

*St Edmund King & Martyr, Dudley
Church Magazine*



Church of England Member



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*Welcome to the Church of
St Edmund,
King & Martyr, Dudley*



Mass Times

Wednesday 12.15pm

Sundays 11.00am

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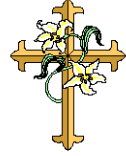
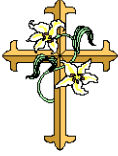
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*Please direct all enquiries regarding
St Edmunds to the Church Wardens*

www.stedmundsdudley.org.uk

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IN REMEMBRANCE JULY

1st	Martha Turner Jack Edwards-Lyndon	16th	Hannah Dudley Benjamin Dudley
2nd	Audrey Muriel Jeanne Stroyd	17th	John Ewins
4th	Charlotte Woodhall	18 th	Emily Smith
5th	Martha Dudley Edna Helsby	19th	Johan Schuler Miriam Hudson Stephen Stroyd
6th	Greta Joyce Dovey Matthew Arden Messiter	22nd	Phyllis Wall James Wareham (Priest)
7th	Hilda Forth	24th	Thomas Henry Wilcox Alice Gertrude Thomas
8th	Lilian Mary Crannage Esther Ann Smith Thomas James Howell William Guest Harry George Marsh	25th	Mabel Millard
9th	Susannah Hadley Mabel Elsie Burton Gladys Turner	27th	Mary Elizabeth Hall Martha Harries
10th	Rhona Shaw	28th	Annie Blineow
11th	Kathleen May Marsh Anthony Shakespeare	29th	Joan Carter Mary Elizabeth Ailsby Walter James Hugh Golding Pinner Alfred Hicklin
13th	Florence Stanley	30th	Archibald Thomas Bartlett (Priest)

Rest eternal grant to them O Lord,
and let light perpetual shine upon them.
May they rest in peace and rise in glory

Vocation - God's Call



One of the most important – and enjoyable – roles of being a bishop is ordaining people as deacons and priests. I shall be ordaining nine new priests in the Cathedral at the beginning of July. I find it arresting to think that my predecessors – I am the 113th Bishop of Worcester – have been doing the same there for well over a thousand years.

In preparation for the ordination, it's always moving to learn from the candidates of how God has moved in their lives and they have felt his call. Very often that call has been mediated through the encouragement of others. Most people don't think that they are up to the task of serving God in any capacity and they need the prompting and help of others.

Ordination in the diocese takes place at 'Petertide' - around the feast of St Peter, when we give thanks for the 'rock' on which Jesus chose to build his church. I find Peter very encouraging – as we read the scriptures we see him 'getting it wrong' over and over again, even having to be rebuked by Jesus as 'Satan', and then denying Jesus in his hour of need. But Jesus restored him, giving him the confidence to serve and lead.

God's call is a wonderful thing. I wonder how much you have thought about God's call on your life? You might not become a priest, but God certainly has some role in store for you which you will find gloriously fulfilling if you respond to his call. If you have found it, rejoice in it and relish it. If you have not, pray that it may be revealed to you. Only then will you experience life in abundance which Jesus yearns to give you.

Whatever you do, don't succumb to 'imposter syndrome' and think you are not up to serving God as he calls you. Remember Peter and take heart from him!

+John

Readers for July

4 th	Mrs A. Mullaney Mr M. Simpson
11 th	Mr F. Sheppard Mrs J. Fraser
18 th	Mrs M. McGraghan Mr S. Martin
25 th	Mr M. Wisbey Mrs J. Lambert
August 1 st	Mr A. Baillie Mrs A. Mullaney

Intercessors

4 th	Mr J. Harcourt
11 th	Mrs J. Lambert
18 th	Mr M. Wisbey
25 th	Mrs A. Mullaney
August 1 st	Mrs M. McGraghan

*Thank you to all our readers and intercessors – if you would like to join either of these rotas, please speak with J.H.

Thought for the Month

New oceans cannot be discovered, unless one has the courage to lose sight of the shore.

Andre Gide



Bishops in the Church

I join Anglican churches - the plague permitting! - in a variety of places, and what strikes me is how rarely they pray for the Bishop. He or she is held vital to the life of the church, and needs our prayers every day. Yet our Bishop seems overlooked.

The Church of England claims to be a part of the Universal Church which Christ founded, and gave to guide it the Apostles and Bishops. So when the first Apostles were seen in danger of death, they laid their hands on others to take their place, something called Apostolic Succession. The Church of England regarded this succession as a vital part of the church's life, and despite all the ups and downs of the reformation, held on to it. This tradition is shared with the Roman Catholic and Orthodox Churches, and is proclaimed as being plainly seen (rather optimistically) in the Book of Common Prayer.

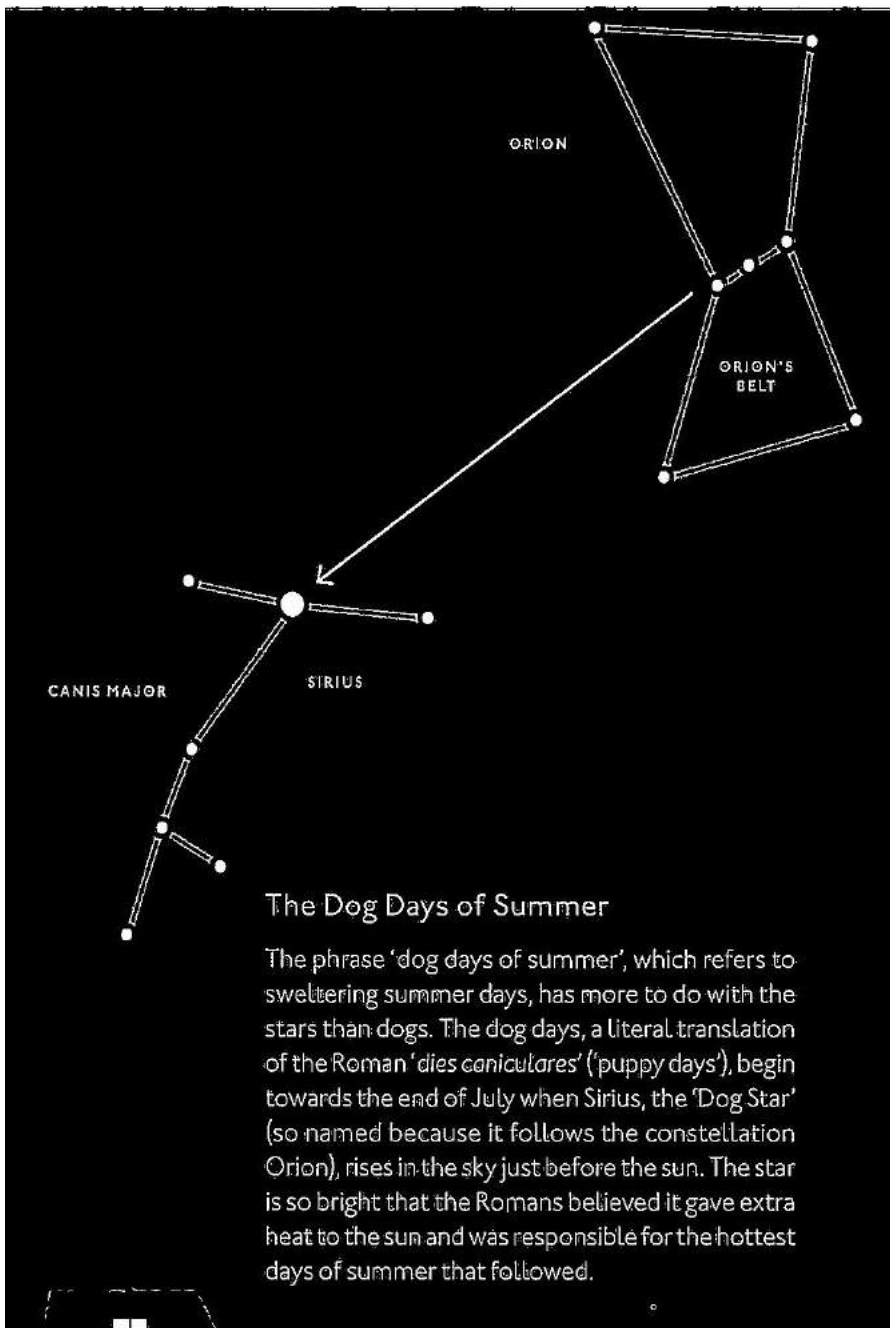
There remains a question over our relations with the Free Churches, who do not have Bishops, should be. Usually we welcome them as brothers and sisters in Christ, and hope to bring Bishops into their fold,

But one thing we should all do, is pray for John our Bishop, and trust that he will be guided by the Holy Spirit in all he speaks and does.

God bless John our Bishop!

Canon Graham Lyall

Please pray also, for Jonathan, Bishop of Ebbsfleet.



The Dog Days of Summer

The phrase 'dog days of summer', which refers to sweltering summer days, has more to do with the stars than dogs. The dog days, a literal translation of the Roman 'dies caniculares' ('puppy days'), begin towards the end of July when Sirius, the 'Dog Star' (so named because it follows the constellation Orion), rises in the sky just before the sun. The star is so bright that the Romans believed it gave extra heat to the sun and was responsible for the hottest days of summer that followed.

From Very British Weather, published by the Met. Office

Connected?

Despite the well-catalogued disadvantages of “t’internet” (Thank you, Jon Harcourt and Peter Kay), it does have its benefits, particularly in these recent strange times.

Some of you may know that I am employed on a casual basis as an outreach worker for Dudley Museum Service, giving occasional talks on art and glass. Since so much of Dudley’s collection is stored at Himley Hall, this has recently been mooted as a venue for displays, discussions and workshops in the future.

Meanwhile, an army of permanent council staff has been beavering away behind the scenes to provide online content for everyone – educational activities for younger children, and informative videos about the history and geology of the Black Country, with particular emphasis on Dudley, of course.



Did you know that the Dudley Bug (a trilobite called Calymene Blumenbachii) is in four times as many fossil books as T-Rex? That makes it a **FOSSIL SUPERSTAR.**

Work has begun on re-generation schemes for Brierley Hill and Dudley town centres, so Kate Figgitt, Museums Learning and Access Manager, has ensured that such schemes include the cultural and artistic strengths of each area. It has been proven over and over again that cultural activities, as well as bringing engagement to people, and having social and psychological benefits (much needed at the moment), actually generate cold hard cash to the local economy too!

Tweets and Facebook posts on behalf of the Redhouse Cone and Dudley Museum showcase interesting glass pieces or art works, often on a particular theme, tied in with an anniversary or national event – for example, on International Women’s Day we had a painting from Dudley’s collection of Mary Stephens, local philanthropist.



Mary Stephens died in 1925. She was the wife of Ernest, a very wealthy and successful businessman who was born in Lye in 1867. He was great philanthropist and gave much to the borough he lived in:
Mary Stephens Park, MS Maternity Home, Stephens Parks at Quarry Bank and Wollescote, Haden Hill House, Carlisle Hall Stourbridge and the War Memorial Sports Ground Amblecote

So, back to t’internet – very useful if you can access it but not everyone is, or wants to be, connected, but even those of the Luddite tendency (myself included) have acknowledged the practicality of being able to find information, communicate with family and friends, order groceries online, and explore new areas – accessing art, music, theatre and online debates and discussions. In fact some of these areas became available to a far wider audience, and many events were free for the first time. For those young people who are not connected, we hope that promises made to make up for lost time in school come to fruition, and that they will all be able to access learning opportunities.

Take a look at www.dudley.gov.uk/museums to explore the site, or <https://youtu.be/SVArveeD8hs>, where you may find something of interest.

Jane Fraser

JUNE 21st (and all that)



This short article (hurray you might say) is being typed on this day because it is the longest day of 2021, and it might take me a long time to compose an article you have come to expect, from me, the male version of Marjorie Proops. For those of you too young to remember, my friend Marje was the writer of a gossip and advice column in the Daily Mirror for many years. Born Rebecca Israel in 1911, the family changed their surname from Israel to Rayle because of anti-Semitism, and she changed her first name from Rebecca to Marjorie. Times don't change. Do they?

But I digress. This day is the longest in 2021, and on this morning genuine Druids and not so genuine hangers-on normally go to Stonehenge for the rising of the sun at the Summer Solstice.

Normally thousands turn up, but this year only about 200, and in the pictures I have seen, only one robed Druid present, and he with the wonderful name King Arthur Uther Pendragon. The gentleman changed his name to that by deed poll, because he believes he is the re-incarnation of the fabled King Arthur. On the dreary and cold morning of the 21st June 2021, a spokesperson from English Heritage said "it is disappointing to see, during a pandemic, people act in a way that put themselves, our staff and the police at risk". The spokesperson was correct in that, because no masks or social distancing were in evidence.

Druidism has many forms and groups in many parts of the country, and from the little I have read it is based on spirituality and the natural world. A friend of mine was a Cornish Bard, which has a different outlook but based (I think) on the love of song and poetry. Their regalia are similar, and we should respect everyone's religious or pagan views.

By the way, pity someone in authority at the recent G7 conference in Cornwall did not see the leaders and hangers-on of the 7 nations present without masks; hugging and shaking hands; crowded round the barbeque and an estimated 6,000 police on duty plus an untold number of reporters and TV crews. Joe (President) if and when you come to Dudley, no hugging the congregation at St Edmunds!

Remember the statement “We’re all in it together”? Marjorie Proops would have a field day on those events.

Back to June 21st: this was the date (*Freedom Day*) long promised by the PM as he proposed opening up of social gatherings, events and lockdown. It has not happening fully, and indeed a new date (*Terminus Day*) proposed as being July 19th. We’ll wait and see – but somewhat reluctantly I have to agree with the precautions being proposed because of the new strains of the Coronavirus sweeping through the world. I think the answer is ‘we’ll wait and see’.

Mark and I met with the Archdeacon of Dudley for the Archdeacon’s Visitation, during which she enquired about our church, its congregation and our approach to reopening on the 28th February and our future as a church community in Dudley.

Our church opened as soon as we could with safety and common-sense with a service on Wednesday lunchtime at 12.15pm and Sunday at 11.00am.

In my role as Churchwarden and Treasurer, a question to all the people of St Edmunds: “Can I attend more often to strengthen our worship and devotion to our Risen Lord at the Mass?”

At the Mass recently part of the bible reading was from St Paul’s Letter to the Philippians - “God loves a cheerful giver.” My response to this without sounding sacrilegious is “and so does your treasurer!”

Now to June 23rd: A beautiful sunny day. After the 12.15pm Mass 10 of us went for lunch at The Lodge. 2 tables of 5; staff wearing masks; served at the table instead of queuing. Good to be back and thanks to the staff for being (as usual) quite wonderful. Thankfully none of our party wore the big (silly) hats worn by the racegoers at Ascot. Big hats, big heels, champagne, and absolutely no safe distancing, even in the royal box. Glad I didn’t receive an invitation, and if it went astray in the post, my apologies to the Queen.

JH.

Marriage Registers

Many of you will be familiar with the marriage register which the bride and groom have signed after the wedding ceremony has taken place. The copy given to the couple was known as the "marriage lines" and was treasured.

From the beginning of May this year the Marriage Register is no more. All registers are now closed and marriages will be recorded by a new schedule system using an electronic register called RON (Registration on Line). This allows for more information to be recorded and creates a more secure system.

Because of this, registers had to be returned to the Registry Office for cancellation. In the safe at church, there were four registers, so I took them all. Two were full and therefore not required, and the other two were current, one the duplicate of the other. I did not know before this, that duplicate registers existed. They were both cancelled, one retained by the office and the other returned to the church.

During the time before keeping the appointment at the registry office, the registers were at home with me, and I took the opportunity to study them in depth. The years covered range from 1933 to 2009. It has been absolutely fascinating. Businesses, occupations, addresses, names familiar through establishments in the town and some known personally.

Some of the occupations were new to me, and others more well known: Miller, waggoner, bricklayer, miner, saddle-maker, fish hawker, farmworker, mining engineer, baker, tobacconist (not many of those about now), stage door keeper (at the Hippodrome, perhaps?)

School master, park attendant licenced victualler and boat builder (barges for the canal?).

The police were represented by: sergeant, officer and Detective.

Metal Workers: Brass worker, blacksmith, white smith (using mainly tin, not iron - new to me) steel hardener, boiler-maker, chain-maker, press operator, chain slinger (?), welder, galvaniser and many others.

From 1939, the forces were represented: soldier, Flight Lieutenant, Naval Gunnery Officer, and other wartime occupations: ambulance worker, ARP, munitions worker.

One address was given as Trindle Road (by the Station Hotel) Barracks, does anyone remember this?

From the Railways: engine driver, stoker, signalman, shunter, porter, station master and fireman.

Names familiar from town businesses: Kendall, fishmonger, still going until recently; Bonsers, china merchants - I remember there was a shop of that name in the Arcade, a long time ago.

Gray's, confectioners and Shipways, caterers still going strong.

Italian names recorded as mosaic artists, perhaps employed by Roman Mosaic which was at Burnt Tree. Lampitts the greengrocers, had a stall on Dudley market for many years.

Occupations recorded were those of the groom and the two sets of parents. There was a space for the bride's type of work but was never filled in, just a line put through it, although I would guess that most of them did have some paid employment. This was not changed until 1977, when Fr Michael Brain came to St Edmund's and from then on, the bride's occupation was recorded. Why was this not done before? Was the woman regarded as insignificant? Some things change for the better.

One interesting separate item was a Special Marriage Licence from the Bishop of Worcester in 1945, permitting a Dudley girl to marry a soldier from the US army, from the Headquarters Detachment, Prisoners of War Distribution Enclosure.

Other bridegrooms came from: Holland, Bridgnorth, Jersey, London, Hereford, Lancaster Monmouth, Basingstoke and Lancaster.

MM

Sea Sunday 11th July 2021

The second Sunday in July, is when we come together across the globe to celebrate the role seafarers play in our daily lives. To thank them for the hardships they face and the sacrifices they have been forced to endure due to the Covid lockdowns.

From London to Lagos and Manila to Melbourne, our community gathers together to give something back to these essential workers who spend months away from their families in often difficult conditions to help keep our global economy afloat.

Mission to Seafarers

Prayer for Seafarers

Lord God, we depend on you for life itself. We depend on seafarers for many of our daily needs. Watch over them, keep them from danger, befriend them in loneliness and bring them safely home to those they love. Amen



The Sea hath no King, but God alone.

Dante Gabriel Rosetti

To help seafarers, support:
Missions to Seafarers and
Royal National Lifeboat Institution



One good thing to come out of the pandemic has been an increased sense of community. Neighbours got to know each other through clapping on their driveways and Facebook groups were set up to help the vulnerable in their communities with food and other deliveries. In Dudley, churches are being encouraged to join with an initiative to build on that sense of community, aiming to 'fill their streets with friendliness' as we come out of lockdown and come together 'As One'.

The organisers of the 'As One', have experience of community campaigns, having run the 'Permission to Smile' campaign in Birmingham, which saw banners appear on churches, schools and other organisations throughout the city. This worked well to encourage neighbourliness, but wasn't felt to be quite so appropriate in our post-Covid world. Instead the As One campaign will encourage people to 'fill their street with friendliness'. Dudley Council has signed up to be involved and the group is working with churches across the Borough.

The first step of the campaign will be hundreds of two metre banners throughout the Borough, building brand awareness and spreading the positive message. It is then hoped that churches will take the lead in organising memorial services for their local communities, bringing people together to help come to terms with the loss, anxiety and trauma which has affected us all. Further down the line it is also hoped churches will invite their local communities to a 'back together celebration' tea party, which might then turn into street associations being set up to develop relationship and ensure there is a good community support network.

As One in Dudley has launched this week and the organisers hope that it will also be taken on in other towns and cities. Discussions are also beginning in Worcester.

The Bishop of Dudley, Martin Gorick, said: "I'm delighted to support the As One campaign. The people of Dudley have come together in a remarkable way throughout the pandemic, as people helped out neighbours, supported foodbanks, and followed guidelines to save lives and support the NHS. The As One campaign builds on that spirit of neighbourliness as it encourages us all to 'fill our streets with friendliness' in the months and years ahead. Emerging from the pandemic will not be easy, there will be ongoing challenges and struggles and we need to keep looking out for each other as we seek to build a better future.

NOTABLE DAYS IN JULY

Thursday 1st	Dominion Day in Canada
Sunday 11th	Sea Sunday
Friday 30th	Commemoration of William Wilberforce, Olaudah Equiano and Thomas Clarkson, Anti-slavery campaigners

St Swithin July 15th

**St Swithin's day, if thou dost rain,
For forty days it will remain;
St Swithin's Day, if thou be fair,
For forty days 'twill rain no more.**

Contributions for publication in the magazine would be welcomed. Have you got any thoughts that you would like to share? Please let me know if you have.

MM

SUNDAY SERVICES 11am

4th	Fr Tony Hutchinson
11th	Canon Graham Lyall
18th	Fr Tony Hutchinson
25th	TBC
August 1st	Fr Michael Bartlett

***Thank you to all the clergy who support us on Sundays and not forgetting those who Celebrate the Mass at our Wednesday 12.15pm services as well.**

HOLY DAYS IN JULY

3rd	St Thomas the Apostle
7th	St Thomas Beckett Archbishop of Canterbury
15th	St Swithin
22nd	St Mary Magdalene
23rd	St Bridget of Sweden
25th	St James the Apostle
29th	Mary, Martha and Lazarus of Bethany, companions of our Lord.
31st	Joseph of Arimathea



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