

Winkfield, Cranbourne and Chavey Down Parish Magazine



June 2026

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This magazine is available on the web at www.fosmw.com or www.winkfieldandcranbourne.org.uk For correspondence with the Editors, please write to aeh@xdotd.co.uk or info@fosmw.com including 'parish mag' somewhere in the subject. Some paper copies are available in the Winkfield churches on or after the last Sunday of each month. The printed magazine has 20 pages this month. The Web version has 32 pages.

Reprinted 25-May-26

Winkfield, Cranbourne and Chavey Down Parish Magazine – June 2026

News from the Archbishop of Canterbury

A joy and privilege to be received by the Pope, says Archbishop of Canterbury

The Archbishop of Canterbury has praised the Pope for speaking out against injustice and about hope; has commended working together for the common good; and has endorsed the strengthening power of common witness, in an address after a recent private meeting at the Apostolic Palace in the Vatican.

She prayed with Pope Leo and said: “It is a joy and a privilege to be received by you, together with this delegation from Lambeth Palace.”

She said: “Your Holiness, you have spoken powerfully about the many injustices in our world today, but you have spoken even more powerfully about hope. The world needed this message at this time — thank you. It reminded us that, despite our sufferings, people long for life in all its fullness, and countless people are working each day for this vision of the common good.”

She continued: “May we continue to work together in that hope, trusting that the one who has begun this good work among us will bring it to completion. Please be assured of a warm welcome from the Church of England should you honour the United Kingdom with a visit.”

Archbishop of Canterbury ‘appalled’ by rise in anti-Semitic attacks across UK

The Archbishop of Canterbury has said that she is “appalled” by the growing aggression against Jewish communities in the UK, after a series of anti-Semitic attacks in London, including an arson incident, in Harrow, and a stabbing of two men in Golders Green.

“An attack on Jewish people is an attack on us all – we must stand together against the virulence of antisemitism that brings only violence, fear and hatred,” Archbishop Mullally wrote on X. “We must face this challenge together across society and within all our communities. I want to assure the Jewish community of my wholehearted support, solidarity and prayers.”

The Archbishop's social media post came after bishops in London also expressed their 'solidarity' with the Jewish community, saying that they "condemn unequivocally" the "abhorrent" incidents.

They were recently joined by the Bishops of Chelmsford, Gloucester, Southwark and Norwich in condemning the current rise of anti-Semitism in Britain.

Harakat Ashab al-Yamin al-Islamiyya (HAYI), an Islamist militant group, was reported to have said that it was behind several of the attacks.

In memoriam

Glenna Marie Platt 1 January 1935 – 7 April 2026

It is with much sadness we announce the passing of Glenna Marie Platt, who died peacefully in hospital following a short illness.

Glenna was born at 31 Church Road, Chavey Down in 1935 and continued to live there with her late husband Ray. More recently, due to poor health and mobility, she spent some time with her daughter.

Glenna left school at the age of 15 and started working in the Church Road Bakery; a few years later she took a position at the Carnation Nursery in Winkfield. In her later years she also worked for ICL (Bracknell), Staravia and Blackbushe Engineering in Swinley.

Living her family life in Chavey Down and being part of the community throughout her 91 years meant so much to Glenna, so she leaves many memories, never to be forgotten.

From the parish registers for April 2026

No Baptisms, Confirmations, Weddings, Blessings or Funerals have been reported for April 2026.

Notices

Church Office

Office hours are Monday-Friday 9:30am-12noon. The Church Office is open to visitors on Tuesdays & Fridays.

Contact info: Church Office: c/o St Martin's Church, Church Road, Chavey Down, SL5 8RR, phone: 01344 882933 or email admin@winkfieldandcranbourne.org.uk. The website is: www.winkfieldandcranbourne.org.uk

If you are arranging an event, please contact Stephanie in the Church Office at the email address above, so that it can be noted in the Church diary and recorded on the website. Don't forget to use our fundraising links: www.winkfieldandcranbourne.org.uk/donate.htm

Safeguarding in the Parish

The Parish safeguarding details are at:

www.winkfieldandcranbourne.org.uk/safeguarding.htm

Safeguarding is part of our core faith and is an integral feature of Christian life. Please be alert to the fact that Safeguarding concerns arise in many different guises. So, we should always have faith to question, especially when something does not feel right.

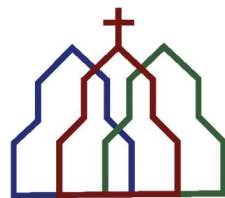
Should you have any Safeguarding concerns, please contact the Church Office at safeguarding@winkfieldandcranbourne.org.uk (please begin the message with 'SAFEGUARDING'), or on 01344 882933.

St. Martins Church Hall

St Martin's Church Hall is available for Hire, Weekday Evenings & Weekends

£17.50 per hour (community/charity rate also available). Sorry – no 'bouncy castles'.

For enquiries, please contact Amanda Carter at churchhallstmartins@gmail.com



The Parish of
Winkfield Cranbourne & Chavey Down

Winkfield and North Ascot Good Neighbours Scheme

Since 1993, we have been providing a vital, low cost, community transport service. The Scheme is run entirely by volunteers, and its aim is to provide a helping hand to our neighbours. We provide door to door transport to essential medical appointments for our less mobile residents. For over 30 years we have made a huge difference to many of our neighbours who would have had to travel alone, take expensive taxi journeys, or struggle using public transport.

Should you need help to attend an appointment, simply call one of our friendly coordinators to discuss your requirements Monday to Friday, giving two days' notice.

Brenda - 01344 882975

Pat - 01344 886144

PS. We are always keen to hear from anyone interested in volunteering as a driver. Volunteers are paid the HMRC mileage rate to cover fuel and running costs. If you have some time to spare, have a clean driving



St Peter's Church Annual Plant Sale

3pm-4.30pm Saturday 13th June
remaining plants will be sold
12.15pm Sunday 14th June

Tea and biscuits available whilst you browse
the perennials, planters and
home-made marmalade!

Any remaining plants will be sold after the
joint service led by the Bishop of Reading



licence, and are patient and caring, you too could volunteer as a driver and make a real difference to the lives of local people. For more information please in the first instance contact the Secretary on 01344 412490 or email winkfieldgoodneighbours@gmail.com

Local events and reports



TOBY WRIGHT
SPRING ORGAN CONCERT
SATURDAY 30TH MAY 2026
ST. PETER'S CHURCH, CRANBOURNE, 7PM
FREE ENTRY - book your seat at:
<https://www.zeffy.com/en-GB/ticketing/spring-organ-concert>

 **THIS CONCERT WILL
FEATURE AN INTERVAL
WITH DRINKS &
REFRESHMENTS**

**HATCHET LANE,
CRANBOURNE, NEAR
ASCOT, BERKSHIRE
SL4 2EG**

www.zeffy.com/en-GB/ticketing/spring-organ-concert

Founders Choir Concert

We are delighted to welcome again the Founder's Choir from Royal Holloway on Friday 5 June at 5pm. This is their last concert before they go on tour to Hungary at the end of June. William our organist will be accompanying the choir. See flyer on page opposite for booking details.

Three Counties Cycle Ride Sunday 7th June 2026

For details, please see page 21 of the Web version of this parish magazine, or go to website <https://3ccr.org/> for details.

A modern take on Chaucer's Canterbury Tales by CADS

If you think Chaucer is boring and hard to relate to, think again!

Cranbourne Amateur Dramatic Society is performing a modern adaptation of the famous Canterbury Tales at the end of June in a lovely garden in Woodside in the open air.



The Founder's Choir presents

Lux in Tenebris

A Choral Journey through Darkness and Light

Friday 5th June, 5PM

£10 per ticket (refreshments included)

Book tickets online here:



St Mary's Church
Church Rd, Winkfield, Windsor SL4 4SF, UK

In the original Canterbury Tales, a mixed bag of 29 pilgrims, with Chaucer himself as narrator, travel from London towards the shrine of Thomas Becket at Canterbury. Each pilgrim is asked to tell a tale along the way.

For this production, Director Pauline Pickin has chosen 7 tales from the Knight, the Reeve, the Wife of Bath, the Nun's Priest, the Pardoner, the Merchant and the Miller. Chaucer's storytelling gives a vivid, irreverent yet honest account of the world he knew. Combining moral lessons with the realities of human nature, he portrays the pilgrims with bawdy, earthy humour.

This play, adapted by Phil Woods and Michael Bogdanov, takes a deliberately unacademic approach and brings Chaucer to life for today, while still keeping the fun, chivalry and satire, not to mention the saucy humour and bawdiness of the 14th century classic. This version is set at a local garden fete where amateur actors compete to tell the best tale. It contains Adult Content.

The Canterbury Tales

On 25-27 June 2026 at 7pm; additional matinee Sat 27 June at 2pm

At Little Farm, Lovel Lane, Woodside, Winkfield SL4 2DH

Parking and refreshments with licensed bar

Tickets now available at CADSact.org.uk

Organ Recital by Henry Smith

On 26 April, at 4pm Henry Smith came to Winkfield to give an organ recital at St Mary's Church, followed by a splendid tea (which was very kindly provided by Eila Savill, Lesley Philpot, Madeline Holl and others).

Henry had been the regular organist for St Mary's church when he was a student at Holloway College. He had been an enthusiastic supporter of St Mary's events, including the 2023 Music and Merriment concert in December of that year, showing increasingly confident piano and organ technique. Since leaving Holloway College, he has taken the position of Assistant Organist at Bradfield College, as well as being an active member of the School's music staff.

Henry Smith's recital showcased his impressive musical versatility, featuring a thoughtfully curated selection of fourteen pieces that spanned lively toccatas, lyrical organ works, and jazz improvisations on the piano. Henry not only showed technically what he could do with the recently renovated organ of St Mary's but also demonstrated [*go to p11*]



CADS
presents

Canterbury Tales by Chaucer



Modern adaptation by Phil Woods & Michael Bogdanov.

Music by Chris Barnes.
Directed by Pauline Pickin.

25 - 27 June at 7pm
27 June at 2pm

**OPEN AIR at Little Farm,
Woodside, SL4 2DH**

Free Parking • Licensed Bar

www.cadsact.org.uk/tickets

Entry by pre-booked ticket only



Services in the Parish June 2026

* NB. All content in these lists may be subject to change

ST MARTIN'S CHURCH

Common Worship Services

Date	Day	Time	Service
7	1 st Sunday after Trinity	9:30am	Morning Prayer
		4pm	Family Craft Café
14	2 nd Sunday after Trinity	No service	Please join Holy Communion led by Bishop Mary in St Peter's Church
21	3 rd Sunday after Trinity	10am	Community Coffee Morning <i>in St Martin's Church Hall</i>
28	4 th Sunday after Trinity	9:30am	Holy Communion

ST MARY'S CHURCH

Book of Common Prayer Services

Date	Day	Time	Service
7	1 st Sunday after Trinity	10am	Family Communion
14	2 nd Sunday after Trinity	10am	Family Matins
		11am	Invitation to join Holy Communion led by Bishop Mary in St Peter's Church
21	3 rd Sunday after Trinity	9:30am	Family Praise
		11am	Holy Communion
28	4 th Sunday after Trinity	9:30am	Crafty Church
		11am	Morning Prayer

ST PETER'S CHURCH

Common Worship Services

Date	Day	Time	Service
7	1 st Sunday after Trinity	11am	Family Praise
14	2 nd Sunday after Trinity	11am	Holy Communion led by Mary, Bishop of Reading

Date	Day	Time	Service
21	3 rd Sunday after Trinity	11am	Morning Praise & Prayer
28	4 th Sunday after Trinity	11am	Patronal Service of Communion

Local events and reports Continued from Page 9

excellent interpretation across genres, engaging the audience with both familiar melodies and vibrant surprises. The performance highlighted his passion for improvisation and his ability to navigate a range of musical styles, ending with a triumphant rendition of ‘Carillon de Westminster.’

Eila Savill concluded the performance by pointing out how Henry Smiths organ and pianistic virtuosity had matured and extended, to a new level. This was well-deserved praise after such an imaginative and exciting recital performed with a very high level of technical achievement and musicality.

The concert concluded with splendid tea-party – almost a celebration in its own right of the musical treat that we had just enjoyed! Thank you for the tea to all involved, and thank you, Henry, for a great recital.

St Mary’s Choirs

The adult choir with several of our extra singers performed at the Easter Family Communion service, which was led beautifully by Revd Nicholas Cheeseman.

The Junior Choir led the singing for the Family Matins service in April with Hanna Kinces as Crucifer. Hanna is also Crucifer at the Morning Prayer and Crafty Choral Matins services.

Both William Bishop and Alan Rapley have played the organ for our services.

St Mary’s 9:30am Services

Family Praise and Crafty Church continue with the children reading all the Bible passages and prayers. Lesley emails the families at the beginning of each month asking for volunteers.

They reply pretty quickly but in addition new members write to her asking if they can join the list of readers. This is wonderful news. Several also play a musical instrument during some of the services.

The Lord’s Prayer, sung by the children in the chancel, continues to be popular.

St Mary's Family Communion in May

This was led by Rev Andy Medlicott and a baptism followed the service. He will be visiting again in July and will also take a service at St Martin's. We thank Andy for agreeing to take some of our services.

St Mary's Holy Communion

This service continues to be led by Canon Bernard Dagnall and we are very grateful to him. The service in May also included a baptism.

St Mary's Morning Prayer and Crafty Choral Matins

These services are taken by John Kimbell with Crafty Choral Matins usually being a continuation of the Crafty Church theme of the previous week and children read some of the prayers.

May Fayre 10 May 2026

The May Fayre took place after the Rogation Sunday Family Matins service. The weather was not as warm as previous years, but it was at least dry. There were several stalls including Plants, Nearly New, Bric a brac, Books and a Raffle.

There was also hot food and, once again, there was a wonderful cake stall provided by Eila and her colleagues.

Hanna manned a stall with children's activities including the three jigsaws of church photographs. In addition, there was a painting competition for the children. They were asked to make an artwork image for a Christmas Card they would like to receive. There were three categories and the winner from each section will have their entry converted into a Christmas card for St Mary's 2026 Christmas cards.

The Bell Ringers attended and offered games for the children. Several climbed the Tower and rang the bells. Thanks to the Bell Ringers.

All proceeds are for St Mary's. We thank all who supported the Fayre, as customers, competitors, volunteers and stall-holders.

St Mary's Women's Guild

The May meeting began with discussions on the HODS theme of 'Everyday Histories', due to take place in September. Several members agreed to be available to assist on 12 and 19 September.

The afternoon tea in July at the home of a member was confirmed, but the suggested visit to Greys Court needed more discussion time, as some members are now unavailable on the original date.

Early discussions began on two of the flower beds at the front of the church.

Friends of St Mary's Winkfield

A reminder of the Founders Choir concert at St Mary's on 5 June at 5pm will be forwarded to all FOSMW members. FOSMW is hosting the concert. See also the Founders Choir Concert article on page 6.

St Mary's Bellringers - May

We have again been busy with both tower and hand bells!

Sadly, we did not progress to the next round of the striking competition – we were up against a very strong team! However we did have an interesting and productive practice session with our visitors. Next year ... ?

As I could not commit to the South East Region Bell Orchestra practice sessions this year, I went along to listen and support the Orchestra on concert day – I recommend going along next time if you can: it was a remarkable display of hand bell ringing, involving 40+ ringers, a double bass, a clarinet and timpani! A great afternoon. I will publish the details for 2027 when I have them.

Meanwhile our own hand bell team will be ringing a super folk tune on May 31 – it would be lovely to see lots of people in church!

The May Fayre was a success, with many stalls on offer: balls in the bell, axe throwing, throw the horseshoe and a very interesting Graveyard Challenge! Also lots of cake, plants, tombola, raffle, pre-loved and bric-a-brac stalls. Great fun!

One bear bravely hurtled off the tower and sailed perfectly into the event.

We had a lad visit us in the tower before the service and he did really well; then after the Fayre another youngster wanted to have a go so we had an impromptu session with several folk and everyone did very well also; if anyone would like to have a go please speak to Tony or come up to the tower on a Monday evening at 7:30pm

We were lucky with the weather, as, although it was chilly, the rain held off until the event was over and we had cleared up!

Anyone who is interested in joining either hand or tower bells would be made most welcome - why not come along and give it a go??

Jill Glennerster 07821131303

Thoughts of all sorts

11th June Barnabas , Paul's first missionary companion

Would you have liked to go to Cyprus on holiday this year? If so, spare a thought for the Cypriot who played such a key role in the New Testament.

He was Joseph, a Jewish Cypriot and a Levite, who is first mentioned in Acts 4:36, when the Early Church was sharing a communal lifestyle. Joseph sold a field and gave the money to the apostles. His support so touched them that they gave him the nickname of Barnabas, 'Son of Encouragement'.

Barnabas has two great claims to fame. Firstly, it was Barnabas who made the journey to go and fetch the converted Paul out of Tarsus, and persuade him to go with him to Antioch, where there were many new believers with no one to help them. For a year, the two men ministered there, establishing a church. It was here that the believers were first called Christians.

It was also in Antioch (Acts 13) that the Holy Spirit led the church to 'set aside' Barnabas and Paul, and to send them out on the church's first ever 'missionary journey'. The Bible tells us that they went to Cyprus and then travelled throughout the island. It was at Lystra that the locals mistook Barnabas for Zeus and Paul for Hermes, much to their dismay.

Much later, back in Jerusalem, Barnabas and Paul decided to part company. While Paul travelled on to Syria, Barnabas did what he could do best: return to Cyprus and continue to evangelise it. So, if you go to Cyprus and see churches, remember that Christianity on that beautiful island goes right back to Acts 13, when Barnabas and Paul first arrived.

In England there are 13 ancient church dedications and not a few modern ones. Barnabas the generous, the encourager, the apostle who loved his own people – no wonder he should be remembered with love. The following prayer was written by Daphne Kitching.

Father,

Here we are in June – a beautiful month and a month when we remember a beautiful follower of Yours, Barnabas. He was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and faith, and he encouraged Your people to remain true to You in what must have been dangerous times.

Lord, in these dangerous days, when so much seems alien and out

of control, how we all need to be encouraged to be steadfast in our faith and in our lives.

How we need to remember that You are our faithful, sovereign Lord; that You never change; that in Jesus You have won the victory over sin and death. If we put our trust in Jesus, we are secure for all eternity.

Thank You for the example of Barnabas. Help us to be encouraged and to encourage others. May we enjoy June in all its beauty, knowing that nothing can separate us from You.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

Episode 64 – The worldwide Directory

Continuing Anthony Hodson's serial memoirs

In the earlier stages of creating the international standards for the X.500 Directory, the THORN Esprit project created practical experience on designing and building a Directory system. After this, the finalization of practical standards took place from the late 1980s into the mid-90s.

For me, this entailed taking a very active part in the creation of the primary standards, which took the form of meetings in many places around the globe, backed up by a lot of theoretical work – and practical design, too, that could lead to a Directory product for ICL. During this period, I was ICL's leader in Directory technology, and I became determined to build a working Directory system for the company.

As a result of this, all the work that I contributed for the formal standards was based on an understanding of what a real Directory system needed and could do in a practical design was the result of collaboration with other experts from all around the world.

The technicalities are out of scope of these episodes, but the meetings all around the world provided some happy experiences as well as productive and creative team-work with IT experts.

The meetings in Japan were among the most memorable. Visitors to Japan are warned that, although the country may seem at first sight to be Western, with high-rise buildings, cars behaving in an orderly fashion in the streets and people looking busy and well-fed, one will encounter a complete culture shock on arrival.

The first sign of this is in language. At that time, few Japanese people were able to speak and understand English at all. In airports, all the officials and others involved in airport work could speak English, but

taxi drivers mostly had no knowledge of English. Japanese is a difficult language, and the writing system is completely different, being a combination of Chinese ideograms (Kanji) and two syllabic systems (Hiragana and Katakana). Road signs at that time were cryptic, and written in Japanese style, with very few giving translations of the Japanese into Roman letters and numerals. Menus in restaurants were unintelligible; even as to the cost of each choice. item. (Some menus in touristy cafes had little pictures of the food, but these were not necessarily the kind of food that one would want and mostly do not represent traditional Japanese food.)

The first Japanese notable encounter (and there were more) was in Kyoto, the one-time capital of Japan, before Tokyo became the capital in 1869,

I had taken the trouble to learn the most obvious courtesies: 'please', 'thank you', 'good morning', etc, and a few simple sentences, in Japanese, but that was not going to take me far. Kanji characters were impenetrable.

These difficulties were soon cancelled out by the charm and helpfulness of the Japanese people that we met.

This was displayed the very evening that I arrived in Kyoto, the first of the delegates to arrive at the venue, so I was by myself. Kyoto is a pleasant city, with modern buildings interspersed with temples and shrines, so I walked out with enjoyment, looking for a restaurant that seemed not too daunting. I found one and walked in, and was led to a table in the centre of the dining area, and given a menu. This was of course totally unintelligible, and the waiter had no English.

After a little while, a man came to my table, introduced himself in English (he was a professor of engineering at a local university), and said that he noticed that I might appreciate some help. I thanked him for his kindness, and he helped me choose a dish from the menu and explained the money situation and went back to his table. I enjoyed my meal, thinking that was a unique example of pure hospitality.

I was staying in an international hotel where the staff spoke English well, and there was an international style dining area and a Japanese dining area. I decided on the former for breakfast the next day, and sat by the window by myself. Shortly after that, three Japanese girls sat themselves at the next table. After a while I realised that I was the subject of curious attention. So I looked up at them and said 'Good morning' in my best Japanese: "ohayo gozaimas(u)" and they giggled

and said back: “ohayo gozaimas(u).” [Final ‘U’s are not sounded]
After some discussion, one of them said “are you Amerikajin?” and I responded “No, I’m English”. [in Japanese there are no distinct sounds for ‘l’ and ‘r’. The correct Japanese is ‘Eigo’, but I think they understood.]
After further discussion between them, one of the girls said: “How old are you?” This question was a bit of a surprise, but I told them: “I am 52, and how old are you?”

This surprising choice of subject turned out to be a very good introduction, as we then got into general conversation – they were all 18-year-olds, and were students at a local university. I shortly afterwards excused myself to prepare for my morning meeting, feeling very much cheered by the girls’ gentle curiosity. Over the next days when we were off-duty visiting local sights, it was notable that I and my (male) co-delegates from Europe were frequently a subject of curiosity.

A few days later, we were let off conference duty for a morning to join the crowds watching the procession of wagons in Kyoto’s famous Chrysanthemum Festival parade, and I was approached (very courteously) by a young woman requesting that I take a photograph for her with her camera, over the mass of heads in the big crowd of spectators, so I did this, being about 8 inches taller than she was. She was later happy to join my colleagues and myself for a light lunch afterwards. This informal socialising seemed delightfully natural.

There were two Japanese delegates at our conference, which were always conducted in English and they were very anxious to play an active role. The difference in the language and the way in which things were expressed in the technical world was difficult for them, but I found that I could help them by trying to re-state their points in a more familiar English idiom.



This, I think, was appreciated, and one of the delegates, Yutaka Ikeda, remains in correspondence each Christmas, and also sends a beautiful calendar with a new picture each month of classical Japanese artist. About twenty years later, Yutaka and three other of the Japanese delegation were kind enough to treat Margaret-Anne and myself to a splendid Japanese dinner when we visited Tokyo on holiday (we also visited Kyoto that time, but that is another story).

Kyoto has some beautiful and interesting places, set in their own places in the historic city – temples, gardens, pagodas, and a half-mile-long covered market; my visits at that time were business-focused, but what I was able to see of the city and its cultures was tantalising. Our Japanese hosts also treated us to a complete traditional meal seated Japanese style (moderated by pits where one put one’s legs rather than having to squat on them, as would be traditional).

A local late friend who had served in the Far East during WWII would never forgive the Japanese for what they did. These experiences in Japan were a complete reversal of my views about the Japanese people. More geographic adventures from the Directory standards period will follow. In the next episode.

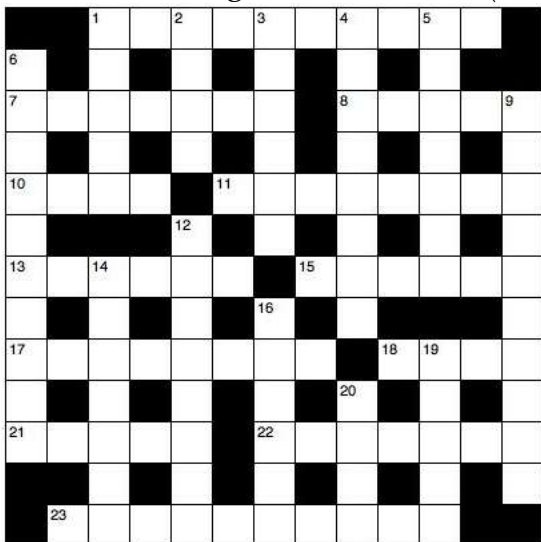
Article by James Hodson in the Annex

Of late we have included here (or in the Annex) articles by James Hodson, Anthony Hodson’s son. This month, in the Annex p 22, we include a complete episode in James’ life, working in the Wine Trade (or more accurately, in the Drinks Trade) in a difficult area of London; the episode narrates his brave attempts to work in a shop in a rough area.

Crossword puzzle

Across

- 1 Evil (Genesis 6:5) (10)
- 7 Musician called for by Elisha when he met the kings of Israel, Judah and Edom (2 Kings 3:15) (7)



- 8 The request that led to the institution of the Lord's Prayer: 'Lord, — us to pray' (Luke 11:1) (5)
- 10 'We are hard pressed on every—'(2Corinthians4:8)(4)
- 11 Fraud (2Corinthians6:8)(8)
- 13 'His troops advance in force; they build a siege ramp against me and — around my tent' (Job 19:12) (6)
- 15 Where Rachel hid Laban's household gods when he searched his daughter's tent (Genesis 31:34) (6)
- 17 'Now about spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be—' (1 Corinthians 12:1) (8)
- 18 Nomadic dwelling (Genesis 26:25) (4)
- 21 'As for man, his days are like—, he flourishes like a flower of the field' (Psalm 103:15) (5)
- 22 Or I live (anag.) (7)
- 23 Those guilty of 1 Across (Romans 13:4) (10)

Down

- 1 'God so loved the — that he gave his one and only Son' (John 3:16) (5)
- 2 'Away in a manger, no — for a bed' (4)
- 3 Mob ten (anag.) (6)
- 4 'Each — group made its own gods in several towns where they settled' (2 Kings 17:29) (8)
- 5 Began (Luke 9:46) (7)
- 6 Speaking very softly (John 7:32) (10)
- 9 Workers Ruth joined when she arrived in Bethlehem with her mother-in-law Naomi (Ruth 2:3) (10) 12 Put in jail (Acts 22:19) (8)
- 14 Aceturn (anag.) (7)
- 16 Discharge (Acts 21:3) (6)
- 19 'All these—come from inside and make a man "unclean"' (Mark 7:23) (5)
- 20 'Let us rejoice and be glad and — him glory!' (Revelation 19:7) (4)

<p>ACROSS: 1, Wickedness, 7, Harpist, 8, Teach, 10, Side, 11, Impostor, 13, Encamp, 15, Saddle, 17, Ignorant, 18, Tent, 21, Grass, 22, Olivier, 23, Wrongdoers.</p> <p>DOWN: 1, World, 2, Critb, 3, Entomb, 4, National, 5, Started, 6, Whisperring, 9, Harvesters, 12, Imprison, 14, Centaur, 16, Unload, 19, Evils, 20, Give.</p>

Children's Corner

The tale of
the
Salt
and
Light

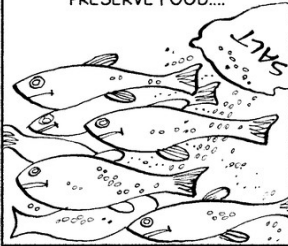


JESUS OFTEN TOLD
STORIES WITH
HIDDEN MEANINGS



HE ONE EXPLAINED TO HIS
FRIENDS THAT THEY WERE A
BIT LIKE SALT!

IN JESUS' DAY, SALT WAS
VERY PRECIOUS. IT HELPED
PRESERVE FOOD...

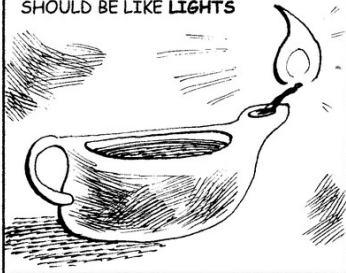


...AND SALT GAVE FLAVOUR.
IT WAS VERY USEFUL INDEED



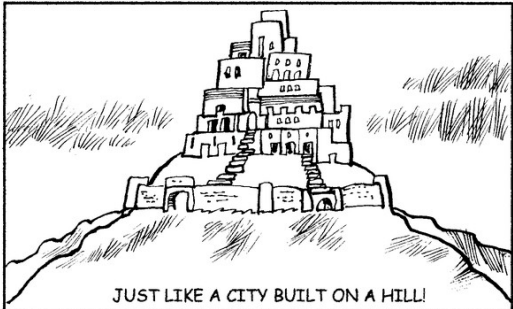
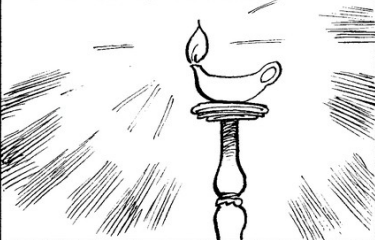
SALT HELPED MAKE LIFE
BETTER - WE TOO SHOULD HELP
MAKE LIFE BETTER IF WE
CHOOSE TO FOLLOW JESUS!

JESUS ALSO SAID HIS FOLLOWERS
SHOULD BE LIKE LIGHTS



'NOBODY LIGHTS A LAMP - THEN PUTS
IT UNDER A BOWL', SAID JESUS

THE WAY WE LIVE OUR LIVES AS
CHRISTIANS SHOULD BE AN EXAMPLE
TO THE REST OF THE WORLD.



JUST LIKE A CITY BUILT ON A HILL!

Annex

Three Counties Cycle Ride Sunday 7th June 2026

Pedal for your medal

On Sunday 7 June

Everyone's a winner, there is no wooden spoon

Support St Mary's Winkfield

Preserve its sacred structure

Enjoy the Berkshire countryside

And look forward to the future.

With signs and friendly marshals

To guide you on your way

Make Sunday 7 June a happy, healthy day!

The first Three Counties Cycle Ride in 1983 helped fund a new St John's Ambulance, and over the years our riders have raised over a million pounds for local causes.

This year, any 3CCR profits go to the wonderful Thames Valley Air Ambulance team.

Come and join us on Sunday 7 June and support your parish projects. Every pound you raise through sponsorship will go to your nominated charity.

This annual bike ride has been loved by thousands of family and club cyclists alike, enjoying the choice of three routes through the beautiful Berkshire countryside with the longer rides dipping into Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire.

Starting and finishing at Garth Hill College in Bracknell, you can choose the 15-mile route or the longer 34 or 52-mile routes. All routes are well-signed, with friendly marshals and drink stations on the longer routes.

See our website <https://3ccr.org/> for details, including route maps, lots of photos, and how to enrol. If you're Under 18, you ride for just £1, whether you enrol now or on the day.

On-the-day entry for Over 18s is £25, but register on-line beforehand to save money and time on the day. And you can choose your preferred start time between 8 and 9.30am.

But if cyclists are the life blood of the Three Counties Cycle Ride, our volunteer marshals are its beating heart. So, if you don't cycle, please volunteer via the website as one of our marshals and your chosen charity will also receive a donation.

And please share the poem with friends and neighbours - every pedalled pound counts

Join us on Sunday 7 June and celebrate cycling. Have fun. Be healthy. Help others

Jumped – Enfield Wash 1984

This article follows on from James Hodson's account of his first job, which took him into the wine trade, working with Borie Manoux, négociants in the Bordeaux wine-growing region of France. This left him, with good fluency in French and a strong desire to do something different. What ensued was working in N London with Peter Dominic, different indeed, with its own challenges, courageously dealt with.

Note. We felt that this long article should be presented in one complete piece rather than in two or three separate articles. Eds

Back home in England at the start of 1984, I quickly discovered that the wine trade job opportunities that I had tried so hard to create through hands-on work experience at High Breck and Borie-Manoux, were not forthcoming. The problem was the wine trade was just too small a market in the UK, and, unless you had a good point of contact in the business, and were preferably a graduate as well, prospects were remote. I managed to secure a couple of interviews with high end wine retailers, but these didn't come to anything.

Undeterred, I answered an advertisement to a large off-licence chain called Peter Dominic's, a subsidiary of International Distillers and Vintners. I drove to their head office in Harlow and was interviewed by the Area Sales Manager called Colin who was recruiting for a new deputy manager in their North London branches. This covered an area between Borehamwood, High Barnet, Muswell Hill and Enfield Wash. Colin, for the moment, looked pleased with his find, and I was signed onto the books for what turned out to be my first and only experience of working in retail.

Straight away, I found my new career in retail both onerous but mentally undemanding, and the days dragged by. Also, I didn't seem to be very popular with my new colleagues – I sounded much too refined to work in an off-licence and they simply couldn't understand why I was there. The initial arrangement was that I would work in the Borehamwood branch for a month and then take on a more permanent setting with the branch manager of High Barnet (who was called Malcolm). The clientele at High Barnet was more discerning in

terms of up-market wine sales than Borehamwood, but there was no hiding the fact that, even at High Barnet, most sales were driven by beer, tobacco, and spirits.

I passed the Peter Dominic wine trade exam, and Malcolm taught me how to use the stock management system, which gave us some indication of shrinkage or stock theft.

I began to consider what it would be like to do a job like this for the rest of my working life and the thought of it shocked me. Malcolm expected me to toe the line and accept my lot as 'his' deputy manager, brushing aside my ambitions. He said that I could literally be waiting years before I could aspire to being a branch manager. I began to look sideways at alternative opportunities.

It was in the nature of the job that staff could be moved around the North London branches to cover temporary shortages, provide holiday cover etc., and, in this way, I had already begun to meet the managers and staff of the other branches. This brought me into contact after a couple of months with the manager of the 'infamous' Enfield Wash branch. This was undoubtedly the most demanding shop in the Colin Patch to manage.

It was open from 10am to 10pm every day, although it had slightly reduced opening hours on Sundays. In addition, the shop was located in a crime-ridden area (Enfield Wash, was the butt-end of Enfield, and needed a large team simply to stop all the stock flying out of the door.

Its incumbent branch manager John had a security background rather than an off-licence one and had been brought down from Glasgow by Peter Dominic's to manage this particular shop. John was in his late 50s, had fought in the War, was as hard as nails and immediately saw that I was looking for a challenge, and hired me.

I cannot remember the exact reason over this length of time, but four of us were running the Enfield Wash branch one Friday evening in the early summer. John was absent, but his son Stuart had stepped in, as had one of my colleagues from High Barnet called Clive, plus a young guy from Sheffield called Paul who was permanently employed by the Enfield Wash shop.

We shut the branch at 10pm, intending to spend the night at the flat that John and his family occupied above the shop. We went to the local pub for a few pints and then walked back to the shop, pausing outside for a few minutes whilst Stuart and Paul had a smoke. Clive amused

me by saying that initially he had found me incorrigibly posh at High Barnet and didn't like me, but decided that, now, I was actually an OK sort of a bloke.

My back was turned to the others when I heard an unexpected thud. I turned round and for a few seconds I struggled to take in what I was seeing. Stuart, who was the largest of us, was now lying flat on the ground knocked out, and some youths who had appeared out of nowhere, were taking turns at kicking him. I had never seen an unprovoked attack before and immediately found it outrageous. The danger of the situation did not occur to me. I walked up to them and said: "Why are you attacking my friend?". Clive, who was by this point hiding behind a tree described this scene later as rather comical.

One of the youths then leapt at me knocking me to the ground but fortunately I managed to drag him down with me. My brain was rapidly waking up to the fact that I was in considerable danger. I rolled around with the youth on the road, and this had the benefit that his horrible mates couldn't give me the same treatment they had given Stuart; as, likely as not, they would have kicked their friend instead of me. I also noticed that my assailant was no bigger than me and no match.

I had spent the last two years heaving around wine cases and the like and had built up a wiry physique. I quickly got the better of him, and, after some more rolling around, threw the little twirp off me. He was already muttering: "Get off me, mate!". I got back on my feet, went over to Stuart who was now covered in blood, and stood my ground.

The youths, more cautious now but just as lippy, circling around us looking for an opportunity. "I am not going to leave my friend." I repeated. They sneered but the advantage of surprise was now lost and none of them tried to attack us.

Meanwhile, unknown to me, John had witnessed the whole thing from the branch flat and called 999. His wife Eunice was screaming down at the youths from an open window.

The area, which was fortunately very well policed, was suddenly awash with Police Rover SDIs, who pulled up around us, with flashing blue lights blazing. The police grabbed a couple of the youths, but the rest managed to disappear into the night. One policeman came up to me. "Are you OK?" he asked. I noticed for the first time that I had Stuart's blood on my shirt.

The rest of the evening was a bit of a blur. Stuart came round and was taken off by his parents to the local A&E to be stitched up. I spent a pointless couple of hours at the local police station waiting to give a witness statement but unfortunately, they chose to interview Paul and Clive first.

Paul gave the police a work of fiction about how the youths had kicked him too, when all he had done was to keep himself safe and run off into the darkness. The police's ring-side-view witness to the whole crime, myself, was completely ignored.

I went back to work at High Barnet the next day and became aware of a worsening headache. Malcolm sent me off to A&E who diagnosed mild concussion, so it looked as if a few kicks had glanced off me after all, but there was no lasting damage. Looking back on this, with knife crime so common these days, I was lucky to walk away with a bit of concussion.

Meanwhile, John, the branch manager, dined out on my actions for the next few days, telling everyone that I had saved his son's life. He approached me a few days later and invited me round to the branch the following weekend. He proposed that I come on board as his deputy manager where I would have full rein to use my wine knowledge as well as a far freer hand in managing the shop than I would ever be allowed at High Barnet. Also in his eyes, my presence would lend some chutzpah to the shop which could only be beneficial to its sales.

I was sold on the idea and, after some thought, agreed to the transfer. I told Malcolm who was very dismayed and he warned me that I would probably regret working for John sooner rather than later.

And so it was that I became the new deputy manager of the Enfield Wash branch. It all started off well enough although the long hours were appalling, and John quickly arranged the hours to benefit him, rather than the rest of the team. For a while, it seemed best to tolerate this and figure out how I could build this into a career.

One day, I was running the shop by myself; there weren't many customers, and a sales rep from one of the soft drink manufacturers that we sold, came in. I was talking to him about the product when two teenage girls came into the shop. Without any browsing or contemplation, they picked up six of our more expensive spirit brands and put them on the till. I stamped their credit card using the card

swiping machine and asked them to sign it. One of them wrote out the signature in block capitals.

It all looked very strange; the age of the girls, the dubious signature, the speed with which they had they had made the purchase when most people, spending that sort of money, would draw out the experience. I was suspicious, but this was before the days of Electronic Point of Sales and instant authorisation – the only way you could check was to phone one of the hotlines provided by the credit card companies.

I asked the sales rep to keep an eye on the two girls so that I could make a phone call in the office. The credit card company quickly confirmed that the card was in the wrong hands and asked me to send the card onto them. They said that I would receive £50 for my diligence – a useful sum to a retail worker in the 1980s!

I returned to the shop and told the teenagers that the card was staying with me; they ran out of the shop immediately. The sales rep was very impressed with my instincts and thought I should join the police.

It still hadn't occurred to me that after two and a half years, my wine trade ambitions were still getting me nowhere, that I should abandon the whole thing and try and go to university, or at least do an apprenticeship for an office job. I was fearful about my poor A-level grades whilst also wondering what office job I could actually do.

To add to my general confusion, by chance, whilst I was working at Borehamwood in my first days at Peter Dominic's, I had joined a local acting group. The play I was auditioning for was based on 'A Chorus Line', a Broadway musical where the story is itself about a number of auditionees who bare their souls to win one of the places in the chorus line of a show.

Re-written and directed by a local Boreham Wood teacher, and re-named as "Steet Wise", I found myself cast as an ex public school boy who, unlike most of his privately educated peers, could see no point in going to university. The show ran for a week, and I played this doppelganger of myself in a series of caricatures and admissions, convincing myself that there was no point in doing further education.

Maybe because of – or in spite of – a week playing myself in Street Wise, the penny still hadn't dropped, but one thing was for certain, and that was working for John at Enfield Wash was getting harder and harder. It wasn't just the never-ending-ness about the whole job, the demanding clients that walked through the door, it was also John's little

rules and regulations that he imposed that were just an extra burden and contributed nothing to the running of the shop itself.

One day, having had a particular spat with him, I felt forced to act. I phoned up Peter Dominic's Human Resources and requested how I could organize a branch transfer for myself. HR politely took down some details, and I didn't have long to wait for a response. The phone rang an hour later and there was an incandescent Colin on the other end.

What did I mean by going right over his head, he thundered. He felt so undermined by my actions, that he might even give me the sack. With little to lose, I countered by saying I was absolutely miserable working at Enfield Wash. Colin calmed down a bit and said he would give the matter some thought. The next few days at Enfield Wash were tense with John, but it did result in a temporary transfer to a small and cosy branch near Enfield Town that I could run by myself.

A few days later, Colin called saying he would come by and visit accompanied by his manager, the regional manager. I wondered if this was going to be the ultimate humiliation, especially as a few minutes before the meeting, I had had to complete an order for a customer that involved buying a product that Peter Dominic's didn't stock; we made no money from this transaction, and we weren't meant to do it, but it pleased the customer.

I braced myself when the two men came into the shop, recalling not just my last conversation with Colin, but also the non-company product on the till in full view of the regional manager. I hoped I would be sacked with at least a modicum of dignity, or maybe they would just punch me on the chin. In fact, both were very kind, with the regional manager understanding what I needed to do in order to complete a sale, and Colin himself, pointedly shaking hands with me before they left the shop.

It looked as if for the moment I was safe.

It was now 1985 and I finally saw the light and began to research and look at university places and their entry requirements. Given the time that had elapsed since I had left school, I decided to apply for the most vocational degree course that would accept me. My hope was that my work experience of working in the real world would be taken into account, and that this would give me an advantage over a school leaver so I decided to focus on business studies or accountancy.

The problem was that the A-level grades required for these courses were all three or four points above what I had actually achieved in 1982. I was going to need a bit of a help.

Around this time, I got a call from my uncle Charles, my father's youngest brother, who wanted a bit of 'free' labour to help him move into a second house in Dorset. Could I help him load up the van in London and decant the contents in Dorset?

I discussed my university ambitions with Charles on the way down and he turned out to be pro-actively on board with the idea. Charles felt that Eton had an obligation to help me with the university application and suggested that my former housemaster, Norman Routledge was best for that. I was shy about the suggestion: what if Norman dismissed me out of hand, laughed off my A-level results, or was just generally waspish about the whole venture?

I decided to approach the matter sideways and, on my return to London, I phoned up one of my former economics teachers from Eton called Nick Ritchie. I went over to Eton, and Nick and I met up over a pint. Nick was very supportive and down-played my poor economics results at A-level saying that I was likely to do much better if I tackled these at a later age, which is what I wanted to do. Nick also stressed that 'all roads' lead to Norman, and that only he could do my reference.

Nervously, I said good bye to Nick and tried to meet Norman on the Eton playing fields where he would be cheering on the house football match. Norman wasn't there but another great institution of my house when I was at Eton, Mrs Denny the Dame, was present. She had always been supportive of me when I was a boy at the house and was willing to help now. I shared my plans with her. Mrs Denny said she would discuss it with Norman and the rest would be up to me.

Tentatively, I called Norman a couple of days later and booked a time with him to discuss my university ambitions. I was providing temporary cover at the Peter Dominic Muswell Hill shop at the time, and the shop would be closed for four hours in the afternoon. It was a perfect opportunity to jump on my latest motorbike, a Honda VT250 Twin, a bike which with its water-cooled Vee engine and striking looks, wouldn't look out of date forty years later.

I pulled up outside the boys' house at Eton and was greeted by an enthusiastic Norman. Spread over his living room floor were magazines of motorcycles; I'd forgotten from my time there that

Norman was a biker too and used to ride an old Triumph around town; its engine always sounded like it fired every third lamp post. So, full-on camaraderie having been established between one biker and another, Norman cheerfully agreed to complete my UCCA form for university.

I sped back to my shop pleased with the outcome. Norman also required a letter from my manager confirming I had been working there. I was allowed to apply for five universities with the Eton UCCA form, but unfortunately, I then received five rejections because of the low A-level grades.

Around this time, I had changed my living arrangements in Enfield and was now sharing a house with a couple of graduates, one of whom was a secondary school teacher called Joe Davey. I showed Joe my university rejections. The next day Joe appeared with five polytechnic application forms from his school and told me to fill these in. I advised Norman, filled in the five forms and held my breath.

Four of the polytechnics quickly rejected me, but the fifth, The Polytechnic of Huddersfield, said they would like to meet their principal lecturer Mike Tayles in early July. What could that mean? I carried on my work at Peter Dominic's and booked a bus ticket up to Huddersfield the night before.

The weather was boiling hot, the Polytechnic was in holiday mode, and I was the only person on the campus in a suit, and felt, if not a prat, then a bit stewed. At the appointed time, I let myself into Mike's office at the faculty of finance.

Mike was concerned about my poor A-level grades, but was also interested in my past three years work experience. From where I was sitting, I could see Norman's reference letter in his very distinctive hand-writing. Mike asked me some more questions and then said, "I will offer you an unconditional place on the Accountancy Studies BA course."

I looked at Mike and said "Thank you". Thank you is a word most of us say most of the time, but I have never, in the past forty years, said thank you and meant it so much as I meant it to Mike that day. The direction of my life changed – I was now on a safe pathway.

I phoned the parentals with the news but it really hit home when I told John my manager three days later, that I had been offered a place at Huddersfield. His face fell about a foot; I think he thought that I was imagining the whole thing. I later told Colin, the area manager. Having

so fiercely berated me a few months earlier for going over his head and threatening me with the sack, Colin amused me by berating me again for now wanting to leave Peter Dominics! I had finally gone up in his esteem.

The story will continue.

Bishop Michael's Pentecost sermon

with Baptism and Confirmation at St Paul's, Knightsbridge 24/5/26

The Right Revd Michael Colclough is the recently retired Chaplain of the Mercers Company of the City of London.

Reading: Acts 2: 1-21, St John 7: 37-39

Today's first reading, giving us St Luke's description of the coming of the Spirit of Pentecost, is full of high drama with the violent wind and tongues as a fire invading the house where the disciples of Jesus had gathered in prayer. Of course, this is not the Spirit's debut on the Biblical scene because it was the very same Spirit who, in the beginning, brought into existence the order and pattern and purpose of creation. Today's feast of Pentecost celebrates the same Spirit of God bringing new creation for a new day and a new world. Again, it was the same Spirit who invaded the life of Mary, the mother of Jesus, and formed within her the Son of the Most High.

At Pentecost we witness the time for God to be born again, not in one body, like Mary's, but in the whole body of believers, gathered together in Jerusalem. They received the breath and life of God's Spirit and passed it on to others in the city, using their own bodies, their own speech, as vehicles of God's gift.

Yes, this was a new creation because those newly anointed, spirit filled disciples, suddenly had a new confidence in life. The effect of the Spirit's presence was noticeable and noticed: when they spoke, the disciples now spoke with authority like Jesus, when they laid hands upon the sick it seemed that Jesus himself was touching them. Yes, the Holy Spirit, God's energising presence, had taken those first followers out of the locked room of doubt and uncertainty and fear into the new light and the new opportunities given to them as Spirit filled people.

And at Pentecost those early disciples were given the grace and power to embrace the vocation the Risen Jesus had given them to be "my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth". This book of the Acts of the Apostles tells us of the way in which these transformed disciples, now enfleshing Jesus in their own lives, took the

good news of Jesus to people in the cities and towns along the high roads and byways of the Roman Empire.

So yes, Pentecost is a dramatic event that begins the wonderful and equally dramatic spread of the Christian faith – even to this spot in Knightsbridge. But celebrating Pentecost raises questions for us twenty-first century Christians. Do we still believe in a God who acts in our world? Do we believe in a God whose transforming love can truly change the lives of individuals like us and congregations like ours?

Today we celebrate the feast of Pentecost with visible signs of God's continuing presence and action. Caroline, Eric and Humphrey are coming to Baptism and Confirmation as members of God's Church. They are new Christians having the courage to open their lives to the grace and power of that Spirit, who, in the words of Jesus, "blows where he chooses". I love the way the 11th Century Saint Hildegard of Bingen tells us that we are like "feathers on the breath of God". Think of that very homely but profound image of our relationship with God: we are "feathers on the breath of God".

Where will the breath, the Spirit of God lead Caroline, Eric and Humphrey and all of us? For be sure, God has not finished his business with any of us. Are we willing and ready for our lives to change and to grasp new opportunities? Are we ready and willing for the Holy Spirit to renew and freshen us as disciples who want to be like Jesus? Are we ready and willing to be points of contact where the very figure of God touches His world in our day: channels of God's love and peace?

The Christian call is both a privilege and a challenge and I thank God that all of you have embraced both privilege and challenge: you demonstrate it by being here today. Please, never underestimate or belittle the importance of your Christian call: God has called you to complete His work begun by His Spirit at Creation. God can form you as he did creation, God can do great things with you, just as He did with those early Jerusalem Christians. And God needs you. Another great female Saint, Teresa of Avila, reminds us that,

Christ has no hands but your hands to do His work today,
No other feet but your feet to lead folk on His way,
No other lips but your lips to tell them why he died,
No other love but your love to win them to his side.

That is our vocation. Amen.

Sudoku for June (moderate)

8			2					
		1	6		4	3		8
		6	1		2	7	4	3
		2	5		6	8	1	9
1		9	7		3	2	6	5
	1			3		6		7
	3						2	

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