It was our pleasure and privilege to be visited this week by a band of Pilgrims from the Ecumenical Walking Group of the Catholic Diocese of Arundel and Brighton. They are currently on pilgrimage, walking on selected days along ‘The Old Way’ - an ancient pilgrimage route from Southampton to Canterbury which went right past our front door. It is believed that Henry II took this route when on his pilgrimage of penitence (having repented of being the unwitting cause of the murder of Archbishop Thomas Beckett).

Canon Tom and our Lay Pastor Sandra were kindly presented with special 2021 Pilgrim’s crosses, as a token of thanks for the visit. They are made from facemask material. The cross of chains symbolises ‘lockdown’, and the stud at the bottom symbolises the Corona Virus - all held in the redeeming and purifying shape of the Cross of Christ.
The week ahead...

| **SUNDAY** | **0930** PARISH COMMUNION this week led by Canon Tom. Come in person (seated 1m apart with masks. Or watch online: click here to participate via Facebook) or www.stfaith.com (to only watch anonymously) |
| **1800:** EVENING PRAYER (via Zoom only- click here) |

**ALL DAYS (whenever possible)**
Mornings to Early Afternoon (approx.)—Open Church (for private prayer) except during services and concerts.

**MONDAY**
1500: TEA & CHAT (via Zoom - click here)

**WEDNESDAY**
1230: LUNCHE TIME CONCERT - Andrew Hayman - Organist (see advert on later page).
Attend in person or watch online

**THURSDAYS**
1030: TRADITIONAL SAID COMMUNION with Fr Richard Acworth. Attend in person or watch online.

**SERVICE SHEETS**
Hymns and readings for Sunday morning and evening are printed at the rear of this edition of the Chronicle. Standard service sheets are available in church, or can be downloaded from here. Complete copies of Sunday services can be downloaded from https://www.stfaith.com/566-2/

**CATCH-UP RECORDINGS**
Our Livestreamed Services can be viewed after the fact on our Facebook page. Just click here to view.

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**PLEASE PRAY FOR:**
- **The World**
  Including St John the Divine, Ghana
  Rod & Glenda Thomas
  (Sendai, Japan)
- **The Diocese**
  For Commissary Bishop Rob, & those selecting our next Bishop
- **Our Parish & Community**
  Especially resting teachers and pupils
- **Those who have asked for our prayers**
  Sue Titcombe
  Audrey Fryer
  Marlene Sharpe
  Tim McCann
  Ian Dillow
  Veronica Holder
  Patrick Hounsham
  Olive Rush
  Brandon Taylor
  Angela Thompson
  Grace Skilleter
- **The Recently Departed**
  Terry Collins
  Roger Harrison
  Ralph Hollins
  Geoff Paffett
  Dot Edwards
- **Anniversaries of Departed**
  22nd Michael Jones
  24th Brenda Compton
  26th Michael Moore
  Olive Mortley
  27th Henry Cutting
St Faith’s Charity Shop
‘Turn The Page’
Second Hand Bookshop
in the
Pallant Centre
Opening
Saturday
21 August 9.30am
Great Selection of
Fiction and Non Fiction books
St Faiths Shop currently has an opportunity for a supervisor to join our small but dedicated team. The role will be to help cover a period of sickness until further notice and possibly into the New Year.

Minimum contract of 6 hours per week, plus additional cover (of Manager’s leave) as required

We are looking for a strong team player who has excellent all round communication and people skills.

Supporting and covering for the Charity Shop Manager, your duties will include supervising and training volunteers, refreshing stock and handling donations. Ideally you will be a problem solver with excellent customer service skills, who is flexible and keen to meet new challenges.

Preferably you will be experienced in a similar role and you will have good IT, numeracy and literacy skills.

To find out more, contact Clare Kennar (Charity Shop Manager) via email at clarekennar@gmail.com

Applications close 3rd September 2021

We are flexible on interview time and date for interviews in the week commencing 6th September.

Prompt start for the successful applicant.
St Faith’s Shop - News!

WE’RE HIRING

We’re looking for a Temporary Supervisor. See the advert on the opposite page.

GIFT AID YOUR DONATION!

We now have the technology (thanks to a Government grant) to apply gift aid to your donation. We can then add 25% of the value of what your gift sells for! Ask us for details of how to register when you make your next donation!

THIS WEEK’S OPENING TIMES

Tues to Thurs: 9.30am to 3pm
Friday & Saturday: 9.30 to 1pm

DONATIONS NEEDED

We are in desperate need of jewellery, any unwanted necklaces, bracelets broches, etc, would be very gratefully received.

Please drop donations off at the shop during opening hours: (see above). Kindly don’t leave them outside when the shop is closed. We had to throw away a whole bag of books this week, because they had been soaked by the rain, even in a bin-bag!
As things begin to open a little more we hope to be able to resume our usual levels of service to the community. So if you are able to help with the many things that we have not been able to do but hope to soon please let us know. They include:

**The Serving Team** – contact Bruce Strugnell 02392 484435

**The Sides-persons Team** – this would usually be one Sunday per month. We try to have three people in church and two outside to welcome – contact Sandra Haggan 02392 455161

**The Refreshments After Church Team** – this would usually be one Sunday per month, working in pairs. When we do get back to proper cups there is a dish washer! – contact Sandra Haggan

**Church Stewards** – this is weekday mornings 10-12 and when we are able we offer tea/coffee - contact Julia Hancock 02392 483808

**Lesson Reading (at 9.30 Services)** - Michael Laird via Sandra Haggan

**Flower Arranging Team** – we usually work in pairs – contact Sandra Haggan

**Church Cleaning** – Second Saturday of the month – the first session will be on Saturday 11 September—Sandra Haggan

**Welcomers for Ride & Stride 11th September** – working in pairs, for a two-hour slot – contact Sue Tinney 02392 421291/07743 143581

**Little Lambs** – our toddler play and stay group – Friday mornings, we will be back after the summer holiday on Friday 10th September – contact Sandra Haggan

**Choir Members** - We will be starting rehearsals in September. See Graham Kidd after any 9.30 service. All singers welcome - just a short test to check you can sing in tune will be needed!

**Livestreaming Team** - for services 9.30am and 6.00pm on Sundays, 10.30am on Thursdays and other occasions. Training would be given, to shadow one of those already trained. To be an apprentice studio technician. - contact. Tom Kennar

If you are able to help or would like more information about any of the above contact the named person.
This poem was sent in by a lady to the Daily Mail on the 100\textsuperscript{th} anniversary of the battles in Flanders. Her mother’s only brother volunteered to be a soldier in WW1 and she treasured his New Testament which she gave to her daughter who has now handed down to her son. This poem was tucked inside the book and was published in The Spectator magazine on 11\textsuperscript{th} September 1915, author unknown.

That soldier, Ernie Carver, was only 19 when he volunteered, he never returned from Flanders.

\begin{quote}
\textbf{Christ in Flanders}

We had forgotten you – or very nearly,
You did not seem to touch us – very nearly.
Of course we thought about you now and then,
Especially in any time of trouble,
We knew that you were good in time of trouble,
But we are just ordinary men.

And there were often things to think of,
There’s lots of things a man has got to think of,
His work, his home, his pleasure and his wife,
And so we only thought of you on Sunday,
Sometimes, perhaps, not even on a Sunday,
Because there’s always lots to fill one’s life.

Now we remember; over here in Flanders
(It isn’t strange to think of you in Flanders)
This hideous warfare seems to make things clear,
We never thought about you much in England,
But now that we are far away from England,
We have no doubts, we know that you are here.

You helped us pass the jest along the trenches,
Where, in cold blood, we waited in the trenches,
You touched its ribaldry and made it fine.
You stood beside us in our pain and weakness,
We’re glad to think you understand our weakness,
Somehow it seems to help us not to whine.
\end{quote}
We think about you kneeling in the garden,
Ah! God! The agony of that dreaded garden,
We know you prayed for us upon the Cross.
If anything could make us glad to bear it,
It would be the knowledge that you willed bear it,
Pain – death – the uttermost of human loss.

Though we forgot you – you will not forget us,
We feel so sure that you will not forget us,
But stay with us until this dream is past
And so we ask for courage, strength and pardon,
Especially, I think, we ask for pardon,
And that you’ll stand beside us to the last.

Pass It On
Submitted by Betty Scriven

Have you had a kindness shown?
Pass it on.
‘Twas not given for thee alone,
Pass it on.
Let it travel down the years,
Let it wipe another’s tears,
‘Till in Heaven the deed appears.
Pass it on.

Henry Burton
!!REMINDER!!

This is why the “2021 Funloving Fundraisers” team are walking
Raising funds for World Vision’s water projects

SATURDAY 21 AUGUST

10:00 Stansted House Garden Centre Car Park
“Welcome Words” from
Sue Birchmore, Strategy Technical Director, (World Vision
International)
- a.n.o!

10:30 Walk commences
Look forward to seeing you there!

Donations on the day or follow the link to my Just Giving page -
https://www.justgiving.com/team/FunlovingFundraisers
Now that's dedication. Not content with just offering a warm welcome, a broad smile and conversation... Maddie and Naomi went about polishing up the brass. Thank you to them, and to all our fabulous volunteers!

We are sad to announce the passing of Ralph Hollins, who will be known to many as a champion for all things wild and wonderful over many decades in the Havant Area. Here at St Faith's, Ralph used to visit our churchyard monthly, where he produced a fascinating record of wildlife in the heart of our Town. He was instrumental in the churchyard being awarded the status of a 'Site of Importance for Nature Conservation' a few years ago.

On Friday of THIS week, at 11.00am, we will be holding a Service of Thanksgiving (with Ralph's ashes, prior to their burial with his wife's remains in Warblington Cemetery). EVERYONE who knew Ralph, or who took part in one of his fascinating walks or talks, is VERY welcome to join us.
today you could be standing next to someone who is trying their best not to fall apart. So whatever you do today, do it with kindness in your heart.

— unknown

inspiringandpositivequotes.com
I imagine many of us have been inspired by someone or something, at some time in our lives. For me it was radio, or the wireless as it was called in my formative years.

Each Saturday afternoon my mother would set off to buy the weekly shopping and always returned with a small bag of sweets for each member of our family (being my father, Mother, three sisters and me). I think they were 2oz bags. Following the evening meal, we would all gather around the wireless. I thought winter evenings were best, as the fire was stacked with coal, the sweets handed out and we settled down often just by the glow of the fire, to listen to... “Saturday Night Theatre”.

There were other programmes, ITMA, The Man in Black and many more, but the real highlight for me was the BBC announcer, mostly male with a rich deep voice.... “This is the BBC Home Service” he would say, “we present...”. I was probably only about 9 years of age at the time, but I decided there and then that I wanted to be a BBC announcer.

I would often walk around the house trying to copy what the announcer had said and in the same style... but two octaves higher! I think I got away with it, as the family must have thought, ‘well he’s only a child’. I was also influenced by the classified football results at 5pm on the light programme (often repeating them) and boxing commentary with Eamonn Andrews was special.

In my final year at school, we all had to attend a meeting with a Careers Officer. I can hear him now, “Well Jones what do you want to do?”. “I want to be a BBC announcer sir”. “Let’s not be silly Jones! what do you really want to do?” After several versions of this, and more encouraging teacher-like comments, I decided to play his game... “Thank you sir, I really want to be a painter and decorator!” “What?... bit of a waste if you ask me, but if that’s what you want to do... painter & decorator you are”.

When I was 15, my parents went their separate ways, which left just my mother and me. St Faiths and St Albans were a massive influence in the direction my life took. At St Faiths, Rev David Slater and his Danish wife Kirsten, were responsible for organising the church youth club, we were kept interested with activities, including Scandinavian folk dances, pantomimes, charity performances and events and once each month a folk evening.

On Sunday there would be about 20 of us in the back rows at St Faiths for Eucharist, (nothing has changed for me), and of course a bit of giggling. Four of us we were servers at the altar (Bruce is still serving; fantastic!). In the early 1960s, six of us young lads from St Faiths decided to head for the bright lights of Swinging London - Carnaby Street, the mini car and mini skirt... The Stones
the Beatles, Dylan and all that.

We all shared a big house in Holland Park, and the landlord gave us permission to use the basement as a sort of club, where we enjoyed more folk music and some interesting parties. It was here that three of us started to sing together. Jim Watts now deceased, John Gomersall (his parents began our charity shop) and me. One evening a theatrical agent came to see us and a week later we were at The Scala Club Doncaster, scared stiff, facing a massive audience, as top of the bill was ‘Ray Allen & Lord Charles’.

The three of us spent a couple of years in cabaret in the UK, also Europe. I pretended to play a double bass, which I could not. Eventually we returned to Havant, each taking a different career path. I still had this urge to work in radio and joined Portsmouth Hospital Broadcasting. I also enrolled on a year-long full time LAMDA drama course, taking public speaking; but also had to do a bit of acting.

At the Hospital broadcasting, I heard BBC Radio Solent were advertising for a full-time station assistant. The job entailed sitting behind the glass in the ops room, playing in tapes and records and then nipping into the studio as a continuity announcer, with “This is BBC Radio Solent - you have just missed...” etc. I had to audition and was selected for a BBC board interview. I did not get the job! There were tears. I felt that was that it really is all over!

A few weeks after my grilling I was contacted by the Programme Organiser at Radio Solent. He offered me some training and possibly freelance work, doing the very job I had applied for. I stayed for 32 very happy years. I was involved in many of the programmes, including Hockey commentary from Spain and Holland, the final service of remembrance from Dunkirk, a quiz OB series and other programmes, winning two Sony Awards on the way. For 10 years I was producer of the weekend sports output, and at 5pm each Saturday it was my job to sit in front of a microphone and read the classified football results. Life’s funny sometimes.

I should also point out that I have always had a great interest in sport, particularly hockey and have been a member of Havant Hockey Club for 55 years, until recently as chairman. The club is another wonderful organisation in our community.

It was following an afternoon of playing hockey and a few beers in the clubhouse, that several of us went to a party in Southsea. It was here that I
met a blue eyed lovely looking girl, Angela. We married in 1980 and have three super sons: Max, now living with his wife Lisa and first child Juke, in Sydney, Australia. Russell is married to Daisy, living in Southampton and Fraser has been with partner Hannah for three years; they live in Chichester.

About 11 years ago, my health took a bit of a hit with Cancer, but the wheels turned full circle and I returned to St Faiths, I am still inspired and influenced by so many at our church. Home sweet home.

At the R S desk in Southwestern House, Canute Road Southampton.

Early RS reading something in studio one.

Presenting "Sunday Scene" with Sandi Jones, (No relation) and no church!

In Studio 2 of the new digital BBC, in Broadcasting house in Havelock Road. Note a few more buttons & knobs on this desk.
I expect we have all had times when we were utterly depressed or incredibly frightened by something real or imaginary. We can therefore sympathise in part with Elijah, that great Old Testament prophet.

In the reading from the first book of Kings, Elijah was depressed and frightened. Jezebel, the wife of King Ahab, had sworn to kill him in revenge for the deaths of the prophets of Baal on Mount Carmel. So he ran away and tried to hide himself. He found a broom tree – a desert tree that provides shade and shelter – and under this broom tree he lay in misery.

'O Lord take my life. I am no better than my ancestors!' He was feeling sorrow for himself big time! He didn't really want to forfeit his life – he only thought that in his misery. He had already given his life to God many years before – he was after all a holy man, a prophet. We also need to give our lives to God – not just the once, but over and over again throughout our lives. In fact we do that in our service during the Prayer of Spiritual Eucharist with which Tom encourages us all to join in.

A friend of mine on Facebook posted this only two days ago – 'When Elijah battled depression God didn’t send an angel to preach to him, tell him he needed to pray more, or condemn him for feeling that way. God sent an angel to comfort him while he rested. Some people just need to be comforted'. God did also provide sustenance for Elijah in the form of bread and water as he had more work to do.

In the Gospel reading we heard one of the more difficult of Jesus' statements, for his disciples to understand, let alone take on board and believe. This was the first of what is called the 'I am' sayings in John's Gospel.

Later he will declare that 'I am the light of the world', 'I am the Good Shepherd' 'I am the resurrection and the life' and so on.

Folk just did not understand. He was misunderstood. There are times when we have to say something important and are afraid that we will be misunderstood, that people won't understand what we are trying to say. Sometimes this is because we adults carry so much baggage around with us – hurt from the past, childhood experiences and more, and we tend to
block out what we do not want to hear, or distort it so that we have an excuse not to pay attention. Or, we focus on the negative aspects. We might not be open minded or may be limited by our pre-conceptions, or what we have learnt in the past. Sometimes we have been so sure of something we have come to believe in, that anything that attempts to change that belief is discarded out of hand.

The religious leaders of the time were like that too. If they had been open to God, if they had been listening to him, attentive to him, they may have been preparing the people for Jesus to come into the world and to say those strange things. 'I am the bread of life' indeed!

If they had been really listening they would have seen what God was preparing for them throughout their history, and not their own interpretation of the scriptures - to recognise Jesus as the Bread from heaven, the visible expression of God's life and sustenance.

Bread! What an important part of most people's diets. When folk were panic buying last year, how quickly did bread and bread flour disappear from the supermarket shelves?

Bread is a visible form of all kinds of goodness and when Jesus spoke of himself as the Bread of Life he was describing how he is the invisible God in visible form – he was in human form whom the people of the time could see and touch and watch.

Jesus, to them however, seemed to be normal and familiar – he was the son of the carpenter, after all. Son of Joseph and Mary whom they knew? How could he say that he came from heaven? You can understand their problem.

Wouldn't it have been great if those religious leaders of Jesus' day had recognised God's hand in the words Jesus used? If they could have sensed the truth of God's plan being worked out in front of their own eyes? But that perhaps wasn't in God's plan.

Their minds were closed to further revelation. Their religion, their faith, was sealed in a box. Just like people over the centuries who have sealed their faith within their own understanding of the words of the Bible, or of the Christian faith, and have not allowed the Holy Spirit to teach them new things. The Bible is an amazing book – but its treasures are only discovered gradually.

It has many layers – you can read it one day and see one layer, and on another day see something else entirely, in the same reading. Often the Spirit will reveal another truth, another facet of the Kingdom of Heaven, another way of looking at our lives.

Only those whose minds are closed to further revelation will be stuck within the constraints of their own making.

Much of prayer and spiritual growth is to do with learning to listen, deliberately putting all our preconceptions, pride, and status to one side so that we can hear what God
is whispering to us, and receive it with humility. And I mean whispering! He doesn't shout at us! We need to be attentive or we will miss what he wants to say to us. And we need to practise listening. Even when we have had amazing experiences of God in our lives, and we think he can't better them as they were so special, he still surprises us. Perhaps it's those good experiences that make us more aware of just what God can communicate to us.

Throughout our lives we can place ourselves again and again into his hands, opening ourselves to him in perfect trust, asking him to reveal still more about himself and this wonderful world he has created.

Elijah was miserable until he recognised God's hand in the ordinary, necessary things of human life – God did after all provide the basic requirements for him – bread and water. Even though he was emotionally and spiritually drained he knew that it was God who was leading him and feeding him, enabling him to continue his life's work.

We also need to make sure we don't miss God in the ordinary. He will speak to us through his creation, and our ordinary everyday tasks, as long as we are ready to notice and to listen.

Just take bread for example – an ordinary staple part of most people's diet, but even this simple, normal, everyday item can be transformed into something else – in the Eucharist – making it extraordinary.

Work of any sort might be ordinary and sometimes boring – how can dusting ever be anything else but......dusting??? I was thinking about this when I was doing the back breaking work of weeding the gravel in our back garden the other day. The tenacious weeds are a nuisance but they are so different from each other – and all creations of God – they're just in the wrong place!

In the 17th Century Brother Lawrence, who worked mainly in the kitchens of his monastery, wrote a book called 'The practice of the presence of God' He said, 'Men invent means and methods of coming at God's love, they learn rules and set up devices to remind them of that love, and it seems like a world of trouble to bring oneself into the consciousness of God's presence. Yet it might be so simple. Is it not quicker and easier just to do our common business wholly for the love of him?'

This reminds me of the hymn, New every morning is the love. Verses like – The trivial round, the common task, will furnish all we ought to ask; room to deny ourselves; a road to bring us daily nearer God.

When we do things solely for the love of God, the ordinary can become truly extraordinary.

Rev'd Judy Henning
ST ALBAN’S

Friendship Group
Welcomes You!

From 7th September, we will meet every Tuesday afternoon 1.30pm – 3.00pm at St Alban’s Church, West Leigh, PO9 5TE

We’d love to see you so do come and see and join us for time to chat over a cuppa, play a board game, crafts, invited speakers and much more! Refreshments will be provided.

For more information contact Christine Hoskins on 07933 267947 or Christine.hoskins@sky.com
We pray week by week for the church in Ghana and for Rod & Glenda Thomas’ mission at Sendai, Japan. An impressive work by the late Professor Andrew Porter of King’s College London provides a perspective for these. Entitled ‘Religion versus Empire?’, he examines the efforts of British Protestant (including Anglican) missionaries during the 19th century - in a survey extending from the West Indies eastwards to the islands of the south Pacific, via the different regions of Africa, India (the area of my own research), and China. His main concern is with the widespread assumption nowadays that missionaries served as advocates of imperial expansion and destroyers of indigenous cultures.

He confirms a point which should be taken for granted – that the aims of the missionaries were religious, not political – they worked to convert people to Christianity and build up new churches. They certainly regarded the expansion of the British Empire as providential, opening up new fields for their work; but generally they did not instigate it – except at times and places which had become anarchic and where it could bring peace, order and fair trade.

But the missionaries were trenchant critics of violent, oppressive or immoral behaviour by Europeans when they encountered this – including by slave-owners in the West Indies, white settlers in South Africa, and lawless sailors in the Pacific. They sought to protect indigenous peoples against such as these, and were shocked and embarrassed at how nominal Christians could discredit the faith. And they joined with secular humanitarians to work against evils including slavery in the West Indies, opium exports to China, the exploitation of indigo plantation labourers in Bengal, and King Leopold II’s atrocities in the Congo. They were not entirely immune to the growth of racism in the late 19th century, but it was counteracted by their belief in the fundamental unity of all humanity as created by God, and the availability to all of salvation through Christ. And if they were - willingly or not - agents of Western culture, particularly through their schools and colleges, they were unable to prevent their ex-pupils from using their education for their own purposes. Porter comments that the missionaries were ‘widely seen by local people to have contributed positively to the societies they set out to evangelise’. (This was borne out by my own experience in India.)

He points out also that their impact
was often liberating: widening horizons, empowering women, raising the status of India’s low castes, spurring reform of indigenous religions. And they benefitted the sending churches themselves, not least by promoting ecumenical cooperation between the different missionary societies.

Dr. Michael Laird

St Faith’s & St Alban’s

Little Lambs

A brand new Christian-based group for pre-school children (0-5) and their parents

FRIDAYS - 9.30 TO 10.30am

Now taking a summer break.

We’re back on 10 September!

If you require more information, please contact:
Karina Green (07589 828480) or Sandra Haggan (07452 982787)

in The Pallant Centre Hall
(down the road next to Waitrose)

Run by staff & volunteers from St Faith’s Church and St Alban’s Church
RIDE & STRIDE is coming
SATURDAY 11 SEPTEMBER

Please support St Faith’s by encouraging your family & friends to take part
it’ll be great fun!!

You can choose how to travel round the parish:-

“Ride” or “Stride”
“Drive” or “Run”

St Faith’s received a substantial grant from a previous “Ride and Stride” event for the restoration of St Faith’s banner by the Royal School of Needlework. We are able to claim back 50% of the sponsorship funds you raise, (+ gift aid), which makes it a very worthwhile cause.

Why not take photographs of your journey and e-mail them to -

rideandstride@hihct.org.uk

Please let me know by 1st September, if you plan to take part in
Ride and Stride 2021
suetinney50@gmail.com

Sponsorship forms will be available in church or you can download here

Participant Forms can be accessed here
Ride+Stride Participant Registration – Hampshire and the Islands Historic Churches Trust (hihct.org.uk)

(www.hihct.org.uk/hantsB.html)

I need 1 more volunteer for the “Welcome Desk” for 2pm- 4pm.
Can you help?

A HUGE THANK YOU to those who have already agreed to “Welcome” the Riders & Striders.
Havant Great Big Green Week and faith groups

From 18-26 September, we’re hoping to see lots of events around the Borough, celebrating action on climate and sending a message to the politicians that we really care about the linked issues of cutting greenhouse gas emissions, protecting biodiversity and tackling waste and pollution. This is especially important as vital climate talks are taking place in Glasgow in November and we need lots of action to prevent more global heating.

Our Green Week is part of the country-wide Great Big Green Week https://greatbiggreenweek.com/ so we’ll be part of a huge national festival and events will be taking place around Britain. You can find lots of useful resources on their site.

We are really hoping that lots of faith groups will want to get involved. It should not be too hard to build an environmental theme into something you are doing already. Are you planning a Climate Sunday event or a coffee morning or display?

We have put links to lots of organisations and useful resources on https://havantclimatealliance.wordpress.com/2021/07/31/resources-on-the-climate-for-faith-groups/

We have a number of events planned already including displays in the Meridian Shopping Centre, events at the Spring Arts Centre, a green coffee morning organised by the Mayor of Havant (at St Faith’s), a schools art competition and some walks, talks and cycle rides. The Church of the Good Shepherd is planning a Green Day on 25/9. Other churches are planning harvest events linked to the climate and Emsworth churches are holding an ecumenical service.

All our events plus guidance on organising one yourself (including publicity materials) are on the Havant Climate Alliance website https://havantclimatealliance.wordpress.com/.

Do tell us your ideas now or contact us if you’d like to know more at havclimate@gmail.com
Our new clerical friend and preacher, the Rev’d Judy Henning is leading a pilgrimage to Turkey next year (Covid-permitting, of course). An 11-day trip will take in the Seven Churches of Revelation, and the ancient City of Istanbul. Full details (and a booking form) are available by request to Rev’d Judy or Canon Tom.
Havant & Leigh Park Good Neighbours

Did you volunteer in Havant during lockdown?

Would you like to rejoin the team to help others?

Come and find out more over a coffee and pastry on Tuesday 31st August 11.00am -12 noon at St Alban’s Church, Bartons Road, West Leigh, Havant

Or chat to Karina on 07908 435 657
A horrible metaphor?

A sermon from Rev’d David Lindsay on Sunday 15 August 2021.

Many years ago, a young friend, who had been an active member of the Church of England, converted to Buddhism. When I asked her if there were any aspects of her former religion that she was particularly glad to have left behind, she named two. First, she said, she was glad to be no longer in a religion that made her feel guilty a lot of the time. Sadly, I was not too surprised to hear this. Christianity does tend to bang on rather too much about sin and guilt. But the second thing she said did surprise me. I’m also’, she said, ‘very glad to be no longer in a religion that expects me to eat someone’s body!’ She was referring, of course, to the Eucharist. ‘But surely,’ I said, ‘you know that those words are meant to be taken metaphorically, not literally.’ ‘Yes, of course I do’, she said, ‘but I still think it’s a horrible metaphor.’

Did she, I wonder, have point, or was she being over-scrupulous? I doubt whether many of us have ever recoiled in horror upon being presented with the Eucharistic wafer, and told that it is the body of Christ. But suppose the priest were to say to us, not ‘the body of Christ’, but ‘the flesh of Christ’. We might then feel just a little queasy. Because while the word ‘body’ has a number of different metaphorical uses – such as, for example, ‘a fine body of men’ – the word flesh is, well, inescapably fleshy!

In today’s gospel, from the latter part of John chapter 6, the word, flesh, appears no fewer than six times. Earlier in the same chapter, Jesus has said, ‘I am the bread of life’. Now, he relates that bread to his own flesh, which, he says, is given for the life of the world. The reference here is clearly to the Crucifixion. Then he goes on to say that those who believe in him and follow him must eat his flesh and drink his blood. The reference here must be to the Eucharist – we can rule out any literal understanding, for cannibalism would have been as abhorrent to a first century Jew or Christian as it is to us.

In fact, this is the only Eucharistic reference in the whole of John’s gospel. His account of the Last Supper is very different from the accounts in the first three gospels, and contains no mention of the institution of the Eucharist. But, assuming that John is referring here, in chapter 6, to the Eucharist, why
does he choose the Greek word *sarx* = *flesh*, rather than *soma* = *body*? And here’s another question: why, from verse 54 onwards, does he switch from using the usual Greek word for *eat* – *phagein* - and choose instead the word *trogein*, which means *to munch, crunch, or nibble*? So an exact translation of verse 56 would read: ‘Whoever munches my flesh dwells in me and I in him.’ Yes, we know it’s all metaphorical, but the metaphor seems quite deliberately corporeal – almost as if John is trying to shock the reader. What is going on here?

Before trying to answer that question, it may be helpful to say something about the Fourth Gospel as whole. It is almost certainly the last of the gospels to have been written, probably towards the end of the first century. The author may, or may not, have been John the disciple, the son of Zebedee. But whatever the identity of the author, what is beyond doubt is that this gospel is different from the others – so different in fact that it has often been called the *maverick gospel*. When it comes to telling the story of Jesus, St John, like Frank Sinatra, does it *his* way! He has different characters, different events, and different locations; and Jesus teaches in a quite different style. In each of the first three gospels, he teaches through parables. But in the Fourth Gospel, there are no parables. Instead, Jesus’ teaching is conveyed through long, sustained discourses. You may hear it said that John’s gospel is *deep* - implying that it’s the most complex. There may be some truth in that; but the basic message of John’s Gospel can really be put quite simply. As far as John is concerned, the central truth is that if you have known Jesus, you have known God. From which it follows that – to quote Michael Ramsey, former Archbishop of Canterbury, ‘*God is Christlike and in him there is no unChristlikeness at all.*’ An alternative way of putting it – which I owe to another fine theologian of the last century, Bishop John Robinson – is to describe Jesus as *the human face of God*. In him we see *glory* – God’s essential nature. But – and this is one of the most original, and shocking, features of the Fourth Gospel - the place where this divine glory is most fully revealed is none other than the Cross. John makes it very clear that it is at Calvary that God is most fully revealed - as *agape*: vulnerable, pain-sharing, self-emptying love.

So I return to today’s gospel with the question: what is John up to when he uses such bodily language as *flesh* and *munch*? I believe that in that startling metaphor, he’s trying to warn us off two common errors. The first is to see the sacraments as sacred objects in themselves - in such a way that the relationship between
Renaming the Corona Chronicle

Thank you for all the many suggestions about a Post-Pandemic name for the Corona Chronicle. The leading contender, so far, is ‘Faith Matters’, which rejoices in having a serendipitous double meaning! My only reservation is that as our partnership with St Alban’s begins to deepen and broaden, I’m hesitant about a ‘parish magazine’ whose title gives priority to one of two equal partners in mission. So….keep your suggestions coming in…my mind is not made up!  

Canon Tom
SATURDAY NIGHT at the Havant Pallant!

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Saturday 21 August

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The Gary O’Connor Band
(Supported by Tom Kennar)
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4th September
The Courtiers
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2nd October
Alistair Goodwin
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13th November
The DiElle Trio
Tickets on sale now at: https://tinyurl.com/fvaz26sw

4th December
The Portsmouth Shanty Men
Tickets on sale now at: https://tinyurl.com/trsgtyaw

Hosted by:
The DiElle Trio
Safe-seating protocols will be in effect

Tickets also on sale in St Faith’s Church and Shop, prior to each event
During August, I thought I’d write a bit about the churches that I’ve been involved with over the last 37½ years.

In the last edition of the Chronicle, I attempted to give you a virtual visit of St. Andrew’s Church, Hamble. This week, we travel roughly 160 miles north east to visit St. Leonard’s Church, Lexden which is about a mile west of the town centre of Colchester, Essex and was the church that I attended when I was at university from 2002 – 2005.

I’m not a very academic person and struggled with A Levels. So choosing a university was actually easy for me, as there were only really two places that would take me! One was Bath Spa and the other one was Colchester Institute which was the one I chose. The nearest Church of England church to my “student house” was St. Leonard’s and I spent a very happy three years as part of the church family.

The original church was a small medieval building, standing in the heart of the old Lexden village. There are records of rectors of Lexden dating back to 1300. During the 19th century, Lexden was changing from a small village to a fashionable suburb of Colchester and as a result, the old church was demolished in 1820 and the present church was built in the Gothic style designed by M.G. Thompson and it was consecrated in 1821. A new (grander) chancel was built in 1893, together with the Lady Chapel and the Organ Chamber.

Today, the church is very busy with lots going on, even during lockdown! They even managed to have an online summer fete in 2020:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NsZ8wkughtA

For 18 months, I enjoyed being a member of the congregation, which was a new experience for me as before that, I only really remember being a server or an
organist at church! But I was eventually press-ganged into the church choir, which I also conducted on a few occasions. I especially remember conducting “Of a Rose, a lovely rose” by John Rutter at the 2004 Advent Carol service. Since my time at Lexden, the Advent Carol Service has been one of my favourite services.

The rector at the time was Rev Stephen Carter who was also Area Dean of Colchester. On hearing that I was an organist, he used to take me along to St. Andrew’s Church, Fingringhoe (a small village about five miles south east of Colchester) to play for their monthly sung evensong service which he led (the church was in an interregnum).

My final service at St. Leonard’s was Sunday 12th June 2005 and I left the church and university with very happy experiences and memories.

The church website is here: http://www.stleonardslexden.org.uk/ with lots of lovely photos of St. Leonard’s; also at “A Church near you”: https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/6466/

St Faith’s Bookshop
Open from Saturday!

Come along and browse our second-hand books and choose a gem from the selection at The Pallant Centre.

Fiction and non-fiction available.
LUNCHTIME CONCERTS

FORTHCOMING CONCERTS
WEDNESDAYS 12:30 - 1:15PM

4TH AUGUST
DUNCAN BRADLEY    ORGAN

11TH AUGUST
RICHARD EDWARDS   BARITONE
GILLY SLOT         PIANO

18TH AUGUST
ANTHONY CHENG      PIANO

25TH AUGUST
ANDREW HAYMAN      ORGAN

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!
WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AGAIN SOON
Morning Service - Sunday 22 August

Twelfth Sunday after Trinity
President & Preacher: Canon Tom Kennar
Organist: Graham Kidd

Processional Hymn (97)
Tune: Westminster Abbey, Henry Purcell (1659-1695)

1. Christ is made the sure foundation,
Christ the head and corner-stone,
chosen of the Lord, and precious,
binding all the Church in one,
holy Zion’s help for ever,
and her confidence alone.

2. To this temple, where we call you,
come, O Lord of hosts, today;
you have promised loving kindness,
hear your servants as we pray,
bless your people now before you,
turn our darkness into day.

3. Hear the cry of all your people,
what they ask and hope to gain;
what they gain from you, for ever
with your chosen to retain,
and hereafter in your glory
evermore with you to reign.

4. Praise and honour to the Father,
praise and honour to the Son,
praise and honour to the Spirit,
ever Three and ever One,
One in might and One in glory,
while unending ages run.

Collect

Almighty and everlasting God,
you are always more ready to hear than we to pray
and to give more than either we desire or deserve:
pour down upon us the abundance of your mercy,
forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid
and giving us those good things
which we are not worthy to ask
but through the merits and mediation
of Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians (6.10-20)

At the end of his letter, St Paul encourages the Christians in Ephesus to be constant in prayer and strong in their faith.

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Put on the whole armour of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armour of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm.

Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

(John 6.56-69)

Jesus teaches about himself as the bread of life.

Jesus said, ‘Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live for ever.’ He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

When many of his disciples heard it, they said, ‘This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?’ But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, ‘Does this offend you? Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But among you there are some who do not believe.’ For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. And he said, ‘For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father.’

Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. So Jesus asked the twelve, ‘Do you also wish to go away?’
Simon Peter answered him, ‘Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.’

**Offertory Hymn (531)**
Words: Michael Forster (b.1946)
Tune: *St Gertrude*, Arthur Seymour Sullivan (1842-1900)

1. Onward Christian pilgrims, Christ will be our light, see, the heavenly vision, breaks upon our sight! Out of death’s enslavement Christ has set us free, on then to salvation, hope and liberty.

   **Refrain:**
   *Onward, Christian pilgrims,*  
   *Christ will be our light;*  
   *see, the heavenly vision*  
   *breaks upon our sight*

2. Onward Christian pilgrims, up the rocky way, where the dying Saviour bids us watch and pray. Through the darkened valley, walk with those who mourn, share the pain and anger, share the promised dawn!

3. Onward Christian pilgrims, in the early dawn; death’s great seal is broken, life and hope reborn! Faith in resurrection strengthens pilgrim’s hearts, ev’ry load is lightened, ev’ry fear departs.

4. Onward Christian pilgrims, hearts and voices raise, till the whole creation echoes perfect praise: swords are turned to ploughshares, pride and envy cease, truth embraces justice hope resolves in peace.

**Hymn during Communion (487)**
Words: Henry Kirke White (1785-1806) and others, alt.
Tune: *University College*, Henry J Gauntlett (1805-1876)

1. Oft in danger, oft in woe,  
   Onward, Christians, onward go;  
   Bear the toil, endure the strife,  
   Strengthened with the bread of life.

2. Onward through the desert night,  
   Keeping faith and vision bright;  
   Face the challenge of the hour  
   Trusting in your Saviour’s pow’r.
Post Communion Prayer

God of all mercy,  
in this Eucharist you have set aside our sins  
and given us your healing:  
grant that we who are made whole in Christ  
may bring that healing to this broken world,  
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

Hymn (617)  
Words: George Duffield (1818-1888)  
Tune: Morning Light, G J Webb (1803-1887)

1. Stand up, stand up for Jesus,  
ye soldiers of the cross!  
Lift high his royal banner,  
it must not suffer loss.  
From victory unto victory  
his army he shall lead,  
till every foe is vanquished,  
and Christ is Lord indeed.

2. Stand up, stand up for Jesus,  
the solemn watchword hear;  
if while ye sleep he suffers,  
away with shame and fear.  
Where’er ye meet with evil,  
within you or without,  
charge for the God of battles,  
and put the foe to rout.

3. Stand up, stand up for Jesus,  
stand in his strength alone;  
the arm of flesh will fail you,  
ye dare not trust your own.  
Put on the gospel armour,  
each piece put on with prayer;  
when duty calls or danger  
be never wanting there.

4. Stand up, stand up for Jesus,  
the strife will not be long;  
this day the noise of battle,  
the next the victor’s song.  
To him that overcometh  
a crown of life shall be;  
he with the King of glory  
shall reign eternally.

5. Onward, then, undaunted, move;  
More than faithful God will prove;  
Though the raging waters flow,  
Christian pilgrims, onward go.
Sunday Evening Prayer
To take part online, simply click here

Sunday 22 August
Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

Hymn (101)
Words: John L Bell, Graham Maule
Music: Dream Angus, traditional Scottish melody.
Arr. John L. Bell (b.1949) and Graham Maule (b.1958)

1. Christ’s is the world in which we move,
   Christ’s are the folk we’re summoned to love,
   Christ’s is the voice which calls us to care,
   and Christ is the one who meets us here.

   To the lost Christ shows his face;
   to the unloved he gives him embrace;
   to those who cry in pain or disgrace,
   Christ makes with his friends a touching place.

2. Feel for the people we most avoid,
   strange or bereaved or never employed;
   feel for the women, and feel for the men
   who fear that their living is all in vain.

3. Feel for the parents who’ve lost their child,
   feel for the women whom men have defiled,
   feel for the baby for whom there’s no breast,
   and feel the weary who find no rest.

4. Feel for the lives by life confused,
   riddled with doubt, in loving abused;
   feel for the lonely heart, conscious of sin,
   which longs to be pure but fears to begin.
Psalm 116:10-end

10 How shall I repay the Lord for all the benefits he has given to me?
11 I will lift up the cup of salvation and call upon the name of the Lord.
12 I will fulfil my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people.
13 Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his faithful servants.
14 O Lord, I am your servant, your servant, the child of your handmaid; you have freed me from my bonds.
15 I will offer to you a sacrifice of thanksgiving and call upon the name of the Lord.
16 I will fulfil my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people,
17 In the courts of the house of the Lord, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

Alleluia.

Hebrews 13:16-21

Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls and will give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with sighing—for that would be harmful to you. Pray for us; we are sure that we have a clear conscience, desiring to act honourably in all things. I urge you all the more to do this, so that I may be restored to you very soon.

Now may the God of peace, who brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, make you complete in everything good so that you may do his will, working among us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Luke 13:10-17

Now he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, ‘Woman, you are set free from your ailment.’ When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up
straight and began praising God. But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, ‘There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured, and not on the sabbath day.’ But the Lord answered him and said, ‘You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to give it water? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the sabbath day?’

When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame; and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things that he was doing.

Hymn (45)
Words: Martin Nystrom based on Psalm 42:1-2
Tune: Martin Nystrom

1. As the deer pants for the water, so my soul longs after you. You alone are my heart’s desire and I long to worship you.

   You alone are my strength, my shield, to you alone may my spirit yield. You alone are my heart’s desire and I long to worship you

2. I want you more than gold or silver, only you can satisfy. You alone are the real joy-giver and the apple of my eye.

3. You’re my friend and you are my brother, even though you are a king. I love you more than any other, so much more than anything.
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Cost: £80,000
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