



Christ Church

Crouch End Hill

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MASTER! THE TEMPEST IS RAGING

Vicar's ten - minute reflection

MASTER, THE TEMPEST IS RAGING



I love Easter celebrations and somehow I struggle to find a reason for it. Is it because of the unpressured atmosphere where I do not have to buy gifts and send cards to "everybody" in the planet? Is it because of the absence of "gate-crashers", sorry, the commercial enterprises, which are ever ready to hijack my Christian festivals and turn them into a *winterval* or a *yuletide* or whatever! To a large extent, Easter is not popular. Why? Because Easter is about the resurrection of a Man that was despised by the world. Easter is about God writing the epilogue to the life of His Son who came to redeem fallen mankind. Easter is the closing chapter of the Book that had its preface in Christmas, its penultimate page on Good Friday and its conclusion on Easter Day. Easter is about God speaking through the experiences of Jesus that He loves the world still, in spite of the rage and rejection of His great Gift in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. St. Paul rightly captures the experience of the world in their rejection of Jesus Christ. He says in 1 Corinthians 1:18: "For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God."

Yes we are saved, and we are being saved. We are saved from our sins and are being saved from the powers of evil which brings fright to us many times in our journey as Christians. That was the experience of the disciples as they sailed in the same boat with Jesus while He was here physically on earth. He had instructed them to "go over the other side" (Matthew 8:18). He knew the storm was coming, yet he decided to launch out to sea. What is so significant is that with Jesus in the boat, the storms still raged and instilled fear in the disciples.

A simpleton would have surmised that since it was Jesus who gave the instruction that they should launch out to sea, there should be no opposition of any kind. That is a lie of the devil which he had sold to many gullible people to give them a reason to capitulate when the going gets tough-when reverses of life come their way- and they come to the wrong conclusion that God is not real or that it is useless to trust in Jesus. The Lord never promised we will never see a storm in life (as a matter of fact, He has told us to expect trouble, John 16:33). Rather, He has promised that He will be with us in the storm. -->p3



He will never leave His children alone in the midst of trouble; with perseverance they will overcome (Deuteronomy 31:8; James 1:12)

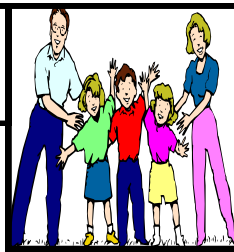
We are unsure of which of the apostles were with Christ in the boat, it's probable that seasoned fishermen (at least four of the twelve) were aboard. These men were quite familiar with the ways of the sea; certainly, this was not their first squall on the Sea of Galilee, which was known for its sudden raging storms. Even these professional fishermen were frightened by this storm, to the point of fearing they would die (Luke 8:24). And Jesus was fast asleep. He was at peace with the raging storms because His Father was in control of His destiny and no storm could truncate the work of redemption he had come to do. This is why Jesus, when He was awakened, rebuked the disciples with the question "Have you still no faith?" (Mark 4:40).

The storm created a situation where the apostles were in danger of drowning, and this produced anxiety in their minds. "Master, Master, we are perishing!" In like manner, the various storms that we face in life have the potential of causing anxiety or worry in our minds as well. Jesus warned about those who would allow the Word to be choked by the cares of this life (Luke 8:14). How can we learn to cope with such anxieties as they arise? To begin, we must learn to trust in God no matter what (Matthew 6:25-34). Even when it may seem that we lack even food and clothing, we must remember that God cares for us and will provide. This is not always an easy thing to do, but putting our lives completely in the hands of almighty God will help to cut down on worry.

The apostles' lack of faith reminds us that even those who lived and walked with Jesus, saw His miracles, and heard His message still found it difficult to be 100 percent faith-filled all the time. In that way, the disciples were a lot like us. However, their lack of faith was rebuked—and, by extension, so is ours. If Jesus was able to rescue the apostles from the storm, He is also able to rescue us from the storms of everyday life.

This reminds us that, "Man who is born of woman is of few days and full of trouble" (Job 14:1). Just as the disciples found themselves in the midst of a terrible storm, so we often face stormy trials and tribulations in life. -->**p6**

TILL DEATH DO US PART



“Till death do us part” is the famous vow in the standard Christian marriage rite. This presupposes the idea of ‘forever’ marriage to or even beyond death which requires faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and a commitment to make it work.

That leads us to the question, “What does being committed to your marriage really mean?” When people say, ‘I’m committed to my relationship,’ they can mean several things, two of which are: ‘I really like this relationship and want it to continue,’ or ‘I am committed to this relationship, but it’s not going very well — I need to have some resolve, make some sacrifices and take the steps I need to take to keep this relationship moving forward. It’s not just that I like the relationship, which is true, but that I’m going to step up and take active steps to maintain this relationship, even if it means I’m not going to get my way in certain areas.’ This latter kind of commitment shows clearly the difference between ‘I like this relationship and I’m committed to it’ and ‘I’m committed to doing what it takes to make this relationship work.’ When you and your partner are struggling a bit, are you going to do what’s difficult when you don’t want to? At 2 a.m., are you going to feed the baby?

The very act of communicating in difficult times can be as important as the outcome of the conversation.

The couples that were willing to make sacrifices within their relationships were more effective in solving their problems. The second kind of commitment usually produces lower divorce rates and slower rates of deterioration in the relationship. I am not saying it’s easy but it is worth every effort.

What we are saying in essence is that real commitment to your marriage will require you to do what it takes to make the relationship successful. In a long-term relationship, both parties cannot always get their way. When a couple has a dispute, they have many choices of how to respond.

One choice is “If you dig your heels in, then I can dig my heels in too. I can say, ‘You’re wrong. Listen to me!’” **But if this relationship is really important to you, -->p5**

Till death do us part (continued from page 4)

you will be willing to say: "I will compromise.' What is my goal? Is it to win this battle?" Is it to preserve the relationship? The behaviours I might engage in to win this conflict are different from those that are best for the relationship. The people who think more about protecting the relationship over the long term are more likely to think this is not that big a problem.

When the stakes are high, our relationships are vulnerable. When we're under a great deal of stress or when there is a high-stakes decision on which you disagree, those are defining moments in a relationship. What usually works is that committing to the relationship rather than committing to your own agenda and your own immediate needs is a far better strategy.

Find ways to compromise, or at least have the conversation that allows you and your partner to see things eye to eye. Often, we don't have the big conversations that we need in our relationship. The very act of communicating in difficult times can be as important as the outcome of the conversation. The couples whose marriages lasted were better at this than the couples who end up divorced. Those who ended their marriages would have said they were very committed to the marriage, but they did not have the resolve to say, 'Honey, we need to work on this; it's going to be hard, but it's important.' The successful couples were able to shift their focus away from whether 'I win' or 'you win' to 'Are we going to keep this relationship afloat?' That is the ideal.

One choice is "If you dig your heels in, then I can dig my heels in too. I can say, 'You're wrong. Listen to me!'"

In a marriage, disagreement is inevitable, but conflict is optional — a choice we make. "Bank-account relationships," in which you keep score of how often you get your way and how often you compromise is a spoiler. Experience has shown that a healthy marriage is where the two people involved are forgiving of the behaviour of each other and not in the habit of demanding that a spouse change his or her behaviour. If it is so easy for you to tell your husband/wife to change, perhaps you should just change yourself. Go ahead and take that on, see how it goes. D.A.

Master, the Tempest is raging (contd. from page 3)

Some of these storms are just the natural result of living on this sin-cursed earth.

We may experience problems of physical health, as Paul did in 2 Corinthians 12:7-10. We will likely have to deal with the sorrow caused by the deaths of loved ones, as did Mary and Martha when their brother Lazarus died in John 11:17-35. Some of our storms could be related to sickness, job loss, marriage problems, death (1 Corinthians 15:55), and even the sting of being labelled "the odd fellas" of the society because we do not conform to its standards. Let us remember what the Bible says: "Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution" (2 Timothy 3.12). At the same time, some of our storms may be the result of our own bad choices, mistakes, and sins. In 2 Samuel 12:9-14, David was told that he would suffer greatly as a result of his committing adultery with Bathsheba and having her husband killed. David repented of his sin and was forgiven, but he still had to come through many storms as a consequence of his behaviour. Whatever their cause, we can allow our storms either to make us bitter or make us better.

Going back to the disciples in the boat, they awoke Jesus and said, "Don't you care that we perish?" (Mark 4:38) "And he got up, rebuked the wind, and said to the waves, 'Quiet! Be still!' Then the wind died down and it was completely calm." The apostles marvelled at this powerful display of Jesus' supernatural ability over the elements (Luke 8:25). This can be immensely comforting to the Christian in a storm. Faith in Christ is never misplaced. If He can calm the storms of the sea with one word, He can calm the storms of life as well.

He said to his disciples, Why are ye so afraid? Do you still have no faith? "They were terrified and asked each other, 'Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!'" (Mark 4:36-41). As individuals, as families, as communities, as nations, even as a church, we have had sudden squalls arise which have made us ask one way or another, "Master, don't you care that we perish?" And one way or another we always hear in the stillness after the storm, "Why are ye so fearful? How is it that ye have no faith?" None of us would like to think we have *no* faith, but I suppose the Lord's gentle rebuke here is largely deserved. -->**p7**

Master, the Tempest is raging (contd. from page 6)

Our great God, in whom we say we trust, the unknowable One who revealed Himself to us in Jesus Christ and whose name we have taken upon us, is he who spoke the world into being by his word. (Gen. 1:6.) Furthermore, it was he who parted the Red Sea, allowing the Israelites to pass through on dry ground. (See Ex. 14:21-22.) Certainly it should be no surprise that he could command a few elements acting up on the Sea of Galilee. And our faith should remind us that he can calm the troubled waters of our lives.

There is probably no one who has never had a fearful thought. But those thoughts should be quick, and should not stay in your mind for long. Satan loves to bring thoughts of doubt and fear. But faith in God will push out those thoughts. Then, instead of focusing on how big your problem is, you will focus on how much bigger your God is! It is a fact of life (and science) that says two things cannot occupy the same space at the same time. Faith and fear cannot occupy the same space. In your heart and mind, there is either fear or faith. Our natural state is fear, because some situations are scary; we don't know the future; we know that bad things happen; some things are way too big (we think) for us to handle. But, when we receive God's gift of faith, it pushes out fear. (Romans 8:15).

Fear says, "This situation in my life (my health situation, children's future, finances etc) is too much for me to handle." Faith says, "God is in control. He will handle this for me." Fear says, "I'm not sure if God is strong enough to handle this." Faith says, "Nothing is more powerful than God." Fear says, "I'm not sure if I can trust God." Faith says, "God only wants what's best for me."

Will you put your faith in Jesus during the perilous times that are coming on the church - a time when your job, your position, your liberty and even your very life would be on the line because you dare to stand alone like Daniel and his companions, to speak the truth about Jesus and uphold the standard of the Bible? It is already happening to our brethren in Syria, Libya, Pakistan, North Korea, Northern Nigeria, the Muslim dominated Arab world, and it is surreptitiously creeping in on us in the UK and Europe. The time has come when we need to put our trust in the Lord Jesus who stills the waters and He will bring to pass His will concerning us. Amen.

THE DECLINE OF CHRISTIANITY

In five decades, I must start with a correction. Religion is in terminal decline all across Europe and particularly in Britain according to a new report. Ten years ago, only three per cent of British people described themselves as having no religion; now the proportion is 50 per cent and among the under -25s it is two thirds – a demographic that spells death for the church.

But here is my correction: religion is not in decline in Britain or in Europe generally, but Christianity is. Islam is thriving. The report's findings are an update on the figures recorded in 2011 census. They revealed that, owing to massive immigration over the last 10 years, there has been a 75 per cent increase in the Muslim population since the previous census. In those years alone, a further 600,000 Muslims immigrated to Britain. So that 10 per cent of the under-25 population in Britain is now Muslim. Moreover, almost half of British Muslims are themselves below the age of 25.

The main reason for the dying of Christianity in this country is the official policy of secularisation promoted officially and aggressively by the European Union. Christian emblems involved and the explicit Christian involvement in all areas of public life are prohibited by statute.

By contrast, nearly a quarter of British Christians are over 65, and their average age is nearly twice that of the Muslim population. At the most recent count, there were 1,743 mosques in Britain. In the next 10 years there will be many more. Meanwhile churches are closing almost as fast as the pubs. So, as a nation, we are not becoming less religious, only less Christian.

Why is the Christian faith in catastrophic decline in Britain? It can't be because we don't have enough bishops: there are twice as many bishops in Britain today than there were in the 19th century when a quarter of the population regularly attended church. The main reason for the dying of Christianity in this country is the official policy of secularisation promoted officially and aggressively by the European Union. -->p9

The decline of Christianity (contd. From page 8)

Christian emblems and the explicit Christian involvement in all areas of public life are prohibited by statute. There is a relentless cultural and bureaucratic attack on the expression of Christian morality, attitudes and opinion.

The advocates of secularisation publicly rejoice that, as they claim, we have in recent decades become "a more open, tolerant and liberal society."

It depends on what you mean. One man's toleration is another man's oppression, and this woman's social inclusion is that woman's ostracism. You can pick where you like these days in what has become the great hypermarket of social morality. Nothing is barred. "Diversity" is the gospel now.

Secularisation has transformed what were once regarded as mortal sins into exciting lifestyle choices. You can be -nay, you are positively encouraged through the education system as early as primary school - to be gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered and quite a few other exotic things, the name of which escape me for the moment. The choices are limitless. Away with the stuffy old nonsense, "Male and female created he them"; nowadays every man - sorry, every person, is free to create, recreate and invent himself or herself in her or his own image. And if you don't like what you are this week, that's fine, for you can easily become something else next Monday morning.

The choices are limitless. Except not quite. The one thing that is taboo-you might say it is the new and the only mortal sin - is to object to this moral chaos. (Sorry, I mean of course this liberating new gospel of diversity).

If you claim that your traditional Christian morality and your conscience prevent your agreeing to accommodate homosexuals in your B&B, then I'm afraid you will lose your B&B. or if you oppose homosexual "marriage" you will incur the wrath of the commissars of the new social dictatorship. -->p10

Religion is not in decline in Britain or in Europe generally, but Christianity is

The decline of Christianity (contd. From page 9)

All opinions are allowed – except that which clings to the Christian teachings of the last 2,000 years.

Everyone is permitted freedom of conscience – except Christians, who are not allowed to have a conscience. There has been a revolution and the secularising

If you claim that your traditional Christian morality and your conscience prevent your agreeing to accommodate homosexuals in your B&B, then I'm afraid you will lose your B&B. or if you oppose homosexual "marriage" you will incur the wrath of the commissars of the new social dictatorship.

diversity-mongers have won it. It is a fait accompli, a done deal supported by all political parties and policed by the new secular authoritarians.

No use moaning about this. The old order –including Christianity – has been overthrown. The counter-culture is the culture now.

Now, in the face of this unrelenting, savage, secularising assault on Christian faith and practice you would imagine that the church might protest and even resist, as the saints and martyrs did of old. But instead, what do we find? Only that the church, so far from resisting secular innovations, vigorously supports them.

It was Archbishop Rowan Williams, no less, who, in one of his last pronouncements before his retirement, declared: "The church has a lot of catching up to do with secular mores." Forgive me if I now repeat the comment I made at the time, "So, Dr Williams we should catch up with secular mores? Whatever became of St Paul's injunction, 'Be ye not conformed to this world'?" By supporting secular mores, the church has taken into itself that which is alien and poison to itself. Thus British Christianity is not being murdered by its ruthless enemies: It is committing suicide.

-->p11

The decline of Christianity (contd. From page 10)

Here is one of Eliot's prophecies in *The Idea of a Christian Society*: "An individual European may not even believe that the Christian Faith is true, but what he says and makes and does will all spring out of this history of European culture and depend upon that culture for its meaning.

Only a Christian culture could have produced a Nietzsche or a Voltaire.

I do not believe that the culture of Europe could survive the complete disappearance of the Christian Faith. And I am convinced of that not merely because I am a Christian myself, but as a student of social biology.

If Christianity goes, the whole of our culture goes. Then you must start painfully again, and you cannot put on a new culture ready-made. You must wait for the grass to grow to feed the sheep to give the wool out of which your new coat will be made...

"If Christianity goes, the whole of our culture goes. Then you must start painfully again, and you cannot put on a new culture ready-made. You must wait for the grass to grow to feed the sheep to give the wool out of which your new coat will be made.

You must pass through many centuries of barbarism. We should not live to see the new culture, not would our great-great-grand children: and if we did, not one of us would be happy in it." But cheer up! We are not becoming less religious. **Given population trends and the birth rate statistics, in another quarter of a century the religion of Britain will be Islam.**

Peter Mullen

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CHRIST CHURCH WEEKEND AWAY AT ASHBURNHAM PLACE EAST SUSSEX

The weekend has been a chance to get to know each other at a greater spiritual depth, and to realise that we are all part of the Body of Christ. It has also challenged us to live out our Christian vocation as Christ's ambassadors in our often hostile world, remembering the cost of our salvation. It has also been good to get to know Adam and benefit from his ministry and explore the scriptures with him.

Richard Mercer

The church Weekend has been a great blessing to each one of us, I have come to know people better, it has drawn us closer as a family of God. We have been in a glorious setting of lakes, wood and sheep fields. Masses of wildflowers, all reminders of our glorious creator. We have thought of ourselves as pilgrims, our dwelling here is only temporary in this world. We must not be earth-bound, Energise me O Lord as an ambassador for your kingdom.

Desiree Lukomona

For me. This has been a time of fellowship and getting to know others within the church. It has been a time of reflection too. The grounds of Ashburnham reflect one glory of the Lord's creation –wonderful! This weekend helped me to get a better understanding of the Lord's word – to grow in knowledge and the Love of Christ. It is good for one's soul! I'm – looking forward to next year, when it is hoped that we can come together as a church family and grow in the Love of Christ. I thank God for Dele, Iyabo and Adam.

Christine Cole

The weekend (17-19 April) was a time of blessing, reflection, refreshment and renewal in my walk with God. I am so grateful to God who has done so many marvellous things in me this weekend. I look forward to another opportunity like this.

Iyabo Agbelusi

It has been a wonderful time to share the word of God with the Christ Church family. Also getting to know each other better.

Jeph and Val Opara

A worthwhile Christian Fellowship weekend with Christ Church Christians – I really enjoyed it, sharing our faith which will make us much stronger as a church.

Jeanette Du Pierre

The weekend enabled me to examine the opportunity to be an ambassador for Christ. The need to gain 'legs' for the challenging living and the witnessing to people in Crouch End. The gaining of strength through Gods Holy Spirit that was evident in the fellowship gained through the people in the weekend.

Charles Murphy -->p13

VIEWPOINT: CHRISTIANITY UNDER ASSAULT

Muslims reject as false those views about the prophet Muhammad which conflict with the teachings of Islam. The Hindus argue vigorously against those who do not accept their particular perspectives on reality. But many Christians are too eager to seek for a compromise in their faith because they want to be politically correct. If we have no integrity in standing by what we believe, the world will never take us seriously. We must stand up for what we believe in even if the gates of hell are against us.

This is how it works? Emphasise that Jesus is the only way to God, you will be accused of being intolerant, although we defend the right for anyone to hold whatever views they wish. Stress that all that we need to know of God and to live properly in his world is found in the Bible and you will be criticised for being a fundamentalist. Show joy and emotion in a church service and you will be written off as 'happy clappy'. Preach the Bible for more than 25 minutes and you will be hounded as being cerebral and intellectual. That is how it goes.

Jesus was accused of being a drunk and glutton because he didn't conform to the tight religious standards of his day. He was also accused of being demon possessed when he was more strict in applying the Scriptures than the religious elite. And if we are going to follow Jesus at this point we can expect to draw the same flak. From the viewpoint of the world Christians are always in a lose-lose situation. But not from God's viewpoint, not from the only standpoint that really matters- eternity.

WEEKEND AWAY (continued from page 12)

A time away to seek the face of God. Away from our busy usual life schedule. One was able to reflect on the word of God and share in fellowship with the church.

Bola Olosope

By having 3 talks by Rev. Pymble our minds were sharpened as we explored God's word. Our group discussions led to new opinions and ideas regarding the talks. Mealtimes and other social periods brought us closer to each other –more than the Sunday after church tea/coffee –ever did and we all decided to make this an annual trip.

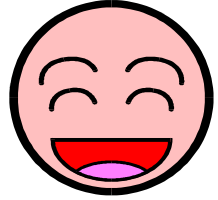
Robbie Anand

We were helped to work out priorities in our lives and to take a longer – term view of things. Well planned weekend.

Anon

LAUGHTER LINES

GOOD NEWS AND BAD NEWS FOR PASTORS



Good News: You baptized four people today.

Bad News: You lost two others in the swift river current.

Good News: The Women's Association voted to send you a get-well card.

Bad News: It passed by 31 votes for and 30 against.

Good News: The church board accepted your job description the way you wrote it.

Bad News: They also formed a search committee to find someone capable of filling the position.

Good News: Your stand on nuclear disarmament has won the respect and admiration of many people.

Bad News: None of them are remotely connected to your church.

Good News: You finally found a choir director who approaches things your way.

Bad News: The choir mutinied...

SJames D. Berkley, Leadership, Vol. 3, no. 3.

THE PASTOR, THE VICAR, AND THE ATHEIST

One day a Pastor, a Vicar and an Atheist go on a fishing trip together. They are in the boat and the Pastor says, " Oh! No! I left the paddles on shore!" So he proceeds to get out of the boat and walk on the water to the shore to get them. Once he had gotten back into the boat the Vicar says, " Oh! No! I left the bait on shore too!" And like the Pastor the Vicar exits the boat and walks on the water to get the bait. When the Vicar climbs back into the boat the atheist yells, " Well if you guys can do it so can I!!!" and proceeds to climb out of the boat, but he falls into the water. At this point the Pastor says, " Do you think we should have told him where the **rocks** are?"

LAUGHTER LINES

Q. What kind of man was Boaz before he married Ruth?

A. Ruthless.

A. Q. What do they call pastors in Germany?

A. German Shepherds.

Q. Who was the greatest financier in the Bible?

A. Noah He was floating his stock while everyone else was in liquidation.

Q. Why didn't they play cards on the Ark ?

A. Because Noah was standing on the deck. (Groan ...)

Q. What kind of motor vehicles are in the Bible?

A. Jehovah drove Adam and Eve out of the Garden in a Fury. David's Triumph was heard throughout the land. Also, probably a Honda, because the apostles were all in one Accord.

Q.. Who was the greatest comedian in the Bible?

A Samson. He brought the house down.

Q. What excuse did Adam give to his children as to why he no longer lived in Eden?

A. Your mother ate us out of house and home.

Q. Which servant of God was the most flagrant lawbreaker in the Bible?

A. Moses. He broke all 10 commandments at once.

Q. Which Bible character had no parents?

A. Joshua, son of Nun.

Q. Who is the greatest babysitter mentioned in the Bible?

A. David. He rocked Goliath to a very deep sleep.

From Spring harvest .com

STORIES BEHIND GREAT HYMNS “PEACE BE STILL”

Let me recall for you the story of Mary Ann Baker. Sometime before 1874, Mary had lost both her parents to a respiratory disease. Her beloved and only brother suffered from the same disease that had taken their parents' lives, and he left their home in Chicago to find a warmer climate in the southern part of the United States. For a time he seemed to be improving, but then a sudden turn in his health came and he died almost immediately.

Mary Ann and her sister were heartbroken. It only added to their deep grief that neither their own health nor their personal finances allowed them to claim their brother's body or to finance its return to Chicago for burial. The Baker family had been raised as faithful Christians, but Mary's trust in a loving God broke under the strain of her brother's death and her own diminished circumstances. "God does not care for me or mine," said Mary Ann. "This particular manifestation of what they call 'divine providence' is unworthy of a God of love." Does that sound at all familiar?

"I have always tried to believe on Christ and give the Master a consecrated life," she said, "but this is more than I can bear. What have I done to deserve this? What have I left undone that God should wreak His vengeance upon me in this way?" (Ernest K. Emurian, *Living Stories of Famous Hymns*, Boston: W. A. Widdle Co., 1955, pp. 83–85.)

However, after a while, her heart softened and her childhood faith returned to transform her from a rebellious woman to a more loving one. It was then that she wrote the following words, based on this story of Jesus but reflecting her own experience:

"Master, the tempest is raging!
The billows are tossing high!
The sky is o'ershadowed with blackness,
No shelter or help is nigh;
Carest Thou not that we perish?
How canst Thou lie asleep,
When each moment so madly is threatening
A grave in the angry deep?"

Stories Behind Great Hymns “PEACE BE STILL”

The answer that she learned and shared with others in this wonderful song is:

Refrain

"The winds and the waves shall obey Thy will,
Peace, be still!

Whether the wrath of the storm-tossed sea,
Or demons or men, or whatever it be,
No water can swallow the ship where lies
The Master of ocean, and earth, and skies;
They all shall sweetly obey Thy will,
Peace, peace be still."

2. Master, with anguish of spirit
I bow in my grief today;
The depths of my sad heart are troubled—
Oh, waken and save, I pray!
Torrents of sin and of anguish
Sweep o'er my sinking soul;
And I perish! I perish! dear Master—
Oh, hasten, and take control.

Refrain: The winds and the waves shall obey...

3. Master, the terror is over,
The elements sweetly rest;
Earth's sun in the calm lake is mirrored,
And heaven's within my breast;
Linger, O blessed Redeemer!
Leave me alone no more;
And with joy I shall make the blest harbour,
And rest on the blissful shore.

Memory verse: But Jesus came and spoke these words to them, "All power in Heaven and on earth has been given to me. You, then, are to go and make disciples of all the nations and baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Teach them to observe all that I have commanded you and, remember, I am with you always, even to the end of the world."



Matthew 28:18-20

WHAT'S ON 17 MAY -14 JUN 2015

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Order</u>	<u>Theme</u>	<u>Texts</u>
17/05	1030hrs.	(FS) HE WILL COME BACK		Acts 3:12-19
	1700 hrs	(EW) TOUGH LOVE		1 Cor. 1: 5:1-13
24/05	1030hrs.	(HC) PENTECOST IN PRESENT TENSE		Acts 2:1-21 John 15:26-27; 16:4-15
	1700hrs.	(EW) NO EVENING SERVICE		
31/05	1030hrs	(HC) FATHER, SON AND HOLY SPIRIT		Isaiah 6:1-8 John 3:1-17
	1700hrs	(EW) YOU ARE NOT YOUR OWN		1Cor. 6:1-20
07/06	1030hrs	(MP) IN THE BEGINNING		Genesis 1
	1700hrs.	(EW) ENTER REAL CHRISTIANITY		Psalm 1
14/06	1030hrs.	(HC) GOD -TYRANT?		Genesis 3:1-14 John 15:15-17
	1700hrs.	(EW) THE LORD AND HIS CHRIST		Psalm 2

Note: (HC) - indicates Holy Communion (Common Worship); (MP) - Morning Prayer; (EW) - Evening Worship (AA/FS) - All Age/Parade /Family Service; (HA)- Healing and Anointing. (SW) - Service of the Word. There is Holy Communion Service every Sunday at 8am using the Book of Common Prayer except where otherwise directed on the church programme.

STOP PRESS

AGM. The Church's Annual General Meeting was held on 26th April after an act of worship - Service of the Word. There was a renewed focus to reach out with the gospel in the coming year.

FAREWELL

A long standing member of the church, Mrs Ruth Hunt passed away to glory aged 96. Farewell and Commendation Service will take place on 20th May at 2pm in the church.

HEAVENLY CORRESPONDENCE

E-MAIL FROM GOD (38)

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From: **GOD, YOUR HEAVENLY FATHER**

To: **You, My beloved child**

Before they call I will answer; while they are still speaking I will hear. Isaiah 65:24

Subject: **LET US TALK TODAY**

Dear Child,

Prayer is not a process of trying to talk Me into doing something that I don't want to do. Prayer is realizing how willing I am to be involved in your life and how excited I am about involving you in Mine.

The moment you admit in prayer that you've been wrong, I forgive you. In prayer, I can encourage you when you're down and show you the way when you're lost. I can give you courage to face your fears, and I can bend down to dry your tears.

Can't you tell by now how much I want to talk with you? In fact, I'm listening for your prayers day and night. I'm already answering your call while it's still just a thought in your head! Let's talk today.

Your Friend Who Listens,
God

Adapted from 'e-mail from God for Teens'-Clonigers

TEXT FOR THE YEAR (Isaiah 41:10. NLT)

Don't be afraid, for I am with you. Don't be discouraged, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you. I will hold you up with my victorious right hand.

FINDING OUT ABOUT ...CHRIST CHURCH?

Tel/Fax: 020 8340 1566

We are a family of men and women, boys and girls who are resolved to live for God in a world that has largely chosen to ignore Him.

We believe that it is God's world and that He has given the answer to all human problems in Jesus Christ. As a body of believers, we offer to all who come, regular opportunities for worship and service that point the way to God as our strongest resource in all aspects of life.

We will be pleased to welcome you to any of our activities.
You will find a warm welcome at Christ Church.

Times of worship and fellowship are shown below:

- Sunday** - **8.00 am.** Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
- **10.30 am.** Main service with Crèche facilities
There is an all-age/parade service once every month - usually the third Sunday of the month unless otherwise indicated.
- **5.00 pm.** Evening worship

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES AT A GLANCE

- Monday** Prayer meeting in church - 18th May, 15th June
Wednesday - Fellowship Meal in church (6:30 pm) followed by, Bible Fellowship (7.15 pm)
Thursday - Homework Club (5pm -7pm)
Friday - Scouts meeting in church and hall (6.00 pm)
- Music Team practice in choir vestry (6.00 pm)
Saturday - Intercessors prayer meeting in church (7-8 pm)
Enquiry/Counselling/Prayer Lifeline - please phone 020 8340 1566
Editorial Board: Sheila Wheeler, Iyabo Agbelusi, Dele Agbelusi, Jibola Fapohunda
Vicar: - Revd Canon Dele Agbelusi
Church Wardens: Peter Green, Jibola Fapohunda, Charles Murphy
Licensed Lay Ministers: Richard Mercer, Iyabo Agbelusi
Safeguarding: Christabel Oshodi

YOUR COMMENTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS ARE WELCOME

PLEASE WRITE TO THE EDITOR AT:

CROSSLINKS, THE VICARAGE, 32 CRESCENT ROAD, LONDON, N8 8AX
E-MAIL: christchurchN8@aol.com; WEB: www.christchurchn8.org.uk