

ECTON

VILLAGE AND PARISH



NEWS

JUNE  
1985

JUNE CALENDAR 1985

June	2nd	<u>TRINITY SUNDAY</u>	
	09.30	*Parish Communion	Ephesians 1,3-4
	6.00	Evensong	John 13 8-17
		* The memorial to John Line will be dedicated at the Morning Service.	
	3rd	8.00	Cricket Club
	4th	7.30	W.I.
	5th	11.00	Holy Communion at Ecton Brook
	6th	09.30	Holy Communion
		8.00	P.C.C.
	9th	<u>2nd AFTER PENTECOST</u>	
	09.30	Parish Communion	1 Peter 2,1-10
	6.00	Evensong	John 15, 1-5
	10th	2.30	Over 60's
	11th	2.45	Mothers Union
	13th	09.30	Holy Communion
	14th	7.30	W.I. Whist Drive
	16th	<u>3rd AFTER PENTECOST</u>	
	09.30	Parish Communion	Romans 6,3-11
	6.00	Evensong	John 15,5-11
	17th	Over 60's at South Lodge	
	10th	09.30	Holy Communion
		10.00	Coffee Morning in aid of Ecton Playgroup
	23rd	<u>4th AFTER PENTECOST</u>	
	09.30	Parish Communion	Galatians 3,
	6.00	Evensong	23-4,&7
			John 15,12-17
	20-23rd	The Rector will be leading the Ordination Retreat and preaching at the Ordination in the Cathedral Church in Peterborough.	
		On Sunday afternoon the Rector will preach at the Boughton Fair Open-air Service.	
	24th	2.30	Over 60's
	27th	09.30	Holy Communion
	30th	<u>5th AFTER PENTECOST</u>	
	09.30	Parish Communion	Ephesians 5 1-10
	6.00	Evensong	Matthew 19 16-2
July	2nd	7.30	W.I.
	4th	09.30	Holy Communion
	5th	6.30	Friends of Ecton House Festival
		7.30	Festal Rvensong

FROM THE RECTOR'S STUDY.

"The Spirit came upon them.....and everyman heard them, each in his own language."

Communication is a continual problem, be it between governments, communities, or within the family. Governments, it would appear are often more concerned with position, or face-saving, than they are with building relationships. Strength of bargaining position so easily leads to threats, and an unwillingness to listen to the "other" side. Communities are divided by man-made barriers, seemingly impenetrable; situations in which words and actions are often distorted. Family life, so we are told, is under increasing pressure as the numbers of broken marriages and divided families is on the increase. The causes of these problems are both complex and manifold. Yet, in each case, a breakdown in communication is often a root cause. "Listen to me"; "I cannot hear what you are saying"; "We don't seem to be able to talk to each other anymore"; are common phrases used to explain the situation - so common, that they almost become an excuse; a reason why the failure occurred, rather than a willingness to accept responsibility for that failure

The Spirit of Jesus which came to the disciples at Pentecost gave them a new form of communication. No longer did they need to rely upon words to speak of love and truth and peace, because their 'life-style' would be more than adequate proof of the wonderful words of God. Obviously since then the world has changed. The words and actions of Jesus cannot mean to us precisely what they meant to those who heard or saw them at the beginning. But they have this apparently inexhaustible power to stimulate men and women to the same type and style of life in their day and circumstances. In other words, it is not the letter, but the Spirit of Jesus which creates in our hearts a living and relevant wisdom.

But the other side of the coin is equally true - actions speak louder than words, and it is often in the actions that the truth of a person is more clearly revealed. We seek to persuade by argument, to communicate by smooth words, yet our subsequent actions deny our words and destroy our communication. But if this is a warning to wordly communication, it is also addressed to the life of the Church. "By their fruits you shall know them", writes St. Paul, or in the words of a modern song: "and they'll know we are Christians by our love". The Church communicates the love of God by its own life-style; we share our faith by the effect such belief has on our own lives. If we speak of truth, of goodness, of peace, then these must be the marks of the community which claims the presence of Jesus in its midst.

The Spirit of Pentecost gave the disciples the ability to communicate; to bring others to share in the Kingdom of God. So today, I believe the only hope for the world lies in our ability to communicate with each other. Our life-style will speak clearly to each man of our willingness to work for this Kingdom, and each man will hear it in his own language. The Spirit teaches us not to point the finger before we have analysed our own motives, before we have allowed ourselves to be changed. The wisdom of communication lies not so much in being able to speak wisely, but in being able to listen, and to match our actions to the words we would preach.

Trevor Willmott  
RECTOR

RECTOR'S NOTES

Summer will hopefully soon be here! - and that means among other things, our Summer Fete and Patronal Festival. We decided after the Festival of last year to limit ourselves to a great festival every two years, and to hold a smaller fete in the intervening year. I'm particularly concerned, however, that we do not lose sight of our overall goal, and that is the worship of God, focused on our Patronal Festival of Mary Magdalene. Feast Day '85 falls on a Monday - July 22nd, which we shall keep with a Service of Holy Communion in the Church at 7pm, followed by a party on the Rectory Lawns.

Saturday, July 20th, 2 - 5pm, you must be on the Rectory Lawns for the Band Concert and Fete. The Virtuoso in Brass will entertain us throughout the afternoon, and there should be plenty to do and eat.

A tombola bottle stall  
Garden Produce  
Cakes, jams etc.  
White elephant  
Handicraft  
Games of chance

All for your  
Entertainment

Teas will also be served.

Donations for all the stalls are needed together with offers of help. All the proceeds will help towards the continued restoration of the Church.

June is traditionally the month for Ordinations. We hold the pre-Ordination Retreat for the Diocese of Peterborough at Ecton House, and this year I have been asked by the Bishop to conduct the Retreat and preach at the Ordination Service in the Cathedral on Sunday the 23rd. The June copy of "Cross Keys" has an article by the Bishop on Ministry, which is well worth reading.

Summer also brings thoughts of holidays. If you're planning to be away, have a good holiday, and come back refreshed and ready for action. But don't forget us still here, particularly the bills which still need to be paid!! Stewardship returns for the first part of the year look good, but we do rely upon the regular giving of the congregation to further our work and purpose.

P.C.C. At our May meeting, Lionel Johnson and Leslie Murdin were confirmed as Treasurer and Secretary respectively for this next year. The Church Council was much concerned with the outline report of the fabric survey, particularly the question of the death watch beetle in the roof. The Community Programme from Wellingborough have also offered to help with the necessary repair work to the walls surrounding the Churchyard. The Council also agreed on an increase to the Organist's Honorarium, and the Rector's expenses, in line with the recommendations of the Diocese.

### News from the Diocese

The Diocesan Synod meeting on Saturday May 18th concentrated on the question of the work of the Diocese in the next years. The Diocese is over-staffed with clergy, to the detriment of some of the poorer Dioceses in the North. The Bishop is concerned that the work of the Church should not suffer even with fewer clergy. Ecton House is important to the Diocese since we are responsible for all the clergy training and many of the Diocese's plans for the future will be worked out in the House.

The elections for the new synod for the Diocese take place in July. The Synod is comprised of representatives of all the parishes and gives guidance and advice for the Church's work. As Warden of Ecton House, the Rector is nominated a member of the Synod by the Bishop.

### The Ecton Charities

The Request for help from the Playgroup gives me an opportunity to talk about the work of the Ecton Charities. The Charities are the result of the good-will of people who have lived and served in the Parish, who left certain monies or land to provide help for the village. Our major source of income comes from the allotment rents, and income from funds vested with the Charities Commissioners. I hasten to add that the income is not large!! The trustees, the Rector and Churchwardens, make a grant to each child who leaves the School; to any apprentice in the village; to widows or widowers, or single O.A.P.'s; and to ventures which help the whole village. Mrs. Rands acts as our secretary and organises the allotments. At the moment, all the plots are taken, but it is our policy first to offer any vacancies to the village. In 1985 we shall disburse approx. £400.

### Sunday School

Sunday School now meets every week in the Rectory Room at 9.30 on Sunday, but we still need more volunteers to help. There will be a meeting on Sunday June 9th after Evensong for all those who are interested. A Sunday School is a vital part of every congregation, since the children of today will bear the responsibility for the work of the Church tomorrow.

Don't forget the books at the back of the Church which can be freely borrowed. The titles are many and varied, exploring the Christian faith.

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### CHURCH OF ENGLAND CHILDRENS' SOCIETY

St.Saviours Nurseries, P.O.Box 266, Guernsey, C.I. (Telephone 0481.65521) offer a speedy and efficient delivery of fresh flowers to the U.K. daily throughout the year. A donation is made from the cost to the work of the Childrens Society on any order marked "Childrens Society".

This is a good and reasonably priced way of sending beautiful and long lasting flowers, and helping the work of the Society.

Further details from Margaret.

### MOTHERS' UNION

We had a well-attended meeting on 14th May when Miss Jinny Wade, area secretary of USPG showed a very interesting, but distressing film about the compulsory resettlement of black Africans in South Africa.

Our June meeting will be on Tuesday 11th June when we shall have an outing to Daily Bread in Northampton. We shall meet at the Rectory Room at 2.45pm, and go by car to Daily Bread, where we will have our service. We will then have our talk and be shown around and be able to try some samples! If you drive, please bring your car so we have adequate transport. Husbands are welcome.

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### W.I.

At our May meeting we were fortunate in having as our guest speaker an official of Barclays Bank, Mrs. Lee, who gave a most interesting talk on the varied aspects of banking. Our members were given a useful insight into the many facilities available to them, some of which were not generally known.

Competition "Your oldest English Coin" was won by Mrs. Knight (1555), Mrs. Rands (1759) and Mrs. Shearing (1771).

The Guest speaker at the June meeting will be Miss Linda White of Pearce Tandy Leathercraft Ltd. The Competition will be "Your best photograph".

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### OVER 60's CLUB

The Fun Auction evening held on Friday 30th May at Mr. and Mrs. Beesley's farm was a great success. Many thanks to all who supported it. The sum of £644 was raised which will be shared with the Youth Club.

A delightful afternoon was had by all on Tuesday 7th May when we met to celebrate Miss May Johnson's 90th birthday.

Our meetings in June will be on the 10th and 24th in the Rectory Room.

We shall be the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Beasley at South Lodge Farm on June 17th. Transport will be arranged.

D. Reynolds

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### YOUTH CLUB

Since the A.G.M. last month we have been busy fund raising with a Bingo in April which raised £29.45 and the Auction organised by Mary and John Beesley at South Lodge in May which raised a fantastic £644. This money to be shared equally between the Over 60's and Ecton Youth Club. We would like to thank Mary and John for putting on this event, and also to thank everyone who supported us and made the evening such a success. There is still one unclaimed raffle prize - green ticket number 205, so perhaps you could tell any of your friends who may have come along.