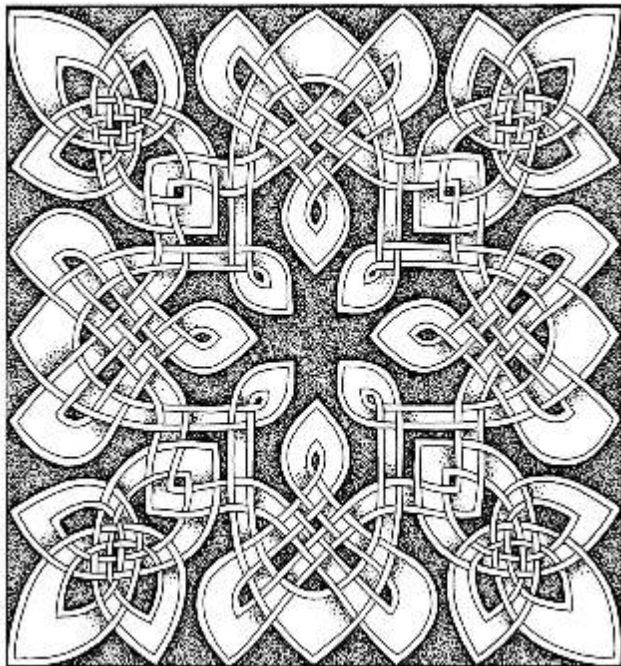


PEWTALK 40_P

June 2017



EAST & WEST TILBURY AND LINFORD PARISH MAGAZINE

Parish web site: www.stcatherinesthurrock.org.uk

BITS AND PIECES

News of our library from Jenny Holding the Library Supervisor.

"East Tilbury Library is now open in East Tilbury Village Hall on Thursdays and Fridays 10am to 3.30pm. We have Stay'n' Play for 0 - 2 years every Thursday 10 - 11am, and on Fridays there is Baby Rhyme Time 11 - 11.30 and Knit 'n' Natter from 1.30 to 3.30. Citizen's Advice Bureau hold Drop in sessions here alternate Thursdays from 12 - 2pm, or appointments can be made by emailing: east.tilbury.library@thurrock.gov.uk"

100 Club

Jessica made the draw on Sunday the thirteenth. Again it was a regular winner Mrs Butcher, Pam England's mum. I can assure all contributors that there are no "sticky" tickets. Just a reminder that 100 Club subscriptions are due in July but we have the big draw for £50 at the Fete on June 25th. Norman.

Thurrock Care Programmes

One Thursday at the Foodbank we were advised that two Programmes are available promoting good health etc.

Thurrock Healthy Lifestyle Service is principally a Waist Management Service a 12 Week free support programme for all Thurrock residents with a BMI of 30-39. If you are interested call 08002922299 or E Mail: north.contact@nhs.net

After a break for Lent and Easter the Bible study group will be meeting again in June at the Linford Methodist Church on

Tuesday 13th at 8pm. All are welcome and if you come 5 or 10 minutes early you will be welcomed with tea or coffee.

The next Sunday School session will be during the morning service on June 11th do try to let Kim know if your children / grandchildren will be there so that she can properly plan the materials.

Sunday 25th June is the date for our Summer Fete at St. Catherine's. Please come and support your Parish Church either by running a stall or by just coming along on the day to see what's happening. As usual our friends from the Grays Town Band will be on hand to entertain us.



Summer Fete

St. Catherine's Church

East Tilbury Village

Sunday 25th June

1 p.m. - 4 p.m.



Canopies, Tomcuzs, Flans,
Hoffles, Lakes, Tomerades,
Sideshow, White Leobard, etc



AND REFRESHMENTS.

All to the music of the...

**GRAYS TOWN
BAND**



SEE YOU THERE ON THE 25th!!

Our Archbishops thoughts on the general election

The season of Easter invites us to celebrate and to renew our love of God and our love of neighbour, our trust and hope in God and in each other. In the midst of a frantic and sometimes fraught election campaign, our first obligation as Christians is to pray for those standing for office, and to continue to pray for those who are elected. We recognise the enormous responsibilities and the vast complexity of the issues that our political leaders face. We are constantly reminded of the personal costs and burdens carried by those in political life and by their families.

Our second obligation as Christians at these times is to set aside apathy and cynicism and to participate, and encourage others to do the same. At a practical level that could mean putting on a hustings event for candidates, volunteering for a candidate, or simply making sure to vote on Thursday 8th June. The Christian virtues of love, trust and hope should guide and judge our actions, as well as the actions and policies of all those who are seeking election to the House of Commons and to lead our country.

This election is being contested against the backdrop of deep and profound questions of identity. Opportunities to renew and re-imagine our shared values as a country and a United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland only come around every few generations. We are in such a time.

Our Christian heritage, our current choices and our obligations to future generations and to God's world will all play a shaping role. If our shared British values are to carry the weight of where we now stand and the challenges ahead of us, they must have at their core cohesion, courage and stability.

Cohesion is what holds us together. The United Kingdom, when at its best, has been represented by a sense not only of living for ourselves, but by a deeper concern for the weak, poor and marginalised, and for the common good. At home that includes education for all, the need for urgent and serious solutions to our housing challenges, the importance of creating communities as well as buildings, and a confident and flourishing health service that gives support to all - especially the vulnerable - not least at the beginning and end of life. Abroad it is seen in many ways, including the 0.7% Aid commitment, properly applied in imaginative ways, standing up for those suffering persecution on grounds of faith, and our current leading on campaigns against slavery, trafficking, and sexual violence in conflicts.

Courage, which includes aspiration, competition and ambition, should guide us into trading agreements that, if they are effective and just, will also reduce the drivers for mass movements of peoples. We must affirm our capacity to be an outward looking and generous country, with distinctive contributions to peacebuilding, development, the environment and welcoming the stranger in need. Our economic and financial systems

at home and abroad should aim to be engines of innovation, not simply traders for their own account. The need for a just economy is clear, but there is also the relatively new and influential area of 'just finance', and there are dangers of an economy over-reliant on debt, which risks crushing those who take on too much. Courage also demands a radical approach to education, so that the historic failures of technical training and the over-emphasis on purely academic subjects are rebalanced, growing productivity and tackling with vigour the exclusion of the poorest groups from future economic life.

Stability, an ancient and Benedictine virtue, is about living well with change. Stable communities will be skilled in reconciliation, resilient in setbacks and diligent in sustainability, particularly in relation to the environment. They will be ones in which we can be collectively a nation of 'glad and generous hearts'. To our concern for housing, health and education as foundations for a good society, we add marriage, the family and the household as foundational communities, which should be nurtured and supported as such, not just for the benefit of their members, but as a blessing for the whole of society.

Contemporary politics needs to re-evaluate the importance of religious belief. The assumptions of secularism are not a reliable guide to the way the world works, nor will they enable us to understand the place of faith in other people's lives. Parishes and Chaplaincies of the Church of England serve people of all faiths and none. Their contribution and that of other denominations and faiths to the well-being of the nation is immense – schools, food banks, social support, childcare among many others - and is freely offered. But the role of faith in society is not just measured in terms of service-delivery.

The new Parliament, if it is to take religious freedom seriously, must treat as an essential task the improvement of religious literacy. More immediately, if we aspire to a politics of maturity and generosity, then the religious faith of any election candidate should not be treated by opponents as a vulnerability to be exploited. We look forward to a media and political climate where all candidates can feel confident that they can be open about the impact of their faith on their vocation to public service.

Religious belief is the well-spring for the virtues and practices that make for good individuals, strong relationships and flourishing communities. In Britain, these embedded virtues are not unique to Christians, but they have their roots in the Christian history of our four nations. If treated as partners in the project of serving the country, the churches – and other faiths – have much to contribute to a deep understanding and outworking of the common good.

Political responses to the problems of religiously-motivated violence and extremism, at home and overseas, must also recognise that solutions will not be found simply in further secularisation of the public realm. Mainstream religious communities have a central role to play; whilst extremist narratives require compelling counter-narratives that have a strong theological and ideological foundation.

Cohesion, courage and stability are all needed in our response to the continuing national conversation about migration and refugees. Offering a generous and hospitable welcome to refugees and migrants is a vital expression of our common humanity, but it is not without cost and we should not be deaf to the legitimate concerns that have been expressed about the scale of population flows and the differential impact it has on different parts of society. The pressures of integration must be shared more equitably. These deep virtues and practices – love, trust and hope, cohesion, courage and stability – are not the preserve of any one political party or worldview, but go to the heart of who we are as a country in all of its diversity. An election campaign, a Parliament and a Government that hold to these virtues give us a firm foundation on which to live well together, for the common good.

We keep in our prayers all those who are standing in this election and are deeply grateful for their commitment to public service. All of us as Christians, in holding fast to the vision of abundant life, should be open to the call to renounce cynicism, to engage prayerfully with the candidates and issues in this election and by doing so to participate together fully in the life of our communities.

In the Name of our Risen Lord,

Hello from Linford Methodist Church

As always we at Linford Methodist Church tend to do things differently from the rest of the country so we had our Christian Aid coffee morning earlier than the national dates suggested. We are pleased to announce we had a Church full of residents from the local area from 10.00 – 12.30 on the 6th May raising £413.40. The cake stall was a great success contributing £100 towards the total, thanks to our ladies (not me) who are excellent cake/bread pudding cooks and the ladies of St. Catherine's who helped us out in the baking department. During the rest of May we have continued to take in donations and are pleased to report that our final total amounted to £603.34 so a very big thank you to everyone who supported this extremely worthwhile cause.



On Sunday 14th May with the help of Steve Burton one of our Local Preachers from Basildon we celebrated our Church Anniversary, 117 years of worship in our building. Steve urged us to remember people during those years that had been tireless in spreading the word of God in the community as well as looking forward to the future when others will step forward to take up the work.

Regrettably we had to cancel our planned Sing Along for May but we hope we can organise a new date very soon. Due to holidays amongst our volunteers we will not

be holding Yippee Club in June so the next one will be Thursday 6th July. Apologies for any disappointment caused by these cancellations.

As Bob and I downsize to move from our four bedroom house to a smaller bungalow in Oxfordshire or Bedfordshire to be closer to our Grandchildren I'm left feeling that although it is difficult it is also very therapeutic to let go of some of the old belongings to make way for a new beginning. Why have we stored so much "stuff" over the last 30 years? Even if we had found a use for some of the items we have squirreled away we would never have found them when we needed to. The way house buying and selling is conducted these days I have the uneasy feeling that we will still be here when it is time to sing Carols at Christmas.

Marian Kuyper

Rogation Sunday

Sunday 21st May was Rogation Sunday and as we have done in recent years we held our Rogation procession in West Tilbury Village from the redundant St. James Church (now a private residence) to the village hall. The route involved viewing the river from the churchyard, the lychgate, the fields, and the village green. The purpose of this ancient ceremony is to pray a blessing over the land and those that work it. As usual we were accompanied by the Grays Town Band which made singing the hymns considerably easier. In all there were some 30 adults and 4 children with us and, as the weather was beautiful, it made for a very pleasant afternoon.



Mission to Manila 2017

streetlight

Some of you will know that Kim and I went on a missionary visit to the Philippines recently. We were in a party of 21 folk from all over the country; brought together by Rev. Ian Herbert who, as well as being the Vicar of All Saints, Chafford Hundred, is the Chairman of the Streetlight Trust which supports work among the street children of Manila, the capital of the Philippines.

The Streetlight Trust provides funding for the Philippine charity "Kanlungan sa Er-Ma Ministry inc" led by its founder and Executive Director, Ms. Sol Balbero. The charity's name says it all really. "Kanlungan" means sanctuary or refuge and the abbreviation Er-Ma is short for the name of the former "red light" district of Manila, Ermita-Malate, which is where it operates. "Kanlungan" is a Christian charity and takes as its inspiration the instruction to "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." (Matthew 19:14).



I will write more about the work of the charity and the part our team played in another edition of Pewtalk and Kim and I also plan to tell something of the trip at the family service on June 4th, but for now I just want to set the scene.

We were fortunate (although some thought otherwise) to fly directly from Heathrow to Manila, a flight of some 12+ hours, with Philippine Airlines.

Arriving in Manila in some 38 degrees we were met by Sol with the charities "Porter" minibus and a "Jeepney" to take us and our luggage to the "Shalom" hotel in Malate. Jeepneys were our preferred means of transport and they were very variable as to their condition! The Shalom is a Christian hotel and Ian had arranged for us to have rooms in two "cottages"



which meant that we also had a separate lounge for our exclusive use. We were given a health and safety briefing which included not going out alone and making sure that someone knew where we were going and reminded that we had signed an agreement covering how we should interact with the children and what photography was allowed.

This was then our accommodation for the 2 weeks as we were taken each day to a different location to work with the children. At night we would find somewhere to eat - quite often in "Robinson Place" which was a 5 minute walk away. This is a huge shopping Mall; bigger than Lakeside or Bluewater and protected by airport style security inside and guards with pump action shotguns outside! Generally it seemed that most shoppers arrived and left by taxi and visited to spend their time in M & S, H & M, or any of the many other designer outlets and to enjoy coffee in Starbucks or Costa Coffee. All this opulence just seconds away from the street families! As we walked back to our hotel we would usually pass at least one family of four (mum, dad and two children) just sleeping on the pavement. Clearly they were in need of food and on a number of occasions we would go to the nearby 7-Eleven to get things for them to eat and drink. **THEY WERE NOT THE EXCEPTION.** Their plight was all too common and one of the reasons we were there. It was amazing to me how little attention was paid to them by the locals but then I suppose it was just the norm to them.

As I will describe in later editions of the magazine we got very used to seeing this kind of destitution and in many cases it was simply heartbreaking.

However, it gladdened the heart to see how Kanlungan is changing the lives of the children that they have in their care. To see children who had been abused, abandoned or simply impoverished living together as a family in a Christian setting, sharing whatever they had and caring for each other was indeed a blessing. And how they appreciated the visitors from Britain! We were treated as uncles and aunts, granddads and nannies everywhere we went and were greeted with great joy. If you can't wait for my next instalment there is a lot more here:- <http://www.streetlight-trust.org.uk/blog/>

Chris

FROM THE ANNUAL & MAY PCC MEETING

The Annual Meetings

The Parish annual meetings were held on Monday 24th April at St. Catherine's and, in the absence of an incumbent, they were chaired by the Area Dean, Canon Revd. Darren Barlow. Darren explained that at the first meeting, which was to elect our Churchwardens, any parishioner could vote but at the second only those on the Parish Electoral Roll were entitled.

At the annual meeting of parishioners Colin Strong and Sue Spiers were elected as Churchwardens for the next 12 months.

At the annual church meeting Kim Ford and Sue Spiers were elected to represent the parish at the Deanery Synod and Kathy Bird, Janice Fawsitt, Chris Ford, Norman King, Sheila King, Pam Painter, Geraldine Riddles, Hollie Ruskin, Paul Ruskin and Patricia Strong were elected to the Parochial Church Council. The meeting elected our sidesmen, appointed the auditor and received the annual report and accounts which can be downloaded from the parish website.

The May meeting of the PCC

This was the first meeting of the newly elected PCC and the first item of business was to elect the officers for the year. Chris Ford was elected as Deputy Chairman (the incumbent when appointed is the chairman), Sheila King as secretary, Norman King as treasurer, Kathy Bird as Electoral Roll Officer and Geraldine Riddles as Safeguarding Officer. Patricia Strong agreed to take on the role of booking secretary for the St. Francis

Centre and her contact e-mail address is on the back of the magazine.

Colin and Chris had been advised by the Diocese that St. Francis was due a quinquennial inspection by an architect and it was agreed to ask Ben Downie.

We had been asked to agree to a request to have a "War Graves" plaque on the graveyard gates and this was agreed.

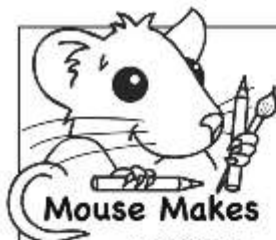
Colin reported on progress with obtaining a faculty for an ashes plot on the south side of the church which is now in the hands of the Diocesan Advisory Committee. He reminded the meeting that any memorials in this area would be in stone and set into the ground so that they would not impede the grass cutters.

He also told the meeting that he had made arrangements for a Community Payback team to visit on a monthly basis to cut the grass at St. Catherine's

Chris and Colin advised on the current position with the snagging of the Bakers building work. There are a number of items outstanding and there is still a debate about the heating system.

The meeting was updated on the advertising of the vacancy for an Associate Priest - (there is now an advert in the Church Times).

Kim and Geraldine reported on the recent Deanery Synod meeting and advised that we were one of a very few parishes that were up to date with their Parish Share payments to the Diocese.



"May the *grace* of
the Lord **JESUS** Christ
and the *love* of **GOD**
and the *fellowship* of
the **HOLY SPIRIT** be with you all."



2 Corinthians 13:13



GOD - THE FATHER

Can you find all the
names of the Trinity
in this 3 in 1
word search?

GOD - THE SON

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


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



LORD • GOD
JEHOVAH • I AM
YAHWEH • 
HOLY • ONE
SAVIOUR • KING
 ETERNAL
ALMIGHTY
CREATOR • JUDGE
FATHER • ON HIGH

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



JESUS • CHRIST
SAVIOUR • LORD
EMMANUEL
 SHEPHERD
LAMB
WAY • SON
DOOR • LIGHT
BREAD • WORD
MESSIAH • VINE



GOD - THE SPIRIT

HOLY • SPIRIT • COMFORTER • TEACHER • GUIDE
WITNESS
HELPER • TRUTH • POWER • WISDOM • BREATH • ETERNAL



Hiding in one of the puzzles is the word 'TRINITY', can you find it?



PARISH DIARY FOR JUNE

Our Sunday services are at St. Catherine's



1 Jun	Foodbank at St. Francis	11am - 1pm
3 Jun	<i>Thurrock Pentecost celebration at the Gateway Peoples Centre - High Street, Stanford le hope</i>	<i>7pm - 9pm</i>
4 Jun	Whitsunday	
	"The Family Service"	10am
	Baptism of Harlee Thomas Totterdell	2pm
7 Jun	Holy Communion (St Francis)	10am
	Drop In at St Francis	10.30am - noon
8 Jun	Foodbank at St. Francis	11am - 1pm
11 Jun	Trinity Sunday	
	Parish Communion & Sunday School	10am
13 Jun	Bible Study group at Linford Methodist Church	8pm
14 Jun	Holy Communion (St Francis)	10am
	Drop In at St Francis	10.30am - noon
15 Jun	Foodbank at St Francis	11am - 1pm
17 Jun	Renewal of Marriage vows Stephen and Catherine Rochford	2pm
18 Jun	1st Sunday after Trinity	
	Parish Communion	10am
	Baptism of Edie-May Glover	2pm
21 Jun	Holy Communion (St Francis)	10am
	Drop In at St Francis	10.30am - noon
22 Jun	Foodbank at St. Francis	11am - 1pm
25 Jun	2nd Sunday after Trinity	
	Parish Communion	10am
	SUMMER FETE at St. Catherine's	<i>1pm - 4 pm</i>
28 Jun	Holy Communion (St Francis)	10am
	Drop In at St Francis	10.30am - noon
29 Jun	Foodbank at St. Francis	11am - 1pm
	WELCOM forum meeting at Linford Methodist Church	7.30pm
2 Jul	3rd Sunday after Trinity	
	"The Family Service"	10am
	Baptism of Paisley and Jamie Martin	2pm

FROM ST CATHERINE'S PARISH REGISTERS

BAPTISMS

30 APR Tallulah Charlotte Christine Gurnham

7 MAY Harry Ellis White

Jude Arthur Peters

BURIALS

12 MAY Beverley Ann Crane

INTERMENT of ASHES (WEST TILBURY CHURCHYARD)

2 MAY Lillian Emma Grover

Patricia Strong asks, "Would you like to help St. Catherine's?"

St. Catherine's church has been part of the East Tilbury community for many years; in fact since 1300 and has seen lots of weddings, baptisms, funerals and many other events - helping lots of people. If this wonderful church has helped you or your family in any way, then why not help to ensure that it is still here for many more years to come; helping our children and their children.

One simple way to help is by using "Easyfundraising"! As many of us shop on the internet we are able to raise funds for the church at the same time and at no cost to us. There are lots of stores on the internet and if lots of us join the "easyfundraising" scheme, then every time we want to buy something - a holiday - something for our home - a gift for a friend or relative; we can raise money for this beautiful church.

All that you need to do is:-

1. Go to easyfundraising.org.uk
2. Click on "Find a cause to support" and search for "St. Catherine's, East Tilbury" and click on "Join us". Then you will be guided through the process.

Then, every time you shop on-line for anything, if you go to the retailer via "easyfundraising" a donation will be made to church funds. To date the four registered supporters have raised just under £300. Think how much we could raise if more of us joined. It really is easy because if I can do it anyone can! Please think about helping in this way.

Patricia Strong

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

The Services

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

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

Churchwardens

COLIN STRONG T: 07591 708955

E: warden.colin.stcatherines@gmail.com

SUE SPIERS T: 01375 845394

E: warden.sue.stcatherines@gmail.com

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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

Copy Dates for Pewtalk

22nd June 2017

22nd July 2017

21st August 2017