

THE RALEIGH MISSION COMMUNITY

OUR VISION: "To know and worship God, to show his love by reaching out into the community and welcoming all into his church."



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Website@rmcommunity.co.uk Please send details of all events to Penny for inclusion on website.

Sunday 28th June – Third Sunday after Trinity - Thought for the day

In the early 2000's I read a little book by Rev. Dr. John Polkinghorne and attended a lecture by him in Canterbury cathedral education centre. One of the mind boggling facts that inspired me then was the realisation that all life on earth – us included – are carbon based life forms, and that every little bit of carbon in the entire universe was forged in the nuclear furnaces that are the stars. So, it is not just poetic licence – we are literally made of stardust! The interconnectedness of all things is made apparent. Put that little gem alongside the fact that every atom in our human bodies is replaced every seven years means that when I look at a 'photo of myself as a 50 year old, not one atom of that person is the same as I am now and yet it is still me! Mind suitably boggled John advanced a concept of the "soul" as the totality of a person as an "information bearing pattern" (mind, body & Spirit) so that when all these atoms are replaced, the new ones automatically assume their role within that overall pattern. That pattern is "You" and this is the you that is remembered in the heart of God, that lives, dies, and will be resurrected by God. Another favourite thing John was fond of saying is that the greatest miracle in all creation is human consciousness. That which was once a chemical soup, at some point becomes self-aware even to the point that we can investigate the origins of the universe and know that everything was once just a chemical soup – ourselves included. These mysteries I find inspiring and leads me to the mystical side of Christianity who in turn find common ground with mystics from all traditions.

We pray for all who are ill: Rosie Smith, David Beagley, John Heavens, Christine, Marian Shere, Philip Ringrose

Recently deceased: Garry Tapping

Annual Remembrance: Barbara Fraser, Olive Stagg, Leslie Lawrence, John Mayor, Villiers Dennys, Edna Simmonds, Toby Holroyd, Eddie Elves

A message from Hugh & Alison Burton: This is just to let you know that Marjorie Burton will be leaving Budleigh Salterton on Friday, to be in a care home close to us in Dudley.

This was not an easy decision, but a recent visit (the first since lockdown) confirmed that she was no longer coping at home and needed residential care. She has been a very regular member at St Peter's for around 36 years, along with my father Frank until his death nearly 2 1/2 years ago. She has very much missed church since lockdown. I trust you are all managing despite the challenges of the present time.



During this crisis, the economic damage is going to be severe in all sectors including the churches. If you give already by direct debit, that is excellent but for those people who give by envelope or in the plate, please consider giving by bank transfer. Each church in the RMC has independent finances so if you are so inclined these are the details of our three churches:

St. Peter's: Sort code 09-01-28 A/c no. 96051138, All Saints: Sort code 30-94-36

A/c no 00601276, St Michael's Otterton: Sort code 30-94-36 A/c no. 00601500. Thank you so much



COMPETITION Whose garden is this?

Closing date for entries 30/06- £ 5.00 to enter. (money can be given to church wardens or promised)

- 1. Please send a photo of your garden to the RMC admin email: raleighmc@gmail.com. If you need a photograph taken CONTACT: Rev Karen she will come round and take one. (I'm not entering)**
- 2. Once all entries are in they will be printed off (put in the pew sheet) with a list of potential names. You have to guess which garden belongs to who!**
- 3. The garden's will be numbered so all you need to do is put a name or names to a number and return to RMC admin or Rev Karen via email or a note which ever is easiest. Plus your entry can be collected just let Rev KAREN know.**

PRIZE: The Reverend Karen will cook you a three course meal with appropriate wine- date and time will need to be decided between KAREN AND WINNER/S

Collect: God our saviour, look on this wounded world in pity and in power; hold us fast to your promises of peace won for us by your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

First Reading: Acts 12 1- 11: About that time King Herod laid violent hands upon some who belonged to the church. He had James, the brother of John, killed with the sword. After he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter also. (This was during the festival of Unleavened Bread.) When he had seized him, he put him in prison and handed him over to four squads of soldiers to guard him, intending to bring him out to the people after the Passover. While Peter was kept in prison, the church prayed fervently to God for him.

The very night before Herod was going to bring him out, Peter, bound with two chains, was sleeping between two soldiers, while guards in front of the door were keeping watch over the prison. Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared and a light shone in the cell. He tapped Peter on the side and woke him, saying, 'Get up quickly.' And the chains fell off his wrists. The angel said to him, 'Fasten your belt and put on your sandals.' He did so. Then he said to him, 'Wrap your cloak around you and follow me.' Peter went out and followed him; he did not realize that what was happening with the angel's help was real; he thought he was seeing a vision. After they had passed the first and the second guard, they came before the iron gate leading into the city. It opened for them of its own accord, and they went outside and walked along a lane, when suddenly the angel left him. Then Peter came to himself and said, 'Now I am sure that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from the hands of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting.'

During the period of unleavened bread (seven days following Passover) it was forbidden to hold a trial or execution so this is why, in trying to curry favour with the Jews, Herod had to simply arrest and detain Peter instead of swiftly despatching him. That Peter was imprisoned and then escaped is a "miracle" in common parlance anyhow, however one interprets the text. Whatever the exact details, God was involved.

Second Reading: 1 Peter 2. 19-end: For it is to your credit if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, where is the credit in that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

'He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.' When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Peter uses the unjust suffering heroically borne by Jesus as an example to be followed by the persecuted Christian church. This is pertinent because those sufferings, Peter points out were borne for each one of us. "By his wounds we have been healed" and because we were going astray "we have now returned to the shepherd and guardian of our souls". In an echo of Paul saying we are now slaves of God and not of sin, Peter says we are to live for righteousness because we have been freed from sins.

Gospel Reading: Matt 16. 13-19: Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.' And Jesus answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.'

Recognising the true significance of who Jesus is, is of the highest foundational importance for the church, and this recognition of Jesus as the Christ will be what binds us together. Peter is the spokesman for the disciples and declares Jesus to be the Christ, defining that title (in Matthew's version) as "Son of the living God". Jesus congratulates him and says that this revelation was given to them by his Father in heaven and that the keys to the kingdom would be given to him. This in my view almost certainly refers to the church being able to unlock heaven for all people because Jesus accuses the scribes and pharisees in 13:1 of "shutting up the kingdom against men". This controversial passage certainly at least means that Peter is the foundation stone of a church of living stones with Jesus as the corner stone and all Christian believers who followed become part of that structure.



Co-ordinated Community Support during this crisis: Community groups in Budleigh Salterton and district including the churches, the medical centre, the Lions, the schools, Relief charities have all combined to pool our 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 yourself, just click here; <http://www.budleighsupport.co.uk/>

Rev'd Margaret Scrivenor and her husband musician Mike are holding an evening prayer service by 'zoom' on Sunday evenings and everyone is invited. I have attached the joining instruction but should you require further information please contact: marscriv@gmail.com /07867 556225. Mike & Margaret are inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting. Topic: Mike & Margaret's Zoom Meeting, Jun 28, 2020 06:00 PM
Join Zoom Meeting. ID 8396644224 Password RMCprayer
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8396644224?pwd=aFpvdDAyWU9oV0xKaXVDSTVhOUgqQT09>

Larder report : June 2020 - The new normal!



May slightly exceeded April, about 225 parcels in the month serving 475 people, all being delivered; this seems to have become the "new normal".

Our standard food package would cost £16 per person to buy, so 475 people fed is the equivalent of £7,600 per month. Our expanded volunteer and delivery staff do NOT cost about £6,000 per month - because no-one expects to get paid, even for petrol mileage. The Exmouth Community Larder has become a significant enterprise!!

Donations are fortunately more than matching the demand. In May we only needed to spend £1,000 filling gaps on the shelves; mostly the supplies we needed came in from many different sources, Rivermead Post Office, Strand pub, Gig rowing club, Rugby club, collection points in Tesco, several Co-op stores and a great variety of other collections, often successors to previous church collections. Covid19 has made big changes to our way of working. We quarantine food donations for 72 hours after arrival - we are told the virus does not persist on any surface longer than that. We have small shifts who work well spaced out sorting deliveries and preparing packages. Delivery drivers minimise personal contacts when their vehicles are loaded and when making deliveries. The working stock is now on tables around the walls of the hall, giving easy access without crowding.

Cash, cheques and BACS donations are also flowing in wonderfully well. Increased demand was more than matched by cash and food donations in May. We use the Salvation Army bank and accounting system, so do not have prompt awareness of generous BACS receipts, so are a little tardy thanking people for them. Sorry!!

Foodbanks will continue to have an important role as this crisis rumbles on. The news now is about declining infections and ending the "lockdown", but the furlough scheme will end, jobs will be lost and whatever the "benefit" system there will be gaps that people fall through, especially those without internet.

Activists are enjoying pulling down statues, but they are missing the many people trapped today in difficult situations by disability, mental health problems, gambling debts, drink and drugs, as well as substandard accommodation or homelessness. There is much work to be done. People being trapped is wrong but not always simple to solve; pulling down statues does not help today's discrimination problems! Meanwhile, The Exmouth Community Larder does what it can to give food help to those within our own range of vision and reach - all driven by YOUR GENEROSITY!!

Unfortunately, food deliveries from St Peter's to the Community Larder have been suspended however there are 3 collection points in Coop, Spar and Tesco Budleigh Salterton where goods can be left for onward transportation.

Donations by cheque would be gratefully received, made payable to "Salvation Army, Exmouth Corps" and marked "Community Larder" on the reverse. Their address is: The Salvation Army Hall in Sheppard's Row just off the Exeter Road in Exmouth EX8 1PW. Or by BACS Please make payment to: Bank: Reliance Bank, Sort code: 60-01-73, Account No: 00178123

Account Name: SATCO General Income, Payment Reference (for a PERSONAL donation) : EX11 GR1 11000. *Payment Reference (for a GROUP or ORGANISATION donation) : EX11 GR1 11048*

The payment reference is important to separate payments into The Exmouth Larder ring-fenced account from general Salvation Army funds!

You can also find this pew sheet and lots of other useful information on the Raleigh Mission Community website, please visit www.raleighmissioncommunity.org.uk Huge thanks to Penny for keeping the website up to date. The St Peter's Mini Mag is also available on line. If you would like a copy email your address to Gillian-gillian.heathfield@gmail.com It is also available on the website.

In line with GDPR requirements please use BCC if you are sending group emails to keep personal contact details private – your support is appreciated.