

Around the Spire

**Saint James &
Saint Mary
Magdalene
Quedgeley &
Kingsway**

*At the going down
of the sun and in
the morning...*



*We shall remember
them*



November 2021 Issue 75



Your Editor Fr. Hugh Broad

Thoughts for November



“HIT ‘EM BETWEEN THE EYES!”



Many years ago, long before I became a priest, I had a spell as a journalist for a local newspaper.

In training for this, the Editor at the time made various points I would need to remember.

1. A captive title which will make the reader inquisitive.
2. Tell your story in such a way which will make the reader want to read it.
3. Be brief! Not more than 500 words, with pictures if possible.

An exciting conclusion which will --

“HIT EM’ BETWEEN THE EYES!”

As the Editor of ‘Around the Spire’ I will attempt to follow these points and employ them to our other contributors.

Some issues ago I asked some challenging questions about this publication for our readers to respond to about the content of this magazine after over 70 monthly issues.

The responses were very few, and set me wondering if the magazine was read at all! Of those who did respond, the main suggestion was that we might include more local news; one thought it was 'too churchy' - but after all it is a church publication!

However, we do take the comments seriously and over the coming months you will see articles from Theresa Fisher (Tesco) and her fund-raising adventures; something brief from Quedgeley Town Council and hopefully others to come – let us know what you would like, and even better make the contact on our behalf.

So now it's over to you dear reader!

FATHER HUGH.

Parish Register for September

HOLY BAPTISM

12th ISABELLA WILKINS
ROBERT WILKINS
LAYLA WILKINS

26th WADE YOUNG
CHARMAINE WILLIAMS
AYRA JANE SILLS

“WELCOME INTO THE LORD'S FAMILY”

HOLY MATRIMONY

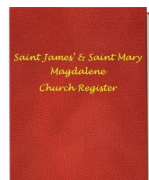
2nd MARK PEARSE & NADIA WITHAM
4th LUKE CARTER & KRISTAL DAVENPORT

“THOSE WHO GOD HAS JOINED TOGETHER”

FUNERAL

15th TERENCE (TOM) TUCKER

“REST ETERNAL GRANT TO HIM O LORD”



“What is that called?” and “What is it for?”



This month we focus on the Ordained Ministry of the Church, of which there are three distinct orders: Bishop, Priest, & Deacon.

Bishop : The highest of the orders; the word is an Anglo-Saxon corruption of “Episcopus” - from which we get the adjective “episcopal”; its original meaning is “overseer”. In Catholic Christendom (including the Anglican Communion) Bishops are distinguished from priests chiefly by their power to confer Holy Orders and to administer the Sacrament of Confirmation.



Archbishop of Canterbury

Justin Welby

Bishops are consecrated at the hands of a Metropolitan – ours is the Archbishop of Canterbury – along with at least two other bishops, and are given authority over a particular diocese or an area within the Metropolitan's province. Candidates for selection as bishops must be at least thirty years old, having spent a number of years as a priest. There is an elaborate process involved in selecting suitable candidates, which culminates in two names, in order of preference, being presented to the Prime Minister who then presents a name to the Sovereign. The candidate is also elected by the Dean and Chapter of the cathedral of the diocese involved, before the consecration takes places.

When you next visit our cathedral, look out for the “cathedra” - the Bishop's Chair in the Choir. (You can't miss it!). The cathedral takes its name from the cathedra, where the bishop, by tradition, used to sit to teach the flock.

Among the insignia traditional to the Bishop, in addition to the cathedra, are the mitre, the episcopal ring, the pectoral cross, and the pastoral staff (often in the form of a shepherd's crook). When the bishop is fully robed for sacramental worship, the chasuble is also worn.

The office of Bishop is derived from the role in the Early Church of the first Apostles who were themselves commissioned by Jesus (see John's Gospel, ch. 20). As the Church grew in size, their authority was delegated among Presbyters (or Elders) whom they ordained through the laying-on of hands, thus beginning the “Apostolic Succession”. By the beginning of the 2nd century AD, the three-fold structure of ministry was well-established.

Priest: The idea and institution of priesthood is found in many of the world's religions and is particularly prominent in Old Testament Judaism, usually connected with the conception of sacrifice. In some cases the duties attached to the father of the family or the ruler of the tribe, but in most religions a separate order developed. The priesthood of the Old Testament was originally the duty of the family of Aaron while the family of Levi was consecrated for certain duties around the Tabernacle.



Fr. Ian & Fr. Hugh—both priests, retired, but still very active in the ministry.

The idea of priesthood as belonging to the Christian ministry was a gradual development, with the term “priest” itself not appearing in common usage until the end of the 2nd century. As the Church grew in size, it was inevitable that the bishop was unable to be with every congregation every week, so the need for recognised persons to preside at the Eucharist became paramount. The sacramental duties of the bishop were then delegated to recognised, and trained, elders, or presbyters, and conferred through the laying-on of hands. The priest is authorised to celebrate the Eucharist, to pronounce absolution & blessing, and to administer the sacraments of baptism, marriage, and penitence.

While the priest is often seen as the leader of the local Christian community, the term itself is a reminder of the call to ministry and service to others rather than any idea of domination, and recalls its relation to the Priesthood of Christ.* (The term “vicar” refers to the particular job a priest has been called to do - all vicars are priests, but not all priests are vicars! The word “vicarious” means “on behalf of..” The vicar is the bishop's authorised substitute.)

Deacon: The first deacons were ordained in Acts ch 6 – there were seven of them – for the service of the poor and the distribution of alms, thus assisting the Apostles, and in the Early Church they were charged with material duties. The role of the deacon enlarged over time; they were given the task of reading the Gospel during the Eucharist, assisting with the distribution of Holy Communion, leading the congregation in prayer (especially in the prayers of penitence), and in caring for those who were preparing for baptism. In the beginning, the deacon remained in deacon's orders for life. In the Church of England the diaconate has become the first stage in preparation for the priesthood – although we do have “Permanent Deacons” - people who have felt called by God to that particular area of ministry and not to priesthood. The deacon's role in worship remains the same, with the addition of authority to baptise and to conduct funerals. Admission to the diaconate is from the age of twenty-three and over, and the candidates must provide the bishop with evidence of “moral and intellectual suitability” - that's the duty of our theological colleges and training establishments. The Anglican diaconate usually lasts for one year, during which time the parish priest, and others, have the responsibility of preparing the deacon for ordination to the priesthood.



*Bishop & Deacons at
Gloucester Cathedral*

to be continued...* We shall return to the theme of the Priesthood of Christ in a further edition! Fr. Ian

November: a month of Remembering

As the Christian Year draws to a close, it is important to give time to looking-back—not only to events that have shaped our lives, but more importantly to people we have known (or perhaps just heard about) but see no more.

Our Church Calendar tells us that 1st November is **All Saints' Day**, when we celebrate the lives of all those who, down the centuries, followed our Lord Jesus Christ and who were lights in their own generation. Many of them gave their lives for

the sake of the Gospel; some made headlines by the things they said and did; many, many, more lived faithfully and quietly, following the teachings of Jesus and inspiring others to do the same. On this day, we remember all of them with thanksgiving.

During the course of our lives we all experience the loss of loved ones. They may be gone from our physical sight but they are still close to our hearts. **The Commemoration of All Souls** gives us the opportunity to remember our loved ones and to commend them to God's eternal keeping. There will be a Requiem in St James at **10am on 3rd November** and we hope that you will feel able to join us. If you would like us to pray for your loved ones by name, please call in to church and add their names to the list which will be used in the service.

11th November is a special day for all of us when we mark the end of the 1st World War and the signing of the Armistice. In silence we remember all who died in the cause of freedom and we pray for peace in a troubled and divided world. There will be an **Act of Remembrance at 10.45am** at the war memorial in St James churchyard to which everyone is welcome.



On Sunday **14th November at 10.30am** the Parish Eucharist will include an Act of Remembrance, and again, all are welcome to join us.

The Church Calendar comes to a climax with the feast of **Christ the King** when we give thanks for the life and work of our Lord Jesus Christ, his victory over suffering and death, and his kingship over all.

Fr. Ian

Singing Group



The Singing Group has been meeting for the past few weeks and we are now around sixteen in number! If you would like to join us, you would be very welcome. We meet on a

Friday evening from 7.00pm – 8.00pm in Church.

Previous experience of singing in a choir or of reading music is not essential. For more information please contact Fr Michael.



Thank you to all those who came to Tea@2.

Don't be shy—come and join us every Wednesday afternoon from 2pm –4pm.

REMEMBERING.

There's silence in the Albert Hall, a million poppy petals fall
On rows of service personnel, and others whose deep
thoughts will dwell,
On those departed years before, to fight a cruel senseless
war.

It's now more that a hundred years, since called-up men
and volunteers,
Went off to fight in that Great War, and none of them were
really sure

If they would see their homes again, when trudging
through that sad terrain,
Or stuck in trenches thick with mud, or see their dead
mates soaked in blood.

For four more years the thousands fell, urged onward in
that living hell,

To slay the foe; a noble cause; it's said, 'A war to end all
wars'!

But then in 1939, Herr Hitler got his troops in line,
To conquer Europe, Britain too, but he hadn't counted on
"The Few".

For years again, at such great cost, and tens of thousands
lives were lost.

"For what, we ask"? For greed and power! But t'was Britain
that had it's finest hour!

Was this the war to end all wars? Oh! sadly not; just but a
pause,

For conflicts continue to this day, that's carried more brave
souls away.

And so, as we begin November, the country will again
remember.

There'll be silence in the Albert Hall. The bugles sound. The
petals fall.

Lovell Cornwall.

Congratulations Fr. Hugh—53years—still going strong!

In 1968 on the Feast of Saint Michael and All Angels in Hereford Cathedral, a young man of 31 years took his ordination vows to serve God.

Fifty three years later, that same man, at the age of 84years, retired; when most people are expecting to 'put their feet up', is still active in the ministry. Fr. Hugh confesses he takes things a little easier than he used to, but it's not noticeable to many. He still officiates at Sunday and weekday services, baptisms, weddings and funerals. If that isn't enough, he also edits this magazine!

Fr. Hugh, is held in high regard, among many members of the congregation and the Quedgeley community. So, it was no surprise that on the feast of Saint Michael and All Angels, in September this year, the Wednesday morning congregation tripled in numbers to wish him well.

Recently, Fr. Hugh put pen to paper and wrote his memoirs—Ordinary and Extraordinary. A Gloucestershire lad by birth. The memoirs detail his life from living on a farm to the path of ordination, his first teaching post and his life as a parish priest, husband and father. There have been many challenges on the way. The book is well worth the read and is available from Fr. Hugh at the cost of £5.00 (all proceeds to Saint James' Church).

So finally — Congratulations Fr, Hugh on your 53rd—we look forward to celebrating with you again on your 54th! Thank you and your wife Jackie for all you do for us at Saint James' Church.



The Faith We Sing

By *Revd. Canon Michael Garland*



It is often rewarding to look back in time and think what it might have been like to attend a church service in the sixteenth and seventeenth century, as the newly established Church of England grew and flourished. To get an idea of the order and shape of the service, we need look no further than *The Book of Common Prayer*, the first edition of which appeared in 1549. Some revisions to this were made in subsequent years but it had settled in 1662 to the order which many of us know today. But what were people singing in church? The answer is a simple one – they were singing Psalms in metrical form which could be easily fitted to tunes. Take this well-known hymn as an example:

All people that on earth do dwell,
sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;
him serve with fear, his praise forth tell,
come ye before him, and rejoice.

Here we have the metrical version of Psalm 100 – ‘O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands’. The tune we associate with the hymn is aptly named *The Old Hundredth*. The writer of this hymn was William Kethe of whom we know very little other than the fact that he fled to Europe from England during the reign of the Catholic Queen Mary. In Geneva, he worked with others to compile the *Anglo-Genevan Psalter 1560*.

Nearly one hundred years later, in 1650, *The Scottish Psalter* was published. We are still singing several hymns from that collection nearly four hundred years later. Perhaps the most famous of all metrical psalm texts first appeared here:

The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want;
he makes me down to lie
in pastures green, he leadeth me
the quiet waters by.

Interestingly, this happens to be the club anthem of West Bromwich Albion and the first verse is displayed at the ground and also on the team strip! There have been many other versions of Psalm 23 in metrical form. Consider this opening verse by George Herbert (1593-1633):



The God of love my shepherd is,
and he that doth me feed;
while he is mine, and I am his
what can I want or need?

Or, borrowing almost word for word the opening line of Herbert's hymn, the work of Henry Baker in the nineteenth century:

The King of love my shepherd is,
whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his,
and he is mine for ever.

In 1696, Nahum Tate and Nicholas Brady compiled a *New Version of the Psalms*. This metrical psalter was bound in with some older editions of *The Book of Common Prayer*. Few are now sung, but one exception is this paraphrase of Psalm 34 – happily reduced from twenty-two verses to just six!



Nahum Tate

Through all the changing scenes of life,
in trouble and in joy,
the praises of my God shall still
my heart and tongue employ.

In the same collection there appeared, for the first time, Nahum Tate's paraphrase, not of a psalm, but of words of scripture from St Luke's gospel, chapter two. I am sure that we will be singing this in a few weeks' time:

While shepherds watched their flocks by night,
all seated on the ground,
the angel of the Lord came down,
and glory shone around.

The art of writing metrical versions of the psalms continue right up to the present day.

At their Harvest Festival service in St James' Church three weeks ago, the children of Clearwater Academy sang this version of Psalm 100:



Jubilate, everybody,
serve the Lord in all your ways,
and come before his presence singing:
enter now his courts with praise.
For the Lord our God is gracious,
and his mercy everlasting.
Jubilate, jubilate, jubilate Deo!
(Fred Dunn (1907-1979))

Martin Nystrom (b1956) has this popular version of Psalm 42:

As the deer pants for the water,
so my soul longs after you;
you alone are my heart's desire
and I long to worship you.

My favourite paraphrase, from one of my very favourite psalms (Psalm 139), is by Bernadette Farrell (b1957), sadly missing from the hymnbook we use in church:

O God, you search me and you know me.
All my thoughts lie open to your gaze.
When I walk or lie down you are before me:
ever the maker and keeper of my days.

The good work of writing metrical versions of the psalms continues and we thank God for that. The Psalms are an amazing source of inspiration for us, voicing praises, complaints, laments, hopes and longings, which are part and parcel of the journey of faith. Long may we continue to sing to the Lord a new song as well as rejoicing in the songs of old.

Fr Michael

Date for your diary!

Carol Singing

Tesco Quedgeley foyer

4.00pm

Thursday 23rd December

Numbers are limited

Make sure your name is down on the list!

List available from end of November



Lu & Ian's Afternoon Tea Party

Well done Lu & Ian for raising £413 towards church funds.

The afternoon was a huge success and enjoyed by everyone!

Thank You



Welcome!

Congratulations and welcome to Lilly and Maisie Hiscock who were baptised into our church family. We hope to see them and their family on a regular basis.

“WELCOME INTO THE LORD’S FAMILY”



Christmas Food Donations

Some people will struggle to make ends meet this Christmas...

Can you help to make their lives a little easier?

We are collecting food donations of unperishable goods here at Saint James' Church from: -

1st November – 5th December

Please leave donations in the church.

All donations will be delivered to

Gloucester Food bank

Light up someone's day this Christmas!



Come and join us!

Tea@2

Every Wednesday

Saint James' Church

Quedgeley

GL2 4PN

2pm–4pm

New!



£2.00 per person

Selection of teas and cakes! Coffee available.

Make new friends • Enjoy a natter and a cuppa • Board games & quizzes



Quedgeley Town Council

Armistice Day should not be confused with Remembrance Sunday.

This year the 11th November (Armistice Day) is on a Thursday .

Quedgeley Town Council always holds a Service on the 11th November at their War Memorial near the Church gates starting at 10.45 am and each year more and more people attend.

Please do join Councillors, the Emergency Services, schools and others, you are most welcome to give thanks for those who paid the Supreme Sacrifice for our futures.



Service to commemorate the heroic actions above
Quedgeley School in September 1940 by

Flight Lieutenant Robert George Coventry


Royal Air Force

Saturday 25th September 2021

Service commences at the site of the crash in the grounds
of Field Court Junior Academy and then with a parade
linking the sites, it will continue at the nearby Quedgeley
Town Council Memorial Gardens.

"So great was the heroism and flying skills of this man that he was able
to avoid crashing into a school which at the time was full of students and staff
before crashing onto nearby farmland where the aircraft caught fire and he
was killed. His crew were badly injured. Flight Lieutenant Coventry will
now be remembered forever by the erection of this Memorial.
God take care of him." AMEN.

Steve Small
CHAIRMAN of QUEDEGELEY TOWN COUNCIL




Answers last month—Where are we—Chesterfield, Durham & Exeter

alpha colour printers 

design • pre-print • litho digital large format
finishing • packing • storage • distribution

follow us on  facebook.com/AlphaColourPrinters  @Alpha_Colour

print green with us
on the first carbon neutral
press in the country

ask us for the logo
to add to your print

 **CO₂ neutral**
Product printed on a
Carbon Neutral Press
www.alpha-berg.com/CO2 - 210504



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