

THE MAGAZINE OF ST CHAD'S PARISH CHURCH LADYBARN



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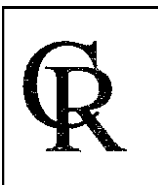
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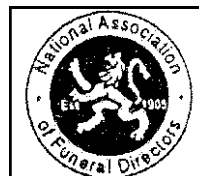
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July 2015

During the month of July the church is in Ordinary Time, with the church wearing green and the Sunday gospel readings tending to focus on the mission and ministry of Jesus, rather than the events of his life that we read, about and think about, during the 'seasons' of Easter, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent and Advent. For us Ordinary Time coincides with summer, which tends to be a time when many people take time out for holidays, and some rest and relaxation.

During July there is a sprinkling of saint's days, and this year none of them fall on a Sunday – which means that we can all too easily pass them by without noticing them and without pondering on them.

The 3rd July is the feast day of Thomas the Apostle. Thomas plays a major role amongst the disciples, particularly in the Gospel of John. First we hear him encouraging the disciples to go to Judea with Jesus, and later we see him in the upper room after the crucifixion refusing to be convinced by other people's reports of Jesus' resurrection, wanting to see the evidence for himself, and so gaining the nickname of Doubting Thomas.

On 22nd July the church remembers Mary Magdalene. All of the four gospels give Mary Magdalene – or Mary of Magdala - a unique place among Jesus' followers. She experienced healing from Jesus before she became his follower, and along with the other faithful women she stayed with Jesus during the crucifixion; later in the garden she was the first disciple to discover that the tomb was empty, and that Jesus was risen from the dead on Easter morning. Jesus sent her to take the good news of his resurrection to the other disciples and so she earned the title of 'Apostle to the Apostles.'

Continued on page 4

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Continued from page 3

The Apostle James is remembered on July 25th. James was a Galilean fisherman who, with his brother John, was one of the first people to be called to be with Jesus during his ministry on earth. James was with Jesus at the important moment of the Transfiguration, and also in the garden of Gethsemane at the end of Jesus time on earth. James was put to death in the year 44 when Herod Agrippa was trying to stem the growth of Christianity by taking out its leaders.

Jesus' three great friends, Mary, Martha and Lazarus are together remembered on 29th July. They are all people whom Jesus is described as loving and they show care and hospitality to Jesus – and to his close disciples – at difficult and tiring times during his ministry. Seeing the grief of the two sisters, Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead, an act which stirred up great anger and fear amongst the authorities. Because of the well-known story of Jesus at the home of Mary and Martha – when Mary listened to Jesus teaching while Martha waited on people – Mary has become an example of a contemplative way of living the Christian life, while Martha has become an example of a more active spiritual life.

July might be Ordinary Time in the church's year but that doesn't mean that there is nothing interesting happening in our inherited Christian stories. Maybe it's a good time for us all to become more familiar with the lives of some of our best known saints, while we're hopefully enjoying sunshine and strawberries.

Reverend Elizabeth Davies
Priest-in-charge

From the Registers May 2015

Holy Baptism.

We welcome into God's family:

There were no baptisms during April

Holy Matrimony

We asked God's blessing on the marriage of:

There were no marriages during April

Christian Committal

We commend to God's safe keeping the soul of:

8th May 2015 Renee Ireland

Weekly collections (Includes plates and envelopes)

3/5/2015	£426.00
10/5/2015	£169.00
17/5/2015	£212.82
24/5/2015	£386.85

BOOK GROUP

Books we will be reading in June 2015 & July/August 2015

July/August Middlemarch by George Elliot

STRAWBERRY TEA

Sunday

19th July 2015

3.00pm - 4.30pm

In

St Chad's Community Hall

Everyone welcome to come
along and enjoy cakes, scones and strawberries.

*There is no charge but
please give a donation towards the work of Christian Aid.*



17th Century Nun's Prayer

Lord, Thou knowest better than I know myself that I am growing older and will some day be old. Keep me from the fatal habit of thinking I must say something on every subject and on every occasion. Release me from craving to straighten out everybody's affairs. Make me thoughtful but not moody, helpful but not bossy. With my vast store of wisdom, it seems a pity not to use it all, but Thou knowest Lord that I want a few friends at the end.

Keep my mind free from the recital of endless details, give me wings to get to the point. Seal my lips on my aches and pains. They are increasing, and love of rehearsing them is becoming sweeter as years go by. I dare not ask for grace enough to enjoy the tales of others pains, but help me to endure them with patience

I dare not ask for improved memory, but for a growing humility and a lessing cocksureness when my memory seems to clash with the memories of others. Teach me the glorious lesson that occasionally I may be mistaken. Keep me reasonably sweet, I do not want to be a saint as some of them are so hard to live with, but a sour old person is one the crowning works of the devil. Give me the ability to see good things in unexpected places, and talents in unexpected people. And, give me, O Lord, the grace to tell them so.

Anon



THE LUMINARIES

By Eleanor Catton

It is 1866 and a young man, called Walter Moody, has reached the town of Hokitika, New Zealand, on a quest for fame and fortune. He finds accommodation, and then realises that he has interrupted a clandestine meeting of twelve men, all of whom appear to be of some importance. They are trying to discover why several strange and disturbing events have occurred in the local area. A wealthy man has disappeared, a prostitute has tried to end her life and a very large sum of money has been found at the home of a solitary drunk. Walter is drawn into their plans, and in doing so, he becomes involved in a network of schemes and plots which unravel and then rewind as the tale unfolds.

The narrative is only one layer of this book. Another is its astrological framework. Each of the twelve characters represents a sign of the zodiac. There are twelve parts, the first part has 12 chapters, the second 11 chapters and so on. Perhaps this mysterious and complicated construction, will feel relevant to those readers accustomed to astrological star signs and symbols. To the less familiar, it appears as a contrived device superimposed on the story.

'The Luminaries' is reminiscent of those books written by 19C authors like Wilkie Collins, where a complex plot has several twists and turns before it reaches a final resolution. It has an enticing setting, an expanding gold field town, scattered with intriguing characters who drift in and out of the tale. Their devious schemes so tantalise the reader, that the interlinking astrological strands seem superfluous, and only serve to slow the pace, an escalating problem in its 800 pages.

Eleanor Catton was in her mid twenties when she wrote this book. It won the 2013 Man Booker prize. and made her its youngest ever winner. In spite of possible zodiac connections, we shall still be interested to explore her next publication.

We gave this book 6.5.

Barbara Leary

Our next book will be Middlemarch by George Elliot

Saint of the Month
31st July
Ignatius of Loyola (c1491—1556)
Founder of the Society of Jesus

Until quite recent time most saints came from 'good' families, being children of the nobility or gentry. This may shock us today, but given how society was structured, it was inevitable. Saints were chosen not only for their spiritual and moral qualities but also for their leadership abilities and leadership before the 19th century was, as is largely remains to this day, a class-based attribute.

Ignatius was born into the ancient Basque nobility and, as the youngest son was sent into the army where he was wounded at the siege of Pamplona. During his long convalescence he read widely across the whole range of Christian devotional literature. On leaving the army, he went on pilgrimage to Jerusalem, after which, aged 33, he became a student, graduating with an M.A. from the university of Paris.

In Paris, Ignatius and six other students bound themselves by an oath to evangelise the Moslems. As war however made this impossible, they offered themselves to the Pope as willing to go anywhere and undertake any task. The Pope, Paul III accepted their offer and the society of Jesus was born. Known more popularly as 'Jesuits', the new order grew from ten members in 1540 to over a thousand at Ignatius' death in 1556.

Ignatius was not only a born leader and organiser. He also had a great gift for friendship and was an inspiration in the life of prayer, study and Christian service; as a result the Jesuits soon established a reputation for scholarship, evangelism and depth of devotion. Ignatius' book, *The Spiritual Exercises*, remains the best guide to prayer as meditation and contemplation to this day.

Most Anglicans know Ignatius' prayer which begins, 'Teach us good Lord to serve thee as thou deservest.' This is clearly a soldier's prayer as it goes on to pray, 'to fight and not to heed the wounds', and so helped to establish a rather military model of prayer and spirituality in Christian devotion, a spirituality based on such soldierly values as striving, fighting and overcoming. This remained dominant until it was challenged by Christian feminist with their different emphasis on prayer as appreciation, understanding, co-operation and personal transformation. Both emphases however are valid and important spiritual stances and each complements the other in a balanced and well-rounded inner life.

Albert Radcliffe

DIARY FOR JULY 2015

1	Wednesday	11.00am	Bible Study in the Hall (10.30am Coffee/Tea)
2	Thursday	10.00am 8.00pm	Holy Communion Bible Study in the Hall
5	Sunday	10.00am 6.30pm	Holy Communion Evensong
7	Tuesday	7.30pm	Taize service at St. Nicholas, no service at St. Chad's this evening
8	Wednesday	11.00am	No Bible Study this morning
9	Thursday	10.00am 8.00pm	Holy Communion Bible Study in the Hall
12	Sunday	10.00am	Holy Communion
14	Tuesday	7.30pm	Ladies Group (now Tuesday Group) outing, no service this evening
15	Wednesday	11.00am	Bible Study (10.30am Coffee/ Tea)
16	Thursday	10.00am 7.30pm 8.00pm	Holy Communion DMPC Meeting in church, Bible Study in the Hall
19	Sunday	10.00am	Holy Communion
21	Tuesday	7.30pm 8.00pm	Holy Communion Book Group
22	Wednesday	11.00am	Bible Study in the Hall (10.30am Coffee/Tea)
23	Thursday	10.00am 8.00pm	Holy Communion Bible Study in the Hall
26	Sunday	10.00am 11.30am	Holy Communion Baptism
28	Tuesday	7.30pm	Evening Prayer
29	Wednesday	11.00am	Bible Study (10.30am Coffee/ Tea)
30	Thursday	10.00am 8.00pm	Holy Communion Bible Study in the Hall

BEGINNING OF AUGUST

2	Sunday	10.00am 6.30pm	Holy Communion Evensong
4	Tuesday	8.00pm	PCC meeting

**After Tuesday 4th August midweek services will be taking a break until
the beginning of September.**

Midweek Services will recommence on Thursday 3rd September.

**PLEASE NOTE There will be a Needlecraft Group meeting on
Tuesday 28th July at 8.00p.m. following Evening Prayer**

Contributions for the Magazine

If anyone has any articles to be inserted into future issues of the magazine please could you let Christine Hindley have your copy by the 15th of the month. If it needs typing Christine will need copy by the 12th of the month. Please do not send articles in PDF Format unless there are logos included in your article.

St Chad's Artistic Explosion

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PARISH CONTACTS

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Tuesday Group	Mrs Jenny Black	0161 286 3698
Flower Arranging in Church	Mrs Barbara Purvis	0161 286 1062
Child Protection Officer	Judith Fletcher/Leslie Bell	0161 248 7689

REGULAR SERVICES

IN CHURCH

Sunday	10.00am	Holy Communion
Tuesday	07.30pm	Holy Communion or Evening Prayer
Thursday	10.00am	Holy Communion

Also on the first Sunday of each month:

06.30pm	Evensong
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IN THE HALL

1st Tuesday	08.00pm	PCC
2nd Tuesday	08.00pm	Ladies Group
3rd Tuesday	08.00pm	Book Group
4th Tuesday	08.00pm	Needlecraft Group

**Baptisms, Banns, Weddings or Funerals by arrangement with the Vicar.
Please inform her of any sick parishioners.**