

## HAMPSTEAD PARISH CHURCH MAGAZINE FOR SEPTEMBER 2023



BUILDING AN INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY OF CHRISTIAN LOVE, FAITH, WITNESS AND ACTION

## Back to School

Father Graham considers Endings and Beginnings

Relive your favourite Holiday in Hampstead

moments (or find out what went on!)

The 21 Group Jan Rushton reflects on the current political situation

> Stephen Clarke shares some **TV secrets**



The Sidwell Memorial Recital *Hampstead Collective* and *Organ Recital* autumn series Review of *In Flames* A report on *XLP* – a musical charity supported by the parish

And don't miss the PCC and Junior Church reports

#### HAMPSTEAD PARISH CHURCH

[Registered Charity No. 1129264] Church Row, NW3 6UU Parish Office: 020 7794 5808 / vestry@hampsteadparishchurch.org.uk Website: hampsteadparishchurch.org.uk Facebook: Hampstead Parish Church / Twitter: Hampstead\_PC / Instagram: @HampsteadPC Youtube: youtube.com/c/hampsteadparishchurch

Sundays:

8.00am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
 10.30am Choral Holy Communion (Common Worship)
 5.00pm Choral Evensong (BCP)
 (Morning services can be found on Facebook live and Zoom)

Weekdays:

please check the weekly email—sometimes we have to make changes to the pattern of worship\*

Wednesdays at 10.15am Holy Communion in church Mon – Fri 5.00pm Evening Prayer on Zoom Thursdays at 8.30am Rosary prayer on Zoom Saturday 9.00am Morning Prayer in church

For Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals, Home Communions and Home Visits please contact Revd Graham Dunn, Curate 0207 794 5808 graham@hampsteadparishchurch.org.uk

\* to be added to the emailing list please contact the parish <u>office</u> <u>vestry@hampsteadparishchurch.org.uk</u>

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September 2023



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## **Diary for September**

Sat 2<sup>nd</sup> 10.00am Gardening group

## Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> Trinity 13



8.00am	Holy Communion
10.30am	Choral Communion - Backpack Sunday
5.00pm	Choral Evensong followed by sherry with the choir

Wed 6 <sup>th</sup>	10.15am	Holy Communion
Thu 7 <sup>th</sup>	8.30am	Rosary Prayer on zoom
	9.45am	Hampstead Parochial School
		start of year service

### Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> Trinity 14

8.00am	Holy Communion
10.30am	Choral Holy Communion followed by Junio
	Church welcome party.

- 5.00pm Choral Evensong
- Mon 11<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm 21 Group: 'What lies beneath' An exploration of how our government is moving forward behind the headlines, with artist David Powell on Zoom. Details from Jan Rushton on page 10.
- Wed 13<sup>th</sup> 10.15am Holy Communion
  6.30pm Donald Barnes Memorial Lecture at St Peter's, Belsize Park. Speaker Canon Paula Gooder. See page 34
- Thu 14<sup>th</sup> Holy Cross Day
  - 8.30am Rosary Prayer on zoom
  - 7.30pm Community Choir
- Sat 16<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm Sidwell Memorial Recital see page 23

## Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> Trinity 15

8.00am	Holy Communion
10.30am	Choral Holy Communion
5.00pm	Choral Evensong

Mon 18 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	PCC meeting	
Wed 20 <sup>th</sup>	10.15am	Holy Communion	
Thu 21 <sup>st</sup>	Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist		
	8.30am	Rosary Prayer on zoom	
	7.30pm	Community Choir	
Sat 23 <sup>rd</sup>	10.00am	Church cleaning – all welcome to help!	

## Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> Trinity 16 8 00am Holy Communic

	8.00am	Holy Communion
	10.30am	Choral Holy Communion
	5.00pm	Choral Evensong
Wed 27 <sup>th</sup>	10.15am	Holy Communion
	3.00pm	Creative Craft group
Thu 28 <sup>th</sup>	8.30am	Rosary prayer on zoom
	7.30pm	Community Choir
Fri 29 <sup>th</sup>	Michael and All Angels	
Sat 30 <sup>th</sup>	3.15pn	Hampstead Players Poetry afternoon in the Crypt "The Natural World"

Sunday 1 <sup>s</sup>	8.00am	est Thanksgiving Holy Communion	
	10.30am	Choral All Age Communion	
	5.00pm	Choral Evensong followed by sherry with the choir	
Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup>	9.45am 7.00pm	Hampstead Parochial School Harvest service Hampstead Collective – see page 24	

## Back to School

September is always an interesting month. It's a month of endings and a month of beginnings.

For those of us fortunate enough to have been able to have a summer holiday, September is the month that often serves as the bookend to holiday and the marker of the beginning of the new year, bound as many of us still are to framing life in the light of the school timetable.

It's also a month of new possibilities. For some, it is the beginning of the new school year and we send our very best wishes to all of our children and young people who are starting out on new journeys this month, especially those joining or moving on from Hampstead Parochial School and all those who are part of our wonderful Junior Church community.

As we prepare to bless backpacks on Backpack Sunday (3<sup>rd</sup> Sept) it's a healthy reminder for all of us to take some time to reflect on the year that has passed and on what may be to come.

On Backpack Sunday we bless the backpacks of the children who are preparing for the new school year but we also offer a blessing for all those, of whatever age, who are looking to the future.

We never know what is around the corner but what we do know is that God is with us.

We know that God sends his Holy Spirit to surround us whether it's in the classroom, the boardroom, or our front room.

There is always something new to see, something new to appreciate, something new to learn, from our study of the scriptures, from our appreciation of the world around us, from our engagement with each other. Our church remains, as it has done for 1000 years, a place where new journeys begin but also a safe space in which we can remember that, whatever our journey looks like, and whatever is in our backpack, as we continue as students in the Kingdom, we are held in the arms of the God who loves us.

With my prayers and very best wishes,

Graham

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## September

Judy East

Of Backpack Sunday the Diocese of London website says:

"Whilst the service can build on the close link between the parish and their local school, the emphasis is on the common call all Christians share in as we bear witness in our everyday places of work. The Diocese of London is seeking to emphasise this as part of our 2030 Vision for London to live out our faith as disciples of Jesus in the places where we live and work."

It goes on to provide a link to an order of service – ours!

It's been a busy summer – we welcomed Mother Natasha to our team, though she has a much wider brief as you can read in Nick Walser's PCC report. Her presence gave Graham and Jan a break and a chance to visit other churches – the number of vacant parishes in the deanery is unusual to say the least! And there have been several events - you'll find reviews of the Hampstead Collective July concert and the Hampstead Players' summer production of *Measure for Measure* on Church Chat (hampsteadparishchurch.org.uk/what-we-do/church-chat), whilst the Collective's August concert is reviewed in this issue. Then there was *Holiday in Hampstead* – what a delight that was – a week of talks on a wide range of subjects, bookbinding

and bellringing demonstrations, and a range of delicious meals. That too is fully written up further on in this issue. And I hear dates have already been booked into the church diary for August 2024.

We have a busy autumn ahead as always – Concerts, Organ Recitals, My Fair Lady, as well as the regular seasonal liturgical events. The 21 Group starts up again on  $11^{th}$  – Jan writes about this first session of the season below.

Possibly the biggest event, and one on most of our minds this autumn, is that the process of finding a new vicar takes another step forward. The closing date for applications is nearly upon us, and interviews are planned for mid-October. We may not all be directly involved but we can all pray - for the team whose responsibility the selection is, and for the candidates.

Something on the minds of the Creative Crafts Group is poppies! Remember we asked for your help? Making poppies? If you have any you've done over the summer please bring them to church as soon as possible – the website suggests the end of the month but if we could have them by our next meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> September that would be even better. The ones we make into brooches will be on sale sometime in October (for the Royal British Legion), the hanging will go up for Remembrance weekend.

And then there's the Craft Fair – 18<sup>th</sup> November – make a note in your diary now. What's your favourite craft - could you be making something for us to sell? More information will follow later, but I can tell you that it will finish with an Organ Recital at 4pm!

If I understand what the economists are saying, the situation is hopeless - but improving. - Anon

# **He went up the mountain by himself to pray** (Matthew 13.23)

Sermon preached by Handley Stevens on 13<sup>th</sup> August – Trinity 10. First Reading : 1 Kings 19.9-18 Gospel : Matthew 14.22-33

What are you doing here, Elijah? Our Old Testament reading took us to a moment of profound crisis in the life of the great prophet Elijah. Faced with the worship of Baal under the powerful patronage of Queen Jezebel, Elijah had declared a drought which was now in its third year. He had brought matters to a head by challenging the prophets of Baal to a great contest on Mount Carmel. Whose God would answer with fire? The prophets of Baal had danced and worshipped all day to no avail, but when Elijah prayed to God to 'let it be known that you are God in Israel, that I am your servant, and that I have done all these things at your bidding' (1 Kings 18.36) then 'the fire of the Lord fell and consumed his burnt offering, the wood, the stones and the dust, and even licked up the water that was in the trench' (v 38). When they saw it, the people cried out: 'the Lord indeed is God' seizing the prophets of Baal and slaughtering every one of them at the Wadi Kishon. Elijah's God had triumphed, the people were returning to him in worship, and the drought could now end, but when Ahab shared the good news with Jezebel, she was angry, vowing to take her revenge by killing Elijah. It was at this point that his courage deserted him, and he fled into the wilderness.

Which is where we came into the story this morning. What are you doing here, Elijah? And he confesses his fear. He has been very zealous for the Lord, but many true prophets have been slain and now 'I alone am left, and they are seeking my life to take it away' (1 Kings 19.10). What follows is a mighty demonstration of God's power – in wind, and earthquake and fire – but God is not in any of that. There follows a sound of sheer silence, and God is there, in the silence. Elijah is still in great danger, but his trust has been renewed. What are you doing here, Elijah? He answers with the same words,

but now they have an undercurrent of faith rather than fear, and God is able to give him a series of tasks to carry out. Moreover he assures Elijah that he is not alone. There are in fact some seven thousand in Israel who have not bowed the knee to Baal. Elijah needed to take time out to be with God in the wilderness. Having encountered God in the sound of sheer silence, he leaves his cave humbled by God's quiet purposeful presence, and ready to undertake the next stage of his prophetic mission.

Our Gospel reading showed Peter going through a similar experience, at first full of courage in his bold response to Jesus, stepping out of the boat to come to him across the water, but then thrown off balance by his fear, before being restored by a gracious word and Jesus' arm, outstretched to rescue him. In sharp contrast to both Elijah and Peter, Jesus himself, drawing strength from his deep and close relationship with his Father, knew how to keep his balance in a crisis. And the feeding of the five thousand was just such a crisis. To everyone else – the disciples as well as the crowds – it looked like a Jesus' healing and preaching was attracting a great triumph. following. But John's account concludes with the realization that the people 'were about to come and take him by force to make him king' (John 6.15). Things were getting out of hand. The sunny days of his Galilean mission were drawing to a close. He could see the danger. But how was he to continue expressing his Father's Love in words and deeds without stirring up that kind of Messianic frenzy? Dismissing the crowds, he goes up the mountain by himself to pray. He needed to take time out for prayerful meditation – as he had done for a longer period before embarking on his public ministry – as we know he would do again, in intense agony of spirit, as he faced the great crisis of his trial and crucifixion.

Jesus went up the mountain by himself to pray. There are no mountains within easy reach of Hampstead, but if you and I need that sort of space, there are quiet places such as Launde Abbey to

which one can retreat for a day or two of peace and prayerful reflection.

I hesitate to talk about prayer. What can I share but my own stumbling inadequacy? We do of course have Jesus' own advice, in the form of the Lord's Prayer, given when his disciples asked him how to pray. It's not just a form of words which we can use to express our prayers collectively, though it does fulfil that function. In my own experience the words of the Lord's Prayer, just as they are, can be a wonderfully powerful resource, a crutch to lean on, in those moments of acute stress when we can find no other words to howl, to weep, to whisper. But since the Lord's Prayer includes phrases which briefly express Adoration, Confession and Forgiveness, Thanksgiving and Intercession, it does also offer us a framework for a more extensive exercise of prayerful meditation when we are on our own.

But I have also come to feel that too much emphasis on the formal articulation and structure of private prayer fails to recognize the value, in the hurly-burly of a busy life, of simply trying to adopt, by the grace of God, a prayerful frame of mind in one's everyday thinking and decision-making. It seems to me that such an approach, stumbling and imperfect as it may be, is as likely as any more formally structured prayer routine to open the door of one's heart and mind to the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. It might be a thought that one should write a letter to someone - a <u>real</u> hand-written letter as Father Graham was suggesting last week - or it might be a plan to visit someone or talk to them on the phone, not with any clearly articulated agenda or intent beyond showing them that they are loved and not forgotten, and perhaps opening the door to their need. There is no clear boundary between thoughts and prayers, and I know that is what many of you already practise.

We can be sure that Jesus' own heart and mind was open at all times to the inspiration that came to him from his Father. Moreover, his example teaches us the value, in our ordinary daily life, of a continuous prayerful relationship with God our Father, sustained by regular participation in worship. It was his custom to attend the synagogue regularly, as we attend church, immersing ourselves in the beliefs, the stories, the words which give expression to our faith.

As we continue in regular prayer and worship, let us also be open as he was to the need, from time to time, to 'go up the mountain by himself to pray'.

You can find other sermons on the website: hampsteadparishchurch.org.uk/what-we-do/sermons

## 'What lies beneath ....'

Revd Jan Rushton

Some reflections on our current political environment ....

I'm sure you know this famous poem by Lutheran pastor Martin Niemöller:

First they came for the communists, and I did not speak out - because I was not a communist.

Then they came for the socialists, and I did not speak out - because I was not a socialist.

Then they came for the trade unionists, and I did not speak out - because I was not a trade unionist.

Then they came for the Jews, and I did not speak out -

because I was not a Jew.

Then they came for me - and there was no one left to speak for me.

And in the decades since Niemöller first gave us these words in a speech for the Confessing Church in Frankfurt on the 6th January

1946, many other categories reflecting the changing nature of society, have been included.

Originally Niemöller was himself an anti-communist, and supported Hitler's rise to power - as did many others. Only slowly did he come to understand the true nature of what was happening to his nation. Always easy to scare people with a focus on communists! But then, flip the coin, who is leeching our hard-earned wages out of our pockets? Well, of course, those capitalists! The Jews! That capitalist enterprise, the EU!

I am not suggesting in any way that change is not needed in those hallowed halls of Brussels. It is. I am saying that we need to seriously explore what lies beneath the surface of our own politics in Westminster, right now! Think hard about why it is our own current government is so keen to cut all ties with Europe, including the European Court of Human Rights, an institution founded by the Council of Europe - the legislation for which was primarily formulated by *British* lawyers and politicians!

A week ago art historian, Dr James Fox, began a new series on BBC4 aptly named 'Oceans Apart: Art and the Pacific', telling the story of Australia's indigenous culture - the oldest culture in the world! And tragically one that barely survived the arrival of those sailing boats from across the ocean! A spinechilling depiction of one such ship found among other cave paintings, mainly of animals and fish. On that momentous day, Friday 20 April 1770 at 6.00am, Captain Cook and his officers on board the Endeavour, sighted land - the eastern coast of what is now known as the continent of Australia. Aboard was the botanist Joseph Banks, hence their first port of call was named Botany Bay. But before they landed, they took time to observe the territory which lay before them. Observed through telescopes the human life, the culture and society being lived out before their eyes. Astonished and impressed, Cook recorded in his journal thus: *'They may <u>appear</u> to some to be the most wretched* 

people on earth, but in reality they are far more happy than we Europeans, they live in a tranquillity which is not disturbed by the inequality of condition ... '

The bitter irony of Cook's record: that tranquillity, that very happiness in equality, this impressive culture, the irony is that this new world from which Cook recognised the West could learn so much, this world would be so thoroughly disturbed that if not almost destroyed by the adventurous captain and his company! Without the consent of the people who had lived here for thousands of years, Captain Cook declared all of eastern Australia to be British territory. Eighteen years later the British returned to claim their prize, land Cook had named New South Wales. In January of 1788 eleven convict ships carrying more than 1000 people arrived again at Botany Bay. Not as impressed as those first adventurers, they sailed north where they found an unusually deep and safe harbour. This harbour they named after the then Home Secretary, Sydney! New South Wales was to be Britain's newest penal colony. It would not be long before this 'newest' new world of peace and contentment came to look much like the old world of poverty and disease: removal of indigenous peoples from their land and livelihood, the descent into addiction and ragged lives.

James Cook saw something extraordinary, but was unable to embrace what he saw such that, in any meaningful way, he could adjust his thinking, learn new perspectives. Today we have a new medium which some are highly - and rightly - sceptical of: Twitter! Well Twitter before Elon Musk got his hands on it and messed it up! Yes we do have to be careful, reflect deeply on what we read, consider who to follow, but with application, there is also deep wisdom to be found!

I got into Twitter when I discovered it to be the fastest way to get news from Ukraine after 24<sup>th</sup> February 2022 invasion by Putin. Since then I have picked up various 'Twitterers' whose analysis of what is happening in our world, the intentions of our government, I find incisive and compelling. Those Charter Cities and Free Ports! New Enterprise Zones! You've heard me speak of them before! Not the fluffy, cuddly 'new thing' they would purport to be! Prominent among them an artist, David Powell, on MSM under the tag 'EuropeanPowell'.

The British are a courteous bunch! We trust each other! A good optimistic outlook to hold on life! We find it hard to believe that anyone - especially those we know and respect - would dream of doing anything as damnable as sell our sovereignty to their billionaire mates! We need to wake up to what is happening to our Laws as the Home Secretary, strongly supported by our MSM including the BBC, points us to a stream of 'marauding' asylum seekers arriving on our beaches from across the Channel in small boats! Invites us to be aghast! As Niemöller, we too need to wake up to what is happening around us - take a good look at what lies beneath ....

Niemöller wished to challenge the silence of German intellectuals and clergy - including, by his own admission, himself - following the Nazis' rise to power and subsequent incremental purging of their chosen targets, group after group. He was willing to pay the price: incarceration (and possible death) in Hitler's concentration camp at Dachau. He survived - and challenged his Church.

What lies beneath the presentation of our nation in the mainstream media? We need to find out more ..... For we too, are called to action ....

#### The 21 Group - Current Affairs Discussion Group

With DAVID POWELL on Zoom <u>'What lies beneath ....?'</u> Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30 pm on Zoom and in person gathered 'to Zoom' together!

David writes to introduce himself:

I'm an artist and lecturer in Fine Art at The Royal Academy of Art, The Hague. After being denied a vote on the Brexit referendum I have become a reluctant political activist and amassed a strong following on Twitter where I regularly post research on the dangers posed by a transatlantic 'network of Liberty' who are rapidly dismantling democracy while implementing an extreme form of private corporate governance.

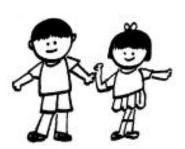
David's talk and discussion will be via Zoom from the Hague! But we may also for those who would like, gather together to join in on Zoom as a group!

## Please do join us!

Contact Jan (<u>jan.rushton5@gmail.com</u>) to join in person The Zoom link will be in the weekly email

## Welcome back to HPC Junior Church

Summer holidays are great, but we have missed seeing our children, young people and families regularly and are looking forward to another term of fun, faith and friendship. We can't wait to see how much you've grown!



Our first Sunday back will be 3rd September - don't forget to bring your back pack to be blessed for a new beginning at school work.

On Sunday 10th September we will have a welcome party with bouncy castle, games and face painting. It would be wonderful if every family could invite a friend to come along for the fun. We will provide children's lunches but please bring something to share with the other grown ups.

## James Polytello appointed Children's Champion

This Church of England-required post has been wonderfully filled by Vanessa Fitzpatrick for many years, and we would like to offer Vanessa our heart-felt thanks for everything she has contributed to the children and young people of HPC over the years.

We are delighted that James (Torez's dad) has agreed to join the PCC and take over the role. As a "graduate" of HPC's junior church himself, and as a regular leader in our under 5s group, James is the perfect fit. It will be great to have his fresh ideas to contribute to the vision and values of children's ministry at HPC.

#### Would you like to be part of our team?

Our dedicated team has grown since we emerged from the lockdowns, but we want more of everything! If you would like to become more involved in teaching the younger generation about what your Christian faith means to you, do make yourself known to Jess or Courtney.

#### Junior Choir is recruiting

If you have been wondering if your child should join Junior Choir, the answer is almost certainly yes, and now is the time do it at the start of the new academic year! Speak to Aidan, Clare Fuller or Jess if you'd like to know more.

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## PCC REPORT

Nick Walser (PCC Secretary)

## CLERGY SUPPORT DURING VACANCY – FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION – 'GREEN' GAS SUPPLY – RECEIVING COMMUNION AT THE ALTAR – FAREWELL TO VANESSA

The last PCC meeting was held on 17 July.

We received an update from the Churchwardens on various matters, including the support that the parish is receiving from our Area Dean, Revd Carol Barrett Ford, whilst we await the appointment of our new vicar. There are currently six parishes in vacancy in the Camden

Deanery, and Revd Natasha Beckles has been licensed as Assistant Priest to the Area Dean, to provide extra cover and support across all these churches. Although we are blessed with the on-going ministry of Jan and Graham, Natasha's support will relieve the pressure on them and enable Graham to commit more time to his training schedule.

Sarah gave us an update on Hampstead Parochial School, including news of the recent Ofsted report, rating the school as "outstanding" in several areas.

Our Treasurer Inigo reported on our finances for the first half of the year, showing only a modest deficit on the general fund, which did not cause him any concern. The PCC approved an increase in the working hours of our new Assistant Administrator, Huw Robinson, to reflect his additional responsibilities. This will enable Courtney to devote more time to the administration of our work with children and young people.

Inigo also spoke about the need to arrange a new gas supply contract when our current 4-year contract expires at the end of the year. We have benefited from a low fixed tariff up to now, and any new contract is likely to involve a significant increase in cost. One option currently being explored is to purchase "green" gas which would reduce our carbon footprint. The PCC agreed in principle that this option should be considered, although it would cost more, but we should take advice to ensure that it is genuinely sustainable.

The PCC also had a preliminary discussion about returning to receiving Holy Communion at the main altar at the 10.30 Eucharist, as we always did before the pandemic. Whilst we know that many people are keen to do this as soon as possible, we also agreed that we need to address the problem of access for disabled people. One option is to retain a second communion station at the foot of the chancel steps, but this is not an ideal solution. We will be exploring the options further (including possible long-term ways of improving accessibility) and will discuss the subject again at our next meeting.

Finally, we said farewell to Vanessa Fitzpatrick, who was attending her last PCC meeting before she and her family moved to South London. Vanessa was a member of the PCC and our Children's Champion for many years, and will be missed. The role of Children's Champion will be taken over by James Poletyllo, who has been coopted as a new member of the PCC.

The PCC's next scheduled meeting is on Monday 18 September.

## **XLP** – one of the charities supported by the parish

Benefact Trust, one of the UK's largest grant-making charities, is supporting London youth work charity XLP as they work to create positive futures for young people through music. XLP have been successful in receiving a grant of £67,000 over the next three years that will be used to create music with young people.

XLP has been working to create positive opportunities for young people across London since 1996. They work in 70 schools and communities across Islington, Camden, Hackney, Tower Hamlets, Newham, Greenwich, Lewisham, Southwark, and Lambeth running over 100 weekly projects, working with 2,500 young people every year. The charity has been using music and the arts to bring harmony into the lives of young people growing up in communities with a lack of opportunity for over two decades.

The grant will be funding youth workers equipped with recording studio equipment to go into the hearts of communities and create safe spaces for young people who struggle daily with issues like family breakdown and gang violence.

Jonathan, one of the youth workers on the project, says: "Music is an incredible way to experience freedom when opportunities around you feel chained up and can't see a way out."

Malachi is one young person who's had his opportunities raised. He came along to the music project after he was arrested. The Youth Offending Service he was at highlighted XLP as a positive space for

him. Malachi said: "Music is my passion. XLP gave me opportunities after I came out of jail. The youth workers showed me so much love and have helped me develop my music. Before I was at XLP I wasn't taking things seriously, but XLP have had a massive impact on my life and helped me take music seriously. They also had a positive impact on my decision to go to university to study music."

From their website xlp.org.uk

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## **Music section**

Music for September Geoffrey Webber

Regulars at Choral Evensong will be aware that several unfamiliar settings of the Preces & Responses have been sung since I took over as Director of Music. Some of these, such as those by William Child and John Reading, date from research projects I undertook when working at Gonville & Caius College, Cambridge, whilst others are the result of more recent efforts. A collection of them has now been published by the Church Music Society (via Oxford University Press), and readers may be pleased to know that in the Preface I thank 'the Revd Jeremy Fletcher and the Choir of Hampstead Parish Church' for performing draft versions of most of the contents. Two new elements in the collection are the replacement of 'Queen' with 'King', and the pitching of the Minister's part in clefs suitable for both high and low voices. This month we sing the set by Richard Ayleward that is included in the publication. Ayleward composed these soon after the Restoration of the Monarchy in 1660 for use at Norwich Cathedral. The third Amen that is traditionally sung was originally intended by Ayleward to be sung after the Blessing; we will use a simple Amen after the Third Collect, and preserve the more extended final Amen for after the Blessing.

The late 19th-century Munich composer Josef Rheinberger is most well-known for his double-choir Mass in E flat, but he also wrote an extensive amount of other liturgical church music. At Hampstead I am keen to adopt more of his music since it suits our singers well, and on 3rd September we perform his Missa 'Misericordias Domini' Op. 192 for SATB choir and organ, and a short Gradual motet. At Evensong we sing a rarely heard anthem by Haldane Stewart who was a boy chorister and then Organist and Informator Choristarum at Magdalen College, Oxford from 1919 till 1942. (In between his periods at Magdalen he played first-class cricket for Kent County Cricket Club.) His anthem *Love, unto thine own who camest* probably dates from towards the end of his life during the Second World War, and is a setting of a hymn text written by Robert Bridges for the Yattendon Hymnal (1899). Stewart sets the text in mostly syllabic fashion so the words are clearly audible. The work opens in B minor, and following a brief soprano solo the opening music returns but this time leading to an uplifting conclusion in B major as "all creation may come to thy marv'llous light." Also related to Magdalen College, Oxford this month, we perform Kenneth Leighton's Magnificat & Nunc dimittis composed for the choir when Bernard Rose was Informator Choristarum (a title that has remained unchanged since the College was founded in 1458), notable for its feisty organ part and energetic vocal lines.

One of the principal productions at English National Opera in October this year is Gilbert & Sullivan's *Iolanthe*, featuring one of our tenors, Ruairi Bowen (as Earl Tollerer). Sullivan wrote a fair amount of church music, and his later contributions have been much criticised for failing to avoid the style of his operettas. However, a number of early works are not in this style, and show a young composer eager to explore new harmonic possibilities within the relatively conservative and unambitious idiom of English church music at the end of the nineteenth century. This month we shall sing three of these short anthems as Introits at Evensong.

Continuing our occasional performance of music for 5 singers at the morning Eucharist, we are joined by an extra soprano for a parody Mass by Lassus, "Dittes masitresse" on September 24th. This mass is based on a chanson by Lassus's contemporary Philippe De Monte, whose setting of a poem by Pierre de Ronsard was published in 1575. The same sonority is found in Hans Leo Hassler's five-part motet *Cantate Domino*, first published in his *Cantiones sacrae* of 1591, during his time at Augsburg, close to Munich where Lassus worked till his death in 1594. At Evensong on the 24th we continue our celebration of the 400th anniversary of the death of Thomas Weelkes with his *6th Evening Service* (which relies heavily on modern reconstruction due to missing parts) and an anthem for the season of Michaelmas by Richard Dering, *Factum est silentium*, which vividly depicts the Revelation battle.

## Sunday 3rd September – 13th Sunday after Trinity 10.30 am. Parish Eucharist

Organ Prelude Intrada (Miniature Suite for Organ) John Ireland Opening Hymn Lord God, your love (t. NEH 458) Mass setting (Gl/S&B/AD) Messe 'Misericordias Domini' (Op. 192) Josef Rheinberger Gradual Psalm Psalm 105.1-6, 23-26, 45b James Turle Offertory Hymn We turn to you O God (t. NEH 320ii) Communion Motet Tu es Deus Josef Rheinberger Post-communion Hymn 55 Organ Postlude Fugue in D Major (BWV 532ii) J. S. Bach

### 5 pm. Evensong

Organ Prelude *Plainte* (Suite Brève) Jean Langlais Introit *O hearken thou* Edward Elgar Preces & Responses Richard Ayleward Psalm 105.1-15 David Maw Canticles *Evening Service in D* Charles Wood Anthem *Love, unto thine own who camest* Haldane Stewart Hymn 357 Final Amen Richard Ayleward Organ Postlude *Choral* (Symphonie Romane, Op. 73) C.-M. Widor

## Sunday 10th September – 14th Sunday after Trinity 10.30 am. Parish Eucharist

Organ Prelude Petite fugue sur le Cromorne (Messe pour les Couvents) François Couperin Opening Hymn 104 Mass setting (Gl/S&B/AD Missa brevis a 4 Antonio Lotti Gradual Psalm 149 Tone iii/5 Offertory Hymn 307 Communion Motet Tantum ergo Giuseppe Pitoni Post-communion Hymn 475 Organ Postlude On a theme of Orlando Gibbons (Song 22) Charles Stanford

### 5 pm. Evensong

Organ Prelude *Villanelle* (Miniature Suite for Organ) John Ireland Introit *O love the Lord* Arthur Sullivan Preces & Responses Richard Ayleward Psalm 108 Robert Ashfield Canticles *Evening Service in E flat* Michael Wise Anthem *The Lord is King, be the people never so impatient* William Boyce Hymn 444 Final Amen Richard Ayleward Organ Postlude *Cantilène* (Symphonie Romane, Op. 73)C.-M. Widor

## Sunday 17th September – 15th Sunday after Trinity 10.30 am. Parish Eucharist

Organ Prelude O happye Dames John Sheppard

Opening Hymn 393 Mass setting (GI/S/AD) *Missa Edingtoniensis* Philip Radcliffe Gradual Psalm 114 Tone i/8 Offertory Hymn 148 (omit vv. 3 & 5) Communion Motet *O taste and see* John Goss Post-communion Hymn 64 Organ Postlude *Prelude in A Major* (BWV 536i) J. S. Bach

## 5 pm. Evensong

Organ Prelude *Chorale* (Toccata, Chorale and Fugue) Francis Jackson Introit *There is joy in the presence of God* Arthur Sullivan Preces & Responses Richard Ayleward Psalm 119.41-56 Pye / Walmisley Canticles *Evening Service (Coll. Magd. Oxon.)* Kenneth Leighton Anthem *Ave maris stella* James MacMillan Hymn 263 (omit \*) Final Amen Richard Ayelward Organ Postlude *Prelude in D Major* (BWV 532i) J. S. Bach

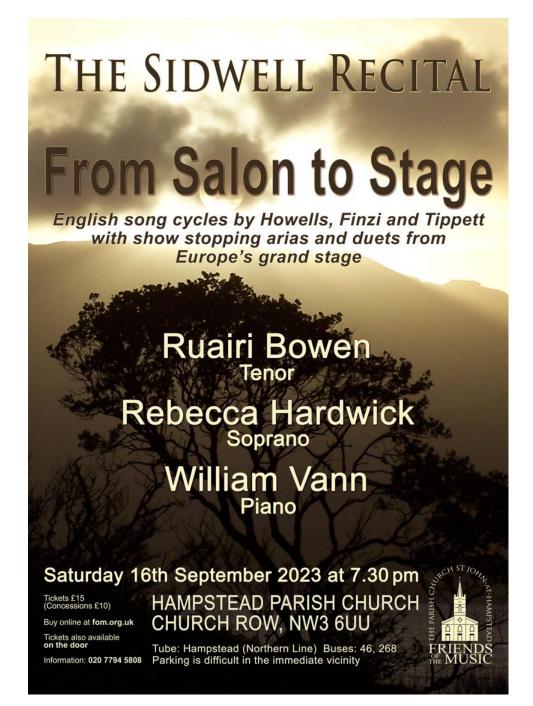
## Sunday 24th September – 16th Sunday after Trinity 10.30 am. Parish Eucharist

Organ Prelude *Veni Redemptor gentium* (II) Thomas Tallis Opening Hymn 357 Mass setting (Gl/S&B/AD) *Missa 'Dittes maistresse'* Orlando di Lasso Gradual Psalm 105.37-45 Tone vii/6 Offertory Hymn 353 Communion Motet *Cantate Domino a 5* Hans Leo Hassler Post-communion Hymn 368 Organ Postlude *Fugue in A Major* (BWV 536ii) J. S. Bach

## 5 pm. Evensong

Organ Prelude Vater unser im Himmelreich Georg Böhm Introit O gladsome Light Arthur Sullivan Preces & Responses Richard Ayleward Psalm 119.121-136 Buck / Walford Davies Canticles *The Sixth Service* Thomas Weelkes Anthem *Factum est silentium* Richard Dering Hymn 439 (omit \*) Final Amen Richard Ayleward Organ Postlude *Voluntary VII in E flat major* Maurice Greene

Aidan Coburn Director of the Junior & Community Choirs Joshua Ryan Organist & Assistant Director of Music Geoffrey Webber Director of Music



## **The Hampstead Collective**

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2023 7.00pm – 8.15pm **Duke Bluebeard's Castle – Bartók** 

Bluebeard: Edwin Kaye | Judith: Catherine Backhouse Piano: Thomas Ang | Organ: Joshua Ryan

> Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2023 7.00pm – 8.15pm *Schubert's Winterreise*

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Baritone: Malachy Frame | Piano: Freddie Brown

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## Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023 7.00pm-8.30pm Songs of the Elizabethans with Viol Consort

Soprano: Christine Buras | Baritone: Malachy Frame | Viol Consort

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Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024 7.00pm – 9.00pm **Christmas Oratorio by J S Bach -** Parts 1,3, 5 & 6

The Players of the Hampstead Collective Directed by Geoffrey Webber

Tickets from hampsteadcollective.com

## **Organ Recitals**

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> October at **7pm** Charles Maxtone-Smith

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November at **4pm** (following the Craft Fair) <u>Note the time</u> – collect your tea and cake before it starts!

> Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December at **7pm** Joshua Ryan Messiaen *La Nativité du Seigneur*

The Hampstead Players *My Fair Lady* 30<sup>th</sup> November – 2<sup>nd</sup> December

The Community Choir Christmas Lights concert

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December

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"In Flames" - Review of the Hampstead Collective concert on 7<sup>th</sup> August

#### Suzanne Pinkerton

It was such a pleasure at the Collective's latest concert to see a good audience, who even cheered at the end, with some of them on their feet!

One thing which has become ever more obvious is how many fine freelance musicians are around. We certainly had an excellent lineup this time! With Captain Geoffrey's steady hand on the tiller, sorry, organ, we were sure all would go well, but for me a particular pleasure was the Passacaille from Lully's party-piece "Armide" (which didn't happen to have the organ, being an opera). I have to say I love French baroque music, and wish more of it was played, though of course it doesn't have things like the great Bach Passions to be performed. It was lovely to have a harpsichord (my favourite instrument).

As usual, there were full translations and programme notes, even though they were in very tiny print. For anyone with languages, it's fun to think "Oh, is *that* how they'd translate that bit?"

The programme opened with a well-known Bach cantata, which exhorts us to Withstand Sin, sung by mezzo Jessica Gillingwater, who has sung for us before. She looked as if she enjoys her work, which is always an attractive quality in a singer. Next came "Ich habe genung" (literally "I've had enough") but with our former "house" baritone Malachy Frame in charge we certainly hadn't. Good Belfast man that he may be, Malachy's German is very good and you get all the words so if German is your thing you can watch and don't need to look at the programme. The male singers who perform for us tend to be in their early 30s (I believe Malachy is 31) so they are at the younger end of the professional scale and may still say "I couldn't sing *that* role yet" but they are definitely grown ups now *not* "boys". I first met Malachy when he was a student at the RAM, and I was on the Museum team and was particularly struck with how his voice has come on.

The last of the 3 singers was soprano Hilary Cronin, of whom I'd never heard. I think Bach would have been pleased with her bright warm tones in the German trio. She obviously loved her show piece in Handel's Cantata "Tra le Fiamme" in which we had another treat –

Jacob Garside playing the Viol. Some of the time during the programme he played the cello, but he switched for this piece, and again showed us he was a credit to the RAM.

Do look at the varied programme, right till January 2024. And what comes the day after the last concert on the list? Why, the wedding of Malachy and the delightful Spanish soprano Lorana Paz (an RAM romance). I'm sure you'd like to wish them well!

## **Holiday in Hampstead**

Annie Duarte, Sue Garden, Sue Kirby & Chris Weatherhead

The eighth year of *Holiday in Hampstead* attracted a record number of people (105) to HPC in the first week of August.



The week started with Moragh Gee's *Comings and Goings,* a superb mixture of poetic food, ranging from W.H.Auden's energetic 'Night Train', read in concert by all four readers (Moragh together with Barbara Alden, Virginia Stevens and Adrian Hughes) to the solemnity of Leigh Hunt's 'Abu Ben Adam', which fittingly rounded off their performance.

This was followed by Jim Walters' talk Jerusalem: one city, three faiths, which took us on a fascinating excursion through the difficulties which beset the Middle East, revealing that - far from being separate factions - the three main religions in Israel are inextricably linked by historical and religious traditions. However this is not the current mainstream view, and Jim has long been focused on encouraging dialogue between Christians, Jews and Muslims to increase their understanding of each others' perspectives and sensitivities.

After lunch our Church Warden, Martin Evans, entertained us with tales from his professional life. Who could have guessed at the challenges involved in producing live outside broadcasts? The competition between channels, the huge financial penalties when things go wrong (such as a missed goal) and the daily dramas of setting up programmes beyond the studio...

This was an intriguing glimpse into the world of television.

Tuesday began with *Summer's Here.* Stephen Clarke presented solo songs accompanied by violin, interspersed with poetry, for a touching presentation. Items ranged from Gershwin's 'Summertime', performed by Dorothy Jenkins and Shereen Abdullah, to Seamus Heaney's poem 'Blackberry-Picking' read by Stephen.

Frances Spalding's illustrated talk *The Real and the Romantic,* based on her acclaimed recent book, charted the importance of the work of English artists between the two world wars. Between commemorating the awful reality of the Great War in its aftermath and responding to darkening political clouds in the mid-1930s, there was time for a romantic blossoming of the avant-garde. This richly diverse period in English art made for a fascinating presentation.

Stephen Tucker's talent for bringing places and events to life enabled us to experience being *Visitors to Venice* on Tuesday afternoon. The 'too much' and 'too many' of the Venetian summer, the heat, the architecture, the green canals, 'seeing' Dickens and D.H. Lawrence on the palazzos.... Stephen gave us so much more than any guide book.

Wednesday morning began with Sue Kwok's welcome gentle exercise regime, which was followed by Andrew Lloyd Evans' slide show of a fascinating trip to Neolithic Orkney and Shetland. Andrew's talk painted a picture of life in those early settlements, founded on the discovery of many ancient buildings and artefacts. More recent discoveries, dating from before the Pyramids, continue to shed light on those bygone times.

In the afternoon we went to Henderson Court for 'Tea at the Ritz', where guests were entertained by the HPC Community Choir singing

a medley of songs from the musicals, with much audience participation and enjoyment.

On Thursday Margaret Willmer, describing herself as an amateur bookbinder of thirty-five years' experience and 'still learning', covered the history, terminology, techniques and tools of book binding, as well as giving practical advice and useful tips in a beautifully presented talk and demonstration.

This was followed by a highly entertaining talk by the journalist and author Andrew Gimson entitled *On being Boris Johnson's Biographer,* and based on Andrew's insightful 2022 biography *Boris Johnson: The Rise and Fall of a Troublemaker at Number 10.* He demonstrated his ability to encapsulate complex issues and personality traits, sensitively treading a path between the roles of chronicler and friend.

After lunch Caroline Barron shared with us findings from her ongoing research into the stained glass window in the vestry at HPC, dedicated in memory of Frederick Wilfred Haeffner who died aged 26 at the Battle of the Somme. We learned about the Haeffner family of Netherhall Gardens, who commissioned the work, and about local artist Joan Fulleylove (1886-1947), whose design so movingly commemorates the fallen soldier.

treated On Fridav we were to contrasting talks on bellringing by two experienced campanologists. First, Martin Clode, from St. Mary's, Hendon explained the intricacies of 'English' which bellringing, ended with а chance for those in the audience to try



their hand. It was then the turn of Alan Regin MBE to outline what he has discovered about the Great War and the brave exploits of many of the ringers who fought and died in it. He went on to explain his pivotal role in organising the replacement of lost bells at Ypres. His photographs of French graveyards, both large and very small, were a sad memorial to so many brave young men. The final talk of the programme was delivered by art historian John Iddon, who asked us "Who is the greatest: Lucian Freud or David Hockney?"

John's engaging and detailed explanation of their very different lives and developing styles may well have changed a few minds in this richly illustrated talk. (Hockney won the vote!).

The week concluded with a short service of thanksgiving, led by the Reverend Graham Dunn.

Subsequently we were pleased to receive constructive feedback from participants. The standard and range of talks attracted many positive comments, as did the high quality and variety of food offered throughout the week. Thanks are due to those who volunteered their skills to make the week the success that it was.

Prompted by some of the responses, we will seek to improve the audiovisual experience in time for next year's programme.

The 9th Holiday in Hampstead will run from August 5th-9th, 2024.

Diana Finning, Sue Kwok, Julia Scott, Rosemary Loyd

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## More tales from television

### Stephen Clarke

The response to the June edition of the Parish Magazine, where I described my career in television, was favourable. So here are a few more stories.

### Pyrenean Adventure

In 1971 I and a colleague wanted to make a film in Spain about a man who had set himself on fire as a protest against General Franco's regime. The Spanish police would not let us in, so I asked a contact in the French town of St Jean de Luz how we could get our film crew in. "That is simple," he said "You smuggle the crew in over the Pyrenees." "But I don't know any Pyrenean mountain smugglers", I said. "Ah, but I do", he replied. A few days later I was up in the Pyrenees handing over -for a fee - our precious film gear to a bunch of smugglers.

#### <u>Do say, don't say</u>

In 1982 I was making a film about Mad Cow disease in Europe. We were assisted by a European official who was helping us find a herd of placid European cows. "For Heaven's sake," I said to her, "don't tell the farmer we are making a film about Mad Cow disease, he will run a mile."" Don't worry," she said, "I will tell him you are doing a film about the Common Agricultural Policy!"

#### <u>Brazilian flit</u>

In 1973 I and a colleague were making an undercover film in Brazil about the brutality of the country's military regime. We needed a shot of a police station where some of the worst brutalities had occurred. We booked into a hotel from one of whose rooms we could film the exterior of the station. My colleague, who was acting as cameraman, parked his not insubstantial bottom on a table and leant as far out as he could to get the picture. With a rending crash the table collapsed underneath his weight. The right thing to do would have been to tell the manager "We are an undercover film crew trying to get a picture of the police station in order to expose the iniquity of this country's military government." In fact we said nothing to the manager, paid the bill in cash and got out of town as fast as we could.

#### Professor Spurious

We frequently needed an academic to lend credibility to our journalism. We could usually manage to find some professor in the USA who would (for a fee) come over and do a bit of instant research. He would jet in by light aircraft about four minutes into the show, carry out some interviews for the next twelve minutes and after twenty minutes deliver a resounding conclusion. Then he would leap into the plane and be gone – until the next time we needed a Professor Spurious, when we would probably get someone else!

#### Unwanted material

Sometimes a contributor would refuse to do an interview unless we plugged his product. We were always afraid that if we refused he would pull out of the show, so we let him plug the item. When we got back to the cutting room we would immediately excise it. If the contributor complained we would say "we had a new lad on in the cutting room and he just happened to snip the wrong bit out of the film!

#### And finally a legal story

In 1972 I was making a film about Leopold Trepper, a Russian spy who had escaped to Poland. One of my contacts was a woman called Ruth Valentini who worked for Le Nouvel Observateur in Paris. She told me that one day a man she vaguely recognized came in, sat beside her and made conversation. He said "You don't recognize me, do you?" She said "No I don't." He said "Last week you got divorced; I was the judge in your case. How about dinner? – I know you are free." Well, that is the French for you.

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O what a tangled web we weave When first we practice to deceive! But when we've practised quite a while How vastly we improve our style! J R Pope

#### St Michael and All Angels – Malcolm Guite

Michaelmas gales assail the waning year, And Michael's scale is true, his blade is bright. He strips dead leaves, and leaves the living clear To flourish in the touch and reach of light. Archangel bring your balance, help me turn Upon this turning world with you and dance In the Great Dance. Draw near, help me discern, And trace the hidden grace in change and chance. Angel of fire, love's fierce radiance, Drive through the deep until the steep waves part; Undo the dragon's sinuous influence And pierce the clotted darkness in my heart. Unchain the child you find there, break the spell And overthrow the tyrannies of hell. (from Sounding the Seasons)

## **Readings for September**

10.30am	5.00pm
<u>Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> – Trinity 13</u>	
Jeremiah 15.15-21 or Romans 12.9-end	2 Kings 6.24-25, 7.3-end
Matthew 16.21-end	Acts 18.1-16

<u>Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> – Trinity 14</u> Ezekiel 33.7-11 or Romans 13.8-end Matthew 18.15-20

Ezekiel 12.21 – 13.16 Acts 19.1-20

<u>Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> – Trinity 15</u> Genesis 50.15-21 or Romans 14.1-12 Matthew 18.21-35

Ezekiel 20.1-8, 33-44 Acts 20.17-end

<u>Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> – Trinity 16</u> Jonah 3.10 – end of 4 or Philipp. 1.21-end Matthew 20.1-16

Ezekiel 33.23,30 - 34.10 Acts 26.1, 9-25 The Donald Barnes 13<sup>th</sup> Memorial Lecture Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September at 6.30pm at St Peters, Belsize Square, NW3 4HJ by Canon Paula Gooder Chancellor of St Paul's Cathedral

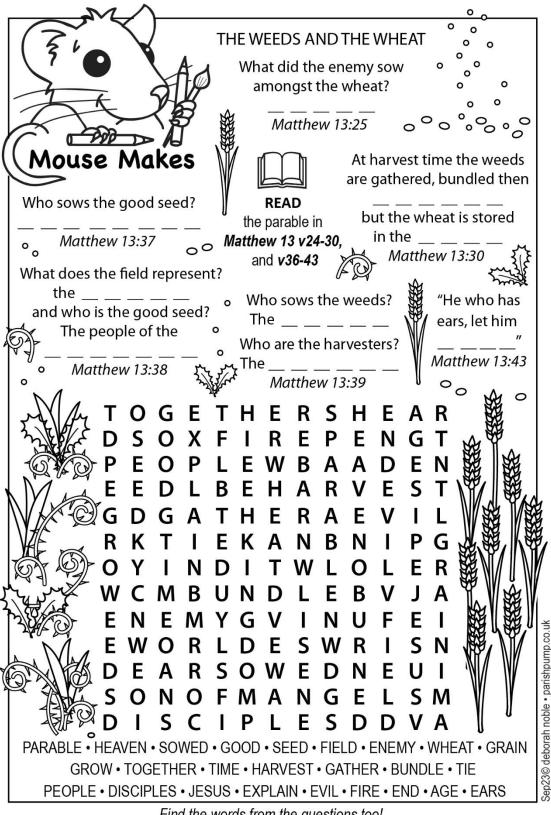


#### "Inhabiting the Bible Through Story: The use of Imagination"

Paula is a distinguished theologian, writer, broadcaster and lecturer on Biblical Studies specializing in the New Testament. She has a wide knowledge of the culture, social and faith history of the early church. Paula has lectured extensively on St Paul, but recently has written and talked on "The Women of the Bible", often shadowy figures, who yet played vital roles in the Early Church supporting Jesus, St Paul and the disciples,

Paula is a compelling and engaging speaker. Her narrative books on "Lydia", "Phoebe" and "The Women of Holy Week" are well known and will be available to purchase.

There is no entry charge. Wine and refreshments will be available afterwards. We look forward to greeting you.



Find the words from the questions too!

## At a glance - dates for the autumn:

<u>October</u>

1<sup>st</sup> – Harvest Thanksgiving : All Age service

8<sup>th</sup> – Dedication Sunday

<u>November</u>

5<sup>th</sup> – All Saints : All Age service in the morning,

All Souls Memorial service in the evening

- I I  $^{\rm th}$  Come and Sing Brahms' Requiem
- 12<sup>th</sup> Remembrance Sunday
- 18<sup>th</sup> Craft Fair
- 26<sup>th</sup> Christ the King

 $30^{th}$  Niv –  $2^{nd}$  Dec : Hampstead Players' autumn production of *My Fair Lady* 

December

3<sup>rd</sup> – Advent : All Age Christingle service in the morning, Advent Carol Service in the evening

17<sup>th</sup> – Nine Lessons and Carols

