

Father Roger's Final Fling!

On Tuesday, October 3rd, a mini-bus left S.John's Higham at 7.30am heading for North Norfolk. A representative group of us were going to the midday requiem mass for, and interment of the ashes of, Canon Roger Davison at the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham. Fr Roger left us twelve years ago after a 'retired' ministry among us of nineteen years! Sadly, many of those who had known him are now dead or were too frail to travel this far for the service.

After his funeral in May (the 'month of Mary') Fr Roger's ashes had rested in S.John's Higham until the end of September. Transferred to the care of Preb. Graeme Rowlands, one of his executors and a member of the College of Guardians of the Shrine, he took them there in advance of the interment. The College of Guardians were meeting in the days prior to this and Fr Roger had requested interment during their meeting. He had been an active Guardian for forty odd years and was then Guardian Emeritus after that.

After a breakfast stop at 9am near Stanstead Airport we continued on busy roads and made it to Walsingham by 11.30am. Fr Roger had great devotion to Our Lady, especially under her title of Walsingham, and here, in October (the 'month of Our Lady of the Rosary') it was fitting that, at midday, we joined those gathered inside the Shrine Church in the Angelus Prayers. These are said [here](#) too each morning and evening (when you hear the 3.3.3.9 bells before Morning or Evening Prayer).

The Requiem Mass was then sung by the Bishop of Burnley, clothed in a beautiful black vestment. The candles

were all of unbleached wax. It was all slightly old-fashioned at times but lovely: and he would have loved it too as it was the sort of thing he did when he was ordained priest—sixty-five years ago! Canon Michael Whitehead, fellow Guardian and fellow member of CMP (Company of Mission Priests) preached. He'd known Fr Roger for decades. He reminded us of the vocation he received during the war, and affirmed by Church authorities in Jerusalem! Also of Fr Roger's ministry, mission and especially his 'journalistic skills' from his curacy onwards until his last months' still writing for *The Bridge*. He re-iterated Fr Roger's commitment to prayer and worship, and to his love of people - and theirs of him.

The Guardians and about sixty more people received Holy Communion (people from as far as Devon, Gloucestershire and Nottinghamshire) then we adjourned to the small chapel of Our Lady of Pity outside. It was restored at Fr. Roger's expense some years ago. At the foot of the altar, in his second-hand casket (*ask me about it!!*), his ashes were laid to rest under a lovely white creamy marble memorial plaque.

Fr Roger loved a 'bit of a do' and so his estate paid for a marvellous lunch for us all, over which we regaled each other with our stories about him.

An hour or so was then left for coffee and a look around before setting off after rush hour traffic. Returning home about 8pm we were weary but glad to have attended such a fitting end to Fr Roger's earthly journey.

Father James

The Bridge

Monthly Magazine of the Parish of Higham (Ss. John & Mary) with Merston

WORSHIP AT S.JOHN'S PARISH CHURCH

EVERY	Morning Prayer	(said)	8.45 am
SUNDAY	PARISH MASS	(sung)	9.30 am
	<i>with Junior Church & Very Junior Church</i>		
	Evening Prayer	(said)	6.00 pm

HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION: Said Mass 9.30 am & Solemn Mass 7.30 pm
Solemn Evening Prayer & Benediction on Sundays - *as announced.*

THE	Monday	6.30 pm	DAILY MORNING PRAYER
DAILY	Tuesday	7.30 pm	Each day at 9 am
MASS	Wednesday	9.30 am	* * * * *
TIMES	Thursday	7.30 pm	DAILY EVENING PRAYER
	Friday	9.30 am	Each day at 6 pm
	Saturday	9.30 am	(<i>except Tue. & Thur. at 7 pm</i>)

<u>PARISH</u>	The Rev'd. Canon James F. Southward	The Vicarage, Hermitage Rd.
<u>PRIEST</u>	Telephone 01634-717360	Higham, Kent, ME3 7NE.
	E.mail saintjohn.higham@yahoo.co.uk	* * * * *

PLEASE NOTE: FATHER JAMES IS NOT NORMALLY AVAILABLE ON THURSDAY

Marriages, Banns of Marriage, Baptism, Confirmation and other general enquiries:
Father James is usually available, in Church, for initial enquiries about these on

TUESDAYS 8.15 pm and SATURDAYS 10.30 am

It is always advisable to telephone and make an appointment in each case.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession and absolution)
is available on Fridays at 6.30 pm or by appointment with Fr. James

Information / requests relating to funerals, ministry to the sick and dying,
Holy Communion at home or in hospital should be given to Father James.



In an emergency please contact him at any time or, if he is not available, the
Parish Reader or a Churchwarden (details below).

PARISH READER	Mr Simon Walker	11 S.John's Road, Higham	Tel: 07794-523179*
THE	Mrs Valerie Laurens	12 Villa Road, Higham	Tel: 01474-823423
CHURCHWARDENS	Mrs Helen Walker	11 S.John's Road, Higham	Tel: 01474-396569*
CHURCH HALL MANAGER -	Mrs Julie Healey	- Tel: 01474-822008 *	

* Evening calls only on these numbers please

November 2017 at S. John's, Hingham

Calendar and Mass Intentions

SUNDAY PARISH MASS *Weekday*) Mon. 6.30pm; Tu. 7.30pm; Wed. 9.30am.
Sung at 9.30am *masses*) Th. 7.30pm; Fri. 9.30am; Sat. 9.30am.

EXCEPT for changes of time or additions as noted in grey boxes below

DAY	DATE	CELEBRATION	INTENTION
WED	1ST	ALL SAINTS DAY <i>Said Mass 9.30am / Solemn Mass 7.30pm</i>	(+) THE PARISH (S)
Th.	2nd	All Souls Day <i>Said Mass 9.30am / Sung Mass 7.30pm</i>	(m) The faithful departed
Fri	3rd	Feria <i>OF THE SACRED HEART</i>	(v) The bereaved
Sat	4th	S.Charles Borromeo <i>Teacher-Bp</i>	(m) Bishop Norman
SUN	5TH	31ST ORDINARY SUNDAY	(+) THE PARISH
Mon	6th	Feria Mass of Requiem	(v) Communicants/Benefactors
Tue	7th	Feria (Ord. Week 31)	Social workers and carers
Wed	8th	S.Willibrord <i>Bp-Missionary</i>	(m) 'Old Catholic' Churches
Th.	9TH	Dedication of S.John at Lateran	(F) Roman Catholic Church
Fri	10th	Pope S.Leo the Gt.	(m) The world's war zones
Sat	11th	S.Martin <i>Bishop-Missionary</i>	(m) Christians in HM Forces
SUN	12TH	32ND ORDINARY SUNDAY <i>Remembrance Sunday Mass 9.30am / Ordinary Sunday Mass 6.30pm</i>	(+) THE PARISH
Mon	13th	Feria (Ord. Week 32)	Warfare wounded & disabled
Tue	14th	Feria	The P.C.C.
Wed	15th	Feria Mass of Requiem	(v) RIPs & Nov Anniversaries
Th.	16th	S.Edmund of Abingdon <i>Archbishop</i>	(m) The Archbishop
Fri	17th	S.Elizabeth of Hungary	(m) Social Services
Sat	18th	Feria	Undertakers & Crematoria
SUN	19th	33RD ORDINARY SUNDAY	(+) THE PARISH
Mon	20th	Feria (Ord. Wk 33)	Hospices and their work
Tue	21st	The Presentation of Our Lady	(m) Walsingham
Wed	22nd	S.Cecilia, Martyr	(m) Church Musicians
Th.	23rd	Pope S.Clement <i>Martyr</i>	(m) The persecuted Church
Fri	24th	The Vietnamese Martyrs	(m) The Church in Indo-china
Sat	25th	Feria Mass of Requiem	(v) Departed Parish Clergy
SUN	26th	CHRIST THE KING	(+) THE PARISH
Mon	27th	Feria (Ord. Wk 34)	The Mayor & Parish Council
Tue	28th	Feria	Refugees & displaced people
Wed	29th	Feria <i>FOR MISSION</i>	(v) Christian Missionaries
TH.	30TH	S. Andrew <i>Apostle, Patron of the Diocese</i>	(S) The Diocese

KEY: (+) Holy Day of Obligation; (S) Solemnity; (f) Feast; (m) Memoria; (v) votive mass

THE NOVEMBER REQUIEM

is on SATURDAY 18th November 2017 at 9.30am

*The recently departed (and those named below) will be prayed for at this Mass.
Those named below are remembered on the Sunday before and the actual date itself.*

1 st	David Barfleet <i>BISHOP</i> Gordon Clement Annetts Jean Hollis	Olive Whyman Paul Edward Wakelin <i>PRIEST</i> Audrey Edgar
2 nd	Kenneth Turner	19 th Monica Wardle
3 rd	'Joe' (Cecil) Bassett	Leonard Henry Carter
4 th	James Richard Foster <i>PRIEST</i> *	Bertha Mary Ivory
5 th	Michael Frederick Henry Grey - [<i>PRIEST</i>]	Edwin William Edgar Leeson
7 th	John Thomas Waghorn	20 th Marjorie Primrose Walker Sidney George Farrant
8 th	'Sam' (Frederick) Weller Herbert Reginald Jarvis	Joan Kent
9 th	John Richards <i>BISHOP</i>	21 st Phyllis May Philpot Mary <u>Bruce</u> Thurlow
10 th	Peter Warwick Simpson Arthur Barber Elsie Jury	Minnie May Pigden Wilfrid Frederick James Ivory
11 th	<i>Those killed in warfare</i>	23 rd Peter Richard Hill Robert Featherstone
12 th	Jennifer Jane Steer Marjorie Wise Jill Reynolds	Edward Robert Kemsley
13 th	Ethel Mabel Alice Lewing Marjorie Constance Miller	24 th Geoffrey Robert Shelton Hilda Esther Allen
14 th	David John Barnes <i>PRIEST</i> 'Kay' [Kamala Mary] Davis	25 th May Rich Leonard Herbert Merchant
15 th	Doris Stewart,	26 th Ruby Hubner
16 th	Lille Victoria Leeson	28 th Christopher Birkett Eric Waldram Kemp <i>BISHOP</i>
17 th	Sergius Frederick Lewis Clougher (Clewler) <i>PRIEST</i> *	29 th Lilian Fordham Joyce Irene Helen Conway
18 th	Elsie Stevens	30 th Margery Bertha Bassett

NOTE: Except for previous Incumbents of this parish (marked *) or where it is known that people attend this mass to pray for a person the names of those deceased more than 20 years have been removed from the list. However, should someone attend this requiem mass *AND* request the inclusion of other names these will be included in the list of those for whom we pray.

Dying you destroyed our death.
Rising you restored our life.
Lord Jesus, come in glory!

~ DAILY BIBLE READINGS ~

ONLY A FEW MINUTES A DAY following the readings used at Daily Mass
in Church - even if you can't be there. Choose one or both readings.
There are three readings for Sundays and special holy days.

WEDNESDAY - ALL SAINTS' DAY NOV. 1ST

Revelation 7.2-14 1 John 3.1-3
Matthew 5.1-12

Thurs - ALL SOULS' DAY Nov. 2ND

Isaiah 25.6-9 Romans 5.5-11
Matthew 11.25-30

30TH Ordinary Week cont'd

F Romans 9.1-5 Luke 14.1-6
S Rom 11.1-2,11-12, 25-29 Lk 14. 1,7-11

31ST ORDINARY SUNDAY Nov: 5TH

Malachi 1.14 - 2.2, 8-10 1 Thess. 2.7-9, 13
Matthew 23.1-12

M Romans 11.29-38 Luke 14.12-14
T Romans 12.5-16 Luke 14.15-24
W Romans 13.8-10 Luke 14.25-33
Th **DEDICATION OF S. JOHN LATERAN 9TH**
Ezek. 47.1,2,8 - 9.12 John 2.13-22
F Romans 15.14-21 Luke 16.1-8
S Romans 16.3-9,16,22-27 Luke 16.9-15

32ND ORDINARY SUNDAY Nov: 12TH

Also Remembrance Sunday

Wisdom 6.12-161 Thessalonians 4.13-18
Matthew 25.1-13

M Wisdom 1.1-7 Luke 17.1-6
T Wisdom 2.23-3.9 Luke 17.7-10
W Wisdom 6.1-1 Luke 17.11-19
Th Wisdom 7.22-8.1 Luke 17. 20-25
F Wisdom 13.1-9 Luke 17.26-37
S Wisdom 18.14-16; 19.6-9 Luke 18.1-8

33RD ORDINARY SUNDAY Nov: 19TH

Proverbs 31.10-13,19-20,30-31
1 Thessalonians 5.1-6 Matthew 25.14-30

M 1 Maccabees 1.10-15, Luke 18.35-43
41-43,54-64

T 2 Maccabees 6.18-31 Luke 19.1-10

W 2 Maccab. 7.1,20-31 Luke 19.11-28

Th 1 Maccab. 2.15-29 Luke 19.41-44

F 1 Maccab. 4.36-37,52-59 Luke 19.45-48

S 1 Maccab. 6.1-13 Luke 20.27-40

CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY Nov: 26TH

Ezek. 34.11-12,15-17 1 Cor.15.20-26,28
Matthew 25.31-46

34TH Ordinary Week

M Daniel 1.1-20 Luke 21.1-4.

T Daniel 2.31-45 Luke 21.5-11

W Dan. 5.1-6,13-17,23-28 Luke 21.12-19

Th **S. ANDREW the Apostle Nov 30th**

Patron of the Diocese

Isaiah 52.7-10 or Zechariah 8.20-23

Romans 10.9-18 Matthew 4.18-22

The Church's New Year begins on Advent Sunday (Not Dec. 1st!) The Sunday readings will be taken from lectionary year B (the year of Mark's gospel)

NOTE: Not all Bible's contain the books of Wisdom and The Maccabees. Any Bible 'with Apocrypha' will contain these texts.

End by using the Sunday Bulletin 'Opening Prayer' or this 'Prayer after Reading Scripture'

Almighty God, we thank you for the gift of your holy word.

May it be a lantern to our feet, a light to our paths, and a strength in our lives.

Take us and use us to love and serve everyone in the power of the Holy Spirit,
and in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

HIGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

September 11 saw the start of the Parish Council meetings following the summer recess.

Councillor Peter Allison welcomed all those present at Higham Memorial Hall and introduced two representatives from Natural England. The new National Trail, which will eventually be the longest footpath in the world of approx. 4,700 kilometres, will cover the entire coastline of Great Britain and is scheduled to open in 2020. It will encourage more tourists to visit the splendid coastline and long distance walkers will have new routes to discover. Following on from this, more business will be generated. The area spoken about was from Grain to Woolwich. The path from Grain will follow the river Thames inland and cross at Gravesend by ferry over to Tilbury, a separate spur will continue on to Woolwich where it will meet the Thames Path. Existing designated walks will not be affected but additional signage and way marking will be installed. A consultation period of 8 weeks will take place in the summer of 2018 allowing all interested parties to participate in the plans. A number of questions were asked by Councillors and reassurances given by Natural England, who ensured the Parish Council, will be kept informed of future developments.

Chairman, Councillor Jennifer Papadopoulos, thanked Natural England and opened the meeting.

PCSO Kirsty Lowe had come along to introduce herself and to learn of any problems specific to the village. Matters arising from the last minutes were discussed and several items need further discussion.

The newly formed committees: Community Development Committee (CDC) has been busy looking into various plans including Youth Services, the Mayor of Gravesham's Charity boundary walk on October 8. Councillors were briefed on the arrangements to date and there was lively debate. The Higham

Youth Club reopens soon with new leadership provided by the team from The Grand, Gravesend. This will run until summer 2018, when a review will take place.

The Infrastructure Committee (IC) reported on allotments and resulting improvements required and Councillors were given a breakdown of the costs involved. Location of the new defibrillator was discussed and site chosen. There are costs involved in its installation and these were agreed upon. The IC reported on the latest developments with the Lower Thames Crossing (LTC) group. LOVE Higham Village plan ideas and suggestions for the future are being formulated and the team working on these have put posters up around the village and in the shops, library, etc encouraging residents to complete the online survey - there is even a chance to win a £50 shopping voucher. The plan is on schedule and is due to complete in January 2018. Conditions of the roads, pavements and speeding traffic through the village is an ongoing situation which is being monitored and there have been 33 speed watch sessions over the summer with 161 vehicles identified as over the required speed limit. Community volunteers continue with regular litter picking mornings and clearing of overgrown vegetation. The area around The Pavilion has also been tidied up. A recent publicity campaign took place to counteract dog fouling – one of the items most highlighted on the LOVE Higham day and it is hoped there will be an improvement as a result.

A short break was taken for refreshments and several planning applications discussed, very few objections put forward, but, Councillor Pearton informed Councillors that there are delays currently in the department at Gravesham Borough Council. The next meeting is on Monday October 9 in the Memorial Hall at 7.30 pm when the winners of the Garden Competition will receive their prizes. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

Liz Jeffery

HIARA SEPTEMBER REPORT

A romp through Tudor history amused members of HiARA at the September Social Afternoon, when King Henry VIII (Tony Harris) arrived to tell his own version of his life story and why he had so many wives? I thought we all knew why, but never mind!!

Dressed in Tudor costume and dripping with jewels, he proceeded to catalogue his marriages from Katharine - 24 years (enough for any man!) through the other five wives in pursuit of a son. On the way, of course, a small matter of a political break with the Pope, proclaiming the Church of England and his reign forever.

The Rambling Club continues with its autumn and winter programme and you are welcome to join them for lunch, if you don't want to walk. Our book library continues to be popular as do all our other activities. Tickets are now available for the Race night on November 11.

The October meeting will be a talk on finger prints and murder by Jack Deans, specially requested by one of members.....I wonder what he had on his mind?

Pat Oakeshott
HiARA Publicity

HIGHAM WOMENS' INSTITUTE

Higham W.I. met on Thursday 5th October 2017 which was our "silver Cup" event.

Our President, Stephanie Griffith, welcomed all to the meeting and gave a special welcome to two guests.

Representatives' Reports:

Craft: Tess Packer has booked the Vestry Hall for the Craft and Art mornings – all are welcome.

Leisure: Christine Downes: Final payments are due for the Christmas meal at the Knowle .

Christine has been offered tickets for the musical "Tina Turner" in 2018, she will try to obtain tickets for the matinee performance on Thursday 12th July 2018.

District: Veronica Mitchell : Higham W.I. will be organising the Hoo District Carol Service at St. John's Church on Wednesday 13th December 2017 at 7.pm. Invitations have been circulated.

Memorial Hall Committee. Veronica reported that new lighting will be extended soon to the small hall and kitchen. The source of the water leak has been discovered and work will begin soon to seal the joint. The committee has been told that the W.I. will be installing a new cupboard soon.

Quotations are being sought for the re-decoration of the hall, so far only one has been received.

Boot Fairs will begin again from Sunday 8th October .

We then welcomed Jean Garrett, our W.I. Judge who said she was impressed with the high standard of the entries : Chocolate Cakes: Jean gave first prize to the most "choclaty" cake, Scones were not easy to judge, tea loaf, all different,, quiches, all good, jars of jam, only soft fruit jams eligible.

Craft: door stops, all unusual designs, paintings, also difficult to judge, decoupage, brilliant and the buttonholes were excellent.

Susan McCarty then announced the winners:

Susan presented the Silver Cup to Janet Herd, second was herself, third to Sue Buck.

Craft Winner : Kay Lakin, second was Mary Martin and third was Sue Buck.

Susan was thanked for all the hard work she had put in to the evening and we look forward to next year's competition.

Josephine Smith

Adolescent obesity – a deadly habit

Here is some sobering news: too many of Britain's teenagers are Facebooking their way to an early grave by leading global league tables for sedentary habits. Such is the finding of a recent World Health Organisation report.

When adolescent obesity was studied in 42 countries, the UK youngsters came out among the worst for the sheer amount of time they spend on their computers.

85 per cent of girls in Scotland spend at least two hours a day on computers, along with 81 per cent of those in England, and 80 per cent of those in Wales.

The figures for boys are even higher. 88 per cent of 13-year-old boys in Scotland spend at least two hours a day on computers, along with 87 per cent of those in England.

Figures for all UK children aged 11 – 15 show a more than 50 per cent rise in the number compared with 2002.

Meanwhile, one in four teenagers in England is clinically obese by the age of 15. As Tam Fry, the chairman of the National Obesity Forum, put it: 'Adolescents are now slaves to handheld devices, and this is doing nothing for their health'.

As a doctor for WHO warned: childhood obesity has become 'one of the most serious public health challenges of the 21st century... Most young people will not outgrow obesity.'

HIGHAM GARDENS FOR PLEASURE
COMPETITION 2017

This is an annual competition organised by HIGHAM PARISH COUNCIL and judged on our behalf by horticultural officers from GRAVESHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL.

There are no entry forms for Parishioners to complete as every front garden in the village is considered when the judges tour the Parish looking for gardens that give the passer-by the most visual pleasure. In reaching a final decision the judges award points for colour, choice of plants and cultivation, and the overall design of the garden.

This year marks the thirty-third anniversary of the competition. The following prizewinners will receive their awards at a presentation before the Parish Council Meeting to be held on Monday, 9th October 2017.

FIRST PRIZE (Silver Rose Bowl Trophy, Garden Gift Token and framed certificate)

Alison Sutherland, “Blue Haze”, 2, Carton Road.

SECOND PRIZE (Garden Gift Token and framed certificate)

Jennifer Stopher, 2, Martins Close.

THIRD PRIZE (Garden Gift Token and framed certificate)

Gary Stowers, 42, St. John’s Road.

"HIGHLY COMMENDED" (Framed certificate)

Lisa Ward, 30, Brice Road.

"BEST HANGING BASKET AND CONTAINERS"

JOINT FIRST PRIZE

(Garden Gift Token and framed certificate)

Sarah Wall, 5, Providence Cottages, Crutches Lane.

Mary and Nigel Wright, 6, Providence Cottages, Crutches Lane.

“BEST HANGING BASKET AND CONTAINERS”
SECOND PRIZE

(Garden Gift Token and framed certificate)

Heather Golding and Trevor King, “The Banks”, Chequers Street.

“HIGHLY COMMENDED” (Framed certificate)

Shelley Ford and Andrew Ramsell, 45, Bull Lane

Evelyn and John Leach, 32, Telegraph Hill.

“MOST COLOURFUL COMMUNITY FACILITY
WITHIN HIGHAM”

Not awarded this year

FOR ANY OTHER INFORMATION CONTACT
THE CLERK TO THE PARISH COUNCIL,
LINDA CARNALL, ON 01474 822642
enquiries@higham-kent-pc.gov.uk

SUMMER’S ENDED, AUTUMN IS HERE AND THOUGHTS TURN TO

Now that autumn is here your thoughts are probably moving on to Christmas. Whether planning what you will be doing or baking you may soon be thinking about those gifts you will be buying! Don’t forget that if you shop online for food or gifts you will support St John’s Church if you become a member of **Easyfundraising** since many businesses donate a set amount or percentage of your purchase values to a chosen cause.

Simply search for Easyfundraising, register your details and identify your cause. An additional bonus is that gift aid is payable to the cause where members are UK tax payers - an additional 25%! If you use a mobile device download the App, make your purchases through the app and the cause will benefit. On a computer you have already reached the right site when you became a member. Just bookmark or add the page to your favourites.

By the end of August 2017 **£286.73** had been donated at no cost to the members. Full details of how to join, etc are available by using the links on the home page of St John’s Church website: www.highamparishchurch.org.uk.

Why not give it a try?

Liz Croker
Easyfundraising Administrator, St John’s Church

Humility

A noun: *The quality of having a modest or low view of one's importance.* **Synonyms:** *Lack of pride*

Holy Scripture cries to us saying: *"Every one that exalts himself shall be humbled; and he that humbles himself shall be exalted."* (Matt 23.12)

As early as the 13th Century it seems to have been the custom of the monarch to take part in Maundy Ceremonies, to recall our Lord's simple act of humility, by washing the feet of the poor. Later this was reduced to to distributing monetary gifts. The Commandment that so inspired such acts of charity and mercy, also known as 'Mandatum' from which we get our English word 'Maundy', is that of the Lord Jesus Christ *'that you love one another'* (John 13:34)

To wash someone's feet, the act of a servant, is to set oneself in a place of lowliness, an act of humiliation. In the film 'A nun's story,' starring Audrey Hepburn, Sister Luke, having made confession of her faults before her sisters (a practice my brothers and I undertake each week) she is given a penance – in this case to kiss the feet of all the sisters before she is allowed to eat her meal. While issuing such an act Mother Superior says *"the degree of humiliation you feel will tell you how much pride is left in you that needs to be burnt away."* It cannot escape our notice of the closeness in the words 'humiliation' and 'humility' both of which have an absence of pride.

Humility is serving one another after the pattern of Christ, who washed his disciples' feet, who came to serve and not to be served. At a friend's Induction in September the Bishop reminded him that a priest is the servant of the people, the whole people of God entrusted to his care, not just those who attend his church or those with whom he is friendly or even those with whom he sees eye-to-eye, he is to be servant of all, because all are Christ. S.Benedict reminds us, in his Rule, that those who ring the door-bell at the monastery are to be greeted and welcomed as though they were the Lord Himself, to the point that he instructs the monk that they are to kiss the feet of the stranger.

Christians are called to a life modelled after the pattern and likeness of Christ, and this is chiefly to be modelled to the people of God, by our clergy, who, as

they vest and pray before mass are daily reminded of their unworthiness. Monks, nuns and clergy are called to be without pride, having a modest or low view of themselves and of their importance. They should, S.Paul writes, rejoice in suffering for Christ's sake. None of us is perfect, we all fall short, and when someone entrusted with the care of others falls, their fall is magnified and all pass judgement. Again, Holy Scripture instructs us *'first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye.'* (Matt 7.5) S.Benedict's Holy Rule sets out a ladder with twelve steps of humility by which the monk can achieve the necessary humility to be like Christ. *"The first degree of humility, then, is that a man always have the fear of God before his eyes shunning all forgetfulness and that he be ever mindful of all that God hath commanded."*

The Anointed One of God embraced the outcast, touched the unclean and undesirable and stooped to wash the feet of others; should we not care any less for those considered as outcasts, unclean and unwanted – the stranger, the prisoner, the traveller, the addict, the dirty and unkempt? As Christians, those who've clothed themselves with Christ, should we not swallow our pride, set aside our own sense of importance, be humble and minister to these too? Humility means losing oneself and being obedient to the commandment that Christ set before us *'Love one another as I have loved you.'* (John 13.34) The call to be a follower of Christ, is to *deny ourselves, daily, take up our cross and follow him.'* I've heard it said many times that the way of the Cross is a narrow and hard one, a way calling for sacrifice. The hardest sacrifice for us, as for the rich young man in the gospel who asked Jesus 'what shall I do to obtain eternal life', is to renounce all that we have, all that we are, and become a servant, a person of such lowly state as those we have despised and rejected. *Humility: the quality of having a modest or low view of one's importance, the lack of pride.*

God forbid that I should boast, save in the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ. (Galatians 6.14)

Michaelmas 2017



COMMUNITY OF THE
RESURRECTION

+

ALL SAINTS DAY



Wednesday 1st NOVEMBER 2017

A Holy Day of Obligation for Christ's faithful in honour of all His Saints

Morning Prayer: 8.45am

Said Mass: 9.30am

Evening Prayer: 6.45pm

SOLEMN MASS: 7.30pm

**Preacher: The Revd Canon Susanne Carlsson
*The Diocesan Adviser for Spirituality***

Bring and Share food after Solemn Mass. Wine provided.

Holy Communion is available for the sick or housebound upon request

+

+

All Souls Day

*Thursday,
2nd November 2017*

The traditional day of prayer
for the faithful departed

PLEASE NOTE:

Only the names written on
the lists in Church will be
read out at the requiem
masses below.

Lists will be available two
weeks before All Souls' day.

Said Requiem Mass
9.30am

SOLEMN REQUIEM
7.30pm

Preacher: The Revd Derek
Matterhead SSC, SRC

+

*Rest eternal grant them O Lord;
And let light perpetual
shine upon them.*

24hr Memorial Lamps
are available as previously: see
flyer elsewhere in The Bridge

Remembrance Sunday

12th November 2017

+

Solemn Requiem
at 9.30am
for all those killed
in warfare

+

Followed by an
Act of Remembrance
at the
War Memorials
in S.John's Church

Jesu mercy; Mary pray.

12th November is also the

**32nd Sunday in
Ordinary Time**

Mass of the Sunday will
be offered at 6.30pm

Sunday obligation is
fulfilled at either mass.

Holy Communion may be
received at both masses.

LOWER THAMES CROSSING 2017

Update 4

Members of the **Gravesham Lower Thames Crossing Association (LTCA) Steering Committee** met with representatives of **Highways England (HE)** on **8th September 2017**, to discuss progress with the Lower Thames Crossing.

HE stated:

- they have taken on board the main feedback from other meetings (including our meeting in Higham), such as the location of the tunnel portals, the A226 junction, the redesign of the A2 junction, and mitigation measures,
- they were **unable to share any revised proposals** - they hope to be able to share their latest design proposals in late 2017 or early 2018.

HE have been asked to provide:

- information regarding updated **traffic forecasts**, the forecasts for the A226, A227, A228, and associated local infrastructure.
- information regarding **proposals to improve traffic flows at Dartford**, since it is not in our interests to have traffic diverting from Dartford because of ongoing delays and congestion.

From **14 September 2017**, specialist engineers will be onsite to the south of the Met Police rifle range in Gravesend carrying out **ground investigation surveys** for the Lower Thames Crossing.

This will involve drilling several boreholes, to test the properties of the ground and groundwater for up to two weeks. The rigs will be approx. 6m high and there will be 6 – 8 rigs in use.

The land affected by the works will be re-instated to its original state and to the satisfaction of the landowners under the supervision of a HE representative once the works are complete.

HE state that the works will be carried out with the aim to limit disturbance to the natural environment as well as the public.

www.higham-kent-pc.gov.uk

Friday 15 September 2017



Date for Your Diary! - [Saturday 4 November 2017](#) - Launch of 'Called Together'

To: All the People of the Diocese of Rochester

Called Together - the new vision and strategic aims of the Diocese of Rochester - will be launched by Bishop James at Rochester Cathedral on Saturday 4 November 2017 in the afternoon.

Our new vision focuses on the three themes of Growing Disciples, Enriching our Communities, and Resourcing our Mission and Ministry.

This event is an opportunity for us to celebrate and give thanks to God for the work already underway, as well as set out the focus of our shared life for the next five years. We will do this through worship, prayer and sharing stories.

This event will be followed by events in early 2018 in each of the Rochester, Tonbridge, and Bromley & Bexley Archdeaconries. More information on the 4 November event will follow in the coming weeks.

*Diocese of Rochester,
St. Nicholas Church, Boley Hill, Rochester, ME1 1SL*

The Rochester Diocesan Society & Board of Finance is a company limited by guarantee.
Registered in England No. 140656
Registered Charity No. 249339



NOVEMBER 2017 Donation Guide

Please note

All items should be in date
and also be – long life, tinned, dried, jar or packet.

- Tinned vegetables - potatoes, carrots, peas, sweetcorn
 - **Packets of *Instant potato, Soup and Cup a Soup**
 - ***Vegetarian Foods**
 - ***All tinned - Corned Beef, Spam, Ham, Mince, Stewed steak etc;**
 - ***Instant Noodles, rice, *couscous**
 - Coffee, Tea, Hot Chocolate, Sugar
 - ***Jars of Pasta Sauce, Instant Pasta in Sauce, *Tins of Spaghetti ,**
 - Breakfast cereals, Cereal bars, ***Sweet Biscuits and treats eg; Penguin, Wagon Wheels etc; and *Savoury snacks**
 - Rice pudding, ***Tinned Fruit**, Jam, syrup or fruit sponge puddings,)
 - Custard
 - Spreads – jam, marmite, *peanut butter
 - ***Long life fruit juice and bottled squash to dilute, Long life milk**
 - Deodorants , toothpaste, tooth brushes, bath & shower gels
 - Ladies personal toiletries & Toilet rolls.
 - Nappies size 4 & 5
 - Laundry tablets and washing up liquid
- *Above items are currently low in stock at the Foodbank.***

At this time we have enough - baked beans.

**THE COLLECTION BOX WILL CONTINUE TO BE IN ST JOHN'S CHURCH DURING
THE LAST WEEKEND OF THE MONTH
FROM FRIDAY TO MONDAY**

Thank You very much for your support

Gravesham Foodbank hosted by RCCG Life Start
Connections & supported by Gravesham Churches Together
Registered charity number 1135341 Registered in England & Wales
graveshamfoodbank@gmail.com www.gravesham.foodbank.org.uk



NORTH KENT EMBROIDERERS' GUILD



Hello again. We have returned from our summer break and picked up our needles and threads once more. We also welcomed a visitor today. Lucy Horner came along to collect our red crosses quilt. Here is a picture of our finished 70273 quilt being handed over to Lucy, the project coordinator for this area. It was a real pleasure to see the finished quilt. It will be on display in Rochester Cathedral early next year. There are lots more on this worldwide project on our web site.

In the morning meeting we sat and stitched, chatted about the branch programme for the next few months and what we were each looking forward to. One member informed us we had only 100 days before Christmas arrived. This was a timely reminder that we have our Christmas Stitching afternoon scheduled for 18th November. We also held our Annual General Meeting in September and had a review of what we, as a branch, had achieved over the last twelve months. This included being involved in the 70273 quilt project, holding an exhibition for our 30th anniversary and being part of the Gravesham Something for the Weekend festival in August, when we had over 300 visitors come along to look at our display of embroideries. As well as admiring the pieces on show, quite a few visitors remembered when they also sat and stitched. We finished the meeting with a cream tea after a Show and Tell session. Visit www.northkentembroiders.co.uk for more details.



Forget-Me-Not
Vintage

MARIE'S
TEA ROOM
est.2014

Christoph Bull Christmas Tours



Grim Gravesend

7th Dec 7pm meet at the Civic Centre end at Marie's Tea Room.

Mayors, Markets and Mayhem

14th Dec 7pm Meet at the heritage quarter gate at the top of the high street. Finish at Forget-Me-Not Vintage and Crafts

£7.50 each inclusive of crimbo refreshments to book contact: manager@mariestearoom.co.uk | fmnvintage@hotmail.com or book in the shop!

Higham Choral Group

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

a seasonal selection
plus carols for all

7.30pm

Saturday 16th December

St John's Church,

Hermitage Road, Higham

admission £8.00 includes light refreshments
pay at the door

for further information phone 01634 718285 or 01634 718818
or email kateiw@tiscali.co.uk

www.highamchoral.org.uk



*The Kettle's on,
the tea brewed,
all we need is
YOU.*



**First Saturday
of the Month
10.30-12.30
In the Vestry Hall**

Not churchy, just chatty!

Open to all

Lonely? Isolated? Know someone who is?
This community event provides a friendly
welcoming space to meet new people.



VILLAGE DIARY

NOVEMBER 2017

November

- Wed 1st** **All Saints Day – Said Mass 9.30am Solemn Mass 7.30pm**
Brownies & Rainbows – Memorial Hall 5.30pm
- Thurs 2nd** **All Souls Day – Said Mass 9.30am Solemn Mass 7.30pm**
WI Memorial Hall – 7.30pm
- Fri 3rd HiARA – Activities – Memorial Hall – 1.30-4pm
- Sat 4th Coffee & Conversation – Vestry Hall – 10.30am-12.30pm
-
- Wed 8th Brownies & Rainbows – Memorial Hall 5.30pm
- Fri 10th HiARA – Activities – Memorial Hall – 1.30-4pm
-
- Sun 12th** **Remembrance Sunday Solemn Requiem 9.30am**
Boot Fair – Memorial Hall
- Wed 15th Brownies & Rainbows – Memorial Hall 5.30pm
- Thurs 16th Higham History Group – Memorial Hall – 8pm
Talk: “Glad Tidings” Speaker: Imogen Corrigan
- Fri 17th HiARA – Activities – Memorial Hall – 1.30-4pm
-
- Wed 22nd Brownies & Rainbows – Memorial Hall 5.30pm
- Fri 24th HiARA – Monthly Meeting – Memorial Hall – 2-4pm
-
- Mon 27th Higham Parish Council – Memorial Hall 7.30pm
(with the Mayor of Gravesham).
- Wed 29th Brownies & Rainbows – Memorial Hall 5.30pm

CHURCH DRAW RESULTS SEPTEMBER 2017

£50 291 Mrs Dedridge
£10 137 Mr Chapman

NEXT DRAW 30TH OCTOBER