



Pompey Chi**ea**es

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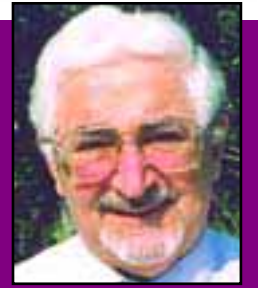
Marking 10 years since history made

Women priests: pages 6,7 and 9



I heard Holy Spirit speak in Aramaic

My Faith: Page 8



TAP INTO SPIRIT OF WEB GENERATION

IT'S a way of tapping into the spirituality of a generation that is more comfortable on their computers than in our pews.

Our diocese is revamping its website to help us interact with people who don't normally come to church. Our 'mission-shaped website' will give them answers to spiritual queries, tell them all about Jesus and even show them which is their nearest church.

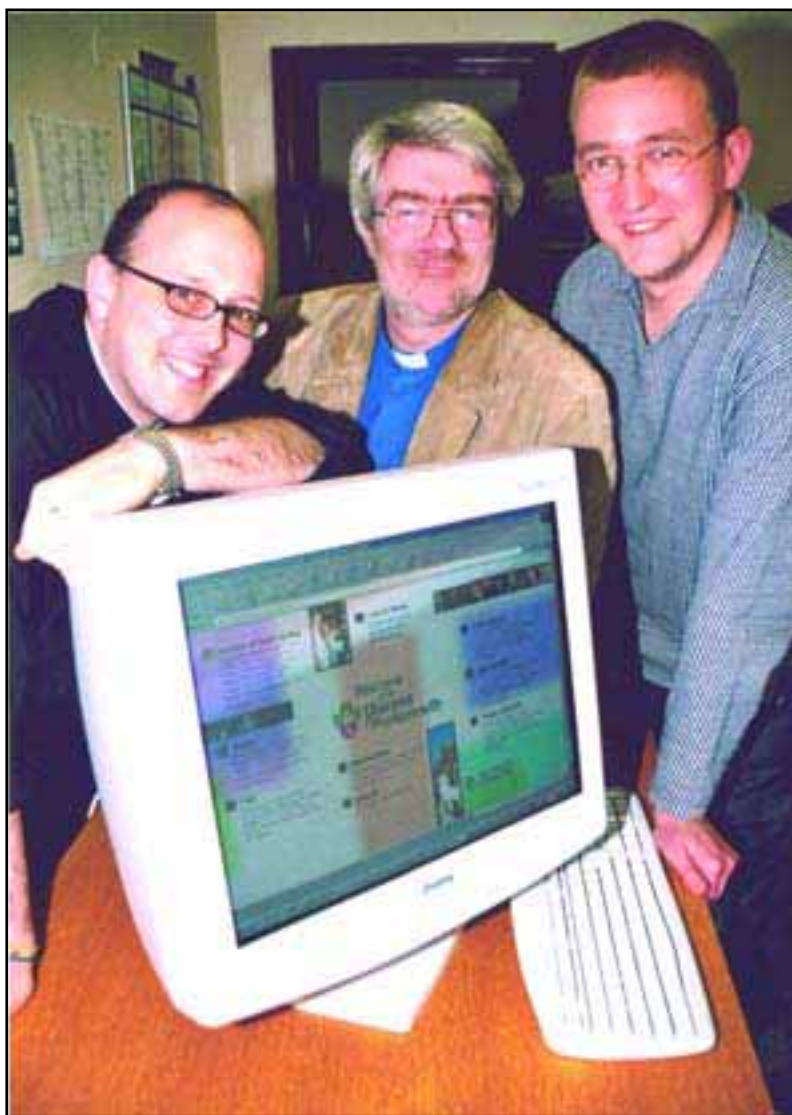
Web surfers from across the world will be able to ask churches in our diocese to pray for their needs, ask questions about faith, and use prayers and meditations from the site themselves.

Information about life events such as birth, marriage and bereavement will be available, and real-life stories of people with faith from our diocese will be highlighted.

The website will also be given a radical makeover, with a new colour-coded design to help people find their way easily around the site.

And the new website will be launched in the most high-profile way possible – by projecting images from it onto the west wall of our cathedral on May 22! Anyone can come and try the new website for themselves from 9.30pm that night – immediately after the cathedral choir's spring concert.

The thinking behind the new website has come from our diocesan webmaster, the Rev Sandy Matheson. The Rev Simon Rundell, curate at the Church of the Holy Spirit, Southsea, has written much of the program-



The people behind our new website (l to r): programmer the Rev Simon Rundell, webmaster the Rev Sandy Matheson and designer Mark Rodel

ming, and Mark Rodel, an ordinand from St Jude's, Southsea, has created the new design.

And it fits with the thinking behind our diocese's Kairos process – that we should be meeting people where they already are, rather than expecting them to come

to church services.

"There are thousands of people in our diocese who would never dream of setting foot inside a church building, but that doesn't mean they are not interested in spiritual things," said Sandy. "If they feel more comfortable in front of a com-



The re-designed home page of the new website

puter screen, why shouldn't we provide them with the chance to engage with their spirituality right there?

"For some people, it might involve praying one of the prayers from the website at their desk. Others might want to read part of the gospel story. A few might actually ask us to pray for them. As far as I'm aware, no other diocese is using their website in quite this way, so I believe we are pioneers."

The information from the existing website –



news, dates, liturgy, bishop's sermons and so on – will all still be available, but will not be the first items that people come to.

Instead, the home page will offer people a choice of reading about Jesus, stories of faith, life events or frequently-asked questions about faith; looking at prayers; or searching to find their nearest church.

Our diocese has secured permis-

sion to use extracts from the *Contemporary English Version* of the Bible, *The Street Bible* by Rob Lacey and *Jesus* by J John on the website, meaning that information about Jesus' life will be available in the most up-to-date language.

Additional features for churchgoers will include booking and paying for diocesan training courses online, and subscribing to online mailing lists about particular subjects.

A Kairos mailing list has already been launched to encourage people to say what they think about the bishop's Kairos initiative to look again at our ministry, mission and use of resources in the diocese.

You will be able to see the new website from May 22 on: www.portsmouth.anglican.org. If you would like to attend the launch at the cathedral, please let Neil Pugmire know on 023-9282 5731 or communications@portsmouth.anglican.org

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