

SAINT PETER'S MINI-MAG



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

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MESSAGE FROM THE REVD. MARTIN JACQUES

Dear friends,

One of my favourite songs – a candidate for desert island discs – is the old Nat King Cole number “Nature boy”, a gentle haunting number in which the final refrain goes “The greatest thing you’ll ever learn is just to love and be loved in return” Amidst the health, social cohesion, public order and economic earthquakes that have rocked our nation over recent months it is good to be reminded of a basic human truth that is the core Christian truth that underpins our faith. Whether you are mourning the death of a loved one, yearning to see much missed relatives, lamenting the loss of your job, a policeman or a protestor, whatever your politics or station in life, we are bound together by common human needs and emotions. Most fundamental amongst those is the need for Love. The song puts it well “To be loved *first* and then to love in return”.

The Christian conviction is that as it says in John’s first letter in the Bible “God is love” so the basic human need for love can also be expressed as the basic need for God because for Christians the two words are interchangeable. If you think that you don’t believe in God or have never experienced God simply turn the question around and ask yourself, do I believe in Love? Who has never either loved another or been the object of someone else’s love? Who has never seen love being expressed? Love is real and because love is real, God is real. Neither can be proved or put under a microscope and pulled apart. But both can be experienced and expressed and in the case of God can also be worshipped as the first cause of all life.

This God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself – perfect love in human form and the love of Christ for you is always there and always true. Love

Martin

THE WAY FORWARD

So...Everything is shortly going to open up after 4th July but before I jump to any conclusions, we as clergy in our Deanery are all eagerly awaiting the “small print” from our Bishop to let us know exactly what we can and can’t do. I have done a bit of work preparing for what may occur. In any case, for information, the agenda will be first of all to get worship up and running again which is our meat and drink and prime focus, and soon after that to reconvene oversight and governance first with a joint church warden’s meeting and after that by a joint PCC meeting.

JOINING HANDS IN CYBER SPACE

Doesn’t it feel strange not to have access to our beloved churches, not to kneel at the communion rail, not to touch base with each other after shared worship? We are now able to go into church for private prayer, but it may be a while before services in church recommence. So we decided to try and organise a simple version of Morning Prayer. We set up a Zoom meeting for Tuesday mornings at 9.30. If you would like to join us, I’d be very happy to send you the link. It follows the morning prayer liturgy from Common Worship. We arranged for Mike to have easy access to his piano. He plays at the beginning and end of the service. We realised that one of the things that people really miss is joining together to sing familiar hymns. So on Sunday evenings we hold a short service called Music, Prayers and Thanksgiving, also a Zoom meeting, at 6.00pm.

You don’t need to download the Zoom app. I can send you the link every time for a new service. If you do have the app you only need the Meeting ID and the password. We now have a Zoom account which means that we don’t have to end the meeting after 40 minutes. It means that people get a chance to catch up with each other after the service. It isn’t perfect by any means, but it does mean that we can meet, worship and pray together and yes, sort of sing together. We also have time on Sundays to express our gratitude to God for the blessings around us. Do get in touch if you would like to join us, if you’d like to know more about using Zoom or even have a little private practice beforehand. All best wishes, Revd. Margaret Scrivener Tel: 01395 708201 Email: marscriv@gmail.com



ST PETER'S PCC FINANCES IN LOCKDOWN



It will come as no surprise to know that the recent suspension of church Services and closure of the Peter Hall have caused our church finances to take a substantial hit.

During lockdown the PCC income from all sources, principally from standing orders, was on present showing, unlikely to amount to more than £7,000 per month.

Monthly costs are of the order of £14,000, and there is very little that can be done to reduce these. The gas heating has been turned off completely.

In the light of the above, and If some restrictions persist until the end of 2020 it is likely that we will show a loss of approximately £80,000 without any expenditure on the scheduled quinquennial works. This will require either investment units to be sold (possibly at a low market value) or our bank deposits to be reduced. The deposits are held in case of an unexpected emergency. I think we have that now.

One element contributing to the shortfall is that we have lost about £2,000 per month of income that would normally be given through the envelope scheme. Only a few people have converted from envelopes to bank deposits or standing orders. Annual Stewardship renewal should be taking place just now but it may be the time to ask for that when all restrictions are lifted.

Meanwhile, it is felt that regular givers by the envelope scheme or in the plate could be asked to continue with their giving during the lockdown either by bank transfers (sort code: 09-01-28, A/c No. 96051138) or by writing cheques to St Peter's PCC, or better still by standing order. Details as to how this can be done can be obtained from the Gift Aid Officer, Judith Stewart-Young on 01395 442197.

Please help to protect our finances if you can.
Tony Gray - PCC Treasurer

THE FOOD BANK UPDATE

Our standard food package would cost £16 per person to buy, so 475 in May people fed is the equivalent of £7,600 per month. We are so grateful to our expanded volunteer and delivery staff who do not get paid, even for petrol mileage. Your donations are really making a difference, but the furlough scheme will end soon and jobs will be lost and whatever the "benefit" system there will be gaps that people fall through so your food donations are needed more than ever. In Budleigh the three supermarkets have collection points or, cheques are always welcome. Please send 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.



THANK YOU for your continued support and generosity.

GOOD NEWS

A donation of £200 has gone from Rendezvous to the Community Larder.

NEWS FROM ST PETER'S SCHOOL

Headteacher Steve Hitchcock has an online Collective Worship on YouTube for the children and families of St Peter's School. The 22 June edition discusses the 'Upside Down' world we live in. (10 mins) - https://youtu.be/XBFur_DdlIo

Prayer cairn established
by the Temple Methodist

Church on Budleigh Beach.



Place a pebble on the Cairn
and say a prayer.

ST SWITHIN - SAINT FOR A RAINY DAY

**St Swithin's day if thou dost rain
For forty days it will remain
St Swithin's day if thou be fair
For forty days 'twill rain nae mair.**

So how did this well-know saying come about? According to tradition, if it rains on July 15th (St Swithin's Day) it will continue to rain for the following forty days.

It all began when Swithin was made Bishop of Winchester in 852 by King Ethelwulf of Wessex. It was an important posting: Winchester was the capital of Wessex, and during the 10 years Swithin was there, Wessex became the most important kingdom of England. During his life, Swithin seems to have done a lot of good. He was famous for his charitable gifts and for his energy in getting churches built. When he was dying in 862, he asked that he be buried in the cemetery of the Old Minster, just outside the west door, 'where the feet of ordinary men could pass over him.'

By the 960s, Winchester had become the first monastic cathedral chapter in England, and the newly installed monks wanted Swithin in the cathedral with them. So finally, on 15 July 971, his bones were dug up and Swithin was translated into the cathedral. That same day many people claimed to have had miraculous cures. The unusually heavy rain that day, and on the days following, was attributed to the power of St Swithin, who had not wished to be venerated within the cathedral. Swithin was moved again in 1093, into the new Winchester cathedral. His shrine was a popular place of pilgrimage throughout the Middle Ages. The shrine was destroyed during the Reformation and restored in 1962.



Painted by Robert Dudley 1887



LOAVES AND FISHES LUNCH

As recorded in St. Peter's Parish Church History compiled by Chris Parrish "This popular monthly club started in 2000 from an idea from Sally Rogers who along with Mary Leat, Judy Robinson and Sue Waddington produced the first lunch of chicken casserole and apple crumble for 33 people. Later Margaret Ringsell joined the team and right up to the current "lock down" the numbers grew to between 60 and 70 attending each month. Once a year the organisers send any profit, largely due to the generous monthly raffle, to *Send a Cow*, a charity in Africa, which helps them grow their own crops."

SADLY and with regret the current team of gallant ladies do not feel that they can carry on with producing the lunches. They feel that age has caught up with them, and this is a good time to retire. This will be a sad loss to the community. Please think hard; IS THERE ANYONE WILLING TO TAKE OVER THE PROJECT AND CONTINUE THIS VALUABLE WORK? For more information, please contact - Mary Leat 445150.



BUDLEIGH FLOWER SHOW

The Flower Show on 8 August has been cancelled but you can take part in our virtual show with photos of your garden, plants you have grown or a cake you have made. Email budleighflowershow@gmail.com or phone 488524 for details of how to enter.



CORONAVIRUS LETTER TO HUMANITY

The earth whispered but you did not hear. The earth spoke but you did not listen. The earth screamed but you turned her off.
And so I was born...

I was not born to punish you. I was born to awaken you.. The earth cried out for help...
Massive flooding. But you didn't listen. Burning fires. But you didn't listen. Strong hurricanes. But you didn't listen.
Terrifying Tornadoes. But you didn't listen. You still don't listen to the earth when. Ocean animals are dying due to pollutants in the waters. Glaciers melting at an alarming rate. Severe drought.
You didn't listen to how much negativity the earth is receiving. Non-stop wars. Non-stop greed.
You just kept going on with your life. No matter how much hate there was.. No matter how many killings daily..
It was more important to get that latest iPhone than worry about what the earth was trying to tell you..

But now I am here.
And I've made the world stop on its tracks. I've made YOU finally listen. I've made you take refuge.
I've made you stop thinking about materialistic things..
Now you are like the earth... You are only worried about YOUR survival. How does that feel?
I give you fever as the fires burn on earth. I give you respiratory issues.. as pollution fill the earth air.
I give you weakness as the earth weakens every day. I took away your comforts.. Your outings.
The things you would use to forget about the planet and its pain.
And I made the world stop...

And now...
China has better air quality.. Skies are clear blue because factories are not spewing pollution unto the earth's air.
The water in Venice is clean and dolphins are being seen. Because the gondola boats that pollute the water are not being used.
YOU are having to take time to reflect on what is important in your life. Again I am not here to punish you. I am here to Awaken you... When all this is over and I am gone... Please remember these moments..
Listen to the earth. Listen to your soul. Stop Polluting the earth. Stop Fighting among each other.
Stop caring about materialistic things. And start loving your neighbours. Start caring about the earth and all its creatures.
Start believing in a Creator.
Because next time I may come back even stronger....

RESULTS FOR PART 2 OF THE BLUE PLAQUES

*James Leckington – Fore Street
Joyce Dennys - Fore St. Hill*

*Dr. Thomas Nadauld Brushfield – The Cliff, Cliff Road
Old Lime Kilns – Car Park at Otter Estuary*

The Raleigh Wall - seafront opposite the Octagon

QUICK CONTACTS

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