

King Charles the Martyr Church, Mutton Lane, Potters Bar

24th Edition

MICHAEL'S MESSAGES

Michaelmastide 2007

Dear KCM Members and Friends,

A Miscellany of Matters!

The work of the Church presses on in a multitude of ways....

Many thanks to all who are involved in the life of KCM for their ongoing committed work. I would particularly like to thank those who work hard to clean the Church every fortnight – we can always smell when they have been in! (if you know what I mean) – and also those who are volunteering to help Sandie Fenech to keep the flower and shrub beds neat and tidy. It all makes such a difference and is noticed both by passers by and visitors – as well as by those who are regulars!

The Area Dean of Barnet recently inspected the Church on behalf of the Archdeacon of Hertford and was pleased to give us an overall clean bill of health!

The Church Council continues to work hard on your behalf at their monthly meetings – and especially at their recent Awayday, held this year at the All Saints Pastoral Centre in London Colney. Quite a list of suggestions for the future emerged from that meeting – watch this space!

Congratulations to Cynthia Cook who has been appointed Assistant Churchwarden by the PCC recently, joining George Fenech. Cynthia takes over this role from her late husband Brian. The primary task is being able to assist the Churchwardens and deputize for them on occasions. We warmly welcome Cynthia to this new role.

Thanks to all those who carefully and prayerfully reviewed their financial giving earlier this year. We are aware that many of you are not able to consider an increase in what you give at present – but would simply ask that you always remember the Church if circumstances change. In the meantime, our income/expenditure remains largely on budget, thanks to the hard work and vigilance shown by the PCC and especially through the diligence of our Honorary Treasure, Jean Emmans, to whom we owe an enormous debt of gratitude.

Legacies are a helpful way to assist the work of the Church. The Church Council is currently reviewing our legacies leaflet and hopes that a new edition will be available soon.

Publicity leaflets are important – again we have a hope that we can see a revamp (and improvement) to the current leaflets available in the entrance lobby to make them more attractive and user-friendly by all.

Future training courses suggested included a short Christian Listening course and possibly the follow up course to Growing Together in Christ. Again, publicity will follow in due course.

House study groups are a valuable part of every Church. We have a number of groups that meet, both in daytime and evenings. If you would like to be linked in to a suitable group, please let Michael know and he will try to put you in touch.

The overhead projector system used at Morning Worship is in need of a rethink. The sun, welcome though it is, can make reading the words quite difficult – and of course we are aware that computer technology is moving on fast. The PCC is planning to look at what might be a possible to improve things – including visits to other Churches to see what they have installed. It is hoped that a small Working Party might be set up to oversee this work and to prepare appropriate recommendations and budget costings to the PCC.

Radio interference on our Sound System in Church is a nuisance. We are taking steps to see whether a renewal of the wiring of the Sound System will help to obliterate this distracting noise.

A new sound system has been installed in both Halls and the Kitchen lobby, which has been well received already. Thanks go to Phil Emmans and the Hall Management Committee for this work.

The disabled toilet door has always been difficult for those with mobility issues to access with ease. We are grateful to Ray Lo who has donated £1,000 in memory of Penny, towards the cost of the installation of an automatic door mechanism. We hope that this work will be completed within the next few weeks.

Decorating has been carried out in the Halls recently. It is intended that we will be carrying on this work each year as part of a rolling maintenance programme. Thanks go to Phil Townsend and the Halls Management Committee for their work in caring for our Halls, ably assisted by Lynn Jones, our Halls Administrator.

The Christmas Bazaar will soon be upon us – Saturday 24th November from 11-3pm – and an Open Meeting has been called for Thursday 11th October at 8pm in the Margaret Old Hall to which all will be warmly welcomed – especially those who would like to help this year. In the meantime the “Bazaar 4”, who are organising the event, can be contacted for more details – Joanne Maddock Lyon, Ann Davy, Sandie Fenech and Joy Rowley.

Christmas Services are already being planned – again full details have been published in the current Church list of dates and they will also appear in the forthcoming Potters Bar Community News and on leaflets available soon.

Looking wider afield....

Churches Together in Potters Bar have recently agreed to hold a Sunday Evening Service whenever the 5th Sunday of a month occurs in the year. The idea is to go round to different churches to experience their worship. The list of dates for 2008 is being compiled and will be advertised as soon as possible.

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity falls as usual from 18 to 25 January 2008. As last year, there will be a variety of opportunities for worship and fellowship every day during that week. Again all will be publicised in good time.

With renewed thanks for all your work and commitment to the Church and its witness in the local community.

