

# St. Bartholomew's Choir

<http://www.bannister.org/choir/>

September 2001

## New Term

The new term is now well under way, with several new faces in the choir boy ranks. Welcome to Eoin, Finbar, Oisin, and Patrick.

No longer with us is former Decani head choir-boy, Andrew Bannister, who gave sterling service and many solos over his four years in the choir. We all expect to see you back when your mature voice develops - and thank you for singing over the years.

Congratulations to Killian Rogan, who has been appointed by Malcolm as the new Decani head choirboy.

Our organ is up and running for the first time in over a year, and each week more of the pipes are installed. For the Dedication Festival on Sunday October 7th, you will be hearing most of the Swell and Choir sections, as well as some of the Pedal section. The Great organ will be the final part to be introduced, and this work will most likely be on going up until early in the New Year.

## Dedication Festival

The Archbishop, the most Reverent Walton Empey will be at St. Bartholomew's on Sunday October 7th to bless our new Organ.

The sermon will be given by the Bishop of Cashel and Ossory (and former Vicar of St. Bartholomew's), the Right Reverend John Neill. This will be followed by refreshments in the Knights of Malta hall next door, to which everyone is welcome.

## Treble Duet

On Sunday September 30th, Killian Horan and Andrew Dempsey will be singing the beautiful treble duet in "Lord, let me know mine end" by Maurice Greene (1696-1755).

We are very fortunate to have been presented with copies of this anthem by Robin and Julie Heather to mark the occasion of their wedding on September 26th, 1998.

## Dates for your Diary

October 21st @ 11:30am

Harvest Festival Eucharist, followed by parish lunch. Preacher is Canon Adrian Empey.

Parishioners are welcome to bring one friend per family unit, as well as food to eat.

November 4th @ 7:00pm

All Saints Day. Full choir evensong with the admission of new choristers.

November 11th @ 11:30am

All Souls Day. Solemn Eucharist of Remembrance Day, at which the Faure Requiem will be sung.

December 2nd @ 7:00pm

Advent Carol Service.

December 16th @ 7:00pm

Concert of Carols and Festive Readings with Alan Stanford.

## **Ruth Adams**

While on a visit to the UK in June, Tim Thurston met up with our former Lay Reader Ruth Adams, who is now Chaplain at Trinity College, Cambridge.

She recalled with warmth her time in St. Bartholomew's, and particularly her choral experiences with us. Ruth was much loved by us, coming to St. Bartholomew's after the trauma of serving in Omagh at the time of the bombing there.

Tim also heard Christ Church Cathedral Choir, Dublin, as they sang the services in Westminster Abbey. (Tim's daughter, Lucy, is a member of Christ Church Cathedral choir).

## **Elizabeth Ferrar**

St. Bartholomew's is the poorer since the passing of Elizabeth Ferrar, a long time parishoner and good friend of the choir.

Her funeral took place on Wednesday August 15th, with the music provided by the gentlemen of the choir.

## **Reverend Dan Clarke**

A number of former choristers and parishioners will want to hear and meet Rev. Dan Clarke, who was our Assistant Curate from 1941 to 1943. Following this, he was Diocesan Curate in Killaloe, followed by Roscrea and Borrisokane. He later moved to England, where he held posts in Bedfordshire before becoming Head of Religious Studies at Reigate Grammar

School in Surrey, until he retired in 1984. He keeps active as chaplain of St. Mary's Choir School, Reigate.

He will be preaching on Sunday 7th October at the 11:30 Eucharist at St. Bartholomew's, and he will be attending the Dedication Evensong the same evening at 7:00pm. (He can also be heard preach at 10:00am in Christ Church Leeson Park).

## **Links with the Distant Past**

Des Harris sang in St. Bartholomew's Choir as a bass in the late 1940s. Canon Simpson, his Great Uncle, encouraged him to join our choir because we were short of basses at the time. He emigrated to Canada in 1958, pursuing a career in engineering. He switched careers in 1966, and after taking the necessary university degrees became a full time teacher in North Vancouver Secondary School. He still sings bass, as a member of the much

travelled Vancouver Welsh Male Voice Choir, and as a canal's enthusiast, visited Ireland for the World Canal's Conference during the summer.

Paddy McKee, now the Rev. Fr. Paddy McKee, sang with us between 1972 and 1975. He is now the vicar of a parish in Ryhall, in the midland county of Rutland in England. By coincidence, he has a son singing in Exeter Cathedral, which we will be visiting for the second time this Easter.

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