

roundabout



The Parish Magazine of St. Augustine's Church, Southborough Lane with St. Luke's Church, Bromley

50p

Issue 510 March 2020

The Earth is the Lord's

My family loves soup. Gone are the days when this meant serving up a tin of Heinz tomato, or, a bit more up-market, Baxter's mulligatawny. Today in many homes and workplaces soup is back on the menu with carrot and coriander or squash and roasted tomato in well designed tetra packs. Delicious, but at a price.



Over 50 years ago when I first met Martin's Mum, it was a revelation. She was an excellent cook. For a start her kitchen housed a Rayburn stove, a temperamental beast which needed to be riddled out each morning and the ashes taken down the garden to fertilise the roses. And there was always a stockpot. Maybe it was because the kitchen was warm and with homely aromas, but I was won over. Hoping to be a future daughter-in-law, I asked if she could show me the secret of her soup making. I have been following her example ever since and the secret? 'No waste Alice' she said. It was her pet name for herself. No food was ever wasted: misshapen vegetables culled from the garden, stock from the Sunday roast or anything that the greengrocer had a glut of. With imaginative seasoning and herbs (ahead of her time), there was a mouth-watering soup for just the price of the fuel.

Before the days of global trade, life was lived on a smaller scale. Today's argument for quick meals is that we are time poor. However, in many earlier households there was no washing machine, freezer or car to go to the shops. I wonder if the sheer work involved in providing for a family meant there was a greater respect for the ingredients. Strict budgeting ensured there was a real price tag attached to what was consumed.

One of the hymns we sing begins with the lines 'The earth is the Lord's and everything in it' and during Lent Rochester diocese is encouraging us to examine and appreciate the wonderful world that we inhabit. Perhaps we should take a little time to do just that. My Mum kept this prayer at her bedside.

Eternal Spirit of love in the universe

*Bless to us the sun that is above us,
the earth that is beneath us,
the friends who are around us
and your image deep within us.
So may we tread softly through the world,
speaking the truth in love, day by day.
Amen.*

Mary Plummer

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Editor Mary Plummer
Layout Adrian King

**As members of St. Augustine's with St. Luke's, we seek to follow Jesus' command
— to share God's love with our community.**



This winter I joined the volunteers who run the **Bromley Homeless Shelter**. This is a project run by Churches Together in Central Bromley to help homeless people, giving preference to those who have a connection to Bromley Borough.

During the coldest and most difficult time of the year the Charity operates a Winter Night Shelter. Volunteers provide an evening meal for up to 12 people, who then sleep overnight in a warm, safe hall, and share breakfast together in the morning.

The Charity also provides advice to those needing help with finding accommodation. The advice centre is at the United Reformed Church on Widmore Road, and is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 10 am and 2pm. Last year around half of those who used the shelter moved on to more permanent housing.

Local authorities have a statutory duty to help people find temporary accommodation. Bromley Council currently has over 1200 homeless placements in various forms of temporary accommodation, although the majority of these are outside the borough. However, their statutory duties do not cover everyone, which is why there is a need for the Homeless Shelter in Bromley in 2020.

The Archbishop of Canterbury has said that ‘Homelessness is a tragedy that ought to belong in the past. Everyone deserves access to safe and stable housing; it is vital for human dignity, equality and justice.’

Though the shelter runs every night, the large team of volunteers means that the time commitment is not onerous: in my case five evenings spread over twelve weeks.

If you would like to know more about what the shelter does, please speak to me, or take a look at the Shelter’s webpage: <https://bromleyshelter.weebly.com/>

Andrew Gurney

A Reminder...

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Friday 6 March

Rise, take your bed and walk!



This year’s service has been prepared by the women of Zimbabwe. We are encouraged to reflect on the difficulties and unrest that have plagued their country. They share the challenges they have met and their hopes for the future. They invite us to support them as they continue their journey towards full reconciliation.

Local services in Bromley and Orpington will be held at:

St. Andrew’s church, Burnt Ash Lane, Bromley	10.30 am
St. Nicholas’s church, Leamington Avenue, Orpington	1.30 pm
Christ Church, Charterhouse Road, Orpington	7.30 pm

All are welcome

A Thought for Lent



Is it me or did it seem only yesterday that it was Christmas, and already we are at the beginning of Lent and rapidly heading towards Easter.

But what does Lent look like today; one that is driven by consumerism, spending days at the Glades or Bluewater even in these difficult economic times? Indulgence after all keeps the world going around, as they would like us to believe. However, the thought of denying oneself something you want seems alien, possibly even archaic. Yet for many Christians within this country that is exactly what they will do for the next forty days. The possibilities of things to give up are endless; it may be not eating chocolate or cake, not drinking alcohol or caffeine and resisting those little pleasures that get us through the day.

But why? Well I believe that our faith demands something more of us than the way of the world. Our focus needs to be on Jesus Christ, and this time of Lent gives us the opportunity to do exactly that.

Lent was originally used by the Church as a time of preparation for those who were to be baptised at Easter, or those wishing to be restored to the Church's fellowship but had been separated from it by sin.

In today's wider context the Church has come to realise that this is a time for all of us to 'get right with God'; to put aside those things in our life that get in the way of our faith and so drive a wedge between us and Jesus. As we look towards Easter, Jesus demonstrates quite clearly that his agenda is for our reconciliation with the Father through his death and resurrection. Therefore we can take the example of Jesus himself when after his baptism, he went into the wilderness for forty days and nights, seeking the will of his Father, being tempted, just as we are tempted, yet not succumbing, using prayer and fasting to know the Father's will.

So, as we prepare for Easter, let us use this time for the self-examination of our thoughts and the action needed to lead us to a point of repentance, so that we may be assured of his forgiveness, grow in faith and know his love.

Yours in Christ

Revd Steve Spencer

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Our Link with Ashglade House

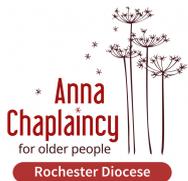
Ashglade House in Southborough Lane was opened several years ago. At that time it was run by a Roman Catholic couple and the only connection St. Augustine's had was with a lady named Gladys, who occasionally attended morning prayer on a Saturday. It has since changed hands.

When our friend, Anne Sharp, a church and Mothers' Union member, went to live there about six months ago, I asked whether anyone took church services there and to my delight, I received a very positive response when the idea was put to the residents. At about the same time, the Sunday evening service at St Luke's came to an end, so it seemed expedient to invite a small remnant of faithful ladies from there to form a core group to help with this task. So it was that in August last year, Jill, Maureen and I, later joined by Tina and Johanna, began leading a short service at Ashglade on the first Sunday of each month.



Ashglade is only a small community of around 12-16 residents with very friendly, helpful staff. Almost everyone, including any staff on duty, led by Care Manager Debbie, who always makes sure she is there, joins with us and enjoy the worship. On the 3rd Sunday of every month at Queen Elizabeth House, Rob, Sue, Verity, Hilary and I share fellowship and worship with older members of our community. We may not be Anna Chaplains, but hopefully we are fulfilling a role in our church's life.

Chris Regas



Anna Chaplains are Licensed Lay Ministers whose ministry to older people means that they work in care homes and sheltered housing and with those who live independently. The aim is to offer spiritual support to older people.

They are assisted by Anna Friends, who may befriend an individual or support an activity run by the Anna Chaplain.

In 2020 there are 100 chaplains countrywide and six are in Bromley.

Angela Scott of Christ Church, Chislehurst established one of the first monthly dementia friendly cafés. She takes services in a local residential home and together with Anna Friend Gill Holt they are working at building relationships with the local doctors' surgery, to ensure that carers are identified and given priority appointments.

The only paid Anna Chaplain in Bromley is Rev. Sophie Sutherland. She works part time at the PRUH and at St. Peter and St. Paul, Bromley and runs events to support carers, including a Blue Christmas service for people who find Christmas a particularly difficult time.

Sue Proctor is based at St. Barnabas church, St Paul's Cray delivering links with a newly opened residential

home. She runs a monthly social club at the church. Keith Nye is based at St. Mary's, Bromley and is instrumental in setting up a weekly drop-in café. Deirdre is the latest addition to the group and is based at St. John's, Eden Park.

I am based at Holy Trinity church and run two weekly art groups and take monthly evening services at Regency Court and Crown Meadow Court in Trinity Village. I also run the Forget-Me-Not café at St. Augustine's on the third Tuesday of the month.

Older people can be instrumental in spreading the gospel, for example the influence of grandparents on their grandchildren. Whatever our age, we can all make a difference in bringing the gospel to life.

Diana Pattison

FORGET ME NOT CAFE



Memory cafe for anyone with dementia, their families, carers and friends.

Where: The Garden Room
St. Augustine's Church
Southborough Lane
Bromley BR2 8AT

When: Third Tuesday in the month
between 1.30 – 3.30pm

Tea, coffee and cakes available
(Payment by donation)

Contact – Diana Pattison on 020 8464 1151 or
dianaepattison@gmail.com

Spotlight on the Pinnock family

Our worshipping community at St Augustine's has been enjoying the talents of Eugenie and Keith Pinnock since they came to us from St Augustine's, Honor Oak in 1997. Keith's skill with a full drum kit enhances our music worship and he says that he loves the creativity in our worship services, helping everyone to 'sing a new song'.

Music is a great hobby for them both, particularly as an antidote to work. Eugenie has spent all her working life in the health service. She is a cardiac physiologist, which means she is specialist in technical support for heart patients. She has been at Queen Mary's, Sidcup as part of the cardiology team since 2001. Although the job is technical, she is also involved in helping patients with dietary and lifestyle advice. When she is at home she relaxes by listening to music while cooking. She loves to experiment and create recipes. "You should see her spice cabinet!" says Keith.

When Keith is not delivering the mail out of Royal Mail's West Wickham office, he is playing music. At least three nights a week he can be found in a variety of locations and with very different 'combos'. Previously he ran a jazz trio – piano, bass and drums – they 'gigged' at weddings, parties and other private events.



Currently he plays double bass with Hayes Symphony Orchestra and Bromley Symphony Orchestra, where he is one of five double bassists. His longest association has been with Blackheath Halls Orchestra and Opera ensemble.

James Pinnock was just a toddler when the family moved here. He is now about to qualify as a fully-fledged Chartered Accountant with a firm in Tunbridge Wells. His passion is still football – he was with Southend full time at age 17 – and now, with a friend runs 'Prolific Strikers', offering individual training to promising juniors in Bromley. He is clearly following in Mum and Dad's footsteps, sharing talents as a gift of faith.

Mary Plummer



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£15 on the door available from 7.00 pm
£1 for under 25s

WHAT A MESS!

As the mother of A Little Girl I Know I have said those words so many times over the years. Honestly, if I had a pound for each one, I would be a wealthy woman by now. When she was small it was easy; only the necessary things were got out and I tidied them away before getting out the next. As she started to grow up, we would often play game as she made an attempt to tidy her bedroom.

A while ago I spent two long days when she was at school tidying her room. I sorted the wardrobe, put her books back on the book shelf and even tidied under her bed. It hard work, many bags were filled ready for the tip, the charity shop and another bag of things to pass onto others. It was good to see the floor again after weeks of having to climb over bits and pieces to get to her bed to say goodnight.

As I looked into her room recently, I was sad to see that most of my work had been undone. There were piles of clothes on the floor, some needing washing, others simply hanging up or putting away ready to be worn as and when. I felt sad that hours of work could be undone in a few moments. I talked to A Little Girl I Know and told her I felt disappointed at what had happened. She sweetly apologised and said that she would spend some time every day sorting it out.

What a mess! The following weekend the tidy up started - somewhat slower than I had hoped. She told me that she was making sure that she didn't throw away anything that she might need again someday.

She was pleased to find many things that she thought were lost forever; poems, cards from old friends, keepsakes from holidays and lots of money!

I wonder if God looks at my life and thinks, 'What a mess!' I'm quite sure that He does that on a regular basis. I make mistakes, try hard to do the right thing, but often fail. I find it easy to walk away, instead of rolling up my sleeves and lending a hand.

I am so grateful that every time I mess up God forgives me and helps me try to do better the next time. Isn't that fantastic?

Meanwhile I will load the car again this week for another tip run. Who knows how long it will stay tidy this time around!



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out
was

Roundabout is your magazine and we rely on you to provide information and articles for each issue, so please send your news, views, experiences, poems, stories and photos to one of the Roundabout team, the Office, or leave them in our pigeonhole in church.

The **April 2020** edition will be published on **Friday 27 March**.

Please submit all items by **Friday 20 March**, by email in plain text, not formatted, with photos as jpeg attachments.

Editor - Sue Goodger **Layout - Karen Palmer - kajpal@live.com**

The team needs an extra member to help with layout, so if you like playing about with a computer and are interested in design and layout, why not get in touch to find out more?

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Parish People

Graham Williams recently celebrated his **80th** birthday. Graham is still doing the local park run as and when he can. He achieved a personal best time the day after his birthday. Well done Graham.

Pam Spooner and **Daphne Layton** both celebrated their **90th** birthdays in February with their families and friends. A good time was had by all involved.



Cathy Fyfield's mother, **Eileen Nebel**, has celebrated her **100th** birthday! She had a card from the Queen and all the children and staff from the local school came out at playtime to sing 'Happy birthday' to her. Cathy reports that although it was a busy and tiring time, her party went really well and everyone involved, especially her mother, had a wonderful time.

It was good to see **Rachel Winn** in church recently> She will soon be joining us as our Curate. We look forward to seeing you again before long, Rachel, and meeting your family.

Following on from **Diana Pattison's** article, it is good to hear that **Johanna Gurney** is currently helping Diana in her Anna Chaplaincy work at Crown Meadow Court, with a view to becoming an Anna Friend in Bromley. Please remember both ladies in your prayers as they carry out this important work.

Don't forget that if you need a lift to church on Sunday morning please contact **Andrew Gurney** on 020 8467 9587.

Good luck to **Kit Byford** as she begins the first stage of her training to become a maths teacher.



We give thanks for the life of **Tony Holding** who passed away recently. We pray for his wife **June** and son **Robert** at this time.

Rev Alan Mustoe's mother, **Joan**, has passed away peacefully in Sittingbourne. She recently celebrated her 90th birthday with all her family and friends around her.

Keep your news coming to me either by seeing me in church on Sunday morning or at The Three Cs on a Tuesday morning. Alternatively, you may like to email it to me at jackysskinner@gmail.com. Thank you.

Our Parent and Toddler Group



urgently needs willing helpers. Please contact **Victoria** (07779 009064) if you can offer a little time.

Trowel and Error!!

(Some gardening thoughts).



March, it's officially Spring and the promise of longer and warmer days to come - even if the weather is not playing its part just yet.

If you are fortunate enough to have a garden or just some pots or a window box, it is now time to plan for the weeks ahead. Just check over your gardening tools to make sure they are ready. If you have a lawnmower did you thoroughly clean it before you put it away at the start of winter? If not, it would be a good idea to take it out and check it over, or send it for a service. It won't be long before the grass starts growing rapidly and both you and the mower will need to be ready to get going. Spring bulbs such as daffodils and tulips are building up to their full, glorious display whilst snowdrops and crocus will

already have passed their best and begun to fade. Remove faded flowers from all spring bulbs but don't be tempted to cut down or tie up the remaining green leaves as they are vital through photosynthesis to store energy in the bulbs, ready to grow their flowers for next year. The leaves should be left 6 to 8 weeks after flowering until they start to turn brown. If you have bulbs in pots, make sure you water them and treat them with tomato feed over this period. If Spring is particularly dry, then water and feed bulbs in the ground as well.

Just as Lent is the time to start preparing for Easter then March is the time to start preparing for the resurrection of our gardens from their winter dormancy. Whatever you do, enjoy your pots, window boxes or your garden enabling you to marvel at God's creation.

Alan and Cathy Fyfield

Dates for your Diary

10 March	Trefoil - Easter Craft	7.30 pm
14 March	Messy Church at St Luke's	3-5 pm
18 March	Mothers' Union – Update on Kondo	2.30 pm
18 March	Bits and Pieces	7.45 pm

Children and Youth Activities

Messy Church Youth House Group	Helen Baker	07576 233119
Club JC	Helen Baker	07576 233119
Parent and Toddler	Victoria Bouwer	07779 009064

Scouts and Guides

23rdbromleyscouts.org

Joint Group Scout Leaders	Jenny Owens Sandra Goodwin	020 8467 4702 01689 831654
Beavers	Ellie Howard	07923 507995
Brownies	Ruth Higginbottom	01689 818104

Church Activities

Mothers Union	Linda Wanniaratchy	07761 853653
Church Rooms	Liz Carter	020 8467 8155
Three Cs	Jacky Skinner	07812 714803
Roundabout Business Manager	Lorna Murray	020 8467 0536
Bell Ringing	Chris Lawrance	020 8462 3485

Worship with us on Sundays

8 am Holy Communion	St.Luke's Every Week
10.00 am Morning Worship	St.Augustine's 1st and 5th Sundays
10.00 am Holy Communion	St.Augustine's 2nd and 4th Sundays
10.00 am Family Service	St.Augustine's 3rd Sunday

Worship with us on Weekdays

Mon 9.15 am	Morning Prayer
Wednesday 11.45 am	Holy Communion

Join us on.....

Tues 10.00 am	The Three Cs Café
Wed 10.00 am	Parent and Toddler
Thurs 7.30 pm	Bell-ringing at St.Luke's

Church Staff

Vicar	Rev. Steve Spencer (Day off Friday)	020 8467 1351 revsteve.spencer@btinternet.com
Youth & Schools Minister	Helen Baker (Day off - Friday)	07576233119 youth@st-augustines.org.uk
Licensed Lay Minister	Alan Mitchell	07985070734 llm@st-
Emeritus Reader	Kenneth Gill	020 8467 1260
Reader	Brian Kendall	01689 832304
Churchwarden	Pam Poynter	020 8402 9008
Churchwarden	Vivienne Emery	01689 861929
Treasurer	David Wardley	accounts@st-augustines.org.uk
P.C.C. Secretary	Johanna Gurney	020 8467 9587
Children's Officer	Helen Scothern	07909 824099
Safeguarding Officer	Helen Scothern	07909 824099
Parish Office	Open Monday to Friday 10.00am to 1.00pm	020 8295 1550

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To find out more about our church, please visit our website:
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