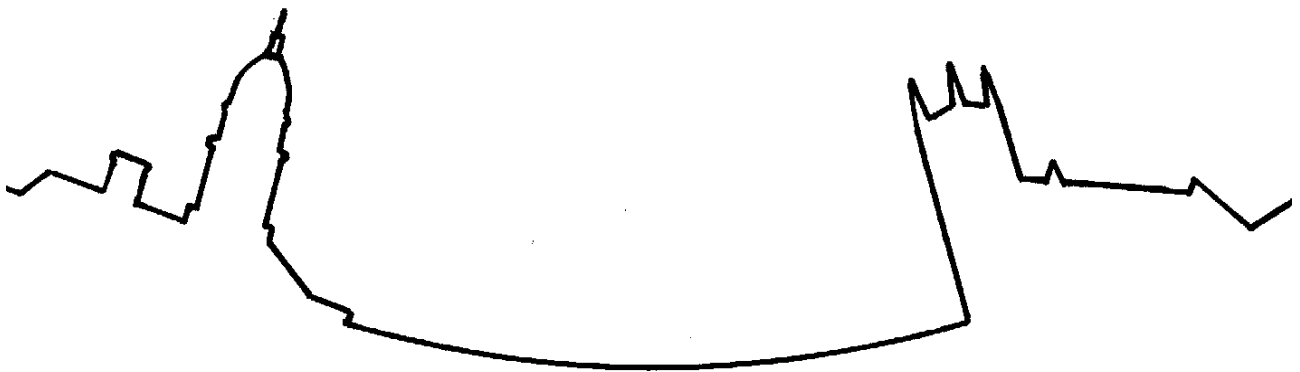
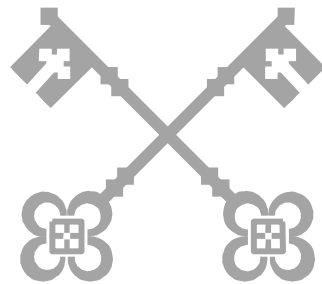


Christians Together in Bolton Town Centre

BOLTON PARISH CHURCH

St Peter, Bolton-le-Moors

Parish News
May 2010



Anglican Witness in the Heart of Bolton

50 pence

Dear Friends,

As I write, Matt, Michelle and Ellie are in the midst of a well-deserved holiday in the Lakes, doubtless dodging a few raindrops and gusts of wind but hopefully relaxing all the same. I didn't ask whether they had used a postal ballot for the May 6 elections, but as people of conscience I am sure they have!

Bob and I returned from our holiday a week ago to find parliamentary election campaign leaflets from three of the candidates in our constituency of Bolton South-East behind the door—one Labour, one Conservative and one Christian People's Alliance.

The contents of the leaflets reminded me again of the important question about the role of religion and faith in the political and public arena.

The leaflet from the Christian People's Alliance candidate is just what it says on the tin—overtly Christian, but within it addressing some of the day to day concerns of most citizens, like the future of the National Health Service and the place of truth and integrity in politics. Unsurprisingly, the other candidates make no reference to matters of faith at all.

We are often told that British politics and public life is very different from American, where religion is very much more on the agenda. I find that somewhat ironic given the complete constitutional separation of state and church in America and the fact that, at least for the moment, we still have an established church that is woven into the political life of our nation through the presence of Church of England bishops - the Lords Spiritual - in the House of Lords.

But is it a good thing or a bad thing for political candidates to nail their religious and spiritual colours to the mast during an election campaign? Should Christian faith be overt - up front and in your face - or covert - a subtle, some would say insidious, behind-the-scenes influence in politics?

For all potential politicians, whatever their faith and beliefs and whatever their politics, one would hope that beliefs and values are thoroughly woven into everything that they think and say and do.

For me, my political expectations are much like my ethical ones. I would hope that those with power and influence, like our political leaders, would use it wisely for the benefit of the greatest number of people. But at the same time I would want them to remember that sometimes there is a clear distinction between right and wrong and that the end doesn't always justify the means.

So whether our new parliament and council are red, blue, yellow or well and truly 'hung' (I wonder whether that would make them either orange or green, assuming purple is definitely out in terms of political alliances?) whoever we elect will need our prayers - whether they think they want them or not!

I have heard it said that the Church has no place in politics, but the reality is that as Christians we ignore the political sphere at our peril.

Some of us may not be party-political people, but there is a place nonetheless for a prophetic voice willing and ready to call to account those who have responsibility for our individual and communal welfare and to champion the cause of the powerless and voiceless in our society.

Long may peace and justice prevail!

With my love and prayers

Judie Horrocks

Walsh's



Donations urgently required for VISION AID, the Bolton based charity for blind and partially sighted babies and children. This is the charity we support. Contact Lesley Green 01204 64265.

De Olde Pastie Shoppe

Open: MONDAY - FRIDAY 9.30 a.m. to 2.30 p.m.
Closed: SATURDAY and SUNDAY

We are the little shop with the big reputation. We have served generations for generations, and the family has run the business since 1898. We sell fresh and frozen pasties and meat pies, along with pasties, whist pies and mini sausage rolls which are great for parties. Our uncooked frozen pasties, which can be baked at home for that 'fresh from the oven' taste, are well worth a try.

29 - 31 Churchgate, BOLTON BL1 1
Tel : 01204 - 524834 Fax: 01204 - 371682

Pilgrimage Visit by the Bishop of Manchester

Since May 2006, the Bishop of Manchester has been visiting all 300+ parishes in the Diocese one by one.

On Tuesday 29 June, he will make his visit to Bolton Parish Church and St. Philip's.

The event will begin with a special service of pilgrimage prayers at St. Philip's at 4pm.

Bishop Nigel will then visit one or two businesses and community projects within the parish.

At 6 pm he will attend a reception for community representatives and parishioners in the Parish Hall.

The evening will culminate in a special service in Church at 7.00 pm to which everyone is invited and during which the organ will be re-dedicated.

Make sure you have the date in your diary and join us as we tell the Bishop 'our story' and celebrate the story of our faith together.



Churchgate Festival Weekend 2010

The Churchgate Festival for 2010 will be held on the weekend of 10 - 12 June to coincide with the Bolton Le Mans Motorsport Festival on 11 - 12 June.

Book the Friday night (10 June) in your diaries now for a social evening with a French flavour.

Watch for more details in the June magazine.

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Church?

And God created the church
to be in the image of Christ,
an incarnation of the grace of God,
to love and serve
to laugh and seek
to look for faith, speak out for justice
and, where occasion demands,
by those uncomfortable with such actions,
be Crucified.

And God brought forth the church
by a new form of birthing,
the labour a baptism of death and rising anew,
that pride and control
prejudice and corruption
paranoia and collusion
shall of necessity,
by all too comfortable with their New Birth,
be Buried.

And God holds the church
however dull Christ's image,
offering grace that all may be
selfless enough to love themselves
secure enough to lose themselves
safe enough to light fires of love
with reckless abandon,
so finding themselves
with their indwelling God
partaking Resurrection.

Joy Pope (2002)



William Hunt

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Est. 1986

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Time-served Tradesman

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01942 813122

The Parish Church of St. Peter, Bolton-le-Moors

Bolton Parish Church stands firm and secure,
its lofty pinnacles reach for the sky;
A towering sentinel keeps guard over town,
with an ever-watchful eye.

A reminder of faith in years past,
and those which are to come,
Paths as yet untrodden,
on our walk thro' this millennium.

Time ticks by on the high clock-face,
and the town moves on, passes by,
Maybe wearied by life's stressful pace.
Step inside! Spare a moment or two,
your Parish Church beckons,
There's a welcome for you.

Freda Rothwell (2000)

Update from the Social Committee

- The coffee morning on Saturday the 17 April raised £184 for the work of the "Passion for Bolton" project.

"Passion for Bolton" has been set up to organise a Passion play in Bolton on 23 April 2011 which will take place in the Town Hall Square.

"Passion for Bolton" is still looking for volunteers who will be able to help before, during and after the event. Contact Judie Horrocks for more details.

- On Saturday the 17th July Bolton Parish Church Choir will be travelling up to Carlisle for the day and singing Choral Evensong at the Cathedral at 5.30pm in the evening.

A coach will be arranged and members of the congregation would be most welcome to join the choir on this exciting day out!

Prices and details are still to be arranged. If you would be interested in this day out please speak to any member of the social committee who would be happy to answer your questions.

If you have any suggestions for events please don't hesitate to speak to a member of the Social Committee, all ideas and thoughts are gratefully received!

TEAL ONE CALL

Plumbing - 24 hour call out

**LEAKS - TAPS - SINKS - TOILETS
DRAINS - RADIATORS
BATHS & SHOWERS**

Please ring Gordon
SMITHILLS, BOLTON

Tel: 07792 195817 or 01204 493852



Coming next month

The first profile
of a member of
the Bolton Parish Church family:

**"What do you do
when it's not Sunday?"**

How long have you been part of
Bolton Parish Church?
What does worshipping here
mean to you?
How does it connect
with the rest of your life?

Contact Judie on 01204 522226
or 01204 794477
or e-mail her at
lecturer@boltonparishchurch.co.uk
if you would like to be inter-
viewed later in the series.

**Bolton Parish Church
Lunchtime Concerts**

2010 Season



Tuesdays from 1.15 pm to 1.50 pm

*Admission free
Tea and coffee served*

May 11th
BOLTON SCHOOL SENIOR AND ADVANCED
GUITAR GROUPS
directed by Jeremy Bleasdale

May 18th
BEN SMITH (Bolton School) – Piano
(Bach – Goldberg Variations)

May 25th
HELEN ANNE GREGORY – Mezzo-soprano

June 1st
DAVID WYNNE – Baritone

June 8th
ADRIAN VAN DER SCHANS
(Haslingden Parish Church) – Organ

June 15th
LINDA CARRINGTON (Lytham St. Anne's) –
Organ

June 22nd
PAUL GREENHALGH— Piano
(Mozart and Albeniz)

June 29th
STUDENTS FROM THE JUNIOR ROYAL
NORTHERN COLLEGE OF MUSIC

July 6th
"CHAMPAIN" – Sacred and secular trios
(Byrd, Weelkes, Henry VIII)

July 13th
GARY HULME (Oldham) – Organ

July 20th
STEPHEN MARTLAND
(St. Thomas & St. John, Radcliffe) – Organ

July 27th
MICHAEL PAIN
(Bolton Parish Church) – Organ

**Bolton Parish Church
Organ Recitals 2010**

Wednesday 9th June at 7.30 pm
DAVID BRINDLE
(Preston)

Admission £5, Concessions £3

Wednesday 8th September at 7.30 pm
PHILIP RUSHFORTH
(Chester Cathedral)

Admission £7, Concessions £4

RELPH'S OF BOLTON

*24 Hour Funeral
Service*

ARDEN HOUSE,
BLACKBURN ROAD
BOLTON BL1 8DW



Telephone: 01204 523488

Personal Service by the Relph Family

A Very Special Birthday

On Tuesday 4 May, Margaret Gelling celebrated her 100th birthday - in style!

In addition to receiving her special card from Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Margaret received one from the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions (!?) and dozens of cards and bunches of flowers from family, friends, neighbours, carers and well-wishers.

Many of Margaret's friends from Bolton Parish Church were among those whom she and Peter and Esther and Yvonne, Margaret's home help, entertained with tea, coffee and birthday cake.

Thanks you, Margaret, for letting us share your day!

The Editor

Ringing for the Royal Maundy Service

Two of our former ringers - John and Elizabeth Heaton (nee Whillas) - rang for the Royal Maundy Service at Derby Cathedral on 1 April this year.

John, who is Ringing Master at Derby Cathedral, organised the ringing and Elizabeth liaised with the Derby Diocesan office. Each individual ringer had to have his or her own permit to enter the Cathedral.

There are ten bells at Derby Cathedral. A band of twelve rang changes and rounds for three quarters of an hour before the service and for half an hour afterwards. They attended the Service and were impressed by the music, especially when the Children of the Chapel Royal and Derby Cathedral Choir sang together.

There was a short reception after the service to which both John and Elizabeth were invited. They met the Queen, who spoke to them for a few minutes about their ringing experiences, she was interested to learn that Elizabeth had taken up bell-ringing as her new interest when she began working for the Duke of Edinburgh award.

This was a most interesting event for two people who first learned to ring at Bolton Parish Church.

Joan Whillas

Services for Ascension Day Thursday 13 May

12.00 pm Holy Communion

7.30 pm Choral Eucharist

Responses: Sumison in F

Anthem: Ascendit Deus, Philips

Voluntary: Heut' Triumphiret Gottes Sohn
- J.S. Bach

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From Parish Records -

April 2010

Baptisms:

11 April Aaliyah Leona Lorna Helme

18 April Jacob Lee Weir
Patrick Joseph Lawrance

Funerals:

19 April Wesley Sharples

29 April Kenneth Marland

BOLTON PARISH CHURCH

PARISH STAFF		Telephone
Vicar:	Revd Matt Thompson	01204 522226
Lecturer:	Revd Judie Horrocks	01204 522226
Associate Priest:	Revd Prof. Kenneth Newport	
Reader Emeritus:	Mr David Bevis	
Church Wardens:	Mr David Morlidge Miss Evelyn F Weston	
Deputy Wardens:	Mr Graham C Burrows Dr Michael Collier Mr John Doyle Mr Alan Forrester Mr Ken G Jones Mr Andrew Mitchell Mr John Walsh Mr Trevor J Whillas	
PCC Secretary:	Mr Graham C Burrows	
Treasurer:	Mr Andrew J Mitchell	
Director of Music:	Mr Michael Pain	
Verger	Mrs Jean Tofalos	
Parish Administrator:	Mr Stephen J Mort	01204 522226
PARISH CHURCH SCHOOLS:	Bolton Parish Church Primary School Kestor Street BL2 2AN Head Teacher: Mrs Jackie Bunyan	01204 333433
	Bishop Bridgeman Primary School Rupert Street BL3 6PY Head Teacher: Miss Jill Bingham	01204 333466
	Canon Slade School Bradshaw Brow BL2 3BP Head Teacher: Mr Phil Williamson	01204 333343

CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion
10.30 a.m. Parish Communion
6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer
Tuesday 12:30 p.m. Holy Communion
Wednesday 12.30 p.m. Healing & Wholeness
Thursday 12.00 p.m. Holy Communion

Other Holy Days - Holy Communion as announced

For Baptisms and Weddings please contact the Parish Administrator on 01204 522226.

For funerals please contact the Vicar on 01204 522226.

Church is open from Tuesday to Saturday between 10.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. for private prayer and visitors