

## FR TUBBS WRITES

The mills of God may grind slowly, but they can't compare with the Church of England! We were told last Easter that the Pensions Board would provide a house for us, which we then rent from them, but nothing could be done until six months before the date of my retirement. As we had provisionally decided that I would retire at the end of May, we began to look in November for a house, and found one very quickly. Unfortunately it was withdrawn from the market and so we found another one, not quite as suitable, and the Pensions Board had just begun to negotiate for that when the first house came back on the market! Then began the waiting, as the Church Commissioners, aware that they were spending your money and mine, negotiated the price. That took some time. Then, the price being agreed, there had to be two surveys - don't ask me why two! We were kept waiting weeks before we heard that the surveys had been completed, but were still not told whether the Church Commissioners were prepared to go ahead with the purchase. As I write we have still not heard that the property has been bought!



So our plans have to be a bit tentative, and it is for this reason that we have not been able to let you know what is happening. However, this is the plan!!

I shall work until the end of April, then have May as a holiday, during which we shall pack and turn out, though Gwyneth has done most of the turning out already! My last service will be on Sunday 31 May at 10.30am, at which we shall be

joined by the congregations from S Andrew's and S Boniface, and, I hope, others from the deanery and elsewhere.

If the house is not available or, if God forbid, this one falls through and we have to start again, I shall continue to work during May, but simply in order to make plans, 31 May will be my last Sunday.

People seem very concerned to know what I will do! It seems that some of you can't imagine me doing nothing! Well, the great joy of being a priest is that you never cease to be one, so I very much hope that I shall be able to carry on doing the priestly things - celebrating the Eucharist, preaching, taking the occasional funeral and perhaps even the occasional wedding - without having to do the less enjoyable things like worrying about buildings, racing around trying to fit everything in, and - the greatest joy of all! - no meetings!

I have been extremely fortunate during my ministry in having had the support of retired clergy, and I know very well that this diocese could not exist without them. I therefore hope to go to a parish and offer my services to the parish priest, to do whatever I can to help. I have already been told that I am not likely to remain unused very long!

The house which we hope will be ours to rent is in Exeter. Etiquette demands that I move away from the area to allow the new priest to do his job without constant reminders of his predecessor. I hope you will help him to do that.

Many people who have spoken to me since I announced that I was going to retire have assumed that I shall constantly be popping back - after all, they say, Exeter is not very far away. Parish clergy don't pop back. For better or for worse I was God's gift to you for thirteen years, not first and foremost as a friend but as a priest. God will soon give you a new priest, and he will be your vicar. Try to imagine how difficult his life will be if I am constantly popping back, if people keep asking me to take their funeral or their baby's baptism. Try to imagine how much he will mutter under his breath if he is constantly told Father Tubbs said this.. or Father Tubbs did that.. A priest is lent to his parish, and then has to withdraw to allow a new priest to take over the reins.

Will I miss it? Of course I will miss it. The congregations of the churches in the parish of Paignton contain some lovely people, many of whom have allowed me to share the most intimate moments of their lives - baptisms, marriages, bereavements, problems. With some I have become very good friends, and that friendship will continue, though not, I hope, to the detriment of the ministry of the new priest.

I shall miss the work with young people; the weekly assemblies at Hayes School, the fortnightly meetings with JC's Gang-stars, the Confirmation preparation. I shall miss the work with younger adults, the marriage preparation, the house group which I run, the retreats in which I have taken part. These are things I am not likely to have the opportunity to do in retirement. I shall miss the older members of

our congregation, so supportive and encouraging - well, most of them! I shall miss the home communions, sometimes extending over many months and years, during the course of which I have got to know people very well indeed - and it may be I shall have the opportunity to do this kind of ministry in the future.

I shall miss the daily Mass here, with the committed congregations who turn up each week for one or more days; I shall especially miss the Friday Mass at 10.00am, with its opportunity to preach to a regular congregation of over thirty.

I shall miss TAP into Faith; I shall miss the monthly lunch-time meetings of the priests involved, where we each gave and received so much support. I shall miss the activities which we arranged, most of which, I believe, were very good.

I shall continue to pray for you, as I hope you will continue to pray for me and Gwyneth. Paignton will always hold a special place in our memories.

So I will let you know when I have retired; but please put 31 May in your diary now! And please join me as we celebrate together the great acts of salvation history during the last week of Lent.

Yours sincerely

**St. Boniface**

Early April this year brings us to Holy Week. Six weeks of penance, prayer and special devotions come to a climax. The spiritual journey of Holy Week closely follows ancient historical events, for we move quickly from Jesus triumph in Jerusalem on Palm Sunday to his passion and death. Holy (Maundy) Thursday rituals consecrating holy oils (in our case at St. Marychurch on Wednesday evening), followed by Last Supper liturgies, could be like a refreshing pause, they are a few hours of rejoicing before the reality of Jesus suffering and death continues on Good Friday. This is followed by a quiet waiting until the burst of the new light of resurrection conquers the dark of death at the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday night - the Cross gives way to a new fire, new oils, new water and new life. We are greeted by a church decorated with signs of new life, bright colours and Easter lilies, and the Alleluias ring out, as we share in the glory of the risen Christ.



Dates for your diary

Every Tuesday - Mass 9.30am followed by Coffee Morning, with Table Top items for sale 10 - 12.

Wednesday 22nd April - Prize Bingo

Fr Bob.

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

Sun 5	Evening Worship	6.00pm	S Boniface
April			
Mon 6	Eucharist & Address	7.00pm	Parish Church
April			
Tue 7	Eucharist & Address	7.00pm	Parish Church
April			
Wed 8	Chrism Mass	7.30pm	St Marychurch
April			

*This is the occasion at which the holy oils used throughout the year for anointing the sick, for baptisms and confirmations, are blessed by the Bishop. It is also the occasion when priests renew their priestly vows and the laity pledge to pray and support their clergy.*

Thu 9	<b>MAUNDY THURSDAY</b>		
April	Mass of the Last Supper	7.00pm	St Andrew's
Fri 10	<b>GOOD FRIDAY</b>		
April	Stations of the Cross for children	10.00am	Parish Church
	Liturgy of the Passion	2.00pm	St Boniface
Sat 11	<b>HOLY SATURDAY</b>		
April	The Easter Vigil	9.00pm	Parish Church
Sun 12	<b>EASTER DAY</b>		
April	Holy Communion	8.00am	Parish Church
	Family Communion	9.30am	Parish Church
	Alternative Service	11.00am	Parish Church
	Easter Songs of Praise	6.00pm	Parish Church
	Sung Mass	11.00am	St Andrew's
	Sung Mass	9.30am	St Boniface

Confessions before Easter: Parish Church

Sat 4 April	2.00pm
Thu 9 Apr	2.00pm
Sat 11 Apr	7.00pm

Confessions before Easter: St Boniface  
Sun 5 April 7.00pm  
Tue 7 April 10.15am

Or by appointment. Please ring Fr Tubbs or Fr Bob

**CHILDREN S SOCIETY.**

As promised, here is the total amount raised for the Children s Society this year.

The collection at the Christingle Service	£170.72
The Christingle service at St. Boniface	£20.97
The collection at the 6 <sup>th</sup> Torbay Scouts Carol Service	£174.00
The Christingle candles raised	£114.86
The Annual Boxes raised	£439.51
The 40th Anniversary celebration of Father Tubbs	£805.84
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£1,725.90</b>

Thank you to everyone who contributed in any way, particularly the generosity of Father Tubbs and Gwyneth on the occasion of Father Tubbs 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

Pat Kerswell.

**MOTHERS UNION**

As you will know Father Tubbs is due to retire soon, after thirteen years of ministry in the Parish of Paignton. During this time he has celebrated at most of our monthly Corporate Communion services and has given his support to other Mothers Union services which we have held in the Church over the years. We thank him for his support and send our best wishes to him and to Mrs Tubbs for a long and happy retirement.

Corporate Communion Wednesday April 1<sup>st</sup>

Susan O Brien

Parish of Paignton Prayer Group



The Prayer Group meets in the Gallery on the third Monday in every month for a simple service which lasts about 40 minutes. We will welcome new members. Every month we have a list of names (Christian names only - and no details of illness will be disclosed) for those who need our prayers. If you feel you would like to take the list and pray for a small section of the names listed on a daily basis, please contact me. If you can also attend the meeting, you will be very welcome. There is also a notebook at the crossing in which names can be written. Those names are collected and prayed for at our meeting.

Paula Radford (Leader)

Telephone: 01803 525373

The Flower Guild would be grateful for your donations of money to



**purchase flowers to decorate our beautiful Church for Easter.**

Edna Field



St Andrews Church

&



The Royal British Legion

Proudly Present

Tim Pitman in Concert

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May at 7.30pm

Tickets (£10)

available from members of St Andrews

Christian Aid Week

10th - 16th May

Please pray about reaching out to the people of Paignton. Offering the Red Envelope to friends, neighbours or house to house, is a great way to reach out to people.

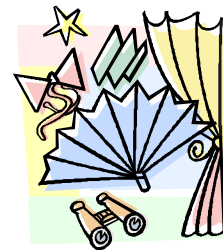
If you can't manage that, everyone can help raise money with a Sponsored Silence. Goodrington Methodists are organising a Sponsored Silence on Saturday 25th April 10.30am - 12.30pm with coffee, cakes and various stalls. Sponsorship forms are available from Jean Kitson, or sponsor Susan O'Brien.



## PARISH LADIES GROUP

On Tuesday 24th February we enjoyed each other's company at our annual lunch which took place at the Palace Hotel. Thirty nine people attended, and we were pleased to welcome Father Tubbs and Gwyneth as our guests.

Terri Pearson, one of our parishioners, will be our speaker at our meeting on Monday April 27th. Her topic will be Fine Knacks for Ladies. Those of us who have already heard one of Terri's talks know that she is a fascinating speaker, and we look forward to this event which will be an open evening.



Our outdoor summer meetings start on 20th May with a visit to the Palace Theatre Paignton to see The Boyfriend. This visit is organised by Jean Kitson so please obtain your tickets from her. The cost is £11; show time is 7.30pm and it is an open evening for the whole Parish to enjoy.

As April is our last indoor meeting there will be a sign-up sheet, similar to last year, for the bring-and-share buffet to be held at our registration evening on 28th September. This proved very popular last year as it gave us a good opportunity to talk with each other and with new members.

The Committee has decided to try a new venture. On the third Monday of each month, starting on 18th May, at the Palace Hotel, those who wish will meet for a bar snack/chat lunch at 12.30pm.

Locations will change monthly and will be advertised at meetings and in the magazine. Lifts can be arranged and we hope to see some of you each month.

Audrey Smith

### CLUB 2000

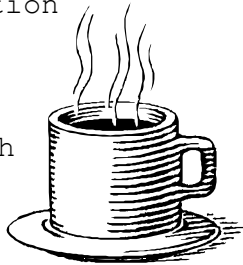
Dates for your diary.

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April Summer Fair meeting in the Hall 7.15pm. Please invite anyone who would like to be involved with this event on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> July from 11.00am to 3.30pm.

Friday April 17<sup>th</sup> Bingo in the Hall 7.15pm

Thursday April 30<sup>th</sup> Coach Trip to Bath £11.50. Leaving Church Street at 8.45pm Train Station 9.00am

Monday Time Out coffee Mornings 9.00am to 12 noon. Can you help with any unwanted items. Contact me if you need someone to collect. Cynthia 526463. Thank You.



Cynthia Borrill

### Sounds From the Belfry

The ringers sat down to their Annual Dinner at the Paignton Club in order to celebrate a very

special event. The occasion was to present a cheque for £4,702 to Dame Hannah Rogers School. Raising money for Dame Hannah has become an annual event for over fifty years and this year we collected another record amount. The school deals with severely disabled children and relies upon donations to enhance the quality of life for the children. The guests, Angela and Ian Murray represented the Dame Hannah Rogers School and received the cheque. Angela is the principal and will be retiring this year.

It is not all beer and skittles for the ringers so why not join the church bell ringers, and find out what else happens in the tower. We are always delighted to welcome anybody who just wants to pop up and see what happens. We are always open to new members, young or old, anyone who wishes to learn to ring.

The ringers are organising a coach trip to the North Devon area on Bank Holiday Monday, 4 May when we plan to visit Lynton and travel across Exmoor returning to an award-winning pub for an evening meal at the Tom Cobley in Spreyton.

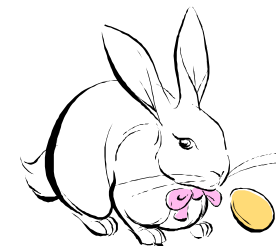
If you would like to join us on this trip as a ringer or a non-ringer and you are interested in visiting churches you will find this a very interesting trip. Please let John Kelly (556208) know if you wish to come, if you have not already done so.

Michael Webster.

## PARISH REGISTERS

### Funerals

13.3.09 Evelyn Mary Ackrell  
 17.3.09 Richard Alfred  
 Paterson  
 20.3.09 Stuart John Isaac



## INTERCESSIONS FOR APRIL

### DIARY FOR APRIL

1	Wed	10.00am 7.00pm	Mothers' Union Corporate Communion Parish Church Committee
2	Thu	10.00am	Hayes School service: Parish Church
5	Sun	6.00pm	Evensong & Benediction: <b>S Boniface</b>
6	Mon	7.00pm	Eucharist & Address
7	Tue	7.00pm	Eucharist & Address
8	Wed	7.30pm	Chrism Mass at S Marychurch
9	Thu	7.00pm	Mass of the Last Supper: S Andrew's
10	Fri	10.00am 2.00pm	Stations of the Cross for Children Liturgy of the Passion: S Boniface
11	Sat	9.00pm	The Easter Vigil: Parish Church
12	Sun	6.00pm	Easter Songs of Praise: Parish Church
15	Wed	7.15pm	Summer Fair Meeting: church hall
17	Fri	7.15pm	Club 2000: Bingo in the Hall
19	Sun	3.00pm 6.00pm	Annual Parochial Church Meeting: Hall Wholeness & Healing: Parish Church
21	Tue	9.00am	All material for magazine to Ann Howard
22	Wed		Prize Bingo: St Boniface
26	Sun	2.30pm 6.00pm	Holy Baptism: Parish Church Evensong & Benediction: S Andrew's
30	Thu	8.45am	Club 2000: Coach trip to Bath

1	Wed	Feria	Our Mothers' Union
2	Thu	Feria	Scouts
3	Fri	Feria	Our Lent Course
4	Sat	Feria	Walsingham
5	Sun	<b>PALM SUNDAY</b>	Our keeping of Holy Week
6	Mon	Monday in Holy Week	Penitence
7	Tue	Tuesday in Holy Week	Pardon
8	Wed	Wednesday in Holy Week	Peace
9	Thu	<b>MAUNDY THURSDAY</b>	Thanksgiving for the Eucharist
10	Fri	<b>GOOD FRIDAY</b>	Thanksgiving for Our Lord's atoning death
11	Sat	<b>HOLY SATURDAY</b>	For a good death
12	Sun	<b>EASTER DAY</b>	Thanksgiving for the resurrection
13	Mon	Monday in Easter Week	Thanksgiving for the resurrection
14	Tue	Tuesday in Easter Week	Thanksgiving for the resurrection
15	Wed	Wednesday in Easter Week	Thanksgiving for the resurrection
16	Thu	Thursday in Easter Week	Thanksgiving for the resurrection
17	Fri	Friday in Easter Week	Thanksgiving for the resurrection
18	Sat	Saturday in Easter Week	Thanksgiving for the resurrection
19	Sun	<b>LOW SUNDAY</b>	Our APCM
20	Mon	Feria	Our house groups
21	Tue	Feria	Paignton Hospital
22	Wed	Feria	The nations of Africa
23	Thu	<b>S GEORGE M</b>	Our country

24	Fri	S Mellitus B	The Archbishops
25	Sat	<b>S Mark Ev</b>	Gospel translators
26	Sun	<b>EASTER 3</b>	Those to be baptised
27	Mon	Feria	The lapsed and indifferent
28	Tue	Feria	Interfaith understanding
29	Wed	<b>S Catherine of Siena D</b>	The unity of the Church
30	Thu	Feria	Our schools