



ELY CATHEDRAL NEWS

An End to Slavery?

March 25th marks the 200th anniversary of the 'Abolition Act', aimed at abolishing slavery. People from this area played an important part in the history of abolition. Thomas Clarkson, of Wisbech, travelled over 35,000 miles on horseback, collecting information, giving lectures and fuelling public indignation against this cruel trade. In many ways he was the driving force behind Wilberforce's Bill. Olaudah Equiano, a West African slave who managed to purchase his freedom, published his autobiography in 1789.

It is often forgotten that the slave trade was not just from West Africa to the Americas, but also from East Africa to Arabia, the Persian Gulf and the Indian sub-continent. The Anglican Cathedral in Zanzibar, with which we are linked, was built over the slave market. The 'whipping post' is marked in the marble floor, just in front of the altar, which bears an image of the crucified Christ. David Livingstone used Zanzibar as a base from where he sent back reports of the terrible suffering of slaves. Over a million slaves passed through Zanzibar, mostly men. They leave few descendants in Arabia and India, since they were almost always castrated. The stained glass window above the font in

Zanzibar Cathedral is a poignant reminder of this, depicting the Ethiopian Eunuch being baptized (Acts 8).

The Church's history is not always a comfortable one to read, with a number of Bishops and senior churchmen opposing abolition, since slavery brought them a lucrative income from Sugar Cane plantations. We will be marking this important event in a number of ways:

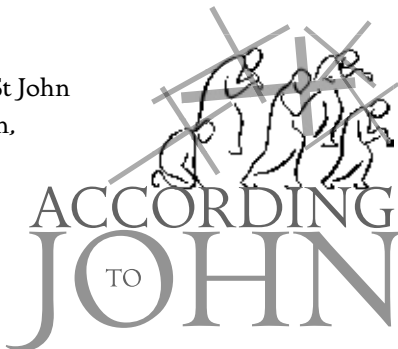
- March 6th – 25th Slavery Exhibition in the South West Transept.
- March 15th the Abolitionists March arrives at Ely Cathedral around mid-day.
- March 25th Garth Hewitt, president of the Amos Trust, an organization dedicated to justice and reconciliation, preaches at the Sung Eucharist and afterwards speaks in St Catherine's Chapel.

Sadly, we are not just talking about history. Slavery is alive and well, both overseas and in the UK, in a number of forms, from kidnapped child soldiers to women trapped in the sex trade. We do well to heed St Paul's urgent call: 'For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand fast therefore, and do not fall again into a yoke of slavery' (Galatians 5:1). *Alan Hargrave*

HOLY WEEK AT ELY CATHEDRAL

Preacher: Canon Peter Sills

Follow the last week of Jesus' life as told by St John the Evangelist in prayer, music and reflection, in the inspiring setting of Ely Cathedral. A leaflet giving the full list of Pilgrimage Services may be obtained in the Cathedral. The Week may also be attended residentially. For further information please contact: Bishop Woodford House, 01353 663039.



March 2007 Highlights

ELY AFTER DARK

Friday 2 March – 7.00 pm

ELY SINFONIA CONCERT

Saturday 3 March – 7.30 pm

Music by Chabrier, Rodrigo & Dvorak

SLAVERY EXHIBITION

Tuesday 6 – Wednesday 28 March

Details on this page

ELY CONSORT CONCERT

Saturday 10 March – 7.30 pm

Requiem – Duruflé

THE PURPOSE OF PROSPERITY

Thursday 22 – Friday 23 March

Ely Business Ethics Forum Seminar

Details on page 3

MOTHERS UNION

COMMISSIONING SERVICE

Saturday 24 March – 2.30 pm

ELY CHORAL SOCIETY

Saturday 31 March – 7.30 pm

Requiem – Verdi

HOLY WEEK PILGRIMAGE

Sunday 1 – Sunday 8 April

EASTER BREAKFAST

The Dawn Eucharist on Easter Day will be followed by a Celebration Breakfast. Tickets (£6) may be obtained from the Chapter House: 01353 660300.

Regular services

Sundays:

8.15 am: Holy Communion (BCP)

10.30 am: Sung Eucharist

4.00 pm: Evensong

Daily Services:

7.40 am: Morning Prayer

8.00 am: Holy Communion

12 noon: Midday Prayers – Quiet Hour

5.30 pm: Evensong

Thought for March

At a conservative estimate there are presently 27 million slaves across the globe – victims of human trafficking that has now reached levels unprecedented even in the worst years of the African slave trade, and generating some £6.5 billion in revenue. It is estimated that some 600,000 to 800,000 people are trafficked across international borders annually – 80% of them women.

A few weeks ago, I read an article in *The Independent* about five eastern European women who had been lured into prostitution in the UK. None of them knew what was happening to them. They were required to trust in men who made promises of a better life in the UK, but who kept from them any information about where they were going, whom they would meet and what would be asked of them. They were utterly deceived.

This month's celebrations to mark the Abolition of Slavery in 1807 draw to our attention not only what was achieved two hundred years ago, but also the horrors of slavery that continue (and prosper) in our own day. So we do well not only to pray for, and support financially, organisations like CHASTE (Churches Alert to Sex Trafficking across Europe) which are working to bring an end to this appalling and de-humanising activity, but also to reflect on the words of Jesus to his disciples on the night before he died: *I do not call you slaves any longer, because the slave does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father.* (John 15.15)

Slavery was commonplace in the Roman world into which Christ came. Jesus' words would have had a profound impact on his disciples gathered in the upper room. Perhaps a renewed and sobering awareness of slavery in our own day may help us to realise afresh the depth and meaning of these extraordinary words for each one of us. For we are not slaves, but disciples called into intimate

friendship with God through Christ's saving death and resurrection.

Vanessa Herrick



The Bishop's Lent Appeal

This year the Bishop's Lent Appeal will be for 'Challenging Poverty' – a new initiative from the Church Urban Fund aimed at tackling both Urban and Rural Poverty.

It is easy, living in beautiful places like Ely or Cambridge, to forget that there are significant pockets of deprivation all around us. According to the last Census, East Barnwell, my previous parish, came 37th from bottom out of over 8000 wards in England on 'adult skills and qualifications' – amazing when you consider it is in Cambridge! Any of you who know the Oxmoor estate in Huntingdon or parts of St Augustine's parish in Wisbech or some of the poverty in rural Fenland will know that 'affluent East Anglia' is not the whole picture.

Despite our relative affluence, poverty remains a real issue. The Church Urban fund has had a huge impact in tackling poverty in our land. I hope you will support Bishop Anthony's appeal so that this vital work can continue. Pick up a leaflet and a collecting box from the South desk or send a cheque (payable to 'Ely DBF – Bishop's Lent Appeal') to The Bishop's House, Ely CB7 4DW
Alan Hargrave

Stained Glass by David Hillman

The Stained Glass Museum has just acquired a panel of stained glass from the Bayswater Synagogue, London, demolished some twenty years ago. The window made in 1954 celebrates the Jewish Festival of Purim (begins at sundown on 3 March 2007), and was designed by David Hillman (1894-1974). It comes to The Stained Glass Museum as a generous donation from the London Stained Glass Repository.

David Hillman was a significant and prolific Jewish stained-glass artist during and after the inter-war years, and a man of great religious learning. This stained-glass window is in keeping with the popular avoidance of representing the human form in Jewish places of worship, and his designs were commissioned by a number of synagogues in London.

If you would like to see the panel and to hear more please come to the Museum

shop each Friday in March at 10.30 am. Where there will be a ten minute introduction.

Verdi's Messa da Requiem

Andrew Parnell returns to Ely Cathedral with four fine soloists, the Hertfordshire Chamber Orchestra and some 190 singers from Cambridgeshire Choral Society and Ely Choral Society on Saturday 31st March, 7.30 pm for a performance of Verdi's epic Requiem. The soloists are Rachel Nicholls (soprano), Deborah Miles-Johnson (mezzo-soprano), Justin Lavender (tenor) and David Soar (bass).

Tickets priced £18, £15, £12 & £8 (Under 18's £2 any seat) are available from Ely Cathedral Box Office (01353 660 349) and on-line, Cambridge Corn Exchange (01223 357 851) and at the door. Pre-concert and interval bars. Pre-concert suppers at The Almonry Restaurant, reservations via the Box Office.

VERDI'S REQUIEM
at ELY CATHEDRAL
SATURDAY 31ST MARCH, 7.30 P.M.

A thrilling performance with top soloists, large choir & full orchestra featuring dramatic percussion and off-stage brass.

Rachel Nicholls
Deborah Miles-Johnson
Justin Lavender
David Soar



CAMBRIDGESHIRE CHORAL SOCIETY
ELY CHORAL SOCIETY
HERTFORDSHIRE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA
CONDUCTED BY **ANDREW PARNELL**

Tickets £18 / £15 / £12 / £8 / Under 18s £2
Ely Cathedral Box Office (01353 660349)
Cambridge Corn Exchange (01223 357851)
and at the door.

Supporting Prisoners of Conscience

There was encouraging support after the Sunday morning Eucharist on 28th January for Amnesty International's annual card campaign. This involved sending cards with a friendly greeting or message of solidarity to people who are in danger or unjustly imprisoned.

Occasionally Amnesty enlists support for the families of people who have been killed but where the response of

the authorities has been one of indifference or is seriously deficient. Claudina Velasquez, a student, was one such case. She was shot and killed in Guatemala in August 2005. Many similar cases in Guatemala are shelved on grounds of lack of evidence because of poor quality investigations. A particularly worrying tendency is to blame the victim's behaviour or background for their death. Claudina's father reports that the investigator said they thought Claudina was 'a nobody because she was wearing sandals and a belly button ring'. The good news from Amnesty in January this year is that the father of Claudina has received more than 10000 cards and letters of support from around the world! The family have appeared in the Guatemalan press with photos of some of the cards and have been able to put additional pressure on the authorities. Many prisoners of conscience have also testified to the great encouragement and hope these cards give them.

Support is urgently needed of course throughout the year. Cards for signing will be available every month after silent prayer for people whose needs are brought to our attention by Christian organisations or Amnesty. We meet in Bishop Alcock's chapel on the 1st Sunday of each month at 10am for 15 minutes or so – please come and go as you please.
Ben Jupp

Vercelli Visit

The Mayor of Ely, Cllr John Ison, recently visited Vercelli as a part of the Bond of Friendship signed between the two towns when the Cathedral Choir visited Vercelli as part of their Italian Tour last Autumn. On the left is Gianna Baucero, the 'architect' of the link. A visit from Vercelli to Ely is in prospect for the Autumn.



Who calls the tune?

From time to time I am asked by members of the congregation how I go about choosing the repertoire for the Cathedral choir. Quite often the question arises because of the choice of a hymn or the tune to which it has been sung. So the first thing to say here is that all hymnody is the province of our Precentor – not the Director of Music!

Choosing anthems, mass settings and canticle settings is a very rewarding and creative task. I like to compare it with the creative act of composing music or, indeed, performing. I spend hours, even days, balancing up the various things which have to be taken into account. Most important, of course, is the liturgical requirement as dictated by the time of year. But I also have to take into account the available repertoire, what size and type of congregation is expected, the difficulty of the music, the choir's extra commitments (such as recordings, concerts or broadcasts), how much money I can spend on new music, the condition of the copies available, the amount of rehearsal time, a good balance of style, any special requests, and how well (or not!) the choir is singing in any given year. I even try to guess how healthy the choir is likely to be on any given day. I guess that sometimes I get it right and sometimes I get it wrong. Experience is, inevitably, a crucial influence.

We shall again have an orchestral mass on Easter day at 10.30 am. The Ely Sinfonia will be playing Mozart's "Coronation Mass" on Sunday, 8th April after the solemnity of Holy week! *Paul Trepte*

A Voice in the Octagon

Many members of the congregation will know Prof Christopher Stead, who was a Residentiary Canon at Ely whilst holding the Ely Chair of Divinity at Cambridge. The Chapter are publishing a selection of his sermons, *A Voice in the Octagon*, and they will be on sale in the Cathedral Shop early in March.

Annual Meeting

The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on Tuesday 22nd May at 7.30 pm in the Cathedral.

THE PURPOSE OF PROSPERITY

22 – 23 MARCH 2007

The second Ely Business Ethics Seminar asks –

- *Does Prosperity have a purpose beyond personal enrichment?*
- *How do our environmental problems challenge our economic thinking?*

The seminar will be led by –

PREM SIKKA
Professor of Accountancy at the University of Essex

NEIL MAKIN
External Affairs Director, Cadbury Schweppes plc

TONY JUNIPER
Executive Director of the Friends of the Earth

ANDY WALES
Group Head of Corporate Responsibility, Severn Trent plc

It offers an opportunity for those in senior management to advance their ethical thinking in the company of specialists in the field, in an open atmosphere of enquiry.

For full details contact Lesley Ann Thompson
l.thompson@cathedral.ely.anglican.org

THE KING'S SCHOOL ELY PRESENTS

RIO GRANDE
Lambert

SONGS OF THE FLEET
Stanford

FOLK SONGS
Grainger

With The King's School Chapel Choir, The Girls' Choir, Choristers & Lay Clerks of Ely Cathedral, Orchestra with Jeremy Filsell – *piano* Graham Griggs, Peter North, Louise Reid and Paul Trepte – *conductors*

Tickets:

Octagon & Front Nave (reserved): £8 (£6 concessions);

Nave/Transepts (unreserved): £6 (£4 concessions); All Areas: children free Available from:

King's Music School (01353 653931) or Ely Cathedral Box Office (01353 660349) music@kings-ely.cambs.sch.uk

FRIDAY 16 MARCH – 7.30pm
ELY CATHEDRAL

CALENDAR

MARCH

Friday 2nd

19.00 Ely After Dark

Saturday 3rd

19.30 Ely Sinfonia Concert

Tuesday 6th

20.00 Launch of Abolition of Slavery Exhibition

21.00 Lent Compline

Saturday 10th

19.30 Ely Consort Concert: *Requiem* – Duruflé

Monday 12th

13.10 Lunchtime Concert –
Crarrickfurgis Grammar School

Tuesday 13th

21.00 Lent Compline

Friday 16th

13.10 Lunchtime concert – *Briarcrest School*

19.30 Kings School & Cathedral Choir Concert

Tuesday 20th

21.00 Lent Compline

Thursday 22nd and Friday 23rd

Business Ethics Forum

Saturday 24th

10.30 Auction of local artists works,
proceeds in aid of WWLF

14.30 Mothers Union Service

Tuesday 27th

21.00 Lent Compline

Wednesday 28th

10.30 Kings School end of term service

Saturday 31st

19.30 Ely Choral Society – *Verdi Requiem*

APRIL

Sunday 1st – *Palm Sunday*

10.30 Procession and Sung Eucharist

16.00 Evensong & Address

Monday 2nd

19.30 Pilgrimage Service & Holy Communion

Tuesday 3rd

16.00 Organ Recital – *Jonathan Lilley*

19.30 Pilgrimage Service & Holy Communion

Wednesday 4th

19.30 Pilgrimage Service & Holy Communion

Thursday 5th – *Maundy Thursday*

10.30 The Blessing of Oils and
Renewal of Ordination Vows

19.30 Eucharist of the Last Supper –
St Mary's Church

21.00 Tenebrae and Watch

Friday 6th – *Good Friday*

10.30 Procession of Witness

12.00 Good Friday Liturgy

15.30 Children's Service

17.30 Evensong

19.30 The Way of the Cross

Saturday 7th – *Easter Eve*

17.30 Evensong & Address

19.30 Confirmation Service

Sunday 8th – *Easter Day*

05.15 Dawn Vigil & Sung Eucharist
Followed by Breakfast

Tickets from the Chapter House

08.15 Holy Communion

10.30 Orchestral Sung Eucharist

16.00 Evensong & Procession

Thursday 15th

13.10 Lunchtime Concert – *The Hunter Singers*

Saturday 21st

19.30 Parachute Regiment Band Concert

Saturday 28th

19.30 RSCM Evensong

MAY

Tuesday 1st

13.10 Lunchtime Concert –
Newark Boys Choir, New Jersey USA

Wednesday 2nd

Art Exhibition in Lady Chapel until 30th May

Thursday 3rd

13.10 Piano Recital – *Robin Briars*
In aid of the Music Appeal

Friday 4th until Sunday 6th

Ely Experience Weekend

– Benedictine Spirituality

Details from the Chapter House

Sunday 6th

13.30 Blessing of Animals Service –
In association with the Wood Green
Animal Shelter

Monday 7th

07.00 Aled & The Imps – Concert with
Aled Jones & the Ely Imps *NB Time tbc*

Thursday 10th

13.10 Lunchtime Concert – *Framlingham College*

Saturday 12th

10.20 Mass for the Equestrian
Order of the Holy Sepulchre

Sunday 13th

14.00 Addenbrookes Hospital
Transplant Service

Friday 18th

13.10 Lunchtime Concert –
Brewton Parker College

Saturday 19th

17.30 RSCM Evensong

Tuesday 22nd

19.30 Annual Meeting of the Cathedral
Congregation

Sunday 27th

18.00 European Community Chamber
Orchestra Concert

Thursday 31st

13.10 Lunchtime Concert – *Noel Singers*

JUNE

Saturday 2nd

Open University Graduation Day
and Etheldreda Fair

Sunday 3rd – *Trinity Sunday*

Cathedral Patronal Festival

10.30 Festival Sung Eucharist

12.30 Congregational Lunch

16.00 Festal Evensong & Procession

These details were correct when printed.

*The calendar is updated on the Cathedral website
www.cathedral.ely.anglican.org.*

*Tickets for concerts and other events may be bought
from the Cathedral Box Office on 01353 660349 or
directly from the desk at the South Door.*

In Brief

Faith Exhibition

The new Faith Exhibition will be filmed between March 14 – April 5, and on the nights of April 21 and April 28. We will need accommodation for three or four people on these dates. If you are able to offer accommodation please call Canon Alan Hargrave: 01353 660304, or by email: alan.hargrave@cathedral.ely.anglican.org. We will need volunteers to be part of the crowd on Saturday, April 21 and Saturday, April 28. Filming starts at 9.00 am. If you wish to take part please turn up at Ely Cathedral on those Saturdays.

Do you enjoy gardening?

Do you have some time to spare? Would you like to be responsible for tending the graveyard by the Lady Chapel, or the graves on the South side of the Cathedral? Or would you like to keep the lawn edges trimmed and tidy? The Cathedral would love to release these important and very visible tasks to keen volunteers in order that its paid Workforce can concentrate on the larger tasks. If you are interested and would like to discuss further, please contact Judy Kerridge on 660320.

Pilgrimage to the Heart of Spain

There are a few places left on this Pilgrimage in the footsteps of St John of the Cross and St Teresa of Avila from 12 – 24 April 2007. Leaflets giving full details available at the Admissions Desks, or contact Canon Peter Sills 01353 660302, peter.sills@cathedral.ely.anglican.org

APRIL DEADLINE

The deadline for the April edition is

*Friday 23rd March. Copy should be emailed to:
receptionist@cathedral.ely.anglican.org*

Ely Cathedral, The Chapter House,

The College, Ely, CB7 4DL

Tel: 01353 667735

Fax: 01353 665658

receptionist@cathedral.ely.anglican.org

www.cathedral.ely.anglican.org