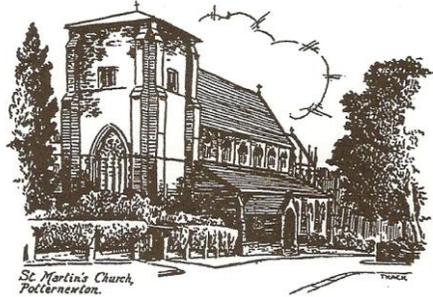


Reach Out

St Martin's Church Magazine

 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Leeds



July 2018



£ 1

Sundays at 10 am:

Parish Eucharist in Church
Sunday Club in the Institute

Wednesdays at 9:30 am:

Holy Communion / Morning
Prayers in Church

www.stmartinleeds.org.uk



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To arrange Baptisms, Banns of Marriage, Weddings, Funerals, Confession or for other matters please contact Fr. Nicholas.

Reach Out

St Martin's Church aims to praise God, to share the good news,
to be a welcoming loving church serving all.

Praise, Share, Welcome, Love, Serve.

There is a place for you at St Martin's

Editor's Comment:

Please do come along and support the last exhibition in our current series of work by local artists– opening on 7th July. Joanna Craddock's "Objects and Arrangements" photographic display will be in church for a few weeks so do come along and take a look.

We are blessed to have Bishop Paul come to St Martin's for confirmations this month and to be joined by the congregation from St Matthew's Church, Chapel Allerton. We hope to make new acquaintances and rekindle old ones.

For those of you heading off on holidays this month, travel safely and we look forward to hearing all about them on your return.

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Calendar



July

Sun 1st

The Fifth Sunday after Trinity

8.30 am Morning Prayer
10.00 am Eucharist with Confirmations and a Baptism with Bishop Paul and the congregation of St Matthew's, Chapel Allerton

Weds 4th

9.30 am Eucharist
10.30 am Home Communions

Fri 6th

7.30 pm Deanery Evening Prayer at St Martin's

Sat 7th

6.30 pm Wedding rehearsal
12 noon Wedding in church
12 noon Community Kitchen in the Institute until 2.00 pm
4.00pm Opening of Joanna Craddock's exhibition "Objects and Arrangements"

Sun 8th

The Sixth Sunday after Trinity

8.30 am Morning Prayer
10.00 am Eucharist
12 noon Joanna Craddock's exhibition open in church until 2.00pm

Tues 10th

7.00 pm Ceilidh dance planning meeting

Weds 11th

9.00 am Joanna Craddock's exhibition open in church until 11.00am

9.30 am Eucharist
10.30 am Home Communions

2.00 pm Mothers' Union meeting

7.00 pm Joanna Craddock's exhibition open in church until 9.00pm

7.30 pm Choir Practice

Fri 13th

6.30 pm Wedding rehearsal

Sat 14th

12 noon Community Kitchen in the Institute until 2.00 pm

12 noon Little London Community Gala at the

		Community Centre / School until 4pm
	1.00 pm	Wedding: Worsley-Bell
	4.00pm	Joanna Craddock's exhibition open in church until 6.00pm
Sun 15th		<u>The Seventh Sunday after Trinity</u>
	8.30 am	Morning Prayer at St Martin's
	9.30 am	Licensing of Revd Helen Banks at All Souls' by Bishop Paul
	10.00 am	Parish Eucharist at St Martin's
	12 noon	Joanna Craddock's exhibition open in church until 2.00pm
	3.30 pm	Outreach
Weds 18th	9.00 am	Joanna Craddock's exhibition open in church until 11.00am
	9.30 am	Eucharist
	7.00 pm	Joanna Craddock's exhibition open in church until 9.00pm
	7.30 pm	Choir Practice
Thurs 19th	7.30 pm	Churches Together Prayer meeting at St Augustine's
Sat 21st	12 noon	Community Kitchen in the Institute until 2.00 pm
	4.00pm	Joanna Craddock's exhibition open in church until 6.00pm
Sun 22nd		<u>Mary Magdalene</u>
	10.00 am	Parish Eucharist
	12 noon	Joanna Craddock's exhibition open in church until 2.00pm
Weds 25th	9.00 am	Joanna Craddock's exhibition open in church until 11.00am
	9.30 am	Eucharist
	7.00 pm	Joanna Craddock's exhibition open in church until 9.00pm
	7.30 pm	Choir Practice
Sat 28th	12 noon	Community Kitchen in the Institute until 2.00 pm
	4.00pm	Joanna Craddock's exhibition open in church until 6.00pm
Sun 29th		<u>The Seventh Sunday after Trinity</u>
	10.00 am	Parish Eucharist with children
	12 noon	Joanna Craddock's exhibition open in church until 2.00pm

Pastoral Letter

BAPTISM and CONFIRMATION

Dear Friends,

We are Christians because we belong to the Church of Christ, and the Church of Christ finds inspiration and nourishment in its sacramental life. The Church itself is a sacrament, because it is an outward sign of a spiritual reality that is the Body of Christ.



'Sacraments', in fact, are just this: outward signs, symbolic actions, signifying something that takes place at a spiritual, invisible level.

On the first Sunday and first day of this month of July a number of candidates from our own congregation and from St Matthew's Chapel Allerton are being confirmed by Bishop Paul, and one is also baptised, through the so-called sacraments of Christian initiation, thus bringing to completion their entry into the Church of Christ. They have prepared for this over quite a long period of time, deepening with the help of fellow-Christians their reflection on the Holy Scriptures and on the meaning of their fellowship with Christ.

When ministering in South Sudan, visiting some remote isolated villages where people were trying to survive the horrors of war, of severe famine and of incurable diseases, I was astonished to find large Christian communities that for years had continued to prepare for Baptism the new generation and many adult converts. On one particular occasion I baptised over 90 people in the same service, mostly adults who had prepared for two years. In truth those people, those men, women and children, were already Christian at heart. Pouring water on their heads and anointing them with oil was just the outward expression of what had already taken place in them the moment they decided to follow Christ. They were already Christian before they received their Baptism. As a matter of fact there were people in those villages that I could not baptise according to Church law, except in danger of death. Polygamous men, for instance. And yet they considered themselves to be Christian, and we all did, because they wanted to follow Christ as their Lord. We could not perform the rite because they had more than one wife and leaving their wives behind would have been an act of injustice towards those women and towards their children, but

they were already full members of the spiritual reality that is the Body of Christ.

Having said that, in His Mercy the Lord chooses to operate also through the outward sign of the sacrament. When we pour water on the head of the candidates and say the accompanying words, the Spirit does work in them in ways that we cannot comprehend. Usually we don't actually see anything happening, but one day I saw the Spirit at work when the Lord chose to heal, quickly and completely, a dying man who had requested to be baptised.

After Baptism, Confirmation comes to complete our joining of the body of Christ by enabling us to live our lives as Christians, and to bear witness to our faith. It is administered through the laying of hands by a Bishop - almost to signify the sending by the Church, entrusting the candidate with the message of the Good News to be lived and to be proclaimed to the world - and through the anointing with the oil of *chrism* (the oil of the anointing), which signifies the empowering of the Holy Spirit. These are outward signs, but through them the Lord actually empowers us to live in full our call as Christians and to bear witness to our faith in our lives. We are empowered to do all this if day after day we choose to remain faithful. For this reason this sacrament is not given to babies like Baptism is, but to people who can freely give their assent to the call made on them.

These two sacraments cannot be repeated, because we believe they mark our souls for ever, as if Christ were saying, "Now you are Mine, for ever." It's like a pact that He enters with us, a covenant, but while we may be unfaithful to this covenant Christ will remain faithful to it for ever. For this reason these two sacraments cannot be repeated.

As we rejoice for our friends receiving their Baptism and Confirmation and pray for them, we also become part of that covenant, as we take upon ourselves as a community the responsibility to nurture their faith with our care and with our example.

Yours in
Christ,
Fr
Nicholas



We publish our magazine online halfway through the month so if there are any photos that you would like to take a closer look at in colour you can find them at:

<http://www.stmartinleeds.org.uk/magazine-issues/>

News

PCC digest

On Tuesday 5th June the PCC met and here is some information about its deliberations.

- With a unanimous vote Georgette Bartlett was confirmed as St Martin's Safeguarding Coordinator.
- The newly formed Finance Committee reported back to the PCC with some initial suggestions towards a redressing of our current financial deficit. More initiatives are in the pipeline. At the same time, your generous contributions and others sources of income – notably the renting out of the Institute to the general public – have allowed our treasurer to keep up with our monthly payments of our Diocesan share.
- With the introduction of new European GDPR legislation we are taking measures to guarantee legal compliance in our dealings with people interacting with our parish church.
- After a third art exhibition by the photographer Joanna Craddock that will follow the current one by the painter Paul Digby, we are planning an exhibition in October of carnival costumes organised by Hughbon Condor of High Esteem Carnival Designs. More information will be available in the summer. The first art exhibition by the photographer Jonathan Turner brought almost 200 visitors to the church (197 exactly).

The next meeting of the PCC is scheduled for Tuesday 4th September at 7 pm.

Fr Nicholas

Windrush Service

The Windrush Scandal has hit the headlines recently, but it has hit our community hard in Potternewton. Many members of our church came to England in the 1960s (mostly after the *Empire Windrush* had been taken out of service), bringing their skills in nursing to serve in our hospitals and

their work ethic to run the buses, clean and do hard labouring jobs, at the invitation of the British Government and as citizens of the British Empire. They exchanged the beautiful Caribbean climate for the freezing, foggy Yorkshire winters and an even frostier reception. And now, the political climate is turning frosty again and brothers and sisters in this church are being made to feel unwelcome again.



News cont...

We have all heard of someone who is at risk of being cut off from vital services, or under threat of deportation, but more importantly so many of our church family feel insulted and hurt by this new expression of racism. We needed to bring all this to God. So, on May 12th, we had an informal prayer gathering, where we shared testimonies and expressed our feelings, then ended with a short prayer and held hands to sing the Caribbean 'Our Father'. We are brothers and sisters in Christ, we are children of the same heavenly Father who loves us all equally. St Martin's welcomes all and always will.

Revd Jane

Christian Aid

"Together we're stronger than the storms." This was the message for this year's Christian Aid Week (15-21 May 2018), where the focus was on raising funds to help the people of Haiti. As we know, the island was devastated



by storms in 2016, but as Hurricane Season approaches each year, thousands of people are in danger of losing their homes and livelihoods once again. Christian Aid raises money for the poorest and most desperate people in the world, to help build community projects – such as building secure homes in Haiti – and keep people from hunger, disease and homelessness.

Although Christian in foundation, Christian Aid helps people regardless of their religion. Nonetheless, Christian Aid Week is an excellent opportunity for us as a Church to bear witness to Christian compassion by making door-to-door collections over the course of the week. Franklin Pond was at the helm as ever and, despite struggling with a painful leg and unable to do quite as much, he made sure that we covered quite a few streets around St Martin's. The weather was beautiful this year and people were kind in their donations. We raised a total of £610. Many thanks to Franklin, Carrie, Sue, Morice and Sylvia, and to everyone who donated.

Revd Jane

News

Lay Conference 2018

Loving.
Living.
Learning.

On Saturday 9th June four representative from our parish (May, Paul, Jason and Helen) attended the Diocese of Leeds Lay Conference "Together in Faith" at the Harrogate Conference Centre. Over 900 other delegates were also in attendance from the length and breadth of the Diocese of Leeds. The conference started with a short act of worship before an inspirational address by Mark Russell, Chief Executive of the Church Army. He challenged us to try a new initiative within our church or community this year; to reach those on the margins; to make our churches more welcoming and accessible; to remember that God has faith in us and to have the belief that we can change the lives of others around us. He reminded us just how inspirational the life of Jesus Christ was and therefore "it takes talent to make Christianity boring"!! "You are the only Bible most people will ever read", Mark reminded all the delegates, "You are the fifth Gospel". Mark's address set the day off to a great start.

We then had the opportunity to attend two more sessions, from an array of choices. Between the four of us we listened to talks on "God's Call, the Old Testament and Me" by Bishop Jo Bailey-Wells and "Seeing God at Work" by Neil Hudson. We attended sessions on "God and Science"; "Wellbeing, Mental Health and Making a Difference"; "Overcoming obstacles to Faith" and "Engaging Confidently with People of Different Faiths". All of these gave us food for thought which will be discussed with Fr Nicholas and the PCC in due course.

A new online learning portal was unveiled by the Director of Lay Training, Hayley Matthews, which offers more support and recognition of a wider range of lay ministries both inside and outside of the church. Anyone can sign up for free membership and access to this resource at: learning.leeds.anglican.org

The conference closed with another short act of worship, including a rousing rendition of "Be thou my vision", which sounded amazing sung by 900 voices! In conclusion Bishop Nick urged all lay people to "take responsibility for your discipleship and for your learning...Don't wait for the vicar to tell you".

If you would like to know more about possibilities for lay ministry in our church do speak to any of our delegates or to Fr Nichols.

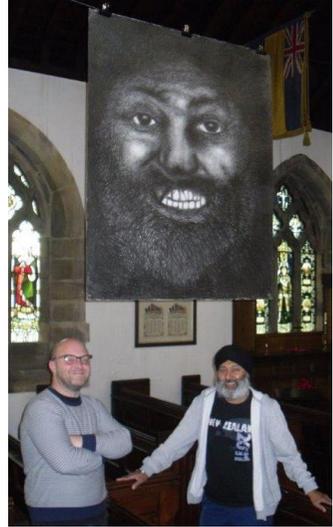
Helen Sanders

News

"Portraits of emotions" exhibition

On 26th May a second exhibition opened in St Martin's Church. "Portraits of emotions" is a series of drawings, by local artist Paul Digby, portraying people from the LS7 area expressing emotions. The portrait on the right is of local primary school teacher Mr Singh, who came along to the opening (photo with Paul Digby).

The portraits reference George Seurat's drawing techniques of cross hatching and circular movements and Charles Darwin's work "Expression of the Emotions in Man and Animals". The portraits are 1.5m x 1.2m and clearly show different facial expressions. It is thought provoking to work out what emotion each expression signifies. The portraits were hung on wires stretched between the pillars in the church.



The exhibition was opened by Cllr Jane Dowson and Revd Colin Henderson and attended by about 50 people. Live piano music provided background ambiance as the portraits were viewed.



The exhibition has been well-received by members of the public: "The faces are so expressive and the technique fascinating... What a beautiful church" – R Marsden.

"Great paintings – they looked amazing in the space" – C Hirschhorn.
The exhibition closed on 17th June.

News

St Martin's Church – A Celebration of Chapeltown

Exhibition programme: April – August 2018

Opening times: **Wednesdays** 9-11am & 7-9pm; **Saturdays** 4-6pm

Sundays 12noon-2pm

At St Martin's Church, St Martins View, Leeds, LS7 3LB



Joanna Craddock

Objects and Arrangements

Current photographic work draws upon the experience of bereavement and loss of significant women in her family and subsequent material inheritance. Joanna uses the genre of still life to work with a number of family artefacts, objects and photographs, to explore the potential of things to communicate about public and private selves

Launch event:

Sat 7th July 4-6pm

Closing Weds 1st August

Grant funding

St Martin's Church has been awarded a grant from the Yorkshire Historic Churches Trust to go towards our urgent repairs.

The Trust provides funds for maintenance to all meeting places of all Christian denominations across the region. Since 1988 the Trust has awarded almost £3m to more than 750 churches, including St Martin's, for many repair projects. The Trust relies on donors to continue being able to award grants to preserve such beautiful places of worship. For £35 a year the Trust can make people a friend of the Trust and you will receive regular e-newsletters and invitations to attend a range of architectural tours and lectures. For further details you can visit the website: www.yhct.org.uk or contact Vanessa White on 07786 656883.



100 Club (drawn in church on 3rd Sunday of the month)

May winners:

1st prize: £60: M Hunter

2nd prize: £20: L Williams

3rd prize: £10: G Rawlins

For a chance to win these monthly prizes you just need to pay an annual fee of £60 to join the 100 Club- see Maddy or Carrie.

From All Souls

Greetings! from all who worship and use All Souls to seek comfort, sanctuary and peace for body, mind and spirit. I am so blessed to feel part of All Souls family since I began to be their priest there in February. Bishop Paul is licensing me as Associate Priest in the benefice of Potternewton with Little London with sole responsibility for All Souls on Sunday morning 15th July. I am really delighted and feel privileged to serve God in All Souls and the Little London area. I have a good team of people I am working with and I offer them a big thank you and also Father Nicholas for having faith in me and encouraging me at every step. Although I miss my friends at St. Martin's I am not far away and I will visit you when the opportunity arises.

We have rather a busy month at All Souls this July not only my licensing but the Little London Community Gala is taking place on Saturday 14th. July and All Souls have a stall giving away cakes, buns etc. that our church family have donated. We hope to have a wonderful family fun day getting to know the local people and tasting some of the food on offer from around our world from people in our community who have journeyed across dangerous ground, waters, and hostile inhabitants to live in our community of Little London. We at All Souls hope some of our friends from St. Martin's can come along and visit our stall and take part in the fun.

We have a new vision for All Souls. New things are happening. We have a student intern from Leeds University who has just started working with us. She is enthusiastic and confident in her abilities, and we have confidence in her. We had a wonderfully moving Corpus Christi service at the end of May which All Souls haven't had for a few years, and with Matthew (St. Martin's organist) and his newly formed choir the singing was exceptional. Although I made a few mistakes during the service! The whole service was for me a wonderful celebration of our Lords institution of The Last Supper and a celebration of what is to come at All Souls for us all working together in the love and service of Jesus Christ our Lord, Saviour and Friend.

The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not the sharing in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not the sharing of the body of Christ? (1 Corinthians 10:16)

God bless, love and prayers,
Mother Helen Banks

Articles

THE ATTACK ON OVERSEAS AID

An article by Paul Vallely – journalist - from *The Tablet: The International Catholic News Weekly*, 24 February 2018, p.4. Reproduced with permission of the Publisher. Website address: <http://www.thetablet.co.uk>

A QUARTER OF a million poor people paid the price within a few days after *The Times* published its exposé of parties with prostitutes held by a few Oxfam aid workers in disaster-torn Haiti in 2011. Oxfam's partner, the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, swiftly announced it was suspending funding for a joint project which benefits 250,000 people in Iraq, the Central African Republic and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

A few days after that the British government insisted that the country's biggest international development charity must stop bidding for taxpayers money until ministers are "satisfied" the charity "can meet the high standards we expect". But many right-wing politicians are going further, suggesting that the scandal calls into question the very future of the aid budget, which they have long attacked as overgenerous in a time of austerity. Yet the ensuing debate has been characterised by ignorance, muddled thinking, falsehoods and hypocrisy. "It's a moral panic," one aid veteran told me, "there is no nuance and no balance in the reaction."

Seven years ago a whistleblower reported to Oxfam's head office that a culture of bullying, intimidation, pornography and sexual exploitation existed in its office in Haiti. Investigators flew from Oxford and sacked four employees for gross misconduct and told three others to resign. It reported all this to the UK government's Department for International Development (DfID), and to its regulator, the Charity Commission. It even issued a press release about the sackings which was carried by the BBC, though it spoke only of misconduct, omitting the sexual detail. It then appointed a head of safeguarding and created a whistleblowing hotline, onto which allegations were reported anonymously. It sent safeguarding trainers out into the field and began listing sexual harassment incidents in its annual public report.

What Oxfam did not do was report the offenders to the police, either in Haiti, where prostitution is illegal, or back in the seven countries from which the aid workers came. (None was British.) It did not inform other aid agencies of the identity of the offenders, so they could be prevented from working elsewhere. And it was slow to give its new head of safe-guarding the resources she needed to deal with the level of complaints flooding in to the whistleblowing hotline. Then when

the story broke last week its senior management team was not transparent in its response, allowing the details to seep out in dribs and drabs. Instead of immediately owning up and apologising, Oxfam's response seemed reluctant, clumsy and maladroit.

OXFAM WAS NOT alone in its culpability. It turned out that officials from DfID (who in 2011 were more concerned about fraud and corruption than sexual exploitation) and the Charity Commission (whose budget had been slashed by a third) had failed to enquire into the nature of the gross misconduct in Haiti. But Oxfam made serious mistakes. Its peers in other aid agencies accept that. Yet they are also convinced the timing and ferocity of the criticism of the charity is a deliberate strategy, and is part of a wider attack on overseas aid. Half a dozen senior figures in the aid world told me that Oxfam was being attacked because of its political campaigning. "The right hates Oxfam because it is a voice for the voiceless," one agency head said. "It doesn't just help poor people; it asks why they are poor." Oxfam has, in recent times, criticised benefit cuts, zero-hours contracts, and tax havens and asks why most of the globe's new wealth has gone to the richest one per cent of the population. "Oxfam is a target because it speaks out and challenges government policies."

That first *Times* story – one in no fewer than 50 anti-Oxfam articles it published over just 10 days – came just as the new darling of the Conservative right, the prominent parliamentary Catholic, Jacob Rees-Mogg, presented a petition to Downing Street on behalf of a *Daily Express* "crusade" entitled "Stop the foreign aid madness" ... Tory right wants, under cover of austerity, to slash the aid budget and the commitment enshrined in law by David Cameron to give 0.7 per cent of our national income to help the world's poorest people. They want the cash to be diverted to the NHS or to welfare budgets.

This makes little economic sense. To halve the aid budget would save £7bn, which would make little impact on the £155bn cost of the NHS or the massive £252bn benefits and pensions bill. Set against that, British aid has contributed to the wiping out of smallpox, the near eradication of polio, and the halving of deaths from malaria, and has saved the lives of 5 million children each year who would otherwise have died from diarrhoeal diseases. Britain's overseas aid is particularly effective and well-targeted, according to Owen Barder of the Centre for Global Development.

OF COURSE it's not really about the figures. Cutting aid is a visceral instinct rather than an economic calculation for the ideological right. To them the 0.7 per cent is the last remnant of the one-nation Cameron project they so despise. It tunes into the Brexit psyche. As one aid agency chief put it: "However much we argue that aid is effective it doesn't cut through effectively – just as in the Brexit debate it doesn't

work to talk about the economic damage. People have heard those arguments and they discounted them." Brexiteers who say they want Britain to take a greater role on the world stage seem not to see that halving our foreign aid would diminish Britain's role as a moral actor on the world stage.

Politics is not the only muddle. There is also much confusion over what its critics mean by "aid". Those who object to development aid often say they have no problem with humanitarian emergency relief after a disaster, which constitutes only 10 per cent of total aid flows. It's ironic, then, that they are now seizing on humanitarian relief on Haiti as an example of aid failure.

The current debate fails to take account of the differences between relief and development. Inside Oxfam there are four different cultures rooted in its four centres of operation: emergency work, long-term development, advocacy and fundraising. Each requires a different skill-set and creates a different value-set. Fundraisers tend to be keen on using sad pictures of desperate children. Development workers, fired up by a vision of partnership and empowerment, want the opposite. Oxfam's pioneering work on gender in development comes from that latter group. Those in the advocacy unit are primarily political. Those working in emergency relief have a distinct go-getting macho approach.

As one veteran aid worker put it: "Operational people in emergencies are very much 'Cut the crap you snowflakes, we've got to get this done'. In disasters and conflicts you do sometimes need a more testosterone-loaded approach. You're dealing with warlords, crises and corrupt officials." But it can be tricky to bring in a former soldier who had been a logistics expert in the army and expect him to leave his soldiering culture behind. This is the brand of aid worker who behaved so badly in Haiti. Getting them to embrace the values of their colleagues who have been pioneers in the empowerment of women has been a key problem for Oxfam.

In development work the aid sector is moving to a "localisation" model, to enabling local people to do the work once done by expats. Emergency work is also adopting that approach, but more slowly. "The old model of the white saviour coming in to help the poor blacks is a mentality which remains seductive," said Chris Bain, the head of Cafod. "We've got to move away from that. From day one of a disaster you can either build local capacity or undermine it - and disasters are an 'opportunity for change'."

Yet localisation can throw up different problems, of clashes of culture and of values. The internationalisation of Oxfam has empowered people in the south, said one former Oxfam executive, but there is a downside; it increases the complexity of relationships; and it can create

problems with the import of local cultures which can be out of sync with those of a contemporary international organisation. While acknowledging the faults of some aid workers, the writer and activist Michael Edwards points out: "There are no saints in the global south either." Oxfam has said it ran training courses in high-risk countries in 2014 "to help our staff know what is acceptable and what is unacceptable behaviour".

The third area of confusion is over sex. The central row in Haiti was over the use of prostitutes. But it has become muddled up with the issue of the sexual harassment of female Oxfam employees by their male colleagues. Social mores shift on such issues. Oxfam's policy on the use of prostitutes by aid workers was drawn up in 2006, when the dominant development issue was human rights. It said that the organisation would "strongly discourage" their workers from paying for sex but stopped short of banning staff from using prostitutes, which, it said, would "infringe their civil liberties".

In today's #MeToo culture such a stance is easily mocked. But a senior female aid worker, with 25 years experience in the field, insists that in practical terms the 2006 policy "is still total common sense". She adds "if an aid worker on his weekend off wants to go to the capital and visit the red light district it's not for me to complain, so long as it's legal and there are no underage people involved". But in Haiti one male Oxfam worker had sex with the sister of an aid recipient. "That is unacceptable; it violates a relationship of trust, like a teacher having sex with a pupil." And, as was made clear in questions to Oxfam executives at the Commons select committee ..., in a disaster zone there is an argument for saying that everyone in the region is a beneficiary in the widest sense. Not everyone agrees. Some insist that prostitution is always exploitation; others argue it can be a deliberate choice, and therefore consensual.

The issue of sexual harassment is related, but distinct. Ironically, a major study by Tufts University on the sexual assault of aid workers shows that Oxfam is "universally" regarded as having the best policies on prevention and protection on sexual harassment. Dr Dyan Mazurana, who conducted the Tufts research, said that the changes introduced by Oxfam after the Haiti incident – a whistleblowing helpline, a dedicated safeguarding team and a policy of publishing data on allegations made – put Oxfam in the pioneering forefront. Ironically, she said, "once you get better reporting and investigating mechanisms in place, and people have confidence to use them, the reports are going to go up." Seven Oxfam country directors were investigated on "safeguarding allegations" and the charity handled 87 allegations of sexual exploitation by staff in 2016-17. But for Dr Mazurana, all this is a sign of progress. Of the 87 allegations, 53 were referred to the police

and 33 were investigated internally, with three quarters of those being upheld and resulting in disciplinary action. At the select committee on Tuesday the Oxfam chief executive, Mark Goldring, revealed that 26 more complaints have been made in recent days.

PENNY MORDAUNT, the secretary of state for international development, says she will suspend new funding to Oxfam until it demonstrates that is capable of exhibiting “moral leadership”. That notion brought a wry smile to aid workers like Maggie Black, the author of the official history of Oxfam, who pointed out the irony of a demand for moral behaviour from a government which supplies the “made-in-Britain bombs” currently raining down on Oxfam’s work with the poor people of Yemen. Nor does it seem consonant with the corrupted vision of development articulated by Ms Mordaunt’s predecessor, Priti Patel, who was humiliatingly sacked in November after trying to negotiate a secret deal to pass British aid money to the Israeli army. Ms Patel told *The Times* that she would no longer contribute to Oxfam – only for it to turn out that she had no direct debit to cancel. It was typical of the bad faith which has characterised much of the debate around the Haiti scandal.

Such double standards explain why failures of aid always seem to lead to a call to cut aid rather than reform aid. Failings in health or education do not bring calls to close the NHS or spend less on schools. Sexual harassment in parliament or in the army does not prompt anyone to suggest abandoning those institutions. After Harvey Weinstein no one said we should shut down Hollywood and stories about predatory paedophiles in football have not made anyone drop their support for Manchester City. Why, when it comes to aid, are some people so determined to throw the baby out with the bathwater? Last year Oxfam provided emergency support for 8.6 million people hit by conflict and natural disaster. Surely that is worth preserving.

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

It helps now and then to step back and take the long view. The kingdom is not only beyond our efforts, it is even beyond our vision ... which is another way of saying that the kingdom always lies beyond us.

We are prophets of a future not our own.

Words of Archbishop Oscar Romero, outspoken critic of the Government of El Salvador and its oppression of the poor and of civil liberties. He was killed by assassins on 24 March 1980 while celebrating the Eucharist in a chapel. Six days later more than 250,000 people gathered outside the cathedral for his funeral. At the funeral between 30 and 50 people were killed allegedly by government security forces that fired indiscriminately on the crowd.

Regulars

Mothers' Union - KEEPING MOTHERS UNION ALIVE

In many cases, a particular event or set of circumstances may be the deciding factors in ensuring that someone becomes a member of a church and joins Mothers Union. The catalyst may be the link of one's child's school with the local church or even a chance visit to a church which feels right.

My mother's illness was the set of circumstances which resulted in my becoming a church member and joining Mothers Union. My mother's Christianity was strong and true. It was not the loud 'Glory, Hallelujah' type of faith but was quiet and deep. She made sure that her children were baptised, confirmed and attended Sunday School. My grandmother also had strong religious links with her church. As a young girl, I remember attending church conventions with her. These conventions catered for large congregations and were held in huge tents at various times and locations throughout the year.

When my mother's health deteriorated and she became housebound, visits from St Martin's clergy brought her a great deal of comfort. After she passed on, it seemed right that I should become a member of St Martin's which after all had been my church in my younger days. I had retired at that stage and no longer had the pressures and time constraints of a full time job.

The social contacts that are made in church are important to me and Mothers Union helps in this respect. The involvement of Mothers Union with the local community may take various forms. As it is said that the way to someone's heart could be through his/her stomach, Mothers Union's provision of refreshments at church events can only be seen as a good thing! Many a discussion/friendship has begun over a cup of tea.

Mothers Union plays an important role in today's world and it is up to us as members to make sure that this message is passed on – loud and clear!

(Article provided by Jennie Collins)

It was with great sadness that we said goodbye to our fellow Mothers' Union member, Yvonne Archibald. Fr Nicholas officiated at the funeral service on Friday 8th June 2018. Lucy processed the St Martin's Mothers' Union banner down the central aisle of the church, followed by family and mourners. Yvonne was a long serving member of Mothers' Union and a keen supporter of our activities. She will be sorely missed.

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Church Notice Board

Sun 1st July: 10.00am – Confirmations at St Martin's Church

Weds 4th July: 7.30pm – Deanery Evening Prayer at St Martin's

Sat 7th July: 4.00pm – Opening of Joanna Craddock's "Objects and Arrangements" exhibition here in church

Tues 10th July: 7.00pm – Ceilidh preparation meeting

From the Registers

Funerals:

16/5/2018 – Beverley Ann Hudson

18/5/2018 – Charles Leroy David

8/6/2018 – Yvonne Archibald

Rotas

Readings



July 1st	Lamentations 3:23-33 Mark 5:21-end	T.B.C. (St Matthew's) Priest
July 8th	Ezekiel 2:1-5 2 Corinthians 12:2-10 Mark 6:1-13	E Allen J Collins Priest
July 15th	Amos 7:7-15 Ephesians 1:3-14 Mark 6:14-29	M Bartlett D Herbert Priest
July 22nd	Song of Solomon 3:1-4 2 Corinthians 5:14-17 John 20:1, 2, 11:18	P Cook M David Priest
July 29th	2 Kings 4:42-end John 6:1-21	C Rowsell Priest

Sidespeople

July 1st	J France; M Hunter; H Baxter
8th	L Thomson; E Mills; E Shannon
15th	P Adams; L Willie; I Manners
22nd	D Herbert; M France; J Collins
29th	I Maynard; M David

Refreshments

July 1st	H Baxter; M Hunter
8th	J Collins; P Adams
15th	L Thompson; E Mills
22nd	M Hunter;
29th	M Hunter; H Baxter



Sunday Club

July 1st	Georgette / Apostol
8th	Caroline / Myrla
15th	Georgette / Apostol
22nd	Caroline / Myrla
29th	Children in Church





Transport

Would you like to come to Church services but cannot get here by yourself? Please let us know and we will try to come up with a way of getting you here to worship with us.

St. Martin's Free Community Kitchen

Our doors are open to families, individuals, the homeless, underprivileged and whoever else may be in need of some delicious food.

Every Saturday, serving 12pm-2pm

Come and find us at

St. Martins Institute
St. Martins View
Leeds
LS7 3LA



Just off Chapeltown Road



Community Kitchen

"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in"
(Matthew 25:35)

Started in July 2014, The Community Kitchen is open on Saturdays from 12.00 to 2.00pm. A free three course meal of soup, a main course and dessert is normally provided. Tea, coffee and fruit juices are also served.



St Martin's Institute

St Martin's View, LS7 3LA

St Martin's Institute is a very large venue offering facilities for private functions, meetings or groups for the local community at very reasonable rates.

For further information please call
07526 072381

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