

# THE PORCH

www-st-alfege.org

Vol II Issue 2 February 2010

**St Alfege Church,**  
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SE10 9BQ

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**Administrator:**  
Jenny Edmunds (Church  
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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:**  
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(photo credit: Rebecca M)

*Now when all the people were baptized, it came to pass, that Jesus also being baptized, and praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Ghost descended in a bodily shape like a dove upon him, and a voice came from heaven, which said, Thou art my beloved Son; in thee I am well pleased.*

Luke 3: 21-22

## PREACHER AND CELEBRANT

Sunday 7 February 2010, 10:00: the Rt Rev Christopher Chessun, Bishop of Woolwich, will preside and preach. He will be speaking directly about our mission as a church to the local area, and there will be a chance to meet him afterwards during refreshment in the church hall.

## CHRISTIAN READING GROUP

The Christian Reading Group is on the last Wednesday of the month. The date of the next one is Wednesday 24 February 2010: 19:30-20:30pm. See notice board in the hall for details. Please speak to Kate Steer if you have any questions.

## LENT TALKS ON MODERN MARTYRS

Wednesday 24 February-24 March inclusive, at 19:30, at St Alfege Church. See leaflets at the back of the church.

## BAPTISM AND CONFIRMATION CLASSES

Sunday afternoons at 16:00 on 31 January; 7, 14, 21 and 28 February; 7, 14 and 28 March. Each session lasts about an hour and a half.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2010

**Tuesday 16 February**  
SHROVE TUESDAY

**Wednesday 17 February**  
ASH WEDNESDAY

**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 25 April**  
Annual Parochial Church Meeting

**Sunday 20 June**  
Handel with Hamper

**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 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
- 9 October
- 6 November
- 4 December

**A NEW CURATE COMES TO ST ALFEGE IN JULY 2010**

His name is Yousouf Gooljary and he is currently finishing his course with SIETE. In the past he has been as teacher, a community worker and a solicitor. He plays the guitar and has been actively involved in music and theatre. He will be coming to St Alfege Church as a stipendiary curate to serve for three to four years.

**For such a time as this**

**O that I had wings like a dove, for then would I fly away and be at rest. Then would I flee far away and make my lodging in the wilderness. I would make haste to escape from the stormy wind and tempest.**

Psalm 55 (Hear my prayer, O God)

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

If you are interested in helping prepare an Easter Garden, please contact the Vicar.

**News from the Diocese**

**NATIONAL MARRIAGE WEEK**

Valentine's Day services to celebrate marriage around the nation during National Marriage Week. Churches around England are inviting couples to celebrate marriage on Valentine's Day which this year falls on a Sunday, 14 February 2010. They are using new liturgical resources to organise a special service.

**FOLLOW US ON TWITTER [www.twitter.com/StAlfegeChurch](http://www.twitter.com/StAlfegeChurch)**

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

Thursday 4 February  
A concert of baroque and contemporary music, by Ellen Le Foll and Emma Williams (recorders)

Friday 5 February  
18:00 Recital by Yana Burova (violin) and Vesselina Koleva-Burova (piano)

Saturday 6 February  
Recital by Patrick Avery (guitar) and Riko Tanaka (voice). English, Italian and Spanish songs from the Renaissance to the 21st Century.

Saturday 6 February  
18:00 Concert: Opera London.

Thursday 11 February  
Recital: Francesca Reich (saxophone) and Benjamin Shepherd (piano).

Thursday 18 February  
Recital: music for piano by Simone Spagnolo performed by Marcelle Zahra (piano).

Saturday 20 February  
Recital: Cristina Buga (piano). Music by Ravel, Prokofiev, Stravinski.

Thursday 25 February  
Recital: "Oliver Cromwell: The Musical".

Saturday 27 February  
Recital: Cristina Buga (piano) and Alisa Liuborskay (cello). Music by Prokofiev and Schubert.

Saturday 27 February  
17:30 Recital: "A Piacere" by harp duo Claire Iselin and Melissa Kenny.

**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*