
News & Notes

Issue 310

February 2002

PASTORAL LETTER from the Bishop

Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, "Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel." Luke 2. 27-32

As we come to the end of Christmastide we hear old Simeon's cry "My eyes have seen your salvation - a light of revelation for the Gentiles, and glory for your people Israel". Like Simeon, we praise God for his gift to us, the gift of himself. It's this gift that gives light and hope in our dark world, and we want to share it.

At the heart of our life as Christians is the praise of God as a gracious giver. This is why we are trying to put into practice in our lives a gospel of giving, not getting - something that's vitally important in a world where so many people are into just the opposite: getting, not giving.

How important is this message to you? To what extent do you see yourself as a successor to Simeon, praising God for his gifts and glad of the chance to hand on what you have received?

At the beginning of this New Year I am inviting each of you to consider how important God is to you, and to reflect - together as well as individually - exactly what the Church, your Church, means to you. Do we want the Church to be there for us; to share in its life and to be supported in our journey of faith? Do we want the Church to challenge us to put our faith into action? Do we want the Church to nurture the gift of faith in our children, and help them to live the gospel of generous giving? Do we want the Church to be there for future generations?

And I'm asking you all to do this because over the next months we are preparing to invite everyone from Calne to Poole, from Lyme Regis to Marlborough to join us in reviewing the extent to which we support the work of the Church. This means all that we give, but specifically our regular, planned, weekly giving, which is what provides the resources to sustain the life of the parish, and in particular your clergy.

I say this now, because if we are to continue with our current number of clergy, then our giving needs to increase substantially.

This year we are putting into place a programme to raise awareness of what it costs to support the active local ministry of the Church of England. In the past we have been fortunate in having inherited money to fall back on, but we now need to pay our way. I recognise that many already give sacrificially, but there is a real need for an increase in the level of regular weekly giving by all of us as a sign of our commitment to the Church and the Gospel.

It's the Gospel that comes first, so I'm inviting you to begin by reflecting on just what it is about the Gospel, the Church and the life of faith that is vital to you, and to write and tell me what you think. Let's first be clear about what's really important to us; because where our heart is, there will our treasure be also.

I know that you will only raise the level of your giving if you are committed to the Gospel, and convinced that the Church is doing Christ's work. Only Simeon's vision of Christ as the light of the world will do. Do we share that vision of our common life and ministry?

Your fellow servant in Christ,

David Sarum with Peter and Tim, your bishops.

From the Editor

This month's issue has been paid for by our advertisers and some smaller donations. Thank you for these. The monthly photocopying cost for *News & Notes* is £40 for a 4 side issue - if you would like to sponsor an issue, please get in touch with Neil. Editorial items for inclusion in *News & Notes* should be sent to Clare Penny at Azalea Cottage, Chapel Lane, Charlton All Saints, SP5 4HF, telephone 01725 512869 or email clare@azalea.demon.co.uk Monetary donations should be sent to Neil Guttridge, *News & Notes* Treasurer, on 01725 511468 or at Court-Hay, Lower Road, Charlton All Saints, SP5 4HQ. Notices of charity and non-profit making events are inserted free, but all other advertisements are charged at £2 per 30 words, or £20 for 12 insertions. The deadline for the March issue is Friday 15th February.

Church Services

Sunday 3 February 2nd before Lent	8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	KC	Nunton
	9.30 am	Parish Communion	WC	Britford
	11.00 am	Parish Communion	GS	Coombe
	6.00 pm	Evensong (BCP)	GS	Homington
Sunday 10 February 1st before Lent	8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	JK	Homington
	9.30 am	Parish Communion (JC)	GS	Odstock
	11.00 am	Family Service (All Age)	WC	Coombe
	11.00 am	Matins (BCP)	GS	Charlton
Wednesday 13 February	12.00 noon	Holy Communion (BCP)	WC	Nunton
Ash Wednesday	7.30 pm	Parish Communion (with imposition of ashes)	GS	Coombe
Sunday 17 February Lent 1	8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	GS	Britford
	9.30 am	Parish Communion (JC)	GS	Nunton
	9.30 am	Morning Service (All Age)	WC	Homington
	11.00 am	Parish Communion (BCP)	GS	Coombe
Sunday 24 February Lent 2	8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	GS	Homington
	9.30 am	Parish Communion	WC	Charlton
	11.00 am	Morning Service (All Age)	WC	Odstock
	11.00 am	Matins (BCP)	SE	Coombe
Sunday 3 March Lent 3	8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	GS	Nunton
	9.30 am	Parish Communion	GS	Britford
	11.00 am	Parish Communion	WC	Coombe
	6.00 pm	Evensong (BCP)	WC	Homington

KC = Rev Karen Curnock, SE = Mrs Shirley Evans, GS = Rev Dr Graham Southgate, JK = Rt Rev John Kirkham,
WC = Rev Westley Cole

Lent Course 2002

In the Wilderness — a course in five parts and at two venues:

afternoons beginning at 3.00 pm on 20th and 27th February, and 6th, 13th and 20th March at Brines Cottage, Homington Road, Coombe Bissett (contact Helen Baynes 01722 718395);

evenings beginning at 7.30 pm on 19th and 26th February, and 5th, 13th and 19th March at The Vicarage, Nunton (contact Graham Southgate 01722 330628).

The five sessions are entitled Jesus, Satan and the Angels; The Wilderness Today; The Church in the Wilderness; Prayer, Meditation and Scripture; Solitude, Friendship and Fellowship. These sessions will be accompanied by taped contributions from the Most Reverend and Right Honourable Dr David Hope (Archbishop of York, Anglican), His Eminence Cormac Murphy-O'Connor (Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster, Roman Catholic), the Reverend Dr Rob Frost (Methodist), the Reverend Roy Jenkins (Baptist), and Dr Elaine Storkey (Anglican).

From the Registers

Burial

On 10th January at Nunton: Marjorie Doreen Evening

Holy Days in February

2nd Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Candlemas) Holy Communion at Nunton 10 am.

13th Ash Wednesday (see service rota).

Women's Institute

Diane Wait

The 2002 season got off to a good start with a well attended meeting on Monday 13th January at the Radnor Hall. Mrs Sue Bourne (President) warmly welcomed everyone, including three visitors from other WIs and four gentlemen guests who had come along to hear Major Nigel Lewis speak on the subject of barn owls and other birds of prey. Mrs Rita Hobbs read out the prayer, and the beautiful pink azalea for the president's table was provided by Mrs Wilma Hayward. Sue thanked everyone who had helped with the very enjoyable Christmas party, and she also thanked Mrs Joy Saunders for arranging the Christmas Lunch at the College and the theatre outings. A big crowd of us really enjoyed seeing the excellent pantomime Mother Goose and look forward to seeing Donkeys Years on 11th February and Five Finger Exercise on 25th February.

Mrs Julia Joynt (Treasurer) presented the Treasurer's Report and it was agreed that she should send off a cheque to cover the cost of a future issue of *News & Notes*. We are very grateful for the way our monthly report is presented and also the space allowed. Mrs

Jean Van Hagen (Secretary) then read out the correspondence, including details of the Agenda Conference Meeting at Dennis Marsh House on Monday 29th April, when resolutions will be discussed which will appear on the agenda of the forthcoming Brighton Resolutions Meeting. She also read out a thank you letter from Whiteparish members saying how much they had enjoyed our Christmas party. Flower of the month competition was won by Mrs Doreen Smith with an attractive evergreen Clematis with the unusual name of Freckles!

Following the coffee break we were introduced to Major Nigel Lewis who had come to talk to us about his life-long interest in birds and in particular his fascination with different species of owls and other birds of prey. He covers a very wide area, including Salisbury Plain, where he provides suitable nesting boxes for different species of owls. He makes these himself from old ammunition boxes or whatever suitable materials he can lay his hands on and they are suited to the different needs of the owls. He showed us some delightful slides depicting life in the nesting boxes and there were some heart warming pictures of baby barn owls, kestrels, little owls and tawny owls and also slides of different eggs waiting to be hatched. To monitor the young birds he explained how he puts rings on them and said there is no problem with the parent birds, who accept them back into the nesting boxes quite happily. He said that birds love to nest in cavities in old trees but do quickly adapt to their boxes. To date he has made 670 nest boxes which is an amazing achievement, and these provide wonderfully safe and secure homes for all sorts of nesting birds, including unfortunately some rather unwelcome guests such as Jackdaws and squirrels. It was a fascinating talk and Mrs Jill Dodd thanked Major Lewis for providing us with such an interesting topic for our first meeting of 2002. He then answered a number of questions from members and handed out pamphlets detailing the procedure of how to adopt an owl!

The next meeting will be on Monday 11th February and Mr Peter Martin is coming along to talk to us about the local Water Meadows. Friends will be very welcome and hopefully we will once again be able to welcome some gentlemen guests to our meeting.

Used Greetings Cards

Does anyone out there know where a large quantity of very attractive greetings cards for all occasions, including Christmas, may be sent for re-cycling? There seem to be sources where the best used cards are re-made and resold for charities - please contact Mary Penn 01725-510133 if you are able to supply a local address. Many thanks.

ODSTOCK NUNTON & BODENHAM FETE 2002



50TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR

REWARD

The Fete Committee has set aside £1,000 from Fete proceeds. We will be pleased to receive ideas or requests for donations towards projects or equipment that will benefit the three villages.

Please write to Brian Clake, Chairman, Odstock Nunton and Bodenham Fete Committee, Broadmeadow, Nunton SP5 4HZ.

Bids must be received by Friday 22 March 2002

Easter Lilies For Nunton

If anyone would like to give a donation towards the cost of Easter Lilies in Nunton Church, in memory of a loved one or a friend, would they kindly get in touch with Diane Fray, Macaria Cottage, Nunton, tel 01722 329753, before 5th March.

Odstock Primary School News

THANK YOU - We would like to start by saying thank you to the Odstock, Nunton and Bodenham Fete Committee for its kind donation to our school funds and to everyone who came and supported our Christmas concert at the Radnor Hall. We had a leaving collection that we split between ourselves and the Kenyan school, sponsored by the village. Also thanks for the £240 that was raised through the village pumpkin competition.

SCHOOL NEWS - The junior children were visited by members of the Sarum Chamber Orchestra, who held a music workshop which all the children thoroughly enjoyed. The children now have the opportunity to attend a special schools concert. Olivia Keith, a local artist is coming to school this month to help the children develop a woven, living willow structure - this is in connection with the Salisbury Festival's *In Praise of Trees* project.

After 23 years service, Linda Pearce, one of our dinner ladies, has decided to leave and we will all miss her, especially the children who presented her with some gifts on her last day. Subsequently, we now have a vacancy for a midday supervisory assistant and if anyone in the village would be interested, please contact the school office on 01722 329701 for details and an application form.

Several of our children attended the Christingle service at Odstock Church, which they all enjoyed and some of the recorder group accompanied the congregation during one of the hymns.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - Once the building work is finished, we are keen to set up more after school clubs. If you have an hour or two to spare and would like to share your skill with our school please volunteer. In particular we are looking for anyone to help with football coaching. We look forward to hearing from you.

TOKEN COLLECTING - As mentioned previously, our school is collecting the Books for School tokens and the Nestle Box Tops 10p vouchers - donations of these are always welcome. We also have a chance to take part in the Sainsbury's Equipment for Schools campaign. If you shop in Sainsbury's, they will give the school 1 school point for every £10 you spend. However, for them to give the school points they need you to register and we have a supply of forms in school for this purpose, so please give us a ring.

BEETLE DRIVE - We will be holding a beetle drive on Friday 1st February at Odstock School. This is always a fun evening for both children and adults, so please feel free to come along and join us. The fun starts at 7.00 pm with a small admission charge of just 50p per person.

Weight Watchers

Mon 6.30 - 8.00 pm	Baptist Church, Brown St
Wed 9.30 - 10.45 am	Baptist Church, Brown St
Tues 6.45 - 8.00 pm	Harnham Sports Club
Wed 6.15 - 7.45 pm	The Pavilion, Bishopdown Farm

All welcome at Weight Watchers meetings. We're pleased to see you whether you want to lose 10lbs or 20lbs! Contact Peggy Knight (01722 320259) or Rosemary Chapell (01722 336288) for further details.

Going green in the garden is easy!

This is probably one of the quieter times in the garden - a good time to plan for the coming year and for turning to the seed catalogues.

As we try to reduce our use of chemicals in the garden, we can support the work of those seed suppliers trying to do the same by choosing organically produced seed. Many of the catalogues now feature a wide range of organic seeds, both flowers and vegetables. Try: Organic Gardening Catalogue 01932 253666, Tamar Organics 01822 834887, Suffolk Herbs 01376 572456.

If you are planning to grow some new plants this year, there are lots of good reasons for including some native species. Many of our native plants are

declining in the wild, so we can provide a refuge for them in our gardens. Being native, they can cope well with our wide range of weather conditions and there are plants to suit any site. They will encourage native wildlife, which has evolved alongside the plants, and in turn help maintain a natural balance in the garden - essential for an aspiring organic garden!

For a sunny border try cranesbills, hemp agrimony, knapweed, mullein, red campion, viper's bugloss, scabious and soapwort. For light shade: betony, foxglove, ground ivy, lords and ladies, ramsons, lesser celandine or wood sage. Damp areas can be difficult but meadowsweet, purple loosestrife, ragged robin, lesser spearwort and marsh marigold will all work well. Many wildflowers thrive in unimproved soil and so are good choices for a poor area of the garden.

Good news for anyone who forgot to take advantage of their local Christmas tree chipping facilities: save any fallen pine needles to put around vulnerable plants in the spring - slugs do not like crossing them! Put the bare branches and sawn up trunk in a corner of the corner as a useful wildlife habitat.

Contact Maggie McDonald, Green Gardening Co-Ordinator on 01380 725670.

Charlton Garden Society

Future attractions include: Monday 4th February - A talk by Sylvia Parrett on Gardening in Southern California. Monday 25th March - Nick Lock will talk on Colour and Contrast in the Garden. Both meetings start at 7.30 pm in Charlton Church Hall.

Sky Line

Specialist cleaning of conservatories, soffits, facias, gutters, driveways and patios.
We also offer a professional regular window cleaning service.

Please phone for a free quote on 01425 657949 or mobile 07740 987187

Nunton Church News

The children had great fun decorating the Church on Christmas Eve Morning followed by a carol practice. At 11 am we were invited to the Orchard to sing carols. We were accompanied by Adrian and his guitar. Then Imogen Warley and Peter Stanger performed a lovely duet. We had delicious nibbles. Thank you for having us.

With Christmas over and the February blues looming, if you are feeling low and you would like me to visit or even do some shopping for you, give me a ring. We are not mind readers - we just want to help!

Best wishes from Debby Underhill (Lay Pastoral Assistant) tel 01722 329769.

Chalke Valley Supports Child-Link

Child-Link International Aid Foundation is a new charity based in Bishopstone. It raises funds from all over the UK and abroad to support an orphanage of over 300 children in the city of Madurai, South India.

"The needs of these children are huge, and it's great to be able to do something", explains John Fergusson, founder of Child-Link.

The orphanage, Love and Care India, is run by Rev John Arul, who has visited the Chalke Valley several times.

"Until they come to us," he said, "Many children are only eating 3 or 4 times a week. They're brought by relatives, the police, even Hindu priests. They often arrive traumatised, but with a few weeks of love, care, prayer, and good food, they are transformed."

Lent Project

For 2002, the Chalke Valley Benefice has decided to adopt Child-Link as its annual Lent Project. "Every alternate year an overseas project is selected, and with Child-Link based locally it seemed a good choice," said Rev Graham Southgate.

"This will be wonderful," John Fergusson agrees. "The needs are huge right now - we need £10,000 to complete the orphanage roof, and we are in the middle of buying 3 acres of very expensive land. Then there are the daily running costs. Many people, such as the doctors give their time free, but we must pay the staff, of course. And the children eat 100kg of rice every day!"

How To Help

If you want to help these children, there are information boards in churches and other local venues. Or you can contact Child-Link directly on

01722-780255 (ask for the new **free video** of the orphanage!), or visit www.child-link.org.

Further information on how to contribute to the Lent Project, including local collection points, will be circulated soon.

ODSTOCK NUNTON & BODENHAM FETE 2002



50TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR PLANNED EVENTS

Sunday	June	30 th	Car Boot Sale
Thursday	July	4 th	Clay Pigeon Shoot
Sunday		6 th	Bike Ride
Friday		5 th	Barbecue & Skittles Evening
Tuesday		9 th	Marquee Erection
Friday		12 th	Dance and Bar
Saturday		13 th	Fete Day
			Raft Race
			Slave Auction
			'Road Tested' Band & Bar

Last year's fete raised over £4,400, from which we were able to make donations towards church maintenance, Odstock School, Nunton Day Hospital, the W.I and Radnor Hall. In addition, we have offered donations totalling £1,000 towards village projects and have set aside a further substantial sum to invest in new equipment for the fete itself.

This year is the 50th anniversary of the fete and we are hoping to mark this milestone by making the celebrations bigger and brighter than ever. We hope to arrange new events and attractions for fete day, **but to do so we need help from as many people as possible.**

Stallholders

Volunteers for before, during and after all events
Donated prizes for the Grand Draw and other competitions

We would also welcome new members to serve on the committee. This involves one meeting a month and further time during fete week. In return for your time, you will be able to make a direct contribution to the local community and perhaps make new friends.

If you would like to help, or have a prize you can donate (or both) please contact Brian Clake on 01722 340261.

Regular Events

WI	Second Monday of the month, 10.00 am Radnor Hall, Bodenham
Junior Church	To coincide with 9.30 am services at Nunton or Odstock Churches (except August), held at the Barker Room, contact Adrian Taylor on 01722 325862
Whist Drive	Every Thursday, 7.30 pm Barker Room, Nunton
Singing Group	Every Monday, 8.00 pm, contact Adrian Taylor on 01722 325862
Tiny Tots	Every Wed 9.30 - 11.30 am, Radnor Hall, Bodenham Contact at Suzie Orchiton 01722 502026
Mobile Library	Alternate Fridays (8 th & 22 nd February): Village Hut, Charlton 10.00 - 10.15 am Alternate Tuesdays (12 th & 26 th February): Brookmead, Britford 11.00 am; Radnor Arms, Nunton 11.20 am; Crossroads, Odstock 11.45 am

For Your Diary

1 February	Odstock School Beetle Drive, 7.00 pm Odstock School
4 February	Charlton Garden Society, 7.30 pm Charlton Church Hall
25 March	Charlton Garden Society, 7.30 pm Charlton Church Hall