

Sunday 1 June
 Monday 2 - 6 June
 Tuesday 3 June
 Wednesday 4 June
 Thursday 5 June
 Wednesday 4-8 June
 Sunday 8 June
 Sunday 15 June
 Saturday 28 June
 Sunday 29 June
 Sunday 29 June
 Tuesday 1 July
 Wednesday 2 July
 Wednesday 9 July
 Wednesday 16 July
 Thursday 11 September
 Friday 12 March 2004

Shantell's leaving lunch
 Senior Holiday at Pilgrim Hall
 Monthly youth update and prayers, 9.30 am & 7 pm
 Holy Communion at 11 am, followed by a light lunch
 Anchor: an evening with Valerie Bagley
 Flower Festival at Guildford Cathedral
 Pentecost / Whit Sunday
 Trinity Sunday: Trinity Tea and Songs of Praise
 Linda Morgan to be ordained priest, Cathedral at 5 pm
 David King to be ordained deacon, Cathedral at 10.30 am
 Celebration lunch at Holy Trinity for those ordained
 Monthly youth update and prayers, 9.30 am & 7 pm
 Holy Communion at 11 am, followed by a light lunch
 Joint Homegroup meeting in church
 Jigsaw Playgroup Sports Day and Picnic
 Opening Supper for next Alpha course
 Parish Weekend away at High Leigh

REGULAR SUNDAY SERVICES

	8 am	10 am	6.30 pm
1st Sunday	Holy Communion (trad)	Morning Praise	Evening Prayer
2nd Sunday	Holy Communion (trad)	Morning Praise	Holy Communion Ord. 1
3rd Sunday	Holy Communion (trad)	All Age Service	Evening Prayer
4th Sunday	Holy Communion BCP	Holy Communion	Evening Prayer

WEEKDAY SERVICES

Monthly on a Wednesday (see diary above): Holy Communion (Prayer Book)
 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, at 2 pm: Toddlers' Praise (in the Church Hall)
 Every Wednesday, at 7 am: Prayers for 30 minutes (in the Quiet Room)
 Every Thursday, at 3.45 pm: Intercessions (in the Quiet Room)

Monthly on a Thursday, at 11.45 am at Wingham Court: Holy Communion
 4th Thursday in month. at 11.30 am at the Day Centre: Holy Communion

Insight is the Parish Magazine of Holy Trinity, Claygate, published monthly.
 Editor Jon Davey, 71 Hare Lane, Claygate, Surrey, KT10 0QX,
 Phone: 01372 810106, email: jondavey@fish.co.uk
 Subscriptions and Distribution Merle Liddiard, 01372 465038
 Church Office Church Road, Claygate, Esher, Surrey, KT10 0JP
 Phone: 01372 463603 Fax: 01372 464894
 email: churchoffice@holvtrinityclaygate.org.uk

June 2003

40p

HAIL AND FAREWELL TO CHURCH STAFF

This month sees changes in Holy Trinity's staff, as David King arrives and Shantell Hansen leaves us.

We welcome David, Katy, Samuel and William as they move to Claygate on 14th June in readiness for David's ordination in Guildford Cathedral on 29th June and the start of his work and further training with us. You can hear David's first Holy Trinity sermon at the Wednesday morning Holy Communion on 2nd July.

At the beginning of June, Shantell Hansen returns to Canada after three years in the UK. During that time our appreciation of her service at Holy Trinity as Parish Assistant (a name covering a number of roles) has grown immensely and we shall miss her.

The Church Playgroup, Jigsaw, has benefited from her skills with young children. She has worked two mornings a week with them and made a significant contribution to the life of the children and other staff members.

➤ *Continued on page 3*

Her work among the teenagers has also been

INSIDE THIS MONTH'S MAGAZINE

LIFE ON A SOLID FOUNDATION

Valerie writes this month's letter - see page 2

BACKGROUND TO THE BIBLE

A new layperson's guide starts in our centre pages

TRINITY SUNDAY

What it means to us - page 9

AFRAID TO FAIL?

Our Bible study suggests we don't hold back - page 8

and everything else to keep you up to date with Holy Trinity's life

VICAR: CANON JULIAN HENDERSON
 LAY ASSISTANT MINISTER: VALERIE BAGLEY
 NON-STIPENDIARY MINISTER: THE REVD DR LINDA MORGAN
 YOUTH WORKER: STUART WRIGHT
 Phone: 01372 463603 Fax: 01372 464894
 email: churchoffice@holvtrinityclaygate.org.uk

Not a member of a Home Group?

Then why not join with Julian?

For the duration of the new series of Home Fellowship Group studies, Julian is to lead a central group, meeting in the church, for those people who are not currently members of a Home Group but would be interested in exploring the subject with him. The meetings will be on Wednesday evenings, at 8 pm, starting on 28th May and continuing on 4th, 11th and 18th June.

If you are interested in attending, please let Julian know on 463603.

The course will be looking at the subject of "Serving Christ in the church and the world", and material for the course, which all Home Group members should now have, is available in the church foyer.

There will be a joint meeting of the Home

Alpha courses set to continue

The number of people, both existing members of the church and non-church-goers, who have completed one of Holy Trinity's Alpha courses and have gained benefit from them is growing all the time. The next course will begin in September, with supper on the 11th. If you, or someone you know, might wish to seize this opportunity, contact the Church Office

Contact the Elderly

We have mentioned before this local group who take elderly people out for tea once a month. If you could spare the occasional Sunday afternoon - even if only once a year! - to act as a driver, Cathy Spearing would be delighted to hear from you on 462414.

PREACHING PLAN

Sermons at 10 am

Until Trinity Sunday, we are continuing with our series complementing the Home Fellowship Group studies on "Serving Christ in the church and the world".

1st June: "Serve with humility"
Julian preaches on Luke 17. 1-10
8th June: "Serve with power"
Julian on Romans 15. 14-22

After Trinity Sunday, we have a series of four sermons on the theme of Christian service:

22nd June: "A job for life?" (Julian)
29th June: "Whatever happened to vocation?" (Stuart)
6th July: "Isn't that the Vicar's job?" (Valerie)
13th July: "Requirements for leaders?" (Julian)

Sermons at 8 am and 6.30 pm

On 1st June, we conclude our series on being alive with Christ, when Linda preaches on Revelation 3.1-6.

After Pentecost and Trinity Sunday, we start a series of 5 character studies on what it means to be a servant of Christ:

22nd June: The model servant (Jesus)
Julian preaches on Mark 10.45
29th June: The obedient servant (Mary)
Valerie on Luke 2.38
6th July: The faithful servant (Moses)
Michael Webb-Peploe on Numbers 12.7
13th July: The wholehearted servant (Paul)
Jon Davey on Romans 1.1 & 1.9
20th July: The mature servant (Epaphras)
Julian on Coloss. 1.7, 4.12, Philemon 1.23

(The subject for 20th July will be for the 8 am service only.

The evening service that day will be a

Farewell and thank you to Shantell

(Continued from front page)

Her work among the teenagers has also been hugely appreciated, especially by those girls who have belonged to her cell groups or spent time with her one to one. Her support of Stuart and membership of the youth leadership team has been a good example of what it means to be a faithful worker.

For the last couple of years she has attended on two days a week the Cornhill Course in the centre of London, as training in Christian ministry and speaking. This provides a good focus on the teaching of the Bible and will be a useful foundation for whatever future Christian work she gets involved in.

She returns to Canada to start a four year degree course in Social Work at Mount Royal University in September and we pray for God's blessing on her future, as we give thanks to God for all He has done through her ministry here at Holy Trinity

Julian Henderson

Church members should by now have responded to Julian's letter by returning completed pledge forms. But if you haven't, please don't think it's too late. Kim Aitchison, our Pledge and Gift Secretary, would still like to hear from you - even if you're planning no change this year. If you have mislaid the form, you can get another from the rack on the welcome table in the church foyer.

Church Hall to be out of use for a week

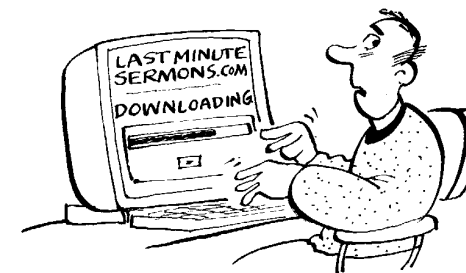
The damaged floor in the Church Hall is due to be replaced in the last week of July. Starting on 28th July, the job should, we hope, be completed by the end of the week. The work has been timed to cause minimum inconvenience to users, waiting for example until the Jigsaw Playgroup has broken up for the summer holiday.

As was reported to the Annual Church Meeting in April, the insurers have agreed to cover the full cost of the replacement, following the injudicious application of water by our cleaning

Church bookstall sees the light

Improved illumination, in the form of spotlights, has now been installed for the bookstall area of the Church foyer. It was there in time to make the bookstall a more prominent feature for Nicky Cruz's book-signing event on 20th May.

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I'd love to help with the washing up, dear - but I really must get my sermon finished!"

Breakfast with Elaine Storkey

It's not often, for me anyway, that the talk is better than the meal! But despite a good breakfast, Elaine Storkey's amusing and thought-provoking talk was excellent.

Several of us from Holy Trinity joined 110 women at the Woodlands Park Hotel on 10th May to hear Elaine Storkey, who is a member of the General Synod and so in a position to appoint Bishops. She gave a most stimulating talk on the changing role of women. Starting with the depressing UK statistics of broken marriages, half a million assaults a year in married homes, and 750,000 children in fatherless homes, she went on to discuss the dilemmas facing 21st century women.

Many humorous cartoons were produced to support her view of the loneliness in marriages and relationships. Pressure on time and the fundamental differences in the way men and women communicate are contributing factors.

Up to the 20th century, men were in the ascendancy but after the feminism of the 70s and 80s women now have much greater expectations of themselves. Elaine's advice for helping young people today included encouraging them to see themselves as unique in every way. As a devout Christian, she felt we needed the hand of God to help us.

Elaine Storkey is a regular contributor to Radio 4's *Thought for the Day* and if you ever have the chance to hear her - do listen!

Hearing about our local Hospice

There was a large turnout for an exceptionally interesting and thought-provoking evening at last month's Anchor meeting, addressed by Dr Caroline Lucas, the Deputy Medical Director of the Princess Alice Hospice.

Caroline Lucas took us through the history and the aims of the Hospice movement. The founder, Dame Cicely Saunders, was a nurse who became a social worker and then qualified as a doctor. She felt strongly that all three disciplines were needed in palliative care for the dying.

There are now over 250 Hospices in the country and Caroline showed us a map defining the large area covered by the Princess Alice Hospice - approximately a 30 mile radius.

She explained that the average stay in the Hospice was usually 8-10 days. Some patients came in for short periods to give their carers at home a break, some came in

for day care only, but the majority were at the stage in terminal illness where they needed not only the drugs to reduce their pain level but time and individual attention from the Hospice nurses to listen to their worries and give them reassurance. Relatives and visitors are free to come and go at any time and there is a full-time and two part-time Chaplains.

All this costs a great deal of money - nearly £5 million a year. The National Health service pays about one quarter and the rest is entirely met by donations, wills, fund raising and an army of volunteers who take on such jobs as gardening, flower arranging, shop-keeping, receptionists, librarians, taking coffee round etc.

Linda Muller, who is a nurse at the Hospice, was present and she and Caroline answered many questions. Linda emphasised that there are hospice nurses who work for periods in the NHS and she would like to see more exchanges between hospital and hospice nurses.

Holy Trinity's own Festival

Our Church is named not after one of the Saints but in the name of the Trinity, of Father, Son and Holy Spirit. So Trinity Sunday is a special day in our calendar, and we have for many years celebrated it with a Trinity Tea, with the popular "Songs of Praise" service to follow, crammed with your favourite hymns. Here we look at the background to Trinity Sunday.

No one has ever pretended that the doctrine of the Trinity, in which the one God is understood to be revealed as threefold - Father, Son and Holy Spirit, is easy to understand. In fact, it is unquestionably one of the most perplexing aspects of Christian theology.

The casual reader of the Scriptures will find only two verses in the entire Bible that seem, at first glance, to be capable of a full Trinitarian interpretation: Matthew 28.19 and 2 Corinthians 13.14, which say *'Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit...'* and

'I a Finance Review 2003 of the Holy Spirit be with you all...'

But of course the doctrine is not based on just these two verses! Instead, its foundations are built on the pattern of divine activity found throughout the Bible, especially the New Testament.

Time after time, New Testament verses link together the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. What emerges is that the Father is revealed in Christ through the Spirit. It seems as if God's saving presence and power can only be expressed by involving all three elements. (For example, see 1 Corinthians 12: 4 - 6; 2 Corinthians 1: 21; Galatians 4.6; Ephesians 2. 20 - 2; 2 Thessalonians 2: 13 - 14; Titus 3. 4 - 6 and 1 Peter 1.2.).

The one who is arguably responsible for the development of distinctive Trinitarian terminology is Tertullian, born about 160 AD, and the first theologian to write in Latin. He invented the word trinity - or trinitas. And such was his influence on Christian theology, that his term became normative within the western church.

Trinity Sunday is the last major feast of the Christian year. Liturgically, the remainder of the year is reckoned in terms as 'Sundays after Trinity' until the cycle resumes again on

Some Christians down the centuries have explained the doctrine of the Trinity by using the simple model of the sun (Father) in the heavens, which has both light coming from it (Jesus) and heat (the Holy Spirit). All one, all one source, but still three.

Some theologians prefer to speak of 'Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer' rather than the traditional 'Father, Son and Holy Spirit'.

How others have looked at the Trinity

"Tell me how it is that in this room there are three candles and but one light, and I will explain to you the mode of the divine existence." *John Wesley*

"Three in One and One in Three. If you have any problem with that, see the maths master." *Alan Bennett (Forty Years On)*

☐ *The Trinity Tea will be at 5 pm on Sunday 15th June. Traditionally for older members of the congregation, it is open to all but please book with the*

No one can fail to notice the amount of building work going on in Claygate. New houses are being constructed all the time. Old ones are pulled down, and modern replacements appear. Whatever our opinions about this particular issue, no one will deny that our homes are vitally important to us – perhaps the single most important material thing. If the number of TV programmes concerning house buying and improvements is any indication, most of us spend a great deal of our time, energy and thought on our living-space.

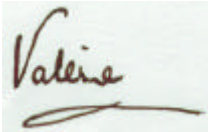
Jesus certainly spoke about house construction. He used it as an image of the way we shape our lives. He told a story about two people who wanted to build homes. One of them took the easy option, building a great house in a short time. The trouble was, that he built it on sandy soil, but at the time he was building, everything seemed perfectly secure and stable. The other person took longer over the building, reckoning that building the foundations of his house firmly into rock was more secure in the long-term.

Both those houses had to face up to storms – torrential rain, violent winds. But, as we know, only one of them was able to stand firm amid all the buffeting – the one that was built on the rock. The other, built on sand, could not take the strain for long, and eventually collapsed completely. The builder had to start all over again, with some hard lessons learned.

In our lives, there are certainly going to be storms of all kinds – rough experiences that we find very testing. The squall of temptation, that can stand up on us unawares, and sweep us off our feet. The devastating blast of bereavement that leaves one bewildered and adrift. The sudden tempest of other kinds of loss – perhaps of health, or security, or relationship. The chill breezes of many fears, especially at a time of tension and crises. Jesus was saying that there is only one way that the house of our life can stand secure in these circumstances. That is to listen to the words of Jesus, to put them into practice and to shape one's life by them. Not just to think of them as great ideals or beautiful sayings, but as principles to act upon, whatever that may cost us.

As we cultivate this practical, living faith, we find that God can transform our characters, deepen our devotional life, change our ambitions, transform our relationships. We may fail many times in our obedience, but gradually our 'house' becomes something attractive to look upon, hospitable to others in need, a credit to the Master Builder, and one that stands firm in the face of the fiercest storms. Jesus' story challenges me to ask myself hard questions, such as: What does the house of my life look like? What fills its rooms? How secure do I know it to be?

There is only one way to build that is worth while, and only one way to experience the rock-solid security we all long for, amid the shifting sands of our world.



From the Parish Registers

We welcome into the
family of the Church:

Max Samuel Eke
(baptised on 27th April)
Joshua Alexander Kenyon Hicks
Elizabeth Tabitha Forsyth Forbes
(both baptised on 18th May)

We offer congratulations
on the marriage of:

Matthew Richard Cheetham and
Sophie Caroline Putnam
(married on 17th May)

We offer sympathy to the
relatives and friends of:

Freda Gwendoline Fox
(13th April)
Sybil Sewell
(20th April)
George Robert Lawson
(21st April)
Ronald George William Croney
(28th April)
John (Jack) Ferguson
(30th April)

Insight

A reminder that the next issue of the Parish Magazine will be the last for two months, while the production team take their summer break. All the more reason to make sure that your contributions reach the Editor by Wednesday 18th June!

Parish Personalities

Selina Botham is the subject of this month's Insight Inquisition.

Where were you brought up?

In Pyrford, Surrey.

How long have you been at Holy Trinity?

For eight years.

What do you like most about it?

God.

And if there was one thing you could change? The carpets!

Where would you locate your ideal home?

Near the beach, overlooking rolling hills.

What is the least welcome part of your daily round? Paper work.

Which personal trait do you struggle most to overcome? Procrastination (especially with paperwork).

What food are you most partial to?

Savoury food, crisps, curries, and also bread and butter pud.

And leave on the side of your plate?

Liver, kidney, broad beans.

What do you watch on television?

Films and period dramas. I like

romance, esp if based on a true story.

What would your desert island book be?

The Bible (It's always there, Ed.).

What is your favourite music?

That amazing band "Used Notes".

And your favourite hymn?

"When I was lost" (There is a new song)

by Kate and Miles Simmonds.

Which passage of the Bible is most telling for you personally?

Psalm 33. 20-22 & Matthew 6. 25-34.

Do you have an unfulfilled ambition?

To make a difference for starving people.

A Moment to Meditate

Most of us are afraid of failing, aren't we? We live in a success-oriented society in which to fail is to face humiliation and scorn. Some of the best sportsmen we can produce suffer ridicule when they are beaten by those from other countries who are even better. That has been the experience of national teams in football and cricket, as well as of players in individual sports like tennis, or even ski-jumping. The talent that has led to them being seen as the best representatives we can put forward is all too often not seen as a badge of honour.

So many of us play safe. Asked to do something a bit different, we purse our lips and say that it is beyond us. We couldn't possibly do it. It's not our thing. The truth is we haven't tried it and are not sure. But we think the consequences of our trying might be that we don't do very well, and that would be embarrassing.

The parable that Jesus told about the sower is familiar to almost all of us. Some of his seed fell on the path and was eaten by birds. Some fell on rock where there was no room for the roots which could sustain a growing plant. Other seeds fell among thorns where their growth was quickly choked. But of course some fell on good soil where it grew healthily and yielded excellent crops.

The parable is compared to the spreading of the good news of Jesus, and its impact on different kinds of people. Some don't allow it to penetrate, and Satan takes it away. Some are so shallow that they forget it as soon as trouble hits them. Some have too many preoccupations that divert them from it. But others hear it and receive it and produce an abundant harvest. We will benefit by being receptive to the gospel.

. "Listen! A farmer went out to sow his seed...."

Mark, chap. 4, verse 3

We less often look at the parable from the point of view of the sower. He went out sowing the seed, accepting that some of it would be wasted. He was not afraid of failing. He knew that the terrain presented difficulties, but he went ahead all the same, sowing the seed, or spreading the word, even where he knew the odds were against him. He didn't wait to be satisfied of 100% success.

Are we like that? Or are we reluctant to deliver Christian Aid envelopes to people who might say no, and to talk about Jesus to those who might turn their backs or make disparaging or insensitive comments? And therefore do nothing?

Jesus asked "When the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?" How will our faithfulness to his commands be seen? And will others have faith because of the way we have shared our own?

- *Scribatus*

The risk of failure

Failure is as much a part of life as success is and by no means something in front of which one sits down and howls as though it is a scandal and a shame.

J Neville Ward

I would rather attempt something great for God and fail, than attempt nothing for God and succeed

Robert Schuller

A man may fulfill the object of his existence by asking a question he cannot answer, and attempting a task he cannot achieve.

Oliver Wendell Holmes

A day out for Men's Fellowship

Hard on the heels of their final meeting of the season, members of the Men's Fellowship and their guests set off on 17th May for one of their more distant outings, down to East Sussex and Kent. Our coach left Holy Trinity at 9.30, and eleven of us were welcome to many of us when we arrived at our first destination, Michelham Priory.

The Priory was unknown to most of us, but it is a beautiful and fascinating place to visit, and worth going to again for a more thorough exploration. Originally a 13th century Augustinian priory, the dissolution of the monasteries led to the chapel being demolished and what remained added to in order to create a Tudor residence. Since 1959 the house and site has been in the ownership of the Sussex Archaeological Society.

Within what is England's longest medieval moat (it's a mile round!), the house is surrounded by gardens which are not only very attractive and interesting - they include a physic garden and a potager - but sensitively managed to maintain what has been designated a Site of Nature Conservation Importance. There is a working water mill and a nature trail making use of bridges over the moat.

By 1.30 we were back on our coach for the cross-country journey - and a very scenic one too, with glorious views across the Weald - to Tenterden. We had a chance to look around this fine town before turning up at the railway station, finding there not only a sign welcoming the Claygate Men's Fellowship but a steam locomotive of the Kent and East Sussex Railway preparing to haul our reserved carriage on a leisurely journey across to Bodiam, with tea served at our seats. This was a nostalgic trip, not only for the form of transport but for the lovely wild flower meadows we passed, of a kind that we rarely see nowadays.

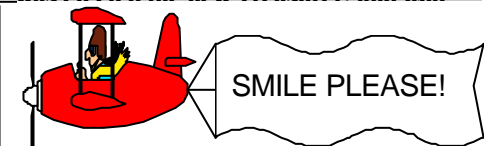
Our coach made it to Bodiam just before we did and, with the stationmaster waving us off, we were on our way home. It turned out to be a longer journey than we expected, due to the closure of the M25, but we reflected how insignificant was our inconvenience compared with the tragedy that had hit those involved in the accident that had closed the motorway; three young women had died.

For us, it had been a very enjoyable day out, and our thanks were due to its organising genius, Alec McJannet.

□ At the Fellowship AGM, Philip Rees was elected the new Treasurer, and Rob

"Restoring Hope"

In common with other churches, Holy Trinity has received a copy of the Church of England video entitled *Restoring Hope in the Church*. Presented by Canon Tom Wright, soon to be Bishop of Durham, and with contributions from our two Archbishops and others, as well as vox pops from members of the public, the video aims at offering pointers to the



The little boy was saying his go-to-bed prayers in a very low voice.

"I can't hear you, dear," his mother whispered.

"Wasn't talking to you," said the small boy.



- PEOPLE

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NEWS



