

17<sup>th</sup> August 2008

12<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Trinity

St. MARY'S  
Newsletter



## Welcome To St Marys

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Welcome to worship at St Marys Church. Our Sunday services start at 10.30am. You are very welcome to stay for tea or coffee after the service.

Please note that during the summer there will be **no Light Factory (Sunday School) or creche** in the Hall unless otherwise announced at the beginning of the service BUT there is a box of toys and activities in the Parish Room and children are very welcome to be in there during the service.

## Sunday Worship

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<b>10.30am Parish Communion</b>	Reader	Veronica
	Communion Assistants	Andy & Kate
	Prayers	Della
	Steward	Margaret A
	Music	Steve, Ortrude

## Collect For Today

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Almighty and everlasting God,  
you are always more ready to hear than we to pray  
and to give more than either we desire or deserve:  
pour down upon us the abundance of your mercy,  
forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid  
and giving us those good things which we are not worthy to ask  
but through the merits and mediation  
of Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

## Life And Faith

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Life & Faith has continued to meet at 8.00pm on Wednesdays throughout August. We are taking the theme of the previous Sunday and discussing questions arising from the sermon.

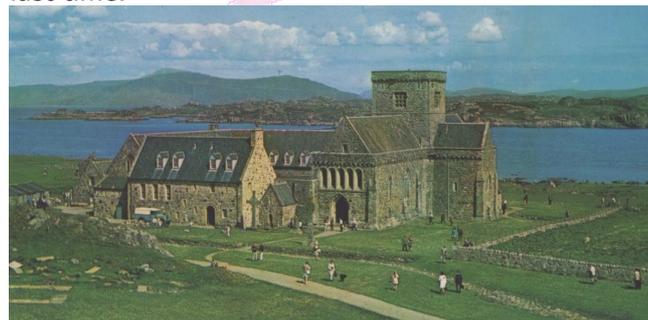
Over these few weeks we are looking at the meaning of the miracles of Jesus recorded in Matthew's gospel, chapters 14 / 15.

## Ten Years After

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*Julian writes:* A number of people have asked me about the possibility of a journey to Iona Abbey in 2009. I have therefore contacted the abbey and they may have space for us in July / August next year.

We have an application pack with which to apply for accommodation. I would therefore like to hear from those who want to make the journey in 2009. Ask around and hear the story of those who went last time.



For more info: <http://www.iona.org.uk/>

## Calling All Young Film Makers

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Win £3000 for your church.

The true meaning of Christmas

Ecclesiastical is inviting you to make a one-minute film on the subject with your camcorder, laptop or mobile phone. Then upload it to their specially created website – [www.truemeaning.co.uk](http://www.truemeaning.co.uk) for the chance to WIN up to £3,000 for your church, plus some amazing prizes for you – your chance to see thebandwithnname perform live, signed merchandise, tickets to Greenbelt '09 and much, much more. Right now, visitors to [www.truemeaning.co.uk](http://www.truemeaning.co.uk) can leave their email to receive advice, hints and tips on how to wow the judges. Entrants can upload their completed films

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To submit news or to receive emails when this newsletter is updated, [steve tozer-loft 258 4382 steve@tozer-loft.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:steve.tozer-loft@tozer-loft.fsnet.co.uk)

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to the website from 1 August 2008, giving you plenty of time to start planning your masterpiece.

The closing date for entries is 10 October 2008.

## **Bishop Cyril's Reflections After Lambeth 2008**

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My one and only Lambeth Conference has been an extraordinarily enriching experience. Not only in the sense that I made new friends but also because I was given a much richer perspective on the nature of the Anglican Communion. Sharing with bishops from Sierra Leone, Zimbabwe, Sudan and Kenya have made me aware with fresh clarity how important our worldwide Anglican Communion is. It is clear for instance, that part of the responsibility of the Anglican Communion has been to sustain Zimbabwean Anglicans throughout this period of injustice and mass rejection of human rights and public welfare. Some of the images in the worship and in personal conversations will live with me forever. It is profoundly moving to hear bishops speak of the pressure that they are under simply to go on existing and caring for their people.

The conference has made me much more aware of the value of the Anglican Communion and our need to work at staying together. On one occasion the Chief Rabbi, Sir Jonathan Sachs, in his talk to the conference pleaded with the Anglican Church to work hard at reviving its sense of worldwide communion. He acknowledged that we are the only world religion with the experience and the will to hold together significant extremes. His respect and affection for the Church of England was clear.

In his final address the Archbishop of Canterbury asked the question - What is Lambeth 08 going to say?

Having established that there is no desire to separate, Archbishop Rowan asked the question - What is the unity we value so much? It is evident from all the conversations and the content of the conference that this is more than just human loyalty or warmth towards people we have a vague relationship with. Our unity first and foremost is because of our union with Jesus Christ. Having accepted his gift of grace and forgiveness we are deeply committed to one another theologically. Our unity is not merely mutual forbearance but exists because we are summoned into the same faith before the Father's throne. This unity is pure gift.

The Lambeth Conference has put down some markers but has also allowed for a continuing conversation. There is no intention to revisit the 1998 Lambeth Resolution 1.10. This is where our communion as a global community stands. The

Windsor Continuation Process requests moratoria on

- 1) the cessation of blessings for same sex unions
- 2) the cessation of consecrations of those living in openly gay relationships
- 3) the ending of all cross-border interventions and inter-provincial claims of jurisdiction.
- 4) There is also to be a move to put pressure on governments to decriminalise homosexuality.

A very important outcome of the Lambeth Conference is the establishment of a framework for theological reflection with a significant emphasis on a covenant which would develop covenantal commitments and would call for covenanted restraint. It is also the intention to establish a Pastoral Forum to engage at communion level with situations of controversy as they arise. It is the Archbishop's intention to call a Primates' meeting early in 2009 and to establish this Pastoral Forum as soon as possible.

Archbishop Rowan said that in the Lambeth Conference we may not have put an end to all of our problems but the pieces are on the board and in the months ahead it will be important to invite those absent from Lambeth to be involved in these next stages. His view is that much in the GAFCON documents is consonant with much of what Lambeth has sought to say and do and we need to look for the best ways of building bridges.

In all that happened at Lambeth our sights were not taken from the unremitting mission of the Church to make Jesus Christ known and as part of that process to address the major issues of world poverty, climate change and tyrannical regimes.

Although much of the conversation inevitably focused on issues that could divide us there was, and is, a consistent and passionate desire to be involved in a wounded and suffering world.

I came back from Lambeth grateful that I belong to a diocese like ours with its desire to glorify the risen Christ but also that we are part of a worldwide Anglican Communion that honestly faces up to issues that could divide, but has a determination to stay together in order to further its mission.

+Cyril

## **Next Sunday – 24<sup>th</sup> August**

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### **10.30am Parish Communion**

People with jobs to do next Sunday: Elaine C (readings); Giles & Karen (communion assistants); Maureen F (prayers); Doreen & Joan (steward); organist (music)

This newsletter is available on the internet at <http://www.stmarys-church.co.uk/>  
To submit news or to receive emails when this newsletter is updated, [steve.tozer-loft@tozer-loft.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:steve.tozer-loft@tozer-loft.fsnet.co.uk)

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