

BISHOP JOHN'S LETTER

Where Respect is Due

Deference has been in decline for some time, and most people these days would think that a good thing. For far too long, it is argued, members of the aristocracy, the legal profession, Doctors and even Bishops have enjoyed a degree of ex officio respect which is no longer appropriate. Although it is difficult to believe now, in the light of recent events, even Politicians could rely on respect as public servants and representatives of the people.

Now things are different. It is not usual to defer to someone simply because of the office they hold or their standing in the social pecking order. It would appear that everyone must now earn the right to be respected, and no one should expect respect as of right. Paying respect is basically payment by results and, as with the conferring of celebrity status, such payment can go up or down depending on prevailing perceptions and the popular mood.

And God has not escaped this deference deficit.

Until the relatively recent past, God was believed in and worshipped simply for being God. Most prayers began by affirming God's characteristics: almighty, everlasting, King of Kings, Lord of Lords, and so on. But with the dawn of the age of Enlightenment and the ascendancy of empirical sciences, results came to matter most and God was judged on performance. For example, does God deliver against agreed targets when it comes to the balance of good and evil in the world? What percentage of prayers are answered? Do believers lead better lives than other people?

Whether or not we would welcome a return to ex officio deference when it comes to how we relate to those who feature in Who's Who, we do need to re-affirm deference in relation to God. That is the essence of worship which honours God simply for being God, and it is the core ingredient of faith whereby we entrust ourselves and our interests to the reality, reliability and benevolence of God.

The season of Trinity invites us to concentrate on the Godness of God, and so find ourselves drawn to worship not out of deference alone, but out of sheer devotion to the one who was and is and is to come.

+John Lincoln

Contents

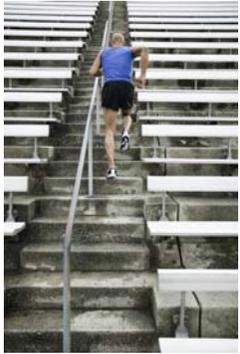
Stairway to heaven?	2
Stephenson Smart / local handyman	3
PCC Committee membership	4
Ordination of Kathy as Priest / SCORE weekend / Companions of the Community of the Resurrection	5
Ladies' Group	6
Humber to the Wash Exhibition / Warwick Rodwell OBE	7
July Diary	8
Bell Tower News	9
Parish Registers / Donations for Church flowers	10
Priest/professor wins top green award	11
The Search	12
Mothers' Union Notes	13
Christian Aid Week 2009	14
New Bishop of Southwell and Nottingham	15
Bishop John's letter: Where Respect is Due	16

Copy Deadlines for the August edition

Would all contributors please submit material by Sunday July 19?



Stairway to heaven?



OK so I reference the wrong artist, but the Grumpy Old Man in me (is there anything else?) harrumphed mightily when the first fifteen minutes of *The World At One* managed to avoid political meltdown in Iran, economic ruin, environmental collapse, grinding poverty and parliamentary mayhem by focusing on the death of a popular musician, and when the 'Guardian' ran about eight pages on Michael Jackson I felt more 'harrumphy' than ever.

I know I'm a Big Brotherophobe, and run a mile from Celebrity Magazines, so I'm not the most reliable source of an opinion on Celebrity Culture. And it could well be that Michael Jackson was a genuinely important artist (though I'm more of a Leonard Cohen man myself). But there's something about the noise and hype of Celebrity Culture which worries me. It seems a bit thin, for one thing, based on 'personality' (as opposed to 'character' or 'nature') and subject to a sort of plastic surgery of the soul. And it presents a set of values which inevitably leave the vast majority of human beings feeling dissatisfied with themselves, branding themselves as 'failures' because they've not emulated the achievements of their idol.

Apparently someone is lamenting the fall of Jordan(?) from grace because she had undergone plastic surgery at great expense to make a living as a 'Jordan' impersonator. That seems to sum up celebrity culture rather well: don't be what you are, take a short cut and be someone else further up the ladder.

I was led to mull over all this because I've just come back from North Country Theatre's labyrinth in Church. All thoroughly mediaeval, up to and including the incense (not a cough to be heard!) and the readings from – among others – Bede. Unlike the Hampton Court Maze, there's no way you can get lost, you just walk along turning and turning again, at your own pace, until you reach journey's end. There's no right or wrong way to walk it, and there's no need to overtake anyone. It is, if you like, an anti-celebrity walk, because the only way to walk it is as yourself, allowing your own thoughts to take over. The celebrity short-cut's not on offer, but you don't actually need it anyway, for the journey isn't about discovering the latest z-list personality but about discovering yourself and yourself-in-God.

New bishop of Southwell and Nottingham.



Rt Rev Paul Butler, Bishop of Southampton

An evangelical, known as a 'children's advocate', has been appointed as the new bishop of Southwell and Nottingham. The Rt Rev Paul Butler (53) who is currently the Bishop of Southampton – a suffragan bishop in the Diocese of Winchester – will replace the Rt Rev George Cassidy who retires next month. The new bishop designate will be the first bishop to be enthroned under the new title of the Diocese.

Bishop Paul has been actively involved in ministry to children throughout his life and in 2005, the Archbishop of Canterbury invited him to become an 'advocate for children' on behalf of the Church of England's bishops – a role he will continue in the new diocesan post.

Paul Butler worked for the evangelical Universities and Colleges Christian Fellowship (UCCF) for two years when he travelled across the Midlands, the north of England and Northern Ireland supporting the organisation's evangelistic work among students, and trained for ordination at the evangelical Wycliffe Hall, Oxford, which was recently the subject of a high profile dispute. The bishop has also been an Inner London Evangelist for the evangelical Scripture Union. This included time on a range of inner London estates and work with the Black majority churches. Bishop Paul has served on the Council of the Rwanda Mission/Mid Africa Ministry from 1988-99 and 2000-1.

He said: "Seeking to help children and young people discover who God has made them to be and how much He loves them, has been a key part of my whole Christian life since I came to a personal living faith in Jesus Christ as a teenager. I long that every child can grow up fulfilling their God-given potential."

On the evening of June 3rd nine members of Barton branch attended the Yarborough Deanery service at St. John's Brigg, along with Brigg, Scawby and Hibaldstow.

Edith Hobson carried our MU banner as they were processed up the aisle to the altar during the first hymn. The Eucharist was taken by Father Owain Mitchell. Proceeds of the collection went towards the restoration fund for St Benedict's. During the last hymn the banners were collected and processed back down the aisle.

After the service we continued the fellowship with refreshments provided by members of Brigg branch. Once again we enjoyed the friendship and fellowship of meeting with other MU groups.

July 1st 9.30am Corporate communion --reader Geoff Brown
 July 15th 2pm Speaker – Revd. Ian Robinson (Caistor)
 Reader & vote of thanks Val Dukes.
 July 22nd 2pm Prayer time Val Dukes

Flowers:

July 3rd Margaret Searle
 July 17th Janet Petch
 July 31st Beryl Crompton

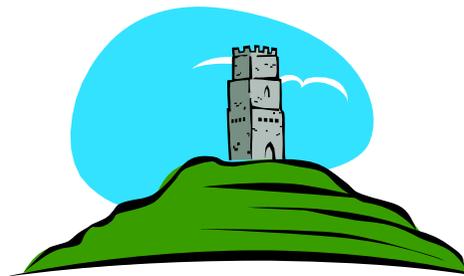
Will all members please check the MU notice board at the back of church for information.

Brenda Skinner

Christian Aid Week 2009

Penny Phillips and the rest of the Christian Aid committee would like to thank those who gave of their time and nervous energy to assist in the house-to-house collection this year.

The collection for Barton amounted to £1684.45, and the area as a whole raised £4474.



walk which you can only do as yourself. Down below, celebrity — up above, stairway to heaven. Apologies, naturally, to Led Zeppelin.....

Fr David

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PCC Committee Membership

The membership of the various committees for 2009 is below. If you'd like to raise a question about a particular area of Church life, you may find it useful to know who's involved with what.

Social

Mrs A.Trubshaw(Chair)
Miss A.Hepworth
Mrs Y.J.F.Hepworth
Mrs I.Ward
*Mrs A.Chapman
*Mrs L.Grindley
*Miss J.Hepworth
*Mrs M.Robinson

Children/Youth/Vulnerable Adults

Mrs Y.J.F.Hepworth(Chair)
Revd D.Rowett
Revd A.Wright
Mr G.Brown
Mrs R.Lamert
Mrs M.Nutbrown
*Mr M.Searle
*Mrs C.P.Smith
*Mrs M.Wright

Mission

Mrs R.Lamert (Chair)
Revd D.Rowett
Mrs V.Dukes
Mrs M.Guilliatt
Miss A.Hepworth
Mrs Y.J.F.Hepworth
Dr.P.Large
Mrs C.G.Smith
¶Mr J.McCartney

Hall

Revd A.Wright(Chair)
Mr G.Brown
Mr A.Mabbott
Mrs M.Nutbrown
Mrs A.Trubshaw
*Mr G.Hobson
*Mr B.Petch
*Mr M.Searle

¶Trinity Methodist representative. * co-opted or likely to be co-opted.

STANDING COMMITTEE 2009-10

ex-officio:

Revd D.Rowett
Mr I.Holt
Mrs V.Dukes
Mr G.Brown
Mr A.Mabbott

others:

Mrs Y.J.F.Hepworth
Mrs R.Lamert
Mrs M.Nutbrown

Mothers' Union Notes

Our meeting on May 20th was opened by singing, "Breathe on me breath of God", then prayers. Sheila then introduced Sue Brumpton who spoke to us about her "Journey of Reconciliation", a trip to The Holy Land. Sue explained that this all started with a letter from Lord George Carey asking for lay and ordained ecumenical people to go on this study tour funded by The Theological Institute. Sue applied and could not believe her luck when she was chosen along with 43 other Christians from all over the country. This began a lot of preparation and reading before departure on March 31st 2008.

Sue illustrated her talk with a Powerpoint display of all the wonderful sights they had seen, even though they were aware of armed soldiers at checkpoints throughout the trip and a dividing wall bringing home how different religions were segregated. Worship was held each morning and evening with each one of the group taking turns in leading. On Sunday they walked "The Way of the Cross", stopping for prayers at each station, during which the normal bazaar and way of life was going on by the locals, just as it would have been as Jesus walked this way.

The Israeli are allowed on the roads but not the Palestinians; they even have different coloured buses. Walking into Bethlehem there are fields on one side and buildings on the other Christians have no rights in this place and they feel abandoned by other Christians worldwide. The pictures showed views of Jerusalem from the wilderness to the Mount of Olives, the Dome of the Rock, the Western Wall and the Arabs' sector, looking over the rooftops showing all the different spires and minarets (all the world in one place). At the lookout tower to Hebron the soldiers discussed the group's safety from the Israeli settlers but as it was the Sabbath the guide took them in and out whilst the settlers were in the synagogue. Through the Damascus gate to Galilee people were being baptised in the River Jordan.

The next view was showing Capernaum looking over to "The Mount" . Sue chose the reading from Matthew chapter 5 verses 1 to 20 "The Sermon on the Mount" which was read by Brenda Skinner. At this point the group were told to dip their hands in the water, splash themselves before turning their faces for home, which all were reluctant to do!!!! Sue was thanked by Brenda for a very interesting thought provoking talk and photos.

The Search

Jesus Christ lives today
He is here to guide the way
How to find the golden key
So that He can talk to me.

JESUS DIED FOR ME.

Bended knees to knock the door,
Holy Spirit in me poor.
Humbly talking to the Lord
Firm belief in His word.

DIED TO SET US SINNERS FREE

Sincere intentions deep inside,
Surely He will be the guide.
Answers come by various means
As my trust on Jesus leans.

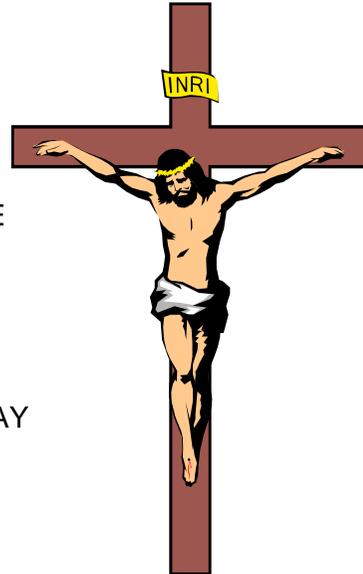
GUIDE AND HOLD ME EVERY DAY

Hard it is indeed to give
My whole self and how I live.
If only I can open out
And full of Alleluias shout.

AS I STUMBLE IN THE WAY

"Come Holy Spirit, come to me,
Set this poor sinner's spirit free.
Use me to serve Thee every day
So I may all my sins repay.

HOLY SPIRIT LIVE IN ME



Dennis Cowe

Ordination of Kathy as Priest, Sunday 27th September, Lincoln Cathedral

Tickets for the coach to Kathy's ordination are on sale from Alan from July 1st at £5 on a first-come-first-served basis. The coach will leave St. Mary's at 8.45am, and leave from the Cathedral at about 12.45pm, depending on the length of the service. There will be services at 8.00 am, and at 6.00 pm. but there will be no 9.30 — we do encourage members of St. Mary's to come and support Kathy.

She will preside at the Eucharist for the first time on Monday September 28th at 7.00 pm.

SCORE Weekend

The **SCORE** Sports' Chaplains' Charity is on Sat/Sun 11th/12th July, with the Coffee morning on the Saturday from 10.00 am till 11.30 am; Graham Taylor will be attending and will talk at the Parish Eucharist on the Sunday.

Graham Taylor, who is from Scunthorpe and is a Scunthorpe United Vice-president, is a former manager of Lincoln City, Watford, Aston Villa and, of course, England, having been a player for Grimsby Town and Lincoln. He is now a regular expert summariser on BBC Radio Five Live. We are fortunate to have such an eminent person as Mr. Taylor to come to our weekend. I hope that people, both sports' fans and the not-so-sporty, will turn out to meet him and talk to him, and also support the Sports' Charity. Gifts of cakes and raffle prizes will be gratefully be received by Alan.

Companions of the Community of the Resurrection

Fr Nick Stebbing CR came to talk to about twenty of us in Brigg St John's last month, and gave us some thoughts about how we might support one another more solidly in the spiritual life. The community is much smaller than it used to be, as most religious communities in the West are at the moment, but is still committed to the work of prayer and study within the Benedictine tradition, and is anxious to share its riches and insights with the wider Church. Small groups meeting regularly (with a bottle, it was suggested!) to share the spiritual journey, its highs and its lows, might be one of the patterns for a healthy Christian life and community.

In the next few weeks a follow-up meeting will take place – meanwhile if you didn't make the meeting and would like to be kept in touch with events, please see David.

Ladies' Group

On 6th May two coach parties of intrepid ladies set off for Skipton to experience the delights of sailing on the Leeds-Liverpool Canal by narrow boat. After a two hour coach ride via the Humber Bridge and passing through places such as Wetherby and Harewood we arrived in time to have coffee before embarking on the 'Dalesman' boat, fifty eight feet long and twelve feet wide, crewed by Colin and Sue. The boat was beautifully painted and inside reminded me of the boats one travels around on in Amsterdam. However, going at a speed of three to four miles per hour, not a journey to take if one is in a hurry!!! The first boat took a three hour journey there and back and the second one an hour.

The history of the Leeds-Liverpool canal, the UK's longest at 127 miles, is a fascinating tale.

The canal was first proposed in 1766, inspired by the success of the Bridgewater canal. At the time, Yorkshire was an extremely prosperous area with booming industrial towns and rich mill owners – including Sir Titus Salt, owner of Salts Mill at Bingley, the world's largest industrial building of the era. It seemed logical that a canal opening up the possibility of coast-to-coast trade would be very profitable. An Act was passed in 1770, and construction began – in fact, the first stretch to be completed was from right here in Skipton to a few miles East in Shipley. Construction came to a standstill until, in 1790, a new plan was finally approved and the canal was finally opened in 1816, by which time other canals had already crossed the Pennines and connected East to West. However, the wise decision to build a wide canal with large locks to accommodate bigger barges meant that the Leeds-Liverpool canal remained open whilst others were forced to close. During its heyday the Leeds-Liverpool transported over one million tons of coal, along with limestone, wool, machinery, groceries, almost anything! However, the spread of railways and their opportunities for cheap haulage meant that trade on the canal dwindled until, in 1960 it finally ceased. The Leeds-Liverpool canal is one of the UK's quietest and most peaceful, particularly in the stretch around Skipton where the Dales scenery is particularly stunning. We saw evidence of this in the woodland and wildlife including mallard ducks, heron, sheep, swans and a beautiful carpet of bluebells.

Instead of lock gates, Collin had to undo the swing bridges as we arrived at them, amusing us by running on ahead. We all agreed it would have been pleasant to walk along the towpath but in these days of health and safety perhaps we weren't allowed!!

Priest-Professor receives top green award

Lancaster scientist and Anglican priest Canon Professor John Rodwell has been awarded the 2009 President's Medal by the Institute for Ecology and Environmental Management. The Medal, first awarded in 2006 to David Attenborough, recognises services to ecology and conservation.

Professor Rodwell, a former Professor of Ecology at Lancaster University, who has worked as a scientist and Anglican priest for over 30 years, received his award from Dr Helen Phillips, Chief Executive of Natural England, the government's advisor on the natural environment, at a reception in London.

"I am honoured to think that my work has made such a difference to the quality of environmental professionals and the way we can understand and care for the natural world," he said.

He co-ordinated the British government research programme that provides a common language for all environmental agencies, non-governmental organisations, utilities and corporate industry to understand and sustain the habitats and landscapes of Britain. Internationally, he has directed skill-transfer programmes for environmental scientists in Siberia, Latvia, Albania, Slovakia and the Czech Republic, provided training for the US Nature Conservancy and advises the European Environment Agency.

A non-stipendiary priest at Lancaster Priory in the Blackburn Diocese, and an honorary canon of Blackburn Cathedral, he is 'especially concerned with the religious perspective on relationships between humankind and creation', and recently led the annual conference of the Leaders of Anglican Religious Communities and chairs the Blackburn Diocesan Environmental Working Group, whose major report is being studied throughout the Church of England.

A minister was searching in the wardrobe for something when he found a box containing two hundred pounds and two eggs! Enquiring of his wife as to what it was for she said 'When your sermons are not good I put an egg in the box.' Quite pleased with the reply he said, 'But what are the two hundred pounds for?'

'Ah', she said, 'When I've collected a dozen eggs I sell them for two pounds!!!!'

Parish Registers

BAPTISMS:

June 14th **Chloe Elizabeth Lord Atkin**, daughter of **Angela Irene Atkin & Brian Victor Lord**.

Freddie Andrew Shepardson, son of **Charlotte Emily & Andrew Martin Shepardson**.

June 21st **Jasmine Amber Castle**, daughter of **Kirsty Marie Hollingsworth & Nicholas Daniel Castle**.

Meredith Roslyn Brown, daughter of **Susan & Daniell Peter Brown**.

MARRIAGES:

June 6th **Michael John Lacy & Rachel Mary-Ann Coombe**.

Mark Robert Dunk & Leanne Marie Rushby.

June 13th **Andrew Richard Tomlinson & Rachael Clayton**.

June 27th **Neil Tomlinson & Leeann Field**.

FUNERALS:

June 1st **Peter James Lee**.

June 3rd **Audrey Vera Nicholas**.

June 4th **John ('Jack') Bernard Hedley**.

June 11th **Irene Sally ('Renée') Taylor**.

June 12th **Kenneth Osgerby**.

June 19th **Richard Ross Amner**.

June 22nd **Andrew Burnett Ross**.

June 23rd **Peter Donald Gray**.

June 23rd **Norman Harban Weston**.



Donations for Church flowers

have been received in loving memory of George E. Bell and E. Muriel Bell

Shirley Creasey

We had a superb salad lunch on board and arrived back in Skipton and who should we meet but Father David about to start his 'Three Peaks walk'. A good job we were all behaving ourselves, including him!!! We had time to sample the shops before making the return journey to Barton. As 'Wallace' would say, 'A grand day out!!!'

S.W.

ROPEWALK EVENTS AND EXHIBITIONS

Humber to the Wash Exhibition

Artists from East Yorkshire, northern Lincolnshire and Norfolk are taking part in this year's major summer exhibition at Barton upon Humber's Ropewalk Contemporary Art & Craft gallery. The exhibition continues until Sunday, September 6. As with all exhibitions at Ropewalk Contemporary Art & Craft there is no admission charge.

More details on www.the-ropewalk.co.uk.

Warwick Rodwell OBE.

Spike Milligan once penned a poem – The Civil Servant's Prayer — that went something like this:

"When it's OBE time in England,
And the knighthoods flow like wine,
In next year's Birthday Honours,
If you're stuck for a name, use mine."

So it was a delight to spot in this year's birthday honours, the award of an OBE to Warwick Rodwell for services to Church archaeology. Professor Rodwell is best known around here for his masterminding of the St. Peter's excavation of thirty years ago, but he has also been heavily involved in Westminster Abbey (where he discovered England's oldest door), Lichfield Cathedral (where he recently discovered an Anglo-Saxon angel) and Glastonbury Abbey (where to date he has found no trace of Arthur, Guinevere or Merlin). His contribution to the archaeology of parish churches is immense, and he wrote what has become the standard textbook on the subject. We offer him our (long-distance — he lives in Somerset) congratulations.

July Diary

Wed. 1 9.30 am Said Eucharist (MU Corporate).
 Sat. 4 2-4 pm Church Garden Party at 13 Burgate.

July 5th - Trinity 4

8.00 am Said Eucharist.
9.30 am Parish Eucharist.
11.15 am Sunday Club.
2.30pm Service at The Willows
6.00 pm Choral Evensong

Mon. 6 9.30 am Clergy Chapter at Ulceby.
 10.15 am Toddler Time.
 2.00 pm Standing Committee.

Tue. 7 7.30 pm Guild of Servants of the Sanctuary service.

Wed. 8 9.30 am Said Eucharist
 2.00 pm Service at Eagle House.
 7.15 pm Ministry Team meeting.

Sat. 11 10-11.30 SCORE Coffee Morning with Graham Taylor.

July 12th Trinity 5

8.00 am Said Eucharist.
9.30 am Parish Eucharist – address by Graham Taylor.
4.00 pm Baptisms.
6.00 pm Evening Prayer.

Mon. 13 10.15 am Toddler Time.

Tue. 14 7.00 pm Said Eucharist.

Wed. 15 9.30 am Said Eucharist.
 2.00 pm MU. *Speaker – Revd. Ian Robinson (Caistor)*
 7.00 pm Stewardship steering group meets at the Vicarage.

Thu 16 Home Communions

Sat. 18. 2.30 pm Julia & Ian's wedding.

July 19th Trinity 6

8.00 am Said Eucharist.
8.30 am Prayer Breakfast @ Trinity
9.30 am Family Worship & Baptisms.
3.00 pm Blessing of Pets Service.
6.00 pm Parish Eucharist.

Mon. 20 10.15 am Toddler Time.
 Home Communions at St. Peter's Court (10.15) &
 Victoria House (11.00).

Tue. 21 7.00 pm Said Eucharist for wholeness & healing.

Wed. 22 9.30 am Said Eucharist.
 2.00 pm MU Prayer time.
 7.30 pm Mission Committee meets at 77
 Bowmandale.

July 26th

Trinity 3

8.00 am Said Eucharist.
9.30 am Parish Eucharist.
6.00 pm Evening Prayer.
E1W Barbeque in the Vicarage Garden.

Mon. 27 10.15 am Toddler Time.
 7.00 pm Said Eucharist.
 7.30 pm PCC Meeting.

Tue. 28 7.00 pm Said Eucharist.

Wed. 29 9.30 am Said Eucharist.
 2.00 pm Service at Beech House.

Morning Prayer is usually said at 9am Monday-Wednesday in the S^t James' Chapel.



Bell Tower News

The bells will be silent for the first half of July as they undergo essential maintenance. They will be heard in proper action for the first time once more for Ian and Julia's wedding on July 18th.