



The Big Question

March 2008



SUNDAY SERVICES – MARCH

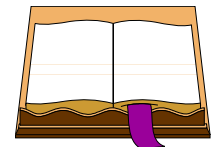
Sunday 2nd (Mothering Sunday)	8.30am 10am	Holy Communion Contemporary Communion
Sunday 9th (5 th of Lent)	8.30am 10am	Holy Communion Morning Praise & Baptism – Living beyond our means’
Sunday 16th (Palm Sunday)	8.30am 10am	Holy Communion Family Service – Followed by Spring Harvest Meeting
Sunday 23rd (Easter Day)	10am	Holy Communion
Sunday 30th	10am	Worship service including Annual Church Parochial Meeting

SUNDAY SERVICES – APRIL

Sunday 6th (3 rd of Easter)	8.30am 10am	Holy Communion Holy Communion – ‘Opened Eyes & Burning Hearts’ - Revd Sue Hartley
Sunday 13th (4 th of Easter)	8.30am 10am	Holy Communion Morning Praise ‘One Hope’
Sunday 20th (5 th of Easter)	8.30am 10am	Holy Communion Family Service –
Sunday 27th (6 th of Easter)	10am	Holy Communion ‘Choosing Matthias’ - The Vicar



There is also a service of Holy Communion or Morning Prayer each WEDNESDAY at 9.30am followed by coffee shop until 11am



There is a prayer meeting at 9.30am until 9.40am each Sunday
Everyone is welcome to join us as we pray for the main service

Making Soda Bread as Visual Aid for Motherhood.

Beforehand: Mix: ¼ lb Plain flour
¼ lb wholemeal flour
½ teaspoon salt
1oz warm butter

Add: ½ teaspoon baking powder & ½ teaspoon bicarbonate of soda

5 oz raisins
1 egg
5 fluid oz yoghurt – with a teaspoon of lemon (= milk)

Beat together thoroughly and place in loaf shaped microwave baking container.

Cook in microwave - 4 minutes, then turn out onto a plate and cook for another 2 mins upside down. Turn back & cook 2 mins more. Test with a fork to see if cooked through. If dough sticks to fork cook again for 1 minute.

Meaning of the ingredients:

Flour = energy the incredible energy of a mother – on the go from morning to night. Always ready to help. That is the way God is - always here 24/7

Baking powder – if it was real bread we would use yeast. If you leave it out the bread is rock hard. Totally inedible. In other words it provides the fizz = the joy to lift our hearts. Mother's are good at that. 'The joy of the Lord is our strength' – Nehemiah 8:10

Raisins – the sweetness of dried grapes – grapes go bad if you try to keep them too long but raisins retain their freshness year after year. Like the sweetness of a long suffering mother. Doing things for you which you only notice when she has gone!

The egg: binds the whole loaf together – mothers are good at keeping families together – when children fall out it is often the mother who manages to resolve an argument.

God too longs that we are together – Jesus' prayer was: 'That we might be one'.

The Milk – kindness.

The phrase 'Milk of human kindness comes from Macbeth: "Yet do I fear thy Nature, It is too full o' the Milk of human kindness." Lady Macbeth deploring the kindness of her husband while she is filled with malice.

The picture of a mother feeding her baby. Whether bottle or breast – the settled focus of those moments – all stops while the baby drinks. Kindness is love and patience combined. Something which more than ever reflects God's love and patience for us.

Bernie's Story

Hi everybody,

Its been almost a year since I turned up at St. Paul's ... how time flies and what a year its been! I have not had chance to meet everybody at St. Paul's as yet ... so will just introduce myself a little.

I am from Ireland and trained as a nurse and had lived in London for many years before going out to live in China. I have done training and have been working with YWAM both in UK and in China.

I have been living in China for the past 10 years and just returned in early 2007. I am officially on a year Sabbatical from my work there.... I (and also my leaders there) had for quite sometime felt I should take some time out.... to reflect evaluate and plan ahead and find out more of Gods plan for the future. Sometimes we can go on and on and not really take time to do this.... however I am still in this process. I found it very difficult settling back in to life here; everything had changed so much - but God is always gracious and I have been so aware of HIS help in every situation I have been in....it doesn't matter which part of the world we are in HE is there for us.

In China after learning Mandarin for 2 years (although one never stops learning a new language!) I started to do health education in some very remote villages ... it really opened my eyes to see the need of those people.... some without electricity or running water.

It was wonderful to be able to help in some very small way. As a result of our health education programme it often lead to sharing the gospel with many people and eventually to indigenous church planting. As we tried to help people with their physical needs it was so exciting and rewarding when we were able to pray with people to accept Jesus as THEIR personal saviour and come to a real knowledge of the truth...and start living their lives for HIM.



Nothing happened overnight in China (as it doesn't in other places either!) ... sometimes it was hard and we did not always see the results we had prayed for.

Right now I am still seeking God about my future.... as to whether I will be based here in UK long term or in China.

I am planning a trip soon to China but not sure of the dates yet. My passion is still for the unreached people in the world - those who have never heard the gospel especially in China. I have a burden at the moment to be used by God to inspire others into world mission...and to avail of every opportunity that God gives me to share about Him.

I could go on but hope this gives you a little idea of where I am at A lot of my time at the moment is spent meeting the people that have been supporting me in China both prayerfully and financially..... and also meeting with different groups of people who have an interest in China and want to be involved in some way.

Thanks so much to everybody at St Paul's for your warm welcome to me when I arrived ...I feel so privileged to be a part of this special family and looking forward to getting to know some of you better as and when time permits.

Blessing to you all
Bernie Walsh