

## **St Barnabas, Oxford: Newsletter: January 2010**

Dear friends, here are a few 'bits and pieces' of news, as well as our regular notices.

**The Chalice:** last summer, at the time when a serious 'flu pandemic was anticipated, the sharing of the chalice at mass was suspended. I am delighted to announce that the full use of the chalice is now restored to us; I know how glad you will be. I would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone that, should we have any anxieties about our health and sharing the chalice, we should simply receive the Sacrament in one kind only i.e. the Host. We should not 'intinct' (dip) the host in the chalice. This week, our Bishops took the trouble to write to all of their clergy, with the express intention of reminding us of the importance of maintaining good and dignified practice during the distribution of the Sacrament. They said that intinction "*is the very practice that medical advice most warned us against.*" It is important that we all heed this advice. Do please remember that to receive the Sacrament in one kind only is still to receive the fullness of Christ in the Sacrament: of course, Holy Communion does have a *fuller* form as a sign when it is distributed under both kinds, but we are not deprived of any grace necessary to salvation if we receive in one kind alone. This is our practice on Good Friday and also when taking the Sacrament to those who are sick at home or in hospital. If you have any concerns about this matter, I would be most grateful if you would address them to me directly.

**Keble College Corporate Communion, 7pm weds 24<sup>th</sup> February:** we have received a warm invitation from Fr Allen for this happy occasion, and for dinner (8.15pm) afterwards. Please give your name to Joy Crispin-Wilson if you would like to go. The cost is £10.50 per person. Cheques payable to: 'Mrs J.C.Wilson'. Joy is very happy to be contacted on Oxford 553518.

**The Book of St Barnabas** "Ever wished that you could get to know other people in the congregation better? Not sure of everyone's name? An innovative new solution is at hand! Join in the fun and add your bit to the St Barnabas Book! Felicity has devised a fun way for everyone here at St B to get to know one another. Simply fill in a page with your name, picture and a few details about yourself. For further information, please speak to Felicity, or email her: [felicitymjlong@gmail.com](mailto:felicitymjlong@gmail.com) to get a template to fill in. The St Barnabas Book.™ It's better than Facebook!"

**Lent Groups 2010:** we will be offering three different times each week: Wednesday, after the 6.30pm mass; Thursday, after the 12 noon mass (with a light lunch); and Thursday at 7.30pm. Please consider which group you would like to

join. Spaces will be restricted, so that our groups don't become too large, and we will meet in or near Jericho. (It has been indicated by several people that a *Thursday* lunchtime is more convenient than a *Tuesday* morning for our day-time gathering, hence the change)

**Church cleaning:** next session, the 'pre-spring spring clean', will be on sat 6<sup>th</sup> Feb, 9.30-11.30am. All are cordially invited. RSVP to Paul. (Those cleaning will, of course, now benefit not only from the new coffee machine but also from the new sound-system! Requests/CDs for 'music to clean to' to Fr Jonathan please....)

**Electoral Roll revision:** will be underway soon. Please see notice in porch and/or speak to Helen Brock. It is important that all regular adult worshippers are on the electoral roll. Helen will explain why.

**Christian Life:** the leaflet for February is now available; do please take a copy of this home with you.

**Shrine Lamps and the Chantry Roll:** if you would like to sponsor the shrine lamps in memory of a departed loved-one, then please speak to Helen Brock. The cost will be £10 per week, and there will be a notice in the porch and in the bulletin giving the name(s) of those in whose memory the lamps are lit. The ideal time to sponsor the lamps is for the week during which falls the particular Year's Mind that you wish to be remembered. Payment to be given to Helen in cash, or by a cheque made payable to 'St Barnabas PCC'.

It may be helpful to remind you that Helen has kept the Chantry Roll (the list of the departed) for the parish since 1996 and the names of the departed should, just in the ordinary course of events, be given to her, so that they can be remembered in our prayers at the time of their Year's Mind. To pray for the departed is a very special part of our Christian duty and joy.

**Pilgrimage to the Holy Land:** Fr Jonathan Baker, of Pusey House, will lead a 10 day pilgrimage to the Holy Land, departing on Easter Monday, 5 April. All are welcome. Please contact [principal@puseyhouse.org.uk](mailto:principal@puseyhouse.org.uk), or have a word with John Hanks for more details.

**PCC meeting:** Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> February, in church. Mass at 7pm followed by the meeting.

With my very best wishes and prayers for you all

Fr Jonathan