

# The Chronicle

## Of All Saints

### Petersham

325 STANMORE ROAD, PETERSHAM 2049

Acting Rector Revd. Walter Collier 798-8519

JULY 1993

The Lord is  
my light &  
my salvation:  
whom shall  
I fear?



**All Saints' Church  
Petersham.  
June 1993.**

**My dear Friends,**

“ . . . he went up into a mountain apart to pray . . . ” (Matt. 14: 23). The Gospels record many such instances when Jesus felt the need for strength and clear vision. He went directly to the source for help, away from distracting influences. How necessary then is it for all us ordinary people to travel from the valleys of every day preoccupation to the mountain to be with God.

A few minutes spent alone with God at a definite time each day will still the restlessness in our hearts and clarify our tangled thoughts and unsolved problems. This quiet time with God is the time to call on Him in the words of this moving chorus:

Spirit of the Living God  
Fall afresh on me.  
Melt me, mould me, fill me, use me.  
Spirit of the Living God  
Fall afresh on me.

It is time to be quiet and reflect on the many blessings He gives us of His own free will and to thank Him for sending His own Son to redeem us and His Holy Spirit to live within us.

One evening recently I noticed almost a dozen sparrows rolling in the soft dirt near where a building was being constructed. They were flapping their wings, chirping without restraint, and then after they had gotten rid of bodily irritations they flew off singing.

When the Holy Spirit takes hold of our lives, we also rejoice in a similar joyousness as we slough off our past sins and commence our tasks again with new courage.

“Cause me to hear thy loving kindness in the morning; for in thee do I trust; cause me to know the way wherein I should walk; for I lift up my soul unto thee.” (Psalm 143: 8)

**Your friend  
W. G. Coller.**

### **"Serenity Prayer"**

**MY HUSBAND** WROTE what has come to be known as the "Serenity Prayer" in the early 1940's. He not only wrote it but used it in services or when preaching in Heath, a little hill village in Western Massachusetts, where for many years we used to spend the summer.

After one of those, a good friend and neighbour, the late Howard Chandler Robbins, who formerly had been Dean of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York and also Professor of Pastoral Theology of the General Theological Seminary, asked Reinhold for a copy of the prayer. My husband reached into his pocket and handed it over to Dr. Robbins.

At times, other organisations have asked for the use of it. I remember on Episcopal Sisterhood in the Middle West (Wisconsin, I think) printed it very nicely on little cards. Also, Alcoholics Anonymous has used it widely with the permission of my husband.

Frequently the prayer is repeated not quite as he wrote it. Here is the form he preferred.

*God, give us the grace to accept with serenity the things that cannot be changed, courage to change the things which should be changed, and the wisdom to distinguish the one from the other.*

My husband used to have several letters a week about this prayer, and in these later years I have had many inquiries. The prayer obviously has been very much appreciated, also very much used, even though sometimes the form has varied.

- Ursula Niebuhr  
via The Society of St. Paul.

\* \* \*

A smile increases your face value.

## **WHAT IS ON AT ALL SAINTS'**

### **EVERY SUNDAY.**

- 9-30am      Holy Communion on the First, Second and Fourth Sundays.  
Family Service, which is a Service of Prayer and Word, on the third Sunday.  
Morning Prayer on the Fifth Sunday.
- 6-30pm      Evening Prayer is said in the Side Chapel.

### **DURING THE SCHOOL TERM.**

- 9-30am      Junior Sunday School every Sunday except the Third Sunday when there is a Family Service.

### **EVERY THURSDAY EVENING.**

- 7-30pm      Home Bible Study held at the Home of Mrs. Willis.  
All welcome.

### **EVERY FRIDAY EVENING.**

- 7-30pm      Youth Fellowship in the Parish Hall.

### **COMING EVENTS FOR YOUR DIARY.**

- 11 July      - Archdeacon Huard is to preach at the 9-30am Service.  
14 July      - Invitation to the ladies of the parish to St. Alban's  
Five Dock Mother's Union 66th Birthday Celebration  
and Afternoon Tea 1-30 p.m.  
8 August      - Dedication of Ashes.  
11 August      - 7-30p.m. Wardens and Synod Representatives to meet  
the Archbishop at St. Bede's Drummoyne.  
12 September - B.B.Q Luncheon in the Parish Hall following the  
Morning Service.  
25 September - Coach Tour to Gosford

**Watch the Weekly Bulletin for further details.**



### FLOWER DONATIONS.

**JULY 4** - No donation.

Arranged by Mrs. E. Hearn and Mrs. M. Essam.

**JULY 11** - In memory of Bill Williams from all his friends at All Saints'.

Arranged by Mrs. E. Hearn and Mrs. M. Essam.

**JULY 18** - No donation.

Arranged by Miss D. Harrop.

**JULY 25** - In memory of Miss Allie Nisbet from all at All Saints'.

Arranged by Mrs. E. Hearn and Mrs. M. Essam.

#### **WALTERS & SON FUNERAL DIRECTORS**

Office and Chapel:

**433-35 NEW CANTERBURY ROAD, DULWICH HILL -  
560-9999**

**890 CANTERBURY ROAD, LAKEMBA -  
759-4044**

**You are invited to enquire about our funeral fund.**

**People of all ages are accepted without medical examination.**

## What Will They Find?

**ACCORDING TO A RECENT PUBLICATION**, one effect of the opening of the Channel Tunnel in 1993 will be an increase in the annual number of visitors to Canterbury Cathedral from two-and-a-half million to something nearer four million. The mind boggles, but here clearly is an opportunity for service and outreach which cannot be ignored, and the Dean and Chapter are considering how they may better meet the needs of all who come.

In a smaller though still significant way, there are likely to be many more European visitors in our Kentish countryside, enjoying our villages, touring our stately homes, walking up the path from the lychgate to look at the church . . . What will they find when they reach that door? All too often, alas, that it is locked against them.

It is a sad rebuff. Understanding well enough the problems of casual vandalism and highly-organized and well-planned theft, I still sorrow that the ungodly have succeeded in so many cases in putting the Church out of action for all except the regular worshippers. It is as frustration for the visitor as a bank unable to give money because its cash machine is out of service.

But suppose our visitor is lucky this time. The door yields to his touch and swings open. What does the inside look like to a new and possibly critical eye? Tatty notices and dead flowers? Split hassocks spilling sawdust and ancient hymn books shedding pages?

Many of our visitors may find an Anglican Church as unfamiliar as we would find a Hindu temple to be. Yet they come, in some degree, expectantly as "sightseers." Is there no helpful sight we can devise for them?

I suggest a small but significant project for your parish church as a contribution to the Decade of Evangelism.

- Consider the accessibility of your church. Is a key available and the key holder's whereabouts plainly shown? Could the church be left open, perhaps with church watchers or welcomers at particular times?
- Look at the inside critically. Does it seem to be a house of God, lovingly cared for in His service?
- Does the church preach the Gospel, by a carefully worded guide card, or by pictures showing its worshipping life? Is there a book table offering Christian teaching? Does it invite people to pray?

None of this is new, and many churches have carried out such a self-examination long ago, with marked improvement as a result. But like the warmth of welcome in any home, it needs constant and sensitive concern.

Although Our Lord taught His disciples to take no thought about the reward of their generosity, consideration for our visitors may bring great and unexpected fruit, even though we may not ourselves be the gatherers of it.

**- The Bishop of Dover  
in Canterbury Diocesan News Service**

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**The Cathedral Church of Christ, Canterbury**

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT

ALL SAINTS' ANGLICAN CHURCH PETERSHAM  
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS - MAY 1993

RECEIPTS	\$	PAYMENTS	\$
Offertories	1,821.11	Acting Rector's Net Stipend	0.00
Anonymous Donation	330.00	Acting Rector's Trav Allowance	0.00
District Visitor's Collection		Organist	15.00
Mrs. Carr	50.00	Church Cleaning	200.00
Investment Interest		Hall Cleaning	200.00
J.H. Douglass Endow	857.17	Telephone Account	40.85
Transfer of Funds		Cleaning Purchases	19.72
All Saints' Endow	1,365.00	Flowers	0.00
		Morning Tea Expenses	23.67
		Locum Rev'd James Holmes	350.00
		Purchase of Presentation	22.00
		Bp J Reid Testimonial Donation	20.00
		Hall Gas A/c	35.68
		Rector's Gas A/c	10.00
		Advertising for Car Boot Sale	113.80
		Postage & Phone Calls	15.20
		Water Board	127.70
		Confirmation Offertories to HMS	257.15
		Confirmation Service -	
		Morning Tea expenses	40.00
	<u>4,423.28</u>		
Deficit for month	0.00		
	<u>4,423.28</u>		
		Surplus for month	<u>1,490.77</u>
			<u>2,932.51</u>
			4,423.28
BALANCE 1-5-93	445.94		
Less deficit for month	0.00		
Plus surplus for month	<u>2,932.51</u>		
BALANCE 31-5-93	<u>3,378.45</u>		



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