

SAINT PETER'S MINI-MAG

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



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A MESSAGE FROM THE REVD. MARTIN JACQUES

When things look bleak, the situation dark and the future uncertain and full of fear it is so easy to succumb to despair and hopelessness. At a time like this it is instructive to look at another time when things were even darker.

In the 14th century in the midst of the black death, scant social infrastructure and no health service a woman was so close to death that a priest was called to give her the last rites. As the cross was held over her, her sight started to blur, her body went numb and she saw Jesus on the crucifix start to bleed.

What happened next was a series of fifteen visions through which she was assured that no matter what was happening, or how bad things seemed, God's love and benevolence towards all things was certain and assured.

This woman known only as "Julian of Norwich" went on to write the first book ever attributed to a woman called "Revelations of divine love" and I think we need to hear a little of what she wrote.

"From the time these things were first revealed I had often wanted to know what our Lord's meaning was. It was more than fifteen years after that I was answered in my spirit's understanding. 'You would know our Lord's meaning in this thing? Know it well. Love was His meaning. Who showed it to you? Love. What did He show you? Love. Why did He show it? For love. Hold on to this and you will know and understand love more and more. But you will not know or learn anything else — ever.'

This is the knowledge that keeps Christian believers going through thick and thin.

In terms of the pandemic we are in the dark before the dawn. Hope springs eternal in the heart of believers who know that God is love and rest in that knowledge. I'll end with that other well known saying of this visionary woman.

"in the end, all shall be well, all shall be well, and all manner of things shall be well."

Martin



Larder Report: New Year - New Lockdown!

"Good King Wenceslas" seems to have gone out of favour! The carol describes how he "looked out on the feast of Stephen", the day after Christmas, to find and help the poor - King Wenceslas should be patron saint of Foodbanks!!

The Exmouth Community Larder worked without a break throughout 2020. 2,315 packages were given out, to feed 4,837 people, approximately 58,044 meals!! King Wenceslas' Page in verse two would have been proud! All supplies were derived from the generous donations from the whole of the wider community.

The need continues and will no doubt increase. Much help is needed, so **THANKS** to the whole community for your continued support!!

THE SEVEN DEADLY SINS

Do we ever think about these today or would the "modern" ones quoted below be more applicable to the 21st century? The Seven Deadly Sins were drawn up by the 13-century monk St. Thomas Aquinas (used to educate Christians concerning fallen humanity's tendency to sin.)

Proverbs 6: 6-19 associated with King Solomon states that the Lord specifically regards six/seven things that the Lord hates. Galatians 5: 19-21 is another list of more of the traditional seven sins.

ANGER – manifested by fits of rage due to intolerance of others.

ENVY – the unhealthy longing for the possessions, abilities, or status of another

GLUTTONY – is the excessive indulgence in the pleasures of food and drink

GREED – is an insatiable desire to acquire material goods

LUST - extreme desire for sexual and sensual gratification

PRIDE – is the exaggerated opinion of one's worth and wilful oblivion to one's flaws

SLOTH – pathological laziness which hinders productivity.

MODERN – taken from an article by Steve Chalke (*a British Baptist minister, founder of the Oasis Charitable Trust, a former United Nations' Special Adviser on Human Trafficking and a social activist. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts, the author of many books and articles and a former presenter and now regular contributor and commentator on television,*

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 miser."

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 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.

NEWS FROM ST. PETER'S SCHOOL



Please join the Budleigh Community Challenge!

The school has reached its target for the Chrome Books appeal! Many thanks to all who contributed. The PTA has now launched the **Budleigh Community Challenge** to raise the money normally produced by school and other activities such as Summer and Christmas Fairs. You are invited to set yourself or someone else a challenge and to raise sponsorship or make a small donation when you achieve it. They have intentionally decided NOT to make this specific to one event...not everyone wants to run a 5K or read 100 books..... This is a way to invent a challenge of your very own that is motivating and exciting for you and your family. Whether you are 0 or 100 or anything in-between. You can set yourself, or someone else, a challenge and gain sponsorship or make a small donation to the school campaign. The school has a Just Giving page for donations [St Peter's School PTA Budleigh Salterton - JustGiving](https://www.st-peters-school.org.uk/news/budleigh-community-challenge/). If you haven't used the Just Giving site before it's really easy. More information at <https://www.st-peters-school.org.uk/news/budleigh-community-challenge/>

Lent 2021 17th February to 4th April

A period of 40 days preparation starting from Ash Wednesday along a road with the Holy Resurrection as the destination. A time for reflection, prayer, repentance, self-denial.



ASH WEDNESDAY

A message from Revd Martin: All being well we will have the normal Wednesday morning communion service at St. Peter's that morning (17th Feb.) at 9.30-am. Karen will be presiding. Unsurprisingly, the C of E says we are not allowed to apply ash directly to anyone's forehead this year – if Ash is used it must be sprinkled (?!) which I think is impractical and messy - so I think that particular tradition will not take place this year.

As far as we know, services will continue as they have been with 8am and 10.00 Communion on Sunday and 9.30 on Wednesdays but please keep an eye on the website, Pew Sheet and notice board at the church gate as arrangements may change in these uncertain times.

Live Streamed Holy Communion Service from All Saints, East Budleigh

This is available every Sunday at 9.30 by clicking on the link on the RMC website – raleighmissioncommunity.org.uk or you can listen to it on the telephone 01395 891035.

QUICK CONTACTS

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