

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
 Bens on 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 Tomlins on,
 St Francis' Vicarage,
 2 Meyseys Close
 Tel: 748915
 Email: fj@care4free.net

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

CHURCH WARDENS:
 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
	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
	12.00 pm	St James Prayer Group – Benson Cottage
	5.00 pm	Evening Prayer – St James
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	9.15 am	Morning Prayer & Breakfast – St Francis

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

Days Off

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

chronicle

Under the Fig Tree

Our summer holiday this year was spent in a quiet hamlet in Gascony in the South of France. As I sat under the shade of an ancient fig tree and plucked large ripe grapes from an overhanging vine, it seemed like heaven on earth.

The house in which we stayed belonged to a friend who had had a vision for a place of peace and quiet, of rest and refreshment. The name of the house was *Sous le Figuier*, 'Under the Fig Tree', and comes from a verse in the prophecy of Zechariah:

On that day, says the Lord of Hosts, you shall invite each other to come under your vine and fig tree.

Our friends said that when they bought the property they felt that God wanted it to be a place of *shalom* (peace), hospitality, where others could share the good things of God, a place of fellowship and renewal.

On September 8th I embark on my own time of pilgrimage and renewal. We all need time to be able to rediscover and deepen our relationship with God. I am fortunate in being given the time and the space to draw aside, to think and to pray.

The Church is facing many challenges in the years ahead and each one of us needs to be firmly rooted in our own faith as we face up to what lies ahead. Establishing deep roots takes time but the benefits are long lasting. *Emmaus* and *Alpha*, Quiet Days and Retreats, Sunday worship and daily prayer, all contribute to a healthy and vibrant spiritual life.

In the busy, ever changing world, we need to

make time for God – to be open to him and receive from him. St John of the Cross, the great Spanish mystic was right when he said of himself (and perhaps of some of us): "My spirit is dry within me because it forgets to feed on you."

May we all during these Autumn months seek to be closer to God, to be open to his voice and obedient to his call.

With my best wishes,





United Oxford Alpha Prayer Celebration

St Clement's Church
Thursday 13th
September at 7-30 pm.



Please come as we unite to ask the Holy Spirit to move in Oxfordshire this Autumn. St James' home groups invited to attend. Make your own way or speak to Vernon if you need a lift.

Inviting Cowley to a Free Meal

At 7 pm on Wednesday 26th September in the Church Centre, Beauchamp Lane (former Scout HQ).

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



Finish by 9 pm.

Please:
Invite your friends
Donate to the cost
Help Prepare

Alpha needs You! Help Required

Can you help by joining a team to deliver Alpha Invitations through letter boxes, in the week commencing Monday 10th September.



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

Alpha Courses on Tuesdays starting 2nd October

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

DAYTIME ALPHA

12.30 to 2.30 pm at **The Church Centre (former Scout HQ) Beauchamp Lane.**

Lunch included

EVENING ALPHA

7.00 to 9.30 pm at **The Church Centre (former Scout HQ) Beauchamp Lane**

Meal included

Contact Vernon on 779666

Charles Bowell

June 11th 1826 - 1st September 1901



Charles Bowell was baptized at Cowley St. James on 9th July 1826, the son of William and Sarah Elizabeth Bowell (neé Hopgood) He was one of seven children. In November 1844 he enlisted in the East India Company Artillery, and as many youths did in those days, declared his age as 20 years in order to join the army. Charles had a five-month induction at Warley before embarkation and sailed on the vessel "Orient" for Madras on the 18th May 1845. The journey took three months.

He was stationed just outside Madras at St. Thomas' Mount, an area commemorating St. Thomas the Apostle who preached in the region on his visit to India shortly after Christ's death. The Portuguese constructed a shrine here in the 16th century.

Charles married Sarah Clough in 1851 at Pallavaram, a British station south of Madras. They had 15 children. Charles served in the Horse Artillery for 20 years, and retired to join the Police Force in 1864. Following police service, he joined the Public Works Department. In 1874 he wrote to his parents in Temple Cowley, describing his work: "I have near to 20 square miles to travel over, I have not only sole charge of public roads, but also of all Government Buildings, and water works, as irrigation is used to raise crops. I travel on horseback, and have a cart drawn by two bullocks. I carry all my cooking utensils and also my food. I generally carry a week's supply, a tent, my bed and dean clothes. Travel is done very early in the morning on account of the great heat during the day. We travel about ten miles a day"

At the time of his death in 1901 Charles was the Clerk of St. Stephen's Church in Pallavaram. His obituary says "his death left a blank in the Station which one can scarcely fill. He was a good man and his example and fatherly influence is missed by all".

This item is respectfully submitted to mark the centenary of his death, by his many descendants around the world.

Kenneth Charles Bowell,



Saturday 22nd September

7.00 - 9.00 pm

Cowley Parish Hall



Puddings Plus!

Sample some traditional puds and enjoy a fun quiz evening - exciting prizes.

Tickets: £2.00 per adult or £5.00 per family

All proceeds to Parenting projects in the UK and Adult Literacy in Africa

St Francis Church Quiet Day

Saturday 15th September

St Mary's Convent, Freeland

led by Canon David Owen



A day of space and quiet to draw close to God.

Look out for leaflets at the back of church. Please speak to Lynn Trainor or Fr. John if you would like to come, or would like a lift.

Thursday 4th October 7.00pm

St Francis - Patronal Festival

Celebrant: The Rt Revd Richard Harries
Bishop of Oxford

followed by Bring and Share Buffet Party



HARVEST THANKSGIVING



Sunday 16th September

- 8.00 am Holy Communion - St James and St Francis
- 10.00 am Family Eucharist - St James
- 10.30 am Family Eucharist - St Francis
- 4.30 pm Parish Harvest Tea - St Francis Church
- 6.00 pm Parish Harvest Evensong - St Francis Church

Please speak to Gwen or Vernon if you need a lift to St Francis

Tinned tomatoes and vegetables, Tea & Coffee, hot chocolate/cocoa, sauces, herbs, spices, dried pasta, rice, sago, tapioca & pudding rice, sugar, dried fruit, evaporated milk, cooking oils, coconut milk, fruit juice/squash, and tinned meat will be collected for the Steppin' Stone Project (formerly The Porch) to feed the city's homeless.

Healing Service

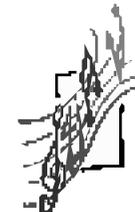
Tuesday 18th
September 7.30 pm.
St James Church

Receive Jesus' promise of healing through personal prayer



Sunday Evening Praise

Worship, teaching, prayer ministry in an informal setting.
Sunday
7th October
6 o'clock



EMMAUS - A Way of Life

Starting Tuesday 25th September 7pm

Contact Father John on 748915

Rosanne Interviews



Seventeen-year-old Fizzie came to see me wearing odd socks. Why?
“Because I like them... I've got another pair like this at home” she laughed. Fizzie is the same girl who, six years on, was introduced to me as Elizabeth, the elder daughter of Stephen and Sharon. Until recently she has been known to her friends and relations as Lizzie.

Now, you might think from my introduction that we are meeting here a fluffy-headed teenager. Let me make it clear right away that Fizzie, or Lizzie, is far from fluffy-headed, despite the odd socks. Having sailed through her AS Levels, she is now embarking on her final year with vital English, French, Latin and Music A-levels next summer. She is practising hard for her grade 8 piano and grade 7 viola. This summer she has completed the Duke of Edinburgh Award. In order to gain her prestigious gold award she did community work with the elderly and also went on a four-day camping expedition in Scotland. She describes the whole adventure as “great”, walking around 90 kilometres (55 miles) with all her equipment on her back. She joined the Combined Cadet Force at school as recently reached the rank of Corporal. Only a couple of weeks before I talked to her she had returned from a gruelling leadership course run by the RAF. She enjoyed the experience enormously, taking her turn with nearly fifty other young people from many parts of the country in leading a variety of scenarios set by the course organisers. She learnt to be exceptionally self-disciplined. The young people were expected to have super-neat quarters, equipment and uniform with next-to-no preparation time. Lizzie was criticised for not having perfect pleats in her curtains even though it had not been explained that pleats were required!

As if life were not busy enough she is much involved in school drama productions, working her way up from prompting to (this coming year) directing. She has written music for school plays and is currently composing an album of Christian songs. She keeps fit by taking part in school sport – cross-country running, hockey, squash and tennis – all of which she enjoys though she admits to no particular competence.

Now, of course, she is thinking ahead to her gap year before going to university. She has in mind to work with a Christian organisation, possibly U.S.P.G. Her ability to relate to young people through music and drama is influencing the plans she has. Then it's on to university where she is hoping to study theology with a strong possibility that this will lead on to Ordination. She feels that God is calling her and that her new-found confidence and sparkle is coming from him.

In the meantime she is looking forward to a smart, new IKEA-style bedroom in the new Cowley Rectory, to continuing to call Cowley home (which she describes as a friendly place), and to organising her younger brother and sister as she seems to have done for most of her life! She certainly does have lots of fizz so I guess her new nick-name suits her very well.

Was there on particular person who had a strong influence on your early life?

When I was thirteen there was an older girl, Anika, a Christian, in my house at school. We talked about God a lot. She'd answer my questions and we'd pray together. I'd never had someone in my own age group to talk to God about before.

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

I remember my first week at boarding school. I was away from home and my parents' influence. I made up my mind I was going to be a Christian in my own right.

What sort of child were you?

I was extremely shy and quiet. It's been God who has brought me out.

Which period of your life has given you the most satisfaction?

Lizzie!

The last three years or so as I have grown more confident in my faith. People have noticed how much I've changed.

Are there any aspects of modern life which you dislike?

I hate the way young people feel that they have to conform. We should be ourselves.

What is best about life today?

I like the way we can communicate with people all over the world – I call it global togetherness.

How do you like to spend your leisure time?

Search out friends and talk to them. At home I plan theme days for Mark and Katie.

What makes you laugh?

Everyone at home! I love eccentricity especially in my teachers. I have been told that I'm an eccentric too so I'd better be careful!

If you had a holy wand what would you change?

I'd get rid of the modern stereotype of a Christian.

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

Introducing people in a remote part of the world to Jesus.

What do you hope to be doing in ten years' time?

I think I'll leave that to God.

