

COINCIDENCE

I had thought that this month I would write about my confirmation which took place in St John's Church in the Iffley Road, known to all of us as the Cowley Fathers' Church.

When I was about twelve I and my elder brother who was about seventeen were enrolled in the confirmation classes. My young brother was only five and had to wait his turn which caused him great grief. In those days we had a Church Army sister working in the Parish. She was a lovely lady, very small. She wore a uniform in pale grey with pale blue trim. Even her overcoat was in those colours and her neat little hat. She looked very good. She was Captain of the Guide Company. I was in a different company but saw Sister Shields at Guide events and she wore the Guide uniform, other than those occasions she always wore her grey and blue. More recently we have had Church Army sisters. I remember that the last one married the curate and they became RCs and Philip became a teacher. Neither of those sisters wore uniform. The classes were segregated - Sister Shields took the girls in St Luke's and Father Whye took the boys in the Vicarage. There were about twelve of us girls. The boys met in the old Vicarage - a large rambling white stone house about where the flats are now. The Rev George Moore lived there and farmed the Home Farm; when he went the Revd Maurice Beauchamp was appointed Vicar and Father Alec Whye was his curate. I do not remember Father Beauchamp. I do remember an elderly priest, white haired and rather small. We called him little Mr Drew. He was a house in

lieu priest which meant he was provided with a house in return for work in the Parish. He always managed a short Greek quote when he preached. He visited my grandparents often and they were firm friends. In the Chancel of St James' to the left facing the altar there is a loose square of carpet under which is a memorial stone to Father Beauchamp.

I digress. The actual confirmation was a mass affair, all the candidates from the east of the city were confirmed together - I suppose it was what I now know as the Deanery. The services were held in different churches on a rota basis. We were assigned to the Cowley Fathers' Church. There must have been between twenty and thirty of us. At the actual confirmation we all stood in lines at the front of the church and the questions were asked of us all by the Bishop and we answered in unison. The Bishop then progressed through us all, he would place his hands on the head of one candidate, then on the next, then on the third and then pronounce the words of confirmation. He went through all of us like that. It was a bit impersonal. We did not take Communion at that service.

We had one more confirmation class after that and Father Whye took the girls. He slouched across the pew and talked to us. He explained how we took Communion, holding out both hands one resting on the other and then holding lightly to the base of the chalice with thumb and first finger of both hands to guide the chalice. I still take Communion exactly like that. We were each given a small red prayer book inscribed by Father Whye. It was explained that we should only take Communion

every six weeks. Communion was celebrated each Sunday but no one took it more than once in six weeks. I have no idea why.

Father Whye was a character. He used to cycle round Cowley with his insteps on the pedals. If he saw anyone he knew, which was frequently, he called a greeting and swerved across the road, knees pointing outwards, and had a chat. There was much less traffic those days. I remember that when my father was very ill in hospital, very ill, the local vicar Father Arnold from SS Mary and John came to visit my mother. He was soon on his knees with my mother on her knees as well and he prayed for a long time. When he eventually finished my mother was in floods of tears and very upset. When Father Whye came at the same sad time he said all the proper things but was soon on the floor playing with my young brother. When he left my mother felt comforted and happier.

Father Whye left us after many years and went to Kidlington. He came back to conduct

my father's funeral but was too ill by the time my mother died. At that time in Cowley the Elder Stubbs allotments had three trustees, one was the Vicar, Father Whye, one was the local doctor, Dr Firth and the third was my father.

When I was a child Cowley was still a village outside Oxford and I remember the city boundary moving outwards several times. At one stage it was the corner of Magdalen Road and Cowley Road and then it moved to the Swan. Later it moved again and took in St James and later still it moved to include Blackbird Leys. When Cowley joined the city there were duplicate street names, the Cowley ones had to be changed. For instance George Street became Hendred Street. That was when Beauchamp Lane was so named after Father Beauchamp. The cottages opposite the church are called Whye cottages.

When my parents were married both Father Beauchamp and Father Whye conducted the service. Father Beauchamp was vicar then. It

PERSONALLY SPEAKING

Lots of retirements this month:

Pat Sansom has retired as booking clerk for St James Church Centre. A big thank you to her for doing this for so many years – 22 years in all. She wants to continue to help/have links in other ways – but hope she enjoyed her holiday in Spain before thinking more about this.

Frank Butler has decided to stop helping with the banking. He has done this for a number of years and he also deserves a big thank you for undertaking this important and regular commitment.

Mark Oxbrow has retired from Faith2share, but will not be idle as he is actively involved with the Oxford Centre for Mission Studies, the Centre for Muslim Christian Studies and also the Anglican Communion.

MOTHERS UNION NEWS

You have to admit (don't you?) that our Rector Geoff comes up with quite a few bright ideas. Well one of those made our June monthly meeting a great success.

Back in the depths of winter we were planning our summer programme and Geoff suggested that we might enjoy a visit as a branch to the beautiful old Bartlemas Chapel just off the Cowley Road. "We could turn it into a summer picnic, if you like", Geoff said. "I'll see to the tea, make sure the chapel is unlocked and provide the transport too". We seized on the idea right away and looked forward to our little picnic/pilgrimage with much anticipation.

The day itself could not have been more perfect. The weather was warm and breezy, the Christian Asian Church lent us their minibus and, as promised, Geoff drove it and almost by miracle provided enough tea for twelve of us to enjoy two cups each. The tea party was a 'bring-and-share" which turned out to be delicious. The object of our visit, the dear little chapel, has an atmosphere all of its own so our opening prayers seemed to have a special feel. We were joined by a young student from Cuddesdon on placement at SS Mary and John's Parish. He told us it was his first day there and also his first encounter with Mothers' Union. He seemed quite impressed with the happy occasion to say nothing of Chris' raspberry

buns and Mary's lovely light sponge cake.

Our July meeting (back in the Church Centre) will be another tea party with, as ever, Mothers' Union business to be dealt with. Members are asked to bring along ideas for subjects they might like to include in next year's programme.

As usual we take a summer break in August and start our new programme in September. We are looking forward to welcoming two (or maybe three) new members to our branch in the autumn.

Rosanne Butler

Lesley Weston

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Course info

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'I thought money will always be in charge of me! But I was wrong. Now I am in charge of my money. Through the CAP Money Course I am able to budget and pay my bills on time for the first time in years. Thank you, CAP.'

Verna, CAP Money Delegate

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Oxford Churches Debt Centre Newsletter June 2018

It has been a busy three months for OCDC.

In March Debbie Clark joined OCDC as a Trustee to represent Emmanuel Church.

We have now handled 220 client cases since opening in 2014. Of those, 36 have become debt-free through CAP, and we've helped another 45 find their own route out of debt. We are currently working with 41 clients.

Clients can book a home visit by calling 0800 328 0006.



Staff team: Jill, Hannah, John, Edina & Kate

Could you befriend a client?

Could you give a client a lift?

Could you champion a new Life Skills course?

Get in touch - details below.



Verna, with Anne and Jill, receiving her award

OCDC celebrated 4 years of helping lift the people of our city out of unmanageable debt with a birthday barbecue held at St Matthew's Church Grandpont on June 16th.

To coincide with going debt-free the same week, Verna shared about her experience of debt and how working with CAP restored her confidence and helped her make a new start in life.

Verna is one of 7 clients who attended, along with volunteers, staff, trustees and friends of the charity. Many thanks to the volunteers from St Matz for all their help behind the scenes.

What's happened over the last three months?

- CAP Money Courses in Cowley and in St Clement's.
- Kathryn Ford sang and shared her faith at a pizza night, May 25th in The Mish. 28 people came along, including 8 clients.
- Staff attended a CAP conference on 15th March and regional training on 6th June.
- Volunteer training at HBC on April 23rd.

COMING UP

- Church reps meeting Monday 2nd July.
- Client games night 17th Sept.
- CAP Money Course starting 24th Sept.

Going debt-free

Miss G went debt-free this month. She texted:

"I am so happy to share this good news with you. CAP has been a great help for me during this difficult time. Today was the best news I have heard in a long time. Becoming debt-free was the best thing that has happened to me this year. Thank you from the bottom of my heart."

CAP founder John Kirkby awarded CBE

John Kirby is to receive a CBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours. 'I am absolutely bowled over to be receiving such an honour and it just shows what God can do,' said John who intends on accepting the commendation on behalf of everyone who has helped launch and sustain the charity now helping 23,000 people a year. 'I'd like to dedicate this to all our incredible supporters and volunteers, staff and to our clients. I hope it also shows what God can do with one ordinary bloke from Bradford who meets an extraordinary God and says "yes".'



From CAP's latest Client Report ...

8.3 million people in the UK live with problem debt

Average annual client household income £15,109

Average outstanding debt £14,520

It would take an average client 22 years to repay all their debts without an alternative solution.

Of new client households in 2017

29% are single women

23% are single men

28% are lone parents

13% are couples with children

7% are couples without children.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Cowley Church & Parish Magazine - JULY 1959

First of all, I must say how pleased I am that Father Betton has accepted the Bishop of Oxford's invitation to become Vicar of Cowley when I depart in September. I am sure that he is the right man for this very important and arduous task, as he has proved his worth over the last 3½ years as priest-in-charge of St. Luke's, where the growth in spiritual life has been very great. He has made, also, many friends in industry, at all levels, and enjoys the esteem of our Church brethren. I commend him to your prayers as he prepares to take over the work of the parish, and hope you will assure him of your loyal support. You will need to have patience and forbearance, for it will be some time before Father Betton can obtain the necessary staff for the work of the parish; meanwhile, I am sure that Father Topley and Father Henley will give him all the support they can. The fact that Father Betton will be living in St. Luke's House, into which he has just moved, does not mean that St James' Church will cease to be the Parish Church of Cowley; it only means that, for the time being at any rate, the parish is being run from the centre, and the Priest is living in a more convenient and workable house.

At the end of June, with the Bishop's permission, I will cease to be Rural Dean of Cowley, and Father Arnold, Vicar of Saints Mary and John, will take my place. I shall then have two months free from Ruridecanal duties before I leave the parish, which will be all to the good! I am very glad to have been allowed to initiate this new Rural Deanery, and have had some very pleasant experiences during the 2½ years I have held office. Apart from my official visitation last year, I have been invited to all the parishes of the Deanery, with one exception, to many of them several times, and it has been a great privilege to know some of the laity as well as the clergy of the various parishes and to discuss their various problems. I think we can safely say that the Deanery has now made a good start and has excellent prospects for the future. I hope all the parishes will give Father Arnold the help and encouragement they have given to me.

Father Beauchamp and I will be going to Austria this year, from July 13th, to August 6th, and the same arrangements as last year will be made: Father Betton will be in charge of the parish, Father Henley will be responsible for matters arising in the Parish Church district, and the Reverend Ronald Park will be living at the Vicarage.

We shall be moving from Cowley on Monday, August 31st, and my Induction at New Hinksey has been fixed for Thursday, September 10th, at 7.30pm.

Your friend and Vicar,
ALEC G. WHYE

JULY 1959

Mrs. M. A. M. WHITE

The death of Mrs. White was a grievous and unexpected blow. She had been a staunch friend of this parish for thirty years, and had supported its work in many ways not known to the general public. She was immensely pleased when she heard that St. Luke's Church was to be built

on land formerly her husband's property, and she gave the Central figure of the Rood Screen there in memory of him. She was for many years an active and useful member of our School Managers, and was regretting very much that she would have to give up her committee work this year. It was to her and Captain White that we owe the considerable research which produced the rather unusual but historically interesting names of streets in many parts of the parish, and the name "White Road" is a lasting memorial to them both. May she rest in peace.

MARCH 1962

ST JAMES' CHOIRBOYS VISIT SCHOOL OF CHURCH MUSIC

About six weeks after St. James' joined the Royal School of Church Music, two of us went on a course at Scirbeck Hall in Boston.

Over 40 of us arrived there in time to be sorted out into our dormitories and our houses. We were surprised to find that most of the boys came from London. Not long after we had got there we had to go to a short practice for the evening service.

Every day from the Monday to the Saturday the programme was much the same: 7.30am Rising Bell; 8.00am Breakfast; 9.00am Practice in house groups and in Church, pausing at 11.00am to 11.15am for a break. At 12.00 noon we joined up and had a full practice in Church.

After lunch and an hour's free time, we were hard at it again, practising for the evening service in Church. We had supper and then went to bed.

During our free time we visited some interesting docks and went round Boston Church. Its tower is known as the 'Stump', because it is as high as the church is long.

By the time the end of the week had come we were ready for the service in Lincoln Minster on Saturday afternoon. We all wore our own cassocks from our parish churches and looked very different from the Minster Choir as we processed in, wearing reds, mauves, blacks and blues.

After a service there, a priest was heard to say that we sang better than the choir that normally sings there, (even though some of us were a bit ill after eating too much fried food).

After having most of Sunday off, we sang our last Evensong and Mr. Hutchinson, the choir-master, commented that we sang our very best. After that we had a film show then went to bed at 10.30pm.

We left on Monday morning and, ever since, have been asking Mr. Tidy, our choirmaster and organist, if we can go again.

Noel Welpton (aged 12)

Clive Wren (aged 12)

Researched by Les Hemsworth

DIARY DATES TO REMEMBER

Mothers' Union

Monthly Meeting on 3rd Monday of month from 2.15 pm

16 July 2018 – Garden Party

Meeting at St James Church Centre at 2.15 pm

Women's Institute

Monthly Meeting on 3rd Wednesday of month from 2 – 4.30 pm

18 July 2018 – Garden Party

St James Church Centre

Gardening

Last Saturday of the month – Gardening at St James Church/St James Church Centre

Joint Parish Eucharist for Gemma Beesley With bring and share lunch

Sunday, 1 July 2018, at 10 am

St James Church/St James Church Centre

Parish Walk

If weather cool enough, Monday, 2 July 2018, 1.45 pm from St James Church Centre. Then Monday, 16 July 2018 – await announcement.

Film Club

Friday, 13 July 2018 – “Gosford Park”

St James Church Centre, commencing at 6.30 pm with coffee and cake

Mission and Social Planning Meeting

Monday, 16 July 2018 at 7.30 pm

88 Temple Road

Parish Pastoral Network Meeting

Thursday, 19 July 2018, 3.30 pm

The Rectory

Youth Café

Saturday, 21 July 2018, 10 am

St James Church Centre

St James Patronal

Sunday, 22 July 2018, at 4 pm

Big Sing worship followed by a strawberry cream tea

St James Church Centre

Messy Church

Monday, 30 July 2018, 10.00 – 11.30 am

St Francis Church

Open Garden

Saturday, 4 August 2018, 2 – 4 pm

61 White Lane

Film Club

Friday, 10 August 2018 – “The Benny Goodman Story”

St James Church Centre, commencing at 6.30 pm with coffee and cake

Rectory Garden Tea Party

Saturday, 25 August 2018, 2 – 4 pm

11 Beauchamp Lane

Shared Service and Bring & Share lunch

Sunday, 2 September 2018, 10.30 am service, followed by bring & share lunch

St Francis

To welcome Fiona Bennett, Time for God attachment

Open Doors/Ride & Stride/Wedding Open Day

Saturday, 8 September 2018, 10 – 4 pm

St James Church and St Francis Church

St Francis Church Committee

Sunday, 9 September 2018, at 12.15 pm

St Francis Church

St James Church Committee

Wednesday, 19 September 2018, at 7.30 pm

The Rectory

Bible Big Story

Saturday, 22 September 2018, 10 am – 4 pm

St James Church Centre

Parish Service at St Francis with Bring & Share Lunch

St Francis Patronal Festival

Sunday, 30 September 2018 at 10.30 pm followed by a bring & share lunch

Parochial Church Committee

Sunday, 14 October 2018, 12.15 pm at St Francis Church

REMEMBER: Tuesday lunches at St James Church Centre from 12.30 pm

The last lunch before the summer break is 24 July. Lunches will recommence 4 September 2018

Temple Cowley United Reformed Church

As many of you know I was a member of Temple Cowley URC most of my life and the church where our family grew up in the Christian faith. Last November it closed its doors for the last time as a United Reformed Church and its small congregation has dispersed. Some of us are still wandering but have found friends to help us on our journey in different fields. But the church building is still in use serving the community even though it has been sold. In the foreseeable future another Christian Fellowship will be celebrating the 'Good News', and in many respects history will be re-enacted by a City congregation sponsoring the new church community. Details are expected to be made clearer in the autumn. I am sure that another exiting chapter will continue the work started at Temple Cowley 150 years ago.

Before we completely close the chapter of Temple Cowley as a Non-Conformist Church may I give a brief summary of its history. Although there have been some words written in the past, closer investigation has revealed inaccuracies. Some of the records are missing but the main files and photographic records salvaged from past 'clear outs', including minutes of some quite stormy discussions between minister and the Deacons, are stored at the County Archives just across the road from the church. I shall not bore you with too many dates nor list all the ministers. Those details are recorded in the Archives.

The first non-conformist or free church in Cowley was founded in 1873 by members of the George Street (Oxford) Congregational

Church. A small brick chapel was built on the site of two cottages in Temple Road and opened in 1878. It is still standing but was annexed some years ago to the printers that operated opposite the Cricketers Arms public house. The chapel was in the Temple Cowley area which was quite separate in those days from the other part of Cowley village with a link road winding its way along 'Between Towns Road' to John Allen's workshops, in Cowley village proper. The nearest 'free church' to Cowley was at the Rose Hill Methodist Chapel but there were no suitable access roads so you stayed local, or trekked across to the Parish Church!

The small chapel flourished and was served by several members from the George Street Congregational Church community. Eventually it was clear that a larger church was needed so a plot of land was purchased and built on land now occupied by Emmaus (Oxford). Subsequently the corner plot was also purchased and is the site of the present church building. Support from George Street continued because in those days the Congregational churches were independent completely, and were responsible not only for 'calling' their minister but also for his stipend and the upkeep of his house and the maintenance of their church. Services were led by ministers from the parent church in George Street, including one who first visited as a young pacifist trainee minister, joined the forces during the first World war as a padre, returned at the end of the war safely to continue his studies in Cambridge, qualified and after emigrating to South Africa where he ministered for a number of years ended his pastoral career as Moderator of the Presbyterian Church of South Africa. He returned

to England in his retirement. How the 'seed' can grow!

Cowley changed following the First World War with the expansion of Morris Motors who took over the old Military College at the corner of Hollow Way and the Oxford Road. It expanded further in the 1920's to the site of a rhubarb farm on the other side of Hollow Way that we know as the redundant Post Office Sorting Office. More expansion occurred with the arrival of the Pressed Steel Company. The majority of the 'labour' required for the car assembly was male but they brought their families or married local girls. They needed to be housed or at least somewhere to sleep. Many miners who had been out of work for a long period walked from South Wales stopping over at chapels along the way and when they reached Cowley it was not surprising that they looked to the free church for help. Others came from Scotland and the Midlands following The Great Depression, including Audrey's and my parents. In fact, the church in Temple Road was home to some migrant workers during the week which had to be cleared up for Sunday service, and this sometimes caused a problem. It does not take much imagination to consider the 'chaos'.

Eventually the problem was solved by generous donations from the congregation. If the men would build the 'dormitory', the church would provide the money. And it was done. It was built on space at the rear of the church and survived until the 1950's, later being used as a Sunday school room, providing a haven for the popular uniformed and youth organisations who met on different days. After all, the miners were used to building

strong structures, so no wonder it lasted. And they loved singing. Temple Cowley was the first base for the Oxford Welsh Male Voice Choir. Free church congregations have always had a strong tradition for singing for joy, and it is healthy too they say.

Towards the end of the 1920's Temple Cowley had outgrown its accommodation again. The minister was Rev. Whatley White, who was 'called' in 1926. Although he was partially blind, he overcame this disability by learning the bible passages so that his services were passionate and his congregation grew in numbers. Social activities were met with Christian Endeavour at the weekend, Boy's Brigade (with band) and tennis for the adults. A new community was growing within the expanding Cowley area.

By now the church was on its own as an independent Congregational Church so where should it look for help to expand or even build a new church building that could meet their needs? Where else but its sponsor - The George Street Trust. And so plans were made for 'the church on the hill' that stands to this day. An old aerial photograph taken in 1929 to show the expanse of the Morris Cowley Assembly Plant looking towards the west clearly shows the church in the process of being built. The roof is not finished. It was also probably taken on a Monday morning because all the houses along the Oxford Road have their bed sheets out on the line. The church building fund had run out of money so work was unable to continue, or so it seemed at the time. No more money was available.

The minister took up the challenge and got on his bicycle to visit his good friend, whose

family happened to own one of the large drapery stores. After Rev. Whatley White explained the problem to Mr Webber, he took out his cheque book and wrote a cheque for £500, the amount required for the roof. Later it was found that no one had taken account of the flooring finish and it looked as though they would have a concrete floor so Mr. Whatley White paid another visit in the hope that another £500 could be found from

some source known to his friend. There was no need to go any further and Mr. Webber came up with the cheque again. And so we had a pine parquet floor, recently refurbished. The church building was finished and opened on Good Friday 1930.

David Cook
 With acknowledgements to Jim Hansford (former church secretary)
 to be continued.....

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 13-19

May <https://www.christianaid.org.uk/christian-aid-week/>

We proved in Cowley that TOGETHER WE'RE STRONGER THAN THE STORMS.

Christian Aid Week 2018 raised a wonderful £1,560, including £50 from the Big Brekkie we held back in the New Year. MANY THANKS to all who donated cash, time, cakes and tombola items to assert that *"we believe in life before death"*.

By the time you read this, we will have crowned this year's CHRISTIAN AID QUIZ AID champions - we will let you know who won in the next edition, knowing that they will have had expert knowledge of: *who said that? - the Queen - sport - how many? - general knowledge - art & design - faiths.*

We are planning one more Big Brekkie later in the year - how do you feel about a Saturday Brunch?

Lesley Williams

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REPORT FROM THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

The PCC met on the 10 June 2018. The Church Committees reported back following their meetings, and the PCC agreed that the following action should be taken:

- ∅ The provision of a toilet at St James Church should be investigated
- ∅ Advice should be sought on a formal scheme for digital projection at St James Church
- ∅ The provision of a hand rail from the south door of St James Church should be investigated.
- ∅ At St Francis – the floor in the main hall needs sanding and sealing, and the PCC agreed that estimates should be obtained for this work.

The PCC was pleased to learn that the firm undertaking building work on the old Barracks Site had painted the toilets at St Francis, and that new accessories had been donated. In addition, the builders had cleared the growth around the car park at the back of St Francis Church.

In addition there was:

- ∅ The work of the Ministry Team
- ∅ *A review of the way the Services were going in both churches*
- ∅ *The ordination of Gemma Beesley on the 30 June 2018*
- ∅ *The Time for God intern starting in September – Fiona Bennett*
- ∅ *The new Link*
- ∅ *Youth Café*
- ∅ *Work of Children's Churches*
- ∅ *Health and Safety*
- ∅ *Data Protection – the programme of work needed over the next twelve months*
- ∅ *Safeguarding – the courses arranged for volunteers and future work needed*
- ∅ *Parish Pastoral Network*

The next series of meetings have been arranged:

St Francis Church Committee, 9 September 2018, at 12.15 pm

St James Church Committee, 19 September 2018, at 7.30 pm, at The Rectory

Parochial Church Committee, Sunday, 14 October 2018, 12.15 pm at St Francis Church

Sally Hemsworth

PCC Secretary

Cowley Parish Mission & Social Planner 2018

JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER
<p>SUN 1st 10:00 am <i>joint Parish Eucharist for Gemma Beasley, bring and share lunch</i> (J for J & F, CC)</p> <p>MON 16th 7:30 pm <i>Mission & social meeting</i> (88 Temple Road)</p> <p>SAT 21st 10:00 am <i>Youth café</i> (CC)</p> <p>SUN 22nd 4:00 pm <i>St James patronal Big Sing worship & strawberry cream tea</i> (CC)</p> <p>MON 30th 10:00-11:30am <i>Messy Church</i> (F)</p>	<p>SAT 4th 2:00-4:00 pm <i>Open garden</i> (61 White Road)</p> <p>SAT 25th 2:00-4:00 pm <i>Rectory garden tea party</i></p>	<p>SUN 2nd following 10:30 am worship <i>Bring & share lunch</i> (F) <i>Fiona Bennett (Time for God)</i></p> <p>SAT 8th 10:00 – 4:00 <i>Open Doors/ Ride & Stride/Wedding open day</i> (J & F)</p> <p>SAT 22nd 10:00-4:00 <i>Bible Big Story</i> (CC)</p> <p>SUN 23th 10:00 am <i>Harvest thanksgiving</i> + harvest lunch (J)</p> <p>SUN 30th 10:30 am <i>Parish St Francis patronal festival joint service</i> + bring & share lunch (F)</p>



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NICODEMUS and SECOND BIRTH

This Nicodemus was a thoughtful man,
A ruler of the Jews, a Pharisee,
Who had observed the many miracles
And the teachings of this Man from Galilee.

He felt that Jesus had been sent from God,
"Not as Messiah who would come as King,
A prophet then? But not as those of old,
His words had an Authoritative ring."

And so he came by night, the crowds all gone,
To talk with Him, question Him alone.
A teacher in the old Mosaic Law,
The Holy Spirits work, he had not known.
"YOU did not know you must be born again?"
What a rebuke was in that tender tone!

You may not know how, when or whence it comes.
God sends His Holy Spirit down to one
Who yielded up his own self-centered life".
And prays with all his heart "Thy Will be Done".
The spirit comes as Guide and Counsellor
A comfort to the sad, strength to the weak,
A refuge in distress, a loving friend,
Interpreter of the Truth for those who seek.



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Prayer Space

A prayer for the morning:

Lord, help me today to realize that you
will be speaking to me through the events
of the day, through people, through things,
and through all creation.

Give me eyes, ears and heart to perceive
you, however veiled your presence may be.
Give me insight to see through the exterior
of things to the interior truth.

Give me your spirit of discernment.
O, Lord, you know how busy I must be
this day. If I forget you, do not
forget me.

Jacob Astley (written before the battle of Edgehill in 1642)

And a prayer for the evening:

Lord God, send peaceful sleep
to refresh our tired bodies.
May your help always renew us
and keep us strong in your service.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

The Liturgy of the Hours

Published in the Mothers' Union book of prayers and poems entitled "Dear Lord"

Cast All Your Care

Cast all your care on Christ our Redeemer
And trust in his promise to be by your side.
His love will uphold you, his arms will enfold you.
Let him be your Saviour, your shepherd and guide.

Fret not nor fear, for whatever befalls you,
Remember for love of you Jesus was slain.
In dying for us he shared all human sorrow
And bore on his shoulders the weight of your pain.

Though life be fraught with all manner of the stresses and storms that beset each day
Be firm in your faith for the Lord will be with you
And be by your side as your strength and your stay

Rev Dr John Davey, Nottingham City MU Branch

SUNDAY SERVICES

ST JAMES CHURCH, BEAUCHAMP LANE

8.00am Holy Communion
10.00am Sung Eucharist
1.45pm Anglican Asian Living Church
Sunday Lunch – the date varies so watch for notices

ST FRANCIS CHURCH, HOLLOW WAY

10.30am Parish Eucharist
1st Sunday All Age bring n/share lunch

MID-WEEK SERVICES & MEETINGS

Morning Prayer	7.45am 8am	Mon, Wed, Thu at St James; Tue, Sat at St James
Monday	10.00-11.30am	Little Stars Playgroup— St Francis
	2.30pm	Parish Mothers' Union— St James (3rd Monday)
Tuesday	10.00am	Seashells Toddler Group— St James
	12.00pm	Eucharist—Ranklin Room, St James Church Centre
	12.30pm	Tuesday Lunch Club— St James
Thursday	2-4pm	Prayer Space—St Francis
	7.00pm	Cowley Parish Healing Service St Francis (1st Thursday)
	7.30pm	Local House of Prayer, St James

HOME GROUPS

Leader	Time/Venue
Connie Uren	Alternate Tuesday afternoons at 2.30pm St James Church Centre, Ranklin Room
Friends of St Francis (Katherine Reed)	2nd & 4th Tuesday afternoons at 2.30pm St Francis Church
Geoff Bayliss	Alternate Wednesdays at 10am St James Church Centre, Ranklin Room
Mark Oxbrow	Alternate Wednesday evenings at 7.30pm Mark's home, 13 Annesley Road (just behind the Rose Hill Coop). Enquiries to Mark at 01865 461953
Rosanne Butler	Alternate Thursday mornings at 10.00am St James Church Centre, Ranklin Room
Catherine / William Hartley	Thursdays at 8.00pm, Catherine Hartley 07792 104448 William Hartley 07751 939092

The Parish Office in St James Church Centre is staffed by volunteers and is not covered continually. Please leave a message and someone will get back to you.

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Chris Woodman Tel: 778078

Hall Bookings:

St James Church Centre, St James Church, St Francis Church: Please contact the Parish Office Tel: 747680

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