

Parish Directory

THE PARISH CHURCH
OF ST JAMES

Team Rector:
The Revd Stephen
Hartley,
Cowley Rectory,
Beauchamp Lane
Tel: 747680
Email: stephen.hartley
@btinternet.com

Team Curate:
The Revd Vernon
Orr
Benson Cottage,
Beauchamp Lane
Tel: 779666
Email: vernon.orr
@lineone.net

**Licensed Lay
Minister:**
Eric Uren
Tel: 770696

**ST FRANCIS CHURCH,
HOLLOW WAY**
Team Vicar:
Fr John Tomlison,
St Francis' Vicarage,
2 Meyseys Close
Tel: 748915
Email:fj@care4free.net

Associate Priest:
Fr Peter Stanway
22 Colleywood
Kennington
Tel: 739342

CHURCHWARDENS:
Gwen Rankin
Tel: 451417
John Shreeve
Tel: 717987

Deputy Wardens:
Rosanne Butler
Tel: 453257
Pat Chung
Tel: 767124

**HALL BOOKINGS
OFFICER:**
773620
weekdays only

Sunday Services

ST JAMES' CHURCH, BEAUCHAMP LANE

8.00 am Holy Communion
10.00 am Sung Eucharist
6.00 pm Evening Praise
[1st Sunday of the month]

ST FRANCIS' CHURCH, HOLLOW WAY

8.00 am Holy Eucharist
10.30 am Parish Eucharist
[Family Eucharist -
2nd Sunday of the month]

Mid-Week Services & Meetings

Monday	9.00 am	Morning Prayer – St James
	5.00 pm	Evening Prayer – St James
Tuesday	9.00 am	Morning Prayer – St James
	12.00 pm	St James Prayer Group – Benson Cottage
	5.00 pm	Evening Prayer – St James
	8.00 pm	St Francis Discussion Group – 4 Long Close
Wednesday	9.00 am	Morning Prayer – St Francis
	9.30 am	Eucharist – St Francis
	10.10 am	Mothers and Toddlers – St Francis
	10.30 am	Pram Service – St James
	5.00 pm	Evening Prayer – St Francis
Thursday	9.00 am	Morning Prayer – St James
	9.30 am	Eucharist - followed by coffee – St James
	11.00 am	St Francis Prayer Group
	5.00 pm	Evening Prayer – St Francis
	7.00 pm	Eucharist – St Francis
Friday	9.00 am	Morning Prayer – St Francis
	5.00 pm	Evening Prayer – St James
	7.00 pm	Friday Club – alt Fridays at St Francis
Saturday	9.00 am	Morning Prayer – St James
	9.15 am	Morning Prayer & Breakfast – St Francis
	9.30 am	Eucharist – St James

Arrangements for Baptisms, Banns of Marriage, Weddings, Confessions and Home Communions can be made with any of the clergy.

Days Off

Fr John, and Vernon have Monday as their day off; Stephen and Fr Peter have Friday off. Except in emergency, please try and respect these days of rest.

September 2000

The Changing Times

September sees the beginning of a new school year and for many children it will be a time of great change. For some it will be the beginning of their school life as they nervously say goodbye to their mothers at the classroom door and embark on 14 years or so of education. For others it will be the excitement of changing schools.

For my own children, Lizzie is entering the Sixth-Form, William is tackling his two-year GSCE course, Catherine is beginning in the Senior School, Katie is starting at Middle School, whilst Mark has only to cope with a change of form and classmates.

Few of us like change, and probably prefer to stick with things with which we are familiar. The Church faces change too. Either it can be a haven for tradition and the familiar, or it can seek to develop and respond to the changes which are happening at such a frightening speed in a society as a whole.

For clergy and Church leaders this requires much wisdom and sensitivity. If we change too rapidly in an attempt to become more appealing to the non-Christian, we risk alienating many of our long-standing members who feel uncomfortable with too much

change.
This is no easy task for clergy and church committees. It takes patience and tolerance on all sides as we try to meet the needs of our own



Steve

The monthly magazine of the Cowley Team Ministry

Change

INVITING COWLEY TO A FREE MEAL

At 7 pm on Tuesday 26th September in the Parish Hall.

- ❖ a two course meal and coffee,
- ❖ a chance to hear a couple of local people tell their stories,
- ❖ details of the forthcoming **Alpha** courses in Cowley.

Finish by 9 pm.

Please:

- ❖ Invite your friends
- ❖ Donate to the cost
- ❖ Help Prepare

This is part of the UK-wide '*Invitation to Supper*'



ALPHA OXFORD LAUNCH PRESENTATION AT THE APOLLO THEATRE

Thursday 5th October 7.30pm

at the Apollo Theatre, George Street, Oxford

- Nicky Gumbel speaking on 'Christianity: Boring, Untrue or Irrelevant?'
- live music
- Peoples' stories
- entertainment.

Tickets £3 each from Vernon

Why not treat a friend?



United Oxford Alpha Prayer Celebration

St Clement's Church Thursday 14th September at 7.30 to 8.45pm.

Please come as we unite to ask the Holy Spirit

to move in Oxfordshire this Autumn.

St James' Home Groups are invited to attend

Make your own way or speak to Vernon if you need a lift.

Alpha needs You! Help Required

Can you help by joining a team to deliver Alpha Invitations through letter boxes,

In the week commencing Monday 11th September.

Sign up on the list on glass screen at the back of St James. Thanks!

Healing Service

Wednesday 19th

September 7.30 pm.

St James Church

Receive Jesus'
promise of healing
through personal prayer



Sunday Evening Praise

Worship, teaching,
prayer ministry
in an informal
setting.

Sunday
1st October 6
o'clock
Speaker:

The Revd Jane McLaren,
Chaplain St Augustine's School



Message 2000

Message 2000 was a mission set up by the same people that run Soul Survivor. I've never been to Soul Survivor but I know it's an annual Christian event for teenagers and adults set up in a huge field (I've heard it described as the Christian version of the Glastonbury Festival) and the biggest Christian bands such as Delirious?, and the World Wide Message Tribe play there as well as talks by well-known people and worship led by contemporary song writers such as Matt Redman.

Message 2000 had a much more evangelistic approach and the aim was to preach the gospel in the things we did and through conversations with strangers as well as getting rid of the false preconceptions many people of this generation have about Christians.

I went with a group of about twenty from St. Aldates. We went up on the train and as soon as we entered Manchester it started pouring with rain! There were around seven thousand of us camping in Heaton Park altogether and everyone was impressed with the high security; there were two lots of fencing round us, security guards everywhere, a watch tower and passes which were checked every time we entered or left.

On the first evening we had our first 'meeting' in the Manchester Evening News arena. Buses had been hired for the event and they spent almost two hours taking us there in runs from the park. The evening was the same structure as all the evenings to come. It started with worship and then a talk and then a chance for anyone that wanted to, to become a Christian there and then. The second half included usually two bands as well as a DJ and Christian dance music.

In the mornings we met at the Manchester Evening News Arena (MENA) for more worship, a talk and prayers before we were let loose onto the streets of Manchester. There were three main areas; First Contact, which involved setting up things like sports to attract passers by and get a chance to talk to them, Ground Force, which involved things like picking up rubbish from the streets and repainting playgrounds, and Cafes, which involved setting up small attractive cafes in the hope that people would come in. This is what I was involved in.

Our cafe had been set up in a Methodist Church in Astley. The first day was spent trying to make it more decorative and appealing. No one really came in until a First Contact group, who were organizing sports just outside the church, invited the children in after their game. They seemed to like our cafe. We sold canned drinks as well as crisps and chocolate bars and sweets, there was a stage with a band playing on it, play stations and other games in a cosy corner we'd created and competitions to join in with. We soon learnt that the children brought in from the sports were our main customers so we organized an action packed last hour, starting when they came in. This included songs by a visiting band, quizzes where you could win a free item from the tuck shop, Who Wants To Win Twenty Pounds?, a Stars In Their Eyes competition and towards the end, a short interesting talk, usually by one of the band members, to make them more interested about Jesus and Christianity.

People did ask us questions and we were able to talk to them and give them free tickets for the events in the MENA in the evenings. We also got permission to go 'door-to-door' and publicise our cafe as well as invite people and their family/friends to the MENA.

The evenings were made even more exciting when we saw people turning up at the MENA from our cafe. More and more people from round Manchester came and one night we split over into the gallery. We were told that we were making a huge impact on Manchester and that they couldn't believe some of the things we were doing for the local communities. I think a lot of people we'd invited enjoyed and were amazed at perhaps their first taste of 'worship' and after powerful talks over one hundred people became Christians each night!

Message 2000 was a huge and unforgettable experience. It was a shame to leave all the Mexican waves and Jesus chants and the huge cheering and clapping when people bravely stood up to become Christians. It also showed me how much the Good News can be spread by simple actions and conversations and how important every single Christian is in the mission to "go and make disciples of all nations".

LIZZIE HARTLEY

Alpha Courses in Cowley on Tuesdays

A fun way to explore the meaning of life and meet people!

Starting **Tuesday 10th October**

DAYTIME Alpha

12.30 to 3.00pm at Cowley Rectory, Beauchamp Lane.

Lunch included

EVENING Alpha

7.00 to 9.30pm at Benson Cottage, Beauchamp Lane

Meal included

Contact Vernon on 779666 if you or your friends would like to come.

Invitations and explanatory booklet available early September.

Alpha Sunday at St James

10.00am Sunday 1st October

As we prepare for the launch of the *Alpha* courses on 10th October we will be asking God to use them to reach out to the people of Cowley

Confirmation Service

with Bishop Richard

St Francis Church

Sunday 17th September 10.30am

Please pray for members of our church family preparing for Confirmation -

Sharon Merry

Jane Phipps

Tracy Toohey

Come Holy Spirit - and lighten with celestial fire.



Rosanne interviews



Picture, if you will, a little six year old girl in a pink straw hat walking to church through the fields from Headington to Forest Hill. With her is her older sister, 11, in a blue hat, and a young housemaid from the "big house". Lady Fanshawe decreed that the girls (in their obligatory hats) accompanied the maid to ensure that she actually attended Matins and didn't "get up to anything". They lived

with their widowed mother, newly arrived from East Sussex, in a tied cottage where they learnt dairy ing skills (such as butter making) and how to breed turkeys. Since their father's death when little Dorrie was four and Florrie nine, their mother, Mrs Relf, had applied for posts where she could earn a living and make a home for her daughters. It had been suggested at her former "place" that she stay on as a cook/housekeeper, after losing her husband, on condition that her little girls went into a "home". No, this is not the makings of a Catherine Cookson novel but real life in the 1920's.

The girls enjoyed their childhood in the small cottage with no gas or electricity nor mains drainage in the fields where AC Nielsen's now stands. They attended Headington Quarry school where Dorrie loved to paint and draw and Florrie's head was seldom out of a book. It was understood that children would then, on reaching 14, leave school and find employment. Florrie went into service which was fortuitous for when the little family were turned out of their cottage the elder daughters' employer offered them a bungalow in Kiln Lane. This rescued them from homelessness.

At 14 Dorrie found work in the Frank Cooper marmalade factory and then at a "posh" restaurant in Commarket. She cycled everywhere and in her Eighties is very spry - due maybe to all that exercise in her youth! It was a sixpenny hop in Quarry village that she met a handsome boy from Hinksey. She was 20 and was courted by "her Pat" (Morris) for four years. In 1938 they had saved enough money to put a deposit on the house in Glebelands where Dorrie lives today. She remembers shedding tears of excitement at the lovely modern kitchen with running water that was waiting for her as a young bride. The year was 1939.

Pat's brothers persuaded him to join the Territorial Army and, immediately after a summer camp in August, war was declared. He, of course, was called up. Life for Dorrie at that time was divided between the humdrum routine of working alongside her mother in the big house on Shotover and the excitement of Pat's short leaves. In 1944 his unit was sent to France after D-Day and he was killed in action.

As a widow, still in her twenties, Dorrie resigned herself to a lonely future and so it proved until Christmas 1953. Florrie had invited a bachelor friend of her husband to join the family gathering for tea. It was a momentous meeting. Jack Douglas, the friend, ran Dorrie (and her mum) home that evening and invited her to the pantomime at the New Theatre. She accepted. After a brief courtship with more trips to the theatre and the cinema she became Mrs Douglas in St James Church. Father Whye took the wedding service.

Jack gave up his cottage in Eynsham and for 44 very happy years they lived in the Glebelands house she loves so much. It was through Jack's influence that she was Confirmed in 1955 and they were regular and devoted members of St Francis congregation. Dorrie, of course, still is. She mourns the loss of her loving Jack, a practical man who filled her life with flowers, fun and great support for her elderly mother. Any changes she makes to her home and garden she does in the hope that he would approve. I felt sure he would!

Was there any one particular person who had a strong influence on your earthly life?

My mum and I were very close. She looked after me when I was a little girl. She stood out as a wonderful woman.

Can you remember an incident in your childhood which held special significance for you?

Lady Fanshawe had been watching a new apple on a special tree and my friend, Phyllis Washington, pinched it and took a bite at of it. I was upset but my mum never told me off. It wasn't my fault but I felt awful.

What sort of child were you?

A friendly little girl. My dear mum always taught me to have friends round.

Has your Faith been with you since childhood or did you find it in later life?

We always said our prayers and mum sang hymns to us at times. I went to the Methodist Church in Quarry as I got older. After I married Jack I became sacristan at St Francis taking over from little Miss Broad.

Which period of your life has given you most satisfaction?

My time with Jack and looking after my mum in her old age. They were such good friends, you see.

What is best about life today?

It's so much easier, now. We've got all these gadgets like washing machines, fridges and freezers.

How do you like to spend your leisure time?

I go to the Mother's Union, Quarry WI and the Friends of St Francis. I used to do a lot of knitting but now I watch TV.

What makes you laugh?

Most of the characters in 'The Vicar of Dibley'... "No, no, no, yes!"

If you had a magic, or holy wand, what would you change?

Nothing really... Oh yes, I often think I ought to change my suite in the front room.

If you weren't doing what you're doing now what would the alternative be?

I just want to be with my Jack and I won't be around in 10 years' time!

Dorrie 1

