



ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH

Barcelona



NEWSLETTER

October/November 2008

USEFUL INFORMATION

St. George's Church, Barcelona

Chaplain:	Revd. Andrew Tweedy	93.417.88.67
Church Wardens:	Phil Seager	93.434.00.86
	Louise Schubert	93.675.61.39
Treasurer:	Mark Hopper	93.810.71.57

St. Stephen's Church, Madremanya

Contacts:	Melissa Levey	97.249.03.83
	John & Eleanor Copestake	93.764.07.14

Rosas Congregation

Contacts:	Tim & Anne Raine	97.265.13.90
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REMEMBER TO CHANGE BACK YOUR CLOCKS!
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25 AT MIDNIGHT

For the December/January Newsletter, please send all articles, photos and news items to stgeorgeschurch@telefonica.net by November 15th.

Church Administrator: Circe Bosch
Hours: M, W, TH, F 8am-1pm



Rev. Andrew Tweedy - Chaplain
C/ Horacio, 38, 08022 Barcelona • Tel. 93 417 8867 Fax 93 212 8433
Email: stgeorgeschurch@telefonica.net

DATES TO REMEMBER

Newcomer's Potluck Lunch Sunday, October 19th

Everyone is welcome! Join us for lunch after the 11am service. Bring a dish or simply enjoy what others have brought. Meet new people and enjoy fellowship and good food.

2 Nov., Sunday - Harvest Festival & Baptism Jude Nair

15 Nov., Saturday - Council Away Day

Christmas Bazaar Saturday, November 29th, 12-4pm

Join us for a visit from Father Christmas, a hot lunch, a raffle and goods for sale including: crafts, preserves, cakes, mulled wine, jewellery, handmade gifts, Christmas decorations, new & used books, Christmas cards, toys, white elephant and more!

14 Dec., Sunday - Nativity Play, Carol Service

24 Dec., Wednesday - Midnight Mass

25 Dec., Thursday - Christmas Family Service

25 Jan., Sunday - Winter Potluck Lunch

25 Feb., Wednesday - Ash Wednesday

21 March, Saturday - Used Clothes Sale

9 April, Thursday - Maundy Thursday

10 April, Friday - Good Friday

12 April, Sunday - Easter Sunday

17 May, Sunday - Spring Potluck Lunch

6 June, Saturday - Summer Fair

19 Sept., Saturday - Welcome Back Potluck

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAPLAIN

Are You In SHAPE?

Don't worry, this is not another of those terrifying diet or keep fit articles! The reason behind my rather impertinent question is to invite you to think about the Bible's image of the Church as "the Body of Christ". The theologian J.A.T. Robinson showed in his book "The Body" how significant this image was for St Paul, from the moment on the Damascus Road when the risen Jesus confronted him with the question "why are you persecuting *me*?" (not "why are you persecuting *my followers*"). Paul spent the rest of his life working out the significance of the Church being the Body of Christ and in his epistles he often comes back to this theme. His vision, and because this is Scripture we can say *God's vision* for the Church is that...

"speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, *when each part is working properly*, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love." (Ephesians 4.16)

For each part to work properly and support the other parts as God intends, of course we each need to know what part we are. A toe cannot easily do the work of an eye - or vice versa! This is all very well but how can we discover where we fit in? Well I believe I can help by offering a SHAPE consultation.

SHAPE is an acronym, coined by American pastor Rick Warren and standing for Spiritual gifts, Heart, Abilities, Personality and Experience. I make the bold claim that when I talk about and pray about these things with a person, God often helps us discover together that person's unique "shape" or vocation. This is not because of any special ability, authority or training I have, but because God loves every individual and He longs, far more than you or I do, for each and every person He has created to discover

who they are and their unique purpose in life. Of course it is also true that our “shape” changes subtly over the years (my bathroom mirror and scales confirm this!), so that whether we have never been to Church or read the Bible, or have served God for many years, there may be new things to discover.

I am excited about the prospect of a Church in which a growing number of members can identify their SHAPE and apply it in discipleship within the Body of Christ and within God’s world. Perhaps a SHAPE consultation could be the next step in God’s plan for you...

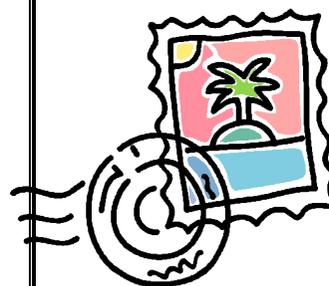
Andrew Tweedy
Chaplain

Further reading

The Purpose Driven Life Rick Warren (Zondervan 2002)
The Body John A.T. Robinson (SCM Press 1952)



Andrew and Billie share their delicious, Gaudi-esque wedding cake with everyone after the Sunday service on September 21



Dear friends,

A few lines written from the flat of some friends in New Brighton with a great view of the River Mersey and Liverpool, UK - it’s almost as good as the view from our roof above St. Georges!

We want to say thank you again for our special ‘Thank you’ day on June 29th and for your kind words and gifts. We continue to be grateful for all the support, love and encouragement we have enjoyed at St Georges. We are now spending time with family, friends and visiting two churches that have been praying for us and for you over the past five years. We will continue to pray for you and for Andrew, Billie, the wardens and council as you minister together in St Georges and Barcelona.

On our return to Barcelona at the end of September, we will be concentrating on work outside Barcelona, encouraging the church at Madremanya, exploring other parts of Catalunya for opportunities for English-language ministry, and searching out a group to help establish the ministry at Roses. We are grateful to the Archdeacon for arranging financial support for this project. We would value your prayers for this work.

With love, thanks, and our prayers for you,

Peter and Barbara

DID YOU KNOW?

The American Medical Association did a study of the Communion Cup decades ago and concluded that the alcoholic content of the consecrated Wine and the practice of wiping the Cup after each communicant receives prevented the spread of germs.

Feeling Welcome

Most importantly, we would like to thank all of those who have welcomed and helped us. St. George's has a reputation for being an open and friendly church; one of the comments that newcomers consistently make is how welcoming the church is and we have experienced this first hand.

We were met at the airport and then welcomed with flowers, a newly decorated flat, beds made up and food. Since we arrived tired, at midnight, it was wonderful not to have to worry about anything! We've also been given useful gifts such as books, maps, ice trays and a fan. We've been invited into people's homes for meals and supported as we battled with Spanish bureaucracy and the medical system.



As I write this, we've been in Barcelona for six weeks and our time has been taken up with unpacking and getting the flat feeling like home (me), learning Spanish on a three week intensive course (Andrew), negotiating the Spanish bureaucratic system, finding our way around (including trying out various beaches), getting to know the excellent public transport system and hosting lots of visitors. We've loved the beaches, Gaudi and the modernist architecture, jazz in the park and Font Màgica. We're coming to terms with the cost of living, mosquitoes, living in a city (that's me, coming from a village of about 2000 people, Barcelona is a bit of a culture shock!) and the amount of walking up or down steep hills! Now that God has turned the thermostat down, and it's not so very hot, we can confidently say that we are going to love being here and we look forward to getting to know all of you.

Billie

Remembrance Sunday



A two-minute silence will be observed on Sunday Nov. 9, the closest Sunday to Nov. 11th - Armistice Day - the historic event commemorated as Veterans Day in the U.S. and Remembrance Day in the U.K. and throughout the Commonwealth. It's also sometimes referred to as Poppy Day.

Why poppies? Red poppies grow naturally in conditions of disturbed earth. Western Europe has seen a lot of disturbed earth over the centuries. Following the Napoleonic wars of the early 1800s, fields of blood-red poppies appeared in the destroyed fields where the bodies of fallen soldiers lay. The same thing occurred again in World War I. A Canadian army doctor serving in the war immortalized the symbol in this poem:



*In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.*

*We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,*

*Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.*

*Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.*

By John McCrae (1915)

Since that time, the red poppy has served as the enduring symbol to remember all those who died not just in the First World War but also in later conflicts. In 1933, the white poppy was also introduced as a symbol for peace and an end to all wars.

Why observe Remembrance in church at all? Some Christian pacifists dislike the militaristic undertones; others resent the interruption of the worship of God with imposed silences.

One Anglican clergyman has offered this perspective: “To retreat from Remembrance would be to retreat from real people and real life. I think the Church brings something to Remembrance of which I hope it is not ashamed: prayer. Remembrance is a part of our vocation as disciples of Jesus Christ, who calls us to pray for His world. We cannot refuse to pray for the fallen in war; or for those who still suffer as a result of war; or for those who are in peril today. We can scarcely refuse to pray for the peace of the world or refuse to pledge ourselves to work for its realization.”

“War is a failure and a sin, whatever the motives with which it is begun. It has been the cause of unspeakable cruelty and limitless pain; it has been the cause, too, of the best of which men and women are capable in heroism, forgiveness and sacrifice. Where can we go with the unwieldy mass that is war, the unwieldy mass that is raw human emotion and dire human need, that is filthiest dirt and brightest glory, that is life and death - where can we go but to the altar of God? Here, in the Word made flesh among us, there is hope, dare we say the only hope, for warring humanity. Amen.”



Thoughts from St. Stephen's



As the hot humid months of July and August slip into the more gentle temperatures of autumn, we look back on those months and are thankful for the fellowship and encouragement we have received from so many different sources.

As we were to be without a priest for July we had decided on a service of Morning Prayer. Then Peter Jordan turned up from his camping holiday in Sant Antoni de Calonge and we had a Communion service after all.

August saw the Revd. John Flory, father of Bob, and his family celebrating their Golden Wedding in the area, so he came and included St. Stephen's in their festivities, joining us afterwards for a picnic. The musical talents of the congregation never cease to amaze! The service was accompanied by a mandolin and two recorders adding verve to Mark at the organ and spicing up the singing. We welcomed three new couples and two mothers and their nearly teenage children. This is a tremendous encouragement as so many of our members are resident for only part of the year and to find ourselves attracting younger folk who are making their lives here, gives an on-going purpose to our work.

On September 13th we joined with St. George's and the Església de Crist from Sabadell, for what has become an annual get-together for the Picnic in Tordera. Though last year's was billed as the last after 34 years, the Copestakes are still in their house for the present and so an extra one was arranged. A happy time

was had by all in bright sunshine. It also served to welcome Andrew and Billie as they start their ministry here. How good it is to realise that we are not alone in Madremanya, but part of a much bigger whole!

At the end of September as we celebrate our Harvest Thanksgiving we shall also witness the blessing of the marriage of two of our congregation, who had a civil ceremony nine years ago. We welcome Peter Jordan back again for that service.

Contributed by: Eleanor Copestake

NEWS FROM ICS

People on the Move

International churches often contain many people who are on the move. You may have just moved to the area in which your church is located. You may know others who have just moved away. Moving home, country and culture can be very stressful: new schools for the children, new jobs, new bosses, leaving loved ones, a new church and a new language. ICS knows of this experience too: drawing on your own experience of change please remember in your prayers ICS mission partners and staff taking up new roles in English-language ministry.



Michael Starr, the new Anglican chaplain in Libya, has a staff team to look after, a building to renovate and some 50,000 English-speaking people living in Tripoli alone to reach out to. Bring him and Margaret before God as they make friends and seek to draw new people into church life. Ricky Yates is the new Anglican

Chaplain in **Prague**, ministering to local and incoming English-speakers. Remember him and Sybille as they adjust to a new country and culture. Andrew Tweedy was licensed in September as the new chaplain in **Barcelona**. Pray for him and Billie as they develop a strategy for outreach to the many English-speakers in the Catalonia region.

Finally, **Dave Healey** has just assumed the role of head of ICS: intercede for Dave and his staff colleagues as he develops relations with diocesan bishops and staff, and works to share the gospel of Jesus Christ amongst English-speakers. Thank you.

For more information about ICS or about our charity Christmas cards, pick up a copy of *ICS News and Prayer Diary* from your chaplaincy, call ICS on +44 1926 - 430 347 or see www.ics-uk.org



Worship Area Improvements

You may have noticed vast improvements to the worship area, including new lighting, new white speakers, a light projector and a new paint job. We welcome your feedback! Let us know how you like these improvements, where you think more improvements could be made and any other comments you may have. We would like to thank Ola Hopper for all her hard work, donated time and wonderful insight in this process. THANK YOU OLA!

Andrew's Institution



On September 19th, Andrew was instituted as the 16th Chaplain of St. George's Church. The ceremony took place at 7:30pm in the newly renovated worship area of the church and was presided by the Rev. Hugh Broad, Bishop's Commissary and Area Dean, and by the Ven. David Sutch, the Archdeacon of Gibraltar.



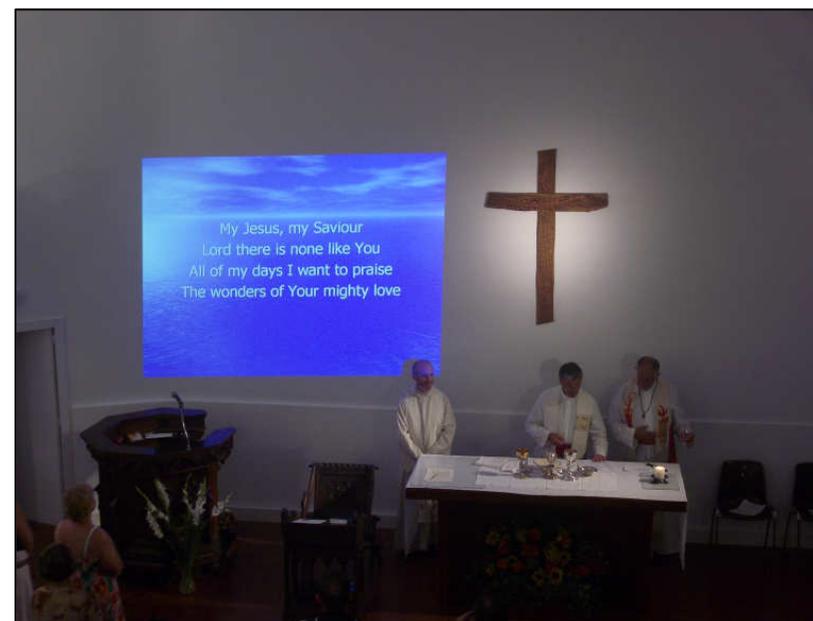
Guests and new lighting



Blessing Billie and Andrew



The Licensing



Church Picnic in Tordera

On September 13th, John and Eleanor Copestake welcomed friends and family of St. George's, St. Stephen's and Christ's Church congregations to their beautiful *masia*, Can Sebastià, in Tordera, for the annual Church Picnic.



Andrew leads the prayer



Time to make the "pa amb tomàquet"



Lounging by the pool



Tea in the shade

Baby Gallery

A big welcome to the new members of the St. George's family



Gemma (28-9-08)
Cathy Kohler & Jaime Clement



Luke (25-9-08)
Ana & Kevin Draper
(Leaders of our Weekend Away)



Ana (16-8-08)
Adriana Vazquez & Dietmar Kornak



Julia Christine (28-6-08)
Anna Ruiz & Ed Lewis

Worship Schedule

OCTOBER

Sunday 12th Oct
10am Holy Communion
11am All Age Worship

Sunday 19th Oct
11am Holy Communion &
Sunday School

Sunday 26th Oct
10am Holy Communion
11am Morning Worship &
Sunday School

NOVEMBER

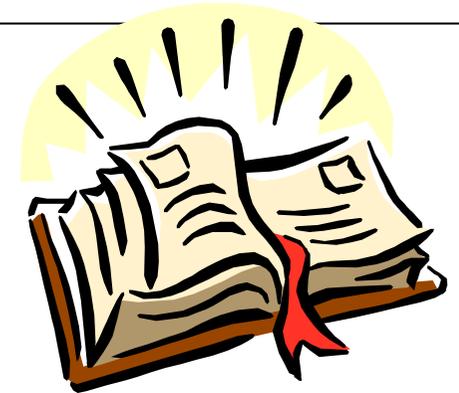
Sunday 2nd Nov
ALL SAINTS' DAY & HARVEST FESTIVAL
10am Holy Communion & Baptism
11am All Age Worship

Sunday 9th Nov
REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY
11am Holy Communion &
Sunday School

Sunday 16th Nov
11am Holy Communion &
Sunday School

Sunday 23rd Nov
10am Holy Communion
11am Morning Worship &
Sunday School

Sunday 30th Nov
ADVENT SUNDAY
11am Holy Communion &
Sunday School



Do you have questions
about the Bible?

Try our Bible Study every
Wednesday at 11am in the
church lounge, led by our
Chaplain Andrew Tweedy. This
group meets regularly to
explore God's Word and pray
together, in a relaxed
atmosphere over tea & coffee.

If you can't make it, you can
still enjoy Andrew's weekly
Bible Study outlines, along with
his Sunday Sermons. Email us at
stgeorgeschurch@telefonica.net
and we will add you to the
mailing list. You will receive
the weekly update with the
Sermon Notes and Bible Study
outlines from the previous
week, in addition to
information about church
activities and services.