

Addresses

contents

Colour, Variation and Change: The green, the white and the purple

Those three colours represent the colours in which the altar, the bookshelves and the hangings in the church and the Eucharistic vestments of the ministers change colour with the season. They describe more than 90% of the Church's year. Since Easter, we have been in one of the white seasons. Some people would see these changing colours of church furnishings and dress as something trivial. But these changes illustrate what parts of the gospel we remember at particular times of the year. The Christian calendar is focused on Easter. The white liturgical colour of Easter continues until Ascension Day and the Sunday ten days after Ascension Day represents the Jewish feast of Pentecost, which is exactly 50 days after Easter. The 50 days represent a week of weeks or a sabbath of sabbaths: 7×7 days. Pentecost, known traditionally as Whitsunday, is one of the few exceptions to the green-white-purple rule, because the liturgical colour is red.

We can consider the changing liturgical colours as analogous in a quite different way to the changing seasons of the year. We might for example categorise winter as black or dark grey, spring as green, summer as dark green or yellow, autumn as orange or brown. But the point that I am trying to make is that life goes on. Change takes place, variation in weather recurs, as the seasons pass by, so life is exposed to change, and every year, the cycle begins again.

One thing however that does not recur in a cycle is our age, which goes on going up as the years go by. This brings us to another example of the diversity of life and the inevitability of change. As we get older, even if our health remains unaffected by many of the traditional diseases from which people die, the ageing process relentlessly weakens and to some extent undermines, the body's strength as we approach old age.

Many people would regard the ageing process as something depressing and best not thought about until we are unable to avoid thinking about it. However, the inevitability of ageing is made easier to accept if we have some form of belief. If we know as we get older that God is working in our lives, then we can feel more confident of his support in all our problems of age, infirmity and decrepitude, and have confidence that when our bodies eventually give up functioning altogether, that is not the end: that our personalities survive and we may waken to joy and a new world outside the physical one. Jesus reawakened three days after his death on Good Friday: we do not know anything about timescales for our own personal survival, but the continuation of the white colour of rejoicing in the church furnishings symbolises our continuing hope of our reawakening to joy in the presence of God.

Peter

A new Saint added to the Church lectionary

At its February meeting, the General Synod passed a resolution to add a little-known saint to the church calendar. St. Mabiletus of Orange lived for much of his life in the town from which he takes his name. Orange is a former Roman settlement in the South of France. The day set aside to remember him is called “O Tu es” day, from the first words of his collect in French, “O Thou art”. He was one of Three men who went roaming from the Italian capital; he sent an application to be admitted to Orange; the text of the app is now missing, but his writing must have been smart, as he was accepted by the people of Orange.

The local people welcomed Mabiletus with a basket of apples – after he had tried to gain admission to the city through the city gates. At first he wasn't able to enter, but the citizens all shouted “Knock here” and he gained access. His emblem is a bunch of keys, set out in a very queer order, below a blackberry bush. The day he has been allocated in the calendar is April 1st.

Medieval Monuments in St Mary's church

In a recent article Nigel Saul has described what he calls the ‘remarkable series of medieval floor monuments’ to be seen in St Mary's church. These include two with surviving brasses and thirteen others, many of which have lost their brass inlays and/or have been badly damaged by treading feet or intentional vandalism. The grave slabs are of three types of stone - local Lincolnshire limestone most often quarried in the Ancaster area; Purbeck marble, not really marble but a fossiliferous limestone quarried on the Isle of Purbeck in Dorset; and three of what is known as Tournai marble, again not really marble but a fine-grained black Carboniferous limestone quarried on the banks of the River Scheldt near Tournai in Belgium and shipped into ports along the east and south coasts of England. Ready-made and carved Tournai marble fonts were imported into England in the 12th century and of the seven remaining in English churches two are in Lincolnshire, at Lincoln Cathedral and the church of St Lawrence at Thornton Curtis. More commonly Tournai marble was imported for use as grave slabs and 12 survive in the two Barton churches (three in St Mary's and nine in St Peter's) and there are no less than 23 in St Botolph's church, Boston. The slabs, like the fonts, appear to have been worked by Flemish sculptors before being shipped to England.

Part One – the three black Carboniferous limestone grave slabs often referred to as being of Tournai marble

1. The finest of St Mary's Tournai slabs (number 7 in Sally Bedham's list) is that located inside the rails immediately south of the altar. Incised but now poorly preserved on the top of the slab are the figures of a man and his two wives whose heads and hands were originally inlaid with long-gone brasses. The figures,

which lie under a canopy, have animals at their feet and are accompanied with censing angels. This slab, like the two below, is Flemish work of the early-14th century.

2. Again inside the rails but to the north of the altar lies another rectangular, much worn Tournai slab (number 8 in Sally Bedham's list). This one displays a man and his wife under a canopy.

3. The third of St Mary's Tournai slabs is to be found on the south side of the chancel immediately to the west of the altar rails. This one commemorates a veiled lady with indents for her head, hands and an inscription. On both sides of her head there are indents for two tiny figures. The rest of the composition is worn away.

Footnotes

1. Further information on all three of Barton's Tournai slabs can be found in Sally Bedham's piece in Rodwell and Atkins *St Peter's Barton-upon-Humber A Parish Church and its Community* (Oxford 2011, p. 661) and Nigel Saul's piece 'The Medieval Monuments of St Mary's, Barton on Humber' in Davies, M. and Prescott, A. (eds), *London and the Kingdom. Essays in Honour of Carilone M. Barron*, Proceedings of the 2004 Harlaxton Symposium (Donnington 2008).

Sally Bedham does suggest that some or all of these slabs might be of Namur stone.

Geoff Bryant

Swallow

Bearer of warm fortune,
From my tear blurred eye
Once gone, now suddenly returns
With grace, speed, joy,
Holding secrets unseen.
Oh.. to be that life
In another time.

Carol Jacklin 2015

From the Bishop of Lincoln

As I sit down to write my letter to you, I do so in the same week that many of our clergy and readers have been preparing to preach on the anointing of Jesus at Bethany. It's a familiar story from the gospel of John, which tells of Mary taking a jar of expensive perfume and, in a moment of seemingly reckless extravagance, pouring the sweet-smelling perfume over the feet of Jesus before wiping it away with her hair. This apparent waste horrifies Judas Iscariot, who will go on to betray Jesus and hand him over to the Jewish police, and ultimately to the occupying Roman Army to be crucified.

It is a poignant and powerful story of human love and generosity, jealousy and betrayal. I encourage you to reach for your bible and read the story again for yourself, because it is also a wonderful illustration of the generous and extravagant God whom you and I profess, and whose love is most perfectly expressed for us in the death and resurrection of Jesus, which we celebrate at Easter.

In her care for Jesus, Mary's actions speak of love and generosity, of honouring Jesus. By contrast, Judas is consumed by jealousy, spite and, ultimately, betrayal.

The irony is that both Mary and Judas are needed in our story: Mary's extravagance points to the overflowing generosity of God, which we see most profoundly in the death and resurrection of Jesus; it is Judas' betrayal of Jesus that leads to Jesus' death, making the resurrection possible. Then, as now, we find the best and the worst of humanity existing side by side.

In this, the story mirrors the reality of life as you and I live it today.

However, the message of the resurrection is that goodness is stronger than evil; love is stronger than hate; light is stronger than darkness; life is stronger than death. The challenge for all of us is to hold fast to the values of love and compassion, generosity and service, particularly when the prevailing culture around us makes it hard to do so, and jealousy and spite, hatred and betrayal can seem to have the upper hand.

I wish you a blessed and a happy Easter.

+Christopher Lincoln:

Shoebox News

Last month at our Shoebox Group Joyce set herself a challenge... "I'm going to see how many teddy bear puppets I can knit between now and next month's shoebox group." - Who would have thought that one person could knit 60 bears in just 30 days! Well done and thank you Joyce, you are an inspiration. We are incredibly fortunate to have such an enthusiastic and resourceful team of shoe-boxers with such a variety of skills and talents.

During April we will be collecting Hair Brushes and Combs, but as always will be grateful to receive wool, fabric and any other shoebox items. We are also running short of empty plastic video cases which we use for our pencil cases and sewing kits.

The next event we have planned is a Music Quiz on Saturday 23rd April, 2:00-4:30 in the Church Hall. Why not join us for an afternoon of music and laughter? (Admission is £2 per person, which includes refreshments.)

Our next Shoebox Group meeting is on Tuesday 5th April (1:30-3:00 in the Church Hall)...everyone welcome!

Julia Wilson

Barton Civic Society

Cinemas played a vital role during the Second World War, providing news and entertainment and maintaining morale. Hull's National Picture Theatre, on Beverley Road, is England's last civilian blitzed ruin. In April, Hilary Byers – a member of the Trust trying to save and restore the cinema, tells the story of the bombing in 1941, how its significance was recognised over fifty years later, and how these listed ruins are being rescued and preserved to teach future generations

about the part played by civilians in the Second World War. **The Fall and Rise of the National Picture Theatre** is on Friday 15 April at 7.30pm in the Assembly Rooms.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting.....

.....is on Monday April 18th, starting at 7.00 pm with Eucharist.

FROM THE REGISTERS:

Funerals:-

Mar 1 Harold Kenneth (Ken) MUMBY
Mar 8 John Dodsworth MAY
Mar 17 Marjorie (Madge) DICKINSON
Mar 18 Keith Harold GOULDING
Mar 21 Faith (Fay) SHEPHERD
Nora Elaine CHAPPELL
Mar 23 Letha Ann MORRIS
Mar 29 Thomas Henry Allen (Harry) HADDOCK
Mar 31 Shirley Margaret SMITHSON

Donations for Church flowers have been received in loving memory of:-

Denzil Blanchard
Frank and Kathleen Howard
Lucy Booty
Marie Danson

Donations have also been received from members of the congregation for flowers in Church.

Thank you

Wilderspin National School

Just a diary note to let readers know we are doing our bit for the EU referendum, and will be holding a debate and information evening on Friday 6th May at 7.30pm in the Joseph Wright Hall adjacent to the School. Our MP Martin Vickers and others will be outlining the arguments for remaining or leaving.

Mothers' Union

Our meeting in March was a Quiet Time for Lent. We started with a short service, singing "When I survey The Wondrous Cross", followed by Brenda reading from Luke 23 v 23-47 (the passage on The Crucifixion), then Linda said prayers.

Father David led us into our quiet thoughts by talking about how poetry (scriptural) can be a means of encountering God. Psalms, hymns, and passages from scripture are all forms of poetry. David had chosen three poems on The Passion in the form of hymns, "There is a green hill far away", "When I survey the wondrous cross", and "Morning glory starlit sky". (123, 127, 259 in the Common Praise hymn book).

We studied each one individually asking the following questions:-

What does this say to me about God?

What does it tell me about myself?

What does it tell me about Jesus?

And my overall feelings about the meanings in each hymn?

This was a very thought provoking afternoon! Perhaps you the reader would like to look at the words of these hymns and see what you can find!

David was thanked by Mavis for leading us in a thoughtful quiet time saying how good it was to be still and quiet in such a busy world outside.

B.S.

April 4th Lady Day Service 12 noon

April 6th Corporate Communion 9.30am

April 20th Trinity Rally 2.30pm

Flower Rota:- April 17th Auriol Trubshaw

Women's World Day of Prayer 2016

We celebrated this year's service at St Mary's Church on Friday March 4th.

The service for 2016 was put together by Christian women of Cuba, the theme being "Receive Children, Receive Me" based on the bible passage from Mark 10 verses 13 to 16, when Jesus says "Let the children come to Me".

Members from Trinity Church, The Salvation Army, St Augustine Church, St Marys Church and Pupils from St Peters School took part in the service.

Thank you to everyone who took part, making the service truly special.

B.S.

Facts and Figures from Brian

- If Easter this year had been **one** day earlier, the number of Sundays to Advent Sunday would have been the maximum number possible, of 27.
- March 2nd, St. Chad's Day, was Margaret Robinson's birthday. Chad had close associations with Barton-upon-Humber.
- March 2nd is a very unlikely date for Mothering Sunday (this year it was March 6th), because Easter would have to be 4 days **earlier** than it is this year – most **unlikely**.
- However in 2008, St. Chad's Day, Mothering Sunday and Margaret's Birthday all coincided, meaning she got cards for two occasions. A life-time's coincidence.
- That last happened in 1913 and 1856, and will happen again in 2160 and 2228 [*unless of course they go to a fixed Easter –which we may not know about Ed.*]

DBR

Fri 1st April	6.00 pm		Prayers before the Blessed Sacrament
Sat 2nd	11.00 am		Lectio divina
Sun 3rd April		Easter 2	
	8.00 am		Said Eucharist
	9.30 am		Parish Eucharist
	2.30 pm		Service at The Willows
	6.00 pm		Said Evening Prayer
Mon 4th		Annunciation of the BVM	NO Toddler Time
	12noon		Said Eucharist

Tues 5th	8.00 am	Benedict	Said Eucharist
	1.30 pm		Shoebox Group (Hall)
Wed 6th	9.30 am		Said Eucharist (MU Corp.)
	2.00 pm		Service at Beech House
	7.30 pm		Ladies' Group
Sat 9th	11.00 am		Lectio divina
Sun 10th April		Easter 3	
	8.00 am		Said Eucharist
	9.30 am		Parish Eucharist
	4.00 pm		Baptisms
	6.00 pm		Said Evening Prayer
Mon 11th	9.30 am		Toddler Time
	9.30 am		Deanery Chapter (Scawby)
Wed 13th	9.30 am		Said Eucharist
Sat 16th	11.00 am		Lectio divina
Sun 17th April		Easter 4	

	8.00 am		Said Eucharist
	9.30 am		Parish Eucharist
	Evening		Orchestral concert
Mon 18th	9.30 am		Toddler Time
	7.00 pm		Eucharist and Annual Parochial Church Meeting
		Home Communions this week	
Tues 19th	7.00 pm		Said Eucharist
Wed 20th	9.30 am		Said Eucharist
	2.30 pm		Mothers' Union Meeting at Trinity Floral Rally
	7.30 pm		Ladies' Group
		Parish News	Deadline
Thurs 21st	2.00 pm		Songs and Scones (Hall)
Sat 23rd	11.00 am	George, Martyr	Lectio divina
	2.00 pm		Music Quiz (Hall)
	7.00 pm		Servers' Dinner (The Wheatsheaf)
Sun 24th April		Easter 5	

	8.00 am		Said Eucharist
	9.30 am		Parish Eucharist
	11.30 am		Baptisms
	6.00 pm		Said Eucharist with hymns
Mon 25th	8.45 am	Mark, Evangelist	Said Eucharist
	9.30 am		Toddler Time
	7.00 pm		Eucharist and PCC
Wed 27th	9.30 am		Said Eucharist
	2.00 pm		Service at Westbridge House
Thurs 28th	2.00pm		Service at Eagle House
Sat 30th	11.00 am		Lectio divina
Sun 1st May		Easter 6	
	8.00 am		Said Eucharist
	9.30 am		Parish Eucharist
	2.30 pm		Service at The Willows
	6.00 pm		Choral Evensong

St. Mary's Ladies' Group

The first meeting in March was a Quiz organised and run by Vic Jackson (former Biology teacher at Baysgarth School).

The ladies were in teams of 6 and the winning team was captained by Pam Read.

Easter eggs were the first prize whilst those in the lowest scoring team received knitted chick complete with a cream egg.

The Group is visiting Lincoln Cathedral and the Castle (to see the Magna Carta) at the end of March. S.W.

Over to you.....

As you know I am the Bishop's visitor for St. Peter's and thought you might like an insight into the kind of message the Bishop of Lincoln sent them in a letter for Easter.

He hoped they would all enjoy their Easter Eggs but to realise that Easter is about more than that. He spoke of how Jesus wasn't afraid to tell people that God loves us all so much that He wanted things to be different from how they were then. The things He said made some powerful people very cross, so they put Him to death on the cross. God wouldn't let things stay as they were, this was because God wanted us to know that even when we're very sad, things can get better. That is why Jesus came alive again.

The disciples were very sad and thought that everything had come to an end. But God made sure that that was actually the beginning of something new and exciting.

When we are sad we can always be sure that God will be with us until new and happier times come along. God did something completely new and unexpected which actually made things better for everyone.

He went on to send his blessings to all the staff and children and their families for a Happy Easter.

This is the sort of message we can all understand and believe in! S.W.



Joyce Gibson has been busy! (see Shoebox article)



Lent Lunch images





SONGS & SCONES

A great opportunity for older people living in East Riding and North Lincolnshire to come together and share an enjoyable afternoon in the company of Live Music Now musicians. Expect songs from West End shows, well known folk tunes, popular songs and light classical music. Each informal concert will be followed by a cup of tea, cake and a chance to chat and make new friends in the local area.

WHEN & WHERE

Each performance is 2pm-4pm.

St Mary's Church Hall -
Barton-on-Humber
Thursday 21 April
Thursday 30 June (Barton Arts
Festival)
Thursday 6 October
Thursday 15 December

Branston Village Hall - Lincoln
Friday 1 April
Friday 23 September
Brough Methodist Church Hall -
East Riding (2.30pm)
Wednesday 9 March
Wednesday 14 September

This project is being supported
by The Band Trust, Barton Arts
Festival, The Mere Trust and North
Lincolnshire Community Fund.

See Music Now Registered Charity No. 273285
Photo credit: Ian Garside

HOW TO BOOK

To book your place or find out more please
contact Live Music Now on 07816557452.

