Williams says world has "genuine opportunity" to end extreme poverty

Rowan Williams has called on wealthy governments to fulfil their promises on aid, trade and development or see the world's poor continue to suffer disease, starvation and death. The call came at the end of a procession of 1,000 faith leaders and bishops from central London to Lambeth Palace.

The archbishop said that there was a "genuine opportunity" to halve poverty by 2015 - the slogan on the placards distributed throughout the march, which was headed by a banner proclaiming "Keep the promise". Prime Minister Gordon Brown also spoke, lavishly describing the march as "the greatest public demonstration of faith that this great city has ever seen." "A hundred years is too long to wait for justice and that is why we must act now". You have sent a symbol, a very clear message with rising force that poverty can be eradicated, poverty must be eradicated and if we all work together for change poverty will be eradicated," he added.

Mr Brown joined Dr Williams in warning that time was running out if the United Nations Millennium Development goals were to be achieved. In a letter to 10 Downing Street, the archbishop declared: "In our human family the continuing consequence of failure is the death of millions of women and children from childhood and preventable childhood diseases." It continued: "Hundreds more have hopes for sustainable life diminished because of poverty-fuelled conflict, lack of education and gender inequality, all of which undermine a new generation's liberation from HIV."

Other faith leaders on the march were Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor, leader of Catholics in England and Wales; Sir Jonathan Sacks, chief rabbi of the United Hebrew Congregations of the Commonwealth; the former secretary general of the Muslim Council of Britain Sir Iqbal Sacranie, and Network of Sikh Organisations director Dr Indarjit Singh.

Marriage one-liners

By all means, marry. If you get a good wife, you'll become happy; if you get a bad one, you'll become a philosopher.-- Socrates

I was married by a judge. I should have asked for a jury. -- Groucho Marx

My wife has a slight impediment in her speech. Every now and then she stops to breathe. -- Jimmy Durante

I have never hated a man enough to give his diamonds back. -- Zsa Zsa Gabor

Copy Deadlines for the September edition.

Would all contributors note the following - (and apologies for the early dates)?

If at all possible, electronic copy is greatly preferred - it reduces the editing task enormously.

Hard copy (i.e. hand/typewritten items, photographs, etc) should be left in the Magazine file in the clergy vestry by Thursday August 7. Electronic copy (physical) (floppy disc, data pen, CD-ROM) should be saved as *.rtf (text files) or *.jpeg (image/graphics) if at all possible and placed in the same file as above by the same date. Electronic copy (email) should be sent in the same formats as above to davidrowett@aol.com by August 7th.
Dog Eat Dog Days

“The Dog Days” — so called because of the Sirius, Dog Star which in ancient times was thought to add to the heat of the sun in summer — used to have a fearful reputation for pestilence and plague, so much so that folk would leave the cities for fear of the epidemics which would accompany the summer heat.

Well, thanks to Mr Bazalgete (the engineer behind London’s sewerage systems), the nearest we seem to get to outbreaks of foul pestilences is a rush of funny tummies from undercooked barbequed chicken, but there still seems to be something about August which makes people odd (I speak as an August baby!). Minor stories become major, speculation becomes fact, and hiccup becomes crisis. What would normally pass off as a sneeze is reported (and interpreted) as pneumonia, as the Westminster machine takes a holiday and news has to be inflated to fill the gap left by Prime Minister’s Questions. I’m reminded of a Radio 4 ‘News Quiz’ comment, that a particular newspaper only had three headlines: ‘Shock as house prices rise - newcomers priced out’; ‘Shock as house prices fall: owners lose out on investment’; and ‘Shock as house prices stay the same: fears that the market is stagnating.’

By mid-September, of course, the madness has usually subsided - but there’s still a mental ‘bathtub ring’ to show where the hysteria reached, and its memory deters anyone from saying anything which might be pumped up into something it isn’t. The public thirst for constant headlines, scandals and things to chatter about starts to act against the public good, as people in the public arena become more and more guarded about what they say, and more and more dependent on image consultant and scriptwriter to defend them from knee-jerk criticism.

Which is a long way of saying that maybe there IS something in the old idea of getting out of town in August. Not necessarily physically, but certainly mentally - learning to walk away from the acquired habit of ceaseless activity and noise. Learning to cultivate the virtues of patience, slowness and measured thinking is something traditionally associated with retreats and the like, but surely they have a place in understanding the value of leisure - and by that I don’t mean a frenzied splash across the Leisure Centre swimming pool.

encourages God’s love and gives mutual support to all. The Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams says that The Mother’s Union is “the most powerful lay ministry in the world.” Jesus was a hands-on person and we should do likewise.

What is God calling you to do in your life?? What can you do for The Mothers Union? These were the questions with which Margaret ended, leaving room for thought!

A vote of thanks was given by Kath Lambert for these very encouraging thoughts.

Flowers for August Brenda Skinner September Elinor Cartwright

Our next meeting is September 17th when the speaker will be the Rev’d Gordon Plumb.

New members for the Mothers’ Union
Mothers’ Union Notes.

Our meeting on June 18th was opened by Elinor with prayer; the reading from Matthew was read by Val Dukes, hymn 423: ‘Fight the good fight’ was then sung by everyone. Our speaker, Jenni Honisett needed no introduction as she is known to nearly all Mothers’ Union members in this diocese. She has done many jobs for the MU during her time in the Lincoln diocese and is currently Training Officer, having being Literature representative for the last six years (this is now named ‘MU Enterprises’).

When Jenni first joined she was asked to be Young Families representative, a role she held for six years, also during her early membership years she was branch chairperson, treasurer and did other branch jobs. Jenni is now on the board of directors being a representative for Canterbury Diocese, travelling to Mary Sumner House in London for meetings four times a year.

Her job as Training officer is to ‘Enthuse and Encourage’, not just MU members but others too. Compared to some groups’ membership, being a mothers union member is “for life” Even if you cannot attend meetings!! Some members say, “they are not able to do anything to help”, Jenni’s answer is “yes you can, one thing everyone can do is Pray”. Everyone should enjoy being a MU member, for it is about “Faith, Fun and Fellowship”.

The MU bends with the ways of the world and adapts to changes. Do you realise that at twelve noon every single day all over the world someone is praying for the Mothers Union!!! Why don’t you become a member?

The vote of thanks was given by Elinor, thanking Jenni for a very enlightening talk.

At our Corporate Holy Communion on 2nd July we admitted Liz and Geoffrey Brown, Beryl Crompton and Viv Rowett as new members, and Sheila Holt reaffirmed her membership. We welcome them and hope they will enjoy our meetings.

Our July 16th meeting speaker was our Diocesan President Margaret Smith, all deanery members were invited. Margaret spoke about The Mothers’ Union aims and objects and how we should value them and use them in our daily lives. The MU is alive and growing all the time, changing and moving forward. Diocesan membership is encouraged if there is no local group in one’s area. There is a worldwide membership which is linked by email promoting fellowship, prayer and worship, which

‘Taking it easy’ isn’t often proclaimed as part of the Christian gift to the world - we get terribly activist sometimes, so much so that anyone called to the contemplative life is regarded as decidedly odd - and yet in an overheated, frenetic world, perhaps our traditions of measuredness and quiet reflection have something to offer?

Fr David

Confirmation.

There is a confirmation in Grimsby at the end of September - David hopes to have contacted interested parties already, but if you haven’t had a word with him, please do as soon as possible.

Operation Christmas Child - Shoe Boxes - 2008

Don’t forget folks! August is a great time to start collecting items - if you haven’t already begun to do so! - for your shoe boxes. On holidays and day outings there are often shops and market stalls with tempting little items, no use whatsoever to us personally but reminding us of former childhood treasures and toys. Remember that where these boxes go, electricity may be absent, intermittent, or precious and batteries unobtainable. A small box of dominoes, a yo-yo, a ”friction” car or a small doll may be much more appropriate. Last year I bought a small new doll, just what I had been looking for, from a charity fair at a canal side beauty spot in the Midlands. It gives meaning to otherwise aimless browsing! As I have suggested before, pens and pencils form another welcome gift for children who must provide these before they are allowed into school for basic education. Inexpensive pads of plain A5 paper, which just wedge into a shoe box can also be obtained here in Barton. The possibilities are endless.

Vera is knitting but cannot provide her hat, scarf and mitten sets for all, so to those who knit - there seems to be quite a lot of wool in sales at present - it is St. Swithin’s Day as I type this - and our newspaper says that indeed the weather will remain unsettled until September! There may be abundant time left during this summer for knitting. Simple knitting can always be cast aside easily when the rain eases off and you want to get out into the garden again!

Rosemary Lamert
St Mary’s Tower News.

Recently several improvements have been carried out to the ringing environment at St Mary’s church ringing chamber which include a new filled carpet and a number of new chairs for those sitting out and waiting to ring. In addition superb foam filled cushions have been made by R Lennon for the two timber pews. The whole area has been cleaned by the lady volunteer ringers and the retained surplus surplice (not a mistake!) timber cupboards repainted with wood stain, again carried by volunteers.

A social evening was held at St Mary’s on Friday the 27th June, at which the Barton upon Humber Guild of Bell-ringers hosted a social evening for all guild members of the Northern Branch of the Lincoln Diocesan Branch of bell ringers.

The evening commenced with a short explanation of the history of bell ringing and its evolution from the C16, given by Mr Geoff Bryant who illustrated his talk with many informative slides. This was followed by a superb meal arranged by Joy Lord with the help of all the lady members of the group who provided delicious cakes and deserts to supplement the salad meats and fruits of the main course.

Following this there was a number of musical arrangements executed on hand bells by the Messingham Ladies’ Handbell Society ably conducted by Mr Roger Lord. Their efforts were well appreciated and showed great skill and dedication by providing some excellent tunes by some of the younger members of the group supported by their more experienced practitioners.

To conclude the evening the raffle was drawn and many generous prizes donated by members distributed amongst the visitors prior to the evening drawing at approximately 10.30pm. The event was well attended, guild members visiting from Market Rasen, Caistor, Messingham and many more from local churches.

In all almost 80 tickets were pre-sold and the numbers present within the church hall seemed to be much greater than that. The evening was presented by the Vicar, Father Rowett who kept the spirit of the evening well alight throughout, and in-between events the ringing simulator was kept working to encourage new members to try out the physical aspects of ringing bells prior to attempting the real thing at some later date.

A Summer Morning.

The grey sky lightens and the birds begin to sing as dawn breaks. Soon the sun appears, rising in a haze of golden light. All along the road, the trees of various greens sway in a gentle breeze.

Lights come on in the houses as the world begins to wake from its slumber. Kettles begin to boil, radios begin to play, some looks forward to the day, some dread the day, someone says a prayer. Outside cats creep stealthily home and the birds begin to search for food. In the factory, the night shift prepares to go home, and in the homes other workers prepare to go to work. Post men and women go on their bikes down to sort the mail for delivering later that day. The milk float comes quietly down the road, a cheery milkwoman depositing bottles on doorsteps, the first person I’ve seen today.

I pass the church as the clock strikes 5.15.

It is still and quiet and peaceful, except for a few cars which rush, speeding along the road, and with a roar are gone. The geese fly overhead looking for food and their call echoes in the stillness. The blue sky appears with fluffy white clouds; the sun is warming the earth and my back.

The town awakes, and a new day has begun.

Ann Chapman
reflecting on cycling to work about ten years ago.

The wisdom of political wives

Sometimes, when I look at my children, I say to myself "Lillian, you should have remained a virgin."

-- Lillian Carter (mother of Jimmy Carter)

I had a rose named after me and I was very flattered. But I was not pleased to read the description in the catalog: "No good in a bed, but fine against a wall."

-- Eleanor Roosevelt
Lament For The Daughter Of Jephthah
My father's vow bespoke my death. His song for victory my death knell.
The sunrise upon that morning, The first bird's song hailed me a warning.
I was to be given, even worse taken.
To fulfil a vow that was not of my making.
A blood call to victory.
My innocent submission. Father fulfil your vow.
But let me walk the mountains,
And of freedom taste, virginity a wailing.
Unloved, unknown, untouched.
Husband we will never meet.
But remember me you maidens,
As down the ages vows are metered out,
When we women are offered to placate the vows of men.
Freely I was offered and freely I was taken.
My anger unspoken, obedience my yoke.
Know this I had a life, but I was gift to God.
No name was ever left to me,
But still I live in Song, that you might,
Remember me.
Judges 1 29-40

Poem ©Sylvia Chambers 1998
Picture: Alexandre Cabanel: The Daughter of Jephthah (1879, Oil on canvas)

Kathy’s ordination
This will be in St. Mary’s on September 28th at 10.30a.m., and will be followed by a faith lunch. Once we know numbers coming from afar, we’ll be in search of extra helpers for the day — watch this space!

One liners
Money can't buy you happiness. But it does bring you a more pleasant form of misery. -- Spike Milligan
Be careful about reading health books. You may die of a misprint. -- Mark Twain

The local branch guild ringing simulator was temporarily installed at St Mary’s church on the 25th June 2008 especially for the use of the visiting school children from Baysgarth secondary school and also from schools as far afield as Lincoln, Spilsby, Market Rasen, Gainsborough, Caistor and many others. During the next week it was visited and used by several groups of school children, in total many of whom expressed a great interest in continuing their learning and joining in with all the bell ringing activists.

There have been several groups of different ages attending St Mary’s, altogether totalling 132. At these events they have been instructed by the branch ringing master Mr Roger Lord. He is responsible for the upkeep of all the equipment and the safety of the children whilst operating the mechanism.

The simulator was purchased by the Northern Branch of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild for the instruction, leaning and encouragement of beginners into the art of bell-ringing. Basically it consists of a steel structural ‘A’ frame which supports six bells made of timber on plywood rope wheels with ‘strikers’ and ‘stays’ just as the real bells have fitted, in an authentic manner, allowing six people to ring together as a group.

These bells can be rung in peal and are attached by wire to a computer which activates a pair of audio speakers to show and to distinguish when each bell is actually struck. The bells can be rung in ‘rounds’, or to a method, and they represent the motions of actual bells within the bell frame showing how they turn over, and more accurately how they respond to a pull on the bell rope.

It is important to understand how they bell can be ‘stood’, motionless to allow for accurate striking and this is best seen on a simulator, as the physical restrictions of floors, ceilings and bell frames within a bell tower do now allow this to be readily observed. As a result of the children’s attendance several have indicated the wish to purse the art and many have written their pertinent comments after their visit and ‘go’ on the simulator. Reading their comments written in the visitors book it appears that the vast majority thoroughly enjoyed their visit, there were many ‘cool’, ‘fantastic’, ‘very enjoyable’, and ‘interesting’, comments and expressions of delight written down.

D Kitching, Publicity, Barton upon Humber St Mary’s Bell Ringers
Geoffrey Bromfield 1945-2008

For many decades Geoff Bromfield was the leading light of bell ringing in the two churches, St Peter's and St Mary's, at Barton-on-Humber, Lincolnshire. He was born and educated in the town and after leaving school was employed as an industrial chemist, first at Lysaght's Steel Works in Scunthorpe and latterly at the Lindsey Oil Refinery on the Humber bank.

In 1958 he was taught to ring at St Peter's church and in 1973 he took over as ringing master at both of the town's towers, a post he continued to hold until just before he died. He rang the first of his 126 peals in 1960 and in total rang 113 peals on tower bells and 13 in hand. He was a loyal member of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild which he joined in 1959 and he served on numerous committees as well as being Ringing Master for the Northern Branch of the Guild.

In 1999-2000 he worked hard to restore ringing on the eight bells at his favorite St Peter's church following that church's closure in the 1970s. The resumption of ringing at midnight on 31 December 1999 brought him great pleasure. When handball ringing was revived in Barton in the 1990s Geoff became a keen member of the band - a solid and reliable performer on his favorite trebles. His delight at the completion of a peal in hand reflected his enjoyment of a newly-found skill.

When not ringing Geoff's interest over the years had included finishing the Daily Telegraph crossword, keeping chickens, geese and bees, and racing around the countryside on either his bicycle or his motorbike.

During his ringing career and his last illness he received the constant support of Linda and he was delighted when his son, Stephen, recently began his degree course in Chemistry at York University. He would have been pleased to know that as he left St Mary's church for the last time it was a band of ten local ringers which rang the bells half-muffled in his memory.

Geoff Bryant


Remembering Geoff Bromfield of Barton upon Humber.

Kirton Lindsey, Lincs. 15 April 2008, 1250 Cambridge S Major: John Ketteringham 1, Kate Morgan 2, Dot Mason 3, Fiona Dawson 4, Betty Stracey 5, Sylvia Taylor 6, Michael Stracey 7, Phil Mason (Conductor) 8. Rung by members of the Lincolnshire Midweek Ringing Group. Geoff was a supporter of the group and will be sadly missed.
E1W Barbeque, July 27th.

For once, the weather not only dawned bright and fair but remained so long into the evening, as about 50 folk, most of whom had courageously dressed themselves in the styles of the 60’s and 70’s (memo - if we do this sort of thing again, we must remember to specify the century as well), gathered in the Vicarage garden for the third Youth Group organised Barbeque. It must have gone well, in that the last people to leave were sent on their merry way home not long before midnight!

Photographic evidence in full will be posted at the back of Church in due course (unless the blackmail payments are made promptly), but special mention should be made of Steve and Marion Guilliat, upon whose appearance round the Vicarage side gate all present dropped into stunned silence (the Afro wig being a particularly nice touch).

Our grateful thanks to all members of E1W for the hard work they put in, and particularly to Jenny for labouring over the food preparation on a sweltering day. Thanks too to helpers Steve and Marion and Robert. The event raised about £200 for group funds.

E1W Quiz Night.

To mark the end of the Silly Season, E1W have cajoled Fr Alan into being Quizmaster (we couldn’t let anyone have him on their team!!!) for a Quiz Night at 7pm on September 6th in the Church Hall. A light buffet will be served, and you are invited to form teams of four to compete. Entry fee £3 per person, proceeds to be divided between the Hall Fund and E1W.

St. Mary’s Ladies’ Group

Ann Atkin had the carriage and stance of a lifelong dancer with an extremely expressive face. From an early age she loved to dance, and told us her teachers, Hilda and Phyllis Skins, were the best in Hull, where she entered many competitions under their tuition. During all this time her mother helped her tremendously with making her dresses and her sister was a choreographer. Although slightly short for ‘The Black & White Minstrels’, she made it, initially paid £11 per week. During her time with them she associated with many household names one being Sir Cliff Richard. Wendy Stow, Sheila Tilly and Yvonne Stockdale were raffle winners.

The Annual Dinner was held on a rather rained-washed summer evening at Reeds Hotel, but as members began to arrive the sun broke through and showed the lovely surroundings in evening sunlight. Everyone was welcomed on arrival and tables were set with place cards with each persons menu selection printed on, which compensated for any memory losses from the guests. The meal was excellent and beautifully served, after which we were entertained right royally with songs that took us back to WW2. There was a splendid raffle and guests continued to chat and enjoy themselves much as they have done at the meetings during the last year. After such a successful year we look forward to 2008/2009.

Maureen Garfoot
August Diary

August 3rd - 11 after Trinity.
8.00 am Said Eucharist.
9.30 am Parish Communion.

Mon. 4
10.15 am Toddler Time.
6.45 pm Bishop’s Course session 3 at the Vicarage.

Wed. 6
9.30 am Said Eucharist (The Transfiguration).

August 10th - 12 after Trinity.
8.00 am Said Eucharist.
9.30 am Parish Eucharist.

Mon. 11
10.15 am Toddler Time.

Wed. 13
9.30 am Said Eucharist.

August 17th - 13 after Trinity.
8.00 am Said Eucharist.
9.30 am Parish Communion.

Mon. 18
10.15 am Toddler Time.
10.15 am Home Communions, St Peter’s Court
11.00 am Home Communions, Victoria House

Wed. 20
9.30 am Said Eucharist.

Thu. 21
Home Communions.

August 24th - St Bartholomew.
8.00 am Said Eucharist.
9.30 am Parish Eucharist.

Tue. 26
2.00pm Home Communions, The Willows.

Wed. 27
9.30 am Said Eucharist.

August 31st - 15 after Trinity.
8.00 am Said Eucharist.
9.30 am Parish Eucharist.

September 1
2.00 pm Standing Committee at the Vicarage.

Tue. 2
7.00 pm United Prayers at St. Augustine’s

Wed. 3
9.30 am Said Eucharist.

Sat. 6
7.00 pm E1W Quiz Night.

Please note that the next Sunday evening worship is September 7th
(Choral Evensong for the Patronal Festival) and the next Tuesday evening
Eucharist is be on September 9th.

From the Registers.

Baptisms.
July 13th
Andrew Brian Peter Leeman, son of Patricia Annette &
Charles Peter Leeman.

Spencer Istvan Rigo, son of Michelle Linda Paisey &
Niall Istvan Rigo.

Harry John Sobey, son of Kerry Joanne Parrott & Craig
Eric Sobey.

July 20th
Olivia Grace Kirby, daughter of Tracey & Jason Paul
Kirby.

Hayden Robert Field, son of Nadine & Steven Anthony
Field.

Ava Louise Ibbotson, daughter of Karen Jane & Jon
Gordon Roy Ibbotson.

Marriages.
None in July.

Funerals.
July 2nd
Edward Leonard Booty.

July 4th
Joan Thompson.

July 10th
Bertha Mavis Frank.

July 16th
Mary Gardiner.

July 24th
Bill Needler.

Church Flowers

Donations have been received for Church flowers in loving memory of:-

Timothy Wilson
Rob. Marsh
Clarence Robinson
Jean Ward
Rebecca (Becky) Searle

Thank you for these donations and many thanks also to the St. Mary's Ladies' Group who have
made a generous donation towards the cost of Church flowers.

Shirley