

**INTERCESSIONS** Please pray for the long term sick and those in special need, among them:

Holly Ryan, Wendy Webb, Ann-Marie and Andy, David Games, Daniel Argov, Abigail, Melanie, Dan, Angela, Anna and Phoenix, Philip, Chris, Lewis, Timothy, Ilona Zimon, Steven Wiltshire, Jenny Hey, Julie, Michael, Sara Ali, John Cuff, Sue Goodall, Alex Underwood, Janet Semper, Peter Parsons, Richard Gurney, Brian, Ray Hey, Jonathan

**ASCENSION DAY** falls on Thursday May 13. There will be a said mass at 12.15pm, and a High Mass at 7:30pm. In addition, our friends from St Michael's will be beating their parish bounds in the morning, and all are invited to join them.

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL** meets on Wednesday 19 May at 7.30pm in the Vicarage.

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL** welcomes Rachel Elliott, Simon Cuff and Sarah Apetrei as new elected members, and welcomes back Helen Todd—all four were elected at the Annual Parochial Meeting. At that meeting, warm thanks were offered to Jess Richmond, Felicity Alcindor and Howard Dellar, who have stepped down after having given three years valuable service to the PCC.

**CHRISTIAN AID WEEK** this year is 9—16 May. Envelopes will be available in church, and we should all give as generously as we can this year.

**GIANTS OF CHRISTIAN THOUGHT** This long promised series of study morning will finally get underway this summer. The first two sessions will both concern great Christian thinkers from the church's early life. On Saturday 8th May, Dr Stan Rosenberg of Wycliffe Hall will speak on Augustine of Hippo (AD 354—430), and on Saturday 5th June, the Revd Dr Teresa Morgan, Fellow of Oriel, will lead a session on Irenaeus of Lyons (c. AD130-202).

**STUDENT NIGHT** Tuesday evenings from 7:30pm onwards at 15 Beaumont St, all students are welcome to share drink and discussion. Our study theme for this term will be sacraments and social action. More information is available from Simon Cuff, Rachel Elliott or James Holden.

**VICARAGE TEA** The next vicarage tea will take place at 3:30pm on Wednesday 26th May, at 15 Beaumont Street. Sr Margaret Anne has kindly offered to give a short talk on the life and work of the All Saints Sisters of the Poor, the community to which she belongs.

**PARISH LUNCH** There will be a bring and share lunch at the Vicarage after the High Mass on Sunday 23rd May (the Feast of Pentecost).

**FINANCIAL PLANNING IN DIFFICULT TIMES** Ecclesiastical Financial Advisory Services and its sister Insurance company do a great deal of good work with and for the Church or England. Thus we are happy to advertise a complimentary financial planning seminar they are hosting for lay people at Christ Church, Oxford, presented by committed Christians experienced in fiscal matters and ethical investment. Venue: The McKenna Room, Christ Church, St Aldates, Oxford, OX1 1DP, 17 May 2010, 6.30pm Drinks, 7.00pm Presentation, 8.30pm Finish. To take part email [seminars@ecclesiastical.com](mailto:seminars@ecclesiastical.com) or call 0800 107 0190.

**PRAYERS FOR HOMELESS PEOPLE** are to be hosted by St Michael at the Northgate this month. They will take place at 1.15 on Wednesday 5 May. On this occasion it will be a Communion service and thus may last a little bit longer than the usual 20 minutes.

**LATIN VESPERS** *Sospiri* are singing Latin Vespers at Merton on 6.15pm on Tues 4 May. The service will include a new setting of the *Regina Coeli* by our own John Duggan. All are most welcome.

**VOCATIONS GROUP** On Wednesdays a weekly discussion group will meet on Wednesday lunchtimes in church (from 1pm, bring your own lunch) to consider Christian vocation (not simply ordained ministry). All welcome.

**SUNDAY CELEBRANTS** May's celebrants are as follows:

2nd May 8am Fr Peter, 10:30am Fr Peter, 5:30pm Fr Jay Wilson

9th May 8am Fr Richard Smail, 10:30am, Mthr Leanne Roberts, 5:30pm Fr Jay Wilson

16th May 8am, 10:30am Fr Peter; 5:30pm Fr Jay Wilson

23rd May 8am Fr Richard Smail, 10:30am Sr Margaret Anne, 5:30pm Fr Jay Wilson

30th May 8am Fr Richard Smail; 10.30am Fr Peter, 5.30pm Fr Jay Wilson

**ANNUAL REPORTS** The following reports were offered in writing at the APM, and are reproduced here for the benefit of those unable to be present.

**The Restoration and Development Trust** by Philip MacLean and Fr Peter Groves

The Trusts year was sadly dominated by the loss of its distinguished and beloved Chairman, Malcolm Dalziel, CBE. The Trustees are grateful to Philip MacLean, CMG, for taking on the Chairmanship in succession. During the year another valued Trustee, Alan Palmer, stepped down after many years' invaluable service.

The Trust continued to support the parish's mission, with financial backing recently given to the PCC's request for new noticeboards and publicity facilities.

In the light of new fundraising needs, the Trust considered seriously its immediate future. The money needed by the church at this time is substantial and can realistically only come from a professionally organised appeal. After taking advice and engaging in much discussion, the Trustees have come to the conclusion that the Trust does not have the expertise or structure to undertake an appeal of this nature and scope. Believing that the PCC should control the money needed for what is now essentially the day-to-day running of the parish and its mission, they have resolved that, while the Trust will continue in existence, it will do so in a dormant state, but otherwise cease activities and wind down its balance sheet.

A caretaker board of four Trustees will eventually be appointed to decide the Trust's future. An interim board, to include the present Secretary and present Treasurer, will act as Trustees until the end of 2010 by which time all important administrative issues should have been addressed

If parishioners know of any existing testamentary legacies or bequests for the benefit of the Trust, they should speak to Fr Peter (who will continue, ex officio, as a Trustee) to ensure that the PCC benefits rather than the Trust.

**Deanery Synod** by Imogen Black

Deanery Synod has met four times since the last APCM. At two of the meetings there were visiting speakers, who spoke on Christian-Muslim relations (Bishop Kenneth Cragg) and the need for responsible stewardship of the world's resources (Chris Goodall). At the other two, members of the Synod shared information on what their parishes were doing to reach the "unchurched", and their understandings of mission in contemporary society.

**Parochial Church Council** by Susan Purver

The PCC has met seven times since the last APM. For much of the time it has been concerned with the usual routine business of reports. Our Deanery Synod representatives have kept us in touch with other churches in the Oxford Deanery, and Fr Peter Groves and Jennifer Stewart have reported on the business of Churches Together in Central Oxford, most notably the setting up of a Street Pastors scheme. Patrick Boyd Maunsell has kept us up to date with works on the fabric, in particular the successful completion of drainage works at the east end of the building, while Robert Simpson has reported on matters inside the church, both good (such as the refurbishment of the High Altar candlesticks) and bad (a succession of minor leaks

in the roof). Meanwhile, the Treasurer has kept us informed of whether and how we can afford these works—which, thanks to the legacy left us by Marjorie Stone, as well as the usual generosity of our congregation and other friends, we have been able to. During the first half of this twelve-month period, our major project was to approve the designs for and commission a new noticeboard to be put up by the north door, and we are particularly grateful to Felicity Alcindor for all the work she put into this project, and to the Restoration and Development Trust which has agreed to pay for it. Latterly we have been concerned with the old problem of having in theory only a half-time priest, new ideas for the future development and staffing of the parish, and the usual problem of how to raise the money to fund everything we would like to do about these things.

**THE PARISH PRIEST'S ANNUAL REPORT** is missing! There is a good reason for this. Normally May's Parish Notes would carry comments on the state of the parish and how rosy everything is in the garden. And it is. But for this precise reason, the time has come to move things forward significantly at St Mary Magdalen's, and the Bishop has committed to helping us do this by ordaining a "title curate" to our parish in the summer of 2011. This will be a full time member of the clergy staff in his or her first job, who comes to us as a deacon and could expect to be ordained priest after one year. The stipend costs of such a curate would be met by the diocese without significant increase to our parish share. However, we would be expected to provide housing, and hence we now seek to raise the necessary funds to buy a flat or apartment for a curate within reasonable distance of the church (a manageable walk or cycle ride, let us say).

Thus at the Annual Parochial Meeting, Fr Peter addressed those present with the project as it is so far formed. Our target is £250,000. Of this, about £112,000 is available from previous donations and legacies. We have applied to the diocese for a loan of £60,000, leaving us with £80,000 to raise. The Restoration and Development Trust has offered £10,000 to the PCC. So we are down to £70,000. It is wonderful to report that, even before launching the appeal, we have commitments from three individuals in excess of £40,000. Thus we need another £30,000 to meet our target. Fundraising material, and letters appealing for help, will follow.

This presents us with a challenge, but also an exciting opportunity. Purchasing clergy accommodation would allow us to expect a regular flow of curates every three or four years. This would make a tremendous difference to our overstretched ministry, as well as allowing a newly ordained person to learn their ministry from us and with us, and to take what they have learned to the wider church. In a meeting with Fr Peter shortly before the annual meeting, Archbishop Rowan committed his support in the following words: "St Mary Magdalen's has a central position not only physically in Oxford, but spiritually in the minds and hearts of Catholic Anglicans worldwide. Its open door has been for countless people a door into renewed faith and profound joy in believing." It is our responsibility to keep that door open for future generations, and this new proposal provides us with a wonderful chance to do just that.

### Sunday Readings

MAY 2ND:	Acts 14.21–27	Revelation 21.1–5	John 13.31–35
MAY 9TH:	Acts 15.1–2, 22–9	Revelation 21.10–14	John 14.23–29
MAY 16TH:	Acts 7.55–60	Revelation 22.12–14, 16–17, 20	John 17.20–26
MAY 23RD:	Acts 2.1–11	I Corinthians 12.3–7, 12–13	John 20.19–23
MAY 30TH:	Proverbs 8.22–31	Romans 5.1–5	John 16.12–15



# ST MARY MAGDALEN

**Services**  
**Sundays :** Eucharist at 8 am and 5.30 pm  
 Mattins 10 am  
 High Mass at 10.30 am  
**Weekdays :** Eucharist at 12.15 pm and 6.00 pm  
 Morning Prayer 8.15 am, Evening Prayer 5.40 pm

### Confessions

Daily after the 12.15 pm Mass, Wednesdays & Saturdays at 6.30 pm

### Parish Clergy

The Reverend Dr Peter Groves  
 Telephone: Oxford 247836  
[peter.groves@theology.ox.ac.uk](mailto:peter.groves@theology.ox.ac.uk)  
 Sr Margaret Anne, ASSP  
 Telephone: Oxford 200479  
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### Website

[www.stmarymagdalenoxford.org.uk](http://www.stmarymagdalenoxford.org.uk)

## Calendar for May 2010

1	S	Philip & James, Aps	<i>John, our Bishop</i>
2	Sun	5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER	<i>Parish community</i>
3	M	Feria (Easter)	<i>Rowan, our Archbishop</i>
4	T	The English Martyrs	<i>Christian Unity</i>
5	W	Feria (Easter)	<i>Oxford deanery</i>
6	Th	Feria (Easter)	<i>World peace</i>
7	F	Feria (Easter)	<i>Students</i>
8	S	Feria (Easter)	<i>Christian Unity</i>
9	Sun	6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER	<i>Parish community</i>
10	M	Feria (Easter)	<i>Christian Aid</i>
11	T	Feria (Easter)	<i>Helen &amp; Douglas House</i>
12	W	Feria (Easter)	<i>The homeless</i>
13	Th	ASCENSION OF THE LORD	<i>Thanksgiving</i>
14	F	Matthias, Ap	<i>Evangelists</i>
15	S	Feria (Easter)	<i>Oxford City Council</i>
16	Sun	7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER	<i>Parish Community</i>
17	M	Feria (Easter)	<i>Choir and musicians</i>
18	T	Feria (Easter)	<i>Children's church</i>
19	W	Dunstan, B: <i>anointing at 6pm</i>	<i>Healing ministry</i>
20	Th	Feria (Easter): <i>anointing at 12.15pm</i>	<i>Oxford's hospitals</i>
21	F	Feria (Easter)	<i>Sacristans and servers</i>
22	S	Feria (Easter)	<i>Vocations</i>
23	Sun	PENTECOST	<i>The gift of the Spirit</i>
24	M	Feria	<i>The clergy</i>
25	T	Bede	<i>Churches Together</i>
26	W	Augustine of Canterbury, B	<i>Anglican Communion</i>
27	Th	Feria	<i>The persecuted church</i>
28	Fri	Feria	<i>Monthly requiem</i>
29	S	Feria	<i>Those taking exams</i>
30	Sun	TRINITY SUNDAY	<i>Parish community</i>
31	M	Visitation of the BVM	<i>Families</i>