

SAINT PETER'S MINI-MAG



St Peter's Church
The Lawn
Budleigh Salterton EX9 6LT

January 2023

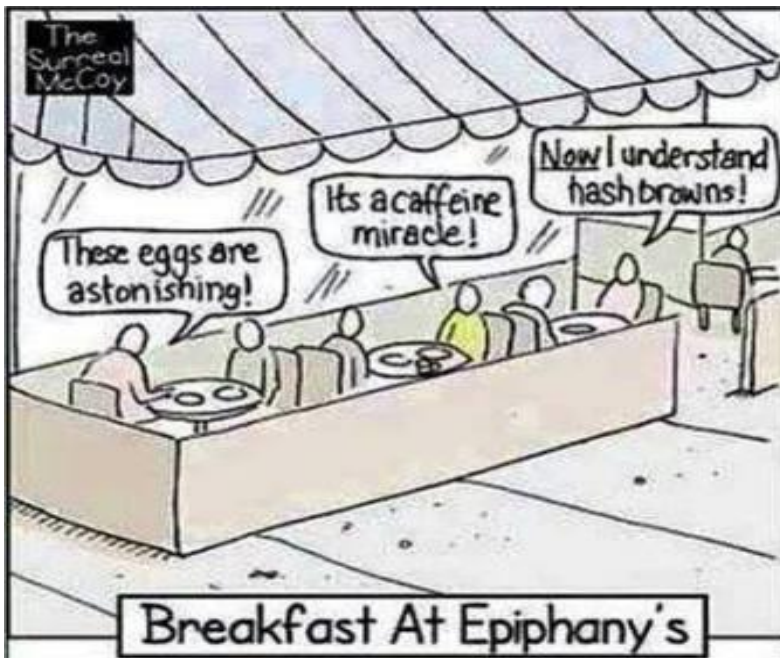
Editor: Lizzy Doorbar

A MESSAGE FROM THE REVD. MARTIN JACQUES



Happy New Year!

January is the season of Epiphany in the church, perhaps my favourite season because it captures the sense of excitement of what the Christmas event actually means!



It means that humanity and divinity are not separate after all – and the fullness of life that is promised to us is realised when we fully know that unity – the unity modelled in the life of Jesus Christ.

The story that is used to demonstrate this new way of thinking and being is the story of the water turned into wine. A deeply symbolic story at the marriage feast, representing the final marriage between God and his people, and how the water of our ordinary existence is turned into rich intoxicating wine when God is allowed to suffuse it with His Spirit.

Seeing the importance of signs and symbols and metaphor was what first allowed me to see beyond the surface meaning of John's gospel and see deeper into the Christ mystery. It raises the turning of water

into wine from what might be seen as a party trick into a symbol of life-changing and life-enhancing significance.

Love and peace

Martin

Christmas 100 Club

Here are the winners of last month's HUGE draw!

£5 Betty Clement £10 Sue Low £20 Doris Godfrey
£30 Di Bagshaw £50 Lilian Grainger £100 Pat Rogers

I shall be selling the tickets for this year's draw after the Sunday services. It would be very helpful (but not essential) if you could bring the correct money which is £12. Thank you.

Fiona Hennah

A Little Something to Reflect on

"I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year, 'Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown.' And he replied, 'Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God. That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way.'"

This now famous passage was quoted by King George VI in his 1939 war time Christmas broadcast to the British Empire. The lines are from a poem, 'Gate of the Year' by Minnie Louise Haskins and still speak to us today in all of life's difficult situations.

Jean Burrows

FunFaith – an exciting new venture for our children!

FunFaith is a new junior church aimed at primary school aged children. We will be meeting once a month to start with, and we'll be having stories, making arts and crafts, having some music and hopefully if there is time...a game at the end! Entry is free and the children will get a drink and snack during the session.



The sessions will take place in the Peter Hall between 10 am and 11.15. The first date is 15th January. For more information please call Stacey on 07891 482 169, or email us at Funfaithbudleigh@gmail.com.

Stacey James

Splendid Fund-raising recently

In November and December there were a number of fund-raising events, and it is good to celebrate them here. Not only were they enjoyable and worthwhile events in themselves, but much needed funds were generated.

The Autumn Fair raised £1290 The Candlelight Supper raised £457 The Wine Tasting raised £450
The Auction raised a little over £3000. Thus the total sum raised from these four events is around a wonderful £5200.

I am sure I speak for us all when I say that we are so grateful to the energetic people who plan and organise the events, and also to the punters who attended (and clearly had a good time into the bargain!).



A huge thank you to our marvellous Director of Music, Stephen Tanner, and our very talented choir. Our worship over the Christmas period was hugely enhanced by the beautiful music we were able to enjoy, starting with the moving and thoughtful Advent Service.

A quick reminder that choral evensong will be on the 15th of January, reverting back to the normal second Sunday in future months.

Editor Lizzy

St Peter's Budget

The PCC has approved a budget for the year 2023 which would result in a financial loss for St Peter's of £24,095. This will substantially eat further into our diminishing reserves.

The Diocesan parish contribution in the budget of £88,702 is in line with the figure quoted by the Diocese. This has reduced by £5,438 from 2022 due to a lower number reported for participants (those regularly attending services). The charge this year is £887 per annum per participant. This equates to an average of £710 plus gift aid for an individual and £1,420 plus gift aid for a couple. The Diocesan contribution which pays for the training, salaries, pensions and housing of clergy makes up about 47% of the whole of our costs for a year.

Although efforts will be made to restrict costs and increase fundraising the church is very heavily dependent on Planned Giving from the congregation which has reduced in recent times. During 2023 the regular congregation will be asked to review their level of giving in order to avoid the budgeted level of losses and to help to return our church's finances to a sustainable level.

Tony Gray, PCC Treasurer

Open the Book

I have enjoyed my first term organising Open the Book. We have two great teams of very willing volunteers, ready to turn their hand to any part given them. We know the schools appreciate us, and one school told me they did an audit and the children said how much they enjoyed our visits. The photo is of the Christmas story with members from both groups taking part.

Jean Burrows



News from Exmouth Food Bank

In November we fed 770 people and distributed 309 parcels. Sadly, these are the highest figures we have recorded since the Food Bank began. The current demand is more than double the number of people we were supporting the same time last year. Fortunately donations of food and money are keeping pace with this demand and, due to the amazing generosity of local people, the Food Bank remains in a strong position to be able to respond.

The Food Bank was founded in November 2012 (and the three RMC churches were involved from the beginning), so a significant milestone has been reached. This was recognised with a traditional afternoon tea for current and previous volunteers.

PCC News

The 2023 APCM (Annual Parochial Church Meeting) is called for Sunday 21st May at 11.20 after the Eucharist.

The Diocesan Quota has been reduced to £88,702, due to lower reported congregations averaging 100 per week since Covid. That means that overall we must raise £887 per head of the regular congregation, or £17 a week. Some already give well above that, while many obviously can manage far less.

The Carpark should, at last, be truly finished by the time you read this. The flagpole should be up again too on a new base and after careful protection from rot. We still have to do extensive planting of trees and shrubs, under a planning condition, to replace those lost for the extended carpark. There will also be solar-lighting installed, but timing of that is not yet certain. We are looking again at the possibility of a solar installation on the Peter Hall roof to generate serious amounts of electricity for the church and/or feeding back into the grid as a step towards meeting the Zero Carbon policy of the Diocese.

Christopher Briscoe, PCC Secretary

DIARY DATES FOR JANUARY

Tuesday 3rd 9.30 am : St Peter's Prayer Group in the Lady Chapel

Tuesday 3rd 5.30 pm : Julian Group at 7 Exmouth Road , Budleigh EX9 6AF

Thursday 5th 12.15 pm : Loaves & Fishes lunch, Peter Hall. Book with Fran, or Mary Jones on 443333 by six days in advance . Cost £10

Tuesday 10th 12.30 pm for 1 pm : Mothers' Union - New Year's Lunch

Sunday 15th 10 am - 11.15 am : FunFaith for Primary age children, Peter Hall

Sunday 15th 6 pm : Choral Evensong (on the third Sunday for this month only)

Thursday 19th 8.45 am : Men's Breakfast, Seachange. Book on 443333 three days in advance

Thursday 19th 12.15 pm : Loaves and Fishes lunch, details as above

Sunday 22nd 12.15 pm : Solos Lunch. Book with Fran by the previous Wednesday

Friday 27th 9 am - 1 pm : Farmers' Market in the Public Hall

Rendezvous Café every Friday at 10 am in the Peter Hall

SERVICES

Sundays **Holy Communion at 8 am and 10 am.** **Choral Evensong 6 pm 2nd Sunday**

Wednesdays **Holy Communion at 9.30 am**

For services at the other RMC churches see www.raleighmissioncommunity.org.uk

QUICK CONTACTS

VICAR: The Revd. Martin Jacques, The New Vicarage, Vicarage Road, East Budleigh, EX9 6EF. 443473

revmartinjacques@gmail.com (not Fridays)

RMC Administrator: Fran Mills raleighmc@gmail.com Working from home Mon, Tues, Thurs 01395 568732

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Churchwardens: Iris Cooper 445273 Chris Parrish 07815 129959

Deputy Wardens: Judith Stewart-Young 442197 George Maddaford 446077

Pat Rogers 446304 Eileen Milne 446725

PCC Secretary: Christopher Briscoe 444381 **PCC Treasurer:** Tony Gray 444006

Director of Music & Organist: Stephen Tanner 07804 209226 **Peter Hall Manager:** George Maddaford 446077

St Peter's Burial Ground: Milena McClellan 445366 **Safeguarding Representative:** Tina Ellett 07426 090311

Friends of St Peter's: Co-ordinator Tony Gray 444006 stpetersbudleightreasurer@gmail.com

To join the Mini-Mag email list, please send your address to Lizzy Doorbar at doorbars@btinternet.com

Contributions to the Mini-Mag are most welcome. Please send them to Lizzy by 20th of the month. The earlier I receive your piece, the greater the chance of it finding space in the Mini-Mag!

As a footnote: I asked our loyal contributors to get their pieces to me by the unusually early date of 15th December for early printing of this issue due to Christmas holidays. Would you believe it, there were doubting Thomases who said this would never happen! However everything was present and correct by a day ahead of the deadline, which shows you should never underestimate our wonderful congregation! Thank you again to our writers and our readers. Lizzy