

News from around the Diocese of Ely

WHAT'S ON

June 8th - Ely Cathedral

7.30pm. Dr Adrian Chatfield 'The Bible & Prayer'

July 7th - Wisbech St Peter and St Paul

7.40pm. Women in the Episcopate Roadshow

July 9th - Fenstanton Church 10.00am-4.40pm

Come and sing with John Rutter

July 9th - Cathedral Centre 10.00am.

Bishop John Taylor 'The Writing & Message of the Old Testament'

July 9th - Ferrar House, Little Gidding 2pm.

T S Eliot Festival

July 12th - Ely Cathedral

7.30pm. Dr Rebecca Nye 'The Bible & Children'

July 15th - Rave in the Nave 7.15pm.

Ely Cathedral

July 16th - Cathedral Centre 10.00am.

Dr Will Lamb 'The New Testament - Texts & Manuscripts; Jesus: Paul'

July 16th - Cambridge St Mary the Great from 2.00pm

'Come and Sing' Mozart Vespers K339

July 16th - Cambridge Guitar Orchestra from 7.30pm.

St Mary's Church Buckden

July 19th - Where have all the Bobbies Gone? Seminar from 7.30pm.

All Saints Milton

August 6th Scarecrow Festival, theme The Bible 2pm-4pm.

Wiggenhall St Mary Magdalene



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Photo: Rogation Walkers at St Peter's Wentworth

Rogation Walk

The Sunday before the Ascension is known as Rogation Sunday and to celebrate Bishop Stephen joined members of the congregations of the Grunty Fen group of parishes on a walk on 29 May. In many communities, this used to be a day to walk the parish boundaries, with a variety of rites and practices, and to pray for God's blessing on the crops. But it was felt that to 'beat the bounds' of the four parishes would take a couple of days, so walking from the churches to a central point was decided on instead.

A group from Witchford walked from St Andrew's Church, carrying some corn; a group from Wilburton walked from St Peter's Church, carrying some soil; a group from Haddenham walked from Holy Trinity

Church, carrying some water. We were joined by members of the other denominations and also families who are connected to us through after-school activities.

The walkers met Bishop Stephen at the boundary of Wilburton and Wentworth, and walked on to St Peter's Wentworth, where the corn, soil and water were presented during a special service celebrating life in the villages. We prayed for farmers and this year's harvest across the world as well as the lives of our local communities. The dogs added an interesting dimension, joining in with the hymns in their own inimitable way! The Service was followed by a shared tea, provided by each of the Churches.

Jane Logan

Dicing for Bibles at St Ives

The Tuesday after Pentecost has for centuries been the date on which the children of St Ives have played dice to win a Bible. The custom results from the bequest of a seventeenth century rector, the Rev'd Dr Robert Wilde (1615-1679), who left the church the sum of £50 p.a. to buy the Bibles (taken from the revenue from his property) and, amongst other things, pay for a sumptuous dinner for the vicar and his churchwardens! The dinners no longer happen, but the dicing carries on, and so on 14th June the Year 6 pupils of Thorndown and Westfield schools were invited to All Saints Church to try their luck with the dice. This year Rev'd Mark

Amey and his team decided it was time to improve upon the tradition, so *all* the children present had an opportunity to try for a Bible, and also to take part in workshop activities on the church treasures (vestments and silver) and seventeenth century St Ives, as well as to prepare a song for the worship which ended the afternoon. The final "dice-off" took place amidst great excitement just before the service, and after a close contest a boy and girl from each school walked away with a brand new Youth Bible, presented to them by the deputy mayor of St Ives.

www.ely.anglican.org/news_events/events.html for details of all events.

DIOCESAN & CHURCH OF ENGLAND NEWS For all news go to www.ely.anglican.org/news_events/

Children's Party 2011



On Sunday 26 June Bishop Stephen hosted a party for Clergy families in the garden of the Bishop's House. On the hot summer afternoon around 50 children spent a joyful couple of hours being entertained with games, a bouncy castle and music and dance - and Bishop Stephen joined in the fun as you can see!

Godly Play

I came across Godly Play while I was in Carlisle. There the cathedral had a small group of children who came with their parents every week, a few attending once a month or more sporadically and a large influx of children for special events and festivals. Trying to organise a programme was difficult and when the Dean suggested Godly Play and to include the choristers as well - I had to investigate.

I was put off by the name 'Godly Play' as it sounded odd but when we went over to Newcastle for the training I was bowled over by the power of the bible story to meet me where I was. I was not surprised to hear that churches were using Godly Play not just with children but also with adults, and I came away enthused. Godly Play along with other ways of bringing children, families and adults to faith has a place in meeting the spiritual needs of our modern society.

The Godly Play session follows a liturgical format. People are welcomed into the space to experience a

Saturday Scriptorium

As part of the celebrations of the 400th anniversary of the King James Bible St Mark's, Cambridge, showed a film about William Tyndale, 'God's Outlaw', and the following day held a 'Day with the KJB' on May 21st. During the day members visited the excellent exhibition 'Great and Manifold Blessings' at the University Library together, took part in a challenging Bible Quiz devised by Richard Bauckham, and each undertook the writing out of a favourite or key passage from the King James Bible in ink, on a large sheet of good paper. Some people who couldn't come on the day transcribed passages at home, but those who were present took

Celebrate 200!

Ely Cathedral is the venue for a special celebration of 200 years of national schooling on Sunday July 10th at 5.45pm. The service will feature live performances by many children as well as a 'big screen' which will be used to give a flavour of the life of the schools across the diocese. Church members from all the parishes, staff and parents of schools and supporters of Christian education in the region are warmly invited to join the celebration. Why not come earlier in the afternoon and enjoy a riverside walk or a picnic in the park before coming on to the Cathedral to 'Celebrate 200'? For further details contact The Schools Team on 01353 652724.

sacred story, parable or liturgical action. The storyteller while telling the story uses wooden figures and symbols to give a visual focus. Open questions follow, giving people an opportunity to explore and deepen the meanings of the story to 'play' with the possibilities. There is a free choice of activity to allow time to work through the reflection. The session closes with a feast and sharing and final leave taking.

This way of doing Godly Play has been adapted to suit many situations. It has been loosely labelled 'reflective storytelling' but owes its conception to Montessori and more recently to Jerome Berryman, an American Episcopal priest. For those of you who have heard but perhaps have not experienced this form of storytelling then I am helping run a 'taster' day in Arbury on November 12th and there will be a three day training on March 14 - 16 2012. More details will be advertised on the diocesan website and the Godly Play UK web site.

Jean Thomson (Trustee, Godly Play UK)

turns to do their writing in the Narthex of the church, transformed into a Scriptorium for the occasion. The sheets (numbering about 33) will be bound into a commemorative book which the church will keep on display, and use for readings when the Authorised Version is particularly requested, as at some funerals. (For this reason, we made sure that Psalm 23 and 1 Corinthians 13 were included!)



3 scribes hard at work

Maggie Guite

COMINGS AND GOINGS

The Revd Felicity Couch has been appointed as Rector of the Orwell Group. Licensing will take place on Wednesday 20 July 2011 at All Saints Church Barrington at 7pm.

The Revd Nick Moir has been appointed Rural Dean of Cambridge North.

The Revd Prof Huw Jones has been appointed Rural Dean of Cambridge South

The Revd Dr Alexandra Clarke has been appointed House for Duty Team Vicar in the Papworth Team. Licensing details will follow in due course.

The Revd Alice Goodman has been appointed Rector of Fulbourn, Great Wilbraham and Little Wilbraham with Six Mile Bottom. Licensing details will follow in due course.

The Revd Angela Tilby has been appointed Diocesan Canon of Christ Church Cathedral Oxford. Angela's last Sunday at Cambridge St Bene'ts will be 3 July 2011.

The Revd Tony Heywood has been appointed as Team Vicar of the Abbey Estate, Thetford Team Ministry in Norwich Diocese. Tony's last Sunday in his current parish was 26 June and he will be licensed to his new parishes on 14 July 2011.

For more details see www.ely.anglican.org/news_events/media/announcements/