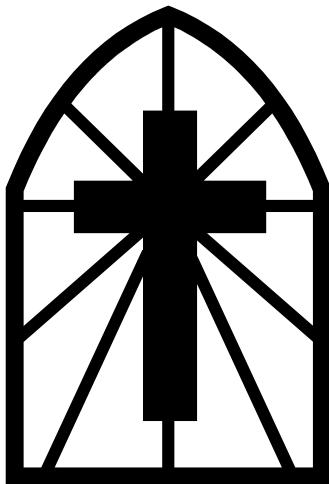


CHRIST CHURCH CHALLENGE



September 2008

CHRIST CHURCH, JULIAN ROAD
DIOCESE OF BATH AND WELLS IN THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

SUNDAY SERVICES

8.00am	Holy Communion
10.00am	Family Communion, Junior Church & Crèche
First Sundays & Festivals	Choral Evensong and Sermon at 6.30pm
Other Sundays	Said Evening Prayer at 5.30pm (see page 5)

There is amplification to assist the hard of hearing

CHOIR

Junior Choir Practice	Friday 6.30pm - 8.00pm
Adult Practice	Friday 7.30pm - 9.00pm

New singers always welcome - please contact Director of Music 01225 445360

BAPTISMS, MARRIAGES, FUNERALS

By arrangement. Please 'phone the Vestry 338869 / Officiating Minister 427462

Angela and Chris, the churchwardens, would like to know about people who are ill, or of any circumstances in which the ministry of the Church would be welcome.

There's an exciting bumper edition of the Forum this month where Angela tells us about her recent visit to China. Please keep your articles coming, or you'll be subjected to some more of the editor's pontificating. You have been warned.

O Lord, deprive me not of Thy heavenly blessings;
 O Lord Jesus Christ, inscribe me, Thy servant, in the Book of Life, and grant me a blessed end;
 O Lord, sprinkle on my heart the dew of Thy grace;
 O Lord, receive me in repentance;
 O Lord, grant me humility, charity, and obedience;
 O Lord, Who knowest Thy creation and that which Thou hast willed for it; may Thy will also be fulfilled in me, a sinner, for Thou art blessed for evermore.

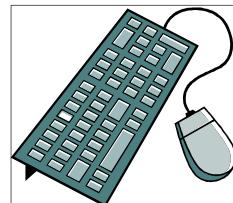
Amen

From a Prayer of Saint John Chrysostom
 According to the Hours of the Day and Night

Forum...

Reflections on a month in China

I have recently had the good fortune to spend a month's sabbatical in China. I chose to go there because one sixth (2000) of our students at the University of Bath are Chinese, and I wanted to gain a greater understanding of their culture and to experience for myself what it is like to be 'out of my comfort zone', in order to better understand their needs and be a better Chaplain for them. Also because the first ever woman Priest in the Anglican Communion, the Reverend Florence Li Tim Oi, ordained in Macau in 1944, was Chinese, and I met her in Canada in 1983 and again in the UK in 1984. And because my late Father once offered his services to the China Inland Mission in the 1930's, but was turned down on grounds of ill health.



The following is something I was asked to write by Fr Eamonn O'Brien, a Catholic Priest who helped to organise the first fortnight of my trip when I was travelling with a group of RC Sisters and Monks, most of whom were also University Chaplains. The Organisation that we went with is called Cultural Exchange with China. My 2nd fortnight I travelled solo, staying with friends and also Church contacts through Churches Together in Britain and Ireland. For those of you who like to know these things, my itinerary was as follows: Beijing; Xi'an; Shanghai; Hang Zhou, Beijing. And here are some of my initial impressions of China:

The beauty of the Beijing Boulevards—the flowers, the cleanliness of the streets was not what I had been expecting. Being able to walk to Tiannamen Square within 40 mins of our hotel, and to find myself in that place of so many horrific images back in 1989, yet to find it today teeming with Chinese tourists, many of whom seemed to want to be photographed with me—I am no super star, simply a tall, blonde, blue eyed western woman! The pollution of the air, especially my final week back in Beijing where at one point I was forced to abandon my principles and take refuge in a McDonalds simply to breathe air conditioned air and have a cold sweet drink, (Chinese food is fabulous, but almost entirely savoury) walking back from visiting the Olympic Opening Ceremony Pandas in their special pen in Beijing Zoo.

The stunning architecture of the Forbidden City—the sheer number of pavilions and pagodas, each larger than the last. The beauty of the Temple of Heaven. The blue sky on the day of the visit to the latter was the only time I saw it in nearly 2 weeks in Beijing.

Landing in an earthquake aftershock at Xi'an and going straight to Mass where the Cathedral precincts, as well as the main park, and the highway verges were packed with brightly coloured tents as the Chinese were scared of sleeping in high rise blocks because of the aftershocks. We slept happily on the 8th floor of our hotel—well 8 is a lucky number in China! Pot Noodle supper—and all the delicious and spicy food. (English food seems SO bland now!)

The inability of Shanghai taxi drivers to find where you were going, even when presented with an address in Mandarin characters—feeling so proud when I learnt how to say 'left' straight ahead' and 'stop' in Mandarin—essential prerequisite for travelling alone. The 10 hour train journey back to Beijing from Shanghai, which left on the dot and arrived at exactly the forecasted time. Travelled first class and it cost less than £30. No restaurant car so I rationed my pack of cereal bars to 1 every 2 hours.

Being driven the WRONG way down a 3 lane highway in Hang Zhou—when our driver realised, she simply did a U turn and continued without so much as a checked breath! Visiting the largest Protestant Church in China in Hang Zhou where they have 4000 in the congregation each Sunday morning. The Church can hold 8000 using the galleries and basement. They have been given more land by the Government at a cheap rate to build an old folks home. This was in stark contrast to the Catholic Sisters in Xi'an, who had been badly beaten when protesting against the government when they tried to take away some of their land that they needed for their social programmes. They regularly feed Lepers and Aids victims.

With the Vice Principal of a Seminary and the former head of the Southern Baptist Church in the USA (a Chinese American) praying over a factory built on former farm land where 'graven images' had been found, and where there had been 'disturbances' and the female owner wanted prayers said. Attending a very charismatic prayer meeting of an Ex Pat Abundant Life American Protestant Church.

The friendliness of the Chinese people, their generosity and desire to help, even when separated by the language barrier. Being whisked down an underground badly lit tunnel on the back of a motorbike with my luggage and no crash helmet, by a 'friend' of the porter, when the taxi driver took me to the coach instead of the train station.

The humidity in Shanghai—least good memory of the trip! The beauty of West Lake in Hang Zhou. Eating Peking Duck. Shredded beef in black bean sauce was my favourite dish. Purchasing a full length pure silk



komono for less than £6 in the silk souk in Beijing, with the aid of my former Chinese student who made sure I was not ripped off! Loos with no doors, or simply bamboo curtains that did not quite meet!

The very vibrant faith of the Chinese people as witnessed in both RC and Protestant Churches in Xi'an, Shanghai, Hang Zhou. The Chinese singing in Shanghai RC Cathedral. The love of the Sisters in Xi'an—in stark contrast to the nervousness of the Sisters in Beijing. Spending an entire day wandering around Bei Lan park and lake and pagodas. Staying in the middle of one of the Hutongs just behind the Confucian temple for final week—taking my friends Pekinese dogs for their night time stroll in the narrow streets. Climbing on the Great Wall—and being surprised at the Englishness of the vegetation there! The ease of travel on the Beijing subway which was so well marked and beautifully air conditioned.

Receiving the sacrament at a Mass in a hotel room on 25th floor in Shanghai. Eating breakfast in a revolving restaurant on the 42nd floor.

But perhaps the most abiding memory was the sheer size of the country and the cities. Even a modest town would have a population of 5-7 million, Shanghai has 37.8 million people. And 80% of the population lives in the countryside...

Forgive these rather random thoughts, I am still digesting the whole amazing experience, but I would be happy to talk to you about my travels. It was a great experience, and I am indebted to so many kind and new friends in China – we all have a lot to learn from the faith of the Chinese churches. Thanks to all at Christ Church for your prayers for my travels which really meant a lot to me.

Angela

Laity Rota for September

		OT Readers	NT Readers	Gospel
September	7	No reading	Nicky Gladstone	Bob Siderfin
	14	No reading	Morny Davison	Penny Edwards
	21	Georgina Bowman	David Bishop	Chris Graham
	28		Junior Church	
October	5	Sarah Hiscock	No reading	Jane Fletcher
	12	Margaret Heath	Sylvia Ayers	Matthew Jones

Chalice Assistants

September	7	Bev Pont	Margaret Burrows
	14	Margaret Heath	Janet Mahto
	21	Chris Graham	Jane Fletcher
	28	Penny Edwards	Bob Siderfin
October	5	Andrew Sillett	Tessa Claridge
	12	Bev Pont	Margaret Burrows

Intercessors

September	7	David Marles
	14	Rev Cliff Burrows
	21	Chris Graham
	28	Junior Church
October	5	Georgina Bowman
	12	Rev Antony Claridge



Sidespeople

		8am	10am
September	7	Arthur Jones	Janet Mahto Margaret Heath
	14	Clive Tilling	Morny Davison Tessa Claridge
	21	Arthur Jones	Margaret Silver Frank Twissell
	28	Clive Tilling	Ken & Sylvia Ayers
October	5	Arthur Jones	Andrew Sillett Janet Mahto
		Clive Tilling	Margaret Heath Morny Davison

Church Calendar for September

	3	Wed	11.00am	Holy Communion followed by Lunch
Sep	7	Sun	SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY	
	8	Mon	BIRTH of the BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	
	10	Wed	CTB Committee Meeting (United Reformed Church)	
	12	Fri	11.00am	The Cedar Tree Community Café
	13	Sat	ST JOHN CHRYSOSTOM, Bishop of Constantinople	
	14	Sun	HOLY CROSS DAY	
			Genesis Lunch Box: Christ Church on duty	
	15	Mon	Magazine Deadline	
			7.30pm	Church Council
	17	Wed	ST HILDEGARD of Bingen	
	19	Fri	11.00am	The Cedar Tree Community Café
	21	Sun	ST MATTHEW, Apostle and Evangelist	
	24	Wed	7.45pm	How Green is my Valley? St Nicholas' Church, Bathampton
	25	Thur	LANCELOT ANDREWES, Bishop of Winchester	
	26	Fri	11.00am	The Cedar Tree Community Café
			Wedding of Katherine Tanner and Alex Watson	
	28	Sun	HARVEST FESTIVAL and Gift Day	
			Festival Evensong followed by tea and cakes—see the weekly notice sheet for details	
	29	Mon	ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS	
Oct	3	Fri	11.00am	The Cedar Tree Community Café
	4	Sat	10.30am-1.30pm	Donald and Yvonne's Garden Party (indoors if wet)
	5	Sun	TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY	
			6.30pm	Choral Evensong

Lectionary for September

	Old Testament	New Testament	Gospel
Sep 7	Trinity 16 (Proper 18)		
	No reading	Romans 13.8-end	Matthew 18.15-20
14	Holy Cross Day		
	No reading	Philippians 2.6–11	John 3.13–17
21	Matthew Apostle and Evangelist		
	Proverbs 3.13–18	2 Corinthians 4.1–6	Matthew 9.9–13
28	Harvest		
	Deuteronomy 28.1–14	No reading	Luke 12.16–30
Oct 5	Trinity 20 (Proper 22)		
	Isaiah 5.1–7	No reading	Matthew 21.33–46

Come to Yvonne and Donald Morris's

All-weather Garden Party

4th October 2008

10.30am—1.30pm

at their home, 3 Summerhill Road, Sion Hill



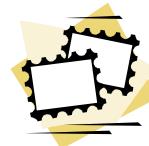
in aid of the Genesis Sunday Centre
teas, coffees, light lunches, raffle

Speak to Donald and Yvonne or one
of the Church Wardens for more
information or if you would like a lift.



All welcome

Mission to Sea Farers



On behalf of this Mission, I would like to send my heartfelt thanks to the Christ Church Congregation for the Sea Sunday donations which I was able to send off on my return from holiday. Due to the Collection taking place over two Sundays, I found a total of £50.00 in the MS Box, and I do thank you all most sincerely for your generosity. I have recently received a card from the Mission, stating that last year they provided 280,000 telephone cards to help all Seafarers to keep in touch with their loved ones. To continue with this service will cost a great deal of money, so I was happy to be able to send them our small mite, which will pay for five cards: just a drop in the ocean, you will say, but, to quote a well-known source: "Every Little Helps!" I have placed the card on the Church shelf, together with their Annual Report, and have a standing order form should anyone feel drawn to contribute further.

*Sylvia M Ayers
Missions to Seafarers Secretary*



Thanks from The Mission to Seafarers

Please pass on our thanks to the members of the congregation of Christ Church who sent us such an interesting collection of stamps. Please carry on collecting!

Sarah Wehner

Our Junior Calendar Correspondent Explains...

MICHAELMAS (29th September)

September sees summer giving way to autumn. Although we may not have seen much sun this year, the change can already be felt—the early mornings have a cleaner, clearer taste. The feast of St Michael, Gabriel, Raphael and All Angels, or Michaelmas, falls near the Autumn equinox and marks this change in the year. The university and legal terms named after it will lead us right through to Christmas and the winter depths. As the days shorten, St Michael, the Prince of Light, the Healer, the Morning Star, will protect us, victorious against the encroaching night as he is victorious against the eternal forces of darkness.

Mothers Union News

The Order Forms and monies for the new MU "Families First" Magazine Subscriptions and the Christmas Items have all been dispatched, and the parcels should arrive during October. May I once again thank those prompt payers who make life so much easier for your Treasurer.



In July we said a fond farewell to Jean Ferguson, a long-time member of our MU, who has decided to move to Maldon in Essex, nearer to her family. Jean was the first member that I enrolled when I became Branch Leader, and she will be greatly missed. She has been a tower of strength to us, always ready to give her support to any activity in which the Branch was involved, and we wish her every happiness in her new home.



Bath Deanery MU has now prepared 1200 copies of a new edition of the Students' Cook Book. These will be given away on Wednesday September 24th at Freshers Week Fair at Bath Spa University and also on Friday September 26th at Bath University. The cost has been covered by the following Sponsors:

- Baskervilles Gym;
- Cross Manufacturing;
- Hebron & Medlock;
- Marks & Spencer, Bath;
- MOD Care;
- Wessex Water and
- St Mary-the-Virgin Church, Bathwick,

and there is also an opportunity for other people to assist with this project.

Over the past five years, we have given pieces of Flapjack to the Students at each Fair, which is where we need YOUR aid: Are you able to help us on Sunday September 21st by bringing one-inch squares of Flapjack to Church? See page 14 for a recipe. All contributions will be most welcome, and will be really appreciated by the recipients! The book can also be purchased at £2.50 a copy, so please see Margaret Burrows if you can help in either way.

As usual, we will have a Mothers' Union Corporate Communion in September, hopefully during the third week.

*Sylvia M Ayers
Secretary*

Circuit of Bath Walk 2008 in aid of Julian House

Sunday 28th September

The Circuit of Bath Walk is a spectacular event, in which anyone can participate. The route takes in some of Bath's most beautiful near countryside. Participants will not only enjoy a great day out; they'll also give a welcome boost to the work of Julian House.

Two miles up to 20, walkers make the choice, thanks to the unique shuttle bus service, which will run throughout the day between the checkpoints.

The Route

The circular route around the city has been carefully selected so that participants can enjoy the countryside and some spectacular views across Bath. In outline it takes in Upper Swainswick, Solsbury Hill, Bathampton, Monkton Combe, Southstoke, Englishcombe, Newton St Loe, Newbridge & Lansdown Park. There are five start points/checkpoints. Participants will start at their preferred checkpoint and finish at any other checkpoint or the same one if they are completing the whole route.

There is a mixture of terrain: well-used paths/public rights of way, limited sections of roadway, flat ground through to reasonable hills. Maps and instructions will be provided on the day to each walker.

Further details

All participants are asked to try and raise sponsorship on the back of their participation in this event, using official sponsor forms.

Go to www.julianhouse.org.uk/support/circuitbath08.html
or type "Circuit of Bath walk" into your favourite search engine.



Prayer Cycle for September

September

- Sun 7** For the work of Dorothy House, for those benefiting from its care and for their families.
- Mon 8** For our LMG partners, St Stephen's and St Mary's Charlcombe.
- Tues 9** For Judith, who prepares our weekly notice sheet, and Emma, deputising for her for a few weeks.
- Wed 10** For the work of Christian Aid in helping the world's poor.
- Thurs 11** For Cyril and Mark our Readers; for Sarah's ministry at Batheaston.
- Fri 12** For Angela, our Verger.
- Sat 13** For the leaders of our country, that they may follow paths of peace and righteousness. For understanding between the nations.
- Sun 14** May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.
- Mon 15** For David, our Treasurer.
- Tues 16** For our Church Council, meeting tonight.
- Wed 17** For our Clergy Team.
- Thurs 18** For Rowan our Archbishop and for Peter our Bishop. For all Anglican Bishops and Primates.
- Fri 19** For the Cedar Tree project; for Nicky and all the helpers; for our local community.
- Sat 20** For members of our congregation who can no longer attend church due to illness or infirmity.
- Sun 21** That those responsible for spending public money may do so with honesty and wisdom.
- Mon 22** For all our readers, chalice assistants, intercessors and sidespeople. For Sarah, who draws up the Laity Rotas.

- Tues 23** For the Trustees of Christ Church; for Yvonne, their chairman.
- Wed 24** For the Mothers Union; for its work around the world and all who share the vision of its founder.
- Thurs 25** For those young people leaving home for University.
- Fri 26** For those who are preparing for ordination. For all who are considering their vocation.
- Sat 27** For all who help to run our Junior Church, for Sarah who co-ordinates the rota, and for all our children.
- Sun 28** For humility in the face of all our blessings, especially the abundance of food in our society.
- Mon 29** For those facing redundancy or concerned for their financial security in the present economic conditions.
- Tues 30** Let us thank God for the blessings of the month now ending.

October

- Wed 1** For those concerned with rising fuel costs as colder days approach.
- Thurs 2** For Margaret, Sarah and Lewis, our Deanery Synod representatives.
- Fri 3** For all who have lost their way or their hope. For all feeling forsaken and alone.
- Sat 4** For the work of the Genesis Sunday Centre; for all who support its work.
- Sun 5** For all being mistreated or suffering injustice. For all prisoners who are held without trial or without the protection of legal systems.

Oh Lord hear my prayer

An Easy Flapjack recipe

- * 4 oz, (110 g)
- * 4 tbsp golden syrup
- * 3 oz (75 g) brown sugar
- * 9 oz (225 g) oats
- * A pinch of salt

Pre-heat your oven to 350F (180C)



Gently melt the butter in a pan. Remove from the heat, then add the other ingredients and mix thoroughly.

Pour the mixture into an oiled 8 x 12in (20 x 30cm) baking tin. Smooth down the top with a fork.

Bake for 15 - 20 minutes. The flapjacks are ready when the mixture is still soft but the top has just started to brown. This will give a moist, chewy flapjack. If you leave them to cook for a few minutes longer, they will be firm and crispy.

**Local Ministry Group News
Somerset Churches and Chapels, Bike Ride/Walk
Saturday, 13th September 2008**

Friends of Somerset Churches and Chapels help with the maintenance of our places of worship. Charlcombe has already had one grant and I expect we will be asking for another when the roof is done. This is one of their major fund raising events. The basic idea is to obtain sponsorship from your friends and visit as many churches as you can. Choose your own route. Half the money raised is returned to your own church so the effort is not entirely altruistic!

At Charlcombe, for a number of years, we have held a walk starting at St Mary's Charlcombe at 9.15 am and visiting the churches at Woolley, Langridge, Northstoke and Weston with tea at Tournesol, Charlcombe Lane, for finishers. The total distance is 13 miles, but the Lansdown Monument provides a convenient half way point where transport back can be arranged.

It is probably the best country walk on this side of Bath. Come and join us but walk only as far as you want to. Further information and sponsorship forms from Richard Brooke (420547).

Officiating Minister	The Rev Antony Claridge, 62 Cranwells Park, Weston, Bath BA1 2YE 01225 427462
Assistant Clergy	The Rev Cliff Burrows, Stonecroft, Entry Hill Drive, Bath BA2 5NL 01225 334743
Reader / Director of Music	Mark Elliott, 32 Charlcombe Lane, Larkhall, Bath BA1 6NS 01225 445360
Reader / Magazine Distributor and Editor Emeritus	Cyril Selmes, 10 Daffords Buildings, Larkhall, Bath BA1 6SG 01225 420039
Churchwarden	Chris Gladstone, 5 Westwoods, Box Road, Bath BA1 7QE 01225 859969
Churchwarden / Verger	Angela Soboslay, 285 Newbridge Road, Bath BA1 3HN 01225 333297
Church Council Secretary	David Bishop, The Old Tannery, Turleigh, Bradford on Avon, BA15 2HG 01225 869409
Treasurer to the Trustees / Magazine Editor	David Marles, 5 Westwoods, Box Road, Bath BA1 7QE 01225 859969
Chairman of the Trustees	Yvonne Morris, 3 Summerhill Road, Sion Hill, Bath BA1 2UP. 01225 425555
Secretary to the Trustees and Editor Emeritus	Nicky Gladstone, 5 Westwoods, Box Road, Bath BA1 7QE 01225 859969
Deanery Synod / Laity Rotas / Junior Church	Sarah Hiscock, 2 Mortimer Close, Bath BA1 4EN 07983 556759
Deanery Synod / Churches Together in Bath (CTB)	Margaret Heath, St Lawrence, Lansdown Road, Bath BA1 5TD 01225 428272
Deanery Synod	Lewis Boyd
Mothers' Union (MU)	Margaret Burrows, Stonecroft, Entry Hill Drive, Bath BA2 5NL 01225 334743
CTB / MU Secretary & Treasurer / Missions to Seafarers / Calendar	Sylvia Ayers, 5 Forester Avenue, Bath BA2 6QD 01225 463976
USPG	Adrian Pegg, 68 London Road West, Bath BA1 7DA 01225 858809
Christian Aid / Children's Society	Your name here? Speak to Chris or Angela!
Organist	David Wrigley, 3 Haydon Gate, Radstock, BA3 3RB 01761 439355
Concert and Bookings Co-ordinator / Weekly Notices	Judith Bishop, 01225 869409 Email concerts@christchurchbath.org

CHRIST CHURCH, JULIAN ROAD

DIOCESE OF BATH AND WELLS IN THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

PAST HISTORY

Christ Church was built at the end of the 18th Century by the socially concerned clergy and lay people for those excluded from worship by the system of pew rents. It was probably the first church of that time to provide seating free of charge. Early supporters included the Archbishops of Canterbury and York; the great evangelical campaigner against slavery, William Wilberforce; Philip Pusey, the father of E B Pusey; and Martin Stafford Smith, the godfather of John Keble, who were both founders of the Oxford Movement. The building was designed by the famous Bath architect John Palmer, who was responsible for the completion of the Great Pump Room, Lansdown Crescent and St Swithin's, the parish church of Walcot. In November 1998, the congregation, friends and well-wishers from all over the world celebrated the bicentenary.

MINISTRY

Christ Church is unusual in not being a parish church. Much of the vitality of its life and worship derives from the fact that the congregation comes from all areas of the city and the surrounding districts. Whilst there is no full-time paid vicar, there is a non-stipendiary priest-in-charge, who leads a ministerial team of ordained and lay people. Worship at Christ Church largely reflects the traditions of those responsible for its foundation and the rich diversity of the Church of England as a whole. Thus, preaching and Bible-based teaching is firmly set within a liturgical setting which is best described as liberal and catholic.

SERVICES

The 8am Holy Communion is either Book of Common Prayer (1662) or Common Worship. At 10am the Eucharist is celebrated according to Common Worship. On the first Sunday of each month, there is a full Choral Evensong. A Junior Church and a Crèche cater for the children and young people who attend the 10am service. We hold special all-age services once a month and at festivals such as Easter, Christmas, Mothering Sunday and Harvest.

There are a variety of mid-week activities including Holy Communion at 11am every Wednesday during Lent, followed by lunch). The notice board and the weekly notice sheet provide details of discussion and prayer groups which are held at different times throughout the year. An all-age choir, which rehearses on Friday evenings maintains the much-admired music tradition at Christ Church.

CHURCH COMMUNICATIONS

Published on the first Sunday of every month, Christ Church Challenge brings news of the church locally, in the Diocese, and throughout the world. Our website is constantly updated and can be found at www.christchurchbath.org

**The deadline for articles for the magazine is the
15th of the preceding month.
Thank you.**