

View from the Pew

Andrew Povey-Richards

At Easter we all feel very different emotions from Maundy Thursday through to Easter Day and all the services encapsulated the mood and I hope every one of you found them a richly fulfilling experience.

We are very grateful to the late Margaret Phillips for donating money in her will which has enabled us to buy new hymn books (Common Praise) and it was really pleasing to see David, Margaret's husband in church for their blessing on Easter Day.

By the time you read this we will have had our annual meeting and there will be a new PCC in place. We would like to thank all those who are not standing again for their contribution over the last year and welcome new members who are joining us.

One of my targets when I became Church Warden was to get the Electoral Roll over the 200 mark and we have achieved this with a year to spare, which is really good !! However next year we have to have a complete review of the roll and it may be hard not to lose some then. You can check on the notice board at the back of church if you don't know if you are on it.

We feel the parish is in very good heart; we are getting new worshippers nearly every week and with the welcoming team engaging with them I hope they immediately feel at home with us. This was very much in evidence with Rachel and Oli Carter who got married recently. We wish them every happiness in their marriage and thank them for the flowers and wedding cake we were able to enjoy.

I'd like to say a big 'Thank You' to all those who helped with the clear-out of the Hall and Annexe recently including Janet who provided them with lunch. This has enabled us to have all the wooden chairs in the main body of the Hall and the plastic ones (which have proved unsafe on occasions) to be stored away in the Annexe. It will also allow greater use of the stage due to the

increased space there. The skip was also put to use in clearing out the church Boiler Room and the North Porch.

We are looking forward very much to the visit of Dr Jeffrey John at the end of the month when we will be holding a Team Service at 10.00am on 27 May at All Saints and will be joined by the clergy and congregations of St Andrews, St Mary's, Holy Trinity at Bengoe and Little Amwell - this is probably a first – don't be late that day otherwise you may not get a seat!!!

Please watch out for people who normally sit near you and if you notice anyone missing for a number of weeks please talk to Jo, Janet or myself so we can make contact with them so nobody gets overlooked.

Love, Andrew

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY IN MAY/JUNE

Saturday 12th - Christian Aid Walk

Saturday 19th - Plant Sale and Coffee morning

Sunday 27th - Team Pentecost Service – Dr Jeffrey John preaching

Sunday 3rd - June Diamond Jubilee Lunch in St. John's Hall

