

THE PORCH

www-st-alfege.org

Vol II Issue 1 January 2010

St Alfege Church,
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9BQ

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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
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**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.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2010

Sunday 14 March
MOTHERING SUNDAY
Sunday 28 March
PALM SUNDAY
Thursday 1 April
MAUNDY THURSDAY
Friday 2 April
GOOD FRIDAY
Sunday 4 April
EASTER DAY
Sunday 20 June
Handel with Hamper

PREACHERS AND CELEBRANTS

Sunday 31 January 2010 is Education
Sunday, and the preacher will be
Irene Bishop, a member of our own
congregation and head teacher of St
Saviour's and St Olave's Church of
England Secondary School for Girls in
Southwark.

The week following, Sunday 7 February
2010, the Bishop of Woolwich will
preside and preach.

CHRISTIAN READING GROUP

The Christian Reading Group is on the
last Wednesday of the month. The
date of the next one is Wednesday 27
January 2010: 19:30-20:30pm. Please
speak to Kate Steer if you have any
questions.

LENT TALKS ON MODERN MARTYRS

Wednesday 24 February-24 March
inclusive, at 20:00, at St Alfege Church.



*Ring out, glad bells! Arouse our hearts,
Shame our indifference and our strife;
Call us again to leave behind
All that impedes our spirit's life*
Revd John H Matthews

BAPTISM AND CONFIRMATION CLASSES START SUNDAY 31 JANUARY 2010

Having consulted most of the people
already signed up for the course, we can
confirm that it will be at 16:00 on Sunday
afternoons for 8 weeks beginning
31 January. Each session will last about
an hour and a half. There is still room for
a few more people as long as they can
commit to attending regularly. Please
contact Chris Moody.

'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.

OCTOBER SYMPOSIA PROCEEDINGS

Available from Sunday 31 January 2010, the last three October Symposia in printed form under the headline St Alfege Publications:

The Quark and the Cosmos

A cosmologist, a mystic, the Bishop of Southwark and the University Chaplain go head to head on the subject of the creation of the universe. One conclusion is that the book of nature needs to be studied with equal rigour as the book of scripture.

What is Life?

A scientist, our priest and a philosopher tackle a question which has been carefully avoided by science and is still, in a way, a mystery.

Evolution and creativity

Rupert Sheldrake, one of the most autonomous and brilliant scientists of our generation proposes a new view of the Laws of Nature.

CHURCH HALL REPAIRS

Many thanks to all those who worked so hard to raise money to raise the standard of the Church Hall. About £6,000 was raised by the auction of promises and we will spend it on new flooring in the kitchen, Bardsley room and lobbies. We will take some engineering advice on how to save money on the heating system.

Lunch-time recitals and other concerts(13:10 start and admission free unless otherwise stated)

Thursday 7 January
Yoon Chung (piano); music by Haydn, Beethoven and Chopin.

Thursday 14 January
James Kreiling & Liubov Ulybysheva (piano and cello); Beethoven, Schumann & Brahms.

Thursday 21 January
Musicians from the Early Music Department, Trinity College of Music, directed by Alison Crum.

CHURCH WORKING PARTY

in the graveyard and park – 09:30-12:30, break for tea/coffee and doughnuts at 11:00. All enquiries to Tim Delap.

- 6 March
- 10 April
- 8 May
- 5 June
- 3 July
- 4 September
- 8 October
- 6 November
- 4 December

FREE MAGAZINE

We have been given free copies of a new Christian magazine *Magnet*. Short, interesting articles on a full range of subjects. Please take one from the back of church.

ST MONICA'S AND OTHER CHRISTMAS DONATIONS

We raised £3,274 for St Monica's school in Zanzibar; £916 for Water Aid; £106 for Gaza Relief; £608 for the Children's Society and £887 for Deptford Churches Centre for the Homeless- making a grand total of £5,790 from fundraising and Christmas collections. A magnificent result. Thanks to all who organized fundraising and all who gave, young and old.

For such a time as this

Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory, was not arrayed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven will He not much more clothe you, O men of little faith?
(Matthew 6: 28-30).

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

GENERAL SYNOD

8-12 February 2010, London
Debates on children and young people, mission, TV coverage of religion, science and religious belief, church buildings, relations with the Anglican Church in North America, clergy pensions and legislation feature in sessions of the Church of England's 'parliament,' the General Synod.

Late news

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