

Parish News

Today's sermon is entitled "The World is Itself." The miracle at the wedding in Cana of Galilee is unusual in that it was requested to avoid social embarrassment rather than a life-threatening situation, and was so prodigal in its outcome. What then does it tell us about the way God sees the world?

Confirmation Have you been confirmed? Confirmation is a valuable opportunity to deepen your walk with Christ, to further your Christian education, and to claim the promises made on your behalf by your parents and Godparents. An adult candidate has begun instruction, and the Vicar would welcome enquiries from others who are interested in claiming their full sacramental credentials of Christian belonging.

Lectern The lectern, which is used for lectures, funerals and Vigil Services, is being stained to blend in with the pews, and will be back in its accustomed place next week.

Repainting the hall will commence next week. Fundraising for this project continues as we have resolved to meet the costs through parishioner subscription, and are only half way there so far.

Best books of 2012 *Conciliarism, a History of Decision-Making in the Church* by Paul Valliere has been the Vicar's best theological read of last year. Valliere is an American Episcopalian specialising in Russian Orthodox theology. Reminding us that Councils have given us the creeds we recite in Services, and though not perfect, are the best way for the Church to deal with emergencies, he then goes on to argue that a Pan-Anglican Council of the world

wide Anglican family is our best bet in solving the authority and unity problems of Anglicanism. We learn that preparations are under way for a Pan-Orthodox Synod to resolve the many jurisdictional disputes in Eastern Orthodoxy. The book is clear, lucid, well written and wise.

Film season resumes Tomorrow night the Russian film, "The Island," will be shown, with "Molokai," being shown on 28 Jan, the story of Fr Damien and his ministry on the leper island of Molokai. A 7 pm Eucharist in the Church will precede the screenings.

New thurible The new thurible, so generously subscribed by parishioners, has arrived, and is in use this morning. Parishioners are welcome to view it in the sacristy after the Service.

Framers of Anglican Identity Amongst other topics, the Caversham lectures this year will include a series of addresses on significant figures who have made Anglicanism what it is. These will include Richard Hooker, Lancelot Andrewes, Richard Baxter, John Donne, F.D. Maurice and Charles Gore.

The Rock The deadline for copy for the February edition of the Rock is 17 February.

Pray for the Sick and Infirm Rita Marlow, Claire Johnson, John Peterson, Hannah Scott, Cherry Gordon, Juen Miyagi and Denise Walker.

Pray for those who have died especially those whose memorial occurs at this time: Helen Dutton.

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