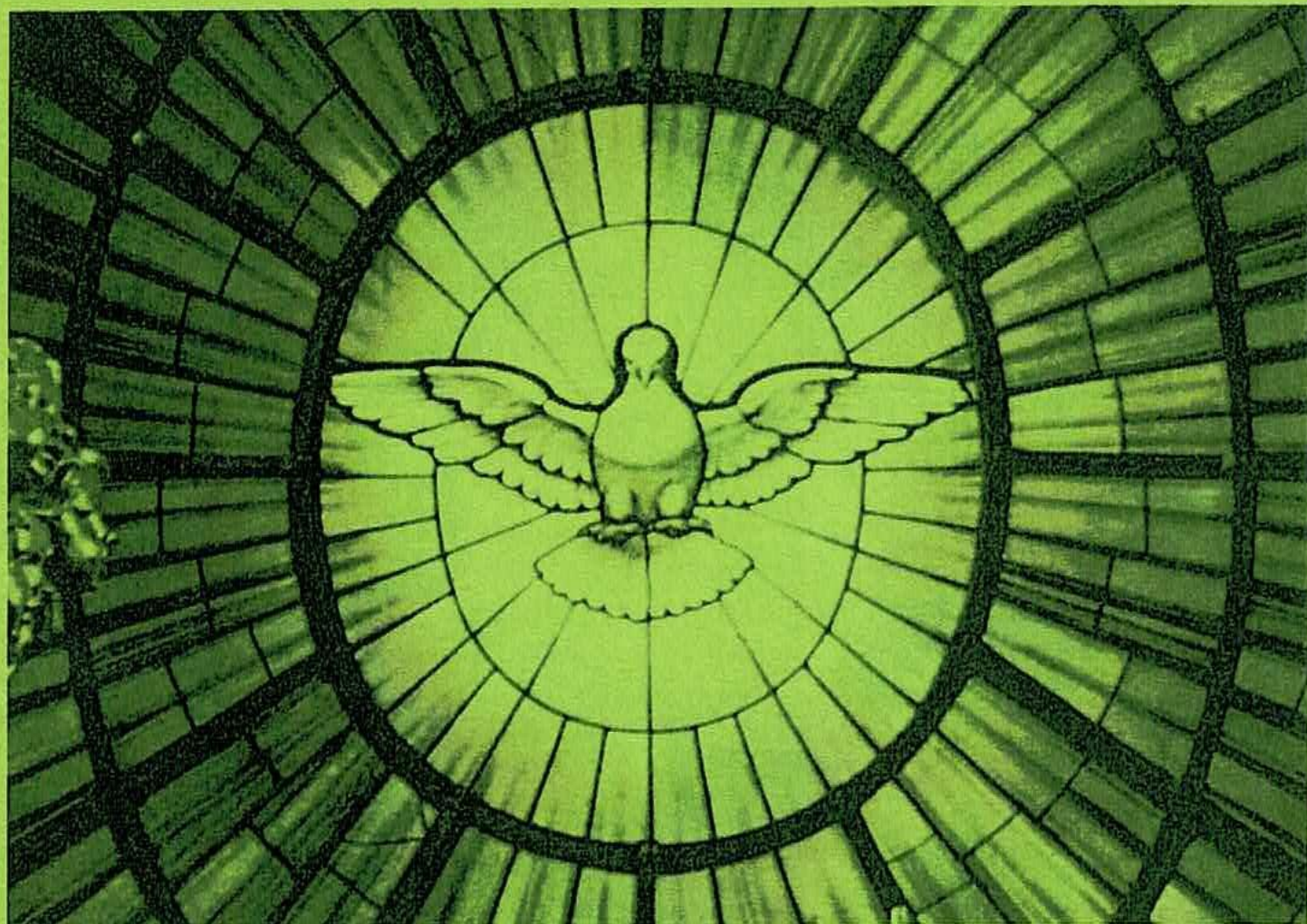


# **St Paul's Church Parish News 50p**



**MAY / JUNE 2009**

**31st May: PENTECOST**

**21st June: Fathers Day Service**

**28th June: Guest Preacher : The Ven. Paul Wright**

**Come and Join Us ! ALL are Welcome !**

# ST PAUL'S CHURCH : NORTHUMBERLAND HEATH

## SUNDAY SERVICES

9.00am Holy Communion	(CW,BCP) 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays
9.00am Holy Communion	(CW) 2nd & 4th Sundays
10.30am Family Service	(3rd Sunday: Family Communion)
5.00pm Informal Worship	(3rd Sunday only in Church Lounge)

## WEEKDAY SERVICES

9.30am	Wednesdays	Holy Communion
8.45-12noon	Wednesdays	Coffee Call in Lounge
8.00-9.00pm	First Wednesday of each month	Prayer and Praise -Lounge
from 8.00 pm	Monday Prayer Meeting at Vicarage	(Except PCC dates)

## STAFF AND OFFICERS

VICAR	Rev'd Capt Geoff Clarke	(01322 332809)
READERS	Mrs Lauraine Wells	(01322 407861)
	Mrs Jane Stafford	(01322 434790)

PASTORAL ASSISTANTS	Mrs Marion Farr	(01322 331525)
	Mrs Ingrid Walsh	(01322 330265)
	Mrs Brenda Leith	(01322 346150)
	Ms Ann Norman	(01322 340902)
CHURCH WARDENS	Mrs Dorothy Merrifield	(01322 347254)
	Mr Jonathan Rose	(01322 521067)
TREASURER	Mr Ron Handy	(01322 430345)

SHARING SCHEME SECRETARIES	Marjorie & Eileen Hoare	(01322 434230)
HALL BOOKINGS MANAGER	Mrs Janet Wayling	(01322 351536)
SITE MANAGER	Mr John Ralph	(01322 430800)
COUNSELLING SERVICE	24 hour Answer Phone	07981 923 647

## CHURCH OFFICE

Website: [www.stpaulsnorthumberlandheath.org.uk](http://www.stpaulsnorthumberlandheath.org.uk)

The Church Office is situated in the Church Hall,  
St Paul's Church, Mill Road

and is open from 9.00am-2.00pm on Monday  
and 9.00am-3.00pm on Wednesday and Friday  
and by phone at all times on 01322 336505

Please Note: All requests for Marriages,  
Baptisms and Thanksgiving Services  
should be made via the Church Office Administrator :

Mrs Judy Cunnew

email: [adminstpaulnh@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:adminstpaulnh@hotmail.co.uk)



EDITOR	Mrs Jane Stafford	ADVERTS OFFICER Mr Ron Richards
	(01322 434790)	(01322 522824)

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**DEADLINE DATES FOR JULY / AUGUST 2009 MAGAZINE**  
 by **SUNDAY 7th June 2009** to Jane Stafford please.

Articles may be e-mailed to [gjstafford@waitrose.com](mailto:gjstafford@waitrose.com)

~~~~~  
 Please note: Everything in this magazine is printed in good faith.  
 No guarantees offered !  
 ~~~~~



## 2. DIARY FOR MAY

### 3RD 4TH OF EASTER

- 9.00am Holy Communion (BCP HC).  
John 6:25-35.  
I am the Bread of Life
- 10.30am Morning Worship.  
Preacher: John Radcliffe  
John 6: 25-35. I am the Bread of Life



### 10TH 5TH OF EASTER

- 9.00am Holy Communion (CW HC). 1 John 4:7-21
- 10.30am Morning Worship & Parade. John 14:2-3.  
Holiday of a Lifetime

### 17TH 6TH OF EASTER

- 9.00am Holy Communion. (BCP HC). John 8:12-18.  
I am the Light of the World
- 10.30am Holy Communion. John 8:12-18  
I am the Light of the World
- 4.00pm Fellowship Tea followed by
- 5.00pm Informal Worship in the Lounge



### 24TH 7TH OF EASTER

- 9.00am Holy Communion (CW HC). John 10:1-21  
I am the Good Shepherd
- 10.30am Morning Worship. John 10:1-21  
I am the Good Shepherd

### 31ST PENTECOST

- 9.00am Holy Communion (BCP HC). Acts 2:1-21  
The Holy Spirit comes at Pentecost
- 10.30am Holy Communion. Acts 2:1-21  
The Holy Spirit comes at Pentecost



# DIARY FOR JUNE

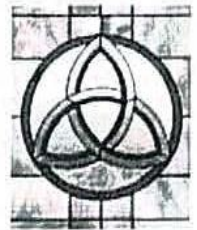
3.

## 7TH TRINITY SUNDAY

No 9.00am Service.

10.00 AM

Morning Worship. 2 Corinthians 8:1-7



## 14TH 1ST OF TRINITY

9.00am Holy Communion (CW HC). John 11:17-27.

I am the Resurrection and the Life

10.30am Holy Communion. John 11:17-27

I am the Resurrection and the Life



## 21ST 2ND OF TRINITY (FATHERS' DAY)

9.00am Holy Communion (BCP HC) . Luke 14:16-24

10.30am Father's Day Family Parade.

Romans 8:15-16

Can God forget Us?

4.00pm Fellowship Tea

followed by

5.00pm Informal Worship in the Lounge



## 28TH 3RD OF TRINITY

9.00am Holy Communion (CW HC).

John 15:1-17.

I am the True Vine. Preacher: The Ven. Paul Wright.

10.30am Morning Worship. John 15:1-17.

I am the True Vine. Preacher: The Ven. Paul Wright



#### 4. WHAT'S ON AT ST PAUL'S ?

If you have access to the Internet, you might like to 'log on' to the church web site with all the up to date information about St Paul's Church  
The address is <http://www.stpaulsnorthumberlandheath.org.uk>

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**ST PAUL'S FINANCE** *from Ron Handy (Church Treasurer)*

| Sundays  | Gift Aided | Cash   | Sub Total | Std Orders | Total 2008 | Tax Recov |
|----------|------------|--------|-----------|------------|------------|-----------|
| 04/01/09 | 139.00     | 189.53 | 328.53    | 845.00     | 1173.53    | 277.54    |
| 11/01/09 | 109.00     | 299.08 | 408.08    | 377.00     | 785.08     | 137.08    |
| 18/01/09 | 190.50     | 194.46 | 384.96    | 227.00     | 611.96     | 117.76    |
| 25/01/09 | 187.00     | 209.22 | 396.22    | 570.00     | 966.22     | 213.51    |
| 01/02/09 | 194.00     | 245.01 | 439.01    | 635.00     | 1074.01    | 233.82    |
| 08/02/09 | 151.00     | 297.38 | 448.38    | 537.00     | 985.38     | 194.05    |
| 15/02/09 | 4117.50    | 699.34 | 4816.84   | 167.00     | 4983.84    | 1208.45   |
| 22/02/09 | 182.00     | 185.52 | 367.52    | 525.00     | 892.52     | 199.41    |

Average Weekly 1434.07

We were blessed with a £4,000 donation which the donor was able to gift aid, which will enable the church to claim the tax paid on it.

This is where the church does so benefit from being able to claim the tax back that you have paid on your Gift Aided money.

For those who are able to give by a standing order, or have access to Internet banking, our bank details are:

**NatWest Northumberland Heath Branch :**

235 Bexley Road, Northumberland Heath, Erith. Kent. DA8 3XX

**ACCOUNT NAME: St Paul's Church PCC**

**SORT CODE: 60 15 28**

**ACCOUNT NUMBER: 66526434**

*Regards Ron Handy Church Treasurer*

---

**CIRCLE THE CITY 10 km Sponsored Walk in Aid of CHRISTIAN AID**

**SUNDAY 7th May A fun afternoon for all the family**

**Registration from 1 pm: St Mary-le- Bow, Cheapside, EC2 or**

**All Hallows by the Tower Byward Street EC3**

**Further Details from Janet Rose Tel: 01322 521067**

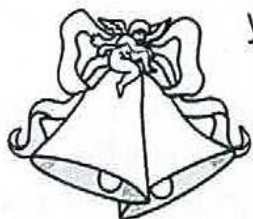
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**PARISH WEEKEND 2010 - ADVANCE NOTICE**

We have placed a booking deposit to return to The Oasts, Northiam in East Sussex for a Parish Weekend. **4 - 6th June 2010.** There will be a list at the back of Church to sign up for this in due course. Meanwhile put the date in your diary.

**Approx** cost just over £100. More details later.

Firstly, I would like to thank everyone at St Paul's for such a lovely warm welcome into your church family. We are very touched by your good wishes and gifts: thank you for your kindness and generosity. Thank you also to those of you who helped to make our wedding day such a special, fun, and happy day.

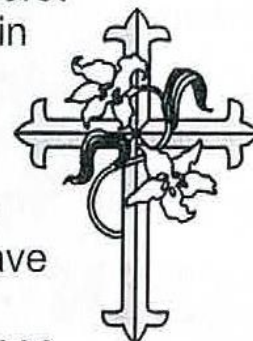


Time seems to be flying by so quickly since our wedding and moving-in day: I'm pleased and relieved to say that the children and I have finally finished unpacking and are now getting down to settling into our new home. Amber is enjoying Trinity school, and Douglas is looking forward to starting at Woodside School in September.



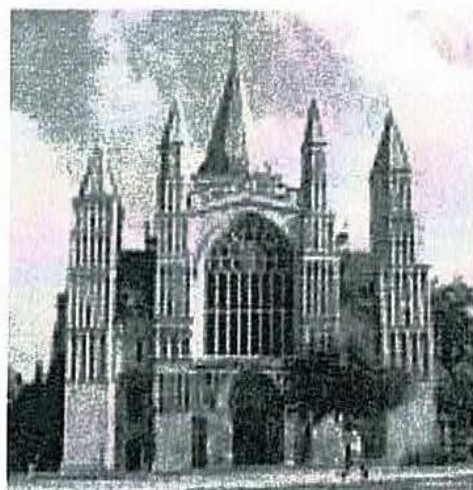
I am trying to put in the work necessary to complete my 2 year course in Evangelism and Ministerial Studies; with five essays, a placement and a weighty presentation to do, I know I'm going to have to keep my nose to the grindstone if I'm to get the work done before the June/July deadline!

For me, the essays are the worst part of the course as I find it much easier to communicate in practical ways rather than the written word. Jesus Christ was, and is, the greatest communicator of all time. When the lines of communication between God and us were broken due to our sin, He was the mediator. The cross enabled God and ourselves to be reunited, and now we have the possibility of an entirely new relationship with Him.



When we accept God into our lives things change, and we see our lives transformed into something positive and full of hope: how we view ourselves, family, friends and our world, and our responses to them, are transformed because God communicated his love for you and me on the cross.

If all goes to plan, I will be commissioned in September at Rochester Cathedral, after which I'm looking forward to communicating God's love for us in practical ways in our Parish.



*With Love*

*Caroline*

## 6. PRAYER DIARY FOR MAY/ JUNE

Margaret Richards

### Prayer Diary for May 2009



Please pray for –

CRIBS as they work in Bexley Schools; that the message of their Easter Presentation will remain in the hearts and minds of the children and teachers who watched it. For continued financial and prayerful support for the CRIBS team.



Bisi working in South Africa; for health and strength and physical and spiritual protection at all times.

We give thanks for the fifty plus children who attended the Easter Craft Afternoon and pray for each child who attended. We pray a blessing on all the adults who worked so hard to make this a success.



For Churches Together in Erith; that they may continue to successfully work together sharing our faith with the community.

Our new PCC, for our vicar Geoff Clarke, our Readers, Pastoral Assistants and Church Wardens; that all may see our love and unity. Pray for wisdom as they make difficult decisions.

### Prayer Diary for June 2009

Continue to pray for -

Those recently bereaved; that they may know the peace and presence of God at this sad time, especially the family and friends of dear Jenny Clark.



The church in the Deanery as they consider and pray about the difficult issues of Euthanasia, Debt and Substance Abuse.



Our Members of Parliament and our Government.

We pray for integrity in public life, for empathy for those in need and real help for those suffering hardship.

For the Bishop of Rochester, Dr Michael Nazir-Ali, as he steps down from his current position; pray for clear guidance for his future.



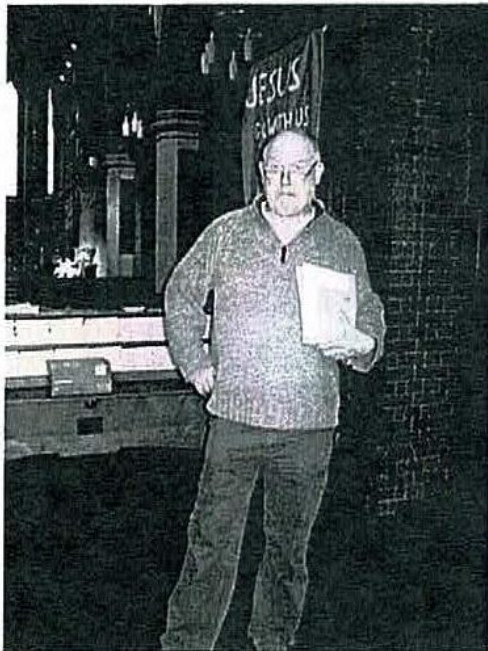
The area of Northumberland Heath. Pray for our community police, that young people will find a sense of purpose and that our council will provide facilities in which the young may use.



**FROM THIS: TO THIS DAY FORWARD !**



Wishing Geoff & Caroline every happiness in their married life together.



**FROM THIS ..... TO THIS ..... FOR THIS!!**



8.



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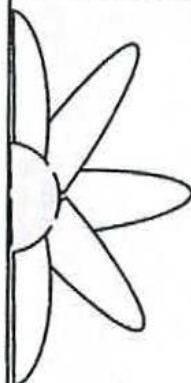
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## HAVE YOU READ ??

from Margaret Richards 9.



Have you read the book, *THE SHACK* by Wm Paul Young ? (*Where Tragedy confronts eternity*). These are some of the comments made by readers of this book: "Brilliant ! One of the most faith enhancing books I have ever read" "This is the most heart-warming, inspirational story I have read in decades. If you only read one book this year . . . read *The Shack*" "The Shack is the most absorbing work of fiction I've read in many years" All **I** can add to these comments is **AMAZING**, such insight by the writer. If you

have questions especially regarding suffering in this world, do read this book !

### **Would you like to read the Bible but don't know where to start ?**

Source: Jan edition of Christianity Magazine: *Buy from The Ark or CLC Bookshop*

**THE LITTLE & OFTEN LEARNER:** If you find a quick reading a day is the best way for you to engage with God on a regular basis try: -

"Lucas on Life" by Jeff Lucas (CWR) £2.49; Bi monthly notes in a down to earth style with the Lucas' trademark of wit and wisdom.

"Every Day with Jesus" by Selwyn Hughes (CWR) £2.25

"Closer to God" edited by Phil Andrews (Scripture Union) £3.50

### **THE CHALLENGER:**

Look at "Cover to Cover Complete" (CWR) £19.95

A chance to read the Bible in a year, divided into daily portions with daily devotionals. "NIV Bible in One Year" (Hodder & Stoughton) £21.99

Old & New Testament a day. "ESV Study Bible" (Crossway) £39.99.

A substantial and serious resource with notes

**THE CONTEMPLATIVE** Reading by yourself, then reflect and pray

"Life With God" by Richard Foster (Hodder) £10.99

"A Monk in the Inner City" by Mary Lou Kownacki (Orbis) £8.99

**VARIETY** if you don't want to be 'locked' into one particular style

"The Voice New Testament" (Thomas Nelson) £21.50 brings Scripture to life with words from historians, poets, songwriters. Good for study groups of all ages. "Prayer" by Philip Yancey (Hodder) £7.99 . Inspirational topics about prayer "NIV Signature Edition Bible on DVD" £26.99.

Allows you to see and hear the text.

**THE TALKER** if you enjoy discussing Bible passages with others.

Good for groups "John Stott Bible Studies Series" (IVP) £3.99

Ten different booklets on variety of topics with questions and answers.

"Environment - Life Issue Bible Study" by Ruth Valerio (CWR) £3.25

**FOR THE BOOK HATER** Series of DVD's, films etc 'Nooma' by Rob Bell (Zondervan) £7.99 Series of 15 min DVD's theology & answers.

'The Message on DVD' £19.99 Paraphrase of the Bible '

Theos - The Public Theology Think Tank ([theosthinktank.co.uk](http://theosthinktank.co.uk)) Good website

**LIFE IS TOO BUSY !** Low attention span materials 'Did You Think to Pray?' RT Kendall (Hodders) £10.99 Helps overcome obstacles engaging with prayer

'Ten Minutes a Day with Jesus' by Jim Reapsome (Baker) £9.99 Ten minute daily devotions, reflections and prayers.



10.



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# Psalm 119: How I love your instructions



The following 23 phrases are hidden in the grid – can you find them? They are all used in Psalm 119:89-104. Each phrase is in passage order, not alphabetical

- YOUR ETERNAL WORD
- STANDS FIRM IN HEAVEN
- YOUR FAITHFULNESS EXTENDS
- THE EARTH YOU CREATED
- YOUR REGULATIONS
- REMAIN TRUE
- SERVES YOUR PLANS.
- SUSTAINED ME WITH JOY
- DIED IN MY MISERY
- YOUR COMMANDMENTS
- I AM YOURS RESCUE ME
- YOUR COMMANDS HAVE NO LIMIT.
- HOW I LOVE YOUR INSTRUCTIONS
- ALL DAY LONG
- WISER THAN MY ENEMIES
- MY CONSTANT GUIDE
- THINKING OF YOUR LAWS
- REFUSED ANY EVIL PATH
- OBEDIENT TO YOUR WORD
- YOUR REGULATIONS
- YOU HAVE TAUGHT ME WELL
- HOW SWEET YOUR WORDS TASTE
- SWEETER THAN HONEY

**Christian  
Aid Week**  
10–16 May 09

## Keeping hope alive: 'education for life'



Christian Aid/Heidi Bradner

Nadia Kabula (left) has completed a tailoring course with Christian Aid partner Humanité Nouvelle. She says it has given her 'education for life'

Eighteen-year-old Nadia Kabula's story is not an extraordinary one. For many people in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), life is a struggle. Following ten years of conflict, malnourishment and preventable diseases still claim thousands of lives each week. Christian Aid partner organisations are helping to rebuild lives and livelihoods in some of the DRC's most vulnerable communities.

After the greatest challenge of Nadia's life, Christian Aid partner Humanité Nouvelle was there to help her focus on the future and the hope of a better life.

Nadia's father died suddenly two-and-a-half years ago. Her grieving mother, Brigitte, struggled to provide for her six children. Even though Brigitte works gruelling 48-hour shifts, some weeks her transport costs total almost as much as her weekly salary.

Nadia was profoundly affected by the death of her father, whom she adored. And his death had immediate practical implications. There was no money to pay for her schooling, so she had to drop out and care for her younger siblings while their mother worked.

Families like Nadia's often hear about Humanité Nouvelle's tailoring course through their local church. The course helps poor girls to develop skills to support themselves and their families. Nadia explains why girls in similar situations turn to sex work: 'They need to pursue their education and, with a lack of means, get desperate.'

It would have been easy for Nadia to despair. But instead Humanité Nouvelle 'have given me education for life', she says. She completed the course and now helps to teach the new intake of girls.

Nadia still takes care of her siblings, as well as being a mentor at Humanité Nouvelle. Her mother describes her as 'a blessing... [without her] things would be very hard'. And it's not just her family who speak so positively of her – her pastor also talks about the inspiring influence of her gospel singing.

Nadia is confident that she can earn a good living from sewing and she is clear about her priorities: 'If God helps me... I will do all I can to take care of my siblings and my mother.'

As collectors we can be inspired by Nadia. Even in difficult circumstances she is planting seeds of hope around her.

And Nadia's mother has a message for us: 'You volunteers should not be discouraged when you're turned away from houses. You should carry on because without that money it would be very difficult for... children from destitute backgrounds to get training, get a job and secure their future.'

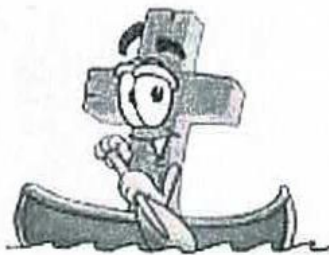
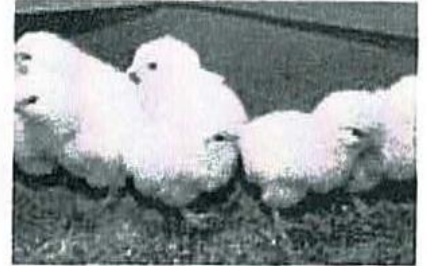
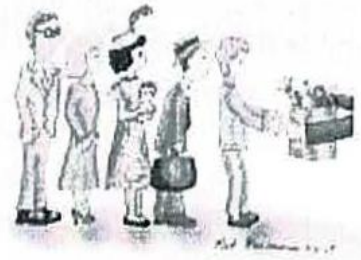
Your time and money are more valuable than you know. You could give a chance of a brighter future to another young person like Nadia, and support them to bring hope to the people around them.

The ripple effect of collecting at Christian Aid Week is immense – by taking part you are working alongside people like Nadia to help change the world. In the DRC:

- £5/€6.50 could buy six yards of material, from which a three-piece woman's outfit can be made
- £10/€13 could provide a girl with enough material to complete a 12-month tailoring course
- £40/€51 could pay the monthly salary of a tailoring instructor.

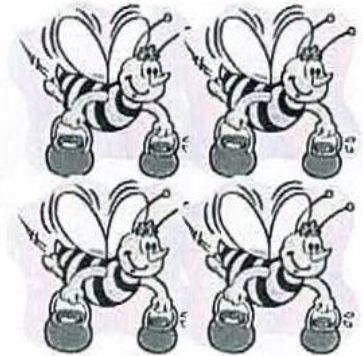
## 14. TEN LITTLE CHRISTIANS STANDING IN A LINE

Ten little Christians standing in a line,  
One disliked the preacher, and then there were nine.  
Nine little Christians stayed up very late,  
One overslept on Sunday and then there were eight !  
Eight little Christians were on their way to heaven  
One took the low road and then there were seven.  
Seven little Christians chirping like some chicks,  
One disliked the music, and then there were six.  
Six little Christians were very much alive,  
But one of them lost interest and then there were five.



Five little Christians, pulling for heaven's shore,  
One stopped to take a rest and then there were four.

Four little Christians, each as busy as a bee,  
One got his feelings hurt and then there were three.



Three little Christians knew not what to do,  
One joined a sports club and then there were two.  
Two little Christians (our rhyme is nearly done ),  
Differed with each other and then there was none !

---

### MOTHER'S UNION GROUP at CHRIST CHURCH ERITH

On the 14th May our speaker will be Ken Chamberlain. We meet at 2.00 pm in the Church and after a short service we go into the hall for tea and to listen to our speaker. All people are welcome single, married with or without children, men and ladies of all ages.

We are a Christian Organisation which Mary Sumner started in 1876 in the parish of Old Alresford, near

**Mothers' UNION**  
Christian care for families

Winchester, where her husband was Rector. He was later made Bishop of Winchester and they are both buried in Winchester Cathedral. Remembering her own difficulties when she was first a mother, Mary wanted to bring mothers of all social classes together to provide support for one another and to be trained in motherhood, something which she saw as a vocation. You do not have to join just come along you will be most welcome. If you would like to know more please ring Jose Hunt 01322-351280 or Julia Baker on 01322-341722.

God Bless you all *Jose Hunt*



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Ron Richards 01322 522824

## 16. BERYL'S NEWS MARCH 2009 *by email*

"The heat is intolerable; every day the thermometer registers over 40; yesterday and Sunday 45. The rain still hasn't arrived and it is now getting to the end of the "wet" season. Already the emergency services are ferrying water to the Chaco communities. A visit to the U.K. is still a thought and not a reality, so please don't raise your hopes too much. There are a lot of disturbing things going on in the Chaco due to a fanatical so-called Pentecostal group, and two of the Indian pastors have thrown in their lot with them, despite receiving a monthly salary from the diocese. The two concerned have become very aggressive and poor Andres Rodriguez "holding the fort" until the appointment of the new bishop in a month or two is having a shattering time. Robert Fernandez from La Patria was not present when Andres went to see him as he was in another community which has linked up with the bizarre group. The President of Paraguay wants to meet with all the Pentecostal church leaders in Asuncion to try to find out what's really going on as some people have died and violence has broken out in other places. This group insists that we are in the Last Days and therefore we have to spend all the time in prayer and praise. Thus the children don't have to go to school. They hand out suits and ties to all the young men, saying they must dress "properly" if they are sons of God. Casting out demons is their thing and all the young men think that they have this "gift" which is extremely dangerous. Nothing seems to have changed positively medical-wise as the same corrupt people are still employed and all the



Indian health promoters seem even less likely to ever receive a government salary.

Liberato, one of my helpers remains blind but says at times he can see light, and people like shadows, so maybe some improvement is on the way. Without his input at Sombrero Piri I have a lot more work than before. Norma is great but at present very disheartened as the leader of her community has nominated his sister-in-law as the official health promoter, who will receive Liberato's salary. This lady is untrained and not a very nice person at all and yet the health authorities seem to have accepted her. I pray that Liberato will soon see again before he is written off."

The need to supply medical care and the calling to the spiritual welfare of the residents of the Chaco is totally demanding. The choice for Beryl, is between the punishing requirements of the Chaco and the needs of its impoverished people, or, to take the opportunity to come home to meet up with her many supporters, report, and also get some much-merited rest. The good points are that Beryl has taken up binge-drinking— of water! As a result her leg is a lot less painful, the colour back to normal, and the lump disappeared.

Most recently, we have been contacted by a nurse enquiring about working with Beryl at the clinic. In today's jaded terminology she "ticks all the right boxes", including dog-walking! She has been given much information and advice, but as she puts it, "if God wants me to go, he will make the path plain". Please pray for Beryl and all the situations she experiences in her day to day life in the Chaco.

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## 18. AROUND THE GROUPS

### "COFFEE CALL"

8.45 am - 12 noon at St Paul's"



### EVERY WEDNESDAY MORNING

Coffee, Cake, Refreshments in the Church Lounge

A place to sit, talk, relax - just drop in. Come and go as you please.

Please speak to Marion Farr if you would like to be involved or on the Rota.

**EVENING MEETINGS** in Church Lounge as usual 8.00 - 9.00 pm:

on **FIRST** Wednesday of every month A time of Prayer & Praise:

Please Support and Join Us. All are Welcome.

---

## FLOWER ROTAS

|            |           |                    |    |             |           |              |
|------------|-----------|--------------------|----|-------------|-----------|--------------|
| <b>MAY</b> | <b>3</b>  | Margery Elley      | ** | <b>JUNE</b> | <b>7</b>  | Edith Rose   |
|            | <b>10</b> | Nick Carrier       | ** |             | <b>14</b> | Ingrid Walsh |
|            | <b>17</b> | The Week's family  | ** |             | <b>21</b> | Nora McGill  |
|            | <b>24</b> | <b>VACANT DATE</b> | ** |             | <b>28</b> | Vi Holmes    |
|            | <b>31</b> | <b>VACANT DATE</b> |    |             |           |              |

Often there are **VACANT DATES** on the ROTA. Please offer.

There are several **VACANT** dates during this year. **CAN YOU HELP ?**

Any donations towards cost of flowers always welcomed !

Joan Hawkins can be contacted on **01322 433622**.

---

### CAMEO :

**MAY 11th:** BRING & BUY for Christian Aid  
**JUNE 1st:** News from South Africa with Marion, David & Doreen

**ALL Ladies Welcome. Contact Monica 332108 or Margaret 522824**

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### MEN'S GROUP:

**5th May:** 9 Holes par 3 with Rob Silver

**19th May:** Our Visit to South Africa with David & Marion Farr

**6th June:** **Saturday:** The Royal Dockyard at Portsmouth with Colin Smith

**16th June:** Evening Walk in Kent: Bob Lindridge & Ron Richards

**21st June:** **FATHER'S DAY SERVICE** at St Paul's 10.30 am

**For all details : Contact: Tim Luff 552214 or Colin Smith 442233**

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### ST PAUL'S FELLOWSHIP TEA. 3rd Sunday each month

**17th May & 21st June 2009** at 4.00 pm.

**ALL** who would enjoy fellowship are most welcome.

Do feel free to come along. Newcomers always welcome. The meeting will be followed by an Informal Worship in the Lounge at 5.00 pm.

Lifts can be arranged.

**Please contact David & Marion Farr. Tel:- 01322 331525**

# ON THE REGISTERS 19.



We congratulate on their marriage:-

FEB 14 Geoffrey Clarke and Caroline Turner-Rosen

We extend our sympathies to the Families of:

DEC 28 Kathleen Elizabeth Moore  
Brantwood Avenue, Erith age 93 years

2009

JAN 8 Mary Smyth  
Arran Close, Erith age 86 years

13 Aileen May Barnett  
Bedonwell Road, Erith age 74 years

FEB 5 Edward Sydney Ellis  
Parkside Avenue, Barnehurst age 77 years

27 Michael Raymond Oyston  
Arnside Road, Bexleyheath age 67 years

MAR 10 Eileen Joan Le Balch  
Becton Place, Erith age 77 years

 27 Jenny (Jane) Clark  
Lambert Court, Erith age 78 years



+++++

*Help us Lord, to have a greater understanding of the grief of others when the ones they love have departed from them.*

*Make us sensitive to their sense of loss and help us to bring your healing into their lives. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.*

+++++

**THE BISHOP OF ROCHESTER STANDS DOWN:** Dr Michael Nazir-Ali, the Church's first non-white diocesan bishop, has announced he will retire in September. He received death threats last year after saying that some areas of the UK become no-go areas for non-Muslims because of Islamic extremism. The bishop, who turns 60 in August, wants to work with a number of church leaders after he retires. He said: "We thank God for his blessings and for friends we have made in the diocese in the past 15 years. I am so grateful to God for the friendship and loyalty of those around us and ask for people's prayers as we take this step of faith 'not knowing where we are going'." The Archbishop of Canterbury said his clarity of mind and expression had made him a really valuable colleague. His last service will be held at Rochester Cathedral on the 12th September. We offer thanks and good wishes.

## 20. THE HOLY SPIRIT

by Tim Luff

*As we approach the festivals of Pentecost and Trinity, here is a poem written some time ago by Tim to remind us of God's Gift of the Holy Spirit.*



It doesn't come in bottles, You can't buy it in a can  
They'll shake their heads if you ask down at the pub.  
It can't be weighed or measured, You can't hold it in your hand  
And the ice cream man don't sell it in a tub!  
But you'll know the folks who have it  
By the way they live their lives, Sort of  
different in a gentle kind of way.  
Like they've found some sort of



treasure that's brought joy into their lives.  
They seem to want to sing and dance and pray.  
They say it's this man Jesus.  
They call him Lord and King  
They say he came to break the power of sin.  
He said, "I will never leave you" I will send the helper  
To comfort you and live within your skin.  
So that's the Holy Spirit the third person of the Trinity  
Together with God the Father and the Son.  
It's the unseen power source of God  
The promise that victory over death for us he's won.  
To receive this gift from God all we need to do is ask.  
It's available and free to one and all.  
It's the proof that shows to us that Christ  
Is the Way, the Truth and the Life.  
It's the kiss from God when him in love we fall.



---

**JENNY CLARK:** Following several years of illness, dear Jenny died at the end of March. Because of ill health it was some time ago that we last saw her at St Paul's, but her prayer ministry for home and mission was indefatigable. She believed that preaching the word of God, prayer and uncritical love were the ingredients of true Christian life. Following training in Swansea, she had spent her early working life caring for women and children, running a hostel in King's Cross for emotionally disturbed girls. She later organised Day Centres for the elderly and was Secretary to the regional manager of the Baptist Housing Association. She had a passion for Missionary work in countries including China, Turkey, India, Bulgaria and Albania. At St Paul's, she enthusiastically ran a Home Group and took on the leadership of the afternoon group called Focus, which was a great blessing to all who attended. She had a real gentleness and sensitivity of the needs of others and had a real desire to worship and serve the Lord. She was encouraged by God's promise to 'fear not' and humbly dismissed her gifts that 'It's only me' working through God, 'because when you know the Lord, He works for you.' Jenny had such sincerity, a lovely smile, a deep faith and trust in God, and she served him quietly and faithfully to the end. She will be sadly missed, but we rejoice that she is now with her Lord and free from pain and suffering. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family. God Bless you Jenny and thank you for your ministry among us. Rest in Peace.

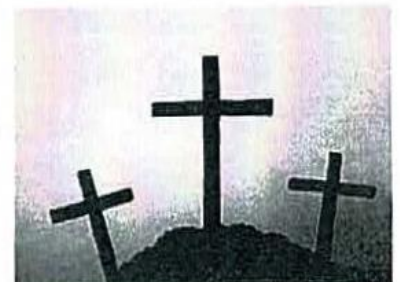
**AGGRESSION BRINGS AGGRESSION** *via Colin Jenner email.*

This article in the March-April edition of our Magazine astonished, appalled and saddened me. The first line sets the tone:- "Allah or Jesus Christ", the former is just one of many names given to God the Father, so for Christians there should be no conflict. Can you dispute "Allah akbar" (God is great)? Ignorance of the Koran as shown both by the Imam and author is shocking but seemingly typical of the radical genre unfortunately. Jesus is frequently respectfully mentioned in that book and called The Messiah. Also it says 'The People of the

Book' (Christians and Jews) are to be respected and not interfered with. Consider the following quotation: **Surah 5 : 47-48** "*Let the people of the Gospel judge by that which Allah hath revealed therein. Whoso judgeth not by that which Allah revealed are evil-livers. And unto thee have We revealed the Scripture with the truth, confirming whatever Scripture was before it, and a watcher over it. So judge between them by that which has come unto thee. For each We have appointed a divine law and a traced-out way. Had Allah willed He could have made you one community. But He may try you by that which He hath given you (He hath made you as you are). So vie one with another in good works. Unto Allah ye will all return, and He will then inform you of wherein ye may differ.*"

Unfortunately, some have chosen to interpret other passages to mean that they should adopt an aggressive attitude. Surely God is able to judge an individual and to chastise them without the intervention of such human fanatics. The likes of Pogroms, Inquisitions and Conquistadores and even Crusaders, (before which, many Muslims and Christians lived in harmony together) remind us of shameful episodes in Christendom's past. Let us show understanding to those who sincerely follow the Muslim path and demonstrate (as Christ did with the Samaritan) that love is far more potent than belligerence. Our Lord said '*Now ye know in part but then all will be revealed to you*', also '*In My house there are many mansions*'. This latter, to me, hints at divers approaches to heaven deliberately made so that we might have a spur to continue to please God by searching for the right path; the real truth only to be revealed once we are with Him. Al-Islam means 'The Surrender' - i.e. Man's complete surrender to God's will and purpose, which we should all strive to do! Muslims take a far harder stand against idols than is shown by some of our Christian brethren. Remember, 'The Cross' is a Christian symbol to remind us of Christ's love and His sacrifice for our sins on the Cross: it should never be regarded as a talisman. *Colin Jenner*

**MICHAEL ELLSMORE ALSO WRITES:** What has happened to the Church of tolerance? The thinly veiled attack on the Muslim community by Tim Keenan flies in the face of the C of E's long tradition of tolerance. It is featured with no contact and ends on the tired cliché which tries to scare the community into thinking we will all be living under sharia law in 20 years. What Rubbish! Yours sincerely. *Michael Ellsmore*



## 22. WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES RHYME ! *via Google !*

*Thought some of you might like to have a list of these for future reference !*

The **1st** is PAPER, on which you can write

The **2nd** is COTTON, all crisp and white,

The **3rd** is LEATHER, a bag or some gloves,

The **4th** is BOOKS, Lady Chatterley's loves!

The **5th** is WOOD, a box full of dreams,

The **6th** is IRON, metal not steam

The **7th** is WOOL, soft and warm

The **8th** is BRONZE, metal in an elegant form

The **9th** is COPPER, and **10th** is TIN,

If you have got this far you are bound to win.



The **11th** is STEEL, so shiny and bright

The **12th** is SILK, so soft and so light,

The **13th** is LACE, maybe a cloth for a tray,

The **14th** is IVORY, leave it for Jumbo, Its better that way!



The **15th** is CRYSTAL, cut glass at its best,

The **20th** CHINA, cups, plates and the rest,

The **25th** is SILVER - really swell

The **30th** is PEARL - from an oyster's shell

The **35th** is CORAL, from under the sea

The **40th** is RUBY, as red as red can be

The **45th** is SAPPHIRE - precious and blue

The **50th** is GOLDEN - Congratulations to you!

The **55th** is EMERALD - so green and so pure,

The **60th** DIAMOND - an achievement for sure.

The **65th** BLUE SAPPHIRE and **70th** PLATINUM

The last two which are reached by some

The **75th** is DIAMOND AND GOLD

The **80th** OAK Or something suitable for the very old!



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**EDITOR'S FOOTNOTE to page 21:** I was very grateful to receive contributions from Colin Jenner and Michael Ellsmore concerning last months article about the definition of an infidel. On further researching the article on the Internet, I found it was also published with reference to America & Australia. I have spoken to both these gentlemen offering my apologies for any offence the article may have caused. It is never my intention to cause offence in any article published in the magazine. My main 'mission' is to offer a wide range of topics which I hope will provide interest, humour, thought and a taste of the love of God. The magazine depends largely on **you** the reader offering me articles of special interest. Thank you for all the interest shown. Incidentally the Julie Andrews article got lots of Well Dones ! *Jane.*



**REMINDER of HOME GROUPS ALL ARE WELCOME 23.**

**MONDAY 2.30 - 4.00pm** 25 Cavendish Avenue, Erith 01322 434230

Marjorie Hoare and Jane Stafford 01322 434790

**8.00- 9.30pm** 82 Bedonwell Road, Bexleyheath 01322 430345

Ron & Joan Handy and Marion Farr 01322 331525

**TUESDAY 8.00- 9.30pm** 39 Swanton Road, Erith 01322 434790

Jane Stafford

**WEDNESDAY 8.00-9.30pm**

91 Merewood Road, Barnehurst: 01322 332108

Monica & Bob Lindridge coordinators

92 Barnehurst Ave. Barnehurst 01322 338558

Rob & Karen Silver and Vivien McGill 01322 433478

3 Heath Way, Erith 01322 341622

Paul Goldsmith & Julie Marshall and Andy Ladell 01689 539977

**THURSDAY 8.00-9.30pm** 25 Barnehurst Ave. Erith 01322 330265

Ingrid Walsh

You are most welcome to join any group, but please PHONE first as some groups meet irregularly. Fuller details are posted on Church Notice Board in link.



**PICKING UP THE PIECES: St Paul's Bereavement Support Group ~ ~**

**INVITE YOU :** to join them in the Church Lounge on the 2nd Friday of the month at 12.30pm when Lunch will be supplied. It is our prayer and wish that no one grieves alone. *David & Marion Farr: 01322 331525 Church Office: 01322 336505*



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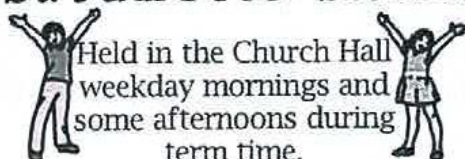
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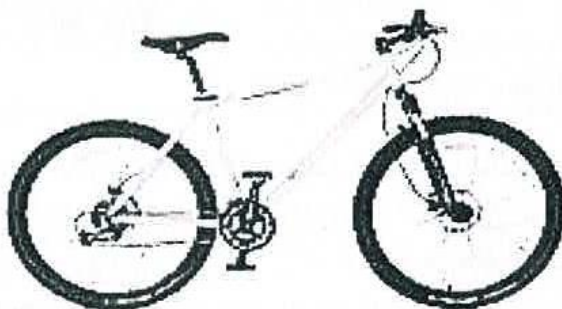
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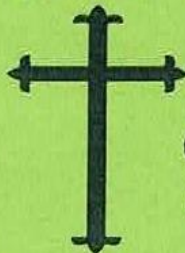
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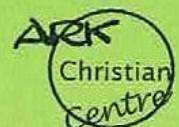


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