

SAINT PETER'S MINI-MAG



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

Editors: Rosemary Humphreys 488524
Gillian Andrews 444095

APRIL 2020



MESSAGE FROM THE REVD. MARTIN JACQUES

I am writing this in the midst of the corona virus pandemic so by the time this sees the light of day who knows where we will be at. In the midst of a pandemic, coming hot on the heels of floods and associated climate panic, a three year Brexit impasse, terrorism, unending strife and wars in various parts of the globe, a social care crisis, one wonders where the next panic is coming from to rattle our nerves and sense of wellbeing.

Things were no different 2000 years ago. Born to a subject people under foreign occupation, living hard pastoral lives without a health system, or social security, and where extreme poverty was a norm rather than an exception, Jesus entered the world. A world that conspired against him to have him executed on a cross on spurious jumped-up charges. And you think you have it bad nowadays? In the midst of a seemingly never-ending stream of nerve jangling and disturbing news, where is the good news?

The good news is that that man, after he was executed, was raised to life on the third day – an earth-shattering event that changed the world and started the largest and most widely spread religion the world has ever known. Christians believe that because of that fact – the raising to life of Jesus on that first Easter Sunday, a day we celebrate this year on April 12th, that no matter how desperate things may get, politically, socially, medically or environmentally we are buoyed up by HOPE. Hope that one day all things will be set right. There will be a settling of accounts, and justice and peace will reign. All that was wrong will be put right, light will shine in the darkness, goodness will triumph over evil, and All will be well and all manner of things shall be well. Nothing can ultimately get us down for long, nothing is so dark that light cannot shine forth from it. Happy Easter

Martin

**SADLY CHURCH SERVICES SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE
BUT PEW SHEETS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE CHURCH PORCH AND ON THE WEBSITE**

Community groups in Budleigh Salterton and district including the churches, the medical centre, the Lions, the schools, relief charities have all combined to pool their resources and work together to beat this pandemic. We have a website already and all information is on there. Please use the site if you live in Budleigh Salterton, East Budleigh, Otterton, Colaton Raleigh or Newton Poppleford. If you need help with your shopping, or have financial difficulties, or want to volunteer to help, just click on <http://WWW.budleighsupport.co.uk/>

PLEASE REMEMBER THE COMMUNITY LARDER

There is extra stress on families with children now home from school indefinitely .Donations in the form of a cheque would be greatly appreciated. Cheques should be made payable to: The Salvation Army- writing on the reverse - Community Larder- and send to: Exmouth Community Larder, c/o Salvation Army Hall, Sheppards Row, Exmouth EX8 1PW."



FLOWER ARRANGING AT ST PETER'S



You will all know that the flower arranging at St Peter's is done by many volunteers, not all of whom are churchgoers. There have been quite a few new members of the congregations in recent times. Would any of you be prepared to join the team? The arrangers work to a fortnightly roster. Which means they are requested to join in 3 or 4 times a year only. If you would be prepared to help with this important church task, please speak to or ring Chris Parrish (07815 129959).

We are also URGENTLY NEEDING A FLOWER ORGANISER SINCE THE RECENT SAD AND UNEXPECTED DEATH OF JANET PARRISH. This is definitely an organiser's task, not a flower arranger's task, though a knowledge of both aspects would be helpful. If you are prepared to consider this role, again please contact Chris.

NEWS FROM DAVID & HEATHER IN UGANDA.

This update reminds us that they are coming to the end of their hot dry season with temperatures regularly 35C. The threat of attack from swarms of locusts, which many will have heard of in the media, is approaching, and the government proposes chemical spraying to save crops, but the downside is that bees and other pollinating insects will suffer, along possibly with health risks to humans and animals. Ebola is not far away and several have died from Yellow Fever. Although not likely, they fear the result if Corona Virus, should it reach them.



Care of the God's creation in the environment has always been uppermost in their work, particularly in agriculture, so a recent focus on the subject by the Archbishop of Canterbury as a Lent project has been greatly welcomed. Heather is particularly delighted as a new family are joining them of whom the father is a Doctor to work alongside her in the local Health Department. A new Archbishop of Uganda is about to be appointed, who they hope will be in sympathy with their particular work with agriculture and healthcare.

They ask for prayer for the following: Good rains to follow the dry season; protection from the various current threats to crops and health; that the new mission family will settle quickly and happily; for the new Archbishop of Uganda: for continued good health and stamina for David & Heather. Please take time to read the letter on the church missions board and remember them in your prayers.

John Hutchinson. CMS rep.

CHANGE OF MANAGER AT ST PETER'S BURIAL GROUND

For the last 7 years Brian Shackleton has managed St Peter's Burial Ground. He is now retiring due to poor health. His friend and neighbour Milena McClellan has taken over the role and will also continue the work Brian started last year to create a Wildlife Sanctuary within the burial ground.

So - thank you for all your work Brian and welcome Milena.

Taken from the Diocesan Newsletter



AN UMBRELLA PROJECT

The Reverend Karen Young in Budleigh Salterton leads 8 volunteers each of whom are assigned 5-6, single, isolated, vulnerable members of the church. The volunteer is then responsible for telephone welfare checks and shopping if needed.

James Findlay has offered free delivery of any wine and spirits as well as groceries/prescriptions. Please phone him if you are in need of help with shopping 01395 444445

OPEN THE BOOK suspended. We hope the teams will be back soon.



ST. PETER'S CHURCH PCC REPORT 18th March 2020

The PCC meetings took place with appropriate social distancing measures. Some of the plans made were to be overtaken by circumstances and cancelled.

At the RMC meeting, Rev Martin spoke about the Coronavirus Support group which he is part of, based at the Medical Centre (01395 441212 www.budleighsupport.co.uk). Rev Karen suggested an 'umbrella system' to alleviate loneliness, supporting members of the congregation by phone. The villages already had community support systems in place. The weekly pew sheet to be continued with readings, sermons and up to date news (now only on line).

Safeguarding training for all PCC members will take place when the current situation was resolved.

Penny will keep the RMC website up to date.

At the St Peter's meeting Rev Karen said that there would be no collective worship and no communion. The cancellation of the APCM means that all current officers will remain in place.

Tony Gray will not stand as Treasurer at the next APCM. We need to seek a possible candidate to replace him.

Accident Books for the Church and the Kitchen are kept in the Parish Office. There will be a notice in Church explaining the procedure and initial contacts.

Rev Karen reported that the Youth Club had closed due to the pandemic and could only re-open if there were additional volunteers, who must have a DBS check and be willing to commit.

Car park scheme deferred to future meeting.

Fabric Report

- Archdeacon's Certificate issued for first Quinquennial Works. Due June if virus permits.
- Entrance Pier Lanterns. Requires specialist work or possible replacement. Deferred pro tem.
- Peter Hall. Mouse damage to Porch now under repair.

THE OLD TESTAMENT

The Old Testament of the Christian Bible is in essence identical to the Jewish Scriptures. For Jews, the first five books, the Torah, are especially holy and seen as mediated by Moses directly from God. The Tablets of the Law were actually handed to Moses by God on Mount Sinai. They were then carried around in the Arc of the Covenant for centuries until Solomon built the first Temple to provide a permanent home. The Old Testament comprises a large assortment of writings created over many centuries. It includes poetry, history, love stories (Ruth & The Song of Songs), religious and dietary rules and ceremonies, moral precepts and much else. How should modern Christians regard this huge body of writing, which Jesus himself endlessly quotes, usually as 'The Law and the Prophets', saying that He had come 'not to destroy but to fulfill'?

Virtually all Christian scholars agree that the Scriptures are inspired by God and are an important source of moral and spiritual precepts, wisdom and instruction, while much prefigures the Messianic work of Jesus - especially the extraordinary prophecies of Isaiah. Very few claim that Genesis gives us an accurate historical record of Creation. Some say we can - and should - examine scripture in the light of textual analysis, the secular and archaeological record, changes in Hebrew grammar and vocabulary over many centuries. For instance, it is clear that the Psalms were not all written by King David. They date from many different periods, some long after the Babylonian Exile, and are in many different styles. They have all, however, been used continuously by both Jews and Christians down the ages as an integral part of their worship.

At the Reformation, Protestants and the Church of England chose to exclude a number of books from the accepted canon of Scripture. Catholics and the Orthodox have always accepted these 'Apocryphal' books as Holy Writ. Most modern lectionaries do include many passages from the apocryphal books. Where we get into very deep waters is on moral questions which fundamentalists want to claim are settled by 'The Word of God' because they see the Bible as immutable for all time. Such are the supposed condemnation of all forms of same-sex relationship and the inferior role prescribed for women. That is hard to square with the rejection by all modern Christians of polygamy, concubinage, slavery, animal sacrifice and eye-for-an-eye vengeance. All those practices are firmly endorsed by the OT.

Many do not realise that much of the Holy Quran is a précis of the Old Testament. The original Muslims were also descended from Abraham through his son, Ishmael, born to Serai's slave Hagar. Hence Isa (Jesus) and Miriam (Mary) are both major Islamic prophets. Isa is seen as the precursor of Mohammed. **Shalom. Bibli O'Phile**



THE SEVEN MODERN DEADLY SINS?

Taken from an article by Steve Chalke

APATHY - where there is a will there is a way

IMPATIENCE - buy now pay later. Extends to nearly every area of modern life - road rage, pushing and shoving ahead of others in queues or simply being annoyed because someone walks slower than we do.

GULLIBILITY - taken in by pictures and description in magazines, newspapers etc.

CONSUMERISM – shopping is now a national hobby. Retail therapy. We have more food, clothes, labour saving devices and more luxuries but are we really happier. “Money doesn’t buy you happiness, just a better class of misery”.

SELFISHNESS – Looking after No1. The way we treat our environment, we constantly pollute the atmosphere using cars for non-essential reasons. Bigger roads across the countryside. Rain forests have been hacked for the sake of big business.

INDIVIDUALISM – as individuals we have been given more rights and more freedom than ever, but we are also more isolated than ever.

AMORALITY – divisions between right and wrong seem to be getting more blurred. Agreed rules are vital to manage a family, marriage or business and in sport. If we do what-suits-me-best or pick-and-mix the result will be total chaos. From Laws to Morals we need agreement.

QUICK CONTACTS

VICAR: The Revd. Martin Jacques, The New Vicarage, Vicarage Road, East Budleigh, EX9 6EF
revmartinjacques@gmail.com (not Fridays) 443473

ASSOCIATE PRIEST: The Revd. Karen Young, Maranatha, Boucher Way, Budleigh Salterton, EX9 6HQ
thereverendkarenyoung@gmail.com 488121

RMC Administrator: Mrs. Fran Mills raleighmc@gmail.com 443397

Office Open: Mon 1pm-3pm, Tues, Wed Thurs 10am-12noon, Fri 10am-2pm

Churchwardens: Iris Cooper 445273 Chris Parrish 442275

Deputy Wardens: Judith Stewart-Young 442197 George Maddaford 446077

Pat Rogers 446304 Eileen Milne 446725nn

Paul Maslen 488861

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

Director of Music and Organist: Stephen Tanner 07804 209226

Peter Hall Manager: George Maddaford 446077

St. Peter's Burial Ground: Milena McClellan 445366

Friends of St. Peter's Chairman: Position vacant. For information please contact the RMC Office.

Safeguarding Representative: Tina Ellett 074260 90311

Deadline for items to be included in the May Mini-Mag, space permitting, is the 26th April

DIGITAL MINI-MAG

If you would like to receive the Mini Mag on line then please send your email address to Gillian on gillian.heathfield@gmail.com You can also read the Mini-Mag online on the parish website

<https://www.raleighmissioncommunity.org.uk/st-peters-parish-magazine.html>

God of compassion,
Be close to those who are ill,
In their loneliness, be their consolation;
In their darkness, be their light;
Through Him who suffered alone
On the cross
But reigns with you in glory
Jesus Christ our Lord.