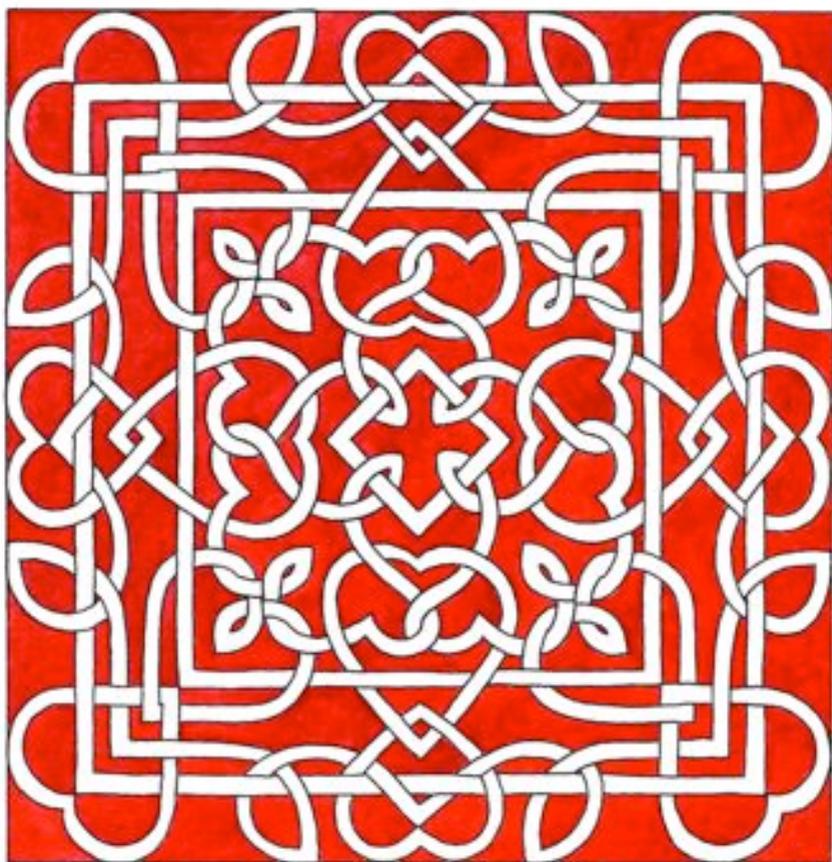




February  
2013



St. Peter's Church, Edensor, Bakewell,  
Derbyshire DE45 1PH  
(Church website - [www.stpetersedensor.org](http://www.stpetersedensor.org))

February 2013

*'Let there be Light'*

The Christmas decorations have been taken down and packed away for another year and Christmas trees put out for recycling. The debate about when they are taken down, 12<sup>th</sup> Night - the 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> January, seems to be as much to do with family tradition as anything else.

In the church, Christmas lasts longer than this. In fact, until Candlemas, 2<sup>nd</sup> February. Traditionally this was when the year's supply of candles for the church was blessed. After the short daylight hours of the last few months it is good to see the light beginning to grow a little more each day.

A small glimmer of light or hope in our hearts and lives is just that - small, but imagine that small speck of light and hope magnified around our own congregation, our own parishes and Diocese and then imagine that light and hope magnified around the whole world - what a bonfire of hope could be lit then.

A few bare twigs which had formed part of a Christmas arrangement with holly, ivy and other greenery were saved from the compost bin as they had miraculously come into bud, hazel twigs suddenly sporting catkins and dogwood with fresh green buds bursting into leaf - another sign of hope and light in these dark days.

Many of us over this Christmas period will have heard the wonderful words from St. John's Gospel (Ch.1 vs 1-14):

*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God,  
and the Word was God.*

*The same was in the beginning with God.*

*All things were made by him; and without him was not  
any thing made that was made.*

*In him was life; and the life was the light of men.*

*And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness  
comprehended it not.*

*There was a man sent from God, whose name was John.*

*The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light,  
that all men through him might believe.  
He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light.  
That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh  
into the world.  
He was in the world, and the world was made by him,  
and the world knew him not.  
He came unto his own, and his own received him not.  
But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become  
the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:  
Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of  
the will of man, but of God.  
And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us,  
(and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the  
Father,) full of grace and truth.*

Getting back to Candlemas, the Presentation of Jesus at the Temple, which falls on 2 February, celebrates an early episode in the life of Jesus. St. Luke tells of Mary and Joseph taking the baby Jesus to the Temple in Jerusalem, forty days after his birth, to complete Mary's purification, sacrificing a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons. Here they encountered Simeon, a devout man, and the Gospel records that Simeon had been promised that "he should not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ." Simeon prayed the prayer that would become known as the *Nunc Dimittis*, or Canticle of Simeon, which prophesied the redemption of the world by Jesus:

*Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace;  
according to Thy word: for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,  
which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people:  
to be a light to lighten the gentiles and to be the glory of  
Thy people Israel (Luke 2:29-32).*

In this New Year, when there is so much hardship in the lives of those around us and strife and pain in the world generally, let us all be a witness of that Light.

May God's blessing be on us all.

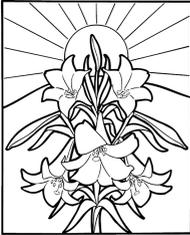
A Churchwarden

FROM THE REGISTERS

ST. PETER'S, EDENSOR

Interment of Ashes - 17 November 2012

Philip Roose



EASTER LILIES AT ST. PETER'S

*Once again we shall be having Easter Lilies in Church. Members of the congregation, and anyone else, are invited to 'buy' a lily by donating £4 (or more) per lily and to complete a card in memory of a loved one. The cards will then be displayed in Church over the Easter period.*

*Cards need to be filled in and returned by Palm Sunday - March 24<sup>th</sup>*

*For more information or to order a lily contact:*

*Liz Bradshaw 01246 582421 or Mrs Penrose 01246 583197*



EASTER LILIES AT ST. ANNE'S

If you would like to make a donation towards Easter Lilies for St. Anne's contact Pauline Mather or Gladys Hopkins

Telephone Numbers

St. Anne's	Wardens:-	Rupert Turner	01629 732794
		Fiona Swain	<i>ex directory</i>
	Treasurer:-	Gloria Sherwood	01629 732983
<u>St. Peter's</u>	Wardens:-	Elizabeth Bradshaw	01246 582421
		David Jackson	01246 583452
	Treasurer:-	Mark Titterton	01246 582245
		e-mail: <a href="mailto:mtitterton@btinternet.com">mtitterton@btinternet.com</a>	
	Lay Reader:-	Vernon Mather M.B.E.	01629 732317

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - FEBRUARY

- 12 BEELEY WI Monthly Meeting - 7.30pm Beeley Village Hall  
"Eating Well" Practical advice for all ages on how to stay in tip top health - Helena Oadby  
*Tea & Raffle - Sheila*
- 20 CHATSWORTH WI Monthly Meeting - 7pm Edensor Tea Cottage  
Speaker: Ann Pocklington- Yellowstone Park  
Competition: Something relating to USA  
Tea & Parcel: Mrs Sutton & Mrs Oliver  
Vote of Thanks: Mrs Brewer
- 25 Beeley Parish Council Meeting - 7.30pm Village Hall  
*Everyone invited*

### **Early Notice**

- Mar 4 Bakewell Oxfam Supporter Group - Grand Jumble Sale  
9.30-12noon Bakewell Town Hall. Admission 30p
- Mar 23 *Wedding - St. Peter's*  
Christopher James O'Donnell & Louise Kate Anderton



Don't forget the  
pancakes on Shrove  
Tuesday - 12<sup>th</sup> February!

## **HELP WANTED!**

St. Peter's PCC has formed a 'Fundraising Committee' to gather ideas for fundraising events throughout the year. We've come up with quite a few good ideas of our own but decided we'd like to ask YOU if you have any tried and tested ideas or brand new ideas to help us raise much needed funds for our church. They don't have to be for grand events, small and simple things can keep those pennies coming in - like the 'SPICE' Jars idea Tony Gray came up with.

If you have an idea you've been wanting to try out or had that 'EUREKA' moment in the bath then let us know.

Contact: Liz Bradshaw; Margaret Nelson; Michael Pindar; Christine Robinson or Mark Titterton with your ideas, and thank you - I'm sure we can rely on your inventiveness.

REMINDER

**'The Bridge'  
Magazine Subscription**

Your magazine subscription for 2013 is now due - £7.20, please give the money to the person who delivers your magazine. If I post the magazine to you please include a book of 12 stamps with your subscription.

**Cheques should be made payable to Edensor P.C.C.**

**St. Peter's Church 100 Club  
December Draw 2012**

1st Prize £30 - no. 34 Marjorie Bateman

2nd Prize £20 - no. 24 Daphne Feeny

Funds to church this month - £50

Subscriptions for 2013 are now due at £12 per number held. Please make out cheques to:-

St. Peter's Church 100 Club.

Thank you for your continued support.  
Ann Hall

**'SPICE' Sunday**

'SPICE' Sunday on  
13<sup>th</sup> January raised  
£79.15 for the  
Restoration Fund.

Thank you to everyone  
for their generosity in  
saving 5pence pieces for  
St. Peter's. The amount  
of 5pence pieces raised  
during 2012 was £221

**Carol Singing - 2012**

An enjoyable, if wet, couple of hours on Monday 17 December was spent Carol Singing around Edensor. The evening began with mince pies and mulled wine in The Tea Cottage before the carollers walked round the village armed with carol sheets, torches and the very necessary umbrellas. A turnout of over 40 people, with some excellent singers, meant we began the run-up to Christmas in very good voice and raised £118.85.

*PS The Carol Sheets took about 2 days to dry out!*

**2012 Poppy Appeal - St. Peter's Church**

A donation of £120 was given to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal for 2012, some of which came from the collection taken at the Remembrance Day Service at St. Peter's.

This Sonnet was written by Rev. Canon Trevor Hicks, on the retirement as Vicar of St. Peter's of his friend and colleague Ven. David Garnett

Sonnet for Advent Morning 2012  
For David Garnett

We pray for grace: each word an ancient chime,  
To ring a new year in these darkest days;  
One candle lit defies the winter rime,  
"Emmanuel" the focus of our praise.  
Such sounds, as timeless as the truth they weave,  
Draw clouded figures in the softened air;  
They open doors of thanks through which to leave  
Rich memories of service rendered here.  
But still, within this hour of sad regret  
A hopeful light draws back the shadowed pall;  
For love when shared with faith, is precious yet,  
Immortal in the heart that welcomes all.  
For then and now and after, as we pray,  
Farewell and welcome join, this Advent Day.

THE BAKEWELL OXFAM SUPPORTERS GROUP

*Invite you to*

A GRAND JUMBLE SALE

On Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March from 9.30am - 12noon

In Bakewell Town Hall

Clothes, Bric-a-Brac, Toys, Home Produce, Jewellery\*,  
Books and a Tombola Stall.

*Refreshments available*

*Entrance 30p*

\*If you have any jewellery you would like to donate, please ring  
01629 733545

Susie at the Chatsworth Gym has received a letter of thanks from WISH North. You may remember that the Gym and the church congregation supported this cause by collecting various items of tinned/packet goods and personal items. Here is the letter, dated 4th January 2013:

WISH North  
PO Box 158  
Derbyshire  
SK13 9AX

*Dear Susie and all at Chatsworth,*

*I would like to begin by wishing you and everyone at Chatsworth a very Happy New Year. On behalf of everyone here at Derbyshire WISH North I want to thank you and all the members of the Gymnasium and Church congregation for the items you so generously donated.*

*Our service provides support throughout the High Peak and Derbyshire Dales to individuals and families who are or have experienced domestic abuse. The items you so generously donated were greatly appreciated and receiving these items helped to make the Christmas period easier for people we support.*

*Domestic abuse has a devastating effect on the lives of the adults and children who experience it, the kindness you have shown has meant a lot to those we support and has provided not only the practical support, but also demonstrated that they are not alone and there are people, such as yourselves, who care.*

*We like to make people aware of who has donated items to us and your organisation will be included in our list.*

*Once again, thank you sincerely for your kindness.*

*Kindest Regards*

*Janet Goodinson  
Project Manager*

60 years ago:

- on 5<sup>th</sup> Feb 1953 sweet rationing ended in Britain
- on 28<sup>th</sup> Feb 1953 British scientists Francis Crick and James D Watson announced that they had discovered the double-helix structure of DNA

**Baslow Health Centre –  
Church Lane, Baslow New**

Patients Welcome

[www.baslowhealthcentre.co.uk](http://www.baslowhealthcentre.co.uk)

**Telephone Numbers:**

Reception: 01246 582216  
District Nursing Team: 01246 584903  
Surgery Fax: 01246 583867  
Health Visitor: 01246 583270  
Dispensary: 01246 582366

(The Dispensary line is open  
12noon – 1.00pm & 2.00pm – 3.00pm)

**Normal Surgery Opening Times**

Monday 7.30am - 7.30pm  
Tuesday - Friday 8am to 6.30 pm  
(Closed Bank Holidays)

***Please note the above times as  
we receive a lot of phone calls,  
just asking what time we are  
open to!***

**New Surgery:** The Practice has continued to work with the developers on the final design for the new building. However, the out going Partner and the Practice are in dispute over the sale and use of the existing building, which has led to us being forced to take this matter to arbitration. This period of arbitration is likely to take 2 to 3 months before we start to receive a response, but may take even longer. This is very frustrating as it means nothing else can happen with regard to the new build until this is completed.

**Failure to Attend**

**Appointments:** The Practice is experiencing an increase in patients

booking appointments and failing to attend. Please ensure that you cancel your appointment if you don't need it and allow others to see the doctor!

**Surgery Closure** – The next half day closures for training will be Wednesday afternoon 13th February & 13th March.

**Check our Website:** Booking appointments and ordering your repeat prescriptions on-line. You can only access this facility from our webpage. You now need to put \_902 at the end of your log-in ID. *Example: 1234\_902* then your usual password.

**Ordering Repeat Medication**

All requests for repeat prescriptions must be:-

- In writing or with 'EMIS Access'
- Return form to surgery by Post/Fax/Box on Dispensary Reception
- Allow two working days before collection
- ! To ease the parking congestion, please collect your prescription between 12:00 – 4:00

**Samples** – if you need to leave a sample with us please ensure it is labelled with your name and date of birth and in the sealed bag.

**Test Results-** As we do not receive test results from hospital until lunchtimes, please ring for these after 2pm.

**Urgent Calls: -**

**01246 582216 or 111**

## **House of Bishops takes action on women bishops**

What about women bishops in the Church of England? The issue has not gone away. Following the vote against them in General Synod last November, the House of Bishops met to consider the implications, and to discuss the best way forward.

First, the House of Bishops expressed its ongoing gratitude and appreciation for the ministry of ordained women in the Church of England, and its sadness that recent events should have left so many feeling undermined and undervalued. Effective response to this situation is a priority on which all are strongly agreed.

The House went on to acknowledge the profound and widespread sense of anger, grief, and disappointment felt by so many in the Church of England and beyond, and agreed that the present situation was unsustainable for all, whatever their convictions. It expressed its continuing commitment to enabling women to be consecrated as bishops, and intends to have fresh proposals to put before the General Synod at its next meeting in July.

The House is also organizing an event early in 2013 at which it will share with a larger number of lay and ordained women - in the context of prayer and reflection - questions about the culture of the House's processes and discussions, and how women might more regularly contribute.

In order to avoid delay in preparing new legislative proposals, the House has set up a working group drawn from all three houses of Synod. This group will arrange facilitated discussions with a wide range of people of a variety of views in the week of 4<sup>th</sup> February, when General Synod was to have met.

The House will have an additional meeting in February immediately after these discussions, and expects to settle at its May meeting the elements of a new legislative package to come to Synod in July.

For any such proposals to command assent, the House believes that they will need (i) greater simplicity, (ii) a clear embodiment of the principle articulated by the 1998 Lambeth Conference "that those who dissent from as well as those who assent to, the ordination of women to the priesthood and episcopate are both loyal Anglicans", (iii) a broadly-based measure of agreement about the shape of the legislation in advance of the beginning of the actual legislative process. These concerns will be the focus of the working group in the months ahead.

The House endorsed the view of the Archbishops' Council that the "Church of England now has to resolve this issue through its own processes as a matter of great urgency".

## **Remembering Rosa Parks and the start of the Civil Rights movement**

*Paul Hardingham*

On 1<sup>st</sup> December 1955 in Montgomery, Alabama, a woman finished work and started her journey home. She caught a bus, paid her fare and found a seat. As more people got on the bus, it started to get crowded. The driver demanded that four black people give up their seats, so that the white passengers could sit down. One woman refused to give up a seat and was arrested. She later said, *'I only knew that, as I was being arrested, that it was the very last time that I would ever ride in humiliation of this kind.'*

The woman's name was Rosa Parks, who was born 100 years ago this month, on 4th Feb 1913. At 42 years old, Rosa Parks refused to move to the back of the bus, simply because she was black and the person wanting to sit down was white. This small act ignited the Civil Rights movement in the United States, which led to the end of the institutionalised segregation in the South.

Science talks about chaos theory, commonly referred to as the *'butterfly effect'*. It is said that when a butterfly flaps its wings in Africa, the wind generated ends up creating a

hurricane in the Atlantic and destruction on the other side of the world. Small events can indeed cause big changes in the world! It was only a seat on the bus, but Rosa's refusal to move started the Civil Rights movement.

The God whom we worship is one who specialises in taking small things and turning them into something big! A baby in a basket floating down a river became a leader who led his people out of slavery. A young shepherd placed a rock in a sling and slayed a giant. A quiet and talented girl named Esther bravely saved her race. Fishermen doing their jobs heard the call of a Rabbi and transformed the world. Six jars of ordinary water became an abundance of fine wine at a wedding.

All of this reminds us that no act is too insignificant for God to use and demonstrate his glory. Are we open to those moments which God can use to create change in our world and the lives of those we meet? Will we help that person on the side of the street or open our mouths when we feel God stirring our hearts to speak? Like Rosa Parks, are we ready to make a stand? Wherever we are?

*Canon David Winter, a former Head of Religious Broadcasting at the BBC, continues his series presenting a point of view...*

## **This scarily unpredictable life**

In my childhood we called it 'February Fill-dyke', but last year it seemed that every month filled the dykes, and just about everything else. Strange, isn't it, that in a world where many long for water to bring life to parched ground, our little island is virtually submerged in the stuff.

Those who are familiar with the Psalms in the Bible will know how worried the writers were about the 'sun that smites by day'. They saw God as a shield, a kind of parasol guarding his people from the scorching heat of the sun. For them rain was a blessing indeed - the 'early rains' and the 'latter rains' which needed to arrive regularly to ensure the harvest of the fields. Their ideas are echoed in our hymns:

*He sends the snow in winter, the warmth to swell the grain,  
The breezes and the sunshine and soft refreshing rain.*

'Soft and refreshing' are not the words I would use to describe the angry rivers bursting their banks, flooding towns and villages and ruining people's homes. Looking back at the wettest year on record, we might well hanker for those blissful days of hose-pipe bans.

But hey-ho, we're British, and grumbling about the weather is simply

a national pastime. Deep down we know that we're very privileged to live in a part of the world not normally subject to extreme weather of any kind. We see on television the devastating effects of typhoons, tornadoes, storms, blizzards and earthquakes in other lands and feel sympathy for people who live in constant peril of the power of nature. In the end, what are a few inches of rain?

Sometimes we may wonder why life on earth is so scarily unpredictable. Why (people sometimes ask) did a good and loving God make our planet so dangerous to live on? I suspect it is a question with a very complex answer! If, as I do, we believe that the whole universe, in its awesome vastness, is the product of the mind and will of God, who are we - its human inhabitants - to question how he does it? It looks to us like a process of purposeful randomness, from which emerges the world as we know it. And, let's face it, it's the only one we've got!

It is only a few weeks since we were celebrating the truth that it was into this scarily unpredictable and often dangerous world that God sent his Son. 'The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us.' Jesus shared the dangers and hazards of human life, both those that are 'natural' (like a storm on the lake) and those that were the product of human sin (like his crucifixion). Perhaps it is only in a world like this that we can really learn to trust the One who walks with us through 'the valley of the shadow of death'.

*The Rev Dr Gary Bowness, a vicar near Macclesfield, considers the aim of Lent...*

## **Life on a spin**

Many years ago, at the Pleasure Beach at Blackpool, there was a certain 'ride' or amusement that was strictly for the physically fit. It consisted of a flat wooden disc about 20 feet in diameter and set at an angle of 45 degrees in the floor. When it began to rotate, the aim was to get to the centre where there was a pole. As the disc rotated faster and faster, everyone who failed to get to the pole got flung off. Nowadays there's probably a European Community regulation banning it as far too dangerous!

The principle of the game was a basic law of physics. When any wheel rotates, the outer rim moves fastest of all. Half way to the centre and you are moving a lot more slowly. And, at least theoretically, at the absolute centre will be a point which is totally still. That's why anyone who reached that pole could stand there quite comfortably.

We have just started the Church's season of Lent. It's generally thought of as being a time for giving up chocolate, wine, whatever. But it's really a time to remind us that in our own rapidly spinning world, God is the still centre.

All around God is motion, sound, change and decay – galaxies circling, seasons and years rotating, life developing and decaying. And at the still centre, where there is no variability, is God, the same yesterday, today and forever.

Only about seven weeks ago Christians worldwide were thinking of God getting involved in a special way in the ever moving and changing life of the world. And one great characteristic of Jesus was his stillness. Busy, harassed, injured people found someone with neither clever chat nor idle gossip, neither vulgar boasting nor loud opinion. His life always seemed to rotate round a still central point, which gave him balance and authority.

"Be still then and know that I am God" wrote the Psalmist. Lent is a time for us to try and get a feel of what that still centre in our own lives may be like. Being still doesn't mean being silent. We're all of us very much in the world and live our lives in all of its busyness. But it may do none of us any harm to be a little more silent than we often are – quick to listen and slow to speak. And the more silent spaces we give ourselves, the more we'll give that still, small voice within each one of us the chance to be heard.

Of course, being still doesn't mean that we should become passive

spectators, doing nothing. God's stillness is full of energy. That still centre of the spinning disc is also the point which drives the rest of the rotating circle. Equally, when we're in touch with that still centre, we'll be able to give strength and support to those who feel they're spinning at the edges.

Being still does mean that we need to take time to pause, to take stock,

to take a critical look at our lives. That's what Lent is about. On the spinning discs of our own lives, we need to remember that there is a still centre, calm and yet full of energy – which is where God is.



### **Give a bird a home**

National Nest Box Week 14 - 21 February

*With the weather all out of kilter, the birds probably need all the help they can get to start families this Spring.*

Here is an excellent chance for you to encourage birds in your garden to come home to roost. Literally. Organised by the British Trust for Ornithology ([www.bto.org](http://www.bto.org)), National Nest Box Week aims to encourage people to protect the bird life we still have in the UK.

National Nest Box Week started in 1997. As more trees have been cut down in recent decades, birds have lost their natural homes, and can struggle to raise a family. Putting up a nest box is a great way of helping them. Response has been so positive that nowadays there are between five and six million boxes across the UK.

Don't worry if you've never put up a bird box before. Visit the website to find lots of tips on how to get started, as well as information on how to build/buy the box, and what to do then. Different types of boxes attract different types of birds. Small holes in nest boxes will attract blue tits, great tits, nuthatches and house sparrows. Large boxes with holes will attract starlings, greater spotted woodpeckers and even little owls. An open fronted box will attract robins and pied wagtails. Very big boxes attract, amongst others, kestrels, jackdaws and tawny owls.



## GOD IN THE ARTS

*The Rev Michael Burgess begins a new way of looking at the sacred in art...*

**'HE GAVE US EYES TO SEE THEM':  
'MY FIRST SERMON',  
by John Everett Millais**

There is a story of two men talking about their new vicar. One says to the other, 'This new one's not a patch on the old vicar. With the old one preaching I was asleep in five minutes. With the new one it takes all of ten.' Some churches in times past employed 'sluggard-walkers' who had long rods and walked down the aisles, ready to wake up the faithful if they had nodded off during the sermon. What would they have done with the man who dreamt he was preaching at St Paul's, woke up and found he was?

Sluggard-walkers are not needed for this month's painting, 'My First Sermon' by John Everett Millais. It hangs in the Guildhall Art Gallery in London, which houses the art collection of our capital city. The Gallery is built on the site of an amphitheatre and was only completed in 1999, having replaced a building that was destroyed in the blitz of 1941. It has over 4000 works, many of them from the Victorian and Pre-Raphaelite period. Among them is this painting by Millais which depicts Effie, his 5 year old daughter sitting in Kingston

Church. She is dressed properly and sensibly for the occasion with feathered hat, muff and a cloak of vivid red. Her mother's prayer book and gloves are by her side. Effie is listening with great concentration.

When the painting was exhibited in 1863, it was a great success. In the following year Millais produced 'My Second Sermon' – a very different occasion, for Effie has now fallen asleep with her hat by her side. Millais was often criticised for his sentimental portraits of children as in 'Cherry Ripe' and 'Bubbles.' But in 1864 the Archbishop of Canterbury, Charles Longley, praised this second painting for reminding us of 'the evil of lengthy sermons and drowsy discourses.'

As we look at Effie alert one Sunday, asleep the next, we can smile. But we might also ask how we respond to the Word that comes to us through the medium of words in the weekly sermon. The preacher has the daunting task of using this everyday coinage of words to draw us into that mysterious, life-giving realm of the Word, Jesus. The words spoken must make a straight path for the Lord to reach each human heart.

The two paintings of Millais depict the reality and fragility of this endeavour. Sometimes our

attention is engaged and we are alert; at others, drowsiness closes our eyes and even our hearts to the good news of salvation. On occasions the sermon hits the mark and sows seeds, which can bear fruit. At other times, all kinds of factors mitigate against the sermon's success. Let us pray that as listener or as preacher, we may be aware of the dynamic power of

the Word, which, as Karl Rahner wrote, calls us 'out of the little house of our homely, close-hugged truths into the strangeness of the mystery of God that is our real home.'

*You can view the image by googling the title of the painting and the artist.*

### **Archbishop – older people 'are still participants in society, not passengers'**

In his final appearance in the House of Lords as Archbishop of Canterbury late last year, Dr Rowan Williams led a debate about the place and contribution of older people in society.

Dr Williams argued that instead of society seeing older people as 'a burden', they should instead be recognised for the enormous amount of work that they do in their communities. "More than half the over-60 population are involved in some sort of formal and structured voluntary work... a majority of the older population are ready to do what they can, unpaid, to support the fabric of society; they are doing exactly what we expect responsible citizens to do. "

Though older people may well find their physical independence reduced, the Archbishop urged that they should be supported so as to allow them to continue making their valuable contribution to their communities. Dr Williams also stressed the importance of different generations engaging with one another, and said that the Churches and other faith communities have a key role in facilitating this at grass roots level.

"We tolerate a very eccentric view of the good life... as one that can be lived only for a few years between, say, eighteen and forty. The 'extremes' of human life, childhood and age, when we are not defined by our productive capacity.... these are hard for our society to come to terms with."

## GOD IN MUSIC

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

'In sweet music is such art':

### PURCELL'S 'MY BELOVED SPAKE'

February is traditionally the month of love and romance because of St Valentine's Day. Why a 3<sup>rd</sup> century Roman martyr should be linked to the outpouring of the human heart is veiled in the mists of time. There was a tradition that 14<sup>th</sup> February is the day when birds are supposed to mate, and by the late Middle Ages a belief had grown up that St Valentine performed clandestine marriages during the persecution of Christians. His patronage had been transferred from the world of nature to the arena of human courtship. And if there is a musical work appropriate to his day, it is the anthem composed by a teenage Henry Purcell, 'My beloved spake.'

Each month we shall explore the link between the calendar of saints and musical compositions. Although any official commemoration of St Valentine was removed from the Roman Catholic calendar in 1969, his name still remains on the list of saints. We are not sure why Purcell composed his anthem, but it would be nice to imagine that as an 18 year old 'composer to the king's band', he was using his

considerable gifts to praise the reality of love that can make the world go round.

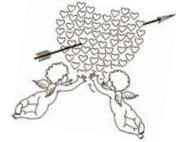
The words Purcell set are from the Song of Songs, a short book of eight chapters which is tucked in between Ecclesiastes and Isaiah, and a great contrast to them both. The book is perhaps a celebration of a wedding, like John Donne's poem in praise of the marriage of Lady Elizabeth and Count Palatine on St Valentine's Day. Or is it more simply a set of love poems? The early Church Fathers were never quite sure how to react to such obvious sensuality and erotic power in the Old Testament: they preferred to see the Song of Songs as an allegory of Christ and the human soul.

For Henry Purcell music is the food of love and the expression of love in all its energy and ecstasy. The anthem is dramatic, vivid and full of life from the opening symphony to the final alleluias. We hear how the lovers meet in springtime. The winter has gone, the flowers are appearing and the birds are singing. Fruitfulness and growth are all around. Purcell captures that mood as he mixes the current style of anthem writing with the Italian singing tradition. When we hear the voice of the turtle dove, there is a key change that is both sensuous and enthralling. The tenor then

sings with a solo violin of the figs and vines putting forth fruit, and the two weave around each other like the tendrils on the vine.

Did Purcell compose this work as an allegory of the spiritual love between our Lord and his followers? He certainly wrote a vast repertory of anthems and odes and church services. But he also

composed a large amount of music for the stage and the theatre. This work ends with a lively three in the bar setting of 'My beloved is mine, and I am his.' Perhaps Purcell was saying that this is all that matters on St Valentine's Day, or any other day.



### *How a woman can make herself beautiful*

*Some people attribute these wise words to the actress Audrey Hepburn, while others give the writer Sam Levenson the credit.*

For attractive lips, speak words of kindness. For lovely eyes, seek out the good in people. For a slim figure, share your food with the hungry. For beautiful hair, let a child run their fingers through it once a day. For poise, walk with the knowledge that you never walk alone. People, even more than things, have to be restored, renewed...reclaimed, and redeemed; never throw out anyone... As you grow older, you will discover that you have two hands; one for helping yourself, and the other for helping others.

### **When you pray – daily Bible reflections for Lent and Easter on the Lord's Prayer**

*By Joanna Collicutt, BRF, £7.99*

The BRF Lent Book for 2013 is based on the lesser-used version of the Lord's Prayer as found in Luke's Gospel. The author explains: "It arises from my increasing awareness in recent years that the Lord's Prayer contains all that Christians really need to know; it is the very essence of the gospel. It was the practice of the early church to prepare

candidates for baptism during Lent by teaching them the Lord's Prayer and using it as the basis for instruction in the faith, sometimes supported by the creeds. In a society where most could not read or did not have access to a Bible and, before the final canon of the New Testament had even been agreed, where disputes about heresies raged, the Lord's Prayer could be held on to as the gift of Christ himself and a distillation of all that the Church understood him to be."

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

January solution



February Sudoku



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

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## The very first Valentine card - a legend



The Roman Emperor Claudius II needed soldiers. He suspected that marriage made men want to stay at home instead of fighting wars, so he outlawed marriage.

A kind-hearted young priest named Valentine felt sorry for all the couples who wanted to marry, but couldn't. So secretly he married as many couples as he could - until the Emperor found out and condemned him to death. While he was in prison waiting execution, Valentine showed love and compassion to everyone around him, including his jailer. The jailer had a young daughter who was blind, but through Valentine's prayers, she was healed. Just before his death in Rome on 14 February, he wrote her a farewell message signed 'From your Valentine.'

So the very first Valentine card was not between lovers, but between a priest about to die, and a little girl, healed through his prayers.



### British husbands are best

Here's good news for Valentine's Day: British men make some of the best husbands in the world because they are more willing to do housework and help with childcare, recent research suggests.

A study by Oxford University that looked at relationships in 12 developed countries found that Swedish and Norwegian men top the table, with British men running a close third. It seems that Australian men, with their focus on beer and sport, come last.

SERVICES & ROTAS FOR FEBRUARY 2013

<u>ST. ANNE'S, BEELEY</u>			<u>FLOWERS</u>
<b>3</b>	9.30am	Holy Communion	Barbara Hawksworth
<b>10</b>	9.30am	Holy Communion	No Evensong " "
<b>17</b>	9.30am	Holy Communion	Lent - no flowers
<b>24</b>	9.30am	Holy Communion	" "
3 Mar	9.30am	Holy Communion	" "
<u>ST. PETER'S, EDENSOR</u>			<u>SIDESMEN</u>
<b>3</b>	10.45am	Holy Communion	Mr & Mrs Wardle
<b>10</b>	10.45am	Holy Communion	R.S.Sherwood/Diana Walters
<b>13</b>	9.30am	Holy Communion for Ash Wednesday	
<b>17</b>	10.45am	Matins	J.Bowns/M. Pindar
<b>24</b>	10.45am	Holy Communion	Mrs Thomas/helper
3 Mar	10.45am	Holy Communion	Mr & Mrs Gordon
	<u>COFFEE</u>	<u>CLEANING</u>	<u>FLOWERS</u>
<b>3</b>	Mr & Mrs Sherwood	Mr & Mrs Jackson	Margaret Nelson
<b>10</b>	M Douglas/Diana Maskery	Mr & Mrs Grimshaw	" "
<b>17</b>	Mr & Mrs Carter	Mr & Mrs Wardle	Lent - no flowers
<b>24</b>	Clive & Joy Thrower	Mr & Mrs Carter	" "
3Mar	Mrs Cooper/Mrs Clarke	Mrs Bateman/Mrs Robinson	" "
<u>READINGS</u>		<u>ST. PETER'S</u>	<u>ST. ANNE'S &amp; SUNDAY SCHOOL</u>
<b>3</b>	2 Corinthians 11: 19-31 Luke 8: 4-15 Sunday School	Molly Marshall 'Sexagesima'	Sarah Porter  Fiona Swain
<b>10</b>	1 Corinthians 13: 1-end Luke 18: 31-end Sunday School	Christine Robinson 'Quinquagesima'	Fiona Swain  Sarah Porter
<b>17</b>	Genesis 3: 1-6 (St. Peter's) 2 Corinthians 6: 1-10 (St. Anne's) Matthew 4: 1-11	Michael Douglas  Lent 1	Judith Fraser-Martin No Sunday School
<b>24</b>	1 Thessalonians 4: 1-8 Matthew 15: 21-28	Diana Walters Lent 2	Sarah Porter No Sunday School
3Mar	Ephesians 5: 1-14  Luke 11:14-28 Sunday School	Margaret Thomas  Lent 3	Rupert Turner/ Lynda Hinxman-Allegri  Sarah Porter

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Items for the **MARCH** magazine should reach me by **Monday 11 February**  
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