

**EVENTS
OCTOBER 2005**

The Da Vinci Code: Facts and Fictions

Robin Griffith-Jones, The Master of the Temple, gives a regular talk on The Da Vinci Code, with time for questions and discussion. The next talk is on 30 September, 1.00-2.00pm. Admission is £2.

In autumn 2005, Robin will give the talk every Friday, 16 September - 16 December, except 23 Sept, 14 Oct, 11 Nov, 18 Nov and 2 Dec. The talks will resume after Christmas.

For directions to the Temple Church visit www.templechurch.com. General admission to the Church during the week is free. For further information on the services of the Church – in particular, Choral Mattins/Communion on Sundays at 11.15am – and on opening hours, please contact Brian Nicholson, t: 020 7353 3470 or e: verger@templechurch.com.

Thanksgiving for the life of Br Roger, founder of the Taizé Community

A service of thanksgiving, co-ordinated by Churches Together in England, will be held at Westminster Cathedral on 14 October at 7pm. Musicians are invited to rehearse at 5.30pm.

Memorial Service for Ron Vaughan

A memorial service of Ron Vaughan, formerly Deputy Secretary of the LDF, will take place at 2pm on Saturday 29 October at St John at Bethnal Green. All are welcome to attend. Parking is available 1-7pm in the church school's car park in Peel Grove, off Old Ford Road.

Exploring Orthodox Christianity

For the first time this year, the University of Cambridge (Institute of Continuing Education) in conjunction with the Institute for Orthodox Christian Studies, Cambridge, is offering in London a course leading to the Certificate in Orthodox Christian Studies. This introduction to the Eastern Orthodox perspective is designed for people of any religious persuasion or none, and is offered at St Botolph's Church, Bishopsgate, in a series of modules taught once a month over weekends, beginning 14 to 16 October 2005 (though students may join the course at any point).

For further information, details of fees and enrolment forms, contact the Orthodox Institute t: 01223 741037, write to 'Courses', IOCS, Wesley House, Jesus Lane, Cambridge CB5 8BJ, e: info@iocs.cam.ac.uk or visit www.iocs.cam.ac.uk.

It was only the Angels who Sang

Sunday 4 December at 7pm sees the premiere of a new Christmas Song Cycle. *It was only the Angels who Sang* tells the complete story of the Nativity from the perspective of the people involved. The cycle portrays the Holy Family as real human beings with conflicting emotions and aims to give listeners a fresh perspective on the Christmas story.

The Choir of St Martin-in-the-Fields will round off the concert with Benjamin Britten's Ceremony of Carols.

The performance is in aid of the music elements of St Martin-in-the-Fields Renewal Project. Tickets (£18, £15, £12, £8 and £6) are available from the Box Office by t: 020 7839 8362 or via www.smitf.org.

God's call to a nation in crisis: what is God saying to his people today?

This meeting, led by Dennis Wrigley, Leader of the Maranatha Community, is part of a nationwide programme of regional gatherings throughout the autumn.

10.30am, 12 November (followed by a Maranatha meeting 2.00-4.30pm) at St Vincent's Centre, Carlisle Place, London SW1P 1NL. For information about this event t: 020 8802 9514.

For information about Maranatha, contact the Maranatha Community UK Office, 102 Irlam Road, Manchester M41 6JT, t: 0161 748 4858, e: info@maranathacommunity.org.uk or visit www.maranathacommunity.org.uk.

Prisons Week: 20-26 November

The theme for Prisons Week is *The Least of These*. The words from Matthew 25:31-46 form the lectionary Gospel for the Sunday of Prisons Week, 20 November and remind us of the need to visit those in prison as though doing it for Christ Himself. During the week churches are encouraged particularly to highlight criminal justice concerns. The Prisons Week Committee has produced a prayer card leaflet with suggested readings, prayers and short commentaries for each day of the week. Copies are available from The Secretary, Prisons Week, PO Box 2733, Lichfield WS13 6GZ. A donation of £1 for each ten copies is requested. These and other resources are also available from www.prisonsworld.org.

Graham Kendrick answers Shelter's Wake Up Call

As the clocks go back on Sunday 30 October, Graham Kendrick is backing Shelter's call to Christians to make the most of the extra hour by taking part in the charity's unique Wake Up Call and making a difference to the lives of homeless and badly housed children across the country. The renowned singer and songwriter's hymn, Beauty for Brokenness will be used in related services.

With over one million children suffering in bad housing in Britain, churches and their congregations are being urged to use the extra hour to raise vital funds to help homeless and badly housed children. Packs containing fundraising ideas, activities, worship materials for ages, prayers and hymns are available from www.shelter.org.uk/churches, t: 0845 458 4590 or e: churches@shelter.org.uk.

"Decadence" – a book by Digby Anderson and Peter Mullen

Digby Anderson, director of The Social Affairs Unit until 2004, and Peter Mullen, Rector of St Michael's Cornhill and Chaplain to the Stock Exchange, will discuss their new book, *Decadence* (Ed. Digby Anderson, Social Affairs Unit, 2005).

"Tony Blair's proposed campaign to restore "respect" is way-off target if an analysis of Britain's moral condition is correct. The moral decline is deeper and wider than a loss of respect. And it is confused by the rise of new "bogus virtues". According to *Decadence*, a major new multi-author book published by the independent Social Affairs Unit, Britain has traded in an old morality, which had served it well for centuries, for a new, experimental, quasi-morality. The old morality had well-known virtues such as courage, love, prudence, fairness, and honesty. These are increasingly being replaced by new untried ones such as anti-discriminationism, environmental concern, equality, self-affirmation, a "caring" attitude, and a "critical" mindset."

St Sepulchre's Church, Thursday 17 November at 6.30pm. For more information contact Peter Mullen, The Watch House, 10 Giltspur Street, London EC1A 9DE.

Classics at St George's, Holborn

A free classical concert to include solo and ensemble items for voices and instruments. 7.30pm on Saturday 8 October.

For more details contact St George's Holborn, Queen Square, London, WC1N 3AH, t: 020 7404 4407, e: office@sgtm.org or visit www.sgtm.org.

Saints, Souls and Remembrance at St Martin of Tours, Ruislip

This 'Come, Sing and Listen' event will include seasonal anthems, Fauré's Requiem and readings.

Registration is at 2pm and the choir will rehearse from 2.15-5pm. Please bring a soft pencil, a rubber and a drink for the break. All music will be available or bring your own.

There is a suggested donation of £5 for British Legion funds. Further information is available from e: Mervyn.Hogg@Blueyonder.co.uk, t: 01895 638069 or 07770 641 645.

London – St Petersburg Group 2006 Visit

The aim of this visit is to experience the richness of Orthodox worship by visiting a variety of churches in the city, to share in the life of the Orthodox Seminary, to meet Russian Christians who are working in church-based social projects, and to explore the possibility of making parish and other links.

Visits over the past five years have led to three strong links with parishes and social projects and we hope that next year's visit will strengthen the link between London Diocese and the Russian Orthodox diocese of St Petersburg and Ladoga.

This will be a working visit rather than a holiday and the programme can at times be demanding. The proposed dates are 17–24 May 2006.

The approximate cost of the trip will be £650-700 per person (although there may be some subsidies). For further information and booking form please contact Patricia Morton, 54 Roe Green, London NW9 0PJ, t: 020 8204 7531 or e: cp.morton@virgin.net.

Urban Theology Forum

This new group meets once a term to provide a forum for the discussion of issues in urban ministry: exchanging resources, sharing insights and concerns, and reflecting on London as a context for ministry.

9 November 10.30am-12.30pm at the Royal Foundation of St Katharine, Limehouse. The first meeting will be led by the Revd Dr Andrew Davey (Assistant Secretary for Community & Urban Affairs to the Archbishops' Council Board of Social Responsibility, and author of *Urban Christianity* and *Global Order: Theological Resources for an Urban Future*).

For more details, contact the Contextual Theology Centre at St Katharine's by e: admin@theology-centre.org or t: 020 7780 1600.

St Paul's Cathedral School Foundation Annual Concert

A performance of Andrew Lloyd Webber's Requiem with music by Handel, Mozart, Goodall, Burgon and Jacob, as well as the first performance of the winning anthem for the 2005 Foundation Composition Prize.

The concert will feature the City of London Sinfonia with the Choir of St Paul's Cathedral, conducted by Malcolm Archer.

Tuesday, 11 October 7.15pm. Tickets £30/£22.50/£15/£10 Box Office t: 08700 600 100 or visit www.ticketweb.co.uk. More information is available at www.stpauls.co.uk.

Caring for Ex-Offenders: Breaking the Cycle of Crime

This conference takes place on 20 October at Holy Trinity, Brompton. A flyer was included with August's mailing, available at www.london.anglican.org/ClergyInfo_2005-08.

Values in Politics

The Rt Hon Baroness Amos will give the inaugural St Giles-in-the Fields Hansard Lecture in association with the Hansard Society on Wednesday 26 October at 6.15pm, at St Giles in the Fields Church, Denmark St, off Charing Cross Road.

Journey to Northern Italy

The Revd Peter Liddel, of Christ Church, Barnet, is leading a holiday to Northern Italy, staying in Verona and covering Venice, Milan, Bologna, Modena and Parma. An invitation is extended to all clergy in the Diocese together with their friends and families.

16-23 May 2006. The cost will be £899 and it is advisable to book early due to a limited number of places. For more details contact The Revd Peter Liddel, 23 Kings Road, Barnet, Herts EN5 4EF or t: 020 8441 2968.

World day of remembrance and hope for road crash victims

RoadPeace, an organisation supporting those bereaved or injured in a road crash and "Working for Real Road Safety", is preparing for the annual Day of Remembrance and Hope for Road Crash Victims.

Special services will be held in many cathedrals and churches throughout the country, but they also hope that 20 November will be marked in all parishes in the usual morning or evening services. Below is a short prayer which they offer for inclusion in parish intercessions on that day:

Lord, on this remembrance day for road crash victims, we pray for all those who have been killed on our roads and for those who grieve for the loss of a loved one. We remember also all who have been injured in body and mind, and those who care for them. Loving God, use us, as we are able, to comfort and support those who suffer; and what we cannot do for them be pleased yourself to do, so that in the mystery of your love they may find peace and healing.

If any church would like to arrange a special service, please contact the RoadPeace office for assistance: PO Box 2579, London NW10 3PW, t: 020 8838 5102, f: 020 8838 5103, e: info@roadpeace.org or visit www.roadpeace.org.