

2003

Charity represented for the month of

SEPTEMBER:-

ST LUKES HOSPITAL FOR THE CLERGY

– Caring for those who care for others:-

Clergy, nuns, monks and missionaries spend their lives offering comfort to others. They and their families are always there when they are needed and it is easy to forget that the clergy themselves are not immune to illness.

St Luke's was founded in 1892 as an acute surgical hospital, treating a large range of health problems. Today, as then, it is a way of saying thank you for the ministry of the Church. It offers prompt, FREE medical treatment to Church of England clergy, their families and dependent children. It provides consultations and post-operative care for people undergoing major operations and has a network of Psychiatrists round the country. Patients may be male or female; active or retired; stipendiary or non-stipendiary and they come from all over the world and include overseas missionaries, theological students and the Church Army.

St Luke's adopts a 'whole person' approach to healing. It understands the unique pressures facing the clergy and makes it possible for patients to take a well earned break in a restful, prayerful atmosphere.

For many overseas Anglican clergy and missionaries there is no other option. They do not qualify for NHS attention and cannot afford private treatment. St Luke's may be their last chance to receive life-saving treatment.

This very worthy cause requires all the assistance it can muster and deserves the continuing support and endeavours on its behalf that St Peter and St Paul gives it.

Donations are received for all our represented charities through General Communion Alms; Harvest Collections; Christmas Collections; Special Collections; Traidcraft Stall Contributions and MONTHLY OBJECTS – the subject of this article. The proceeds from the St

Petertide and November Fairs benefit the charity or charities of the Organisers' choice.

Veronica Mountford.

Great Chefs of the Bible

Jacob, whose famous red lentil stew bought him a birthright (Genesis 25), but who had to serve meat to win his father's blessing. What can we say? Vegetarian is chic, but meat still brings home the bacon.

Rebekah, the woman behind the Jacob culinary success story, who worked wonders with goat (Gen 27).

Esau, who repeated the recipe with fresh game (Gen 27), but could only receive an inferior blessing from his father.

Jesus, the Lord of the banquet, whose choice of wine to compliment the progress of the feast won great acclaim (John 2).

John the Baptist, the Bush Tucker Man of the 1st century. Famed for his alfresco wild honey and locusts (Mark 1), surely this is one man who could have benefited from learning to use a can opener.

Martha, who unfairly gets bad press to this day. Sure, she made a fuss about the heat in the kitchen when she too could have chosen to just sit at the feet of Jesus (Luke 10), but why don't we beat up on Jesus for not moving everyone into the kitchen so Martha could hear what was going on as well? Or the disciples for being too gender stereotyped to lend a hand.

Lesson: have an open-plan kitchen so the cook never feels left out. It also tends to get others involved in peeling, chopping and taste testing.

And **God**, who daily for 40 years turned on a feast of manna for all the tribes of Israel (Exodus 16), who prepares a table in the presence of my enemies (Psalm 23) and is currently reported to be working on a wedding banquet on a scale never before seen (Revelation 19).

From magazine of the Diocese of Sidney (sent in by Mary Setchell)