

## **The Church's One Foundation . . .**

So we may have sung on more than one occasion. Do we ever think about the foundation of the building in which we, in Bromley, gather for worship Sunday by Sunday?

Do we notice this church's foundation stone in the north wall of the Children's Chapel? It was put there in 1949 with the help of (the then Princess Elizabeth) our present Monarch.

(If you were to check the special edition of our Parish Magazine that year you learn something of the stone's history.)

There have been a whole sequence of buildings on this site that dating back to the eleventh or twelfth century. The original foundation stone for that structure has disappeared over time as each successive Bromley Parish Church has been rebuilt to meet the needs of the community in succeeding centuries up to the time of the air raid in 1940 that destroyed most of the building.

Returning to the present foundation stone we see that there are three stones. The largest, that commemorates the event of 1949, and below it are two further stones, each with its own crest carved into the face. One has the Canterbury crest, while the other has the crest of Rochester Diocese. The article, mentioned above, informs us that these stones had been donated by the two Cathedrals. Look closely, you will see that the, lighter coloured, crests have been carved on older stones. Yes, the stones were donated by the two Cathedrals to underline the relationship of this church to the mother Cathedral (Rochester) and its part in the southern jurisdiction of the See of Canterbury.

We are then reminded that we are also part of that One Foundation who is Christ, our Lord!

*Gerald Elves*

### **Bromley Parish Church**

#### **Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)**

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2005**

**after morning service.**

**Parish Eucharist will begin at 10am**

**Please make a note in your diaries**