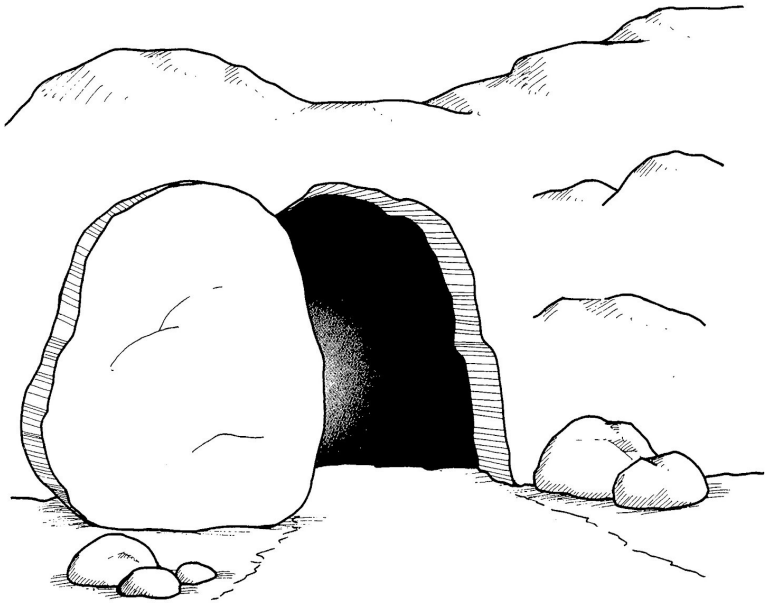


St George-in-the-East

New Beginnings



April 2015

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From the Churchwardens...

Hello Everybody, I hope you've been keeping well over Lent.

One highlight of Lent for me was on Palm Sunday when the congregation of St Dunstan's came to us. We had hoped to have two donkeys from Stepney City Farm called George and Dunstan(!) join us before we would walk and sing hymns together over to St Dunstan's. Unfortunately it was a bit wet out so George and Dunstan had to stay at home (across the road from St Dunstans). Rather than walking with Donkeys we started our service in St Georges before driving over to St Dunstans.

It's great that we were able to experience another church's service and appreciate the little differences in how different congregations experience their Sunday services. Differences in service sheets (with code for the free wifi!), which bits the congregation sang and the the use of incense (and impressive incensur swinging on the way out)!

Thank you to everyone who gave lifts over to St Dunstans and Jenny, Phil and Mark for representing us so well in the service. Special credit to Alex for showing that at St George's we don't need microphones to read the notices!

We're now also able to share some exciting news about the future of the parish, so read on!

Allan

The St George-in-the-East Partnership

A proposal for the future life of the parish has emerged from the vacancy review process. As a result, we will have Tim Clapton and Angus Ritchie as our priests for at least the next 16 months. Tim, particularly, will be taking our Sunday services and offering pastoral support for the congregation and the parish.

At the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, the Churchwardens, on behalf of the Standing Committee and the PCC, formally announced the parish's agreement to the St-George-in-the-East Partnership. The Partnership has been proposed as the solution most likely to fulfill the vision for the parish articulated by the PCC during the review process by providing support to take our vision forward and people to help us do it.

The partners will be:

- the Parish, the Bishop of Stepney
- Angus Ritchie and Tim Clapton (the two C of E clergy currently employed by the Centre for Theology and Community (CTC), tenants in our Crypt)
- a lay resident community of up to 6 young people (to be resident in the Rectory, and to include a lay chaplain)
- CTC, as employers of Angus and Tim, will oversee the lay community and bring experience of parish development work in the East End.

Angus and Tim will begin their ministry at St George-in-the-East in May, with the lay community beginning in September. The partnership will initially run until September 2016, and it is hoped that this experimental phase will lead on to a longer-term partnership, building on and also learning from, the experience of the first 16 months. Angus Ritchie will be priest-in-charge; Tim Clapton will be assistant priest, with day-to-day pastoral responsibility for the parish. Their combined workload will represent 0.6 of a post. The members of the lay community will worship with the parish on a daily basis, and will each work half a week each on parish development work, concentrating on areas of mission in our parish, to be identified by the Partnership.

We will be launching the St George-in-the-East Partnership on

Wednesday 6th May at 7.30pm and hope to see you there.

Bits 'n' bobs

We continue to hold Olive in our hearts and prayers.

Congratulations to Rachel Treweek who has been appointed as Bishop of Gloucester after supporting Bishop Adrian in her role as Archdeacon of Hackney.

We welcome a new arrival, Rory, born on 8 April at The Royal London Hospital to Hannah and Paul.

This year because of Allan's work commitments we won't be able to offer refreshments to the London Marathon spectators this year.

Services and Readings	
5 April Easter Day	Acts 10.34-43 Psalm 118.1-2,14-24* 1 Corinthians 15.1-11 John 20.1-18 or Mark 16.1-8
12 April Second Sunday of Easter	Acts 4.32-35 Psalm 133 1 John 1.1 - 2.2 John 20.19-31
19 April Third Sunday of Easter	Acts 3.12-19 Psalm 4 Luke 24.36b-48
26 April Fourth Sunday of Easter	Acts 4.5-12 Psalm 23 1 John 3.16-24 John 10.11-18