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May 2020

As we continue to celebrate the season of Easter you may still have some chocolate eggs left over. And as we know, for many people, Easter would not be the same without a chocolate egg. But did you know that we nearly missed out on chocolate? When Christopher Columbus brought cocoa beans back from the New World, nobody knew what to do with them. They didn't look very exciting, and so they were discarded as useless.

Some years later, the Spanish explorer, Cortes, tasted chocolate as a drink at the court of Montezuma and managed to acquire the secret recipe. For over a century, Spanish monasteries had a chocolate monopoly, processing cocoa beans as a drink.

Even when the secret leaked out, manufacturing problems had to be overcome before anyone developed chocolate to eat, rather than as a drink. But all the obstacles were cleared in time, because people with names like Cadbury and Rowntree had faith in the product. And so at Easter especially, it is somehow appropriate that those unlikely-looking cocoa beans should have a new life, transformed into something as wonderful as chocolate!

Unlikely as it seemed, those ugly cocoa beans that some wanted to throw away held the secret of chocolate. It took people with faith in its potential to turn it into the global product it is today.

Like the chocolate pioneers who had faith in their unlikely product, Mary Magdalene believed in something more unlikely on that first Easter morning. She believed that her friend had risen from the dead. John tells us in his gospel that she was the first person to discover the empty tomb and the first to meet the risen Lord.

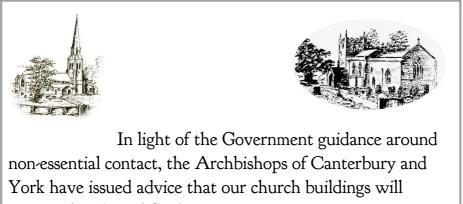
The man executed as a criminal on Good Friday held the secret of eternal life. That too seemed unlikely. That too needed people to have faith. People like Mary Magdalene, like the first disciples, like Christian men and women through the ages – people like us. Thanks to Mary Magdalene the first seeds of the Church were sown. And although there were still many problems to

overcome, the good news eventually spread to all corners of the earth. She was sure of what she had seen and knew how important it was to tell others, however, difficult it might be.

Far more so than the manufacture of chocolate, the Church has always faced huge problems, but will come through them because Easter is more than a chocolate feast. It is the most important festival in the Christian year, when we remember with joy the resurrection of Jesus, who died for the sins of the world and rose to bring us new life.

Our mission is to tell the story of Easter to the people we meet in our lives. Male or female, we may think ourselves unlikely ambassadors of Christ, but we have the example of Mary Magdalene.... and of course, chocolate!

Every Blessing Canon Dave



remain closed until further notice. **Telephone Numbers** St. Anne's Wardens:-**Rupert Turner** 01629 732794 Fiona Swain ex directory Fiona Lichfield Treasurer:-01629 813382 Sarah Portor 01629 732365 th Churchos Safoguarding

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Dates for your Diary - May

18 BEELEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING* - 7.30pm Beeley Village Hall *Dependent on restrictions for the spread of the Coronavirus being lifted, please check beforehand.

Beeley in Bloom Saturday 20th & Sunday 21st June

The 'Beeley in Bloom' weekend event has been cancelled due to the Coronavirus and the uncertainty this is creating.

Heritage Open Days - September 19th & 20th, information to follow. The Ragged Victorians are booked to come.

Look on their website: http://www.raggedvictorians.co.uk/ and facebook pages https://en-gb.facebook.com/Ragged.Victorians/

Pilsley Village Fair & Well Dressing

In light of the Coronavirus and the uncertainty that this is creating, and also taking the lead from other carnivals and fairs, the Pilsley Village Fair Committee have sadly made the decision to cancel this year's Fair and evening entertainment. This also means that there will be no Well Dressing and that the Thursday evening events are also cancelled.

A Message from Pilsley Post Office & Village Shop

In these difficult times, especially with our maturing local residents having to self isolate, I am very happy to deliver any emergency grocery items/essentials to you in Pilsley and Edensor. We can arrange payment over the phone by card.



Let's show that the Pilsley and Edensor community can support each other!

Best wishes Sarah Titterton

Let's Celebrate ~ 150 years of St. Peter's

This year, 2020, celebrates 150 years of the present St. Peter's Church, when the final payments for the work of re-building were made.



DUE TO THE CORONA VIRUS THE FOLLOWING EVENTS HAVE BEEN POSTPONED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

•Friday Ist May 7pm

Jane Collier: 'An audience with Mary, Queen of Scots'.

•Thursday 14 May 2:30pm

Margaret Nelson: 'N'Oasis' - a green approach to flower arranging.'

Friday 5th June 7.30pm

Janet Gough OBE, (Apsidal Heritage.) 'How to pick a favourite church.'

Monday 15th June 2:30pm

Christine Robinson: The history of Ice Cream.

We hope that the event below will still take place as planned. However, we will be following Government and NHS advice.Watch this space for further updates or check on our website: www.stpetersedensor.org

Thursday 17th September 7pm

James Mackay: Acting Animals. A zoologist and former CEO of the UK's National Federation of Zoos, James trains animals for TV and films but how did he get involved in this? What are the 'dos and don'ts? Find out through this lecture and live demonstration. Tickets £12:50

Easy Fundraising

If you already SHOP ONLINE, or if you haven't yet done so, then why not use Easy Fundraisng and help raise money for St. Peter's Church? There is no extra cost to you and a percentage from your purchase will come back to the church.



To Register

•Go to www.easyfundraising.org.uk

Click on Register

•Choose Saint Peter's Church - Chatsworth Park as your charity and fill in the rest of the form

To Shop

•Go to <u>www.easyfundraising.org.uk</u>

•Search for your store in the alphabetical list

•Go ahead and shop

Choose from over 2000 of the UK's best-known retailers including names such as Amazon, M&S, Argos, John Lewis and HMV and when you shop using the links on the easyfundraising site up to 15% from every purchase you make is donated to St. Peter's Church.



A little something that some of our readers - regardless of age - may like to colour in and keep in a prominent place as a reminder during the current lockdown.

-SI

BAKEWELL & ASHFORD FILM SOCIETY

In view of the latest government advice, especially looking at our age profile, we have decided to suspend BASH Film Society for the foreseeable future.

Joy Thrower BASH secretary

St. Anne's, Beeley

TheGivingMachine is a unique registered charity that enables you to generate sales commissions with every online purchase. They convert these commissions into free donations for the schools, charities and other community



organisations you choose. **St Anne's, Beeley** is one of the organisations you can support. The donation is calculated without going via another website so doesn't affect your shopping experience.

Please sign up at <u>https://www.thegivingmachine.co.uk</u>

Pilsley

Pilsley is a special village with a strong community spirit. With the uncertainty of 'the virus' around us, now is the time to use that community. I am sure you are checking your neighbours are ok or asking your neighbour if you need a loo roll, tin of tomatoes or a prescription fetching. However, if you need help, or wish to offer help to others, please let me know via email or ring me.

Baslow Village website has set up a great page of help at <u>https://</u> baslowvillage.com/coronavirus/

Between the villages we can support one another.

Sarah Porter, Pilsley Parish Clerk 01629 732365

Due to the Covid-19 virus, the Annual Sheep Service at St. Peter's, which should have taken place on 3rd May, has been cancelled for this year. To remind you of that very special service here is a picture of two lambs.



St. Peter's Church 100 Club March Draw 2020

Ist prize £30 no. 88 Joe Clark 2nd prize £20 no. 31 Barbara Wild

Funds to church this month - £50

Ann Hall

'SPICE' Sunday

As we aren't able hold public worship or enter our church buildings until further notice, PLEASE can we continue to save our 5pence pieces for when 'SPICE' Sunday resumes? Thank you.

DEFRA guidance for Derbyshire Dales households self-isolating due to COVID-19

To protect our bin crews and maintain waste collection services here in the Dales, please follow the guidance issued by Government if you are self-isolating or displaying symptoms of coronavirus:

DO: Double-bag any personal waste (eg used tissues and cleaning cloths) using bin liners or plastic bags, keeping this bag separate from other household waste. Tie securely and wait for at least 72 hours before putting it in your external general waste container (grey bin or black sack). **DO NOT**: Put this waste into your recycling container.

If you use a communal refuse bin which is shared with neighbours, please ensure this guidance is also followed and you double bag your waste, leave it for 72 hours in the room you are self-isolating in and place in the grey general rubbish bin only. Do not put this waste in a blue recycling bin.

It's a good idea to clean frequently touched surfaces in your home with household products such as detergents and bleach, as these are effective at getting rid of the virus on surfaces

Bless you?

People used to say 'bless you' if you sneezed. Nowadays they might say something ruder! We live in troubled times.

Some say that the expression started in Rome, when plague broke out. Sneezing was one of the plague's main symptoms, and Pope Gregory I suggested that a tiny prayer in the form of saying, "God bless you" after a sneeze would protect the person from death. Sadly, that does not always work, but we can still remind ourselves of Psalm 91: 4-6

He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart.

You will not fear the terror of night, nor the arrow that flies by day, nor the pestilence that stalks in the darkness, nor the plague that destroys at midday.

Psalm 91:4-6



News update

Covid-19 Community Response Unit

Derbyshire County Council's Covid-19 Community Response Unit is now live.

It brings agencies and volunteers across the county together to support residents and businesses as they tackle the infection and its effects.

Find out more at.https:// derbyshire.gov.uk/

NHS letter

You may be aware of a friend or relative who received a letter recently from the NHS because they are classed as being clinically extremely vulnerable to coronavirus.

Please check that they acted on this letter by registering for support - for example, with getting essential supplies or their basic care needs.

You can register for this support on their behalf if you wish on the Government's website at www.gov.uk/coronavirus-extremelyvulnerable

Community Response Unit

Any Derbyshire Dales residents who haven't been told by their GP or hospital clinician that they are clinically extremely vulnerable and need to 'shield' (which means not leaving home and minimising contact with any other members of their household) can still register for assistance from the County Council's Community Response Unit, where volunteers can deliver food shopping and medicine or phone for a chat if you have no one to talk to.

Get in touch if you need help and: •are self-isolating because you or someone you live with is at risk from coronavirus •are struggling to meet your own basic needs because of financial, social and health issues •are pregnant •have an underlying health condition •are aged 70 or over.

The easiest and quickest way to get support if you don't have anyone else to help you is to go online to www.derbyshire.gov.uk/gethelp

If you don't have access to the internet you can call 01629 535091 Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm and Saturdays 9am to 1pm.

The Voyage of HMS Beagle

Tim Lenton considers a trip which was to change modern science.

Two hundred years ago, on 11th May 1820, the British Royal Navy sloop HMS Beagle was launched. It was the ship that took Charles Darwin on the voyage around the world between 1831 and 1836 that led to his putting forward the theory of Evolution.

HMS Beagle was one of 100 ships of its class, known as coffin brigs because they handled badly and were prone to sinking. But its captain on Darwin's voyage, Robert FitzRoy, made some critical changes to its superstructure and weaponry.

This was the second voyage of the Beagle; the first had resulted in the

suicide of its depressed captain. FitzRoy was able to recruit Darwin, who was intending to be a clergyman, though he had recently graduated as a naturalist, as someone of a like mind who could be relied upon to research geology and natural history ashore.

The voyage lasted five years instead of the intended two, and Darwin became famous after publishing his journal, usually known as The Voyage of the Beagle, which was an intriguing travelogue as well as hinting at Darwin's theories on species.

The ship itself was believed lost, but in 2004 its remains were thought to have been located beneath an Essex marsh.

Remembering VE Day



By David Winter

I was 15 in May 1945, when Britain celebrated VE Day. It stood for Victory in Europe and followed an agreement by the Allied powers following the German surrender. Needless to say, although the war with Japan was not over, it was a noticeable moment. No more bombs, missiles and blitz – and the 'boys' would come home! I have two very clear memories of the day itself. The first was the street party which took place in our road on a housing estate in North London. With official permission, the road was closed off, tables were set up, food and drink were served. We spent the afternoon in races and competitions. Dads, mums, teenagers and children then sang the wartime songs, and 'Jerusalem' and 'God save the King'.

The other memory is an image of a sailor kissing a young woman -Continues over page....

The wisdom of afternoon tea

By the Revd Tony Horsfall of Charis Training.Visit: <u>www.Charistraining.co.uk</u>

My wife and I were at one time missionaries with the Overseas Missionary Fellowship. We joined them in 1975 after a period of training at their headquarters in London. While we were there, we met the hostess of the Mission Home, a matronly lady who had herself served overseas. She was a formidable person, but with a soft heart, and a depth of spiritual wisdom.

I remember her offering to our group of would-be missionaries this piece of sage advice: "The missionaries who stay the longest on the field are those who have their afternoon tea." It struck me then as being very profound, and it is a life rule that I have followed ever since, with great benefits.

This practice of course is typically British, but valuable none the less.

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surrounded by happy laughing people. This iconic photograph was in one of the papers the next day, then on camera newsfeeds and is in just about every journalistic library. Somehow it captures the mood of the day – freedom, warmth, the good things of everyday life. For us, a cup of tea is the answer to everything. "Let's make a cup of tea," we say in any crisis. It soothes and refreshes and helps us get things in perspective. Somehow things seem much brighter when you have had a cuppa, especially if shared with friends or colleagues.

But there is more to the custom of afternoon tea. This little ritual gives us permission to stop in the midst of a busy day and rest a while. It enables us to make contact with others, and to step back from whatever is filling our mind at the time. And over time, these little oases are the way we care for our souls as well as our bodies.

We read that Jesus, when He was tired, sat down by the well at Sychar (John 4:6). He gave Himself permission to stop and have a break. I like to think on that basis He would heartily approve of afternoon tea.

VE Day did indeed mark a turning point, though not everything was going to be easy in the post-war years. But the hideous shadow of war had gone and 75 years later it has yet to return to these shores, thank God.

Easter egg donations break records

In these difficult times, many people are working hard to care for others. This is a good news story...

This Spring a record breaking 3,000 Real Easter Eggs were bought and donated to food banks through a usually 'quiet' online scheme. The 'Donate an egg to a food bank scheme' is run by the Meaningful Chocolate Company which, for the past ten years, has been making The Real Easter Egg.

David Marshall CEO said: "What is moving is that people were donating their purchase to someone they will never meet or hear from, but they trust that the Easter story, which comes with each egg, will make a difference and the chocolate egg give a treat. One customer told us she had a legacy from her father and wanted to use some of it to send a pallet of eggs to those in need.

"Ten years ago, churches and schools helped us create The Real Easter Egg, with its copy of the Easter story in the box, and its support of Fairtrade chocolate and charitable causes. There can be no more fitting a tribute than for us

to continue to support, share and give to those in need."



Nigel Beeton writes:-

I shall let St Paul do the introduction, via his words in Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

May our kindness be witnessed by all

When the things of the world seem so dark and so grim When disease and despondency call, Rejoice in the Lord and the nearness of Him -May our kindness be witnessed by all!

When the pillars of life seem to crumble and creak When our walls seem to tumble and fall. In prayer and petitions our Father we seek – May our kindness be witnessed by all! The tempest may rage, but His wondrous peace Stills the storms that may rage in our soul In our hearts and our minds shall the turmoils cease And our kindness is witnessed by all! *By Nigel Beeton*

2020: WHO's Year of the Nurse

Parts of this are based on an article by Ted Harrison, which first appeared in the Church Times.

When the WHO (World Health Organisation) decided to make 2020 the Year of the Nurse and Midwife, they based it on the 200th anniversary of Florence Nightingale's birth on 12th May 1820.

But with the arrival of the coronavirus, it is a remarkably apt year to celebrate all that nurses do for us.

As the ICN (International Council of Nurses) says: "All around the world, nurses are working tirelessly to provide the care and attention people need, whenever and wherever they need it. Nurses are central to the delivery of health care; nurses are making an invaluable contribution to the health of people globally."

Nursing as a vocation goes back to the Early Church. When plague struck the Roman world in the third century, it was Christians who tended the sick and dying, often at great personal cost. Their selfsacrifice made a huge impression on Roman society. Centuries later, in medieval Europe, it was the monastic orders that provided health care. Crimean War (1853-56) Florence Nightingale saved thousands of lives when she transformed the field hospitals, hugely improving the standards of care for wounded and dying soldiers.

In fact, Florence Nightingale deserves the credit for establishing the modern profession of nursing and its structures of training. Although of course medical science has advanced since her time, the basic ethos of nursing care remains today close to Nightingale's vision.

Nursing is frequently described as a vocation, and it is one to which many Christians are called. Nightingale wrote of being 'called' by God, after having had a vivid religious conversion as a teenager. Writing in February 1837, she stated: "God has spoken to me and called me to His Service."

Four years before going to Crimea, she studied at a Lutheran religious community in Germany which trained deaconesses in medical skills, nursing, and theology. Many of the ideas that Nightingale adopted for her nurses came from that religious community.

Thus, Nightingale's training programme was not solely devoted to secular medical sciences. Her student nurses were required to *Continues over page.....*

Still centuries later, during the

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attend chapel, and her nurses read prayers on the wards.

Nightingale wrote many letters of spiritual encouragement to her students. To one, she wrote that Christ considered it an "honour to serve the poorest and the meanest... He will not give His crown except to those who have borne His cross... Enduring hardship is what He encourages and rewards."

The Bishop of London, the Rt Revd Sarah Mullally trained and worked as a nurse before being appointed to senior positions in the Health Service. She was Chief Nursing Officer for England between 1999 to 2004.

She says: "I became a Christian as a teenager and wanted to follow Christ with my whole life. Rather than having two careers, I have had one vocation: to follow Jesus Christ, to know Him, and to make Him known."

Certainly, of all the professions, nursing has one of the strongest claims to being rooted in the Gospel. Christian nurses implicitly witness to Christ in caring for others.

A very special 'Thank you' to all the nurses, doctors and care staff caring for us at this time.

On Being Overwhelmed

The following is from Antony Billington, Theology Advisor to LICC (London Institute for Contemporary Christianity), writing on 'Connecting with Culture'. Read more from him at licc.org.uk (apologies that it runs over three pages)

It was Harold Wilson who allegedly said that "a week is a long time in politics". In these recent momentous days, it looks as if that should be reduced to five minutes.

In the space of a very short time, life has been turned upside-down.Work, school, family life, daily routines, leisure activities, as well as that number one pastime – shopping – have changed for all of us, almost overnight. It's easy to see why our nation – nay, our world – is uneasy. You may feel it yourself, identify it in friends and colleagues, or see it reflected in your social media feeds. We're experiencing what theologian David Ford has called 'multiple overwhelmings'.

Whether personally, professionally, or politically, it's one thing to have a single event that knocks us off our feet. But what if the knocks continue to come thick and fast? Is it any wonder we're confused, anxious, distrustful, and fearful?

In all this, though, shafts of light manage to break through – the Continues bottom of next page.....

Florence Nightingale – the founder of modern nursing

Tim Lenton looks back on a great lady.

Florence Nightingale was born 200 years ago, on 12th May 1820. Best known as the Lady with the Lamp who saved many lives in the hospitals of the Crimean War, she was also a social reformer, a statistician and the founder of modern nursing.

She was named after the Italian city of her birth, but the family moved back to England the following year, and she was brought up in Derbyshire. Here – and elsewhere – she had several experiences that she believed were calls from God to devote her life to the service of others.

She never married, but among her several close friends was Sidney Herbert, who became Secretary of War and helped to make her work in the Crimea possible. Some claim that she reduced the death rate in hospitals there from 42% to 2%. She introduced hand-washing and other hygiene improvements, but she never claimed personal credit for reducing the death rate.

Her work inspired nurses in the American Civil War, and in 1883 she became the first recipient of the Royal Red Cross. In 1907, she was the first woman to be awarded the Order of Merit. She died in 1910. Her image appeared on the reverse of £10 banknotes issued by the Bank of England from 1975 until 1994.

It is a fitting tribute to her that the emergency hospital just opened at the ExCel Centre in London is called the NHS Nightingale Hospital.

Continued from previous page..... neighbours forming WhatsApp groups to support people in their street, the already-exhausted NHS workers coming in for the next shift, the rainbows in windows of houses saying more than the occupants of those homes perhaps know about the commitment of God to his creation.

They're all traces of grace, showing something of a refusal to be shaped by the prevailing culture, which Christians of all people should understand. Because while some 'overwhelmings' wound and crush us, others are life-giving and transformative. As David Ford says, the wisest way to cope is 'not to expect to be in control of everything', but 'to live amidst the overwhelmings' in a way that lets one of them shape the others.

Christians remember that Christ himself embodied 'multiple overwhelmings' – baptised in the Jordan, driven into the wilderness, *Continues bottom of next page...*

Reflected Faith: the Gathered Church

The Revd Dr Jo White

Doesn't the simple pleasure of going to church and exchanging the peace at Sunday worship seem long ago now? These days, we are not even allowed into our churches!

But we can take comfort when we think back to the Apostles who were commissioned to build God's Church. After the first Pentecost, what did they do? They didn't rush out and build church buildings. No! Rather the people gathered together, in their own homes.

Clearly, we can't physically 'gather' just now, but we have the technology to 'gather' together, both in real time and at a later time. And it is important to do so. There is something powerful when we pray together rather than alone. Try phoning a friend with the same written prayer and saying it together. How does that feel? Any different from saying it on your own? So, THE Church, which is alive and well in you and me, will find new ways to be together. After all, the early Christians had the added complication of being persecuted, often to death, for their faith. And yet they persisted.

Perhaps we could each sit at our dining table at a set time, with one or two items before us, such as a small glass of wine, a lit candle, stones, and a cross. Indeed, anything that reminds us of our Risen Saviour. We could then 'share' this time in praying the same prayers and knowing that we are part of an eternal fellowship that is only temporarily divided.

This month: What will you use to reflect and encourage your faith? What items naturally around your home would bring others to your mind, help you to concentrate and allow your spirit to fly with the Holy Spirit? Who will you be connecting with to pray?

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tempted by the devil. Then, at the climax of his life, betrayed, deserted, tortured, crucified. But, as Ford writes, 'then came the resurrection, the most disorienting and transformative overwhelming of all'. Given that death-and-resurrection pattern, what would it look like at this time to be overwhelmed with an assurance of God's love? Overwhelmed with gratitude? Overwhelmed by generosity? Overwhelmed by a commitment to pray? Overwhelmed by a desire to see

others thrive, even if it comes at our expense?

Passed On

Canon David Winter writes on Eastertide...

The Easter message is this: death is not the end but the beginning; the natural and unavoidable end of human life. But recently I have noticed people increasingly use the phrase 'passed on.' Apparently, no one 'dies' any longer. They just 'pass on.'

It's our latest attempt to avoid the word 'death.' We don't like the idea, so we try to eliminate the word. 'Passed on' or its more negative alternative 'passed away' are the current favourites. Just listen to the radio, or people talking.

'Passed on' sounds vaguely religious. The person hasn't disappeared, they've simply moved – but where? That left an open question. What we are saying, by implication, is that they have not ceased to exist. Heaven, hell, reincarnation or purgatory are all encompassed in the all popular notion of 'up there!'

As a Christian who believes in resurrection and eternal life, I suppose I shouldn't object to 'passing on,' but the truth is that before we can 'pass on' we have to die. There is simply no alternative.

So, let me summarise my personal and doubtless prejudiced conclusions. For me, 'passed away' is out because it is simply not true. Anyone who loses a loved one finds that they still exist – in love, in memory, in that photo on the mantlepiece. For many people death is not the end it is a beginning – a door which Jesus called 'eternal life.' Died or 'passed on', there is light at the end of the tunnel!

Priest who gave his respirator away

This inspiring story is well worth sharing...

Sky News recently reported on the poignant story of an Italian priest who contracted coronavirus. Friar Don Giuseppe Berardelli, 72, was the priest for the parish of Casnigo, a small village just 40 miles north east of Milan.

According to the hospital, a parishioner quickly bought him a

respirator, but the priest refused to use it, instead giving it to a younger patient he did not even know.

Friar Berardelli died in hospital in Lovere, Bergamo, one of the worsthit areas in Italy. No funeral was able to be held for Friar Berardelli. Instead people stood on their balconies at noon on 16th March and gave him a round of applause.

The environment – we can still do great things to help

By David Shreeve. More details at: https://conservationfoundation.co.uk

Before coronavirus, 2020 was to have been the year when the Church really made the environment central to its plans and actions. For although caring for the planet has been raised regularly at previous Lambeth Conferences, this year, Lambeth 2020 was to have brought the issues to the forefront of its agenda.

Whilst the virus has shut things down for the moment, clearly in future the Church can do major things on a national and international level, but so too can it achieve much locally. Every individual in every congregation can play a part. Even the space around churches can become special by providing space for members of the local community to spend time

gardening, bringing benefits to both body and spirit.

When our isolation finally ends, it will be a great time for our church to find space to make room for a garden to bring people together and share the glory of nature by planting seeds to bring new life, hope and a sense of wellbeing to our world. For church space which can be seen by passers-by it will be a 24-hour sign of hope and that we are back in business.

Meanwhile, this month, May, sees the 5th anniversary of the publication of Laudato Si. a world best seller not least in the Church House bookshop. Whilst many proposed celebrations have been postponed it is still a publication to be celebrated for the way in the way the Pope has provided help and encouragement to people of faith and no faith alike who all share this common home.

Grow your lawns



The Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) has called on people to allow flowers to grow on their lawns, instead of insisting on smooth green surfaces.

The reason is because nearly 7.5million acres of meadows and pastures rich in wildflowers have been lost since the Thirties, thus removing a vital source of food for pollinators, many of whom are now in steep decline.

The nation's 15 million gardens could help a lot in supporting bees, butterflies and other bugs looking for nectar.



Loneliness at the Virtual Chelsea Flower Show, 19th – 23rd May

All sorts of themes are chosen for the Chelsea Flower Show, but this year's theme turned out to be scarily appropriate for the Spring of 2020: loneliness and mental health.

For, according to Sue Briggs, RHS Director General, "many feel they need gardening in their life now more than ever before, for their mental and physical wellbeing during this national emergency."

Writing on RHS website (<u>www.rhs.org.uk</u>), Sue Briggs says: "This applies to everyone from those who are having to self-isolate to families planning, maybe for the first time, to grow their own food."

And so, "for these reasons, and to do more to support the industry, the RHS will create a Virtual RHS Chelsea Flower Show, to celebrate our great horticultural industry and gardening heritage." The Virtual Show will run from Tuesday 19th May to Saturday 23rd May.

Guy Barker, chief horticulturalist at the RHS said: "Nurturing plants can make you less lonely and release you from troubles."

Leave your dandelions alone

When mowing your lawn, avoid cutting your dandelions. That is the advice of the president of the British Ecological Society, Prof Jane Memmott. It will help to save the bees.

She explains: "Dandelions are a fantastic source of pollen and nectar for the early pollinators in particular. If they were rare, people would be fighting over them, but because they're common, people pull them out and spray them with all sorts of horrible things when they should just let them flower. If you leave the lawn to three or four inches, then dandelions, clover and daisies can flower and then you end up with something like a tapestry, and it's much nicer to sit there and watch the insects buzzing about."

Prof Memmott encourages everyone to get a bee hotel for their garden. "There's nothing nicer than being sat in a chair with a glass of wine and watching the bees going in and out of your own personal little beehive. Even just a potted plant on a doorstep will provide lunch for a bee or a fly or a butterfly."

Life in quarantine

The Ven John Barton muses on our present isolation...

Full marks to Jamie Oliver for his Channel 4 series, 'Keep Cooking and Carry On'. He showed us how to make tasty meals with basic ingredients and a minimum of fuss.

The pandemic prompted other encouraging responses. One mother in the 'at risk' category said her adult children thought she was immortal until now. Now they ring her every day to see how she's getting on. An elderly clergyman had offers to shop from two new neighbours whom he hardly knew. The whole nation stopped taking the National Health Service for granted and started showing gratitude. Telephone, television, the internet and email prevented many from going stir-crazy. Some even tried the cryptic crossword, though newcomers should be warned it takes years to learn its secrets!

The isolation was tough for many. Isolated families had to get used to each other's company and foibles for long periods, away from the park or beach. Couples were parted from each other by distance or illness. Those living alone were cut off from visitors and communal activities. Churchgoers missed Holy Communion at Easter for the first time. That should help us identify with millions of Christians across the world who have to pray in secret because their neighbours would persecute them if they did so publicly.

Alone-ness, rather than loneliness, can be productive. Albert Einstein valued time alone, when he could "go for long walks on the beach so that I can listen to what is going on inside my head." Isaac Newton's greatest discoveries began when he escaped the effects of the bubonic plague, by returning home to the family farm in Lincolnshire. He had time to observe what was going on around him and, yes, that did include watching the famous apple fall.

When the bubonic plague was at its peak, the Reformer Martin Luther wrote: "I shall ask God mercifully to protect us. Then I shall fumigate, help purify the air, administer medicine and take it. I shall avoid places and persons where my presence is not needed in order not to become contaminated and thus perchance inflict and pollute others and so cause their death as a result of my negligence. If God should wish to take me, He will surely find me and I have done what He has expected of me, and so I am not responsible for either my own death or the death of others."

Try a little kindness

By the Revd Tony Horsfall of Charis Training.Visit: <u>www.Charistraining.co.uk</u>

When TV presenter and celebrity Carolyn Flack took her life in February 2020 the world was shocked and saddened. How could someone so young, beautiful and successful do such a thing? It seems that the pressure of an impending court case, the vitriol she received online, and her own inner pain had become too much for her.

Shortly before she died, she posted, 'In a world where you can be anything, be kind.'

These simple words are a call to our society to become more caring and careful in the way we treat each other. There is too much unkindness about, especially on social media where unkind words are so common and can be so destructive.

Kindness can be defined as the quality of being friendly, generous and considerate. It is shown through our words and by our actions, an everyday sort of quality that is not spectacular but which, when we encounter it, can lift our spirits.

It is above all a Christian virtue that ought to be demonstrated in great measure within Christian communities. It is a fruit of the Spirit, an attitude that is formed within us when the Holy Spirit is at work in our lives (Galatians 5:22). It is an aspect of love for love is patient, love is kind (1Corinthians 13:4). Yet sadly, the Church is often no different from the world. Congregations can sometimes be anything but friendly, generous and considerate.

Why not try a little kindness this week? Do something spontaneously to help another person. Reach out in friendship to someone who seems lonely, if only by phone! Speak some kind words to those around you. You will feel better yourself, and you will be making the world a better place.

| Did you know that it was 50 years ago, on 8 th May 1970, that | <i>Summertime</i> ' by Mungo Jerry was released. |
|---|---|
| the Beatles released their final album, <i>Let it</i> Be ? | By June it had reached Number One on dozens of record charts |
| It was also 50 years ago, on 22 nd May 1970, that the song <i>'In the</i> | around the world. |

From 'live' in the pulpit to virtual and streaming

Not being able to go to church is causing an awful lot of people to 'go' to church.

It started in late March, when the Archbishop kicked off with the first ever national virtual service, recorded in the crypt chapel of Lambeth Palace. It was seen or heard by an estimated five million people. That figure included one million streaming on Facebook, and about two million tuned in to the 39 BBC local radio station broadcasts and BBC Radio 4 Sunday Worship combined. The Facebook post had a further reach of two million and nearly 30 per cent of those watching online were under the age of 34.

That compares with average of 871,000 people attending services and acts of worship each week in 2018, the latest figures that are available.

And the Archbishop was not alone – for on the same morning hundreds of churches and cathedrals also had their first try at livestreaming services. Some attracted several thousand viewers on the stream and playback. As a spokesperson for the Church of England said: "The Archbishops said that church would have to be reimagined. Across the country, local congregations did just that."

The second virtual national worship service (29th March) was led by the Archbishop of York, Dr John Sentamu and recorded on an iPad in the drawing room of Bishopthorpe Palace. After opening with a traditional Ugandan call to prayer, which he delivered on drums, the Archbishop turned to Ezekiel, encouraging everyone to trust God in our current situation.

In a reference to the passage in Ezekiel – which recounts the prophet's vision of a valley of dry bones, the Archbishop told the virtual congregation: "At this present time of COVID-19 we are, as it were, set in death in exile.

"I believe the Sovereign Lord who knows it all by the Spirit who raised Jesus from the dead to life eternal, the life creating power of God will bring us out of exile – out of the valley of death. Sovereign Lord we look to you to deliver us."

See the services by searching at: <u>www.churchofengland.org</u> As for the future, you can explore the full list of livestreaming taking place each week. Just go to: <u>www.achurchnearyou.com</u>

God in the Sciences

This series is written by Dr Ruth M. Bancewicz, who is Church Engagement Director at The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion in Cambridge. Ruth writes on the positive relationship between Science and Christian faith.

Can Science Prove God Exists?

To risk sounding like a smart aleck seven-year-old, technically speaking you can only prove things mathematically. If you need to know that one plus one equals two, don't go to a chemistry lab. The natural sciences only deal with things that can be observed and measured. Science has been so successful that it's tempting to get carried away, valuing science above any other kind of knowledge, but there are other ways of knowing that are equally important. For example, art conveys ideas, experiences or emotions that provoke us to think or do something in response.

In fact, to find answers to any of the really important questions about meaning and purpose that affect us throughout our lives, we always have to go beyond science. Some scientific data might help define the question, for example a farmer facing a drought would probably like to know some details about the current weather patterns and the availability of seeds for more hardy crops before she can start asking "What is the point of trying to grow anything at all?" But in the end, she is asking a deeper question – and so are the rest of us when we go through any significant experience in life.

So rather than asking "Can science prove God exists?", what about: "Are the findings of science compatible with the existence of a purposeful Creator?" For many scientists today, the answer to the second question is yes. They have investigated the Bible's descriptions of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, and found that they make sense. They have discovered that they can interact with God – especially in prayer – and that this faith has changed their lives.

Professor Christine Done, an Astrophysicist at Durham University, writes, "for me the more we know about the vast, yet intricate and beautiful Universe we live in, the bigger and more aweinspiring is the God who made it all." (Thinking About: The Big Bang, https://www.cis.org.uk/resources/ thinking/).

Some go even further, making statements like this: "the way the universe exhibits an ordered structure, which is open to science to investigate, points to a mind behind it." (Revd Dr Rodney continues over page..... continued from previous page Holder, Astrophysicist, in Longing, Waiting, Believing (BRF, 2014) The question "Can Science Prove God Exists?" turns out to be a category error – trying to use science to answer a non-scientific

Five Tips for Tackling Loneliness and Isolation

The Church of England has published a leaflet giving five tips to help loneliness:

Pray. Light a candle, if safe, and pray for hope, faith and strength to keep loving and caring for each other during this time of struggle.

Talk about how you feel. This may be difficult if you are self-isolating, but do use the telephone, internet, and social media. If you need to contact a counsellor this can be arranged by your GP, or via local agencies, or privately. <u>Samaritans</u> <u>are there</u> 24 hours a day, every day, and it's free to call them on 116 123.

Take exercise for even half an hour a day – and lower depression!

Here is some good news for us all: if you are feeling low, get moving. A recent study at Harvard has found that even just half an hour of exercise a day can lower the risk of depression by 17 per cent. question. On the other hand, many scientists think there is enough evidence from a wide range of sources to warrant belief in God.

Focus on the things that you can change, not on the things you can't.

Look after yourself - physically, emotionally, spiritually. Plan in things that you enjoy at regular intervals during the day – a TV programme, a phone call, a book, a favourite dish, a game.

Look after others. Even if only in small ways, but do what you can: a smile, a kind word, writing a letter or an email.

Go to: https:// www.churchofengland.org/faithaction/mental-health-resources/ dealing-loneliness-and-isolation-fivetop-tips

So – even though we are told to stay home at present, do a work-out in your living room, run around the garden a dozen times, or run up and down your staircase 20 times anything to get your heart pounding and your body moving!

Baslow Health Centre – Church Lane, Baslow

www.baslowhealthcentre.co.uk

Appointment Times: Clinicians will endeavour to keep to time; however, they also need to afford the patient the appropriate consultation time, which may lead to them overrunning. Therefore, it is imperative that patients arrive on time for their appointments as it will have a rolling knock-on effect if you are late.

Patient Online: Have you registered to use the online service, allowing you to book and cancel appointments on line and order your repeat medications? You can also request access to your Summary Care Record, and Detailed Coded Data contained within your medical records. You can also look at your test results.

Telephone Numbers:

 Reception:
 01246 582216

 Surgery Fax:
 01246 583867

 Dispensary:
 01246 582366

 District Nursing Team - now CAP
 (Community Access Point)

 01332 564 900
 0

Health Visitor: 01629 816633 (The Dispensary line is open 12noon – 1.00pm and 2.00pm – 3.00pm)

Normal Surgery Opening Times

Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri 8am-6.30pm;

Wednesdays 7.30am - 6.30pm (closed Bank Holidays) (Phones 8am - 6.30pm Mon - Fri).

Surgery Closure for training -

afternoons of Wednesday 13th May & Wednesday 10th June

Patient Participation Group - (PPG) – If you want to be kept up to date and have the opportunity to express your views please consider joining Baslow's PPG. Contact Keith Maslen on <u>kmaslen@aol.com</u> Tel: 01246 582274 Virtual members welcome.

Ordering Repeat Medication

All requests for repeat prescriptions must be:-

- In writing or with our on-line access
- Return your repeat request form to surgery by Post/Fax/ Box on Dispensary Reception
- Please allow two working days before collection

! To ease the parking congestion, please collect your prescription between 12noon – 4pm

<u>Samples</u> – if you need to leave a sample with us please ensure it is labelled with your name and date of birth and returned in a bag if provided.

<u>Test Results</u> – As we do not receive test results from hospital until lunchtime, please ring for these after 2pm.

For Urgent Calls when we are closed call |||

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31st May - Not a Ghost but a Gift

By Canon David Winter

We used to call it Whitsun – 'White Sunday' because long ago children marched to church in white on that day. No processions nowadays, and we've even changed its name. It's now 'Pentecost', which is more accurate but needs explaining.

Pentecost marks a vital event in Christian history. It is celebrated 50 days after Easter. The year Jesus was crucified (which took place at the Passover), the remnant of His followers, just 120 of them, were together in an upper room in Jerusalem. They were afraid to show their faces in case the authorities arrested them. But on the day of Pentecost they had an amazing collective experience.

They described it in terms of wind and fire, a great surge of spiritual energy and confidence. Afraid no longer, they burst out on to the streets where crowds were gathering for the festival, led by Peter they began to tell them about Jesus and His resurrection. As they did so, although many of the people in the crowd were foreigners who spoke other languages, everyone heard them in their own tongue. Peter told them that what they were seeing was the fulfilment of an old prophecy when God would pour out His Spirit on the human race, men and women, young and old.

As a result of His words and the extraordinary spectacle, 3000 people believed and were baptised in the name of Jesus. They were the nucleus of what in 100 years would be a Church that would turn history upside down. For Christians Pentecost is in effect the birthday of the Church.

Many people find the whole idea of the Holy Spirit mysterious and elusive. It wasn't helped by the earlier title 'Holy Ghost'. The spirit is not spiritually a 'ghost' but a precious gift.

ALL CHURCH BUILDINGS REMAIN CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. PLEASE, STAY SAFE AND STAY AT HOME.

Although we are not able to meet as a congregation, you may wish to follow the Sunday readings at home.

Readings for May

Sunday 3rd May: Easter Four Acts 2: 42-47 John 10: 1-10

Sunday 10th May: Easter Five Acts 7: 55-60 John 14: 1-14

Sunday 17th May: Easter Six Acts 17: 22-31 John 14: 15-21 Thursday 21st May: Ascension Day Acts 1: 1-11 Luke 24: 44-53

Sunday 24th May: Easter Seven Acts 1: 6-14 John 17: 1-11

Sunday 31st May: Pentecost Sunday Acts 2: 1-21 John 20: 19-23



Items for the **JUNE magazine** should reach me **NO LATER THAN MONDAY 18th MAY**: email to: <u>liz.bradshaw@w3z.co.uk</u> 'The Bridge'Parish Magazine £1 per copy (£12 per year) from January 2020.