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(Church website - www.stpetersedensor.org)

August 2009

Dear Friends

“THE HATCHING OF THE HEART”

I remember a telephone message on a scrap of paper at Ellesmere Port where I was team rector in 1996. It said, “Jonathan Bailey from Derbyshire phoned”. As you know, Derbyshire has a tradition of poultry keeping. So I thought Jonathan Bailey probably wanted some hatching eggs. It was snowing some days later when we finally made contact. It turned out to be the Bishop of Derby inviting me to be Archdeacon of Chesterfield!

Desmond Tutu uses the phrase “the hatching of the heart”. This happens as the sunshine of God’s love breaks open the shells we so often surround ourselves with. Someone has said: “There is nothing you can do to make God love you more, for God already loves you perfectly and totally”. For me the hatching starts when I stop working myself to a frazzle trying to impress everyone including God! Blessed are those who can relax without looking for excuses. Just to “BE” in God’s LOVE.

Our protective shells are often the results of sufferings, hurts and hardships. Yet these sufferings can be redemptive and a means through which we can grow. They can either enable us or embitter us. Almost all those who have changed the world for good have experienced suffering and rejection, most of all Jesus Christ.

What is it that makes our sufferings redemptive? What is it that allows us to transform those hurts? Ultimately the answer is LOVE. Just as a mother’s love makes her suffering at her child’s birth a positive thing, not a thing that makes her resentful and bitter.

Remember, however, that love is not always to do with feelings. Love is an act of the will in the grace of God. Jesus said, “Love your enemies”. He didn’t say “Like your enemies”. It is very difficult to “like” your enemies. But love is a different matter. Love is an action, something we do for others.

This “hatching of the heart” and the development of our spiritual and moral lives occurs when we make choices. We can choose to follow our feelings of jealousy or hatred or use our wills to do something loving instead.

The extraordinary thing is that when we begin to act lovingly we begin to feel love! As I retire as archdeacon I am struck again by Desmond Tutu’s words: “One way to begin cultivating the ability to love is to see yourself internally as a centre of love, an oasis of peace, as a pool of serenity with ripples going out to all those around you”. (Watch this space! Certainly I will have more time to just “be”!).

If more of us could concentrate on those words of Desmond Tutu, we would contribute to turning around a great deal of conflict, hatred, jealousies and so on. To take on suffering and transform it. Let us watch our tongues. We can so easily hurt one another. Let us be quicker to give praise rather than find fault. Let us be quicker to thank others than to complain. Let us consult one another and include one another and not isolate ourselves. Let us be gentle with one another as God’s children.

There is a legend that they used to bring St John out of retirement for a “cracking” good sermon. All he would say was: “Little children, love one another”.

Happy Hatchings!

David Garnett

<u>Useful Telephone Numbers</u>		
<u>St. Anne’s</u>		
Wardens:-	Rupert Turner	01629 732794
	Vernon Mather	01629 732317
Treasurer:-	Gloria Sherwood	01629 732983
<u>St. Peter’s</u>		
Wardens:-	Elizabeth Bradshaw	01246 582421
	Duncan Gordon	01629 734099
Treasurer:-	Mark Titterton	01246 582245
	e-mail: mtitterton@btinternet.com	

Little by little

Do you feel overwhelmed by the job ahead of you?

What is hard by the yard is a cinch by the inch.

SPICE SUNDAY

The amount of 5pence pieces brought to the SPICE Sunday on 12th July was £98.15. Please do continue to save those 5 pence pieces! Remember what Tony says "Extraction without pain". Thank you to everyone who is collecting them.

St. Peter's Church 100 Club June 2009

1st prize £30 no. 5 Roger Sherwood
2nd prize £20 no.35 Stan Liddicot

Funds to church this month - £48

The Roof Fund

Margaret Thomas has just had a reprint of her 'Memories of the QAs', which in January 2007 had raised £400 for the roof fund from copies of the book bought by members of the congregation.

It covers the 14 years as an Army Nurse all over the world. The happy, sad and sometimes

hilarious happenings with the Army and Naval patients she nursed.

A few books will be left at the back of the church for any newcomers to look at and buy if they wish at £8 per copy, to add to the roof fund again.

David has received a letter from Charles Illingworth saying how disappointed he was not to have been able to come to church to celebrate his 103rd birthday in May. This was due to a chest infection, which has now cleared up. He sends sincere thanks to his 'delightful friends' at St. Peter's who sent cards and good wishes on this special day and hopes to be able to join them occasionally in future.

Beeley News

Thank You!

A very big thank you to all those who came to the working party in St. Anne's Churchyard. The help was much appreciated. It is hoped we can have a similar effort in the autumn when we can have a general tidy up before the winter.

WATCH THIS SPACE!



MAKE IT; BAKE IT; GROW IT; SHOW IT



CHATSWORTH HORTICULTURAL & PRODUCE SHOW

Saturday 22nd August 2009

2pm in the Cavendish Hall

To request a schedule please email Denna Garrett

[\(dennaharris@hotmail.com\)](mailto:dennaharris@hotmail.com)

Schedules will be sent automatically to last year's entrants.



DATES TO NOTE

- 8/22 Aug SKIP: Baslow Council Houses 7.45 - 8.15
Nether End Car Park 8.20 – 10.45
- 19 Aug CHATSWORTH WI Holiday Month – Bargain Hunt with a difference
- 22 Aug SKIP: Beeley Devonshire Square 7.45 – 8.45
- 22 Aug Chatsworth Horticultural & Produce Show – 2pm Cavendish Hall
- 30 Aug Secret Gardens of Bakewell 2 – 6pm
- 4 – 11 Dec St. Peter's Church, Edensor 'Floral Fanfare'– Winter Wonderland Christmas Flower Festival with carols, concerts and talks by Adam Nicolson (Sissinghurst) and Deborah Devonshire.



FROM THE REGISTERS

St. Peter's Church, Edensor - Wedding

15th July Roy Bosett & Patricia Murray Cree

St. Anne's Church, Beeley - Baptisms

*24th May Hugo Raphael Xavier Hinxman-Allegri
Phoebe Adele Porter*

St. Peter's Church, Edensor - Baptisms

*28 June Corrin Janet Orme
Aston Robert James Firth*



SECRET GARDENS OF BAKEWELL

The Oxfam Supporters Group
invite you to come and see some of
Bakewell's Secret Gardens

Sunday 30th August 2009
2 – 6pm

Some lovely gardens will be on view, both large and small, some with riverside locations and with many interesting collections of plants.

Please note that there may be some steep slopes and stone steps

Refreshments will be available and there will be stalls selling plants, jewellery and Traidcraft goods.

One charge of £4 gives access to all gardens

There will be a free bus shuttle service to and from Rutland Square.

All proceeds will support the work of OXFAM

For more information please ring
01629 733296 or 01629 814474.



GOOD NEWS

Re-roofing the nave at St. Peter's has now been completed and the scaffolding will be taken away shortly. Our 'Roof Fund' is still open. The builders needed 214 linear metres of new slates (528 slates) in varying sizes, at a cost of £5,531.24. If anyone would like to help by sponsoring/buying one or more slates it would be greatly appreciated.

Cheques for donations should be made payable to Edensor PCC 'Roof Fund'.

We will also be holding a 'Gift Day' and possibly a Songs of Praise later in the year.

The Definite Article

Books come in so many shapes and sizes nowadays; hard or paperback; pamphlet, journal or guidebook; on-line or via microchip: *There is no end to books*, as the preacher ruefully observes (Ecclesiastes 12:12). He was ahead of his time. It's hard to imagine what he would make of the plethora of printed matter that surrounds us today.

Of course there are some books that stand the test of time and are regarded as classics: a stirring tale by Dickens or Hardy, or a fantasy by C.S. Lewis or E Nesbit for example. These continue to outsell many a literary newcomer. No doubt you will have your favourite read – a book or books you still return to fondly again and again.

Yet, whereas you will have no trouble at all finding a book in almost any literary genre or on any topic you care to mention, there remains only one that is still called *The Book*; only one book that is prefaced by the definite article. For *The Bible* means just that in Greek – *The Book* – the Book of Books: one that Christians claim stands head and shoulders – or should I say cover and spine – above the rest.

Such a claim to pre-eminence does not sit comfortably with the spirit of this age. Surely such a book needs to justify itself with a snappy soundbite, a prestigious award or some stunning reviews. Only something new, so the thinking goes, can be that special; certainly not something that has been around for so long, read continuously, valued by so many and re-published so frequently. But surely that is just it! The Bible's claim to be *The Book* has stood the test of time. It justifies its definite article in so many ways.

The Bible is the story of stories; the story of God's love for the world and God's rescue plan for its people. It is the story of people discovering what God is like, who they are and who they are meant to be. *The Bible* is the book in which to find not just God's story but our human story too, as we see people's lives reflected in the history of particular individuals.

And this is *The Book*, in which we can read a word-portrait of Jesus Christ, whose presence permeates the whole of the story as well as shining out in particular in the gospels. As Jesus himself says to the Pharisees, *The scriptures tell about me* (John 5:39).

Many a book is inspiring. Many a book is informative and indeed encouraging. However for those who follow Jesus, there is only *The Book* that can challenge and change them. Only *The Book* that can help

them hear God speaking directly into their lives. And for this reason it is *The Book* that really does deserve the definite article...and a definite daily opening!

Have you tried Britain's olive oil?

Do you get hay fever? Then those yellow fields of rapeseed that illuminate the English countryside each summer may seem a real nuisance. But if you like olive oil, here is some good news; you may at last enjoy the oil that comes from rapeseed.

Cold-pressed, rapeseed oil has a grassy 'green' taste. It contains Omegas 3, 6 and 9, essential fatty acids that reduce cholesterol, keep your heart healthy, your joints moving, and your brain functioning. Rapeseed oil is rich in vitamin E and high in mono-unsaturated fats. It has about half the saturated fat found in olive oil.

Rapeseed oil is one of the very few unblended oils, which can be heated to deep-frying temperatures without spoiling its antioxidants, colour and flavour. It is also good for roasting and for use as a table condiment for dipping bread.

It costs about £3.99 for half a litre, and is the oil of choice in the House of Lords. It is not known if anyone in Parliament has yet claimed it on expenses...

Cereal just as good as any sport drink...

Next time you return from the gym or a long run or whatever, reach for the wholegrain cereal and some skimmed milk. They are just as good for you after strenuous exercise as are the far more expensive sports drinks you can buy.

Researchers at the University of Texas have found that wheat

flakes and skimmed milk do just as good a job at re-hydrating and re-energising the muscles. Cereal and milk are also equally good at replenishing your blood sugar and insulin levels, and even better at protein production. The milk helps reduce lactic acid levels in the blood – these cause stiffness after exercise.

When a man gets 'manflu'.... does he really suffer?

From now on, when your man has flu, you mustn't tease him and tell him to get a grip: he really does feel far more poorly than his wife understands. Recent studies seem to show that men suffer from 'manflu' because they have weaker immune systems and so are more susceptible to infections.

These findings will not surprise most women, who have known for years that they can have a cold, and yet still carry on working, looking after the children AND nursing their husband who has gone to bed with the same sniffles. But now scientists have asked for some sympathy for the men: they say that the female sex hormone, oestrogen, may be the secret of their wife's extra strength. Oestrogen, it seems, can boost a woman's defences against infections and viruses such as influenza. Surveys have found that up to 30 per cent of men take sick days because of colds and flu, compared to just 22 per cent of women.

The research was carried out at McGill University's Health Centre in Montreal. Earlier research into 'manflu' at Stanford University in California had concluded it was all in the man's mind... we couldn't possibly comment!

Number fun

Here is one of those totally useless bits of information that is interesting nonetheless: at five minutes and six seconds after 4am on the 7th of August this year, the time and date will be 04:05:06 07/08/09. This will not happen again for 100 years. Same for next year's 05:06:07 08/09/10. So - now you know!

SILVER SERVICE

Some of you have availed yourselves of my silver-plating service, which started when we had to raise £60,000 for the church spire. This encompasses cutlery, trays, boxes etc. Just one quality 20microns of silver – 30-year plate.

The next date of collection will be 1st October, back early December. ALL PROFITS TO THE S.P.R.R.F. (St. Peter's Roof Restoration Fund) For further information contact Tony Gray – 01629 582576

Birthday parties for children

Do any of our readers have any views on this item?

What do you spend on a birthday party for your son or daughter? It seems that even in a recession, many middle class parents are throwing caution to the wind... (if not their sanity!) Recent research has found that some well-heeled parents spend between £5,000 and a whopping £50,000 on a birthday party. They pay for it in instalments.

If your idea of a lavish party is to make a birthday cake, rent the church hall and hire a bouncy castle, think again. There are parents who take their eight-year-

old offspring and party guests off to see the Royal Ballet dance Swan Lake. Others take their little people out to lunch to a fashionable Knightsbridge restaurant, and then go go-karting. Does your son have some aggression to work off? Take him out to drive an armoured vehicle over a car. Does your daughter enjoy dancing? Surely renting a West End nightclub for the evening is the only answer...

The ante has upped considerably!
But is it what the children themselves really want?

Love the sound of music... festivals

If you can sleep this weekend without the sounds of distant music wafting around your bedroom, you are obviously not near one of the 500 outdoor music festivals, which will take place across the country.

Music festivals are big news this summer. From Glasgow to Surrey, the West Country to Sussex, large fields are being transformed into temporary encampments full of tents and portable loos and mud...and music. There's everything on offer from Goth rock to dad rock to Christian-flavoured rock (Greenbelt). Artists come in all ages and sizes: from Mungo Jerry to Status Quo, Sister Sledge to the Kaiser Chiefs (who alone are booked to appear at 18 festivals)

The expanding festival circuit is largely due to the dire state of the record music business. Record sales have been badly hit by the double whammy of the illegal downloading of songs, and illegal Internet jukebox sites. So what remains? The live forum. Music festivals have now become vital money earners for hard-pressed musicians.

Is that holiday job against the law?

August is a time when many children are looking to earn some money from a temporary job. Nothing wrong with that, but they can be exploited – last year more than 600 children in the UK were found to be employed illegally and nearly 60 were seriously injured or killed. A campaign was recently launched to change this situation.

Last year, visits at the peak of the holiday season by officers involved in child-welfare found 805 school-aged children working in a number of occupations. 574 did not have the required work permit, 43 were found to be working outside of the permitted times – and 21 were working in prohibited occupations.

One was seriously hurt whilst working in a kitchen. He was employed illegally and without a permit, so was not covered by the employer's insurance and did not receive any compensation for his injuries.

Another boy had nerves and tendons in his hand severed when

he slipped and fell while delivering milk.

Paul Kirkman, of the National Network for Child Employment and Entertainment, stresses that the checks were not designed as a persecution or prosecution exercise, but to provide education welfare and juvenile employment officers with an opportunity to visit employers in shopping centres, markets and other places to offer advice “about the legal situation in regard to work permits, hours of work and occupations in which children can and can't be employed.”

Mr Kirkman, who works for Cornwall's Children's Services Authority, says that employers must ensure that they have carried out all legal obligations and are aware of necessary safety precautions before they employ a child.

Around the country, child employment officers have been visiting secondary schools to hold lunchtime drop-in sessions for pupils.

My boss was always keen to motivate us, his staff, to come up with bright ideas. One day, in the men's room, he placed a sign directly above the sink. It had a single word on it: “THINK!”

It obviously inspired somebody, because the next day, right below it, and immediately above the soap dispenser, someone had carefully lettered another sign. It read simply: “THOAP!”

On the Damascus Road: Elizabeth Fry (1780-1845)

A series looking at famous conversions in the history of the Christian Church

This month we are looking at a woman whose conversion eventually led to her great ministry to prisoners and the poor in general.

Elizabeth Gurney was born into a family of devout Quakers in Norwich. Her father was a successful factory owner and a partner in the Gurney Bank. Her mother, Catherine Gurney, was a member of the famous Barclay banking family.

It was a sermon that brought Elizabeth to the place of personal faith and commitment to God. She had gone to hear an American Quaker, William Savery, preach in Norwich, and she asked her father to invite him home to dinner. The effect of Savery's sermon and his conversation with Elizabeth changed her life. Later she wrote, 'I think my feelings that night were the most exalted I remember. Suddenly my mind felt clothed with light, as with a garment, and I felt silenced before God. I cried with the heavenly feeling of humility and repentance.'

Every Christian's 'Damascus Road' is special to them. Elizabeth Gurney recorded her conversion in the language common among

Quakers, speaking about the coming of 'the light' and feeling 'silenced' before God.

The immediate result of Elizabeth's conversion was her deep desire to help those in need. She collected clothes from her well-to-do friends and relations and gave them to the poor. She began a systematic visitation of the sick and organised a Sunday School in her home where she taught the children to read. At the age of 20 she married Joseph Fry, the son of a very successful banker and also a Quaker. They set up home in East London and Elizabeth's ministry to the poor continued. She became a preacher among the Quakers and in 1811 she attended the meeting that set up the British and Foreign Bible Society, the forerunner of today's Bible Society.

When a friend invited her to visit the women prisoners in Newgate Prison in London, Elizabeth was appalled at what she found. The over-crowding and lack of hygiene facilities made the conditions deplorable and Elizabeth Fry began a campaign of social, moral and religious improvement for the inmates.

Continued on page 12

She gave evidence in the House of Commons about London prisons, spoke against the death penalty, and used every possible means to bring about prison reforms.

Queen Victoria admired Elizabeth's work, met her on a number of occasions and gave money to promote her enterprises.

When Elizabeth Fry died in October 1845, the great work she

had begun continued and her name will always be remembered in connection with her concern for the poor and especially for women prisoners. Her conversion was much more than a personal conversion; it set her on the road not only to love God but also to love her neighbour.

Dr Herbert McGonigle is Senior Lecturer in Historical Theology and Church History in Nazarene Theological College, Didsbury, Manchester.

Blooming gone!

These are true stories: a woman went down to her local garden centre and bought 20 hardy fuchsias. She spent an entire day carefully planting a fuchsia hedge across the front of her property. It looked great. Next morning she went down to make her breakfast tea and stared out the window in sheer disbelief: her brand new hedge was gone. Simply gone.

Another family spent two days laying a new lawn... on the morning of third day it was gone.



Garden theft is on the increase. In the summer it soars by 63 per cent. Thieves these days help themselves to everything from your flowers, pots, shrubs, vegetables, turf, (and even lawns!) rockeries, tools, barbeques and furniture. They take olive trees, ornamental trees, huge garden ornaments, posh hoses, ride-on mowers, fish and flagstones. About the only thing they don't bother with are the weeds and the water in your garden pond. Also, no one has yet reported any slugs stolen...

Now Darren Black, head of insurance at the financial comparison site Confused.com advises people to check their insurance policy very carefully indeed. "They vary very widely." Churchill covers garden loss up to £250, while Lloyds TSB Options covers up to £2,000, but not the lawn. It always pays to check that the cover you have bought really does meet your needs.

You may remember reading an article in the April magazine entitled 'What everyone wants: an allotment', well, here is another one – it just shows we all want to dig!

The long wait for allotments

Fancy growing your own vegetables? The trend for wanting to plant our own carrots, broad beans and whatever else is at an all-time high in popularity. And there would be even more of us out there hoeing and weeding – if we had any space spare on which to plant and grow things.

If your garden is big enough to include a vegetable patch, be thankful. The National Society of Allotment & Leisure gardeners says there are now more than 100,000 people on the list for a plot on an allotment. In London the waiting list can be awesome: in



Camden there are 883 people waiting for 195 allotments... it could be 40 years before some of them even get as far as opening the first packet of seed!

Even Burnley, Fylde, Wirral and Kingston Upon Hull all have waiting lists longer than 10 years, according to a recent survey done by LV, an insurance company.

Across the country, the average wait is three years and two months. Perhaps not surprising when every council is duty bound to provide only 20 allotments per every 1,000 residents.



Traidcraft

Sales have been good this month at £1013 including £40 at Ashford's Well Dressing and £181 at Rowsley's Flower Festival. The stalls at the Oxfam tea raised £71, the Methodist Church Coffee Morning £27, the Choral Society Concert £53 and the Cottage Hospital Fete £39.

News from Africa in the latest bulletin is not good. Jameson Nyanchoka who runs the Undugu workshop in

Kenya mentions the drop in export orders due to the economic downturn and fewer local sales due to a decrease in the number of tourists. Undugu produces soapstone goods such as the hand carved ornaments on P36 of the current catalogue.

When the new catalogue appears look out for the beautiful hand printed shopping bags from Dezin Inc in Zimbabwe. Anything you buy will help some producer somewhere to earn a living.

Peter Bird (01629 813087)

The trumpet will sound...and we shall be changed':

George Frideric Handel - the oratorios
Rev Michael Burgess, looking at great works of music



'Joy to the world,' 'My God I love thee,' 'Rejoice, the Lord is king,' and 'Thine be the glory' – these are hymns that are regularly part of our church worship. They are also hymns with glorious melodies by Handel. They may have been our first introduction to his music, but I suspect that for many of us, that will have come through hearing the local amateur choral society performing 'Messiah' at some stage in our lives.

Last month we saw how Handel's work up to the last 20 years of his life was dominated by operas. He wrote some 42 works in that form, but as the years went on, he found the operatic scene in England was too perilous, not only marked by scandals and rivalries, but also financially unrewarding. So he turned to oratorio, composing over 26 large and splendid works on a range of biblical subjects. Earlier in 1727 he had created anthems of great beauty and power for the coronation of George II, including 'Zadok the priest.' That work begins with a steady, majestic crescendo leading to the entry of the choir, like a sunrise bursting onto the score. No wonder that some of the glories of these anthems were reworked for the oratorios that came later. Sir John Hawkins wrote of the composer that his knowledge of the scriptures was such that 'the sublime moments

with which they abound would give opportunities for displaying his talents.' And as opera failed, so oratorio triumphed.

Charles Jennens, a rich dilettante, who lived at Gopsal in Leicestershire (remembered in the name of the tune for 'Rejoice, the Lord is king'), provided the word book for 'Saul' in 1738 and helped with the choice of texts for the more ambitious 'Israel in Egypt' and then in 1741 'Messiah.' It is strange to think that, although the two performances of 'Messiah' in Dublin were given enthusiastic receptions, when Handel brought the work to London, he met disdain and even opposition.

Jennens thought that Handel had composed the work too quickly and said so. Others viewed with suspicion the performance of religious texts in theatres by singers who had been actors. As a result, Handel was seriously ill after the London premiere. But by 1750 the work had won the hearts of performers and audiences alike, and that has never altered.

As with the other oratorios, it is its pervasive spirituality and beauty, coupled with intense drama that gives the work its power. We will each have favourite moments. Two of mine are the air, 'Thou art gone

up on high' which sadly is often omitted in performances, and the chorus, 'And he shall purify,' where the words of the singers about the offering of righteousness are matched by joyful thirds sounding out among the strings. It is just one of many exultant moments in the score.

In 1750 Handel began to compose his final oratorio, 'Jephtha.' He was now 65 and his eyesight was failing. Composition was a struggle, but he completed it in 28 days. Jephtha the general vows that if he is victorious over the Ammonites, he will sacrifice the first living creature he meets on his return. It is his own daughter.

Handel must have thought of the sacrifice of his life for his music, and the theme of the destruction of human happiness by divine ordinance resonates through the score. His weakening eyesight, the sheer exhausting labour of writing the music, and the psychological background of the story are focused in the recitative, 'Deeper and deeper still' that leads to the chorus, 'How dark, O Lord, are thy decrees.' And then in Act 3 a shaft

of clear light shines through the darkness with one of the most beautiful airs he ever wrote, 'Waft her, angels, through the skies.'

On 14 April 1759 Handel himself died. We still have the expenses sheet of his funeral service in Westminster Abbey: it includes the officiating bishop, who was paid £1, the organ blower 5 shillings, the leaden coffin £6 and the 4 bell ringers 13 shillings and four pence. But how can we put a price on the life and work of a composer, who came through so much adversity and difficulty with such courage and inspiration: a composer whose genius is always able to lift us with Iphis in 'Jephtha' to the angels in the skies.

In September 1741 Handel's servant found the composer in his room, alone and weeping. He had just completed Part 2 of 'Messiah' with the 'Hallelujah Chorus.' 'I did think I did see all Heaven before me, and the great God Himself,' Handel told his servant. And we would say 'Amen' to that vision as we listen today to his glorious and sublime music.

Happiness

Our feelings of 'wellbeing' are very subjective, say psychologists. For example, did you know that Olympic bronze medallists usually report higher personal satisfaction than silver medallists? Presumably the silver winners feel failures because they missed the gold... while the bronze winners are delighted – indeed astonished – to have won anything at all. It seems that if all you have got is all you are going to get, it is smartest to be grateful for it!

6th August - The Transfiguration -
or the day Jesus met Elijah and Moses...

The story is told in Matthew (17:1-9), Mark (9:1-9) and Luke (9:28-36).

It was a time when Jesus' ministry was popular, when people were seeking him out. But on this day, He made time to take Peter, James and John, his closest disciples, up a high mountain. In the fourth century, Cyrillic of Jerusalem identified it as Mount Tabor (and there is a great church up there today), but others believe it more likely to have been one of the three spurs of Mount Hermon, which rises to about 9,000 feet, and overlooks Caesarea Philippi.

High up on the mountain, Jesus was suddenly transfigured before his friends. His face began to shine as the sun; his garments became white and dazzling. Elijah and Moses, of all people, suddenly appeared, and talked with him. A bright cloud overshadowed the disciples.

Peter was staggered, but, enthusiast that he was - immediately suggested building three tabernacles on that holy place, one for Jesus, one for Moses, and one for Elijah. But God's tabernacle, God's dwelling with mankind, does not any longer depend upon building a shrine. It depends on the presence of Jesus, instead. And so a cloud covered them, and a voice spoke out of the

cloud, saying that Jesus was his beloved son, whom the disciple should 'hear'. God's dwelling with mankind depends upon our *listening* to Jesus.

Then, just as suddenly, it is all over. What did it mean? *Why Moses and Elijah?* Well, these two men represent the Law and the Prophets of the Old Covenant, or Old Testament. But now they are handing on the baton, if you like: for both the Law and the Prophets found their true and final fulfilment in Jesus, the Messiah.

Why on top of a mountain? In Exodus we read that Moses went up Mount Sinai to receive the sacred covenant from Yahweh in the form of the Ten Commandments. Now Jesus goes up and is told about the 'sealing' of the New Covenant, or New Testament of God with man, which will be accomplished by his coming death in Jerusalem.

That day made a lifelong impact on the disciples. Peter mentions it in his second letter, 2 Peter 1:16 - 19 - invariably the reading for this day.

The Eastern Churches have long held the Transfiguration as a feast

as important as Christmas, Epiphany, Ascension and Pentecost. But it took a long time for the West to observe the Transfiguration. The feast starts appearing from the 11th and 12th

centuries, and the Prayer Book included it among the calendar dates, but there was no liturgical provision for it until the 19th century.

New Hollywood 'rom-com' set to get you talking

This summer, if you want a feel-good film, which touches on some poignant themes close to the heart, try and get to see **LAST CHANCE HARVEY**. Set in London, the new film, starring Dustin Hoffman and Emma Thompson, is now on general release.

The film has even been recommended to the churches as a possible discussion starter for women's groups. Nick Pollard of the Damaris Trust, who is providing the resources for any churches interested, explains: "The film covers three main areas - living with past failures and regrets, overcoming the fear of pain and disappointment in new relationships, and reconciliation. Last Chance Harvey offers reflection on these important issues."

SODUKO

Solutions to July puzzles

2	3	5	1	4	7	9	8	6
4	1	8	9	6	5	7	2	3
6	9	7	2	8	3	1	4	5
9	8	6	5	7	4	2	3	1
5	7	3	8	1	2	4	6	9
1	4	2	6	3	9	8	5	7
7	5	9	3	2	8	6	1	4
8	6	4	7	5	1	3	9	2
3	2	1	4	9	6	5	7	8

Easy

6	2	4	3	8	7	5	9	1
1	3	9	4	5	6	8	2	7
7	5	8	1	9	2	4	3	6
4	9	6	8	1	3	7	5	2
2	8	3	7	6	5	1	4	9
5	1	7	9	2	4	3	6	8
9	4	1	2	3	8	6	7	5
3	6	2	5	7	1	9	8	4
8	7	5	6	4	9	2	1	3

Intermediate

August Intermediate

8								3
5			8				7	4
							6	
	6		9	8		1		
		7				4		
		8		6	1		9	
	5							
3	2				4			8
1								5

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Earth-bound - At a village costume party for children, a police officer was stationed at the door, with instructions not to admit any adults. Then an excited woman came running up to the door and demanded admission. "My child is in there as a butterfly, but she has forgotten her wings!"

"Can't help it," replied the officer, "orders are orders. She'll have to stay a caterpillar."

SERVICES & ROTAS FOR August 2009

St. Anne's, Beeley

Flowers

2 Aug	9.30am	Holy Communion			Mrs Turner
9 Aug	9.30am	Holy Communion	6pm Evensong		" "
16 Aug	9.30am	Holy Communion			Miss Abell
23 Aug	9.30am	Holy Communion			" "
30 Aug	9.30am	Holy Communion			Mrs M Fearn
6 Sept	9.30am	Holy Communion			" "

St. Peter's, Edensor

Sidesmen

2 Aug	10.30am	Holy Communion			R S Sherwood/Diana Walters
9 Aug	10.30am	Holy Communion			R A Gray/J Bowns
16 Aug	10.30am	Matins			Mrs Thomas/S Liddicot
23 Aug	10.30am	Holy Communion			Mr & Mrs Gordon
30 Aug	10.30am	Longshaw Sheepdog Association Service			Mr & Mrs Jackson
6 Sept	10.30am	Holy Communion			Mr & Mrs Machin

Coffee

Cleaning

Flowers

2 Aug	Mrs Mather	Mrs Davies/Mrs Walters	Susanne Garnett
9 Aug	Mr & Mrs Sherwood	-----	Angela Dempsey
16 Aug	Mrs Bradshaw	Machin/Thomas/Pindar	" "
23 Aug	Mr & Mrs Dempsey	-----	Diana Symonds
30 Aug	Clive & Joy Thrower	Mr & Mrs Jackson	" "
6 Sept	Mrs Cooper/Mrs Clarke	-----	Vilna Kembery

Readings

		<u>St. Peter's</u>	<u>St. Anne's & Sunday School</u>	
2 Aug	Exodus 16. 2-4 & 9-15 John 6. 24-35	Diana Walters	Fiona	Lynda
9 Aug	1 Kings 19. 4-8 John 6. 35 & 41-51	Margaret Thomas	Sarah	Lynda
16 Aug	Ephesians 5. 15-20 Mark 6. 45-52	Molly Marshall	Fiona	Fiona
23 Aug	James 1. 17-27 Mark 7. 1-8, 14-15 & 21-23	Diana Symonds	Lynda	Judith
30 Aug	Psalms 23 John 10. 7-10	Tony Gray	Fiona	Sarah
6 Sept	James 2. 1-10 & 14-17 Mark 7. 24-37	David Jackson	Lynda	Rupert?
			Di Homer	Lynda
			Sarah	Fiona

'The Bridge' Parish Magazine –60p per copy (£7.20 per year) **Items for inclusion in the September magazine should reach me by Monday 17th August**
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