1970's





Well, almost 1970's!





Sisters' Chapel, Cockfosters





Sr Paula in the embroidery workroom, Cockfosters





New-style veils and cowls, spring 1975



Picnic on the terrace, sisters' priory, 1977





On 28 May, 1978, for the first time since the reformation, Benedictine monks and nuns sang Vespers in Canterbury Cathedral. The event ended two weeks of celebrations to mark the 1000 years since the high altar of the Abbey church at Canterbury was dedicated by Saint Dunstan in 978.



Canterbury Cathedral, 28 May 1978

At Cockfosters, the monks were running the parish, and the sisters the school. Both were flourishing, but the communities didn't celebrate the Divine Office together, and some elements of monastic life were missing. Dom Edmund and Mother Lucia both felt that it was time to move away from parish and school and return to the original vision of the foundation—and in the late 1970's the search was on for premises outside London.

In November 1979 M Lucia and Dom Edmund visited two properties up for sale, one called Turvey Abbey, and the adjacent mews property, which would become the Monastery of Christ our Saviour—Turvey was then too far from central London to be of much interest to property developers. They were the first properties they had seen that they agreed about . . .