

Great St Mary's eMag

1-15 June 2025: Issue 175

From the Associate Vicar

One of the things that struck me when I arrived at Great St Mary's in September was how many people were involved in the life and ministry of the church, and in so many different ways. It's incredibly heartening, and encouraging, and humbling, and I'm aware of a profound sense of gratitude in the ministry team for the huge gifts of time, talents, expertise and diligence that are being shared here. The offering of 'time and talents' is a significant aspect of stewardship in its broadest sense, and I hope that reflecting on how we offer ourselves – our time, our skills – as well as our financial resources, is something we all feel we can do.

Some of this is about identifying tasks that need doing, and people willing to do them, as an act of service. Some of it is about identifying within ourselves our particular gifts or expertise and matching it to specific needs that will help the church answer what God is calling us to be and do.



A third dimension is reflecting in ourselves about our passions and motivations – what makes us excited about our faith and our membership of a church community, and prompts to offer that passion and commitment within the life of the church? All of these can be enjoyable and fulfilling; all of them can also be challenging; both the joys and the challenges can help us to grow spiritually and in our life of faith.

At some point in the next few days an email will go out to everyone who is subscribed to ChurchSuite* with a thank you for all that you do, and an invitation to reflect on how you offer your time and talents within Great St Mary's. If there's something you've always wondered about volunteering for, or feel God might be calling you to do, but never quite plucked up the courage to ask, I hope this will encourage you to take a first step towards it. For example, we're hoping that some people may want to come forward and join the servers' team, and Rosie is keen for more people to get involved with the children and youth ministry. If you have particular expertise that could contribute to some specific areas of mission and ministry where GSM is currently under-resourced, I hope this might prompt you to come forward and let us know what you might be able to offer. A particular example here is digital communications, where we know we have a lot of work to do to get to a point where the church's online presence keeps up with all that we are doing and want to communicate. If you just want to get more involved, I hope you will see something of the variety of ways that you could do so, and that you will feel welcome to get stuck in.

Some of the amazing volunteering at GSM includes everything from safeguarding administration to gardening, silver polishing to event hospitality, intercessions to livestreaming. And it's not just rotas, it can just be offering a spare couple of hours when you have them – it all counts. And in all kinds of roles, ministries, and acts of service there is a natural and healthy need for renewal and succession planning, to enable everyone to review what they do. Questionnaires are not everyone's favourite thing, and I hope that this one won't feel like a box ticking exercise; please be reassured that alongside responding to the questionnaire we very much hope you'll want to start a conversation about how you might get more involved or talk more in depth about your sense of what God is calling you to do. Above all, thank you for everything that you are already doing to make Great St Mary's such a special community to be part of.

Revd Ally Barrett (Associate Vicar)

*ChurchSuite is the system that GSM uses to manage our database of people who are part of the wider church family and want to stay in touch. If you're not yet on ChurchSuite, it's easy to sign up. You can fill in one of the welcome cards (at the back of the church near the donation point), visit greatstmarys.churchsuite.com/embed/addressbook/form or scan the QR code.



Please send any emag contributions at least two weeks prior to publication, to news@gsm.cam.ac.uk

Worship Schedule

June services - see Term Card for details

Sunday 1 June (Easter 7 - Sunday after Ascension)

- **8am** BCP Holy Communion
- **10am** Choral Eucharist and Children's Church
- **5pm** Choral Evensong
- **6.30pm** Peace Vigil

Sunday 8 June (Pentecost - Whit Sunday)

- **8am** BCP Holy Communion
- **10am** Choral Eucharist and Children's Church
- **11.30am** University Sermon (Ramsden): Bishop Minerva Carcaño
- **5pm** Come and Sing Evensong (advanced singers)

Sunday 15 June (Trinity Sunday)

- **8am** BCP Holy Communion
- **10am** Choral Eucharist and Children's Church
- **5pm** Choral Evensong

Regular Weekday Worship

- Monday—Friday 9am **Morning Prayer** in church and on YouTube
- Mondays 12.30 pm **Christian Meditation** in Michaelhouse - followed by soup lunch
- Tuesdays 10.30am **The Ark**, Children's Communion in Michaelhouse
- Tuesdays, Thursdays 12.30 pm in GSM - **Midday prayer with silence**
- Wednesdays 12.30pm **Holy Communion**
- Wednesday 7.30pm **Choral Compline** (11 June only)
- Thursdays 6.30pm **Choral Evensong**
- Fridays 12.30pm **Midday Prayer with silence** Michaelhouse

Livestreaming of Services

The services can be accessed via the Great St Mary's YouTube channel: www.youtube.com/c/greatstmarys

If you have any comments regarding the on-line live-streaming, please email office@gsm.cam.ac.uk

Reading this eMag online or forwarded from a friend?

Sign up for our mailing list at greatstmarys.org/emag

News & Events

Christian Aid



Every donation counts

Christian Aid Week 2025
Raising money for Christian Aid week at Great St Marys.

7 days to make a difference

Scan the QR code to make a donation



Do listen to [Bishop Rowan Williams' sermon](#) at the Christian Aid service on 18 May.

To make a donation, click on the [following link](#), or scan the QR code above, or use the special Christian Aid envelope in church.

It is the time of year when I ask house groups and individuals to consider holding a Christian Aid coffee morning or tea party. In 2024 we managed to raise over £1,000 and it would be lovely if we could do the same again this year. Gatherings can be held any time in June, but I have to submit all the money to HQ by the end of June. I have the gift envelopes all ready, so do please ask for some if you think you can manage to hold an event, however small.

For the month of June, the greetings cards on sale on the first Sunday of the month at coffee will also be supporting Christian Aid..... Lorna Atwell

Sunday 1 June - Occasional Choir

Do you enjoy singing church music but cannot currently commit to a weekly rehearsal and services? Then the Occasional Choir might be for you.

On 1 June we will be singing Choral Evensong at 5pm. Rehearsal 4pm.

Please contact Alex Berry, alex.b@cam.ac.uk, if you would like to know in advance what we shall be singing. If not, just turn up on the day with your best sight reading hat on!

Thursday 5 June, 5-6pm - Read, Mark, Learn

Read Mark Learn will meet virtually on **Thursdays** from 5 to 6 pm to study the passages for the following Sunday:

5 June John 14.8-17

12 June Galatians 3.23-end

26 June Matthew 16.13-19

For more information, contact davidg@cam.ac.uk.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84052562470?pwd=SWJnZl dCcFFOTzRWdIl4WGhpSG9ydZ09>

Meeting ID: 840 5256 2470

Passcode: 876406

Friday 6 June, 1-2pm – Lunchtime Concert (Great St Mary's)



Julian Hellaby Piano

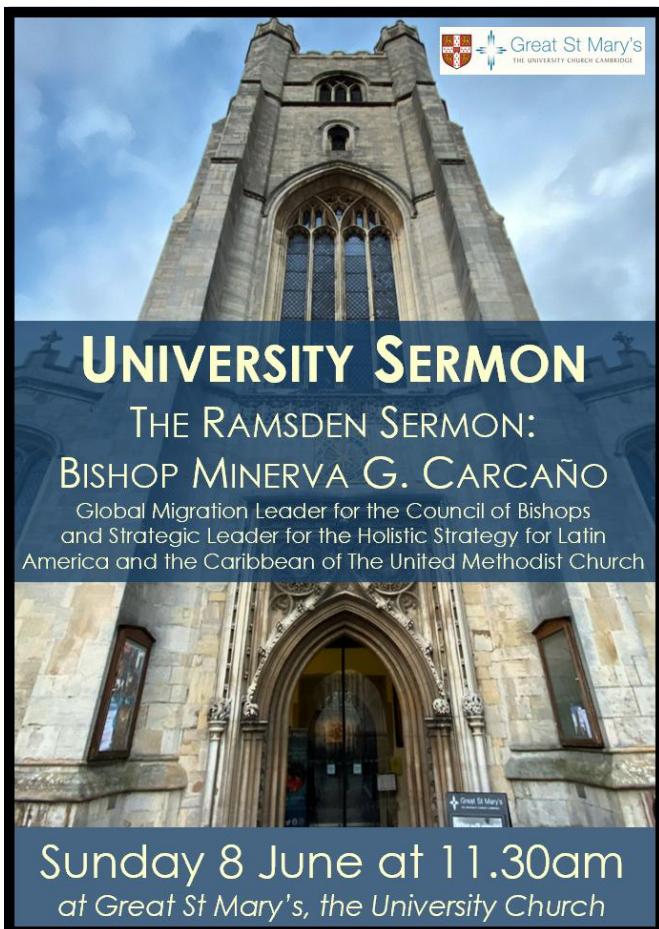
Including music by Bach, Beethoven, Chaminade, Rahbee and Ramskill
Julian studied piano with the distinguished pianist Denis Matthews and later at London's Royal Academy of Music where he was awarded several prizes in solo performance, accompaniment and general musicianship.
Free entry, with retiring collection


Saturday 7 June, 7.30pm – Academy of Great St Mary's Concert



Saturday 7 June 7.30pm at GSM
Conductor Adam Pounds
Brahms: *Tragic Overture*
Sibelius: *Finlandia*
Schumann: *Rhenish Symphony*
Tickets £8-£16 from ADCticketing.com or GSM gift shop.
The concert is in aid of Great St Mary's.

Sunday 8 June: Ramsden Sermon Bishop Minerva G Carcano



 Great St Mary's
THE UNIVERSITY CHURCH CAMBRIDGE

UNIVERSITY SERMON

THE RAMSDEN SERMON:
BISHOP MINERVA G. CARCAÑO

Global Migration Leader for the Council of Bishops
and Strategic Leader for the Holistic Strategy for Latin
America and the Caribbean of The United Methodist Church

Sunday 8 June at 11.30am
at Great St Mary's, the University Church

Come and Sing (Advanced Singers) Choral Evensong



 Great St Mary's
THE UNIVERSITY CHURCH CAMBRIDGE

MUSIC AT GREAT ST MARY'S

Come and Sing

Walton's *The Twelve*
Wood: Expectans Expectavi
Howells: Collegium Regale
Rose: Responses

Conductor: Alexander Berry
Organist: Alex Trigg

Sunday 8th June Choral Evensong for Pentecost

2.15pm Rehearsal
Tea break
5pm Service
followed by pink fizz!

Sign up via the QR code



Friday 13 June, 1-2pm – Lunchtime recital



Sarah MacDonald (University Organist)

Music to include works by Johann Sebastian Bach and Florence Price

Canadian-born UK-based conductor, composer, pianist, and organist. Sarah is Director of Music at Selwyn College, Cambridge, Director of the Girl Choristers at Ely Cathedral, and Organist to the University of Cambridge. She holds the office of President of the Royal College of Organists 2024-2026.

Free entry, with retiring collection

Saturday 14 June, 9.30am – Women's Breakfast

Breakfast in the Montefiore Room.

All are welcome - you can just turn up.

Please contact office@gsm.cam.ac.uk for more information.



Annual Parish Review

Thank you to everyone who supported the APCM on Sunday 18 May. We elected five new members to the PCC: Jane Finlayson-Brown, Rob Howlett, Louise Loxley, Joshua Randall and Sally Vernon (Assistant Church Warden) - our sincere thanks to all who give of their time and talents to serve on the PCC. The first PCC meeting will be held on 17 June.

For those of you unable to attend the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) on 18 May 2025, you can view the Annual Review for 2024 on the Church website [here](#).

GREAT ST MARY'S AND MICHAELHOUSE
ANNUAL REVIEW 2024



ANNUAL REVIEW 2024

Pastoral Care

Pastoral Visiting and Prayer at Times of Need

If you would appreciate a pastoral visit at home or to receive prayer (either by the Home Intercessors group or as part of the intercessions in GSM services) please do talk to one of the ministry team either in person or contact them via email on clergy@gsm.cam.ac.uk. If you would like to know more about either the Home Intercessors or the Pastoral Care Groups from the point of view of joining either group, do please talk to Ally or Clare (or send an email to clergy@gsm.cam.ac.uk).

In a pastoral emergency the phone number remains 01223 747277 (messages left on this number will be responded to within 24 hours)

Year's Mind

Colin Davison	12 June
Lennex Heward-Mills	17 June
Rhoda Margaret Johnston	19 June



Almighty and eternal God, from whose love in Christ we cannot be parted, either by death or life: hear our prayers and thanksgivings for all whom we remember this day; fulfil in them the purpose of your love; and bring us all, with them, to your eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Service

Eco Tip – Big Green Week 7-15 June

Great Big Green Week is the UK's biggest celebration of community action to tackle climate change and protect nature.



From 7 - 15 June, churches across the UK are coming together to celebrate the Great Big Green Week, a national moment to show how communities are caring for God's creation. Celebrate creation, share your community's climate action, and show that faith and care for the Earth go hand in hand. Let's swap together for good. [Watch the highlights from the Great Big Green Week 2024](#)

News from the Churchyard

Project Sleeping Beauty continues: we now have a bowser! (a kind of mobile water tank). This is to enable watering the north side of the churchyard without trailing hoses in awkward places, or walking all around the church to fill every watering can. Watering is very important in this hot weather with such young plants. We are so grateful to Paul (GSM staff) who is kindly going to help us with this vital job during the next few weeks.

We have sighted our first earthworm! This may seem an extraordinary thing to be excited about, but it is the first worm we have seen in four months of working the soil in the churchyard.

Earthworms are so important for healthy soil, and this solitary worm is a sad reflection of the state of the soil we are finding, with hardly any organic matter. We hope to improve the situation gradually, by adding compost and mulch and moisture. Maybe we'll import a few worms too!

If you would like to join the Ground Force (no previous gardening experience necessary) or help with watering, or donate a plant, contact Juliet Jackson: juliet@jmcj.org



Juliet

Foreign Coins Needed

Once upon a time, all the foreign coins deposited in the collection and donation boxes could be exchanged in the currency machines situated in the Grand Arcade and at the station. Since their demise, the only way to change foreign coins is to collect 5kgs worth! Well after a couple of years' worth we have got to 4.18kgs. I wonder whether you could search your drawers and rarely-used purses to enable us to reach 5kgs?

What will this go towards? Well that is a little surprise - yet to be revealed, but rest assured, it will benefit the church. Where should you deposit your precious coins (of any value, big or small)? In the donations boxes or hand them directly to me.



Many thanks. Lorna Atwell

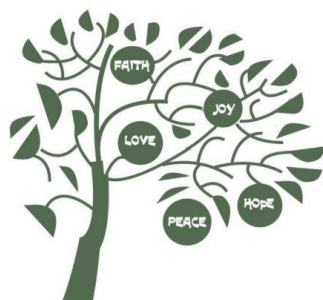
Wider Concerns

Goodwill Children's Homes

THANK YOU for your wonderful support for 'cakes and coffee' at Great St. Mary's which, together with further donations, raised £265. Goodwill provides a real home, care and education for destitute and orphaned children in southern India. (We are continuing Jenny Houghton's annual support originally via her delicious marmalade!)



Cambridge Churches Homeless Project



Pop-up Exhibition on Homelessness

4th-6th June 2025

**St Barnabas Church
Cambridge**

Cambridge Churches Homeless Project
(CCHP) cordially invites you to an interactive
exhibition exploring the question

What does homelessness mean to you?

The exhibition will include:

- ◊ A range of artwork
- ◊ A preview of a new educational course on homelessness
- ◊ A chance to meet the CCHP team and hear about our vision and plans
- ◊ Times to eat and talk with others passionate about homelessness

At CCHP we aim to walk alongside not only vulnerable people but also service providers, volunteers and churches looking to support people experiencing or at risk of homelessness.

We look forward to seeing you at the exhibition and sharing food, thoughts and conversation with you.

Exhibition Programme

Wednesday 4th June

19:00–20:30 Exhibition preview

Thursday 5th June

11:00–15:00 Exhibition open

12:30 Community lunch*

Friday 6th June

11:00–15:00 Exhibition open

12:30 Community lunch*

15:00 Communion service

Entry to the exhibition is free. Please attend whenever suits you best. No RVSP required.

**To sign up for either of the free community lunches, please contact mel@cchp.org.uk*

Elsewhere

National Cemeteries Week Tours 2025

**National Federation of
CEMETERY FRIENDS**



National Cemeteries Week

Mill Road Cemetery is taking part in National Cemeteries Week 2025, organised by the National Federation of Cemetery Friends and Caring For God's Acre. There are six tours covering everything from trees and flowers, biodiversity to history...in short hopefully there is something for everyone!

Tickets are free, but pre-booking is essential via Eventbrite.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/national-cemeteries-week-2025-4333923>

Dinah Pounds – Mayor of Cambridge

Many congratulations to Dinah Pounds.

Dinah was elected Mayor on 22 May 2025. Dinah is an accomplished flautist with a passion for music. In her inaugural address she said she will be doing all she can to ensure the opportunities we have for artistic development and cultural enrichment are available for all people of Cambridge, inspired by William Morris “I do not want art for a few, anymore than education for a few, or freedom for a few.” William Morris’s ideas today have been further strengthened by a recent scientific study which revealed the long lasting benefits of experiencing awe and wonder on brain health and overall health.

Adam and Dinah Pounds formed the Academy of Great St Mary’s in 2007 which draws in players and audiences across Cambridge and beyond. In 2019 they formed the Romsey Music project offering free lunchtime concerts at St Philip’s Church, Mill Road.

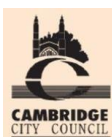
Green spaces is another area Dinah is passionate about, and another way the City can provide a source of awe and wonder or even just peace and relaxation for our residents.

Dinah went on to say that Cambridge enjoys the internationalism and multiculturalism of a world city with many creative endeavours and celebrations in music and dance. It’s a poignant reminder that the arts can transcend boundaries and language as well as honouring diversity. I hope very much to strengthen the links between the University and the City working together to enrich the lives of everyone in Cambridge, and to build bridges at home and abroad.

As Mayor she will be supporting the Neurotrauma department’s outreach programme, part of the Addenbrookes charitable trust, raising awareness about brain injury and other neurological disorders, spreading their excellence, skills and knowledge to other countries.



Cambridge Civic Quarter



Cambridge Civic Quarter Creating a vibrant civic heart

Have your say as to the future development of the area right next to Great St. Mary's: the Market Square, Guildhall and Corn Exchange. You can read more information and complete a survey [here](#) which is open for comments until 22 June 2025

Copyright © 2025 Great Saint Mary's, the University Church, All rights reserved.

You are receiving this email because you opted in, either by signing up online or submitting a signed GDPR-compliant form to the church office

Our mailing address is:

Great Saint Mary's, the University Church
Senate House Hill
Cambridge, Cambridgeshire CB2 3PQ
United Kingdom