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Oxford Diocesan Deaf Churches

Issue 39 – Rogation 2015

Rogation Letter

Dear Friends

At this time of year we do look forward to our Rogation Service. A number of people have asked me – what does the word Rogation mean? It comes from a Latin word rogare – to ask – asking God’s blessing on the land, the crops.

Normally our Service starts in the Church or another building and we move outside and go for a short walk in the countryside. We stop at various points for Prayers, Readings and to Sign our hymns.

Each year, we go somewhere different and our Service is adapted to suit the area we are visiting. We started this Service about 17 years ago and during that time we have visited a Sheep Farm at Denchworth, Sheepdrove Organic Farm near Lambourne, Garford (a memorable tractor and trailer ride to a strawberry field at Millets Farm!) West Woodhay and Inkpen, Steeple Claydon, St Mary’s Bucklebury, Pangbourne College (Falklands Memorial Chapel), St. Barnabas Church Jericho and Oxford Canal, Mapledurham House, St Mary’s Church Ivinghoe and the Windmill, Cadmore End, St Marys Church Turville, All Saints Spelsbury, Finchampstead (we had our Service in the pub garden during the foot and mouth crisis), Ardington, Little Missenden, It has only rained once, and that was when I was not able to attend the Service!

This year we are going to Shottesbrooke Park near Maidenhead on June 7th at 3pm. We shall be starting the Service at the Church and then going to the head quarters of the Landmark Trust, a Charity based in the Park, (which rescues important buildings which are then let out for holidays).

We do hope that you will be able to join us!

Yours in Christ

Roger

**Stained glass window in the chapel of St. John the Evangelist,
Oxford Deaf and Hard of Hearing Centre.**



The beautiful stained glass window was dedicated on 14th February 1982 by the Revd. Brian Murray, then secretary of the Church of England Council for the Deaf. The church record shows that 38 people were present including John Harmsworth ,Bruce Armour, Don

Prytherch. The window shows the healing of the Deaf man as recorded in St. Mark chapter 7. – the ‘Ephphatha’ story.

The plaque below the window says ‘In memory of Alfred Nicholls who gave many years faithful service to William and Emmeline Cadbury.’

The window came from the Ernest Ayliffe Home for deaf people in Leeds. This was a home for Deaf People opened in 1948. When this closed down in 1978 those involved in the ministry with Deaf People were asked if they could rehouse the window. John Harmsworth, Senior social worker at the time, responded. The Oxford deaf church committee and the then chaplain the Revd John Studd discussed and agreed that the window to be transferred to the chapel in Oxford. The window frame and surrounding glass design was undertaken by skilled members of the Oxford Deaf Club and church.

The window was installed by specialists in stained glass, Claydon and Bell from Aylesbury. (This firm has now closed)

Oxford Deaf church minutes record that Cadburys paid for the cost of the frame made for the window by Brian Trudgeon. It is yet not clear from records who was responsible for paying for the installation of the window.

The additional information that has been found in researching this window's history comes from copies of the British Deaf News (copies seen at the library of Action for hearing loss, Grays Inn Road, London). There is a picture of the window in its original setting at the chapel of the Good Shepherd, Ernest Ayliffe Home in the British Deaf News, Vol.4 No 2 June 1963 page 45. This article states that the window is in memory of Mr Alfred Nicholls who was for almost all his lifetime employed as a gardener by Mr and Mrs W.A. Cadbury (Birmingham) and was one of the first residents to be admitted to the Home in January 1948 and died in the Home on 6th December 1961. There is a tribute to Mr Nicholls from Mrs E.H. Cadbury. The stained glass artist was Miss Anne Shortell (Bramley) and is made from hand blown coloured glass (from the firm who supplied glass for the windows of Coventry Cathedral, cut and fired and made the complete window herself.

Thanks go to Michael Perfitt for the photographs of the window .

Ruth Waddle

Dates for the Diary

Harvest Festival - Sunday 11th October. 3pm St Dunstan's Church, Mill Lane, Monks Risborough, Bucks HP27 9JE

Preacher Rev. Clare Haynes - Trustee of Zane (Zimbabwe a National Emergency). The proceeds of our Auction of Harvest produce will go to Zane.

Christmas Communion and Carols - Sunday 13th December 3pm at the Church of the Holy Family, 1 Cuddesdon Way, Blackbird Leys, Oxford OX4 6JH

Holy Baptism

Heavenly Father we welcome into the family of the church Elana Maria Salome-Equizabel, and ask your continued blessing upon her and her family and pray that being renewed in body and soul she may serve you all the days of her life through Jesus Christ our Lord Amen.

Elana was baptised at the church of the Good Shepherd at Haddenham on Sunday May 3rd.

The Faithful Departed

We remember before God the Souls of the faithful departed, an we pray especially for the souls of :-

Peggy Hanwell	(Reading)
Bob Saunders	(Burnham)
Doreen Wilson	(Reading)
Barbara Thom	(Stevenage)

Grant O Lord we pray that they in your tender care may be transformed in your own likeness and rest in your eternal peace, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

WEB Site

ODCD has a new website. www.odcd.org.uk

Do have a look, and keep up to date with what is going on.

Would be helpful, if we could send you the link magazine by email. If you would like to receive it by email, please let us know

Also, if there is anyone who would like to join our mailing list, please let us know.

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