

Do you have a question?

Have you noticed that children ask the most profound questions? They may not be wrapped up in complicated language, but their questions are very deep indeed: “Why is the sky blue?” “Why is the sea salty?” “How did the world begin?” “What is the internet?”

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According to a recent newspaper article, children ask an average of 73 questions a day, and half of them leave their parents stumped. In fact, children in London are even more inquisitive, asking closer to 93 questions a day, so if you are feeling exhausted as a parent that might explain why!

At HTR we want to be a church that asks meaningful questions.

What is surprising is that as we get older, our questions get less profound. Of course, we still do have those deep and meaningful questions as adults, it's just that we don't ask them anymore. As Christians, we believe that asking questions is a good and healthy thing to do. Jesus said, “Ask, and you will receive” and if asking is encouraged by Jesus, then it must be a helpful thing to do!

At HTR we want to be a church that asks meaningful questions. On Sunday 15 September, for instance, we are going to be thinking about the important question “How can I live without regret?” Please do come along and join us at 1000 for an hour or so as we think

about that subject.

We also run an Alpha Course that tackles the big, important questions of life such as “Is there more to life than this?” “Is there a God?” “How can I make the most of my life?” If that interests you, then we'd love to invite you to our Alpha Supper on 24th September to find out more. You can find details at <http://www.htrichmond.org.uk/alpha>

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Most parents when faced with difficult questions from their children turn to a Google search, but that doesn't always give the answers they seek. Apparently, the toughest question that kids ask is “What does God look like?” If that's a question you've been asked, or you ask yourself, then why not come along and look into some answers?

“What does God look like?”

Rev Dan Wells



explore
life
faith
meaning
Alpha

holy trinity richmond
a church with an open door

A Summer to remember



Our former Youth and Children's Minister, Erin Gilmour, was ordained deacon at Southwark Cathedral at the end of June. She is now serving as a curate at St Mary Magdalene, Reigate.



Penny Cox stood down as Head Teacher at Holy Trinity School at the end of the summer term. We had an opportunity during one of our July Sunday Morning Services to thank her for her huge contribution to the life of the School.



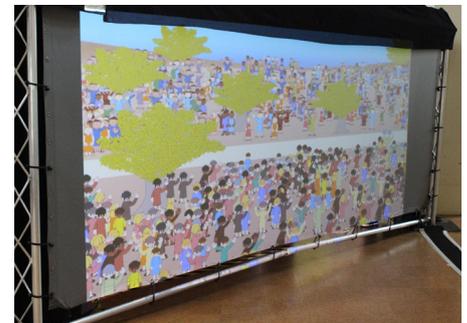
At Easter we welcomed Nevada Union High School Choir from California for an Easter fundraising concert in aid of Riverbank Trust. A wonderful performance for a wonderful cause.



Early in June the church was transformed to provide a wonderful venue for the wedding of church members Liz Green and James Cleo, hosting their Marriage Service, an afternoon tea, reception and evening party.



A warm and sunny Sunday lunchtime in June gave an opportunity to enjoy a barbecue and celebrate Joan Marlow's 95th birthday.



In June we hosted The Cube, an interactive and multimedia opportunity for local schools to take part in RE lessons with a difference!



At an end of year party in July we had a chance to celebrate a great year in the life of our church, and to thank some of the many people who serve us in a huge variety of ways.



On a lovely warm July evening we celebrated the baptisms and confirmations of five church members, with baptisms carried out by full immersion outside the church!



At the end of May 19 people enjoyed a stroll in the Surrey Hills, with lovely spring weather and the occasional pub stop!



In July over 30 people from our church took part with around 6,000 others in Focus 2019 on the edge of the New Forest, enjoying a week of worship, teaching, friendship and fun.

Chaplaincy in Schools

Having spent 17 years coaching within sport's ministry through Kick London, I have witnessed its incredible journey and been part of a ministry having a significant impact on young people it works alongside in schools and local churches. Being a sports coach I have found I have to be adept at watching and listening to players or students, which creates an environment for learning and understanding of a skill to take place. So it was with some surprise that while mentoring and coaching football at Christ's, our local Church of England secondary school, I was approached to become its first Lay Chaplain.

People ask me "So you don't work for Kick London anymore?" My response is "No, I'm still with Kick, but I'm looking to develop Chaplaincy as a key role within

Kick London." Chaplaincy permeates the life of a school and can have a significant impact. Here are seven ways that I aim to serve and work alongside everyone within schools:

Chaplaincy permeates the life of a school and can have a significant impact.

with particular issues or situations

- Worshipful - Creating, shaping and leading formal and informal worship
- Spiritual - Representing the spiritual dimension of human experience and life in community
- Missional - Conveying the Good News of Jesus to those I have contact with
- Servant-hearted - Serving the needs of school and modelling this to school
- Prophetic - Presenting truth whenever it is needed to help a school be

consistent, confident and open about its Christian identity

- Pedagogic - Living out of the Christian faith by example, through activities and delivering class and Christian Club sessions.

Please get in touch if you would like to know more about this work. Please also pray for the work of Christians in schools and continue to remember the staff and students of all our local schools as they look to inspire and educate the next generation of young people in our community.

Tom Rutter



Lights, Camera, Action!

Alfonso Cuarón, the award winning Mexican film director, screenwriter, producer, cinematographer and editor says: "I'm interested in new worlds, new universes, new challenges."

Cuarón, together with many other amazing filmmakers, creates different worlds, different universes when creating films. When watching a film on a cinema big screen or picking something on Netflix, we are invited into these new worlds. We enter new universes and the encounters we have shape our

lives and change our perception of our own world. Moreover, many of these films, or at least some parts of them, are a reflection of our daily lives, portraits

"I'm interested in new worlds, new universes"

of our own worlds. And between new worlds and reflections of our own realities, our lives are influenced by filmmakers; what we see on screen can have more meaning than just two hours

of pure entertainment.

In September we are launching an exciting new event at HTR. Film Forum will be a place to grab a drink and a pack of popcorn, watch a film together and have a discussion about it afterwards. It's a monthly chance to explore different reflections and universes, and what it means to be a human being. We kick off at 1930 on Saturday 28 September with watching the Oscar, BAFTA and Golden Globe winner, Green Book. We would love to see you there!

Joao Tavares

On mountains and in valleys of Central Asia

One of my favourite hymns growing up was one translated from German to Afrikaans: *Op berge en in dale en oral is my God* (On mountains and in valleys and everywhere is my God). And that sums up what I and six friends experienced when we visited Central Asia in July.

Our aim was to trek 92 km along a valley between two beautiful mountain ranges, which we did in 5 days. We also wanted to meet the locals, have tea with them, listen to their music and stories, and experience as much of the culture as possible; which we also did. And I realised that we, as Westerners, have a lot to learn about hospitality and welcoming strangers.

We also wanted to pray for that country, which we did. We asked God to bring peace and stability. We asked God to bless that country and its people. We asked God to change the narrative about that country. And I look forward to seeing how God is going to answer those prayers, because ...

Op berge en in dale en oral is my God (On mountains and in valleys and everywhere is God)

Waar ons ook telkemale mag swerwe, daar is God (Wherever we may roam, there is God)

Waar ons gedagtes swewe of styg ook daar

is God (Where our thoughts may drift or rise, there too is God)
Om laag en hoog verhewe, ja, oral is my God (In the lows and the heights above, yes, my God is everywhere)



If you would like to know a bit more about my travels and hear some of the great stories of what we encountered, please join me on 20 September at HTR for a more detailed feedback event.

Nico Marais

Dates for your diary!

Please join us at events in the coming months

Autumn Launch Evening

Friday 13 September - 19.30

All Age Harvest Service

Sunday 22 September - 10.00

Alpha Supper

Tuesday 24 September - 19.30
followed by 9 Tuesdays

Film Forum - Green Book

Saturday 28 September - 19.30

Men's Breakfast

Saturday 5 October - 09.00

Women's Breakfast

Saturday 19 October - 09.00

Film Forum - A Star is Born

Saturday 26 October - 19.30

Vineyard Lunch

Sunday 27 October - 12.30

Light Party

Thursday 31 October

Tearfund Big Quiz

Saturday 16 November - 19.30

Life Group Leaders' Evening

Wednesday 20 November - 20.00

Alpha Day

Saturday 23 November - from
09.30

Film Forum - Three Billboards

Outside Ebbing, Missouri

Saturday 30 November - 19.30

Please see our Weekly Church Bulletin and website for details of prayer meetings, socials and lots of other events.

Welcome to HTR

Are you new to HTR? We'd love to have you with us at any of our Services. Why not join us for one of our events? Holy Trinity Richmond is an Anglican parish church, with strong links to the local community.

For more information, please contact us.

020 8404 1112

www.htrichmond.org.uk

 HTR - Holy Trinity Richmond

 @church_htr

Gift Day

We were hugely encouraged again this year by a wonderful response of over £31,000 to our Gift Day in June. £2,500 will part fund the cost of building a new toilet block at St Peter's Church, Wandegeya, Kampala, Uganda, while the rest will be divided equally three ways:

- Riverbank Trust - To continue and further develop its work with vulnerable families

- LVA Trust - To support Relationship and Sex Education work in local schools, in particular to expand its work with young men and hire a male educator

- The Church in the Democratic Republic of Congo - To enable local churches to run trauma healing seminars in and around Bunia, and to respond to the needs of displaced people.

Thank you for your tremendous generosity!

Keith Nurse

An open door

Glass Door Homeless Charity provides London's largest open-access network of emergency winter shelters and support services for men and women affected by homelessness. Its vision is a world where no one has to sleep on the streets of London. Over the winter of 2018/19 700 people spent at least one night in one of its shelters, with almost 30,000 dinners served. A shelter first opened in Richmond Borough for 12 weeks from January 2018, and then for five months from November 2018, with seven local churches each hosting for one night each week. Richmond welcomed around 30

guests each night and 158 different people in total, a third from each of the UK, EU and the rest of the world. 58 were women, 35 were rehoused and large numbers reconnected with the benefits system and with their families.

A shelter will operate locally again this winter. Look out in the coming weeks for information on how you can be involved through cooking and serving meals and by welcoming guests. For more information about Glass Door go to

<http://www.glassdoor.org.uk>

Keith Nurse

GLASS DOOR

Verses to live by

"If I ride the wings of the morning, if I dwell by the farthest oceans, even there your hand will guide me, and your strength will support me." Psalm 139:9-10, New Living Translation.

I've just upped sticks from Twickenham to Liverpool - not quite living by the farthest oceans, but a long way from London! Over the years I've moved around a lot: Germany, Burkina Faso, Yorkshire, Norfolk, Kenya, Uganda, Democratic Republic of Congo.

Sometimes I've felt like a rolling stone (though never a beetle!) but God keeps steadying and strengthening me through this verse, and the whole of Psalm 139. Whatever new adventures God takes me on - new school, university, job, relationships - he is already there to welcome me, and so is his wonderful, diverse family. There's no place where God doesn't carry and anchor us, in this life and beyond, so we can step out in his freedom and confidence.

Sarah Casson

