

The Ven. David Garnett
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(Church website - www.stpetersedensor.org)

September 2009

Prayer and Meditation

“Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while. For many were coming and going and they had no leisure even to eat”. (Mark 6.31).

We all need times of withdrawal. Times set aside for simply being.

We need to receive in order that we might give. Our lives can so easily be all accelerator and no brake. And if our exports exceed our imports there will eventually be a huge spiritual and physical deficit.

“So I say to you,” taught Jesus, “ask and you will receive; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, those who seek find and those who knock, the door will be opened”. Or as John Paul II put it: “beware of spending too much time doing the work of the Lord without spending enough time with the Lord of the work”.

Jesus received from his Father from all eternity and because He received all He gave all. Mary had nothing, but because she received from God she became “God bearer”. And remember when we receive, we have given the Giver the gift of being able to Give. The Lord loves giving and He loves for-giving.

When I was a boy my mother used to buy a slimming aid called “Energen rolls”. They looked good and kind of winked at you saying “come and drive your fangs into me”. But when you ate them they collapsed in your mouth. They were a most expensive way of buying air! You needed butter to make them palatable which defeated the object. We too can look good on the outside but inside we are empty like Mother Hubbard’s cupboard.

The two sisters, Mary and Martha, often squabble within us. Martha was forever washing up whilst Mary sat and watched. We need to be both Mary and Martha. If we are all Martha we will die of varicose veins and fallen arches because we can’t sit down! And if we are all Mary we will die of something else because we can’t stand up! Do you not get that feeling that when you are doing something you should be resting and when you are resting you should be doing something?

Our need to receive and our prevarication is caught in George Herbert’s poem written in 1633:

Love bade me welcome: yet my soul drew back,
Guilty of dust and sin.
But quick-ey'd Love, observing me grow slack
From my first entrance in,
Drew nearer to me, sweetly questioning
If I lack' anything.

A guest, I answer'd, worthy to be here:
Love said, you shall be he.
I the unkind, ungrateful: Ah, my dear,
I cannot look on thee.
Love took my hand, and smiling did reply,
Who made the eyes but I?

Truth Lord, but I have marr'd them: let my shame
Go where it doth deserve.
And know you not, says Love, who bore the blame?
My dear, then I will serve.
You must sit down, says Love, and taste my meat.
So I did sit and eat.

Getting us to sit and eat and to receive is not easy, we would rather do something like polishing the loo seats in heaven!

Mount Hermon is covered in snow but waters run down from it as the sun warms it. They run down through the territory of Dan into the Sea of Galilee. The Sea of Galilee is one of the most beautiful places on earth full of life and fish. Restaurants serve St Peter's fish with a shekel in its mouth. It then runs out into the River Jordan (running down from Dan) and from thence into the Dead Sea. The Dead Sea looks as if it is covered in waves but in truth they are large lumps of salt. The water is so saline that you can float in it and read your newspaper! But it is also deadly poisonous, hence the Dead Sea. There is no outlet and is one of the lowest places on earth. It receives without giving out and is therefore dead. Whereas the Sea of Galilee receives first from the waters of Hermon and then gives out. It is, therefore, alive!

Prayer is about receiving in order to give out. It is about listening, being silent and open.

A wise old owl
lived in an oak.
The more he saw
the less he spoke.

The less he spoke
the more he heard
Why can't we all
be like that wise old bird?

This little rhyme speaks volumes:

His thoughts were slow
His words were few
And never made to glisten
But he was a joy
Wherever he went
You should have heard him listen.

The beloved disciple was so close to the Lord that he could hear the beat of his heart.

Listen to this meditation by Wilferd Peterson:

Slow Me Down, Lord

Slow me down Lord, Slow me down! Ease the pounding of my heart by the quieting of my mind. Steady my hurried pace with a vision of the eternal reach of time.

Give me, amidst the confusion of my day, the calmness of the everlasting hills. Break the tensions of my nerves and muscles with the soothing music of singing streams that live in my memory.

Help me to know the magical, restoring power of sleep.

Teach me the art of taking "minute vacations". Of slowing down to look at a flower, to chat with a friend, to pat a dog, to read a few lines from a good book.

Remind me each day of the fable of the hare and the tortoise; that I may know that the race is not always to the swift; that there is more to life than increasing its speed.

Let me look upward into the branches of the towering oak and know that it grew great and strong because it grew slowly and well.

Slow me down Lord, and inspire me to send my own roots down deep into the soil of life's endearing values that I may grow toward the stars of my greater destiny.

The secret of praying is not so much our praying but letting God pray in us. It is simply being with the Lord and letting Him pray in us. St Paul wrote, "the spirit comes to aid us in our weakness. We do not even know how to pray, but through our inarticulate groans the Spirit himself prays for us".

One way of having time apart is to meditate on a well known text: I am sure that the Lord's Prayer should be used more often as a model for meditation rather than simply reciting the words. Or take Psalm 23. "The Lord is my shepherd". Shepherds were tough and got themselves mucky in their day by day working life. God understands us where we are amidst the muck and messiness of life.

"Therefore can I lack nothing". "He makes me lie down in green pastures" or "He shall feed me in a green pasture". He makes us stop and be still. He feeds my spiritual hunger, that empty, aching heart. Jesus said "I am the bread of life".

"He leads me to water where I may rest" or "And lead me forth beside the waters of comfort". Living water, washing us clean, quenching our thirsts and giving life. "As pants the hart for cooling streams so longs my soul for thee O Lord". "He revives my spirit" or "He shall convert my soul". Think of those ways and those people who revive our spirit in times of dryness...

Desmond Tutu put it well when he wrote:

"Prayer and meditation is not about doing but about being, and the important thing is not to let techniques dominate. When you learn to swim, you could learn a lot of strokes out of the water but the only way to really learn to swim is by swimming. Similarly in prayer and meditation, you can spend a lot of time on techniques trying to know about God, but the real point is to know God".

Finally, R S Thomas:

"I have seen the sun break through
to illuminate a small field for a while,
and gone my way and forgotten it.
But that was the pearl of great price,
the one field that had the treasure in it.
I realise now that I must give
it all that I have to possess it.
Life is not hurrying on... to a receding future,
nor hankering after an imagined past.
It is the turning aside like Moses to the miracle of the lighted bush,
to a brightness that seemed as transitory as youth once,
but is the eternity that awaits you."

Take heart! Michael Ramsey once said the desire to pray is a prayer in itself!
Yours ever,

David

FLORAL FANFARE PROGRAMME

**Friday 4th
December 2009**

**Champagne
Reception**
6.30pm onwards
Opening
by
**Her Grace
The Dowager
Duchess of
Devonshire**

Concert
*The Derbyshire
Singers*
*Tickets £25 (incl.
glass of
champagne)*

**Saturday 5th
December 2009**

at 7.30pm
Matlock Band
*'Christmas
Fanfare'*

**Conductor
Roger Jepson**

Tickets £10

**Sunday 6th
December 2009**

10.30am
Family Communion
&
at 4pm
*Advent Carol
Service*
ALL WELCOME.

**Monday 7th
December 2009**

at 7.30pm
'Amazing Bass'
Siân Hicks
*(co-principal
double-bass with
the Northern
Sinfonia)*

With welcome by
The Duchess of
Devonshire
Tickets £10

**Tuesday 8th
December 2009**

at 7.30pm
Adam Nicolson

*'Sissinghurst -
Living with The
National Trust'*

(Illustrated talk &
book signing)
*Tickets £20 (incl.
glass of wine)*

**Wednesday 9th
December 2009**

at 7.30pm
Bakewell Band
*'Christmas
Carillon'*
Tickets £10

**Thursday 10th
December 2009**

at 7.30pm
*The Dowager
Duchess
of Devonshire
in conversation*
(& book signing)
*Tickets £20 (incl.
glass of wine)*

**Friday 11th
December 2009**

at 7.30pm
*An Evening with
Alan Bennett*
(& book signing)
*Tickets £25 (incl.
glass of wine)*

**Church open
daily**

**Saturday 5th
- Friday 11th**
10.30am –
5.30pm

Refreshments
11am – 4pm daily.

**ALL
WELCOME**

**Evening events
start at 7.30pm
(ticket only).
Bookings open
28th September.**

Tickets for Concerts & Talks

Full details will be published soon in local press, noticeboards, parish magazines etc. & on the website www.stpetersedensor.org

Edensor PCC reserves the right to alter the programme and/or details without prior notice. Unreserved seating. No concessions.

Message from Archdeacon David, Vicar

Floral Fanfare at St Peter's: 4-11 December 2009

This is a very exciting happening and our thanks to the Dowager Duchess for inspiring it and to Helen Marchant for all her expertise and drive. We had a meeting of all the residents of Edensor on 2 August and there was much enthusiasm for this event. I am deeply grateful for that, and all the help people are offering. It is a major enterprise requiring very careful planning and lots of help. If you have not already signed up to help in any way and would like to, please fill in the form in this magazine and return to The Old Vicarage or Vicarage, Edensor or Liz's house at Pilsley or Vernon's house at Beeley.

Proceeds are towards the Alzheimer's Society, Ashgate Hospice and Bishop Hilary's project to build a school in Southern Sudan, as well as church restoration (roof, re-wiring and lighting and the organ is in dire need of restoration/replacement). Apart from these extra items it costs nearly £1,000 per week to run the church at Edensor.

We are hugely privileged to have Robert Young doing the most amazing flower displays on the theme of Christmas Carols. The 'WOW' factor will be beyond belief. And the evening events, concerts and speakers will crown the event (see programme).

Robert Young's mother, like my own mother, suffered from Alzheimer's. It is a tragic illness and in her last years my mother could hardly recognise me. And, of course, the Hospice is near to all our hearts. I was chaplain to St Ann's Hospice, Heald Green, where I was also Vicar. Therefore I have a particular concern for this ministry and I remember Princess Diana visiting us. Bishop Hilary visited us last year when he was studying at Cliff College. Southern Sudan has suffered terribly and it is a real privilege to be able to help the Bishop build a school. I remember staying in a remote village in Gambia and talking to a young lad, and he said to me, "education is for me everything". He had to be there at 7 a.m. in order to get a seat and the science lab consisted of one skeleton and a table!

I hope the Floral Fanfare will be a blessing to us all, locals and visitors and those for whom we care.

David

Useful Telephone Numbers

St. Anne's	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	

St. Peter's Church 100 Club July 2009

1st prize £30 no. 28 David Garnett
2nd prize £20 no. 15 Liz Bradshaw

Funds to church this month - £48

DATES TO NOTE

- 8 Sept BEELEY WI Monthly Meeting – 7.30pm Village Hall
Climb to Everest base camp – an illustrated talk by Joyce Buxton
- 12/22 Sept SKIP – Baslow Council Houses - 7.45 – 8.15
Nether End Car Park - 8.20 – 10.45
- 12 Sept SKIP – Edensor The Green 7.45 – 9.30
SKIP – Pilsley Garage Yard 9.45 – 10.45
- 14 Sept BEELEY Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm Village Hall ALL WELCOME
- 16 Sept CHATSWORTH WI Monthly Meeting – 7.30pm Cavendish Hall Annexe
Speaker: Helen Krasner – Pixelhobby Craft – talk, demonstration & “have a go”.
- Competition: Funny holiday photograph Flowers & Parcel: Mrs Machin
Tea Hostesses: Mrs Mary Oliver & Mrs Margaret Oliver
Vote of Thanks: Mrs Machin
- September Business Meeting – Hostess WI is Stoney Middleton
- 22 Sept SKIP – Beeley Devonshire Square 7.45 – 8.45
- Sept Songs of Praise to celebrate the completion of St. Peter's Church roof
(Date to be advised)
- 3 Oct Archdeacon's Farewell – 5pm Tideswell Church
- 7 Oct St. Peter's Harvest Dinner – Cavendish Club 7.30pm
- 10 Oct St. Peter's Church 'Spring Clean & Churchyard Working Party'
10am – 4pm Bring & Share lunch
- 18 Oct Housekeeping Sunday
- 29 Nov Back to Church Sunday
- 4 – 11 Dec St. Peter's Church, Edensor 'Floral Fanfare' – Christmas Flower Festival
with carols, concerts and talks by Adam Nicolson (Sissinghurst) and
Deborah Devonshire.

For other events see inside the magazine

FROM THE REGISTERS

St. Peter's Church, Edensor

Elizabeth (Betty) Welch aged 80 years

Funeral Service - 24th July followed by cremation & 4th August - Interment of ashes

Baptisms - 2nd August - Benjamin Scott Davies

William Tudor Davies

9th August - Oliver Kane Lowe

Peter's Christmas Lunch at the Maynard Arms, Grindleford

The proposed date for this annual get together is Tuesday 15th December. If you are interested please see Peter Machin. Those of us who have attended this event in the last few years will certainly be putting our names down on the list, as it is a very enjoyable occasion. Book early to avoid disappointment!



St. Peter's Church, Edensor

Harvest Supper

7th October 2009 7.30pm

This year we are holding our Harvest Supper at the Cavendish Club, Edensor. This will consist of a 3-course meal – *Prawn Cocktail ~ Steak Pie ~ Crème Brûlée*, costing

£12.95 per person and because we need to know how many people to cater for it will be by ticket only in advance. If you would like to attend, and we do hope you will, please fill in the slip below and return it with the money to the Vicar, Liz Bradshaw or Duncan Gordon.

A vegetarian option will be available

St. Peter's Church Harvest Supper

7th October – 7.30pm

I would liketickets for the Harvest Supper on 7th October. I enclose (£12.95 per person. Cheques made payable to Edensor PCC)

Vegetarian option required(please tick)

Signed.....

ADULT CONFIRMATION/REFRESHER COURSE

St Peter's, Edensor & St Anne's, Beeley

I hope, in the autumn, to run a Confirmation/Refresher Course for adults.

Possible topics:- What is the Old Testament all about?
 How can we believe in God today?
 What has the Gospel to say about baptism, marriage,
 everyday living, suffering and death?

It will be an opportunity also to ask questions and share our faith understandings. It would be great to have a mix of people who are Confirmed and those who are thinking about Confirmation.

CONFIRMATION includes:

1. Asking God to Confirm you in your step of faith.
2. Confirming the vows which were made on your behalf at baptism.

If you are interested in joining such a group I will be in touch nearer the time.

I have asked people about the best time to meet. The most common request is on a Sunday at around 12 noon once a month. Opportunity to follow up the sermon as well as other issues and questions

JUNIOR CONFIRMATION COURSE - Any young people interested in being Confirmed please let me know.

Anyone interested in either of the above courses contact David with name, address and e-mail address if you have one at davidcgarnett@yahoo.co.uk or by giving the details to him after church or by 'phone – 01246 582130.

THE COUNTESS and EARL OF DEVONSHIRE

[Edensor & Chatsworth] CHARITY

Young persons between school leaving age and under 25 years of age who are resident in the Parishes of Edensor & Chatsworth may apply for financial assistance towards the cost of preparing for entry into a profession, trade or calling. This may include provision for further education.

Applications are invited with immediate effect. The closing date for applications is 30th September 2009.

All grants are at the discretion of the Trustees and Application Forms for grants can be obtained from the clerk: - Mr I T Else, Estate Office, Edensor.

Tel: 01246 565300 e-mail: ite@chatsworth.org

Could you help with a CUTTING EDGE FILM FOR CHANNEL 4?

TV company seeks families with single-sex offspring

Love Productions has been commissioned to make a documentary for Channel 4 about large families with single-gender offspring. We are looking to feature families who have four or more children of the same gender and are pregnant, or trying for a baby of the opposite sex, in order to complete their family. We want to explore what it's like living in a same-sex household, and look at the reasons behind the decision to have another child.

There are many reasons as to why a family might continue to try for the other sex ranging from the previous loss of a child, cultural preferences, to wanting to bring a female presence to an overwhelmingly male household. We also understand that particularly wanting a boy or girl is not uncommon and we want to explore the emotional and psychological reasons behind that desire.

The film promises to be a sensitive, insightful and celebratory portrayal of large families who would love to have a boy or girl, and the how much it means to them to achieve their dream. It will be broadcast as one of Channel 4's Cutting Edge documentaries later this year.

We are keen to find more families wishing to share their story in our film.

I can be reached on 020 7067 4862 or by email at helen.crampton@loveproductions.co.uk
Many thanks in anticipation.

Helen Crampton - Assistant Producer Cutting Edge for Channel 4

Remember playing conkers?

With the onset of September, it is time for one of the great traditional games of childhood again: conkers. British children have been playing with horse chestnuts since at least 1848 (when the first game was recorded on the Isle of Wight).

If you want to revisit your childhood, and introduce your children (or grandchildren) to a game of conkers, there is a helpful website full of good tips, from how to choose a good conker, how to thread it, and to how to keep score.

Please visit: www.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/customs/conkers. The site includes such gems as what to say as you choose your conker and prepare for battle. You say: "Oddly oddly onker, my first conker...." – but then, you knew that already, didn't you?

Before they invented drawing boards, what did they go back to?

**All Saints Church Bakewell
'Flour Festival' - A Feast of
Home Baking**

Come along to
Bakewell Town Hall
Saturday 19th September
11.0am-3.0pm

& sample the splendid array of
flour-based home cooking -
breads, cakes, biscuits, pastries

**See the lovely painted Polish
dough figures
& Christmas decorations**

Browse the cookery books and
see the array of flours
from local Caudwell's Mill
& the recipes on how to use them.

Buy the mouth-watering goods on
offer & then relax with a cup of tea or
coffee

Refreshments on sale all day

Rich Man, Poor Man Event

Saturday 3rd October, 6.45 for
7pm start

At Bakewell Methodist Church

This year Oxfam's awareness-raising
event is taking the form of a "Rich
man, Poor man" meal, which will aim
to reflect the inequalities of the
world.

Whilst tickets are all the same
price, on arrival there will be a
lottery and 10 people will win the
"Rich Man's" meal, which will consist
of three courses. The rest will
receive a bowl of soup, bread roll
and water. As is often the case in
life, our chances depend on the luck
of the draw!

We are fortunate to have the
Gender Equality Officer from
Mozambique, Unaiti Jaime, with us.
She will be giving a short illustrated

talk covering such issues as climate change and emergency response.
There will be a quiz, a Traidcraft stall and music by Romance Waddington.
Tickets: £8 available from Bakewell Bookshop, committee members or ring
01629 813087



Grand 2009 Christmas Fair

Wed 7th and Thurs 8th October

The Maynard Arms, Grindelford
reg. charity no. 1124775

Wednesday 7th October 6pm - 9pm - Reception & Preview

To be opened by her Grace, the Dowager Duchess of Devonshire
Tickets £10 (*in advance only*). The price includes wine & canapés and free entrance to
the Sale on Thursday. *Tickets (numbers limited) ring Mrs N Kenning 01629 583 897*

Thursday 8th October 10am - 4 pm - Entrance £5 at the door

A two-course lunch (£12.50) at the Maynard can be booked ahead (*numbers limited*)
NB Not all stallholders can accept credit cards, so please bring cash or cheques.

Bishop Hilary's schools' rebuilding project in Yei, S. Sudan

May I use this opportunity to thank the Christians of St Peter's for their contribution made from the 29th May 2009 event which led to the raising of the fund towards the IKG school here in Yei.

Special thanks to Matthew Parris who spoke at the occasion. Please convey our gratitude to him. It is very hard to find words fitting enough to express our profound gratitude for all the generosity and kindness shown to us by the congregation of St Peter's. The assistance extended to us has made a huge difference in providing a long-term solution to the most challenging experience-- education for the younger generation of Sudanese born at the end of the war.

Progress has been made as we are soon going to have a beautiful school that is well equipped with facilities, which will enable a conducive atmosphere of learning and guidance for the kids. The school will accommodate 120 children among them our own first grand son, David who turned 4 in March this year.

Immanuel Kindergarten School is being planned to be a very good school and perhaps a unique facility in Yei where pre-primary schools are all thatch and mud with dusty floors with no learning aids for the kids.

The need for more funds to complete the IKG school is still required. The completion of the building is more urgent than we had thought. This is because the project has moved very slowly due to the shortage of funds, which keep trickling in, in small amounts. But we have made it, given the fact that the project is big and due to inflated cost of building materials in Uganda, the cost of the building keeps changing. We have had to do it slowly. So we still have a long way to bring the project to completion. Funds are still needed for furniture, a kitchen, a fence around the school etc. However, it is good that most of the work has been accomplished through the generosity of a few friends, among whom is Carolyn Murray who single handed started the project. Then came in other friends in England such as Pauline, Michael and Peter whose work and support has made such a difference that without them we would have been greatly stranded. We pray and commit them all to the Holy Spirit.

Since the end of the war in January 2005, Yei town has witnessed tremendous transformation from a small village town to be one of the fast growing towns in Southern Sudan.

Endowed with pleasant weather, lush green vegetation around, Yei is a much-loved town by many people who would like to take off a weekend in it. Its growing number of restaurants, lodges and hotels offer some good public eating

places. In them one is likely to find some appetising menus. Nightlife in Yei is reckoned to be on the increase since peace returned to the country.

The only threat has always been from the Lords Resistance Army (LRA) of Uganda who relocated to the forests of north western DR of Congo, posing a potential threat to the people of Yei County.

The installation of electricity, which is on from 7am in the morning till midnight, has added to the list of good things happening. Juba has no constant electricity and they do ration their own.

Yei has relative peace compared to the rest of Southern Sudan. Life here is good and this follows the fact that the (Kakwa) people of Yei are culturally peaceful. We do not keep a lot of cattle, which are the source of rustling among the pastoral tribes of the Sudan, causing the deaths of hundreds of innocent women and children. Because of this, many people praise Yei for its good life and peace. A big number of people from other parts of Sudan are seeking for land to settle in Yei and those with money are acquiring it.

Yei has many schools both primary and secondary. A few colleges are coming up and there is a university being developed by one progressive individual. Because of this attractive atmosphere, many NGOs have established themselves there. Apart from criminal behaviour of some stray away ex- soldiers and unemployed youth, Yei offers good life and many promises for transformation to a city in the next few years, given its rapid development initiatives. Only we are weary about the future of our country. Pray for us that another war does not occur.

Thank you, Blessing and grace,
+Hilary
Yei, South Sudan

Why gossip is good for women

Having that natter with your girlfriend has always FELT good, but now scientists have discovered that it really IS good for you. It seems that when women get together to compare notes about life, it boosts their levels of progesterone, a hormone, which reduces their levels of anxiety and stress.

Progesterone plays an important part in social bonding, and makes women more willing to help people in trouble. "Many of the hormones involved in bonding and helping behaviour lead to reductions in stress and anxiety," says Prof Stephanie Brown of the University of Michigan. Progesterone is produced by the ovaries and at higher levels it increases a woman's desire to bond with others. This recent research, published in the journal *Hormones and Behaviour*, is the first to show that gossiping and chatting can stimulate its production.

ONLY THE BEGINNING By Bishop Graham Cray

It is my privilege to succeed Bishop Steven Croft as the leader of the Fresh Expressions Team.

We exist to enable dioceses and districts to plant fresh expressions of church. We offer training, resources, support and connection with other practitioners. We are available to help, but the work of mission can only be done locally.

When I was introduced at the Methodist Conference the President prayed for the Fresh Expressions Team, but then promptly reminded conference that the work of planting fresh expressions is the work of the whole church.

As the Church of England we understand ourselves as the church of the nation. Our parish system was established to ensure that the good news of Jesus could be embodied in every community; heard and experienced in each place and each generation.

This cannot be achieved by simply repeating what we have always (or at least as long as we can remember) said and done. Every bishop, priest and deacon has publicly committed themselves to 'the faith uniquely revealed in the Holy Scriptures' and to proclaiming it 'afresh' in this generation. Today this involves establishing fresh communities of faith as well as sharing the good news in culturally appropriate ways through our existing ones. Communities are more complex and diverse and

one shape of church can no longer fit all.

This is partly achieved by good ecumenical relationships. We can support the efforts of other denominations to reach people we cannot. But the large numbers of people who 'used' to go to church come from all denominations. The same challenge faces us all, which is why the Fresh Expressions team has been ecumenical from the beginning.

If we include children and young people, it is now the majority of the population who have had no regular involvement with the Christian church.

It is becoming clear that many of these people for whom Christ died are unlikely to be drawn to our existing churches, however spiritually alive, hospitable and attractive they are. Many can be – so our existing churches have plenty to do – but many will not. As well as making our existing church properly attractive and Christlike, we need to follow the example of Christ's incarnation, by entering the networks and neighbourhoods, of those who have little or no contact with the church, serving them, planting new congregations among them and seeking the transformation which only the kingdom of God can bring among them.

As a national team we exist to help you in this task.

+Graham Cray

Too much News, too fast

The modern media presents news and events at such a fast pace that there is no time for people to respond with appropriate compassion or admiration, and over time they become indifferent to human suffering. Twitter and Facebook and 24 hour news channels could thus pose a threat to moral values.

These are the conclusions of scientists at the University of Southern California, who presented their research in a recent issue of an academic science magazine.

The scientists found that emotions linked to a moral sense were slow to respond to news and events, and had failed to keep up with the pace of the modern world. It takes time to

reflect and respond to a story of suffering, but by then the media are on to the next story...

The scientists warn that the problem could become widespread. Activities such as reading books and meeting friends for in-depth discussions, where people can define their moral values, is being taken over by news snippets and fast-moving social networking.

A leading sociology expert, Manuel Castells of USC, said he was most concerned about the implications for fast-moving TV or virtual games. "In a media culture in which violence and suffering becomes an endless show, indifference to the vision of human suffering gradually sets in."

The God-slot without God

The BBC may soon be offering a secular 'Thought for the Day' on Radio 4 in the morning. The BBC Trust is reviewing the slot, and has said a decision will be made later this year.

In recent years secular groups have claimed that the 'God-slot' (as it is sometimes known) has discriminated against non-believers. The slot is currently supplied with 'thoughts' from a range of Christian churches, as well as representation from the Muslim, Jewish, Hindu and occasionally, Jain communities. Now it may be that secularists and humanists will be included.

A tip for your garden next year

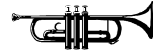
It's probably too late for this year, but if you want your plants to grow tall, encourage the women in your family have a chat with them.



Recent research by the Royal Horticultural Society has discovered that when a woman talks to a tomato plant, it will grow up to two inches taller than if a man talks to it. In some cases, a man's voice can even make the tomato plant so upset that it grows less than if everyone in the family just ignored it.

No one is quite sure why a tomato plant likes a woman's voice. One expert at RHS Wisley in Surrey says: "It could be that they have a greater range of pitch and tone that affects the sound waves that hit the plant. Sound waves are an environmental effect just like rain or light."

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



The Rev Michael Burgess continues his series looking at great works of music.

I get up early, and as soon as I have dressed, I go down on my knees and pray to God and the Blessed Virgin that I may have another successful day. Then when I've had some breakfast, I sit down at the clavier and begin my search. If I hit on an idea quickly, it goes ahead easily and without much trouble. But if I can't go on, I know that I must have forfeited God's grace by some fault of mine, and then I pray once more for grace until I feel I'm forgiven.'

Those words of the composer, Joseph Haydn, describe his daily routine of composition. The ideas must, in fact, have flowed in abundance for he composed an enormous amount of music: 104 symphonies, over 60 string quartets, over 60 piano sonatas, oratorios, 20 operas and 14 masses, and a host of other compositions besides.

Joseph Haydn was born in 1732, the son of a wheelwright in Rohrau, in eastern Austria, near the border with Hungary. From an early age he displayed a talent for music, and when he was eight years old, he became a chorister at St Stephen's Cathedral in Vienna. The regime there did not stifle his playful, adventurous spirit: on one occasion the empress Maria Theresa caught him climbing scaffolding, and in 1749 he was dismissed from the choir for cutting off a fellow-chorister's pigtail. Obligated to fend for himself, he eventually

became Kapellmeister at the Esterhazy court. He was there for 24 years, 'cut off from the world' as he expressed it. Travelling to London in 1791 was a revelation for Haydn as he was feted as a renowned composer and a celebrity. In 1795 he returned to his homeland, where he was to die in 1809.

In this 200th anniversary year of his death, we give thanks for the incredible creative output of those years, written, as he expressed it in a letter to music lovers in Bergen, to provide 'a spring of rest and refreshment' to those pursued by sorrow and anxiety. 'That was a powerful motive for pressing onward.' What characterises much of Haydn's music, along with the clarity and lucidity of the lines, is its energy and zest and the abundance of jokes and surprises.

When we read of the ministry of Jesus in the Gospels, we often find him relishing jokes (the camel going through the eye of the needle, for instance) and the sparring banter that we can sense in many of his encounters. That sense of humour and the delight in dialogue abound in Haydn's works. It is there in the Joke String Quartet, where we are never quite sure if it has ended, and the Surprise Symphony, which wakes us up in the Andante, should we have nodded off, as it is there in many of his works. Look at the playful ending

of the Farewell Symphony, and the stops and starts of several of the piano sonatas. They all witness to 'a fellow of infinite jest.'

I think Haydn had that sense of fun and playfulness because he realised that his life, like all lives, was lived sub specie aeternitatis (under the perspective of eternity). Next month we shall look at his religious music, but here we realise that this sense of the majesty and glory of God gave perspective to his own life, for all the brilliance of his particular gifts. He delighted in humour and jokes because he knew humour always helped humanity keep a sense of proportion. It is related to humus, the

soil, and to humility. Humour keeps our feet firmly on the ground, rejoicing in life and creation, but preventing us from becoming too high and mighty. That is the playfulness of Haydn's music, which breaks down our defences and pretensions.

As we listen, we rejoice in the energy and joy of his compositions, written under the over-arching perspective of divine providence. There is a story that George III said to the composer, 'Dr Haydn, you have written a great deal.' The composer modestly replied, 'Yes, Sire, a great deal more than is good.' The king rejoined, 'Oh, no, the world contradicts that,' and we, 200 years later, would agree.

Beware wheatbag bed-warmers

As the cooler evenings approach, be careful that you don't over-microwave a wheatbag bed-warmer. One family who bought one for their 82-year-old granny was horrified when she over-microwaved it, and set the bed on fire.

SODUKO

Solution to August puzzle

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

September Puzzle

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

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Where now?

A teacher was finishing up a lesson on the joys of discovery and the importance of curiosity. "Where would we be today," she asked, "if no one had ever been curious?"

One child quietly spoke up from the back of the room. "In the garden of Eden?"

SERVICES & ROTAS FOR September 2009

St. Anne's, Beeley

6 Sept 9.30am Holy Communion
 13 Sept 9.30am Holy Communion
 20 Sept 9.30am Holy Communion
 27 Sept 9.30am Holy Communion
 4 Oct 9.30am Holy Communion

6pm Evensong

Flowers

Mrs M Fearn
 Mrs Mather
 " "
 Mrs Homer
 " "

St. Peter's, Edensor

6 Sept 10.30am Holy Communion
 13 Sept 10.30am Holy Communion
 20 Sept 10.30am Matins
 27 Sept 10.30am Holy Communion
 4 Oct 10.30am Harvest Thanksgiving

Sidesmen

Mr & Mrs Machin
 Mr & Mrs Wardle
 R S Sherwood/Diana Walters
 R A Gray/John Bowns
 Mrs Thomas/S Liddicot

Coffee

Cleaning

Flowers

6 Sept	Mrs Cooper/Mrs Clarke	-----	Vilna Kembery
13 Sept	Pat Bosett	Mr & Mrs Wardle	" "wedding
20 Sept	Mrs Mather	-----	Blessing of Wedding
27 Sept	Mr & Mrs Sherwood	Mrs Bateman/Mrs Robinson	??????
4 Oct	No coffee – auction of produce-----		Harvest Flowers

Help needed to decorate the church for the Harvest Festival – Saturday 3rd from 10am.



Readings

		<u>St. Peter's</u>	<u>St. Anne's & Sunday School</u>	
6 Sept	James 2. 1-10 & 14-17 Mark 7. 24-37	David Jackson	Lynda Sarah	Fiona
13 Sept	James 3. 1-12 Mark 8. 27-38	John Bowns	Fiona Judith	Sarah
20 Sept	James 3. 13-4.3, 7-8a Mark 9. 30-37	Roger Wardle	Sarah Fiona	Lynda
27 Sept	James 5. 13-20 Mark 9. 38-50	Molly Marshall	Lynda Di	Fiona
4 Oct	Genesis 2. 18-24 Mark 10. 2-16	Doreen Gaynor		

'The Bridge' Parish Magazine –60p per copy (£7.20 per year) **Items for inclusion in the October magazine should reach me by Monday 14th September**
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The hand that rocks the cradle usually is attached to someone who isn't getting enough sleep.