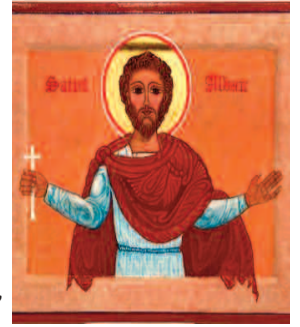


Parish of Mottingham, St Andrew with St Alban

Summer Newsletter

August - September 2018



Rector: Revd Ian Welch, The Rectory, 233 Court Road, Mottingham,
London SE9 4TQ 020 8851 1909

Churchwardens: Navlet Robotham 020 8013 5421/07770 740478
David Mouqué 020 8851 5471

Please note: Revd Ian will be on holiday from 5 to 24 August.

A Summer Letter from the Rector, Revd Ian Welch:

Dear Friends,

One of the most important Marian celebrations, the Feast of the Blessed Virgin Mary, falls during the Summer holiday period, on 15th August. This timing perhaps explains why the Festival is not given the attention it merits, given the hugely important role Mary plays in the Christian story of redemption. This relative neglect has not always been the case.

Devotion to Mary and belief in the efficacy of her intercessory prayers goes back to the early days of the Christian church. Gregory of Nazianzus (329-389) for example, known as the 'theologian', records the fact that many believers sought her protection in their prayers. Her cult as the 'Mother of God' (Theotokos) became so strong, that in the medieval period her name was often used at the conclusion of prayers in commonly used service books, in place of that of Jesus Christ. This high esteem for Mary led ultimately to the doctrine of 'the Immaculate Conception', since her dignity as the mother of God meant that she must, according to traditional theology, have all the purity, gentleness and perfection of character possible for a human being.

Whatever one's particular view on the Immaculate Conception, Mary is understood by all Christians to have played a vital part in our redemption, since she is the mother of the author of all grace; it is she who makes Christ's mission on Earth possible. As a consequence of this central role in salvation history, Mary, without being divine, comes as close to divinity as it is possible for a human to be, and hence her veneration and mediatory role in Christian prayer and worship.

Popular devotions to Mary include the prayers of the Rosary, as an accompaniment to which strings of beads are used as an aid to memory, and the singing of that lovely hymn, the Angelus, at the end of Mass, as well as pilgrimages to Lourdes and many other locations. Her great vocation, to bring forth the redeemer from her womb, makes her the source of spiritual life and regeneration for all who find their way to Christ as redeemer. Hence she is the Mother of mercy and infinite compassion, and the one we turn to in times of need.

As the Mother of the all-compassionate Saviour, she teaches us to have compassion for one another and for ourselves. It is then fitting, that her Festival falls at a time of the year when many are seeking rest, refreshment and renewal. In her humble acceptance of God's will – of his gentleness towards our frail and wayward humanity – she exemplifies a humility and gentleness of spirit that all may look up to. This gentleness extends, of course, to ourselves as well as to others. With this in mind, whatever your plans for the late Summer period may be, whether you stay at home or travel to pastures new, it is fitting to seek out activities that refresh and renew our energies. This refreshment enables us to provide appropriate care and gentleness for the soul, and indeed to return in the Autumn to our familiar tasks with energy, zest and enthusiasm.

May Mary's gentleness, protection and grace accompany you in all things!

With best wishes and every blessing for a peaceful and restorative Summer,

Ian

Parish Diary for August - September

August (8.30 and 10 a.m. = St Andrew's; 11 a.m. = St Alban's)

No monthly Lunch

5th **Transfiguration** (trans.) Eucharists 10 & 11 a.m. (*no 8.30*)
 12th **Trinity 11** Eucharists 10 & 11 a.m. (*no 8.30*)
 19th **Trinity 12** Eucharists 10 & 11 a.m. (*no 8.30*)
 26th **Trinity 13** Eucharists 08.30, 10 & 11 a.m.

September

2nd **Trinity 14** Eucharists 08.30, 10 & 11 a.m.
 6th **Monthly Lunch** St Andrew's Hall, 1 p.m.
 9th **Trinity 15** Eucharists 08.30, 10 & 11 a.m.
 16th **Trinity 16** Eucharists 08.30, 10 & 11 a.m.
 18th **Ecumenical Bible Study** St Andrew's Rectory, 8 p.m.
 19th **PCC** St Andrew's Church Hall, 7 p.m.
 23rd **Harvest** Eucharist St Andrew's 08.30
Harvest Festivals St Andrew's 10 a.m., St Alban's 11 a.m. (both with Eucharist)
 30th **Michael and All Angels** (trans.) Eucharists 08.30, 10 & 11 a.m.

Intimate Opera

Tea Party at St Andrew's Hall on Saturday 29 September at 3 p.m.

Grove Singers

... at Eltham Palace on Sunday 7 October at 2 p.m. & 3 p.m.

Details: Beverley Howard, 8857 3366

From the Parish Register

Baptisms: Austin John Bird, Christiana

Funerals: Tony Chandler, Alice Stanley, Joan Skinner

People Pieces from Revd Ian:

Happy 60th St Ed's!

The Weekend of Saturday 14 and Sunday 15 July 2018 saw a host of lively attractions to mark the 60th anniversary of the opening of St Edward's, Mottingham, back in 1958. Sunday was marked by a Choral Evensong, led and conducted by our own Jack Day, and accompanied by Anne Clements on the organ, with a small choir which included the Rector and Sarah, Jack and three members of St Edward's. Congratulations, St Ed's!

Farewell Revd Alex Terrett

A moving farewell service for Revd Alex was held at Mottingham Methodist Church on Sunday 22 July, marking the culmination of a hard-working and fruitful ministry in our community. Alex has been a stalwart supporter of Churches Together in Mottingham, with a real heart for ecumenical cooperation, and she will be sadly missed as she moves to fresh pastures and new challenges in Beckenham. It has been a real joy ministering with her.

Anniversaries

Birthdays

August	September
Dominic Howard 3rd	Pam Wellstead 10th
Joan Huxley 6th	David Hughes 19th
Val Witcombe 24th	Ann Pilcher 22nd
Michael Fofana 31st	Jack Day 25th

Wedding Anniversary - September
 Dave & Peggy Warren 3rd

Deadline for the October magazine:

1 September

Material to: andoreen@btinternet.com please!

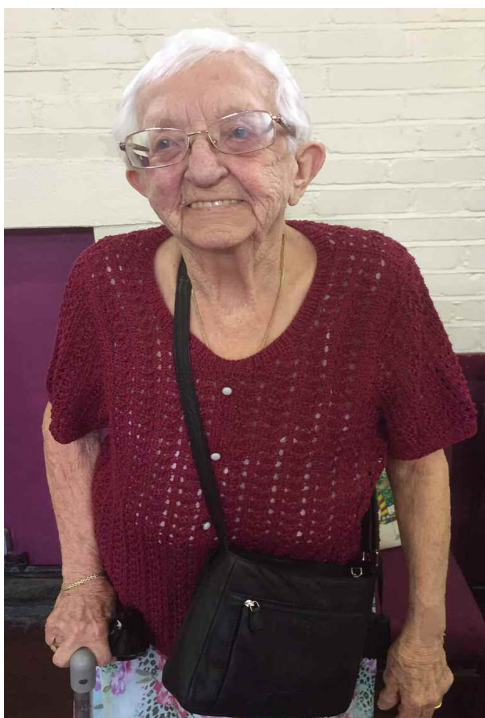
A Mottingham Legend - Moves On.

Dorothy (Dot) Sullivan (93) has decided to move on and stay with her daughter Mary in Norfolk and we understand she is very happy. She was a stalwart of the early days of the 16th Royal Eltham Scout Group way back in 1963 along with her husband Harry. She was also one of the main instigators in raising funds to build the Chris Mumbray Hall.

Dot became secretary to the Group Council as it was then called on the 9th of April 1963 and served for a grand total of 14 years until 1977. She then remained involved by helping the 16th Royal Eltham Scout Group organise local Fetes, Donkey Derbies and Jumble Sales etcetera. As a matter of interest the Donkey Derby was the Scouts biggest yearly fund raiser, providing enough to cover our expenses for a year. Many of you may also remember the Derby was held at the District HQ in New Eltham each May time. Both the 16th and the 3rd Royal Eltham benefitted to the tune of up to £1000 each. Hard work but very worthwhile.

Norman Woodard.

I first knew Dot around 1948 when my father played cricket with her husband Harry on the Foxes playing field in Court Farm Road. Dot was given a fond farewell by her friends at the July Thursday Lunch. We all wish her a continued happy life.



Ray Andrew.

In Memoriam

August

John Leakey	1st
Don Piper	2nd
John Hammond	3rd
Lillemore Fox	4th
Nora Window	5th
Audrey Pain	9th
Lilian Virrel	12th
Aunty Doris	26th
Susan Williams	27th
Robert Vidler	30th
Katie Leighton	31st

September

Percy Clarke	7th
Iris Trend	7th
Claire Martin	8th
Sybil Simpson	10th
Melissa Gilkinson	11th
Francis Frampton	14th
Beryl Leith	14th
Ernie Walsh	15th
John Robbins	17th
Doris Bale	20th
Edwin Akehurst	22nd