

**Parish Diary** (correct at time of going to press)

**All Saints, Kings Langley**

Sundays:	08:00	Said Holy Communion	Thursdays	09.00	Morning Prayer
	09.30	Family Eucharist		8.00pm	Eucharist
Mondays	09.00	Morning Prayer	Fridays	09.00	Morning Prayer
Tuesdays	09.00	Morning Prayer		6.00pm	Children's
Wednesdays	09.00	Morning Prayer			Choir Practice
	09.30	Toddler Group		6.30pm	Adult Choir
	7.45pm	Bellringing practice			Practice

**Holy Trinity, Leverstock Green**

Sundays	08.00	Said Holy Communion
	10.00	Sung Eucharist & Junior Church (Sunday School)
5th Sunday	10:00	Morning Service
Mondays	2.00pm	Sewing Group meet in Trinity Room
3rd Tuesday	10.00	Music and Meditation
3rd Wednesday	10.00	Said Holy Communion
1st Wednesday	2.45pm	Mothers Union
Thursdays	10.00	Toddlers Church
	2.45pm	Collective Worship at Leverstock Green School
Fridays	7.00pm	Choir Practice
Saturdays	10.00	Traidcraft Stall and Coffee Shop in Trinity Room

**St Marys, Apsley**

Sundays	08.00	Said Eucharist
	10.00	Sung Eucharist and Young Peoples' Groups
	6.30pm	Evening Worship
Mondays	8.00pm	Bellringing Practice
Tuesdays	10.00	Buzzy Bees Toddler Group (Term Time)
Thursdays	09.00	Morning Prayer
	09.30	Said Eucharist
Saturdays	10.00	Saturday Café

**St Benedicts, Bennetts End**

Sundays	10.00	Sung Eucharist and Junior Church on 1st, 3rd, 4th & 5th Sundays
2nd Sundays	10:00	Family Service
	3.30 pm	Holy Communion and afternoon tea
Tuesdays	09.00	Morning Prayer
Wednesdays	09.00	Morning Prayer
Thursdays	09.00	Morning Prayer

All enquiries about the Newsletter to the Editor.

Copy for October—December issue to be with Editor by 19th September.

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# Benefice of Langelei Newsletter

July—September 2011

## Welcome to the Langelei Newsletter

Benefice Mission: **“Our Vision is of a community where Christ has been brought to the community and the community has been brought to Christ. Our Mission as churches in this benefice area is to maintain sacred spaces, and be flexible, interactive and collaborative with the use of resources”**

A very warm welcome to all readers of our Newsletter, which has been produced to keep you up to date with events across the Benefice. This Newsletter is not meant to replace any of the individual parish publications, but to work alongside them reaching out to a wider community.

We are looking at producing this once a quarter and offers of articles etc., would be very welcome. Initially we are keeping to this simple

format, but can expand into more pages if we have your support.

We hope that you will find the Newsletter interesting and informative—if not, no doubt you will let us know!

*Jill Horwood, Editor.*

## The Art of Communication

Among the many sayings attributed to Winston Churchill is this one: **‘Jaw, jaw, jaw, is better than war, war, war.’** By this he presumably meant that in the world of international relations it is much better for nations to talk to one another rather than engage in war and hostilities. This, of course, is true in every situation in which individuals, groups or organisations are seeking to work together and relate to one another – the key to successful and effective collaboration is communication. Where communication breaks down misunderstandings arise and this can lead to breakdown in relationships and in the case of nations it can lead to war.

For our benefice to work effectively, communication is no less a crucial issue. The formation of the benefice in 2009 clearly created four separate parishes with their own distinct

identities and ethos and their own separate church councils driving vision and mission in each parish. However, it was clearly recognised that it would be to the benefit of each parish if we were willing to work together from time to time and share skills, talents and experience across the benefice. In order for that to happen communication is critical, hence the production of a benefice newsletter. Hopefully this will be a means by which we can share information, have a better understanding of what is happening in each parish and so have that wider perspective that raises our horizons beyond our own parochial boundaries.

This newsletter is the first publication of the Communications Group of the Team Council and they are to be congratulated in this particular benefice initiative. Other collaborative ventures include shared baptism



Rev David Lawson

preparation by St Mary's and All Saints, benefice-wide preparation for confirmation and of baptised children for admission to communion and quarterly meetings of parish treasurers. These are just a few of the signs of our willingness as parishes to work together in the cause of the Kingdom, without in any way stifling local mission and ministry. I wish the Communications Group every success in their work and I am sure the newsletter will be a very effective means of communicating something of the rich and diverse nature of our benefice.

Revd David Lawson  
Team Rector

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## Team Council

### REPORT FOR ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETINGS 2011

The Benefice of Langelei was created on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2009 and included the churches of St Mary's, Apsley; All Saints, Kings Langley; Holy Trinity, Leverstock Green and St Benedicts in Bennetts End. At a Team Council meeting in June 2010 it was agreed to hold a joint service to celebrate the new benefice – this took place in October 2010 and was enjoyed and appreciated by all who attended. Editor's note: Do you want to see more of these services? If so what kind of services would you like?

The Team Council only has authority as delegated to it by the four Parochial Church Councils (PCCs); this covers responsibility for financial matters which affect all four parishes; a budget for the administration of the benefice, and fair distribution across the parishes for the cost of the administration fees. A formula based on the parish share approach was agreed and endorsed by the PCCs. The PCCs still retain their authority, including finance, in their own parishes.

At the July 2010 meeting, Team Council members had an initial look at the Mission Action Planning (MAP) as required by the diocese – each parish will conduct its own MAP exercise. Later in the year the results of each MAP will be collated together with the skills audit and used in the best possible way for the parishes and the benefice.

The Team Council is currently carrying out research on the availability within the Benefice of talents, skills and time, for Parishes to call on when required.

This Newsletter is the result of other work carried out by the Council to improve communications within the Benefice, (See Editorial on Page 1) Watch this space for other means of spreading the word! Do you have any suggestions? Tell the Editor.



### Christian Aid Week

Kings Langley - the fund raising for Christian Aid Week is organised by Kings Langley Churches Together, so the activities involve many volunteers from all the churches in the village. The largest activity was the house to house collection which raised approx. £4,500, and other activities, including a plant sale, a bric-a-brac sale and a car wash brought the total up to £5,838.00

some 8% more than was raised in the previous year. Huge thanks are due to everyone involved in raising this splendid sum.

St Mary's collected in seven streets in Apsley and collected £556.05.

St Benedicts raised £1063 through coffee mornings, street collections and the envelope scheme.

Holy Trinity raised £451.05

### Future Events

**St Benedicts:** Summer Fayre, 16th July; Summer BBQ on 11th September; Harvest Festival on 2nd October followed by Harvest Supper and Bingo on 8th October, and our Christmas Fayre on 26th November.

**Coming soon at St Mary's:** Quiet Day at Douai Abbey Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> July - cost £25. Annual Teddy Bears Picnic for our younger members Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> August. Annual Beds & Herts Historic Churches 'Bike'n Hike' Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September – raise some money for St Mary's by getting on your bike! Back to Church Sunday – 25<sup>th</sup> September come and join us and bring a friend. Antiques and Collectables Valuation Day Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October 10am – 7pm. Christmas Bazaar Saturday November 19<sup>th</sup>.

**All Saints:** "This England" - members of All Saints Kings Langley are holding their 34th Annual Flower Festival this year, helped by friends from the other churches in Kings Langley, and in the Benefice of Langelei.

It takes place from 28th to 30th October and is a great deal of hard work, but also great fun working together as a team. It is always good to meet visitors, local or from further afield.

This years show concerns our heritage and, as well as festivals which we celebrate as Christians, we will also be remembering the many annual events that have become part of our lives in this country.

**Holy Trinity:** 5th July - Trinity Lunch at 12.30 in the Trinity Room costing £5 for 2 courses; on 4th August there is a Train Trip to Brighton contact Rod Cottrell for either of these: [rod.cot@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:rod.cot@hotmail.co.uk). Saturday 10th from 2-4.30pm "Living Water" - an all age Activity Service led by Rev. Lizzie Hood, ending with tea and cakes. £3 per adult, children free. All profits donated to Water Aid - contact Barbara Le-Talleg on 01442 390258 or e-mail [pltandblt@ntlworld.com](mailto:pltandblt@ntlworld.com)

**Xcite 2011** - a joint venture between St Mary's and All Saints. A series of meetings making connections with God in daily life, in the workplace, in our churches, in our teenage years, with other faiths and in the wider world. Dates: evening meetings on 13th, 22nd and 28th September, 3rd, 10th and 20th October; and a workshop for children and adults on Saturday 15 October. Full details will be advertised in all churches across the benefice.

### Who Protects Our Children?

Churches Together in Kings Langley are sponsoring an open forum with this title on Thursday 14th July at 7.30 in the library of Kings Langley Secondary School. Lorna Simpson, Head of the Barnardos Intervention Unit in Hertfordshire will introduce the subject and invite audience questions and discussion. Invitations have been sent to schools and churches in the locality. Please support this event dealing with issues of great public concern.

### Simon's ministry at Holy Trinity

We have seen many changes since Simon came to us in December 2003, including:

1. The growth of a closer link with our local church school, to the benefit of both;
2. The strengthening of the Toddlers Church, which has been a major factor in the growing number of young families attending church regularly;
3. The broadening of the membership of the PCC (formerly DCC), with a good spread of ages and experience;
4. The establishment of a number of lay-led key groups, each of which spearheads the ministry and mission of the church in a particular area (Study and Nurture, Pastoral Care, Children's Work, Welcome, Publicity, Community).

Obviously one person should not be given sole credit for all of these, but I'm not sure that any of them would have happened without Simon and his family.

Over these years we have benefited from Simon's gift for preaching and teaching, but perhaps even more from his ability to encourage and enable the ministry of others in the congregation. This shows itself most visibly in the key groups and the work they do.

As a result, I believe we are in a good position to continue to grow during the vacancy, and ready for new challenges when a new incumbent arrives. Thank you, Simon!

*Tim Bourne.*