

# Deane Parish Magazine

## July



2006



St. Swithun's Day, 15 July  
Saint for rain

# Parish Diary

## July 2 Trinity 3

9.00 a.m. Holy Communion (Common Worship)

10.30 a.m. Family Service and Parade

6.00 p.m. Holy Communion

## July 9 Trinity 4

9.00 a.m. Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)

10.30 a.m. Service of the Word

## July 16 Trinity 5

9.00 a.m. Holy Communion

10.30 a.m. Family Worship with Baptism

6.00 p.m. Service of the Word

## July 23 Trinity 6

9.00 a.m. Morning Prayer

10.30 a.m. Family Communion

6.00 p.m. Service of the Word

## July 30 Trinity 7

9.00 a.m. Holy Communion

10.30 a.m. Holiday Club family Service

6.00 p.m. Holy Communion

## Readings for 9 and 6

July 2 Trinity 3 2 Corinthians 5:6-17; Mark 5:21-43

July 9 Trinity 4 2 Corinthians 6:1-13; Mark 6:1-13

July 16 Trinity 5 2 Corinthians 8:7-15; Mark 6:14-29

July 23 Trinity 6 2 Corinthians 12:2-10; Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

July 30 Trinity 7 2 Corinthians 13:1-10; Mark 6:1-21

## SPECIAL DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

July 2 10.30 at the Cathedral—Dan Howard's ordination

July 9 Paul Ellis's induction

# The Rector Writes

## What are you growing?

Do you ever listen to Gardeners Question Time on BBC Radio Four? I occasionally listen in, to see what I should be doing this week, to discover what is the best hedge to plant in a windy position, to discover what that bug is that is eating through pear leaf. One of the people I like listening to is Bob Flowerdew (What a delightful name for a gardener). Now Bob is, I am reliably informed, Britain's leading organic farmer. But not only is Bob an organic farmer he is obviously one of those who does not want to see anything go to waste so everything is recycled. And it's amazing what he does recycle! I sometimes wish that I could see his garden not so much to look at his plants but to see what has been used how! Of course Bob is not really interested in the ornamental garden, for Bob everything that is grown has one purpose only - to be eaten. So Bob is really into helping people grow their own.

You each one of us, whether we are interested in growing vegetables or not, should be interested in growing at least one thing, and that is your soul. You see your soul is very important. Your soul is the place where you know there is a God even before you meet Him. The soul is that in us which longs for the right thing. And once we come into a relationship with God it's the place where we commune with Him. The soul can be filled with God or devoid of Him, but if it is empty God is the only thing that will fill it. We can grow all sorts of pleasures and loves in there, but none will satisfy like God, because the soul was made to long for Him and no other. When God breathed into Adam he became a living soul, forever longing for God's breath to fill him again.

So growing your soul means to enlarge your capacity for God and truth. Its all about learning to walk with God - listening to Him through His word and through the natural revelations of Him that come through the things He has made, which includes all the people you know since they were made in Gods image. Growing your soul can also involve finding God in the ordinary life and activities we share every day. Its about being more conscious of the presence of God within you as you go about your normal routines of life. Growing your soul doesn't only happen through spiritual activities like praying and reading the Bible; it can also happen in the way we do everything else. It's a God-consciousness that enlarges as we grow it. When Paul says that we are to pray without ceasing, he means that we are to be more soul-conscious.

This may be hard sometimes, even for the most mature of believers. We all go through times when everything around us seems dry and barren spiritually. Our souls though still long for God. David's soul longed for God in a dry and weary land where there was no water (Psalm 63:1), and like a deer panting for water his soul panted for the Lord (Psalm 42:1).

This is important to know, because it is not a longing that is over once we meet God. we still long for Him because we long to know Him more, and we sometimes loose sight of Him even though we know better. Just as we must regularly take in physical food in order to stay alive, our souls must have spiritual food in order to grow and be healthy.



## Graduation?

There were so many graduates waiting to receive their degrees that day, that speed was of the essence. Presenting their diplomas, therefore, the Chancellor simply smiled and said:

"Congratulations, keep moving."

It's actually good advice for all of life, and for your Christian life as well.

If you've discovered the reality of God's love for yourself, you deserve congratulations, for in a very real sense, *you have arrived...but keep moving!* - there is so much *more* that God has in store for you! Paul in 2 Timothy says "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. *Now there is in store for me* the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day...."  
So, wherever *you* have reached in your own faith pilgrimage, *congratulations, but keep moving!*

### Pause for thought

From a member of Deane Church:

'Give encouragement to your Vicar (Rector) ... acknowledge his hard work and dedication—make sure he doesn't sink under the pressure of work—if there are jobs needing doing, be prepared to help whenever you can—help to get the whole church united in prayer.. it will make a difference. William Barclay writes, 'one of the highest of human duties is the duty of encouragement... it is easy to pour cold water on enthusiasm... the world is full of discouragers...' but we have a duty to encourage one another and most importantly to pray for one another—prayer is one of the greatest healers.

## Baptism Register

17th July

Elize Garner-Williams

1st Anniversary

# **SPECIAL DAYS IN JULY**

## **3 July St Thomas the Apostle**

Thomas, one of Jesus' 12 apostles, was an impulsive, confused, honest sceptic. Jesus could understand and work with such a man.

Thomas' impulsiveness was evident when Jesus prepared to visit Lazarus in Bethany. It was a dangerous trip to make, because of the Jews, but Thomas urged his fellow disciples: "Let us also go, that we may die with him." (Jn 11.16) Instead, Jesus brought Lazarus back to life.

Thomas' confusion is shown in later talks with Jesus. He was not really sure where Jesus was going long-term (Jn 14.5). But Jesus accepted this confused commitment, and began to untangle it, patiently explaining "I am going to my father", and "No one comes unto the Father but by me." Finally, Thomas' honest scepticism is revealed after the Resurrection, which he flatly refused to believe - unless he could touch the wounds of the risen Jesus. Sure enough, Jesus appears - but instead of scolding him, shows him the wounds. Thomas responds: "My Lord and my God" (Jn 20.26ff).

Thus Doubting Thomas' honest doubts, turned to honest faith, have become a reassurance for thousands of men and women across the centuries, who also want to follow Jesus, but who require some proof of this amazing event - the Resurrection. In Doubting Thomas' complete affirmation of faith, after meeting the risen, crucified Christ, they can find support for their own faith.

It is believed that he was martyred by a spear on 3 July, 72 AD in Mylapore, near Madras. 46 ancient churches in England were dedicated to him.

## 15 July St Swithun - saint for a rainy day

St Swithun is apparently the saint to blame for rainy summers. It is said that if it rains on his special day, 15 July, it will then rain for forty days after that. It all began when he was made Bishop of Winchester in 852 by King Ethelwulf of Wessex. It was an important posting: Winchester was the capital of Wessex, and during the 10 years Swithun was there, Wessex became the most important kingdom of England.

During his life, instead of washing out people's summer holidays, and damping down their spirits, Swithun seems to have done a lot of good. He was famous for his charitable gifts and for his energy in getting churches built. When he was dying in 862, he asked that he be buried in the cemetery of the Old Minster, just outside the west door. If he has been left there in peace, who knows how many rainy summers the English may have been spared over the last 1000 years. But, no, it was decided to move Swithun. By now, the 960s, Winchester had become the first monastic cathedral chapter in England, and the newly installed monks wanted Swithun in the cathedral with them. So finally, on 15 July 971, his bones were dug up and Swithun was translated into the cathedral.

That same day many people claimed to have had miraculous cures. Certainly everyone got wet, for the heavens opened. The unusually heavy rain that day, and on the days following, was attributed to the power of St Swithun.

Swithun was moved again in 1093, into the new Winchester cathedral. His shrine was a popular place of pilgrimage throughout the middle ages. The shrine was destroyed during the Reformation, and restored in 1962. There are 58 ancient dedications to Swithun in England.

# MISCELLANY

## **Da Vinci Code - making your mind up: an online resource**

A new section of the Church of England website, launched in the run-up to the UK release of The Da Vinci Code film, invites people to consider the facts and fiction of the book for themselves. The site pits the 'facts' of the Dan Brown novel with the story of Jesus accepted by the Church for generations, providing weblinks to organisations such as the Christian Enquiry Agency

## **Pioneering research uncovers young peoples' views - and sets a challenge for today's church**

A revealing new book looks set to be a page-turner for all those with an interest in how the Church engages with young people. 'Making Sense of Generation Y' contains the results of ground-breaking research into the world view of 15-25 year-olds who have little or no connection with the Christian faith, based on interviews with 120 young people in 18 locations across the country.

The book's researchers - academics Sylvia Collins-Mayo and Sara Savage, and youth ministry specialist Bob Mayo - embarked on an eye-opening journey that lays bare the dominant aspirations of contemporary youth.

The fourth author, the Rt Revd Graham Cray, Bishop of Maidstone and Chair of the Mission-shaped Church working party, offers reflections on the research's wide-ranging implications for the way that the Church relates to young people, placing the emphasis both on individual Christians and church groups to embody the gospel through an 'incarnational' approach - meeting and serving young people in their own environment.

Generation Y - order copies: <http://www.cofe.anglican.org/news/pr4606.html>

## **Christian activity holidays for young people have a major spiritual impact**

That is according to newly-published results from Christian Research. Nearly 800 young people were surveyed before and after a sample of 65 holidays which took place last summer. On almost every measure, their faith and practice grew significantly as a result of the holidays: they read the Bible more, their self-esteem improved, and they had greater belief in doctrines such as life after death. One in eight, 12%, had found faith on a Christian activity holiday.

Those who gained the most spiritually were the children of Christian parents in their early teenage years with little or no personal faith. The study found that holiday leaders were key to the spiritual impact of the events, and that most young people needed to come back several times to gain the full benefit. The survey was sponsored by a consortium of providers of Christian holidays. A parallel survey was also conducted of children attending Christian activity centres during term-time with their schools.

### **Sky fright**

An airliner flew into a violent thunderstorm and was soon bumping around in the sky. One very nervous lady happened to be sitting next to a clergyman and turned to him for comfort. "Can't you do something?" she demanded. "I'm sorry ma'am," said the reverend gently. "I'm in sales, not management."

### **The wisdom of the not-so-young-anymore**

1. I started out with nothing, and I still have most of it.
2. My wild oats have turned into prunes and All Bran.
3. I finally got my head together; but now my body is falling apart.
4. Funny, I don't remember being absent minded...
5. If all is not lost, where is it?
6. It's hard to make a comeback when you haven't been anywhere.
7. Only time the world beats a path to your door is when you're in the bathroom.
8. If God wanted me to touch my toes, He would have put them on my knees.
19. These days, I spend a lot of time thinking about the hereafter...I go somewhere to get something, and then wonder what I'm here after!

# Notice Board

## Ladies Guild—July

4 July  
18 July

Rev Fraser Smith  
*Evening Out*

## Children's Holiday Club 24th—28th July

10.00am to 12.00 noon

## Special Holiday Club Service Sunday

30th July 10.30am

See Notice Sheet for more details

## To the divine tutor

Be kind to your little children, Lord. Be a gentle teacher, patient with our weakness and stupidity. And give us the strength and discernment to do what you tell us, and so grow in your likeness.

May we all live in the peace that comes from you. May we journey towards your city, sailing through the waters of sin untouched by the waves, borne serenely along by the Holy Spirit. Night and day may we give you praise and thanks, because you have shown us that all things belong to you, and all blessings are gifts from you. To you, the essence of wisdom, the foundation of truth, be glory for evermore.

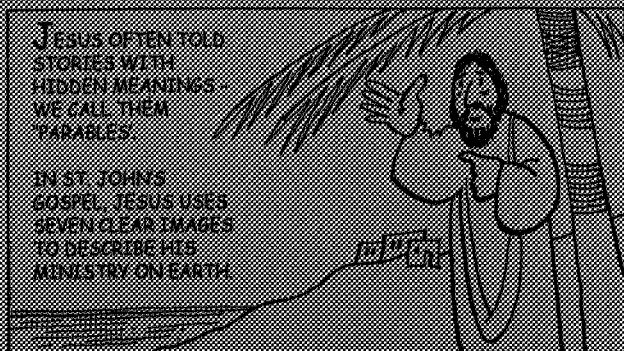
*A prayer of Clement of Alexandria, c. 150 - 215AD.*

*(A distinguished scholar both in Greek philosophy and in the Bible.)*

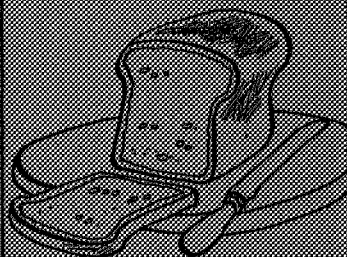
# The "I am" sayings in St. John's Gospel

JESUS OFTEN TOLD  
STORIES WITH  
HIDDEN MEANINGS -  
WE CALL THEM  
"PARABLES".

IN ST. JOHN'S  
GOSPEL, JESUS USES  
SEVEN CLEAR IMAGES  
TO DESCRIBE HIS  
MINISTRY ON EARTH



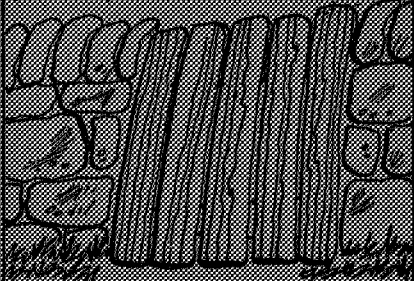
"I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE." JOHN 6:35



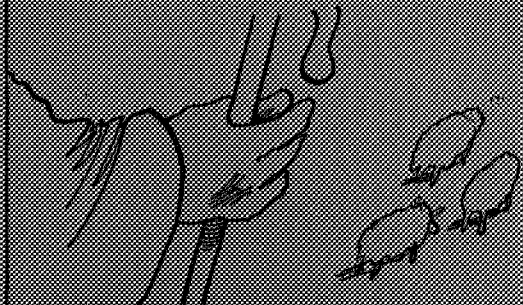
"I AM THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD." JOHN 8:12, 9:5



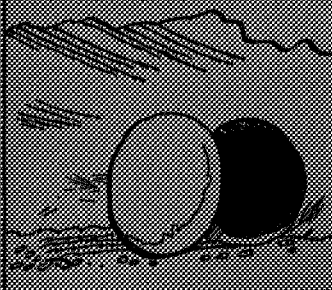
"I AM THE DOOR OF THE SHEEP." JOHN 10:7, 9



"I AM THE GOOD SHEPHERD." JOHN 10:11, 14

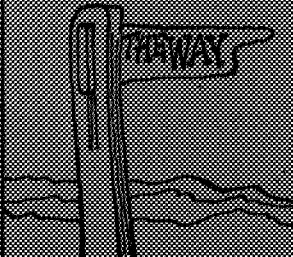


"I AM THE RESURRECTION  
AND THE LIFE." JOHN 11:25



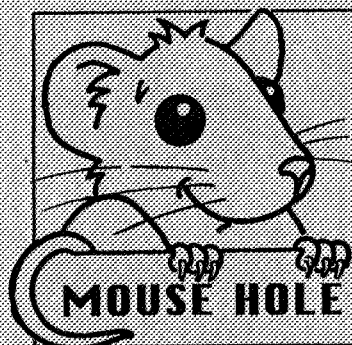
THE WAY

"I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH,  
AND THE LIFE." JOHN 14:6



"I AM THE TRUE VINE." JOHN 15:1, 5





Do you write letters to  
to your friends?  
In the letters to  
his Christian  
friends, the Apostle Paul  
tells them all about Jesus and  
explains the ways that God wants  
them to live as Christians....



## Invisible Ink

To make invisible  
ink mix together  
1 teaspoon of

bicarbonate of soda  
and 1 teaspoon of water

in an egg cup or small jar.  
Dip a cotton bud into the  
'ink' then use it to write a  
message onto white paper.

Leave to dry.

How many people  
does Paul send  
greetings to at  
the end of his  
letter to  
the Romans?



*"Whatever you do,  
do all to the  
glory of God."*

1 Corinthians 10:31

*"Don't worry  
about anything,  
but in all  
your prayers ask  
God for what  
you need, always  
asking him with a  
thankful heart"*

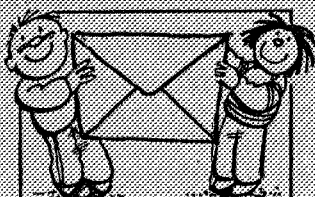
Philippians 4:6

The New Testament  
has 4 Gospels, 21  
Letters and the book  
of Revelation.

The Apostle Paul  
wrote 13 of the  
Letters. Look at your  
Bible to see who wrote  
the other 8 and who  
they were written to.

To read  
the  
message

ask an ADULT to iron the  
paper, the heat makes the  
message suddenly appear!

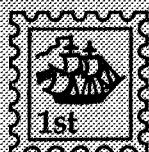


Do you have a  
pen-friend?

The Vicar or an Elder  
in your church may be  
able to help you make  
contact with Christians  
from another country.

Look at the letters  
and find the words...

B	X	A	E	M	A	I	L	A
O	P	E	N	S	E	N	D	P
X	W	L	V	S	W	K	I	O
G	R	E	E	T	I	N	G	S
S	I	T	L	B	L	O	T	T
E	T	T	O	D	O	T	E	A
A	E	E	P	A	P	E	R	M
L	E	R	E	A	D	E	O	P



WRITE • TO  
ENVELOPE  
PAPER • BOX  
SEND • BLOT  
GREETINGS  
NOTE • DOT  
READ • POST  
LETTER  
STAMP • PEN  
EMAIL • INK  
SEAL • OPEN