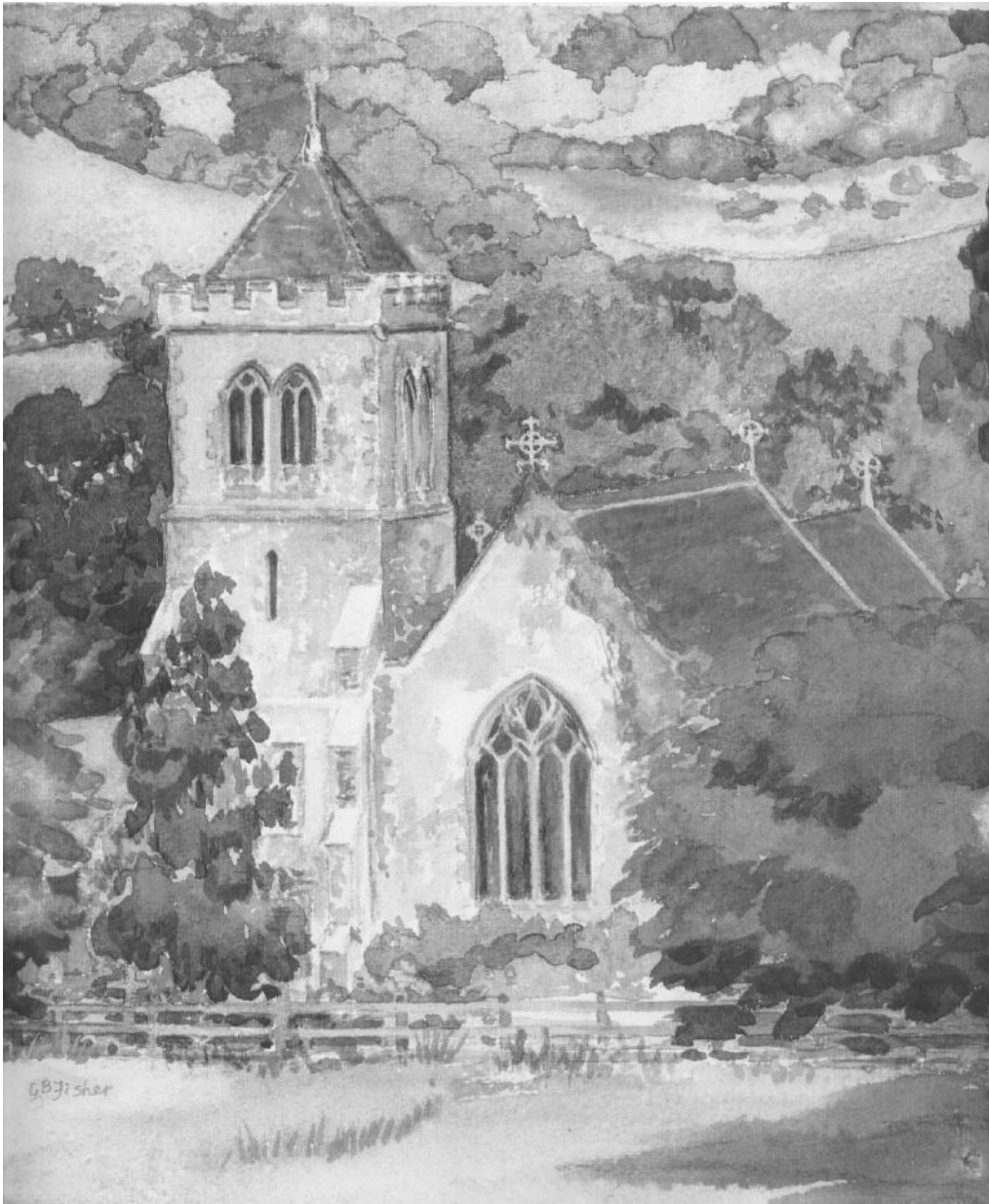


Outlook

Hughenden Parish Magazine
St Michael and All Angels



May 2010

Welcome

The fact that you are reading these words suggests that you are a new reader of this magazine. Either you are a newcomer to this area or you are a visitor.

If you are a visitor, we hope that you have enjoyed your visit to our church; that you have found it interesting, instructive and conducive to prayer. If you are going to be here at one of our regular service times, we hope that you will join us in the worship of God and we ask that you take our greetings back to your own church.

If you are new to this Parish, we bid you welcome and invite you to join us and share in the fellowship of God's family in Hughenden. This magazine gives details of the regular times of worship here. We hope that you will find something to meet your spiritual needs. The printed word is cold and remote and we would like to make personal contact with you, so please leave your name and address in the box at the back of the church.

Whoever you are who reads these words, may God bless you, sustain you and protect you, your family and friends, now and always.

Outlook

Editorial team

Helen Byrne

Sylvia Clark

Geraldine Geers

Printing

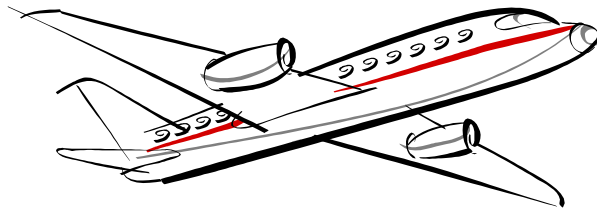
Norman Pulley and
team

Front cover picture

Detail from a water -
colour painting by
Geraldine Fisher.

This magazine is priced at 50p.

May



Dear Readers,

There are a lot of things going on in our country at the moment. We have the forthcoming General Election and decisions to be made at the polling booth. Will I be here or do I need to do a postal vote? There are gardens to be tended now that the weather has turned warm and growth is well and truly under way. And of course, the main topic of the day, (see 'The Wilder Side' on page 16) is the erupting volcano in Iceland.

It always amazes me how quickly jokes are circulated about national and international events. The weekend papers are full of political cartoons all mixed in with references to the volcano. Did you hear the one that said 'Iceland has no letter C in its language so when we asked them to send cash, what did they send us?'

The power of nature is, as the younger generation today would say, 'awesome'. Who would have thought that we would be so dependent on aeroplanes and that such chaos would be caused when they ceased to fly because of 'an Act of God'. I can sympathise with the thousands of people who were stranded in various parts of the world and the workers who were laid off because fresh produce for shops and supermarkets could not be moved. However, the old saying, 'It's an ill wind that blows nobody any good' was certainly true as the trains, buses and ferries were doing a roaring trade. But speaking selfishly, I have been observing the morning and evening skies unsullied by criss-crossing vapour trails, with a degree of pleasure. That has now ended with today's announcement (21 April) that flights will recommence.

Please keep articles and stories coming in to *Outlook*. We need them to make our magazine interesting and informative. If you were stuck in the ash somewhere, please write and tell us about it.

Sylvia Clark, Editor

From The Vicarage May 2010

I have just returned from a wonderful visit to the Hughenden pre-school play group where I introduced myself and told the children about the story of Good Friday and Easter (this being Holy Week as I write). I noticed that the children had been making pictures of Easter eggs and chicks so I tried to get into the subject by talking about eggs. Having gleaned that they all liked chocolate eggs I talked about real eggs... 'Now can you tell me what comes out of a real egg?' As quick as a flash one small girl who obviously likes her boiled eggs replied, ' yolks'.

However, there is nothing like a good story and so I used one from 'The Beginner's Bible', which seeks to explain the events of Good Friday and Easter Sunday in simple terms. It is remarkable how small children do actually have a grasp on the fundamentals of life and death. When I talked about the sadness that Jesus' friends must have felt when he died the children freely talked about how sad they had been when a family pet had died, or for some a close family member, a gran or grandad. When I got to the



second part of the story about how happy Jesus' followers were when they discovered that he was very much alive, that he had risen from the dead, one small boy very thoughtfully said, 'But when you are dead, you **can't** come back alive again'... out of the mouths of babes and infants! It was a brilliant observation and a reminder that the notion of people coming back from the dead is one that defies all of our experience.

The Easter story is a remarkable one, as are the stories of Jesus' appearances following his resurrection, which are always remembered on the Sundays following Easter. They are a reminder to us that two thousand years ago the resurrection of Jesus was seen as remarkable as if it were to happen today. For myself though, whenever I go through moments of doubt and confusion, it is the resurrection that pulls me back from those moments of incredulity and disbelief. There is something just so *compelling* about the accounts written in the New Testament. No indeed, people **cannot** rise from the dead. And

yet it is quite clear from reading the accounts, that those who wrote them believed that someone **had** risen from the dead. Incidentally, belief in the resurrection, the greatest of all supernatural miracles answers the question about the other miracles. If we can believe in a God who has the power to raise Jesus from the dead, and that the resurrection accounts in the New Testament are in fact credible, then it is no more incredible to believe that the other miracles as recorded in the New Testament actually happened; that certainly is the view I take.



Following the Easter celebrations, the Church looks forward to a clustering of festivals as we remember the post resurrection story. Firstly Ascension, this year on 13 May, then Pentecost on 23 May and the Sunday after that is Trinity Sunday on 30 May, (the Sunday when traditionally vicars give all the preaching duties to their curates, if they are fortunate enough to have any!) Then the Church enters into something called 'ordinary time', basically these are the times in the Church calendar which are not the special seasons such as Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent Easter and Pentecost.

'Ordinary time' sounds rather dull! A bit of a plod! (Actually for clergy it is a bit of a break, precisely because we don't have all of those extra festivals to prepare for!) Perhaps, though it is a good description. There is much about our lives that is quite frankly very ordinary. The resurrection though is a reminder that within the 'ordinary' of human life and death God has done something 'extraordinary' and that changes everything.

Just a bit of a postscript here - I will not actually be around during these post Easter Festivals as on 10 May I start on my three month sabbatical. This was the one that I was meant to take last year but I had to postpone. Not that my absence will make much of a difference. Recently at the Church door I was talking to someone who said 'I thought that you took your sabbatical last year'. I can't imagine who she thought was standing up in Church Sunday by Sunday during those months when I had originally planned to be away but was in fact very much here! Perhaps she was thinking of my family holiday that was to mark the end of the sabbatical which did happen when we went to Panama. This year we only get as far as Wales!

Simon

The Lectionary – May 2010

		Readers		
		8am	9am	10.30am
2nd	5th Sunday of Easter Genesis 22,1-18 Acts 11, 1-18 John 13, 31-35 Evensong: Psalm 98 Daniel 6, 1-23 Mark 15, 46-16, 8	A Johnson P Hynard Celebrant	J Palmer V Stattersfield Celebrant	S Devereux Ephesians 6, 10-18
9th	6th Sunday of Easter Ezekiel 37, 1-14 Acts 16, 9-15 John 14, 23-29 OR 5, 1-9 Psalm at 9am: 67	J Wilson A Stacey Celebrant	D Griffiths L Stallwood	W Geers G Geers Celebrant
No evensong: 'Come Close' at 6 pm in Church				
16th	7th Sunday of Easter (Sunday after Ascension) Ezekiel 36, 24-28 Acts 16, 16-34 John 17, 20-end Evensong: Psalm 68 Isaiah 44, 1-8 Ephesians 4, 7-16	J Kendell D Godfrey Celebrant	C Tyrer R Gee Celebrant	Informal Service
23rd	Pentecost Genesis 11, 1-9 Acts 2, 1-21 John 14, 8-17 & 25-27 Evensong: Psalm 33 Exodus 33, 7-20 2 Corinthians 3, 4-end	C Carter A Jaycock Celebrant	A Sykes J Smit	F Hawkins D Hawkins Celebrant
30th	Trinity Sunday (NB: NOT USUAL FIFTH SUNDAY SERVICES)	<u>Holy</u> <u>Communion</u> J Dauncey S Cole Celebrant	<u>Choral</u> <u>Communion</u> D Hamley S Badrick Celebrant	<u>Family Service</u> Informal

Follow up from the 'Living Faith' weekend

For those who came, please cast your minds back to the 'living faith' weekend when we were pleased to invite Martin Cavender from 'resource' to come and help us. I believe that the weekend proved to be worthwhile in itself as many people were inspired and encouraged to discover new aspects of their faith. However I do hope that a few good and lasting consequences will begin to emerge.

One of the issues that did come to light was the desire for people to explore and develop in their prayer life. This is 'in-reach' before it is 'out-reach', but I was reminded of something that Martin said: 'When there is a genuinely praying community, people will come running'. This was discussed at the last leadership team meeting and it was suggested that we invite a team from 'resource' and hopefully Martin himself to return to Hughenden to help run a 'prayer workshop'. It was my hope that this could happen before I began my sabbatical in May. However this will not now prove to be practical and so we will try to organise such an event for the early autumn.

We also had a number of other simple ideas which involved more outreach into the community as a follow up from the weekend; these now need to be looked at by the PCC (the problem is, that with only four full PCC meetings a year, the PCC has not yet been able to look at these ideas).

In one sense my sabbatical comes at an inconvenient time, as the summer months would have been a good time to pursue some of these ideas. Whilst in theory they could happen in the vicar's absence, in practice it might be good for the vicar to take a part so that he knows what is going on! My apologies for the delay, but I hope and pray that some good things will emerge.

Simon



Simon's Sabbatical

Talking of my sabbatical – what am I actually going to do? I am starting on 10th May with, I hope (things still have to be finalised) a visit back to the West Country, to North Devon to retrace some of my spiritual roots (it was there that I had a calling to ministry) and catch up on some old friends. I will be spending some time in Norfolk from where I will go on to visit someone in Lincolnshire who I knew years ago but have only had occasional email contact with since. He used to be an Anglican clergyman but is now a priest in the Orthodox Church. I will take a trip to Wales; I am booked in to take part in a 'storytelling weekend' at the Northumbria Community, from whence I shall sally forth into Scotland where I hope to spend some time at a monastery and then do a bit of touring, taking in, if time and tide permits, a trip to Iona.

The main theme of the sabbatical is 'pilgrimage and journeying'. Part of it is an unashamed re-visitation of where I have come from, part of it will be a re-examination of where I am, and part of it will be seeking to look ahead to where

I might be going in terms of my relationship with God and in my ministry. I am deliberately getting out of my comfort zone, spending time on my own (sounds idyllic but in practice this can be very difficult) and also spending time in 'community' which is very much outside my Christian experience as I have never actually spent any substantial time in a monastery. I still hope to do as much travel as I can by two wheeled powered transport as opposed to four, as long as my knees hold out (I am having a few problems). I will not be away for the whole of the three months, and will be returning home for a few days here and there so I might be sighted now and again. However, to all intents and purposes I will not be available for any parish duties during the three months of sabbatical. I do hope to re-engage with some spiritual reading, something I find hard at the best of times, and get to grips, if that is possible, with a discipline of prayer, something I also find hard. Last year I had everything planned down to the last detail. I had to postpone the sabbatical then – hence doing it now, but this year things are a little looser, there is something in

me that feels this should be so – pray and see where the Spirit leads and see what you find when you get there!

Please pray for me that I make the best use of the time, and that I get back in one piece! It is an enormous privilege to do this. My hope is not that I shall return fired up with a whole round of fresh vision of all the things we

are now going to do in the parish, but simply to discover a renewed love of God my Heavenly Father, a deeper abiding hope in his Son and a greater sense of the presence and power of his Spirit with me as I travel, and it will be this that will most communicate itself in my ministry.

Simon

Volunteers required

For many years our Churchyard has been beautifully maintained by a loyal, faithful and yet small group of willing volunteers. Our volunteers are



not getting any younger and as for all thriving organisations, we need a balance of ages to guarantee successful continuation of our ability to maintain our Churchyard. May we appeal to all members, young or not so young, ladies or gentlemen, of our congregation to join the rota. Training can be provided! The commitment ideally requires a couple of hours for up to three times per year. If we can get a few more volunteers then the commitment can be as little as twice per year.

This is an excellent way of helping to keep fit in beautiful surroundings. Even if you cannot guarantee a regular commitment then please offer your services whenever possible, even a single cutting will be welcomed and appreciated.

Please contact **Derek Godfrey 565956.**

On the Crest of a Wave!



Andrew Cole has been awarded The Silver Acorn by the Scouting Association in recognition of especially distinguished service. He is at present Local Training Manager for the West Chiltern District having previously served as District Commissioner and Assistant District Commissioner for Activities.

Andrew's nephew, Jonathan, has gained his Queen's Scout Award recently so he and Andrew will be attending the St. Georges Day Parade in the quadrangle at Windsor Castle on April 25th. It will be a great day out for Stan and family.

We hope that you all had a wonderful celebration! Congratulations!

Barbara Willson

Refreshments after the 10.30am service

I would like to explain why the decision has been taken to continue to serve refreshments after the 10.30am service in the Church rather than move up to Church House. There are two main reasons.

1) Experience has shown that more people tend to stay for refreshments if it is served in the Church rather than in Church house. As one of the aims of serving refreshments is to encourage what Christians call 'fellowship' it makes sense to stick with the location that has the largest number of 'customers'.

2) There are a team of people who consistently have to clear up after the service and, if refreshments are served in Church House basically from Easter to late autumn, never have the opportunity of both getting a well earned coffee and 'mingling with the crowd'. These include the musicians, those who are involved with putting the equipment away and often, it has to be said, me – I frequently get to Church House just as most people are leaving and so miss what is sometimes an important pastoral opportunity.

I realise that this arrangement will not be as convenient for those making refreshments and I am grateful for your tolerance about this

decision. I am also aware that not having refreshments served in Church House means that we do not have a ready-made group of people available to set up for Church House Teas. I would ask therefore that if there is going to be some difficulty about doing this on any particular Sunday, the relevant Teas organiser communicates this to Lin who will make sure that whoever is taking the 10.30 am service (usually me, but I will be away for three months) knows and asks for help.

Simon

FLOODLIGHTING DEDICATIONS

Floodlighting dedications received too late for the April magazine has been received from:

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| 18 – 24 April | Stan Cole and family are remembering with great love and affection, June, particularly on 22 April, her fifth anniversary. |
| 25 April – 1 May | Janet Cook is remembering with love her dear husband John Johnson, particularly on his birthday, 30 April. |

Dedications received for May are for:

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| 2 - 8 May | Janet Palmer is remembering with affection her aunt, Muriel Braga, who died in March. |
| 23 – 29 May | Janet Palmer is remembering with love her mother, Leonora Thomas, particularly on 27 May, her anniversary. |

If you have a special occasion to mark, why don't you dedicate the flood-lighting? Your dedication can be for anything within reason, remembering loved ones, birthdays, anniversaries, weddings, new babies - or just for the joy of being alive!

Lin Smit



Walk of Witness

Good Friday dawned dry but a cold wind for the walk of witness, a much smaller group taking part this year, about twenty folk. Our discomfort from the cold wind was nothing compared to that suffered by our Lord on his way to the cross.

In between the prayers and our singing, some of us wondered what went through the minds of those travelling at speed along the road. Some might say 'religious nuts', but we felt it just might make some remember what the day means – if only one person thought about it, then our walk will not have been in vain. We walk not for ourselves, but for GOD.

Many thanks to Bill Geers for again organising the walk which has been taking place for about eighteen years.

Sara Badrick

Church House Teas – correction

We apologise for the incorrect statement in April's edition of *Outlook* to the effect that Dorothy Griffiths is a contact for Church House Teas.

Would you please note that the contacts are Lin Smit, HW462094 or Kay Kennedy, HW 529579 and not Dorothy.

Editor

*The following is taken from an article reproduced with permission from Barnabas Aid - more details about their work championing the plight of persecuted Christians can be found on their website:
www.barnabasfund.org.*

Facing the Rising Tide: Anti-Christian Persecution across the World

On Easter Monday the Archbishop of Canterbury appeared on the BBC Radio 4 programme *Start the Week* and was asked to comment on the troubles currently being experienced by non-Western

Christians. In his reply he said, 'We lose sight in this country very often of just how vulnerable some of the Christian communities around the world are... Christian minorities that have, in Muslim environments, been part of the furniture for many, many centuries are suddenly seen, suddenly cast as Western outposts, and that makes them particularly vulnerable.' As examples he mentioned the Christians of Iraq (specifically Mosul) and Nigeria.

In recent weeks Barnabas Aid has reported on the acute sufferings of both these Christian communities. In Mosul at least fifteen Christians have been murdered since Christmas, including eight killed in the space of ten grim February days, and seven bomb attacks on Christian targets left many injured and property damaged. Over 300 Christian families fled in fear from the city. Jos, the capital of Plateau State in Nigeria, has seen three horrific incidents of large-scale anti-Christian violence in January and March, in which hundreds of people have died. Inaccurate international reporting of the first outbreak unfairly cast Christians as the aggressors and they suffered savage 'retaliation' at the hands of armed Muslim mobs.

The Archbishop's comments are to be warmly welcomed for raising awareness of the painful difficulties faced by Christians in these three countries. But they represent only a small fraction of the places in which Christians suffer grievously for their faith. These include large parts of Africa, almost the whole of the Middle East, most of Asia and even some places in Europe. The body of Christ is stricken and bleeding across a vast area of the globe.

But it is not only in Muslim-majority contexts that Christians are enduring persecution. They may be endangered by any dominant religion or ideology. For instance, Hindu-majority India has witnessed brutal and extensive instances of anti-Christian violence in recent years. Christians in Buddhist-majority Sri Lanka have seen their leaders and buildings attacked, and many barely survive in desperate poverty and need. And in Communist China, churches that refuse to register with the authorities are continually harassed; their buildings are closed and their pastors imprisoned.

Dr Patrick Sookhdeo, International Director of Barnabas Aid, says,

'As the persecution of Christians has increased in recent years, the national and international media have too often ignored or even misrepresented it. But since 1993 Barnabas

Aid has sought to make known the trials and needs of our suffering brothers and sisters, and to relieve their distress in whatever ways we can. Will you help us to do this, with your gifts and above all with your prayers?’

Prayer Points

- Give thanks for those Christian leaders who are prepared to speak out on behalf of the persecuted Church. Pray that many more Christians in the West will be made aware of the problem and moved to help.
- Pray for Christians who are currently suffering for their faith, that the Lord will give them patience and peace in their trials. Pray that they may have the grace to remain faithful to Him and forgive their persecutors.
- Pray for the media, that they may report anti-Christian persecution accurately and fairly. Pray that their reporting may help the victims rather than exposing them to the risk of further attacks.
- Pray for Western governments, that they will have a clear understanding of the causes of persecution and the will to act against it.

Jim & Ann Long with permission Barnabas Aid

Mothers' Union

The subject at the April meeting was 'How our funds are used home and away' and the speaker was Mr Peter Teague, Mothers' Union Training Officer (previously Finance) with Mrs Jean Smith (New Finance Officer) accompanying him.

I am not very good at understanding complicated finances. I imagined spread sheets and reams of long numbers! It was not like that at all. Peter did not produce any boring numbers and gave what was a very informative and interesting talk. I will recount some of the subjects. Firstly, the Mothers' Union has quick response teams 'that the Government can go to on new family matters arising, to get a quick feedback from "real" people'. The MU is represented at the

United Nations. Money is put to good use - in prisons, supporting prisoners' families; at the John Radcliffe Hospital, supporting patients' families; the Away from it all Holiday Scheme for underprivileged families, and work is done overseas with education and housing. There is much, much more.

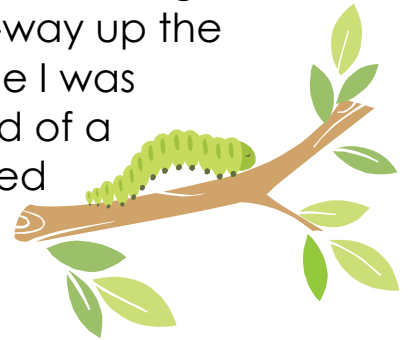
I hope this highlights some of the areas in which the Mothers' Union is involved and for which its funds are used.

At our meeting on 4 May our speaker is Mrs Valerie Stattersfield on 'Being a Headmistress - a Way of Life'. Do come, you will be very welcome.

Clare Godfrey

Parish Administrator's (Poorly) Portmaneau

The Sunday after Easter was beautiful – the sun shone, the birds sang and daughter Jane and I were doing a little light tree-felling in the garden. In keeping with her name, Jane was half-way up the tree (looking for Tarzan?) sawing on a branch while I was applying my not-inconsiderable weight on the end of a rope to guide the falling branch. The branch started to give. 'Get out of the way Mum!' So I moved to one side, and backwards, pulling the rope as I went. I suppose I don't need to tell you that suddenly the branch gave way – the rope slackened and I went base over apex over the 'here's one we prepared earlier' branch. I thought I'd fallen straight onto my back and I lay like an up-ended beetle with legs and arms flailing. In the process of hauling myself out of the tangle of branches I was aware that my arm was sore, but assumed that because I could move it and I had some grip, I hadn't done any lasting damage. Twenty-four hours later, after three exhortations from friends and colleagues to go to get it checked, I did just that – only to discover that I'd fractured a bone in my right wrist, and I returned home plastered!



I've never knowingly been in plaster before so it was something of a revelation, finding out just what you can't do! My first concern was that I wouldn't be able to drive for six weeks (and believe me, five days on and I'm already stir-crazy!). However, there were other things that should have worried me more – like how to wash and dress

myself with one hand. As I'm left-handed, I didn't think I would have much trouble, but it just goes to show how wrong you can be. Try washing one hand – or wringing out a face cloth. My poor dear long-suffering husband started to buff up his halo. 'Shall I help you shower, my love?' Wisely he removed his shirt before washing my hair, as my one hand which was given the guardianship of the shower head seemed to have ideas of its own. The halo started to slip a bit though when he discovered that it wasn't my writing hand that was incapacitated, and I started writing lists of 'Things To Do'!

I've always considered myself fiercely independent. I can do it. I don't need help. This has been a salutary lesson for me – that there are times when actually, we can't cope alone and do need to accept help. Friends have been ringing up and offering help. I have a choice of 'transport officers' who I can call on. Maybe though, today's help beat the rest. I was due to print off the agendas for the Annual Meeting, when the copier decided to be 'difficult', claiming to have a paper jam. Normally you fling open every available cover, grub around inside for hidden sheets of paper, close all the doors and start again. Not today though. If I went through the process once, I must have tried it a dozen times. I even lowered myself gingerly onto the floor (a work of art in itself) and tried to get myself into the tiny gap between the wall and the printer (thank heaven no one could see me!). When that failed, I slowly raised myself, empty-handed (and one handed), with murderous thoughts towards the copier. I was just on the point of giving it a good kick when commonsense prevailed. I'd already got a fractured wrist, what was the point of risking a broken ankle too? What I did do was to ring Norman – our master printer. Sylph-like and in full possession of working limbs Norman, my knight in shining armour, spoke sternly to the copier which gave up playing silly devils and printed like a lamb!

What am I learning from all this? Patience – but it's coming very slowly! To accept help when it's offered. When you're fitter than someone else you want to help – I know, because I've been there myself. People don't make empty offers, so we do need to acknowledge the need to be useful and accept at least some of the help offered. So to everyone who has so kindly offered help of all sorts – thank you so much. It's good to know you're out there.

It probably wouldn't have been a bad idea to learn how to do basic tasks with just one hand – and ideally the hand you might not have chosen – just in case.

My only regret is that I can't use a fractured wrist to justify using the church wheelchair. I hang onto a fantasy of sitting in state in the wheelchair while Arthur raises a sweat as he puffs me up the path. Now there's a vision to conjure with!

Lin Smit

HUGHENDEN COMMUNITY SHOP
is having its First Birthday on

SATURDAY 22 MAY 2010

Come to the

BIRTHDAY BONANZA

11.30 am - 2.30 pm

There will be lots going on including games and sports for children, tastings of food and wine, etc.

See local posters for details.

Friendship Morning

This is a get-together in Church House on the third Thursday of each month at 10.30 am. It is primarily for those who are bereaved, who live on their own and for those who are lonely. The emphasis is very much on companionship and the atmosphere is light and cheerful.

The next meeting is on Thursday, 20 May. Please contact me if you think this is for you.

Judith Camplisson
HW 565108

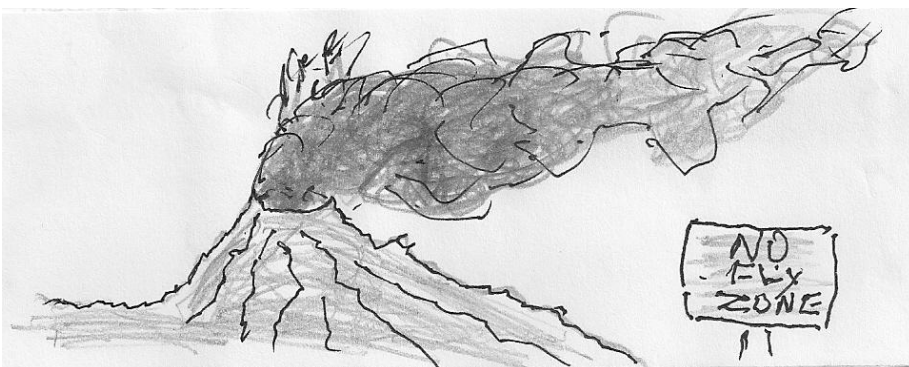
THE WILDER SIDE

It is not often that a volcano worries us much in the British Isles, but the eruption in Iceland of volcano Eyjafjallajökull (now, there's a 'wild word' for you; I can't pronounce it!) has really made an impact, with all high level flights cancelled. The problem was compounded by the then current weather pattern, which was an area of high pressure just to the north of the UK – between us and Iceland. With high pressure, winds flow clockwise round the centre, hence the plume of ash moved east from Iceland and was then brought down south over Scandinavia, western Europe and ourselves. High pressure areas can be very persistent, hence the difficulty of predicting when the threat from the volcanic ash would pass.

I have heard the BA captain, Eric Moody, describe his experiences when all four engines failed on his Boeing 747 which flew into a volcanic ash cloud at night over Java. Terrifying, to put it mildly, so the Civil Aviation Authority had to take drastic action for our safety, however inconvenient, when such a threat came close to home.

It is ironic that this same area of high pressure was responsible for the mid-April sunny if cool weather, which transformed gardens, woods and hedgerows into glorious spring colours, even if the damage caused by winter was then revealed.

A by-product of volcanic eruptions can be really spectacular sunsets. Though the sunset on 16 April was normal, there was the superb sight of the new crescent Moon with an absolutely dazzling planet Venus just below it. Wonderful!



Darrell Hamley

><><><><><

The following moving poem, written by Cath Cronk, was read by her at the service on Good Friday morning after the Walk of Witness. Ed.

Nails

The ground absorbs and carries the shockwaves
Of a laboured thud, thud, of sole against earth:
A curious, uneven tread,
Betrays the heavy weight that's being borne.

A trail of tiny crimson splashes
Mix uncomfortably with the dust:
As if the particles themselves resist
The spilling of such blood.

The crowds seem unaware of the boiling skies above them.
Their harsh, vindictive focus dulls Creation's warning cry.
The Scapegoat groans as his ankle turns beneath him,
And the earth sustains the impact of his fall.

His fingers scrape the ground, with nails torn and bleeding.
Short, uneven breaths seek aid from dusty air.
Then loud, insistent voices whip him to his feet,
And graceless hands deal power with stinging blows.

The wood is not smooth, as his hands may once have made it;
But rough-hewn and hurriedly made, with no care.
Splinters pierce his wrists with the nails,
And young, unseasoned grains are stained by blood.

The sun's light is hidden as thunder enfolds
Humanity's blundering, arrogant shame,
And a cracked voice accepts the ultimate blame,
As a curtain is torn from its crown to its hem.

*

And yet, unnoticed by mortal eyes,
The earth feels faint ripples of a deeper blow.
Eternity inhales its first hope-filled breath
And a warm breeze of joy will herald the morning.

Cath Cronk



UNDER THE SIGN OF THE CROSS

In the month of May we can remember two very different men who fought under the sign of the cross.

On the night before a great battle, the Roman Emperor Constantine dreamt of a cross in the sky and the words 'in this sign conquer'. After his victory, Constantine ended 300 years of persecution and Romans were allowed to become Christians. Christianity became the official religion of the Roman Empire. Constantine died on 22nd May in the year 337.



Some 1,500 years later, Jean Henry Dunant (who was born on 8th May 1828) was horrified to see the dreadful suffering after the Battle of Solferino. He spent the rest of his life working for the casualties of war, fighting under the banner of the Red Cross to relieve world-wide suffering.

WHAT'S IT FOR?

What would you do with these things? All the words are in the Bible but are rarely heard today. Answers at the bottom of the page.

- 1. KNOP a) polish it
 b) eat it
 c) harness it
- 2. DARIC a) herd it
 b) sharpen it
 c) spend it
- 3. HYSOPP a) carry it
 b) cultivate it
 c) dig with it
- 4. SHOFAR a) drive it
 b) play it
 c) prune

it



**Roses are red,
Violets are blue.
Some poems rhyme,
This one doesn't.**



Answers: 1. a) polish it, it is an ornamental knob, part of the lamp-stands in the tabernacle. 2. c) spend it, it's gold coin 3. b) cultivate it, it's a type of plant 4. b) play it, it is musical instrument made from a ram's horn.

Dates for your Diary - May



Sun 2	10.30 am	Creche and all children in church for Family Service
Sun 9	10.30 am	Creche and children to JC Clubs
Sun 16	10.30 am	Creche and children to JC Clubs
Sun 23	10.30 am	Creche and children to JC Clubs
Sun 30	10.30 am	Creche and children to JC Clubs

Smile Lines

A surgeon, an architect and a politician were arguing as to whose profession was the oldest.

Said the surgeon: "Eve was made from Adam's rib, and that surely was a surgical operation."

"Maybe," said the architect, "but prior to that, order was created out of chaos, and that was an architectural job."

"But you forget," interrupted the politician, "somebody had created the chaos first!"

* * * * *

There are two sides to every question, and a politician usually takes both.

* * * * *

The Sunday School teacher was telling the story of how when Lot's wife looked back at Sodom and Gomorrah, she turned into a pillar of salt. One youngster nodded in a knowing fashion. "My mummy looked back once while she was driving," he confided, "and she turned into a lamp post."

* * * * *

Forthcoming Social and Outreach Group Functions

Sat 15 May	8.30 am, Church House, Men's Breakfast
Sat 22	12.15 pm, Canal Trip from Pitstone Wharf followed by family picnic on Dunstable Downs. Tel: Simon Gibbons, 449458 or Jessica Wilson, 078252 14703
Tue 1 Jun	7.30 pm, visit to Rebellion Brewery, Marlow, Tel: Tim 569331 or Brian 562801.

News from 'Christians in the Community'

It is with a heavy heart that I have to announce the death of Pastor Bob Semple of the Father's House, Naphill on Sunday 4th April. Since he and his wife moved here they have been part of 'Christians in the Community' and until recently Bob has imputed ideas and thoughts over what we are hoping to achieve. Our thoughts and prayers are with his widow Polly and their two children. The funeral has already taken place.

We are going to have a stall at the Naphill Fete on 12 June with the Lighthouse puppets joining us, together with our own face painters (we hope). We shall also be at the Hughenden Village Day in July.

By the time you read this we will have had the Fellowship Safari – good fun, especially after reaching the third house with its supper and red wine!

Norma Clarke

May Recipe

Poached Pears in Red Grape Juice

Ingredients

4 pears, preferably Conference, but any will do

½ lemon

1 pint of red grape juice

1 level teaspoon of ground cloves

3 ozs castor sugar

1 tablespoon of cointreau or brandy

4 fluid ozs of water

1 tablespoon of cornflour

Method

Peel and core the pears and cut in half, or leave whole if preferred. Make up a marinade with the grape juice, clove powder and the juice and finely grated zest of the lemon. Cook the pears in this in the oven at 170C, or they can be simmered in a large, covered saucepan until tender. Dissolve the sugar in the water and then add the brandy or cointreau.

Thicken the juice the pears were cooked in with the cornflour. Blend the brandy or cointreau and water mixture into this and place the pears in a pretty dish with the sauce poured over them. Serve with fresh cream or crème fraiche.

I have always loved pears, fresh or cooked and this was a recipe I made up years ago. My family loves it – I hope you do too.

Ann Way



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SALE OF PLANTS AND PRESERVES

**Bedding plants and Perennials
Jams, Marmalade and Chutney**

**SATURDAY 15TH MAY
10 AM TO 4 PM**

**at 'CHADWELL', COOMBE LANE,
HUGHENDEN**

(Second house on the left up from the Village Hall)

In aid of Ebenezer Children's Centre, Uganda

Valley Wives April Meeting

"Women on the Home Front in the Great War" by Mr Edward Dixon, was the subject of a most interesting slide talk, particularly because it illustrated the amazing changes that occurred in the lives of women and their status in society, in only four years. Before 1914, men considered that women should not be politically active and that war was men's business. Women were seen to be physically, mentally and emotionally unable to cope and were incapable of study. There were no votes for women and they were poorly paid. Overall they were treated as second class citizens.

Society was divided by class. Mr Dixon explained the system in detail with slides to show how the three groups were identified. By the end of the war, the class system still remained but women had proved that they could replace men in most occupations and tended to be trained to do work most suitable for their class.

As the death rate grew and the wounded returned, first aid and nursing were vital. Women became clerks and secretaries, (these were men's jobs up to then) and women factory workers played a major role in manufacturing munitions. They learned to drive ambulances and trams and they joined the Land Army which started in 1916, growing food for the nation, the soldiers and the horses. Forestry provided timber needed in the trenches etc. Women joined the police and fire brigades and even became street cleaners. Clothing and uniform for these new jobs became a big home industry. Many badges were produced to honour the soldiers and the work done by volunteers. Charities were formed, the first being arranged by Queen Alexandra which was a brilliant success. Surprisingly many bombings occurred in London and food shortages were caused by the sinking of merchant shipping by U-Boats.

Jo proposed the vote of thanks to Mr Dixon for his excellent and informative talk.

On May 7th our Open Meeting is a slide talk on the 'Special Trees and Woodland Project' and on 10th May we have our outing to the Albert Hall. Jill was pleased to announce that our hospice stall had

raised £114.26 in five months and in addition £60 had been our donation to the MS Society. Letters of appreciation were read, also we were thanked for our teas served to participants in the Treasure Hunt on Saturday, 3 April.

Joan Steel

**All Saints Church invites you to a
Seaside Trip**

on
Saturday 29 May 2010
Pick up 8-30am come back 6-30pm

To Brighton

£15.00 per adult £8 children

Cheques to All Saints office
Oakley Hall, Castle Street, High Wycombe

All Proceeds to:-
**Wycombe Night Shelter &
Wycombe Rape Crisis**

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We are looking to raise funds for selected charities in a way which does not simply ask you for money.

Another way can be seen at www.traders4charity.co.uk where recommended tradesmen work for you and tithe to charity in doing so. Please use them and let us have the names of tradesmen you can recommend.

Please post entries to 34 Hithercroft Road High Wycombe.

For Queries on this and for the website please contact:- Joe Arthur on 01494 534582, email joeassist@hotmail.co.uk

Good Companions

On 23 March a party of members met up for a pre-arranged lunch at the Red Lion at Great Kingshill. This outing has become a spring rather than New Year event by accident. Nevertheless, everybody attending seemed to enjoy it!

Our April meeting featured a further return visit from the Swan Singers. Under their conductor Peter Gibbons and accompanied at the piano by his sister Beryl Peatey, they treated us to a most enjoyable programme of choral items, solos, a recitation and a monologue which was enthusiastically received.

Our May meeting will take place notwithstanding the General Election but will be held in the small hall. Will members please note the change and also that we will be unable to obtain access to the hall until 2 o'clock when the morning booking will end.

We will be having a coach outing on Tuesday 25 May to the Maybush riverside pub at Newbridge near Standlake, Oxon for lunch, going on for an afternoon visit to nearby Millets farm. More details of this at the May meeting.



Michael Harris

Tiny Tots Informal Service

3rd Wednesday every month at 1.45 pm

All are welcome at this service in church where we have a story, some songs, toys, tea and squash.

Do come.



The next service is on 19 May

For details contact Nicky Fairbairn on 01494 520359

Coffee Rota (after the 10.30 service)

May	2	Rachel Nathanielsz / Lyn Watterston
	9	Lyn Watterston / Penny Austin
	16	Penny Austin / Diana Gibbons
	23	Diana Gibbons / Sylvia Clark
	30	Marieke Forster / Rita Pulley

Creche Rota

May	2	Sylvia Clark / Anna Pedrette / Anne Smalley
	9	Shirley Brown / Jane Lomas / Vicki Mitchell
	16	Ann Long / Claire Toller / Jean Godfrey
	23	Elaine Morley / Pam Felix / Eleanor Telling
	30	Nia Sherrington / Helen Collins / Lyndsey Robinson

Flower Rota

May	2	Sylvia Hinton
	9	Jean A Godfrey
	16	Rose Seymour
	23	Pentecost – all helpers please
	30	Sylvia Clark



Communicants – March

Sundays

7 th	24 + 53 = 77
14 th	29 + 66 = 95
21 st	28 + 51 = 79
28 th	29 + 48 + 90 = 167

Weekdays

18 th	Pipers School Confirmation	30
19 th	St Joseph (Ante-Communion only)	
25 th	Annunciation	31
29 th	Moonday in Holy Week	14
30 th	Tuesday in Holy Week	15
31 st	Wednesday in Holy Week	14

Calendar – May 2010

Sat	1		Philip and James, Apostles
		7.30 am	Morning Prayer: Church
		10.00 am	Holy Communion: Church
Sun	2		Fifth Sunday of Easter
		8.00 am	Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
		9.00 am	Sung Communion
		10.30 am	All Age Family Service
		6.00 pm	Evensong (Book of Common Prayer) (no sermon)
Mon	3	7.30 am	Morning Prayer: Church
		10.15 am	Ladies' Daytime Fellowship and Bible Study
Tue	4	7.45 am	Morning Prayer: Church
		1.00 pm	Art Fellowship: Church House.
		7.30 pm	Bellringing Practice: Belltower
		8.00 pm	Mothers' Union: Being a Headteacher - Valerie Stattersfield
Wed	5	7.30 am	Morning Prayer: Church
		7.45 pm	Choir Practice: Church
		7.30 pm	Wycombe Arts Festival: Church House
Thu	6	7.45 am	Morning Prayer: Church
Fri	7	7.30 am	Morning Prayer: Church
Sat	8	7.30 am	Morning Prayer: Church
Sun	9		Sixth Sunday of Easter
		8.00 am	Said Communion
		9.00 am	Mattins (Book of Common Prayer)
		10.30 am	Family Communion with JC Club
		6.00 pm	Come Close: Church
Mon	10	7.30 am	Morning Prayer: Church
		10.15 am	Ladies' Daytime Fellowship and Bible Study
Tue	11	7.45 am	Morning Prayer: Church
		1.00 pm	Art Fellowship: Church House.
		7.30 pm	Bellringing Practice: Belltower
Wed	12	7.30 am	Morning Prayer: Church
		7.45 pm	Choir Practice: Church
		7.30 pm	Wycombe Arts Festival: Church House
Thu	13		ASCENSION DAY
		7.45 am	Morning Prayer: Church
		8.00 pm	Sung Eucharist - followed by wine and nibbles
Fri	14		Matthias the Apostle
		7.30 am	Morning Prayer: Church
		10.00 am	Holy Communion: Church
Sat	15	7.30 am	Morning Prayer: Church
		8.30 am	Men's Breakfast: Church House
		1.00 pm	Wedding: Paul Robertshaw and Sally George
Sun	16		Seventh Sunday of Easter - Sunday after Ascension
		8.00 am	Said Communion
		9.00 am	Sung Communion
		10.30 am	Informal Family Service
		6.00 pm	Evensong (Book of Common Prayer) (no sermon)
Mon	17	7.30 am	Morning Prayer: Church
		10.15 am	Ladies' Daytime Fellowship and Bible Study

Tue	18	7.45 am	Morning Prayer: Church
		1.00 pm	Art Fellowship: Church House.
		7.30 pm	Bellringing Practice: Belltower
Wed	19	7.30 am	Morning Prayer: Church
		1.45 pm	Tiny Tots' Service: Church
		7.45 pm	Choir Practice: Church
		7.30 pm	Wycombe Arts Festival: Church House
Thu	20	7.45 am	Morning Prayer: Church
		10.30 am	Friendship Morning: Church House
Fri	21	7.30 am	Morning Prayer: Church
Sat	22	7.30 am	Morning Prayer: Church
		11.30 am	Community Shop First Birthday Bonanza
		- 2.30 pm	
		12.15 pm	Canal Trip and Picnic, Pitstone Wharf
		2.00 pm	Wedding: Jamie Fenn and Eloise Bates
Sun	23		Pentecost
		8.00 am	Said Communion
		9.00 am	Mattins (Book of Common Prayer)
		10.30 am	Family Communion with JC Club
			Visit to Wycliffe Centre with lunch
		6.00 pm	Evensong (Book of Common Prayer) (no sermon)
Mon	24	7.30 am	Morning Prayer: Church
		10.15 am	Ladies' Daytime Fellowship and Bible Study
Tue	25	7.45 am	Morning Prayer: Church
		1.00 pm	Art Fellowship: Church House.
		7.30 pm	Bellringing Practice: Belltower
Wed	26	7.30 am	Morning Prayer: Church
		7.45 pm	Choir Practice: Church
Thu	27	7.45 am	Morning Prayer: Church
		7.30 pm	Wycombe Arts Festival: Church House
Fri	28	7.30 am	Morning Prayer: Church
Sat	29	7.30 am	Morning Prayer: Church
			Wedding: Christopher O'Donnell & Melanie Worsdall
Sun	30		Trinity Sunday
		8.00 am	Said Communion
		9.00 am	Choral Communion
		10.30 am	Family Service - informal
		6.00 pm	Evensong (Book of Common Prayer) (no sermon)
Mon	31		Visit of the Blessed Virgin Mary to Elizabeth
		7.30 am	Morning Prayer: Church
		10.00 am	Holy Communion: Church (30 mins)
		10.15 am	Ladies' Daytime Fellowship and Bible Study
Jun	1	7.30 pm	Visit to Rebellion Brewery, Marlow (Tuesday)

Who's Who at St Michael & All Angels

VICAR	Rev Simon Cronk	563439
NON STIPENDIARY PRIEST	Rev Fred Friend	563168
LICENSED LAY MINISTER	Bill Geers	562423
CHURCHWARDENS	Andrew Sykes	563018
PARISH CLERK & VERGER	Arthur Johnson	521471
PARISH ADMINISTRATOR/CHURCH NOTICES	Lin Smit	462094
PCC LAY VICE CHAIRMAN	Mike Dean	463376
PCC SECRETARY	Penny Austin	529596
PCC ASSISTANT SECRETARY	Anne Dean	463376
PCC TREASURER	Mike Morgan	514252
PCC ASSISTANT TREASURER	David Cornwall	714718
PLANNED GIVING SECRETARIES	David & Joyce Cornwall	714718
TASK GROUP LEADERS:		
WORSHIP	Simon Cronk	563439
PASTORAL SUPPORT	Anne Dean	463376
YOUTH	Mike Dean Jane Tucker Norma Clarke (Administrator) Helen Byrne (Co-ordinator)	463376 534989 563116 564342
MISSION	Peter Toller	551415
SOCIAL & OUTREACH	Frank Hawkins	565050
ALPHA COURSE - ADMINISTRATOR	Diane Hawkins	565050
ELECTORAL ROLL OFFICER	David Cornwall	714718
DEANERY SYNOD REPRESENTATIVES	Bill Geers Arthur Johnson	562423 521471
ORGANIST AND CHOIRMASTER	Neil Brice	445899
WORSHIP LEADER	Tony Sackville	446035
SERVERS	Andrew Cole	442191
MOTHERS' UNION	Barbara Willson	713770
CAPTAIN OF BELLRINGERS	David Cornwall	714718
HOSPITAL VISITING CO-ORDINATORS	Stan Cole Sara Badrick	562176 534275
VALLEY WIVES	Jill Graves	563813
CRECHE ROTA	Claire Toller	551415
CHRISTIANS IN THE COMMUNITY	Norma Clarke	563116
FRIENDSHIP MORNING	Judith Camplisson	565108
CHURCH HOUSE TEAS BOOKINGS	Lin Smit Kay Kennedy	462094 529579
CHURCH COFFEE ROTA	Sylvia Clark	562801
CHURCH FLOWERS	Jean Godfrey	522198
CHURCH BOOKSTALL	Bill and Geraldine Geers	562423
CHURCH HOUSE BOOKINGS	Parish Administrator	462094
HUGHENDEN VILLAGE HALL	Diana Gibbons	565942
NAPHILL VILLAGE HALL	Pam Smith	563364
OUTLOOK MAGAZINE EDITORS	Sylvia Clark Helen Byrne Geraldine Geers	562801 564342 562423
MAGAZINE PRINTING	Norman Pulley & Team	563470
MAGAZINE DISTRIBUTION	John Babb	563342

St Michael and All Angels

Hughenden

Our Mission is

To enable all to follow Jesus Christ

Grant us, Lord,

faith to believe

and strength to do Thy will.

Amen.