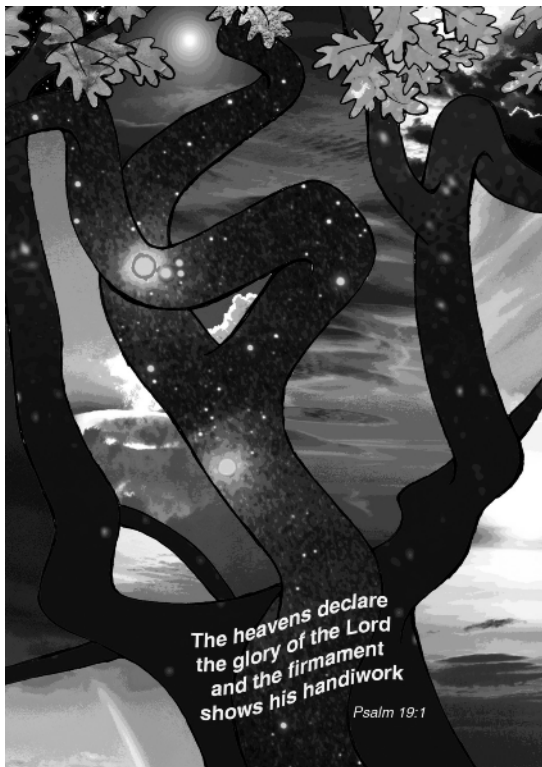


# PEWTALK 40<sub>P</sub>

September 2016



EAST & WEST TILBURY AND LINFORD PARISH MAGAZINE

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

# BITS AND PIECES

**Please remember** that Canon Paul has retired as Rector of the parish and should therefore not be contacted with regard to parish matters. Instead please contact Churchwarden, Chris Ford in the first instance (contact details on the back cover).

**At their meeting** on 16<sup>th</sup> August the Social Committee agreed dates for the following events

October 8<sup>th</sup> Harvest Supper

October 9<sup>th</sup> Harvest Festival

October 22<sup>nd</sup> Cake Sale

October 30<sup>th</sup> Commemoration of the life of St. Cedd

December 3<sup>rd</sup> Christmas Bazaar

More information will follow as these dates get closer but please jot them down if you need a reminder.....

**St. Catherine's** is already being seen and appreciated as a venue for more than just our Sunday worship. Following on from the Thurrock Art Trail we plan to have exhibitions of local artist's work at our open afternoons. Perhaps we should call them "Arternoon" teas! In September we also have a "Refresh" day organised by Transformation Thurrock (which aims to encourage unity among the various Christian Fellowships in Thurrock and thereby more effectively spread the Gospel) and we welcome the leadership of the United Benefice of Hordon, Orsett and Bulphan so that they can spend an "away day" together.

**About a year ago** a number of loyalty cards for use at Co-op stores were given out. To date St. Catherine's has received £15. Remember, you can use your card not only at East Tilbury but at the Chelmsford Star Co-op stores at Tilbury, Corringham and South Ockenden as well. If you would like a card for you or your neighbours or friends please let Norman, our treasurer, know.

## Macmillan Coffee Morning

This year Claire Frend hosts her coffee morning in aid of Macmillan nurses is on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September from 10:00 am to 12:00pm

She writes "Please come along and join us for a cuppa and a cake to support this worthwhile cause. There will also be a raffle with some great prizes and a tombola. Hope to see you there, many thanks"

**In recent years "Pewtalk"** has included a considerable amount of copy provided by Canon Paul. With his retirement I would appreciate other sources. If you have something that you think might be of interest send it to me. If you are unsure - talk to me. If you would like to read about something in particular but cannot write it yourself - let me know and I might just be able to find an author. *Ed*

This is my last article for Pewtalk and the last of over 500 such magazine articles I have put together over the years of being a vicar. The statistics are startling to add up. I began doing weekly newsletters in the 1980's so there has been over 1500 of those. Then, thousands of funerals, and over a thousand weddings and several thousand baptisms. And then there was all those 6,000 or more sermons. Occasionally someone has told me that something I wrote or said helped them, which was encouraging. There's been the odd times when someone has said that what I wrote or said challenged them or even disturbed them, and that might have been a good thing too.

But the big and incalculable statistic, is the number of people I have met with over those years. It sometimes is said that the purpose of being a vicar or minister is to bring people to God, to help them learn about faith, and to know what it is to be a Christian. Above all, I know that I haven't done that. I have had no need to bring people to God because I have continuously discovered that God is already with them. When Jesus said, "I am with you always, to the very end of time", (Matthew Ch 20 v20) he absolutely meant it.

Especially, I have never failed to see the light of Christ in all those people who have emphatically told me that they are not very good Christians, or that they are not "religious". All the different kinds of candles we use in Church – different heights, diameters, colours and designs – always strike me as a metaphor for all the different kinds of Christians I've met, because all those apparently very different candles nevertheless burn with the same size flame, and with the same brightness.

There is a phrase we regularly use in our services – "The LORD is here". Don't let those four words rush past you when you say or hear them for it is what we believe in all the circumstances we encounter. And as I end my ministry in the parish and look back over the last six years, I know with certainty that in St Catherine's and in this parish, "The LORD *is* here"!

With every blessing to this parish and to you all.

*Paul*

## What happens now then....?

As a result of Canon Paul's retirement the parish moves into a period of "interregnum". One dictionary definition of the word is "In some Christian churches, "interregnum" describes the time between a vacancy and the appointment of priests to various roles"

This means that we do not have a "priest in charge" and until such time as we do, or some other arrangement is made for the spiritual care of the parish, the Churchwardens are responsible for parish matters. Neither Colin Strong or I have been in quite this position before and we will be relying heavily on the support of the congregation, parishioners and local clergy. We all know how much time and effort Canon Paul put into his ministry here we cannot pick up and run with all that he did.

We have had some initial discussions with our Area Dean, Revd. Darren Barlow during which he has said that with Bishop John and Archdeacon Mina both unwell and with Bishop Stephen on a sabbatical it may be some time before much progress can be made. However, for his part, Darren very much wants to see the parish supported in both ministry and mission and is well aware of the progress made in recent years. He has told us that the Bishop is minded to seek a "House for Duty" priest to live in the Somerset Road Rectory although this appointment would most probably be for an Assistant Priest.

Darren is aware of our wish to maintain both our services on Sunday and Wednesday and is in the process of arranging cover although clearly he cannot guarantee clergy on all occasions. One change to our existing pattern is that for the time being Baptisms will be held on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month at 2pm. Colin and I have also discussed whether to continue with the Parish Office on a Friday evening and concluded that as most contacts are made using the 'phone or e-mail, we will not.

### **100 Club**

The first draw of the new 100 Club year was held in St. Catherine's on August 7th The winner of the £10 was Beckie Anderson a friend of the Philpott family. Congratulations to Beckie who has supported the 100 Club from the start and has had a few wins including one of £50.

Please support the 100 Club one of the very easy fund raisers for St. Catherine's; much easier than Jam and Pickled Onions or Cakes etc. To date we have sold only 45 Tickets. Remember that you have a good chance of getting your money back and at the Bazaar and Fete our two major fund raising events we draw a ticket for £50.

*Norman*

## Development plans for the area

Every so often we find that our parish is the target for further building development and over the years we have seen various schemes either approved or rejected but gradually more and more dwellings are being built with little or no additional infrastructure. Most recently "The Boulevards" development by Persimmon Homes is nearing completion.

These changes are met with mixed views in the parish but opinions can only be sensibly formed when we have the information. For this reason I would draw your attention to the following:-

- In the last few days some residents have been advised by Icen Projects that planning permission to build 18 dwellings, on what I understand were the old Bata tennis courts on Coronation avenue, has been applied for. The plans include provision for 41 car parking spaces.
- Brian Martin posted the following information on the "Your East Tilbury" page of Facebook.

"Icen Projects will soon be submitting a planning application on behalf of Cogent Land for around 1000 new homes around East Tilbury and Linford. They have brought forward new plans following their public consultation next summer, incorporating some of the objections raised last year. There will be plenty of opportunity for local people to comment on the plans when the formal consultation period starts, probably in September. The plans include a 'relief road' with a new road bridge, and a new school and health centre. The Community Forum will call a public meeting when the plans are submitted to give residents every opportunity to express their views.

- Brian has also passed on the following information from Thurrock's Planning Office.

"1. The first meeting of the Local Plan Residents Forum is taking place on Saturday 10 September between 13:00 and 15:00 in Grays. Venue TBC but likely to be the Beehive Centre. The meeting is open to anybody living in Thurrock but spaces are limited. If people would like to attend this meeting they need to email [growth&strategy@thurrock.gov.uk](mailto:growth&strategy@thurrock.gov.uk) by Friday 2 September to confirm their attendance. Please note the Council are willing to pay reasonable travel expenses for participants. The purpose of the Forum is help build skills

and knowledge relating to planning matters and to give people the opportunity to check and challenge evidence and shape new planning policies (including site allocations).

2. The Local Green Space and Local List Nomination process is open and running till Friday 9 September. For more information people should visit: [www.thurrock.gov.uk/localplan](http://www.thurrock.gov.uk/localplan).

There was attached to Brian's e-mail a little update booklet setting out where we currently are with the Local Plan. I have added a link to this document in the "News" section on the first page of the parish web-site.

If you would like further information about these matters and / or the opportunity to discuss them with others in our neighbourhood then you might like to attend the WELCOM forum meeting on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> September at the Linford Methodist Church at 7.30pm.

*Chris Ford*

**Marian Kuyper writes.....**

**Toddler Group**

Linford Toddler Group starts back at Linford Methodist Church on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> & Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> September 9.30 – 12.00. Prices remain unchanged at £1 per adult which includes unlimited tea/coffee and 50p per child which includes a snack at 10.30.

Feel free to come along for the whole session or just drop in for a short while it will be great to see you any Tuesday or Thursday during term time.

Find us on Facebook at "Linford Toddler Group"

**Yippee Club**

Yippee Club is a Christian based group for children aged 5 – 11 years exploring the bible through arts, crafts, singing and stories. Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> September is our "Big Breakfast" session. We will meet at 10.00 am for breakfast and then after the washing up move on to some games and crafts until midday. Cost £1 per child.

If you would like any further information email me at [marian.kuyper@btconnect.com](mailto:marian.kuyper@btconnect.com) or phone 01375 851989.

## WHERE IS OUR PARISH HISTORY?

Last year's work at St Catherine's produced some interesting finds and a better understanding of the history of our church and parish. And it also showed us that many people are interested in our history. Some are local people but putting some of our finds on the web, brought wider interest too. One recent visitor was from the "Corpus of Romanesque Sculpture".

Romanesque is the academic name of the Norman times (1066 to 1200) and the "Corpus" is a Kings College, London University project, making a photographic record of all Norman building and stone carving in the country. Put "Corpus of Romanesque Sculpture" into your search engine and follow the links to the photos of St Catherine's.

Much of St Catherine's was built in Norman times and we can see this in the architecture – especially in the chunky round and hexagonal pillars of the North aisle with typical Norman carving on their "capitals" which are the square carved stone at the top of the pillars from which the arches supporting the roof splay out. Most people's image of church windows have pointed-shaped tops. However, Saxon and earlier Norman windows and doors mostly had round, semi-circular tops, and there are plenty of those in St Catherine's.

St Catherine's history is also in many documents dating back over the centuries. One 1390 document now in the British Museum is the earliest record of the institution (the appointment) of a vicar to a church in feudal times. Other early documents have been lost, as over the centuries the parish has in turn been part of Rochester, London, and St Albans Dioceses and stuff got lost in the moves. The old parish documents we do have are now in, and can be seen at, Chelmsford Diocesan Record Office which is in the Essex Record Office (ERO) in Chelmsford.

In ERO are the **West Tilbury registers**. **Baptism** for 1546-1694, 1813-1884, 1884-1950, 1950-1978 **Marriages** for 1567-1691, 1695-1754, 1754-1782 and 1782-1813, 1813-1836, 1838-1921, 1921-1934, 1934-1966, 1967-1979 There's a **Baptism and Marriage** register for 1695 -1812. **Burials** for 1540-1695, 1813-1905

The **East Tilbury registers**. **Baptisms** 1626-1687, 1687-1783, 1783-1812, 1813-1898, 1898-1977, 1977-1988 **Marriages** 1627-1685, 1701-1753, 1754-1783, 1784-1806, 1813-1837, 1837-1952, 1953-1957, 1958-1966, 1966-1972, 1972-1979, 1979-1983, 1983-

1986, 1986-1988, 1988-2003 **Burials** 1627-1688, 1681-1783, 1783-1812, 1813-1942

Later records for East Tilbury Baptisms, Weddings and Burials, and West Tilbury burials are kept at St Catherine's.

Many other documents (dating back to the 1600's) in ERO, include Churchwardens accounts, Vestry and, PCC minutes, and Banns and service registers. There's documents and plans of the Tithes, documents to do with the Poor laws and overseers, the Common land the Rector could use and much else. It all cries out to be looked at and studied.

*Canon Paul*

### Parish picnic

After a wet and windy Saturday, Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> August was blessed with especially good weather for a day of fellowship, fun and a wonderful buffet for the parish. It was good to see we needed to put out extra chairs before the service as we welcomed our very good friends from the Linford Methodist Church and the St. Francis Wednesday morning service. It was with great joy that Elaine played the organ beautifully and a pleasure to hear the enthusiastic singing.

We had many participants in the boules competition during the afternoon and in his sermon Paul suggested people had been in training for 6 months. Surprise, surprise after missing the early rounds (as he was busy with baptisms at St. Catherine's) the trophy winner was by Canon Paul, unfortunately we could not present him with the trophy as it has been mislaid. Look out for it on Antiques Roadshow. We were able to present Brandon with the Junior trophy as his sister Raine, who had won it in 2014, had returned it in good order.

Thank you to all who made and brought food - set up the buffet - supervised the boules, washed up and vacuumed the carpet to leave the hall clean and tidy.

The biggest thank you is to all who came to make this a special day for the church family.

*Norman and Sheila*

**Remember on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September Claire Frend is hosting her annual coffee morning in aid of the Macmillan nurses. She would be very grateful for your support ..... As would be the nurses!!**



# Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in  
Mt. 13: 3-8, Mk 4: 1-9, Lk 8: 4-8

Crowds of people now came to hear Jesus, so he used stories to teach them; those who really wanted to learn would work out the meaning.

A farmer went out to sow a field of corn.



Some seed fell on the path

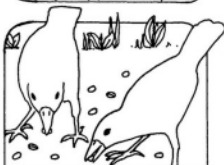


Some fell among thorn plants and



and some on to rocks.

some fell on good soil.



The seed that fell on the rocks sprouted...



The seed on the path was eaten by birds

...but it had no water so it dried out and died.

The seed that fell among the thorns grew well to start with,



then it was outgrown by the thorn plants.



But in the good soil the seed grew well and gave a fantastic harvest!

Jesus explained to his disciples what it meant.



Some people don't even listen to what he says.

For some it is the best thing ever!



But soon they move on to another 'best thing.'

Some listen gladly...



but then worries and busyness take over.

But some hear what Jesus says and learn from it.



and that makes all the difference!



## PARISH DIARY FOR SEPTEMBER

*Our Sunday services are at St. Catherine's*



1 Sept	Foodbank at St Francis	11am – 1pm
4 Sept	<b>15<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY after TRINITY</b> The Family Service Baptism of Harley Jayce Lewis	10am 12noon
7 Sept	Holy Communion (St Francis) Drop In at St Francis	10am 10.30am - noon
8 Sept	Foodbank at St. Francis Thurrock Leaders "Refresh" at St. Catherine's	11am - 1pm 10am - 2pm
10 Sept	Wedding of Daniel Peters & Jodie Withington	3pm
11 Sept	<b>16<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY after TRINITY</b> <b>Parish Communion</b>	10am
13 Sept	Bible Study at Linford Methodist Church	8pm
14 Sept	Holy Communion (St Francis) Drop In at St Francis	10am 10.30am - noon
15 Sept	Foodbank at St. Francis Hordon, Orsett & Bulphan churches away day at St. Catherine's	11am - 1pm 9.30am-2.30pm
18 Sept	<b>17<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY after TRINITY</b> <b>Parish Communion</b>	10am
21 Sept	Holy Communion (St Francis) Drop In at St Francis	10am 10.30am - noon
22 Sept	Foodbank at St Francis	11am - 1pm
25 Sept	<b>18<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY after TRINITY</b> <b>Parish Communion</b> OPEN AFTERNOON (with tea and cakes)	10am 2pm - 5pm
28 Sept	Holy Communion (St Francis) Drop In at St Francis	10am 10.30am - noon
29 Sept	Foodbank at St. Francis <b>WELCOM</b> Forum meeting (Methodist Church)	11am - 1pm 7.30pm
30 Sept	Macmillan Coffee Morning (St Francis)	10am – noon.
2 Oct	<b>19<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY after TRINITY</b> <b>Parish Communion</b>	10am
5 Oct	Holy Communion (St. Francis) Drop In at St. Francis	10am 10.30am - noon
6 Oct	Foodbank at St. Francis	11am - 1pm
8 Oct	<b>Harvest Supper</b> at St. Francis	7pm

## **FROM ST CATHERINE'S PARISH REGISTERS**

### **BAPTISMS**

14 August	Leo Joseph Charlie Krasner
14 August	Aaliyah Grace May Gaut
20 August	Elsie Robyn Draper
20 August	Bella-Rose Rita, Maelie Phyllis & George Christopher Flack
21 August	Macie Anne May Walsh

### **WEDDINGS**

**23 July** Alexander George Rate & Marie Louise Redman

### **FUNERALS**

**16 August** Raymond Louis Osborne

### **BURIAL OF ASHES**

**13 August** Brian & Anne Cunningham

### **Shoebboxes**

For many years the Parish has supported the Samaritans Purse Appeal and sent 40-50 Boxes for children for whom the box may be the only Christmas Gift. It is I believe an excellent opportunity for us to show the children an example of the true spirit of Christmas and Christian giving. If forms a part of the Parish International concern/giving.

I have leaflets detailing items that can be included some of which are quite modest a toothbrush a bar of soap etc. and I have 50 of the recommended flat pack boxes. Please let me know if you would like to prepare a box. I will make sure that the flat pack boxes are available in Church from September.

Lets make it a Parish wide effort to bring joy to the underprivileged. If you donate and would like to know where your box was delivered you can be advised by e-mail. In addition in past years there has been a video attached to an e-mail showing the children wreathed in smiles opening their box.

*Norman*

***Please Note: The October edition of PEWTALK will not be available until early in October as I will be unable to print it before the end of September. The copy date is unaffected. Ed.***

# ST. CATHERINE'S

## The Priest in Charge

The Parish is without a priest at the present time.

All enquiries should be made to Churchwarden, Chris Ford:

Telephone: 01375 675863

E-mail: warden.chris.stcatherines@tesco.net

## 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 and Weddings please contact Chris Ford in the first  
instance.

## Churchwarden

CHRIS FORD T: 01375 675863

E: warden.chris.stcatherines@tesco.net

COLIN STRONG T: 07591 708955

E: warden.colin.stcatherines@gmail.com

## Editor

Chris Ford

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Stanford le Hope  
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Tel: 01375 675863

e-mail: 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:

KATHY BIRD

07920 794716

kathleen.bird@live.co.uk

## *Copy Dates for Pewtalk*

*21<sup>st</sup> September 2016*

*23<sup>rd</sup> October 2016*

*22<sup>nd</sup> November 2016*