

THE PORCH

www-st-alfege.org

Vol.I Issue3 December 2009

St Alfege Church,
Greenwich Church Street,
Greenwich, London SE10
9BQ

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Monday)
E: vicar@st-alfege.org

Administrator:
Jenny Edmunds (Church
Office open Monday-
Thursday 9.30am-12.30pm).
T: 020 8853 0687
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Churchwardens:
Andrew Blundy
Kate Steer

Director of Music:
Stephen Dagg

Assistant Organist:
Matthew O'Malley

Bell-ringing:
Freda Cannon

Concerts & Recitals:
Debbie Sandringham

**Sunday School & Youth
Group:** Wendy Foreman

The crèche:
Carole Moses

Friends of St Alfege:
Jean Smith

Church notices:
Chris Todhunter

**Giving money to the
church:** Sue Pawlby

Webmaster:
Rachel Mawhood
E: rachel@st-alfege.org

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Christmas Eve
17:00 Christingle service
22:45 Carols sung by the choir
23:30 Midnight Mass

Christmas Day
11:00 Family eucharist

GREENWICH ADVENT WINDOWS

www.adventwindows.com

**The light shines in the darkness,
and the darkness has not
overcome it. John 1:5**

CHRISTMAS TREE

The Christmas Tree is to be
decorated on Saturday 19 December
13:30-15:00, after the Sunday
School play rehearsal.

CHARLTON DEANERY CAROL SINGING, 21 December 2009

At North Greenwich tube station,
raising money for Crisis
(www.crisis.org.uk), the UK national
charity for single homeless people.
Ten singers needed for 18:00-19:00
and another 10 from 19:00-20:00. If
you can sing then please let Malcolm
know on malcolm@torry.org.uk or 020
8858 3006.

HANDEL'S "MESSIAH", Sunday 13 December 2009, 19:00

Candlelit performance, directed from
the harpsichord by Stephen Dagg.
Soloists: Juliet Fraser (soprano), David
Bates (counter tenor), Sam Boden
(tenor), Robert Davies (bass)
accompanied by the Thomas Tallis
Society orchestra (leader Simon
Smith). Tickets: £20, £15, £10 from
Greenwich Theatre, tel 020 8858 7755
www.greenwichtheatre.org.uk.
Refreshments at the interval.



*Jesus bids us shine with a pure, clear light,
... first of all for Him ... then, for all around;
He looks down from heaven, sees us shine,
you in your small corner, and I in mine.*
Susan Warner, 1894

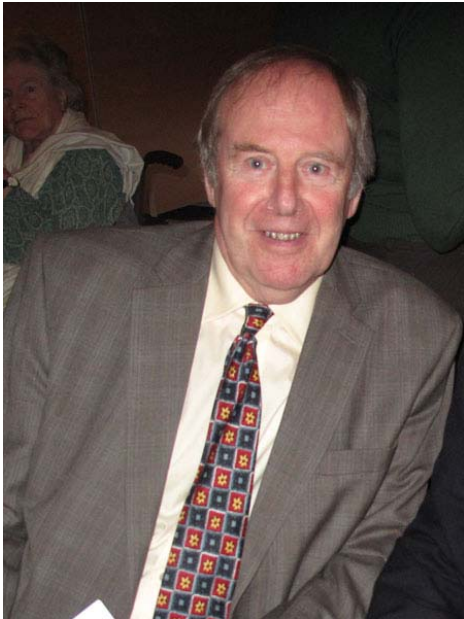
CARDS FOR GOOD CAUSES

**2 November-19 December 2009,
10:00-16:00** Cards for Good Causes
opens on Monday 2 November, selling
Christmas cards and a wide range of
Christmassy things in aid of several
charities. All charities receive at least 75p
in every £1 from their card sales, out of
which they pay for the production and
distribution of their cards and any
applicable VAT. This year the only Cards
for Good Causes branch in South East
London is at St Alfege Church.

'MAKING PRAYERS USEFUL' A BOOKLET FOR ALL AGES, PRODUCED BY OUR YOUNG PEOPLE'S GROUP, THE COLTEENS

This is based on the Lord's Prayer and is
beautifully illustrated. A sample copy is
available at the back of the church at a
reduced introductory price. Why not treat
yourself to an Advent present?

DR JOHN RIPPIN



(Photo: University of Birmingham School of Dentistry)

It was with sadness that we learned of the death on 20 November 2009 of John Rippin. Until his retirement, John was a Senior Lecturer and honorary consultant in Oral Pathology at the University of Birmingham School of Dentistry. The family have asked for donations to: Marie Curie, or Cancer Research UK, and cheques can either be given to Debbie Sandringham or sent to: Thomas Bragg & Sons Ltd. 562 Stratford Road, Shirley, Solihull, Birmingham B90 4AY. Please put John's name on the back of the envelope.

CHURCH WORKING PARTY:

Saturday 12 December 09:30-12:30 - Working party in the graveyard and park. Break for tea/coffee and doughnuts at 11:00. All enquiries to Tim Delap.

BIBLE READING NOTES

The Bible Reading Fellowship provides two types of explanatory notes. *Guidelines* for the more advanced and *Daylight* for those who like the Bible readings to be written with the notes. Examples of both of these can be seen on the table at the back of the church. Please feel free to take a copy away to see whether you would like to subscribe for the notes in 2010. If you then tell Bob Vogt, he will order the notes for you. Contact Bob Vogt.

REVD PETER MALINS RIP

Peter Malins died peacefully on Wednesday 25 November, aged 91, at East Surrey Hospital with his family around him. Peter was Vicar of St Alfege for 15 years (1972-1987). Many people in the congregation and community have fond memories of his distinctive character and ministry.

SWINE FLU AND THE CHALICE AT COMMUNION

We are continuing to follow the Archbishops' and Diocesan advice by not offering the chalice to people's lips during communion to avoid cross contamination. The Archbishops have made it clear that it is perfectly permissible only to take the wafer at communion and not the wine.

Wednesday 9 December, 19:30
James Wolfe School Concert.
Wednesday 16 December, 18:00
St Alfege School Concert

For such a time as this

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. ... whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God. John 3:16-21

SUNDAY SCHOOL

3 January 2010: "Mother Goose" pantomime at 13:00 at Greenwich Theatre. If you are interested in coming to the pantomime or would like to sponsor a child who might otherwise be unable to come, please contact Karen.

News from the Diocese

Church of England on-line Advent calendar: launched by Archbishop Desmond Tutu www.whywearewaiting.com Change the world this Advent by following the challenges and video stories.

Lunch-time recitals and other concerts

Thursday 3 December
13:10 Concert of Mediaeval Music. Admission free.

Friday 4 December
19:00 Concert: London Opera Ensemble perform *Hansel and Gretel* by Humperdinck. Tickets £7 (£5).

Thursday 10 December
13:10 Christmas Concert: Trinity College Student Union Brass Band. Admission free.

Saturday 12 December
19:30 "A Nordic Christmas", The Conservatoire. Conductor: Joel Thomas. Tickets: £10 (£12 family ticket).

Late news

Friday 18 December 11: 00: Memorial Service, Michael Joyce

With items to be included in the church notices, contact Chris Todhunter. Deadline: 20:00 Thursday

To have people included in Those in Need, or the Departed, in the Service Sheet, contact: Judith Hutchinson