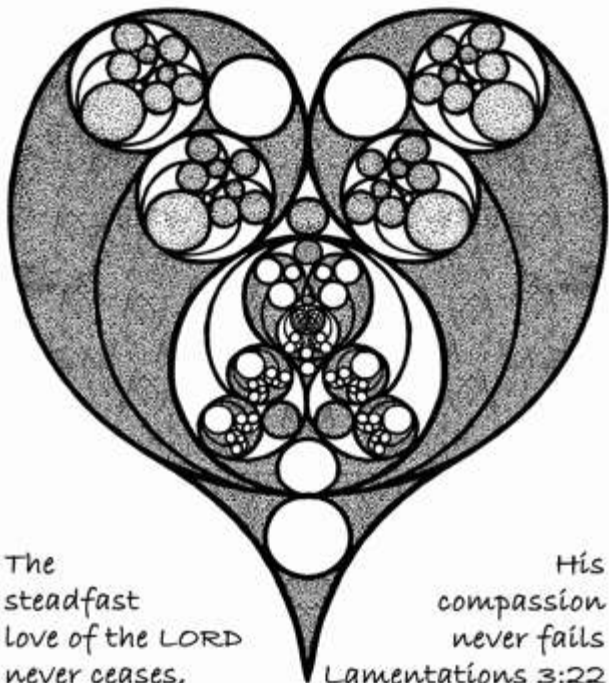


# *PEWTALK* 50<sub>P</sub>

February 2018



The  
steadfast  
love of the LORD  
never ceases,

His  
compassion  
never fails  
Lamentations 3:22

EAST & WEST TILBURY AND LINFORD PARISH MAGAZINE

Parish web site: [www.stcatherinesthurrock.org.uk](http://www.stcatherinesthurrock.org.uk)

# BITS AND PIECES

**The 22<sup>nd</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> January** was "TAKE FIVE TO STOP FRAUD WEEK" with the message that, if you suspect that you are the subject of a fraudulent 'phone call, e-mail etc. rather than be pressured by the situation, take five minutes to think about what you are being asked to do before taking any action. On the inside back page in this month's magazine the campaign's advice is reproduced.

**100 Club:** The draw was made on Sunday Jan 21<sup>st</sup> by the Priest Austin Uzoigwe. Amazingly the winner was once again Joan Dighton. I did check there was no glue or chewing gum on the ticket. Surprising how some families have a good run but I assure you all the tickets are in the Drum. Hope that Joan will be feeling better soon and be able to join us at a service on Wednesday or Sunday.

**Christmas Donations:** The Church attendance was very encouraging over the Christmas season particularly at the Christingle service. Grays Town Band played at the Carol Service as they have for over twenty years and they are looking forward to joining us at the Summer Fete. In line with our custom for many years we were able to make the following donations St. Luke's Hospice £100 including Christmas Card donations The Children's Society £60 and Grays Town Band £80.

**Insurance:** The Parish Church buildings and Churchyards are Insured with the Ecclesiastical Insurance Office . The EIO is celebrating 130 years and offering Church Customers a thank you for trusting them by donating £130 to the Church when a new Home Insurance

Policy is taken out. I understand that the EIO are not the cheapest but if you are interested to know more or obtain a quotation visit

[www.ecclesiastical.com/Trust130](http://www.ecclesiastical.com/Trust130) or call 0800 7830130 quoting TRUST130. Our Insurance is due in June and I will certainly get a quote. *Norman*

**Check your change:** As we all know the new 5 and 10 pound notes (like them or hate them) are very different from the old ones.

The pound coins however, which ceased to be legal tender in October 2017, are less noticeable and are still in circulation. We have received several in our collections over Christmas and even in last week's collection (14th January).

The bank will still accept these so the church doesn't lose out

Traders should not be giving the old coins in change and cannot legally accept them for payment.

Please look in your money boxes, handbags and purses, if you have any old £1 coins put them in the collection soon and we can bank them.

*Norman and Sheila*

**A reminder that this years "Women's World Day of Prayer"** service is at 2pm on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March at St. John the Baptist church in Dock Road Tilbury. If you would like more details about this event please contact Patricia Strong.

## ***The interregnum - where are we now?***

And so we find ourselves at the start of 2018 and still without a parish priest.

Since Canon Paul retired at the end of August 2016 there have been three advertisements for the post of Assistant Priest to serve in our parish. This position was intended to be part of a larger team of ministers overseen by Revd. David Rollins of the United Benefice of Corringham and Fobbing who would have taken on the role of Priest in Charge of our parish in addition to his current one.

In the last 18 months a number of things have changed. There have been no applications for the role of Assistant Priest. With the departure of his curate Justin, it has become clear that Fr. David would find it very difficult to cope with the suggested wider role. With the sad death of Bishop John, our Archdeacon has had to pick up the task of how ministry might be provided in our parish. After several discussion between Colin Strong and the Archdeacon, Colin, Sue Spiers, and Sheila King met with the Archdeacon and the Area Dean on 15<sup>th</sup> January and a new approach was agreed.

Rather than continue with the idea of an Assistant Priest serving as part of a team from elsewhere, the plan is for the more normal arrangement of a Priest in Charge for the parish. This is still to be a "House for Duty" post but whoever is appointed will have complete responsibility for the life of the parish.

With this in mind the PCC have to revise the Parish Profile so that it reflects the new vacancy and then we can advertise the post.

While we may be without an incumbent priest, it is good to note that our church life and worship continues. Through Collin's hard work and persistence our services have been covered and our congregations on both Sundays and Wednesdays have remained faithful. The recently completed "Statistics for Mission" which are provided annually to the Diocese show little significant difference when compare to previous years.

**Chris Ford - acting chairman of the PCC.**

### **From Pam Painter.**

We Would like to thank everybody for words of comfort heartfelt kindness, thoughtful Cards, beautiful floral tributes and donations in memory of Alan.

Thank you also for keeping us in your thoughts and prayers.

With Love and Blessings to you all,

Pam Andrea and David

## Shrove Tuesday



Shrove Tuesday is the day before Lent starts: the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday. It's a day of penitence, to clean the soul, and a day of celebration as the last chance to feast before Lent begins. Shrove Tuesday is sometimes called Pancake Day after the fried batter recipe traditionally eaten on this day. But there's more to Shrove Tuesday than pigging out on pancakes or taking part in a public pancake race. The pancakes themselves are part of an ancient custom with deeply religious roots.

Shrove Tuesday gets its name from the ritual of shricing that Christians used to undergo in the past. In shriving, a person confesses their sins and receives absolution for them. When a person receives absolution for their sins, they are forgiven for them and released from the guilt and pain that they have caused them. In the Catholic or Orthodox context, the absolution is pronounced by a priest. This tradition is very old. Over 1000 years ago a monk wrote in the Anglo-Saxon Ecclesiastical Institutes:

"In the week immediately before Lent everyone shall go to his confessor and confess his deeds and the confessor shall so shrive him".

### Shrove Tuesday celebrations

Shrove Tuesday is a day of celebration as well as penitence, because it's the last day before Lent. Lent is a time of abstinence, of giving things up. So Shrove Tuesday is the last chance to indulge yourself, and to use up the foods that aren't allowed in Lent. During Lent there are many foods that some Christians - historically and today - would not eat: foods such as meat and fish, fats, eggs, and milky foods. So that no food was wasted, families would have a feast on the shriving Tuesday, and eat up all the foods that wouldn't last the forty days of Lent without going off. The need to eat up the fats gave rise to the French name Mardi Gras ('fat Tuesday'). Pancakes became associated with Shrove Tuesday as they were a dish that could use up all the eggs, fats and milk in the house with just the addition of flour.

### The origin of pancake racing

Pancake races are thought to have begun in 1445. A woman had lost track of the time on Shrove Tuesday, and was busy cooking pancakes in her kitchen. Suddenly she heard the church bell ringing to call the faithful to church for confession. The woman raced out of her house and ran all the way to church; still holding her frying pan and wearing her apron.

One of the most famous pancake races is held at Olney in Buckinghamshire over a 415 yard course. The rules are strict; contestants have to toss their pancake at both the start and the finish, as well as wearing an apron and a scarf. The race is followed by a church service.

Since 1950 Olney has competed with Liberal in Kansas, which holds an identical race, to see which town can produce the fastest competitor. After the 2000 race, Liberal was leading with 26 wins to Olney's 24.

### **'Lenten Valentines'**

During this month Ash Wednesday and Valentine's Day, share the same date! It seems an odd mix, yet there is an obvious link: love! Lent, beginning on Ash Wednesday, is about learning how to love God more, as we give Him space in our lives. It's also an opportunity to reflect on Jesus' experience in the wilderness (Luke 4:1-13).



Jesus was led into the desert by the Spirit, where He was tempted by Satan, but demonstrated the path of real love. Jesus is tempted to turn stones into bread. Love gets to the heart of human need, not just satisfying physical desires. Satan tempts Jesus to worship him. However, worshipping God is the beginning of love and results in sacrificial service to meet the needs of others. Finally, He is tempted to put God to the test, by jumping off the Temple. Only real love can change hearts by practical love and care.

Lent teaches us how to live out the love of God in practice, as we follow Jesus in the way of the cross.

Valentine was Christ's follower, committed to sharing God's love with others. We know little about him, except that he was a priest who lived in the 3rd Century AD and was martyred on February 14<sup>th</sup>. Emperor Claudius felt that soldiers in the Roman Army were distracted from their duty by their wives, and so attempted to outlaw marriage. It is believed that Valentine married couples in secret. He also helped Christians in Rome during times of persecution. He demonstrated the importance of showing real love in action.

In trying to understand the meaning of her revelations from God, Julian of Norwich found:

'What, do you wish to know your Lord's meaning in this thing?  
Know it well, love was his meaning.'

### **Easyfundraising**

We have mentioned the "Easyfundraising" way of raising cash for St. Catherine's on several occasions in Pewtalk. This is a way of getting suppliers to donate money when you make purchases on line or by using "easysearch" very time we do an internet search. Since the beginning of December our 6 supporters have raised over £11. If you would like to help us raise funds in this way there is a link on the home page of our website and / or speak with Chris Ford or Patricia Strong. It really is a painless way of getting suppliers to support the church through their charitable giving.

**“If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink”**  
**Bishop’s Lent Appeal 2018**  
**By Revd Lee Batson**

Amidst the current debate about the extensive use of plastic in our society, and the ethics of buying bottled water, it is easy to forget just how easy it is for us to access the water we need to survive. An eight hour flight from Heathrow, however, takes us to northern Kenya - a place where water is incredibly scarce. It is a place where people often have to walk long distances to find a reliable source of water, impacting upon sanitation and the ability of people to access education and more reliable work.

The Diocese of Chelmsford has been linked with this area for forty years, and has decided to partner with the Diocese of Marsabit to help alleviate this situation. Our partner Bishop, Rt. Revd. Qamicha Wario (who spent time in our Diocese in 2017) has asked us to help raise funds for a Water Bowser. This vehicle will be used to take water to communities across an area the size of England when drought means that other sources have run out, and will fill local water containers so that supplies are replenished and normal life can continue. As well as meeting the primary need for water, the Bowser will also convey a powerful message that Christ wants to come alongside people when they are in need, and that He is interested in the well-being of their bodies as well as their souls. It will, in other words, be a means to proclaim a holistic Gospel.



Please do consider supporting this project this year – perhaps by donating the money you would have spent on bottled water as you quench your thirst from the taps that we so often take for granted.

For more information about this project and to donate, please visit :-  
[www.chelmsford.anglican.org/lentappeal](http://www.chelmsford.anglican.org/lentappeal) or contact :-

Revd Lee Batson, email: [lbatson@chelmsford.anglican.org](mailto:lbatson@chelmsford.anglican.org)

**Supporting the Bishop’s appeal**

As in previous years we will be supporting the Bishop’s lent appeal with the proceeds of our St. Francis’ pancake evening and our Lent austerity lunches, By supporting these events you will be supporting the appeal.

*St. Francis Pancake evening - Shrove Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> February starting at 6.30pm*

*1<sup>st</sup> LENT austerity lunch (soup and bread) at St. Catherine’s; Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> February from 1pm*

*2<sup>nd</sup> LENT austerity lunch (soup and bread) at St. Catherine’s; Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> March from 1pm*

**All are very welcome at any of these events - the more the merrier!**

## Remembering the Munich air disaster

The Munich air disaster took place 60 years ago, on 6th February 1958, when a plane carrying the Manchester United Football team – known as the Busby Babes – plus support staff and journalists, crashed while attempting to take off from a slush-covered runway at Munich-Riem Airport.



Some 23 people were killed, among them eight players, including Duncan Edwards, widely regarded as the outstanding player of his generation and according to some potentially the best player in the world. He actually died a fortnight after the crash in hospital, and is commemorated by two stained glass windows in St Francis' Church, Dudley, his home town.

The team was returning from a successful European Cup match in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, and the plane had to refuel. The disaster happened when it crashed on its third attempt to take off, following technical problems. Slowed by slush, the plane ploughed through a fence beyond the end of the runway, and the left wing was torn off after hitting a house – whose inhabitants survived.

Initially the captain of the plane was blamed, but he was cleared ten years later. The crash not only derailed the club's ambitions for that year, but it took them ten years to recover, with Busby rebuilding the team and winning the European Cup in 1968 with a new generation of 'Babes'.

## Love is...

What do children know about love? When questioned, some four to eight year olds came up with the following:

- When you're born and see your mummy for the first time. That's love.
- Love is what makes you smile when you're tired.
- If you want to learn to love better, you should start with a friend who hates you.
- Love is when your puppy licks your face even after you left him alone all day.
- I know my older sister loves me because she gives me all her old clothes and has to go out and buy new ones.
- You have to fall in love before you get married. Then when you're married, you just sit around and read books together.
- I let my big sister pick on me because my Mum says she only picks on me because she loves me.
- Love goes on even when you stop breathing, and you pick up where you left off when you reach Heaven.
- Love cards like Valentine's cards say stuff on them that we'd like to say ourselves, but we wouldn't be caught dead saying it.
- When you love somebody, your eyelashes go up and down and little stars come out of you.

## FROM THE JANUARY MEETING OF THE P.C.C.

The PCC met on the Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January on a particularly cold evening in St. Catherine's. The meeting opened in the customary fashion with prayers and having approved the minutes of the November meeting, matters arising were dealt with. It was noted that we had not been able to organise the distribution of a Christmas card and "breakfast bars" at the station - perhaps next year.

The PCC had been asked by the Area Dean to consider and give their views on a Faculty request by Mrs. Billinghurst for an ashes memorial that was outside the specification provided in the Diocesan Churchyard regulations. In general the committee felt able to support the application with some minor alterations. The PCC understood that, although their opinion had been sought, the final decision was for the Chancellor. Norman King had been contacted by the Ecclesiastical Insurance Group explaining that, to celebrate their 130<sup>th</sup> anniversary, they would make a donation to the church when a parishioner takes out a new insurance with them. There is more information from Norman in "Bits & Pieces".

Regarding the appointment of a priest to serve in the parish, there had been no response to the repeated advertisement in the Church Times. There was to be a meeting between the Archdeacon, Area Dean, Colin, Sue and Sheila on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> to review the position.

In his Churchwarden's report Colin said that he was confident of ministerial cover for all the usual Lent and Easter services and had all Sundays and Wednesdays covered in February. He was also able to report that the Church heating issue had been resolved

now that the boiler had been re-rated to its correct capacity however when Norman and Sheila went into the church to clean on 3<sup>rd</sup> January a large puddle of water was discovered in the kitchen. This is not the first time that this has happened and Bakers have been instructed to deal with it.

During a conversation with the Area Dean, Darren had indicated that he would like to be at our Annual meetings. After some discussion and the subsequent agreement of Darren, the meetings will be on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> April at St. Francis.

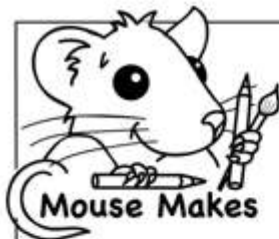
A letter had been received from the Diocesan Advisory Committee together with a copy of the quinquennial report on the fabric of St. Francis. The PCC noted the items raised but none of them were urgent.

In his report, Norman explained that he was still looking at a budget for the year but that it was already clear that, for a number of reasons, our income was running at the same level as four years ago although inflation has increased our costs. It was clear that we need to do what we can to increase our income and control our expenses.

There was no Social Committee report as such although there was a brief discussion of the Christmas Bazaar and Geraldine updated the PCC on the concert planned for Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> May. It was agreed that the Social Committee would meet on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January at St. Francis at 7pm.

Before closing with the grace Chris asked that all AGM reports that cover the period January - December 2017 be with him a.s.a.p. to make the production of the year book as easy as possible.





## Mouse Makes

Can you find the words from the story in the word search below?

Jesus taught his disciples... "Anyone who listens to my teaching and follows it is wise, like a person who builds his house on solid rock. Though the rain came down, the river rose and the winds blew and beat against the house it did not fall. But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain came down, the river rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash".

Read this story in  
*Matthew 7:24-27*  
and *Luke 6:47-49*



F L O O D E S T R O Y E D E S  
O W J H W A R B I F E L L F A  
B O P O I F O U N D A T I O N  
G R O U N D C I J E S U S O D  
E D U S D O K L B U R S T L M  
A S H E A R T T E W I S E I A  
S O L I D R I V E R A I N S N  
C O L L A P S E D R U I N H T

LISTEN • HEAR • JESUS • WORDS • WISE • MAN • BUILT • HOUSE • SOLID  
FOUNDATION • ROCK • RAIN • WIND • FLOOD • RIVER • BURST • FOOLISH  
SAND • GROUND • COLLAPSED • FELL • DESTROYED • RUIN



**PARISH DIARY FOR FEBRUARY**  
*Our Sunday services are at St. Catherine's*



4 Feb	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday before LENT</b> <b>The Family Service</b>	10am
7 Feb	Holy Communion (St Francis) Drop In at St Francis	10am 10.30am - noon
8 Feb	Foodbank at St. Francis	11am - 1pm
11 Feb	<b>Sunday next before LENT</b> <b>Parish Communion</b>	10am
13 Feb	<b>Shrove Tuesday Pancakes at St. Francis</b>	6.30pm
14 Feb	<b>Ash Wednesday</b> Holy Communion (St Francis) Drop In at St Francis Holy Communion at St. Catherine's	10am 10.30am - noon 7pm
15 Feb	Foodbank at St. Francis	11am - 1pm
18 Feb	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of LENT</b> <b>Parish Communion and Sunday School</b> <i>Followed by a Lent lunch</i>	<b>10am</b>
19 Feb	PCC meeting at St. Francis	7.30pm
20 Feb	<b>LENT</b> Study at Linford Methodist Church	7.30pm
21 Feb	Holy Communion (St Francis) Drop In at St Francis	10am 10.30am - noon
22 Feb	Foodbank at St. Francis <b>WELCOM</b> forum meeting at Linford Methodist Church	11am - 1pm 7.30pm
25 Feb	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of LENT</b> <b>Parish Communion</b>	10am
27 Feb	<b>LENT</b> Study at Linford Methodist Church	7.30pm
28 Feb	Holy Communion (St Francis) Drop In at St Francis	10am 10.30am - noon
2 Mar	<b>Women's World Day of Prayer service</b> at St. John the Baptist, Dock Road, Tilbury	2.pm

**Windows**

She texted her husband from home on a cold winter's morning: 'Windows frozen, won't open.'

He texted back: 'Gently pour some lukewarm water over it.'

She replied five minutes later: 'Computer really screwed up now.'

## FROM ST CATHERINE'S PARISH REGISTERS

### Baptisms

27 Jan Marty Gary Jones

### Funerals

4 Jan Alan Painter  
Dorothy Colbert



# STOP AND THINK

1

A genuine bank or organisation will never contact you out of the blue to ask for your PIN, full password or to move money to another account. Only give out your personal or financial details to use a service that you have given your consent to, that you trust and that you are expecting to be contacted by.

2

Don't be tricked into giving a fraudster access to your personal or financial details. Never automatically click on a link in an unexpected email or text.

3

Always question unsolicited approaches in case it's a scam. Instead, contact the company directly using a known email or phone number.

[takefive-stopfraud.org.uk](http://takefive-stopfraud.org.uk)



# ST. CATHERINE'S

## The Priest in Charge

The Parish is without a priest at the present time.

All enquiries should be made to Churchwarden, Colin Strong:

Telephone: 07591 708955

E-mail: [warden.colin.stcatherines@gmail.com](mailto:warden.colin.stcatherines@gmail.com)

## The Services

Sunday 10.00 a.m. Holy Communion service at St. Catherine's  
Except 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month when we have  
"The Family Service"

Wednesday 10.00 a.m. Holy Communion at St. Francis  
For Baptisms, Weddings or Funerals please contact Colin Strong in the  
first instance.

## Churchwardens

COLIN STRONG T: 07591 708955

E:- [warden.colin.stcatherines@gmail.com](mailto:warden.colin.stcatherines@gmail.com)

SUE SPIERS T: 01375 845394

E:- [warden.sue.stcatherines@gmail.com](mailto:warden.sue.stcatherines@gmail.com)

## Editor

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Stanford le Hope  
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e-mail: [pewtalk@talktalk.net](mailto:pewtalk@talktalk.net)

## St. Francis Centre

The centre is available for hire for regular events when not used by the Church. To check availability please contact:

PATRICIA STRONG

[patricia.a.strong@outlook.com](mailto:patricia.a.strong@outlook.com)

*Copy Dates for Pewtalk*

*22<sup>nd</sup> February 2018*

*22<sup>nd</sup> March 2018*

*23<sup>rd</sup> April 2018*