



The Parish Magazine of St. Edmund the King, Northwood Hills

WEBSITE: www.saintedmundschurch.org.uk

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SERVICES	Principal Service - Sung Eucharist at 10.00 am every Sunday can be attended in Church Other Services - Said Eucharist (can be attended in Church) 10.00 am Thursdays, 11.00 am Fridays, Saturdays 10.30 am Said Eucharist (online only) 6.00 pm Tuesdays, 6.00 pm Wednesdays All Services are currently streamed from our website. Please see our website for the latest information.			
	SUNDAY SCHOOL at St. Edmund's Church Sundays at 10.15 am in the Hall. Please contact Carol Diggins on 07827 159 586 for more information.			
	Arrangements for the SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (Confession), BAPTISMS, FUNERALS, WEDDINGS, and BANNS OF MARRIAGE - please telephone the Vicar.			
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MAGAZINE				

Hon. Editor: Mrs Jenny Jones 19 Latimer Close, Pinner HA5 3RB (020) 8866 7173

WELCOME

to the online edition of this magazine.

In the current circumstances, we are publishing on our website so that you don't miss out on the regular monthly issue.

If you know someone who does not have internet access and would like a printed copy of this magazine, please contact Steve Castle at <u>steven.castle@saintedmundschurch.org.uk</u> giving their name and postal address (having first obtained their permission to supply this personal information).

If you would like to receive the Newsletter by e-mail you can subscribe by completing the form at <u>https://tinyurl.com/subscribe-orbit</u> or by visiting <u>www.saintedmundschurch.org.uk</u> and clicking the "Subscribe" link underneath "Weekly Newsletter".

The Sunday 10 am, Thursday 10 am, Friday 11 am and Saturday 10.30 am Eucharists continue to be celebrated with a congregation inside Church and online. The Tuesday and Wednesday Eucharists remain online only for the time being.

Congregational singing has been reintroduced on Sundays, and refreshments are now available in the Hall afterwards (table service).

The wearing of masks is encouraged but not compulsory. In order to reduce the risk of virus transmission some doors and windows remain open during the service. You are advised to wrap up warm if the weather is cold.

Communion continues to be given in one kind only. The Peace is shared non-physically. The Offertory Procession remains suspended, but collection plates are available near the Font.

All services will continue to be available online. They can be accessed from the website <u>www.saintedmundschurch.org.uk</u> or via the weekly St. Edmund's Newsletter – see above for how to access the Newsletter.

FR. MICHAEL'S LETTER

Dear Friends

They say that as you get older time passes by more quickly. It certainly seems no time at all since 2021 was the New Year and now here we are in November. November is a month of remembrance. We start the month remembering all the Saints, and particularly those who do not have their own day. The following day is All Souls' Day when we remember and pray for all our loved ones who have died. Shortly after that on 5th November we remember the gunpowder plot of 1605 when Guy Fawkes and his allies were thwarted in their attempt to blow up the Houses of Parliament. The most prominent day of Remembrance is however 11th November when we remember those who have lost their lives in the two World Wars of the last century and armed conflicts that have taken place since then. The nearest Sunday - Remembrance Sunday - is also a time when we reflect on their sacrifice for the sake of our freedom.

I never look forward to the Autumn or Winter months and the long dark nights, but I suppose the fact that we spend time remembering things from the past helps us to get through them. It is important however that we do look to the future and learn lessons from the past. It does no good to view the past through rose tinted spectacles. Certainly, when it comes to Remembrance Sunday, it is the horror of war that we should focus on, with a view to doing all that we can to make sure such things do not happen again and that peace should be the thing we strive for

For Christians every Sunday is a time for Remembrance. ,The Eucharist is a service of remembrance, but a remembrance of a different kind. We remember the passion of Christ not by thinking about it but by actually taking part in it through the mass. ,As Richard Chartres, former Bishop of London, used to say it is a re-membering of Christ. In the Eucharist Jesus is present in the bread and the wine - it is what Anglicans call the Real Presence. Elizabeth I put it like this when pressed by a priest to give her opinion on the subject:

'Twas God the Word that spake it, He took the Bread and brake it: And what that Word did make it, That I believe and take it.

The past two years have been a difficult time for everyone. The lockdowns have created issues which I doubt we could ever have imagined. It was so hard that we couldn't meet as a congregation in person to celebrate the Eucharist together and then when it was allowed, we had restrictions placed upon us. Some of these are still in place since the pandemic is still with us. As a result, although the majority of St Edmund's congregation have returned, there are still some who for a number of reasons have not. Some are still cautious about meeting in public and that is

understandable, but others may have simply got out of the habit of coming to church. If you fall into that category, I would urge you to get back into the habit - we miss you! The Eucharist is a great gift from God and participating in it and making our communion is one of the most important things we can do. St. Augustine said of the Eucharist that "we become what we receive" we receive the Body of Christ to be the body of Christ for the world. Our receiving Christ is not a passive act, not something that is done for us or to us, it is a dynamic event, a co-operating with Christ. We promise to be his fellow workers in bringing to the world the good news of the gospel, the good news of the kingdom.

So, as we move into November, I hope we can all take time to focus on the Eucharist and the great gift that it is and thank God for it, praying that we will not be separated from Christ in the sacrament again.

> Love and prayers Fr. Michael



A SERVICE OF COMMEMORATION FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

3.30 pm Sunday 14th November

This Service, in Church on Remembrance Sunday is an opportunity to remember our loved ones, especially those who have died recently.

The service will be followed by refreshments

EVERYONE IS WARMLY WELCOMED

CALENDAR AND PRINCIPAL SERVICE READINGS NOVEMBER 2021 Principal Service - Sung Eucharist at 10.00 am every Sunday 2 **TUES** All Souls' Day - Commemoration of the Faithful Departed **Requiem Sung Eucharist** 7.00 pm Arrow Players Play - "Now You See It, No, You Don't" 5 Fri 7.45 pm 6 Sat 7.45 pm Arrow Players Play - "Now You See It, No, You Don't" **3rd SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT** 7 SUN Celebrant and Preacher - Fr. Michael Jonah 3.1-5,10, Hebrews 9.24-end, Mark 1.14-20 Women's Guild, in the Lounge 9 Tues 2.30 pm Quiz Evening - in aid of "Raise the Roof" 13 Sat 7.30 pm 2nd SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT; REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 14 SUN Celebrant and Preacher - Fr. Michael Lamentations 3.17-26,31-33, Revelation 21.1-7, John 6.51-58 Service of Commemoration for the Faithful Departed 3.30 pm Romans 8.31-39, John 14.1-3 20 SAT ST. EDMUND'S DAY 11.00 am Sung Eucharist, followed by Lunch Proverbs 20.28, 21.1-4,7, Romans 8.35-39, John 12.20-26 SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE ADVENT: CHRIST THE KING 21 SUN Celebrant - Fr. Michael; Preacher - Mthr. Helen Daniel 7.9-10,13-14, Revelation 1.4b-8, John 18.33-37 11.30 am Christmas Bazaar - in aid of "Raise the Roof" 27 SAT 28 SUN 1st SUNDAY OF ADVENT Celebrant - Fr. Michael, Preacher - Sarah Parnaby Jeremiah 33.14-16, 1 Thessalonians 3.9-13, Luke 21.25-36

30 Tues St. Andrew, Apostle

St. EDMUND'S WOMEN'S GUILD

Will meet on Tuesday 9th November at 2.30 pm in the Lounge. Elizabeth Wastell will be demonstrating how to make a floral decoration. There will be a raffle the lucky winner will be able to take the decoration home. Refreshments will follow. All are welcome.

WEEKDAY SERVICES AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

Sunday	10.00 am	Spectrum on Sunday
Monday	5.00 pm	Beaver Scouts
-	6.30 pm	Cub Scouts
	7.00 pm	Guides
Tuesday	6.00 pm	SAID EUCHARIST
	7.00 pm	Scouts
Wednesday	6.00 pm	SAID EUCHARIST
Thursday	10.00 am	SAID EUCHARIST
Friday	11.00 am	SAID EUCHARIST
	8.00 pm	Arrow Players
Saturday	10.30 am	SAID EUCHARIST

St. EDMUND'S YOUTH GROUP

meets every 2 weeks on Wednesdays, 7-9pm in the Hall. Open to all aged 10-16. Contact Steve Castle on 020 8868 0482 for information. NOVEMBER DATES - 3rd, 17th



DECEMBER MAGAZINE

All contributions for the December Magazine to be with Jenny Jones by **Friday 19th November 020 8866 7173**



In last month's magazine I reported that we needed to raise \pounds 42,000 before phase 1 could begin. Phase 1 included the replacement flat roofs above the Church foyer, Susan Old Lounge, Hall kitchen, Hall corridors and toilets and the Small Hall. It also included repairs to the cascading roofs above the Lady Chapel altar where water is finding its way in.

I am delighted to report that September was another amazing month with generous donations totalling \pounds 12,000 received both directly, from the wonderful Book Sale (what a happy occasion it was) and via sponsorship of the intrepid group of 5K Challenge participants.

Again, on behalf of the PCC, may I thank everyone who has contributed, both financially and by helping at the Book Sale.

The huge generosity shown means our virtual drainpipe continues to fill and, rounding to the nearest thousand, we now have \pounds 30,000 remaining before the phase 1 work can start.



Just a reminder that we are updating the fundraising totals at the end of each calendar month and announcing the amount raised at the end of the 1st Sunday of the month's All-Age Eucharist. Again, please accept my apologies that the total in the magazine will be a few weeks behind the actual situation but rest assured that all donations count!

Following last month's partial ceiling collapse behind the Susan Old Lounge, I met our architect with the contractors and their roofing specialist. They are updating the specification to include the reinstatement of the damaged ceiling sections and we will receive the revised costs soon. As you can imagine we await those with a certain degree of trepidation but hope and pray that that we will have raised a sufficient amount to allow work on phase 1 to begin early in 2022.

Fr. Michael, Chris Ambrose and I spent time with our new Archdeacon, Catherine, during her triennial visitation (for those who have worked in companies, this is similar to an audit). She was able to see the condition of the roof in person and confirmed that a grant should be possible from the Diocese. Our application will be submitted shortly and will be considered at the end of November. However, even if we are successful, we still have some way to go.

If you have not already made a donation but would like to do so, it would be very gratefully received. Donations can be made in several ways:

- by cheque, made payable to PCC of St Edmund The King (with "Raise the Roof" written on the reverse please). Cheques may be sent to The Treasurer, St. Edmund's Church, 2 Pinner Road, Northwood. HA6 1QS.
- by bank transfer to our account with CAF Bank:
 - o account name: PCC of St Edmund The King, Northwood Hills
 - o sort code: 40-52-40
 - o account number: 00017222
- by online donation via credit or debit card or PayPal by clicking the "Donate here" button on our website: <u>www.saintedmundschurch.org.uk</u>

Thank you.

Fundraising Events for Raise The Roof

Just a reminder that, for the time being, all fundraising events will be in aid of Raise The Roof. For a full list of events please check the church website <u>www.saintedmundschurch.org.uk</u>

More information

If you would like to know more about the appeal please contact me on 020 8868 0482 or e-mail <u>steven.castle@saintedmundschurch.org.uk</u>. I am also the acting Stewardship Recorder and will be happy to answer any questions you may have about making donations.

And finally...

Today I completed my 40th 5km run in aid of Raise the Roof's 5K Challenge. Just 50km to go. My legs continue to protest and I think the last runs will be the hardest. I must admit I had a 3 day break when a very heavy cold and cough (thankfully not COVID) meant I couldn't run, so I have been doing some 10km catch-up runs at King's College Athletics Track in Ruislip. The track is in a green and pleasant setting, however, the smell of chips wafting across the track from the nearby King's Café meant each lap was somewhat tortuous! All being well I shall be back next month with another update on the project and to report on the completion of my challenge...

Thank you again for all the support and for your prayers for the Church and our appeal.

HOW YOU CAN BUILD UP THE CHURCH IN THIS PARISH (in a few relatively easy steps...)

After the enforced break in publication (due to the pandemic) we will be producing a Christmas newsletter to be delivered across the Parish.

Outreach is an important part of our Christian faith and the professionally designed and printed newsletter is a great way for us, as a Church community, to encourage more to come and worship at St. Edmund's and attend our events, where perhaps they might receive some hope and inspiration after recent dark times.

Helping to deliver the newsletter is a way in which <u>you</u> can turn the Parish Prayer "Help us to build up the Church in this Parish" into practical action.

We bundle the newsletter into "rounds" of varying sizes. The bundles will be available for delivery from Sunday 7th November; the idea is to deliver all of them before the Christmas Bazaar on Saturday 27th November.



This year, in addition to being able to pick up a bundle and deliver them on your own, we will also be holding 3 newsletter delivery sessions where we will meet together in the foyer to deliver in groups and return for some refreshments afterwards. These sessions will be held starting at 2.30 pm on Sundays 7th, 14th and 21st November.

Please put those dates in your diary and let's see if we can deliver all of the newsletters, spreading Christ's love amongst our neighbours and turning our Parish Prayer into greater reality.

With thanks .. Steve Castle

ECO CHURCH - RECYCLED PAPER

As usual at Harvest time, St. Edmund's congregation collected items for the New Hope trust. The Eco team visited the supermarkets local to the church to find Eco friendly kitchen rolls and washing up liquid, items that the New Hope Trust had asked for, and made a display in the Hall to show the congregation what they had found and to encourage them to buy some as their Harvest contributions.

'Recycled' kitchen towels

All of the 'recycled' kitchen towels that we found stated that they are made from 100% recycled paper and sustainably sourced. Waitrose report on their website that recycled kitchen towels "start with recycled magazines, packaging and office waste. The waste paper is sorted and only the best quality material delivered to a UK mill. Next the paper is washed with water and printed ink, plastic and staples are removed. The cleaned paper pulp is pressed, hot air dried and rolled into 'reels'. Excess water is re-used within the factory. Finally, the paper 'logs' are cut into individual kitchen rolls, and packed ready for delivery to our stores."

We found that own brand 'recycled' kitchen towels were available in Morrisons, Sainsbury's, Tesco, Waitrose and also from Ocado. At present the smaller supermarkets in the local area don't appear to stock 'recycled' kitchen towels, but hopefully, if enough people ask for them, they will in the near future.

Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)

We noticed that a number of kitchen towels, including 'recycled' ones, had the FSC logo printed on the packaging so investigated what that meant. On their website www.fsc-uk.org the FSC states:

"FSC is an international, non-governmental organisation dedicated to promoting responsible management of the world's forests. Our forests give us many things like books, tissues, furniture and so much more. The Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) helps



take care of forests and the people and wildlife who call them home. The FSC's "tick tree logo" is used to indicate that products are certified under the FSC system. When you see the FSC logo on a label, you can buy forest products with confidence that you are helping to ensure our forests are alive for generations to come."

It was really good to see that so many of the congregation are considering the issue and that there were lots of Eco friendly gifts provided at Harvest. The Eco team will continue to investigate sustainability and recycling and will be back next month with more news on what we are doing at St. Edmund's and what you can do at home. Hello, I'm glad to be back, and very grateful to Helen Collier for taking over from me while I was ill. This letter will be very much in the same vein, as it's clear we've both been cheered and gladdened by the way things are moving here at St. Edmund's.

In spite of my own recent health issues, my heart has been lifted by what I've witnessed recently at St. Edmund's: a burst of new enthusiasm and fruitfulness, as befits the Autumn season. As you know, we needed (and still do) large amounts of money for the mending of our various roofs, and a number of people from church, even some of our very oldest, have gone into action for the Raise the Roof appeal, with such sponsored activities as physical exercise (including triathlons!) reading, doing vast numbers of sudoku puzzles, craft-work, hymn-singing, writing a drama - and even throwing stuff away! All these activities were done in multiples of 5. For example, Margery Richards (aged 98, mark you!) has already completed 500 steps in 5 days, and Mother Helen will have read the first 5 books of the Bible in 5 hours - this being called the '5K Challenge', hoping to raise £5,000. But people have already raised a whole lot more! The effort and generosity of our parishioners and friends has been most inspiring - and hopefully will continue!

Another thing that has inspired me is the verve and vivacity of Jenny Jones and her band of Eco-Warriors, who are resolved to turn us into an eco-church. It is good for St. Edmund's to be linked to a vital, and indeed world-wide, movement; it will also remind us about what we can do in our own homes and work-places, to help save our planet. Such ventures also bring us together in our efforts, thus strengthening our church community.

Something else that reinforced our togetherness was the book-sale on 25th September. We made over £230 and shifted around 600 books! It was a lovely friendly day, and the weather, while not sunny, was kind. We saw quite a few new faces, and received some interest from the people stuck in the traffic-jam trying to get petrol at Pinner Green!

Fourthly, I want to say something about Concerts. St. Edmund's is becoming a popular venue for more large-scale musical performances, owing to its fabulous acoustic for orchestra, and its uninterrupted view of the musicians. I attended a wonderful concert here by Trinity Orchestra (who are based in Harrow) on 2nd October, and I would recommend them to you. The main works were Elgar's Cello Concerto - with a fine young Welsh soloist, Ben Tarlton - and Sibelius' Symphony No. 5. It was a high-class performance, and I look forward to hearing this orchestra again: hopefully they will be coming back here in the New Year. I would urge you, readers, to come to concerts at St. Edmund's - there are several planned (various different orchestras and bands), so check the church website and the flyers in the foyer. I'm saying this, not just because a bigger audience will help the musical organisations afford the venue more easily, (good for our funds!) but because these concerts are an uplifting experience, and are local!

I was also delighted to hear that Helen Collier would be offering piano lessons in church. I would love to learn, but I wonder whether my age and slight dyspraxia would challenge even her patience!

It's great to feel almost back to normal in church, with choir and many of the congregation back in situ. Numbers have become healthier and we have had some new visitors, whom it is very important for us to welcome and encourage. I do urge you to chat to anyone new: it makes a huge difference to their decision whether to come again or not! And we all need each other.

Our first October Sunday service - Harvest Thanksgiving - was particularly joyful (fantastic reading from Joash), and, of course, included the message of looking after our planet. Donations of food and money have been sent to the local charity Watford New Hope Trust, which cares for the homeless in the area and helps them to move on to a more secure lifestyle. The service was followed by a lovely Ploughman's Lunch, including desserts and coffee, and was another way of our re-bonding after all the lock-downs. Thank you so much, all of you who arranged this.

It is a sign of our closeness as a church community that we mourn the loss of those who had left the congregation for practical reasons, but are still in our hearts and have recently died. They have their obituaries, spread over recent issues of this magazine, but I wanted to make a personal comment about each of the four most recent with whom I was acquainted.

Barbara Fairclough, Olive's sister-in-law, often came to church with Bernard and Olive. I met Barbara, and although I didn't know her well, I had a huge respect for her courage, character and determination: Barbara was both blind and deaf. We keep the Fairclough family in our prayers.

Cliff Brookes was a loyal and loved member of the choir for many years. (He also usually provided a big bottle of whisky for the Grand Draw!) When he and his wife Connie could no longer come to church, I administered Communion to them at home, and thus got to know them better: we had some great chats. Alarmingly, he was driving his car well into his nineties, and was devastated when he was no longer permitted to do so! We have very fond memories of him, and our thoughts are with Connie and the family in their loss.

Jean Whitehead was a very familiar face both at church and at events such as St. Edmund's Supper, at which I have affectionate memories of her, her friend Minnie Hall, and my Mum, all laughing together. I used to meet her on the bus sometimes, on the way home from work. I miss her cheeky sense of humour. Our thoughts are with her loved-ones.

What can I say about Graham Yates that won't have been said? Well, he and I had a personal connection, though unknown at the time. We lived in adjoining roads in Northolt in our youth, but didn't know each other! We didn't even go to the same church: I went to St. Richard's and I believe Graham was at St. Barnabas'. Our shared Northolt roots, though, when we became aware of them, created a little bond, which strengthened over the years as I got to know him. I loved his kindness, his wicked sense of humour and his vivid and characterful dramatic performances - although one year he did somewhat traumatise a small child by his performance as the Giant in

'Jack and the Beanstalk'! But when I think of Graham, it is the utter loyalty and devotion to his Church that touches me the most. He and his family will always be so much a part of this place.

May these faithful souls, each significant figures in our Church in their own way, rest in peace, rise in Glory and never be forgotten.

So let's be inspired by the work of the past as well as the present, in building up the Church in the parish of St. Edmund's. Let's support and encourage each other and welcome new faces. Let's continue to support ventures and campaigns to improve our valuable facilities, in order to create further outreach. Let's continue to show God's love to all, and to build up the Body of Christ here on earth. Thank you for being so wonderful.





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A Christmas Treat

Come and enjoy a Christmas Afternoon Tea

(Including sweet and savoury selection)

Sunday 12th December 2021 3pm (Doors open 2.45pm)

at St. Edmund's Hall Pinner Road, Northwood Hills, HA6 1QS

Tickets £15 Live Pianist & Raffle For Tickets call 01923 823400

Can take group bookings, limited tickets available Book early to avoid disappointment!



Raising money for "Raise the Roof"

R.I.P. JEAN WHITEHEAD

Jean Mutimer was born on 23rd May 1928 in Farnborough, Hampshire; she and her parents later moved to Lyndhurst Avenue, Pinner.

Jean met the love of her life, Ted Whitehead, a former Merchant Seaman when he was billeted to live with them after the Second World War. They married on 24th April 1954 at Pinner Parish Church and honeymooned in Torquay. Initially living at Lyndhurst Avenue before moving to the newly built school bungalow at Northwood Hills primary school where Ted was the school caretaker.

Jean started work at Lloyd's of London as a typist. Her last job was as a secretary at Barclays Bank - a job she remained in until she retired.

Jean and Ted Jean often spent holidays with their daughter Gail and her family at a holiday village at Bembridge on the Isle of Wight, where they enjoyed playing on the beach and watching the entertainment.

Jean loved to join in with the activities on holiday and the family will never forget when she took part in the indoor bowls tournament and won it, despite rolling the bowls the wrong way, bumping over the carpet and hitting the jack. Jean and Ted also went to Tenerife several times with Gail's family, and again Jean joined in all the fun by playing darts and pistol shooting.

A keen darts player in her Barclays Bank days, regularly winning the darts competition at the Tenerife hotel. Her crowning glory will never be forgotten though, when taking part in the pistol shooting, she managed to score 2 bulls-eyes with her eyes shut, much to the dismay of the other guests.

Jean was a regular member of the congregation at St. Edmund's. She often helped with refreshments after the Sunday service. She enjoyed making fudge for the Church Bazaars and for friends and family. She also loved crosswords, knitting and Smirnoff Ice - thankfully not drinking BEFORE either of those activities! Her family always used to say they should take her to a casino as she always won a raffle prize.

When Ted retired, they moved to a lovely little flat in Eastcote, only a mile or two from the school bungalow, so she was able to keep in touch with all her friends

Her family regularly bought her wine gums, and always at Christmas, where, upon on opening them, she would immediately take them to her room and put them in her bedside cabinet, steadfastly refusing to share them with anyone!

After Ted died, Jean remained at their flat for many years until a fall meant that she needed full-time care and after a spell of home care she sold the flat and moved into Millers Grange Care Home in Witney, Oxfordshire to be nearer her family.

Before her dementia worsened, she loved joining in with the activities at the Care Home, and she especially enjoyed seeing her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Jean remained at Millers Grange for 20 months, until her death on 27th August. She will be sadly missed but fondly remembered by everyone whose lives she touched.

R.I.P. GRAHAM YATES

from Fr. Michael's Sermon at Graham's Funeral

I think I can speak for everyone here when I say that we were all stunned to hear of Graham's death. To lose such a vibrant and enthusiastic member of our community is not easy and his passing has left a huge hole in all our lives.

Graham was born in Hayes but moved as a boy to Northolt. He has three brothers - Michael, Alan and Robin.

Back in the mid-1960s Carol's sister, who was engaged to Graham's next-door neighbour, arranged a blind date for Carol and Graham. Unfortunately, things didn't go quite to plan because Graham's car blew up. As Carol said - their first date certainly went with a bang. But that didn't put either of them off, and they were married on 8th October 1966 in St. Peter's Church West Harrow. They lived in South Harrow before moving to Pinner in 1979. When Stephen joined 2^{nd} Northwood Cubs, Carol and Graham both became involved with the Group: Graham became Assistant Scout Leader and Carol Assistant Cub Leader. On one occasion, in 1986, they were in the Scout Hut cleaning it in readiness for a visit by the Bishop, when Mike Godden popped in and invited Stephen to be a pirate in the pantomime that year - "Robinson Crusoe". Graham and Carol both got involved too, and Graham was in every pantomime since then. Graham starred in many roles, but will probably be best remembered for his part on a number of occasions as the Goose in "Mother Goose". His legs in those yellow tights were a sight to be beheld and the source of much teasing, which Graham took with his usual good humour. In the last production of Mother Goose, I had the privilege of playing Father Christmas - a part which involved me dancing with the Goose; something I shall never forget. Graham also was Treasurer of Arrow Players for many years - a role he carried out with great care and efficiency.

Through Arrow Players the family joined St. Edmund's congregation and Graham became an Altar Server. This was how I came to know Graham best. When I came to St. Edmunds, just over 5 years ago, Graham took it upon himself to help me find my feet and for the first few weeks, he turned up to serve at the Sunday 8 o'clock Eucharist to make sure I knew where everything was, and he then stayed on for the main service at 10 am, getting everything ready and in its place. I was incredibly grateful for that and all he did to support St. Edmund's. His dedication to this church is an example to us all. Graham carried out his duties efficiently but in a sort of laidback way which endeared him to everyone he was liked and respected by all the other servers.

Shortly after I came here Graham and Carol celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary and then went off for a sort of second honeymoon to Australia.

As well as being a Server Graham, also acted as our Independent Examiner - a job that he took very seriously, and I know that the Church Treasurers have been very grateful for his advice when preparing our Annual Reports.

On Gardening Days Graham was always to be seen on the flat roofs clearing the gutters and the moss.

There is no doubt that Graham will be very sadly missed by so many people. His positive attitude particularly during his illness, his sense of humour and his hard work mean as one person said to me, he will be irreplaceable. Today is a sad day – yes, we celebrate Graham's life and I for one am so grateful I knew him, but we are also grieving, grieving the passing of a lovely man. I hope we can take comfort however from the fact that in our Gospel reading Jesus tells us not to worry - there are many dwelling places in God's House, and he has gone to prepare a place for us all just as he has prepared a place for Graham

Because God is really our merciful Father, our friend and our ally, God cannot look indifferently at death. God is there to welcome Graham and to show him that the answer to death is eternal life and, ultimately, resurrection.

In a letter St. Paul wrote to Timothy, Paul says, "You can depend on this: if we have died with Christ, we shall also live with him." Paul doesn't tell Timothy that he should not grieve. We all grieve at the death of a loved one. What Paul says is that we should not grieve as if we had lost all hope. Sooner or later this sorrowful separation will end, and we will be reunited.

Christians believe that death is not final. We will be raised from the dead. We do not give up our lives in vain; we return them to the Creator. In death we attain the fullness of our being, and we reach true life, which we call eternal life. It is the fullness of life which reaches its supreme moment when we come into full communion with the Father.

The great thing is that love continues beyond death. St. Bernard of Clairvaux said "I can never lose one whom I have loved unto the end; one to whom my soul cleaves so firmly that it can never be separated does not go away but only goes before." So, your love for Graham will go on as will his love for you. Graham is not alone. We are with him in prayer as we remember the consoling words of Jesus, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. In my Father's house there are many dwelling-places. Have faith in God and faith in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling-places. I shall come back to take you with me, that where I am you also may be."

So we say to Graham today; go with God, good friend, until we meet again, to break bread with the one whose life and death has guaranteed the everlasting life we seek. May his angels lead you today into paradise, as you begin your new life, in which health replaces illness, youth replaces age, and certainty replaces doubt; as you enter the company of those loved ones who went before you and as you wait for those who are to follow.



Our congregation were pleased to welcome to Graham's funeral a number of members of the Company with whom Graham had worked for 30 years. At the Service, a tribute was given by Sunil Kotecha, a Director of the Company. He spoke warmly of the efforts that Graham put into his work and that he was well respected throughout by his colleagues he was very approachable and showed his sense of humour, appreciated by all. The annual cycle of the Church's year now ends with the Feast of Christ the King. The year that begins with the hope of the coming Messiah ends with the proclamation of his universal sovereignty. The ascension of Christ has revealed him to be Lord of earth and heaven, and final judgement is one of his proper kingly purposes. The Feast of Christ the King returns us to the Advent theme of judgement, with which the cycle once more begins. (from the Church of England website)

This month's hymn pre-dates the institution, in 1925, of the Feast of Christ the King, but is now often used as part of the celebration, as it reflects those themes of kingly purpose and universal sovereignty.

Crown him with many crowns,	Crown him the Lord of love;
The Lamb upon his throne;	Behold his hands and side,
Hark, how the heavenly anthem drowns	Those wounds yet visible above
All music but its own!	In beauty glorified:
Awake, my soul, and sing	No angel in the sky
Of Him who died for thee,	Can fully bear that sight,
And hail him as thy matchless King	But downward bends his burning eye
Through all eternity.	At mysteries so bright.
Crown him the Virgin's Son,	Crown him the Lord of peace,
The God incarnate born,	Whose power a sceptre sways
Whose arm those crimson trophies won	From pole to pole, that wars may cease,
Which now his brow adorn:	And all be prayer and praise:
Fruit of the mystic Rose,	His reign shall know no end,
As of that Rose the Stem;	And round his piercèd feet
The Root whence mercy ever flows,	Fair flowers of paradise extend
The Babe of Bethlehem.	Their fragrance ever sweet.

Crown him the Lord of years, The Potentate of time, Creator of the rolling spheres, Ineffably sublime. Glassed in a sea of light, Where everlasting waves Reflect his throne, the Infinite! Who lives, and loves and saves.

The text of the hymn in New English Hymnal, as above, was written in 1851 by author and poet Matthew Bridges. The original text had 6 verses; a further six were written by Rev. Godfrey Thring in 1874, but are rarely now used. Bridges' initial inspiration for the hymn are thought be the words in Revelation 19:12 - "His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns".

The tune mostly used for the hymn is the uplifting, stately "Diademata" (from the Greek for "crowns"). It was written in 1868 by George Job Elvey (1816-1893). He was a boy chorister at Canterbury Cathedral and was educated at Oxford and the Royal Academy of Music. At age 19 he became organist and master of the boys' choir at St. George's Chapel, Windsor, where he remained until his retirement in 1882. He was frequently called upon to provide music for royal ceremonies such as Princess Louise's wedding in 1871, after which he was knighted. Elvey composed many other hymn tunes, anthems, oratorios, and service music.



BRITISH CATHEDRALS WILL BE BACK NEXT MONTH



CHRISTMAS CONCERT

3.30 pm Saturday 11th December

at St. Edmund's

Carols Traditional and New, including audience participation

Tickets £15 (includes programme and Christmas Tea)

and look out for details of our SPRING CONCERT Saturday 19th March 2022 at St. Edmund's

www.eastcote-ruislip-choral.org

OCTOBER Crossword Solution





Profits in aid of St. Edmund's Raise the Roof Project

NOVEMBER CROSSWORD



Across

- In David's battle with the Arameans, 700 of these were killed (2 Samuel 10:18) (11)
- 'No , impure or greedy person has any inheritance in the kingdom of God' (*Ephesians 5:5*) (7)
- 10. City on the banks of the River Nile (5)
- 11. Stamped addressed envelope (1,1,1)
- 13. Taverns (4)
- 16. 'Be on your guard; stand in the faith' (*1 Corinthians 16:13*) (4)
- 17. 'He will not always , nor will he harbour his anger for ever' (*Psalm 103:9*) (6)
- 18 and 27 Down Where the magi came from and what guided them (*Matthew 2:1–2*) (4,4)
- 20. Ancient Celtic alphabet of 20 characters (4)
- 21. She married Esau when he was 40 years old (*Genesis 26:34*) (6)
- 22. A great-grandson of Noah (*Genesis 10:7*) (4)
- 23. Title accorded to certain Roman Catholic clerics (abbrev.) (4)

- 25. 'My house will be a house of prayer; but you have made it a — of robbers' (*Luke 19:46*) (3)
- 28. Annie (anag.) (5)
- 29. Plead with (Zechariah 7:2) (7)
- 30. Tenth foundation of the new Jerusalem (*Revelation 21:20*) (11)

Down

- 2. 'We have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by hands' (*2 Corinthians 5:1*) (5)
- 3. Uncommon excellence (*Proverbs 20:15*) (4)
- You have exalted my horn like that of a wild ox; fine — have been poured upon me' (*Psalm 92:10*) (4)
- 5. Homo ('Behold the Man') (4)
- 'He has given proof of this to all men by — him from the dead' (*Acts 17:31*) (7)
- 7. 'Our is in heaven' (*Philippians 3:20*) (11)
- 8. 'This is a day you are to —' (*Exodus 12:14*) (11)
- 12. Assault (Psalm 17:9) (6)
- 14. 'Jesus found a young donkey and upon it' (*John 12:14*) (3)
- 15. Liverpool dialect (6)
- 19. 'Remember the day by keeping it holy' (*Exodus 20:8*) (7)
- 20. Nineteenth-century German physicist after whom the unit of electrical resistance is named (3)
- 24. Nazirites were not allowed to eat this part of a grape (*Numbers 6:4*) (5)
- 25. 'If anyone would come after me, he must himself and take up his cross and follow me' (*Mark 8:34*) (4)
- Evil Roman emperor from AD54 to 68, responsible for condemning hundreds of Christians to cruel deaths (4)
- 27. See 18 Across

The Church of St. Edmund the King has been serving the Parish of Northwood Hills since 1934. The Parish is in the Harrow Deanery of the Willesden Episcopal Area of the Diocese of London

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

Edmund was the devout young King of the East Angles, martyred by the Danes for his allegiance to Christ in the year 869 when he was 29 years old. The crown and arrows of the church crest symbolise his Kingship and Martyrdom.

