two men, the third man prayed: "God, please give me the strength, the tools and the intelligence to cross this river." Poof! He was turned into a woman. She checked the map, hiked one hundred yards up stream and walked across the bridge.



Thank you

May I thank all those who supported our coffee morning in June for Vision Support. To those who donated goods, money and their hard work. We made £348 which has gone to Chester Vision Support. Thank you once again.

Maura Jones - The Old Farm





Christleton Parish Hall

**available for Meetings, Parties, Functions etc,
occasional or regular use.**

The Hall has wheelchair access
and specially adapted facilities.

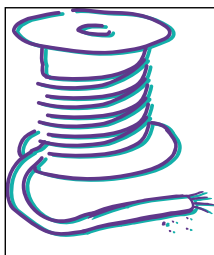
Please contact the Booking Secretary,

David Mercer 336155

Please telephone between 10.00am and 8.00pm
Monday to Saturday

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CHESTER**

SERMON NOTEBOOK

People Like Us (from the Old Testament) - Jehoshaphat

In 2 Chronicles 20 we read how King Jehoshaphat and Judah faced imminent invasion by the armies of Ammon and Moab. Their prayer expressed an expectation that God would stand by the promises that he had made to Abraham and his descendants concerning the land (6-12). Jehoshaphat's response is a model for us when we face challenging circumstances. Weakness In the face of the threat that the nation faced, the turning point for Jehoshaphat



Occasions Cards.

Look out for a new set of Village occasions cards to raise funds for the Village Show. These will be available price £2 per pack of five, from Paul Jackson at the Post Office or myself David Cummings 332410

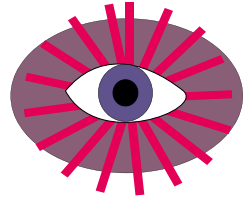
came when he acknowledged their weakness to God, 'For we have no power to face this vast army... We do not know what to do' (12). When he was not only weak, but aware of his weakness, Jehoshaphat had no other option than to throw himself on the mercy of God. What factors prevent us from seeking God's help?

Trust God spoke prophetically to the people, assuring them that they would not need to fight, 'for the battle is not yours, but God's' (15). Jehoshaphat responded with joyful and whole-hearted trust in what God had said, 'Have faith in the Lord your God and you will be upheld' (20). This enabled him and the people to face a seemingly impossible situation with praise! How does our faith express itself when facing difficult circumstances? Diligence For Jehoshaphat faith was not about sitting around doing nothing, expecting God to get on with the job! On the contrary, he arose early in order to lead the people out, with the choir at the head of the army praising God. Therefore, he was diligent in putting God first in the enterprise. How can praise help us to grow in faith and confidence?

'Do not be afraid or discouraged. Go out to face them tomorrow, and the Lord will be with you' (17).



Nature Notes



Excellent news this month! with at least six baby barn owls being born in the Parish. I hope that they have been able to cope in the wet conditions, as adult barn owls find it very difficult to hunt in the wet,

There have also been young yellowhammers and whitethroats

the title of this piece could easily be, "The Battle of Quarry Bridge". They walked after seven days, and this time were accompanied through the village by many friends both on foot and on motorised scooters at 2.30pm in the afternoon, not the best time to catch the traffic, building up for the school run. I caught up with them in



quite close to the village, and lots of baby robins, dunnocks and blue tits happily feeding in gardens and around the churchyard. The swans led us a merry dance as usual and

Little Heath Road, and after catching the cob, made my way around the sharp bend by Stepside towards the village. However six of the seven cygnets couldn't keep up the pace,



and I decided that I'd better collect them together at Tithe Barn Cottage. At this point the best option to avoid the increasing flow of traffic seemed to be

to catch both adults and cygnets and carry them to the canal. This we did, and aided by Ray Randalls a gardener working nearby and ex pupil of the High School, took them to Quarry Bridge to be released. However as we released them, another pair attacked them, and our cob was held under the water and nearly drowned in the process. However he broke free, shaking off the angry new cob (CP25 a Christleton cygnet from 2005!), and the Pit family

swam towards" The Trooper" and safety. The two pairs were very wary of each other for some days, and all was well until four days later when the Christleton Pit cob attacked the Waverton cob (CJ03) guarding his nest site on a garden near Egg Bridge. CJ03 had already lost his mate and at least one cygnet to a fox or mink, and after a short battle the

Waverton cob was pinned up against a garden fence, and his 3 cygnets were chased off his back where they had been hiding. An hour or so later these 3 cygnets were rescued from way down the canal, and I then took them all with the injured cob to the RSPCA Wildlife Centre in Nantwich where they were taken into care, to rehabilitate them, until a safe site can be found for them. The Christleton Pit pair together with their seven cygnets now patrol the territory between Christleton Lock



and Canal Bridge 114 at Waverton. People living near the canal and have animals/ducks should be on the alert, as several mink/foxes have been seen, and at least six ducklings, two swans and a cygnet killed in the last two weeks.



David Cummings

LOCAL EVENTS DIARY

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Held in the Parish Hall from 10.30 am – 11.45 am each Sunday during term-time, except when Family Service is held at St James. For further details please contact Berenice Hogg, 336779.

CHRISTLETON METHODIST CHURCH

We meet for Informal Prayers and a Simple Lunch on the first Thursday of each month at 12 noon. All welcome. There is no charge for the lunch but a donation to cover costs would be appreciated.

THE TREFOIL GUILD

Welcomes former Guides to their monthly meetings at
Caldy Valley Centre

2.00pm

Last Thursday in the month
Chairman Mary Pleavin
01829 770278

CHRISTLETON W.I.

Meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 7.15 pm in the Parish Hall
Next meeting on July 11th
Stories from the Theatre

CHESTER FLOWER CLUB

Meetings are held in Christleton Parish Hall on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 1.30pm. Details of any events can be obtained from the Secretary, Mrs Edna Ellis telephone Chester 346497

CHRISTLETON W.I. MONTHLY WHIST DRIVE

Meet in the Parish Hall on the last Wednesday of the month at 2pm.
All welcome.

CHRISTLETON GARDEN CLUB

The next meeting will take place on
9th July
Outing - to be announced.

MAGAZINE DISTRIBUTORS

The August magazine will be available for collection from Church on Sunday 29th July 2007.

LOCAL EVENTS DIARY

MOTHERS UNION

The July Meeting will be at 2pm on Friday, 13th July at the Flower Festival at St James, when we will welcome members of Thurstaston MU. as our guests.

CHRISTLETON RAMBLING GROUPS



St James (Tuesday) Walking Group Tuesday July 17th.

Betws y Coed. Llyn Crafnant & Llyn Geirionydd (Grade moderate+) 6 miles Mountain Walk. Revisiting this delightful area, and tackling a higher path with superb views over Snowdonia.

Picnic Needed.

Depart Church Car Park at 8.00am
Further details from David Cummings
on 332410



FLOWER FESTIVAL

at St. James' Church
Christleton
13th - 15th July
2007



Registered charity 1020854

Do you have a child aged between 0-3 years? Stuck for something to do on a Tuesday morning between

10 - 11.30a.m? Why not come along and meet the **Christleton Toddler Group** in the Parish Hall. We meet every week during term time. £2.00 per session, which includes refreshments

MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTIONS

Please ensure all items for inclusion in the August edition are sent to the Editor, David Bull, as soon as possible BEFORE Friday 13th July or you can e-mail this to christletonmag@hotmail.co.uk

Christleton Local History Group

Village History Tour. Led by David Cummings

Thursday 12th July. 6.30pm.

Meet by The Pit at 6.30pm for an enjoyable walk through our historic village.

Visit to Boscobel House & Wroxeter Roman Town.

Thursday 19th July.

building has a distinctive feature, indicating through a false window on the chimney, that persecuted Catholics were welcome there.

After lunch we travel the short distance to the site of the Roman Town of Wroxeter (Viroconium) the fourth largest city in Roman Britain, This fascinating site with extensive excavations gives us a wonderful view into Roman life in Britain up



Leave Christleton at 9.30am in own transport for Boscobel House an English heritage property.

This is a superb building with a unique history, where Charles II hid in an oak tree on his escape from the Battle of Worcester in 1651. The

to the fifth century.

Both sites are free for English Heritage members. Otherwise; adults £9/ concessions £6.80.

Please contact David Cummings on 332410 if you would like to take part on either event.

Pilgrimage to Jordan & Sinai

1 – 9 October 2007

Led by Canon Chris Samuels

Flying from Heathrow to Amman
with Royal Jordanian Airways

A chance “to walk with MOSES”
and follow his steps to view the
Promised Land, visiting:

Booking details from
Canon Chris Samuels
Riversleigh House
Station Road
Rossett LL12 OHE
01244 579097

Aquaba and Nueiba
Mount Sinai Summit
St Catherine’s Monastery
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The rose-red City of Petra
Kerak Castle and Mount
Nebo
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in the company of fellow
pilgrims.

Price includes flights, coach,
ferries, hotels (half board)
and guide

£1,020 (single supplement
£85)



St Catherine's Monastery



CHESTER AID TO THE HOMELESS

As Parish Representative for Social Responsibility I recently attended the AGM of Chester Voluntary Action at which the guest speaker was Robert Bissett, from Chester Aid to the Homeless. This is a charity for which I personally have great respect and which St James' has supported for a number of years.

I thought that readers of the Magazine would be as interested as I was in hearing more about the work of the charity.

Mr Bissett entitled his talk "Responding to Challenge" and went on to describe how his organisation responds to the challenge of homelessness in Chester in a very humane but professional manner. Six professionals and 27 – 30 volunteers are involved in this task. CATH provides 54 beds in all for homeless people in two hostels. The Night Shelter for emergency overnight stay and Roodee House for longer stays. The residents of Roodee House are all vetted and interviewed before obtaining a place, are monitored during their stay and followed up after they leave. During their

stay at Roodee House, the emphasis for residents is on education and training for the future as well as providing accommodation.

CATH also runs the Harold Tomlins Day Centre in Grosvenor Street which is open from 8 am – 6 pm 365 days a year, another very useful service for homeless people in Chester to use.

Users are involved with staff at all levels in the running of the organisation. Good relationships are fostered and maintained with local organisations and within the community with the overall aim of altering attitudes to homelessness. In my opinion this is certainly being achieved in Chester as a result of the work of Chester Aid to the Homeless.

Liz Evans

Thank you

Bunty McLelland would like to thank everyone for their prayers and support during her recent illness. She is now at home and making good progress.





Girlguiding

News from Christleton Guiding is alive and well!

2nd Christleton Guides were in London for the weekend earlier in the year, guided the Brownies in craft activities for Valentines Day, had a sleepover in the Parish Hall and will end the term at Pettypool for a barbeque and presentation evening, before taking part in a world camp 'SURF 07' at Manley Mere at the end of July.

1st Christleton Brownies went on Pack Holiday to Pettypool with Waverton Brownies for a weekend of bugs and wildlife themed activities, have enjoyed many varied activities including scientific experiments and

a trip to the theatre. They are looking forward to the summer holidays.

2nd Christleton Brownies are currently working towards a cooks badge and an out and about badge (have you seen us walking all the footpaths?). Their Pack Holiday at Pettypool took them Round the World. They will return to Pettypool for a Brownie Pop Star day out.

All the units will be celebrating their District Commissioner's wedding on 23rd June by attending in uniform and providing a guard of honour and then assisting at the Village fete on 30th June.

If you are interested in helping or leading a unit, or if you live in the village and have a daughter who wants to join please ring Jenny Brown (336229) for Guides (11+), or Anne Stockdale (335819) for Brownies (7-10+)



Christleton Parish Hall

available for Meetings, Parties, Functions etc, occasional or regular use.

The Hall has wheelchair access
and specially adapted facilities.

Please contact the Booking Secretary,

David Mercer 336155

Please telephone between 10.00am and 8.00pm
Monday to Saturday

HOLY DAYS IN JULY

3 July St Thomas the Apostle

Thomas, one of Jesus' 12 apostles, was an impulsive, confused, honest sceptic. Jesus could understand and work with such a man. Thomas' impulsiveness was evident when Jesus prepared to visit Lazarus in Bethany. It was a dangerous trip to make, because of the Jews, but Thomas urged his fellow disciples: "Let us also go, that we may die with him." (John 11.16) Instead, Jesus brought Lazarus back to life. Thomas' confusion is shown in later talks with Jesus. He was not really sure where Jesus was going long-term (John 14.5). But Jesus accepted this confused commitment, and began to untangle it, patiently explaining "I am going to my father", and "No one comes unto the Father but by me."

Finally, Thomas' honest scepticism is revealed after the Resurrection, which he flatly refused to believe - unless he could touch the wounds of the risen Jesus. Sure enough, Jesus appears - but instead of scolding him, shows him the wounds. Thomas responds: "My Lord and my God" (John 20.26ff).

Thus Doubting Thomas' honest doubts, turned to honest faith, have become a reassurance for thousands of men and women across the

centuries, who also want to follow Jesus, but who require some proof of this amazing event - the Resurrection. In Doubting Thomas' complete affirmation of faith, after meeting the risen, crucified Christ, they can find support for their own faith. Ancient legends tell how Thomas went on to India as a missionary. There are rumours that Thomas even built a palace for a king's daughter in India, and thus he is the patron saint of architects.

It is believed that he was martyred by a spear on 3 July, 72 AD in Mylapore, near Madras. 46 ancient churches in England were dedicated to him.

11 Benedict (c.480 – c.550) Author of famous Rule

Benedict was an abbot and author of the famous Rule that bears his name. Because of his Rule, Benedict is also the Patriarch of Western Monasticism, and Patron Saint of Europe.

Surprisingly little is known about his life: born at Nursia, Benedict studied at Rome, which he then left before completing his studies to become a hermit at Subiaco. After a time disciples joined him, whom he organised into twelve deaneries of ten. After an attempt on his life, Benedict moved on to Monte Cassino, near Naples, where he wrote the final version of his Rule.

St. James' Christleton Parish Magazine

Benedict's Rule is justly famous and respected: not only did it incorporate much traditional monastic teaching from revered monks like Basil, but Benedict went on to modify this in a way characterised by prudence and moderation within a framework of authority, obedience, stability and community life.

Benedict's great achievement was to produce a monastic way of life which was complete, orderly, and workable. The monks' primary occupation was liturgical prayer, which was complemented by sacred reading and manual work of various kinds. Benedict's own personality shines through this Rule: wise, discreet, flexible, learned in the law of God, but also a spiritual father to his community.

Benedict's Rule came to be recognised as the fundamental monastic code of western Europe in the early Middle Ages. Because of his Rule, monasteries became centres of learning, agriculture, hospitality, and medicine. Thus Benedict came to influence the lives of millions of people.

25 St James the Apostle

James and his brother John were sons of Zebedee and fishermen from Galilee - the 'sons of thunder', as the gospel writers describe their impetuous characters

and fiery tempers. James stands out on three accounts: he was one of the three disciples who witnessed the Transfiguration of Christ. Jesus took him, along with Peter and John, to 'watch' with him in the garden of Gethsemane. Finally, he went on to be the first apostle to die for the Christian faith, when in AD 44 King Herod Agrippa put him to the sword in Jerusalem at Passover time.

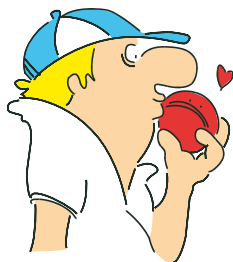
In the centuries following his death, James became associated with the evangelising of Spain, and as a powerful defender of Christianity against the Moors. The heyday of the cult of Santiago de Compostela was from the 12th to the 15th century, and the pilgrimage to Compostela became one of the most important of medieval Christendom. This in time transformed the iconography of James, and his emblems became the pilgrim's hat and the scallop-shell of Compostela. Over 400 English churches have been dedicated to James.

A wife invited some people to dinner. At the table, she turned to their six-year-old daughter and said, "Would you like to say the blessing?"

"I wouldn't know what to say," the girl replied.

"Just pray what you've heard Mummy pray," the wife answered.

The daughter bowed her head and said, "Lord, why on earth did I invite all these people to dinner?"



CHRISTLETON CRICKET CLUB

Christleton 1st team are still missing a number of key players, but performed well against Hyde, one of the seasons fancied title winners. A superb 84 from Daron Cruikshank was the base for a score of 221 – 9. Hyde held on for a draw at 211 – 9. Hopefully, with the return of Simon Radcliffe and Alex Barr, the results will improve and a climb up the table will begin.

The 2nd team are still unbeaten and remain in contention for league title. The university players will return soon and this will strengthen all teams.

The 3rd team are also on a good run, but several games have been lost to weather. It always seems to rain on Sundays!

Junior coaching continues and our under 15 team is very strong and have had

some comprehensive victories in the league. We have a strong player pool and with maturing juniors all bodes well for the future.

The electronic scoreboard is now in use and complements the ground facilities. Villagers are very welcome to visit the club to support the teams and just enjoy the picturesque cricket ground now the hanging baskets and flower beds are blooming.

We would like to thank the following sponsors for May/ June:

Bill Malkin, Jim Partington, David Parry, Tall Security Print, John & Penny Bell, Brian & Hilary Davenport and Kenmira Growmore

For information about the club ring - Brian 332326

A mother was preparing pancakes for her sons, Kevin, five, and Ryan, three. The boys

began to argue over who would get the first pancake. Their mother saw the chance for a moral lesson. "If Jesus were sitting here, he would say, 'Let my brother have the first pancake, I can wait.'"

Quick as a wink, Kevin turned to his younger brother and said, "Ryan, you be Jesus!"

Weed: a plant whose virtues have not been discovered. Emerson

Willpower: the ability to eat one salted peanut and stop

Holiday: the period of time when you get too active and too tired on your own time.

Holiday resort: where you go when you are worn out and where you come back a complete wreck

LEPROSY MISSION

Stamp out leprosy!

Please donate your used stamps so that money can be raised for Leprosy Mission. Stamps should be trimmed to quarter inch border around the stamp, and can be left at the back of Church.

PLEASE TELL US...

If you know of any special birthdays, anniversaries or anyone celebrating a special occasion, who is a Parish Magazine reader, please inform the editor, David Bull.

AVAILABLE AT ST JAMES CHURCH

"Loop" system, for the hearing impaired
Large print books for the visually impaired
& large print weekly notice sheets
Easy to follow Communion Service
Books for children
Access for wheelchairs
Please ask any of the Churchwardens
or Sidesmen if you need assistance in
any way.

CHRISTLETON UNDER-FIVES COMMUNITY PLAYGROUP

Registered Charity 1022817

Christleton Under Fives is an established pre school playgroup attracting children from a wide area. It enjoys good and well founded links with

Christleton Primary School. Children from the age of 2 1/2 years until school age are accepted. Please contact the Supervisor, Carole Penny, on 336586 for further details.

MOBILE LIBRARY VAN SERVICE

The van calls weekly: alternate Thursdays all day and alternate Fridays in Quarry Lane 11.15 am – 12.45 pm. For further details of when the van is next in your area, please telephone Upton Library on 380053.

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CONTRIBUTORS

The best way to send contributions to St. James' Parish Magazine is to e-mail the document.

Attach your Word document and e-mail it to

christletonmag@hotmail.co.uk

Advertising - contact: Ann
Smith, Tel: 332434

e-mail: ann.smith10@virgin.net

Parish Registers for May 2007

Holy Baptism

20th Matthew Hugh and Ashley Grace son and daughter of
Kevin & Sandra Williams
21 Beaver Close, Saltney, Chester.

“We welcome you into the Lord’s family”

The Funeral Service.

14th Thomas Holland “Oaklands” Nursing Home, Littleton.
22nd May Avice Dean “Heron Water” Skips Lane, Christleton.

“Grant then eternal rest”

Offertories

May	Cash	CSE	2007	2006
6th	220-50	597-85	818-35	944-77
13th	372-70	705-50	1078-20	849-55
20th	140-60	541-50	682-10	1100-90
27th	90-17	718-00	808-19	607-05
Totals			£3386-84	£3,502-27

