



**Sue and I were invited to the Worshipful Company of Parish Clerks' annual Ascension Day Dinner on May 18<sup>th</sup>. The Parish Clerks is one of the oldest London Guilds, having received its first Charter from Henry VI in 1442. The uplifting Service before the Dinner was held at St James Garlickhythe which is a Christopher Wren Church – also known as “The Wren Lantern” because of its many large clear windows which allow light to enter.**

**This was followed by an excellent Dinner at Vintners Hall. We were guests of Sir Gary Hickenbottom, together with Her Excellency, The Governor of Montserrat Sarah Tucker and her husband Howard.**

**The Bishop of London, Dame Sarah Mullally DBE, spoke on behalf of the guests.**



**The Parish Clerk members wear surplices rather than gowns and, during Dinner, they loudly toasted each other across the dining tables using the names of their parishes not by their own names. It was a unique and fascinating tradition to witness !!**

**All in all, a most enjoyable and very interesting evening.**

**Past Master**

**Geoff Hughes**