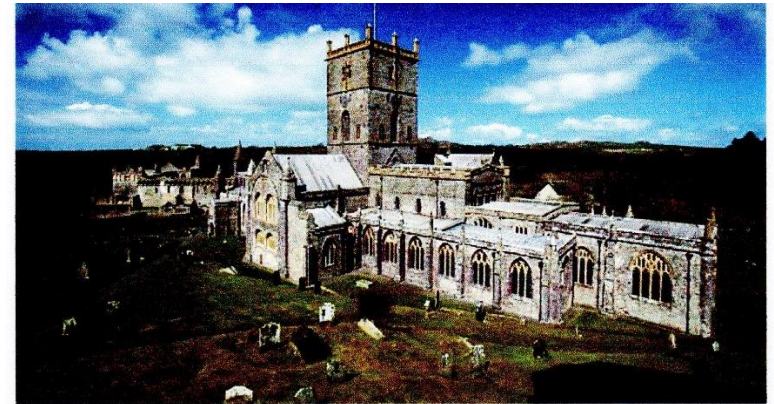


The Parishes of
Uppingham-with-Ayston
Belton-with-Wardley

July 2021

QUARTET



 The Diocese of
Peterborough

£1

Benefice Ministry Team

Rector

Revd Canon Rachel Watts The Rectory, 45 Lime Tree Avenue
Uppingham LE15 9SS 829956

Curate

Revd Debbie Smith-Wilds 18 Siskin Road LE15 9UL 822906

Honorary Assistant Priests

Revd Dr Peter Holmes 14 Bayley Close 821834
Revd Canon John Rankin 822180

Uppingham School Chaplain

Revd Dr James Saunders Pentire House, High Street West
829934

Readers

Mrs Jill Cannings Crossways, Ayston Road 821870
Mrs Sonja Lennon 5 Stockerston Crescent 822452
Mr Anthony Morse 8a Station Road 821508
Mrs Christobel Price Church Lane, Bisbrooke 823201

Lay Pastoral Ministers

Mrs Shirley Harris 49 Stockerston Crescent 822428
Mrs Eileen Hill 25 North Street West 822271

Mothers' Union

Mrs Janet Wardle 5 Elizabeth Way LE15 9PQ 829923

All telephone dialing codes are 01572 unless shown otherwise.

For Churchwardens and other contacts, please see the list on the back cover.

Please contact the Rector to arrange baptisms, weddings or funerals.

To receive Communion at home please contact a member of the ministry team.
Confession, spiritual direction and the ministry of healing are offered by the clergy
by appointment.

The Rector's letter

7 July 2021

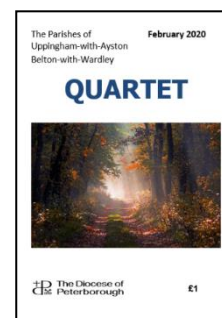
The Rectory
45 Lime Tree Avenue

Dear friends,

What a month this is proving to be! What with the football, and the Olympics about to start, not to mention Wimbledon – and the possible removal of restrictions – life is quite exciting. Life in our benefice is also exciting, as Debbie begins her priestly ministry among us. With all that is going on, it is quite easy to get carried away by excitement, whether that is England or team GB victories or plans for normality. However, we need to make sure that we have our priorities right, and that we use this time and opportunity wisely.

As a Church, your PCC is meeting to look at the coming year, and what are our priorities as we come out of restrictions and get back to normal. The Worship committee are looking at all our worship, and what we would like it to look like, going forward. Our aim is to relaunch Church life and its new normality starting from September. I know, for some, getting back to normal is something you want to get on with, but we do not want to squander the opportunity to have a good look at things, so that we can come back better and more focused on our lives as disciples of Christ. >

Quartet in 2021



Quartet costs £1.00 per month – but take an annual subscription and all 12 copies will cost you just £10.00.

Publishing dates: **Next edition (August)**

Copy to editors by Wednesday 28th July
email to john.wardle@btinternet.com

Available by Sunday 1st August

Please pay your subscription to your distributor. Thank you!

We also need to reflect that we will all adjust to life in different ways, and at different speeds.

During this and next month can I encourage you to take time to pray for those working hard on your behalf, to pray for our community and our mission to it, that others may know of Christ's love and mercy. Also, I would like to encourage you to spend time with family and friends, as rules allow. It is important that we all take time to be with those we have not seen for so long, to rebuild old relationships – and to rebuild ourselves. There has been much said about mental health during this difficult time: our mental health will not be best served by a headlong rush into pre-covid madness, but by working on those things and the relationships that best sustain us.

Have a joyful and peace-filled month as you begin to feel your way, or jump headlong into life again if restrictions are indeed lifted. Remember that in Christ we are called into life in all its fullness, let's be the people we were truly created and called to be.

Every blessing

Rachel

Thank you to the churchyard tidying team...

Thanks to the intrepid group of volunteers pictured here with Richard Cole, all doing their bit for our churchyard. And a picture (below) of another energetic team, this time preparing to serve customers on Social Sunday from the church gazebo outside the Post Office...



Services in Uppingham Parish Church July 2021

4th	Trinity +5	8am 10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP) Eucharist (CW) <i>short, choral</i>
11th	Trinity +6	8am 10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP) Eucharist (CW) <i>short, choral</i>
Tuesday 13th		10am	MU Holy Communion & meeting
18th	Trinity +7	8am 10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP) Eucharist (CW) <i>short, virtual choir</i>
<i>Many of our choir singers will be holidaying in St David's, but sadly not able to sing services as originally planned in the Cathedral (pictured on the front cover)</i>			
25th	S. James	8am 10.30am 6pm	Holy Communion (BCP) Eucharist (CW) <i>short, choral</i> Choral Evensong
<i>music by Victoria, William Smith and Herbert Sumsion</i>			

**You are welcome to join us online each Sunday
for our Service of the Word
(check the website for details)
or listen to the service by phoning 01572 497004.**

Revd Thomas Meredyth, Rector of Allextion, 1939- 1946

Tom Meredyth, was the Rector of Allextion throughout WW2. He was married to Phyllis, who lived in the Rectory throughout the War. Their baby, Annabel, was born in April 1941 and baptised in St Peter's Allextion. Tom became a Royal Naval Chaplain and served on HMHS Vita. As with so many serving in the war, Tom and Phyllis had a voluminous correspondence, which was subject to all the usual problems associated with the post. Most letters were sent by airmail, but for those on ships at sea they could not be sent until they reached port, and sometimes they were at sea for as long as three weeks. Sometimes Tom was allowed to use the ship's radio for simple messages. Letters had to be passed by the censors, to be sure they did not contain information useful to the enemy.

A batch of Tom's letters was passed to me by the Rector of Uppingham. Perhaps they came to her because the address he wrote to was The Rectory, Allextion, Uppingham. While Allextion is only 3 miles from Uppingham, and borders on the parishes (Wardley and Belton) for which Uppingham's Rector is responsible, it is in a different county and diocese (Leicester) and has in recent years been amalgamated with Hallaton. Allextion Rectory has for many years been in private ownership. The letters came to me as the writer of the History of Allextion, *Survival of a Village*.



Allextion Rectory

The letters, dating from 1943-46, are all from Tom to Phyl; from the local history point of view, it would have been more interesting to have seen Phyl's letters. Tom was writing love letters, and in any case he was not allowed to give much detail of his life on board. He wrote: *I do wish I could tell you about the interesting things I have seen but I'm afraid it would not be allowed, so I shall have to wait until I get home.* So his declarations of devotion to Phyl grow in intensity the longer he is away. *I do love you both so much and long and pray for the time when we shall be together in peace; what a happy day that will be.* And, later: *I think of you and Anna all of the time and you are never out of my thoughts. I do love you so much and long to come back to you; it shouldn't be long now.*

HMHS Vita was not a small ship; she was 4691 gross tons and 390 feet in length and could make 12.5 knots. On completion in 1914 she became a troopship, making her first voyage from Bombay to the Persian Gulf. Vita has a fan club, mainly relatives of those who served on her. Alan Melia writes: *My father sailed on Vita, working in the operating theatre. She was converted to a Royal Navy Hospital Ship for WW2. Most Hospital ships came under the Royal Army Medical Corps but on Vita all the medical staff, like my father and the surgeons, were Royal Navy: the Captain and other officers were mostly Merchant Navy.* J Melia must have served with Tom who was their RN Chaplain.

(to be continued next month)

Dr Vivian Anthony

My personal interest comes not only from the 25 years spent living in Allextion and worshipping in St Peter's but because my father was serving in the Merchant Navy through the same war as Tom, though mainly in the Atlantic.

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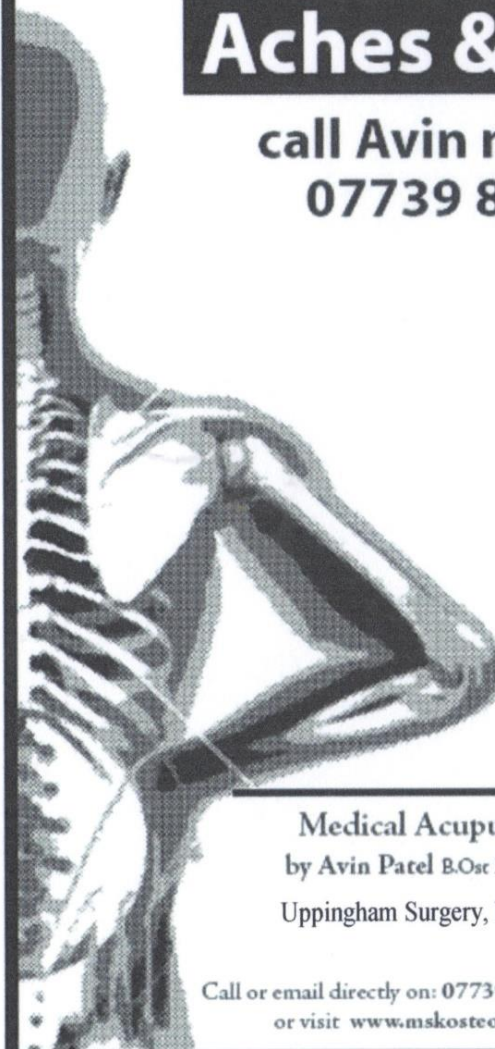
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***Debbie, ordained to the priesthood in Peterborough Cathedral,
Sunday 27 June, 2021***

It has been an amazing week for me as I was ordained priest at Peterborough Cathedral, along with my fellow deacons

space with an Bishop Donald, considering Ephesians, as we ordination. Of been a lifetime's to have some space, to walk more closely with God, in these recent days.



We had enjoyed time and online retreat, led by over the days before, Paul's letter to the explored our calling to course, for all of us, it has journey – but it was good

Thank you all for your prayers and support, and for being able to carry out my ministry in this benefice where we have so much to share and be thankful for.



It was then such an honour to preside at our Patronal Festival Eucharist on Tuesday – the Feast of SS Peter & Paul. Two great saints of our church, who in different ways answered the call of God. They are the saints to whom both our churches are dedicated, and it was wonderful for us all to come together with such joy. Thank you to our churchwardens and readers for making it so special. The choir sang some beautiful and meaningful music, and our preacher was my previous vicar who had encouraged me in this calling whilst on

pilgrimage to Iona – even though I had told him to go away! I am grateful to Fr Richard Stainer, to my family, and to all those people who have been part of my journey and given me support.



Over this past year I have appreciated so much the warmth and friendship of everyone involved at both Uppingham and Belton, and especially Canon Rachel as she has taken me under her wing to guide me through my curacy.

It was very special that Rachel was able to accompany me through all of this and to anoint my palms during the Eucharist on Tuesday.

The parish family's gift of a beautiful Home Communion Set (made in Rutland) will be much treasured – and put to good use, bringing the holy sacrament to those unable to come to church.



I thank you all from the bottom of my heart, and look forward to all that God is calling us to do in his name in the coming months and years.

Debbie



Peterborough Cathedral, 27 June, 2021

Newly ordained priests of this diocese:

Keir, Simon, Josh, Debbie, Kris

Kevin, Michelle, Yvonne, Angela, Ali.

The Crystal Ball

Music for July 2021

First, the good news: weather permitting, our Sunday morning services will conclude with the singing of a hymn outdoors by choir and congregation. This will, we hope, at least partly rectify the unnatural suppression of the congregation's singing voice in worship, which we hope will soon be a thing of the past. The not-so-good news is that most of the choir will be disappearing to the 'land of song' in the middle of the month; though sadly not to do any singing. This means that the music for the Sunday in question will be recorded, and there won't be any outdoor singing.

So what do we have for you this month? On 4 July (tomorrow, as I write this) we have *Let thy merciful ears* (by one of the two brothers Mudd who were organists at Peterborough Cathedral in the seventeenth century) as an introit, plus David Ogden's simple but sensitive setting of the familiar words 'Christ has no body now but yours'; the following Sunday we have something more ambitious in the form of one of the best known English verse anthems, *This is the record of John* by Orlando Gibbons, involving extensive alto solos contrasting with full choir to impressive effect.

Then we come to the Sunday I mentioned above, 18 July, when you will be able to enjoy a recorded soprano duet, *I will magnify thee, O Lord*, by the eighteenth-century English composer Joseph Corfe; and on 25 July, when we observe the feast of St James, we shall make amends for our absence with two sung services. At the morning Sung Eucharist, fans of John Rutter will have another treat when we sing his popular *Gaelic Blessing*; and then Choral Evensong will feature two well-known items (Victoria's passionate *O quam gloriosum* for the introit and the responses by William Smith) plus two new items, both by Herbert Sumsion. His setting of the canticles in A has been in our repertoire for many years, but on this occasion we shall sing his earlier setting in G: a Magnificat which dances its way gracefully through the text and a slower, but reflective and powerful, setting for Nunc dimittis. And the anthem will be his setting of *They that go down to the sea in ships*, an energetic and graphic setting of this famous passage from Psalm 107, which has been deservedly popular ever since it was written more than forty years ago. Last month we had twice as many in the congregation for Evensong as we did in April; can we do even better this month?

Succentor

[PS : Congregational hymn singing in our services may possibly resume on 25th; we hope so, or if not, then in August]



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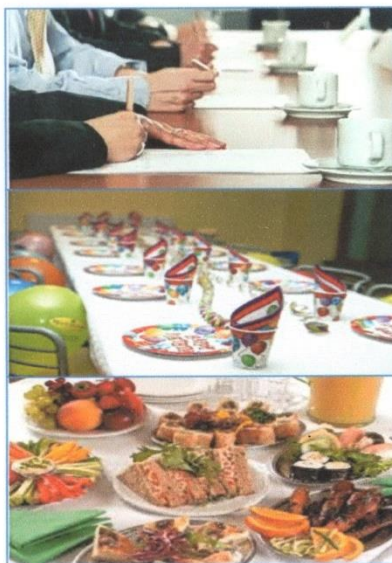
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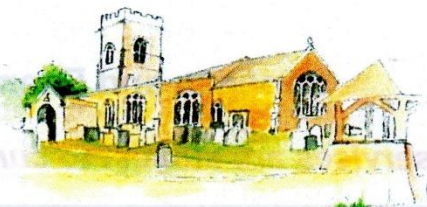
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Belton Open Gardens - Saturday 19th June

A number of Belton gardens were open to the public between 5:00 and 8:00pm, on a cool and cloudy evening. Light refreshments were available in a garden off Loddington Lane, subject to covid-19 restrictions. Over 50 people attended the event, and luckily the weather remained dry.

A big thank you to all the owners who welcomed visitors to see their gardens, to the ladies who provided the refreshments, and to Linda Deadman and her team of volunteers, who helped to organise this event. Special thanks to everyone who came and supported this successful and enjoyable evening.

The financial summary was as follows:-

Entry tickets	£ 306-00
Raffle	£ 134-00
Refreshments (less expenses)	£ 78-71 £ -47-09
Donations received after the event	£ 52-00
Net proceeds to the St. Peter's Church Fabric Fund	£ 523-62



Services and Events in July

Note: *All services are subject to current Covid-19 restrictions*

Date	Location	Time	Details
4 th July Fifth Sunday after Trinity	St. Peter's Church	9:00 am	Holy Communion (bcp)
11 th July Sixth Sunday after Trinity	St. Peter's Church	9:00 am	Holy Communion (cw)
18 th July Seventh Sunday after Trinity	St. Peter's Church	9:00 am	Holy Communion (bcp)
25 th July Eighth Sunday after Trinity	St. Peter's Church	9:00 am	Holy Communion (cw)
1st August Ninth Sunday after Trinity	St. Peter's Church	9:00 am	Holy Communion (bcp)
<i>Wednesday Morning Prayers are suspended until further notice</i>			
<i>All Care Home services are suspended until further notice</i>			
<i>Please check with "Parish Notes" for any late changes</i>			

St. Peter's website: www.belton-wardley.org.uk

St. Peter's church, Belton with Wardley website, may be accessed via the above URL or by scanning this QR code using your mobile phone. The calendar lists all services and related events and meetings, and is updated regularly..



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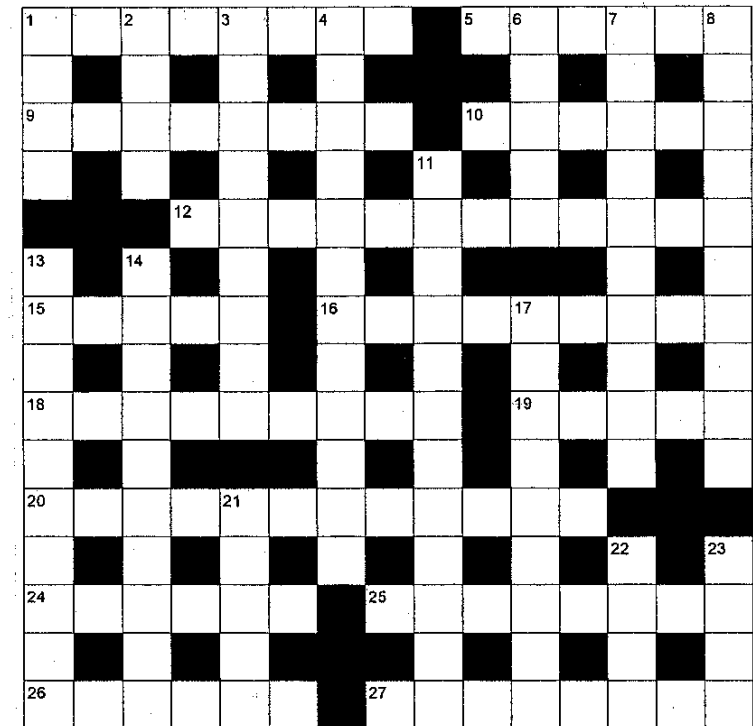
by Succentor

Across

- 1 Mink? Look, that's horrible – and on paid leave, too! (8)
- 5 The coming season (6)
- 9 Plainchant, maybe choral? (8)
- 10 French Left is awkward (6)
- 12 No problem! Cup of tea with it? (1,5,2,4)
- 15 P+A = Chi-Chi? (5)
- 16 Get too old for spring from . . . (4,3,2)
- 18 . . . Georgia, having pill and oil mixed in disputed area (9)
- 19 Former vice-president of little value (5)
- 20 Advertise posts in civic centres? (6-6)
- 24 Man that is inexperienced (6)
- 25 Sequence ends with 'terrorist organisation, English' (4,4)
- 26 English flower festival? (6)
- 27 As originally written: 'Untouched by (any other) human hand!' (8)

Down

- 1 Release without charge (4)
- 2 Regretted having sounded offensive (4)
- 3 Go as I hope, redirected to channels of nourishment (9)
- 4 Enthusiasts adding spice to sets? (6,6)
- 6 Small being in space, red or white (5)
- 7 Opponents singing are spellbinding (10)
- 8 In that place later, following that (10)
- 11 Appellation for Methodism, perhaps (12)
- 13 In a sticky situation, botanically speaking? (2,1,3,4)
- 14 'Some mute ____ Milton here may rest' (Gray, *Elegy*) (10)
- 17 'The Lord executeth righteousness and judgement : for all them that are ____ with wrong' (Ps 103) (9)
- 21 Banishment to former French island (5)
- 22 Worry about part of guitar? (4)
- 23 Drink in the field (4)



SOLUTION TO LAST MONTH'S PUZZLE

H	Y	M	N	A	L	P	S	A	L	T	E	R	S
A	O	B	S	A	E	C	A						
N	A	S	C	E	N	T	M	U	S	I	C	A	L
D	E	L	O	O	S	L	A						
E	C	S	T	A	S	I	E	S	O	P	E	R	A
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Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families

We are hoping that the second half of 2021 will be more like what we are used to, even if not quite 'normal'! July 13th and August 10th mornings will be Eucharists, and from September we will add a meeting to our service, as heretofore.

We are delighted to be enrolling **two new members** at Sunday Eucharist on **July 11th**. Please come and support us if you are able.

On the afternoon of **August 10th 3pm-4.30pm**, we are planning to hold a Cream Tea in Preston, at the home of Chris and Joy Sworn. We are of course hoping for beautiful sunshine, but if we are unlucky we will meet in Preston church hall. Transport will be provided if requested. **A great opportunity to get together as a Branch, and celebrate the life and work of Mary Sumner, who died 100 years ago.** It would help the planning of catering and transport if you would kindly sign up at the back of church, or by phoning me on 829923.

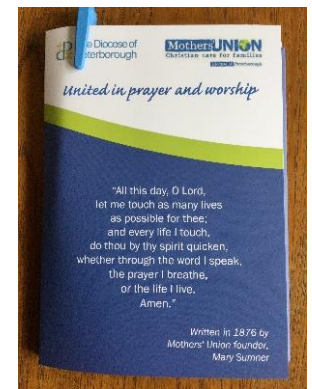
There are no Deanery activities planned for this year. Jill Cannings take over as Deanery Leader from January 2022, so 'watch this space'! As our Diocesan President, Jill has been the inspiration behind an initiative to reach all the clergy in our diocese. We in Uppingham are very fortunate that our clergy are members and active supporters already, but in other parishes the incumbents may not even be aware of the MU or of the support it can offer. Jill raised the money (by her sponsored walking) to put together a team for sourcing, producing and printing the information, including a most professional folder, to try to engage with those 'not in the know'! They will be distributed through MU members, if possible by those already acquainted with the recipients.

This project has had a long gestation, and now goes forth with our prayer that each and every one will be an aid to God's work in our Diocese.

I'm hoping to see **everyone**, very soon!

God bless

Janet Wardle



The Tower of Babel

In the Old Testament, it is taken for granted that in order to *meet with God* you need to go to the top of a mountain. Instances include when Abraham intended to sacrifice Isaac, when Moses went to get the Ten Commandments, Elijah when God spoke in a still, small voice. Psalm 24.3 articulates this belief: *Who may go up the mountain of the Lord? And who may stand in his holy place?*

This belief is very ancient, going back some five and a half thousand years – to some time between the reign of Pharaoh Narmer, the first to wear the dual crown, around 3000 BC, and King Scorpion who seems to have wielded power about 600 years before that.

The land between the rivers Tigris and Euphrates was very flat, so the first of the Ziggurats (mountains made of brick) were simple two-storey affairs like those at Ur and Uruk. Two stairways were made for people to reach the top. In time, these buildings became higher and more complicated, until the one at Babylon reached seven storeys. A development from the earliest Ziggurats (the house of God) was that the god might want to come out of his house to visit his people, so a third stairway was incorporated. This Stairway of the God had treads that were 3ft, 7ins high – impossible for humans to negotiate.

In Genesis 28.11-13, 16-17 Jacob had a dream at Bethel, when he saw a ladder (stairway) to heaven, with angels ascending and descending, and the Lord stood above it.

This suggests that the narrators of the account in the Bible may have used the story of the spread of peoples as a political or religious theme, to meet the needs of their own time.

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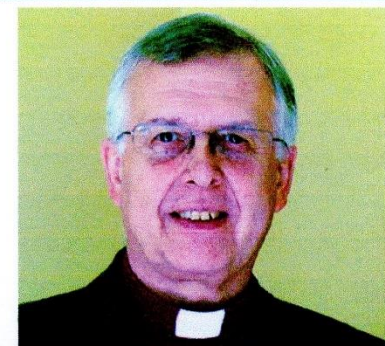
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Summer Holiday

I am writing this in early June, before the government announces the level and timing of the final relaxation of covid restrictions. Even at this stage, though, relatively unrestricted travel is allowed to a few countries, and people have started booking and taking their Mediterranean and other holidays. I don't begrudge that. We live in a pressured world, and a good break from work is really necessary. I have encouraged our clergy to make sure they take one.

However, I have a challenge for all of us who fly, for whatever reasons. Flying is very, very, heavy in its carbon cost. Why don't we all consider offsetting the damage we are doing to the planet when we book a flight? If you look at this online, through one of the sustainable travel or carbon capture websites, you will find that for between £25 and £50 you could plant enough trees to offset the carbon cost of your return flight to any short or middle distance destination. We are doing this as a diocese when we visit our link diocese in Korea (long-distance, about £75 per head to offset), and I will suggest it to those who travel with me on pilgrimage to the Holy Land (less than £50 per head). In practice, it comes to around ten percent of the cost of the flight.

One of the remarkable things about holidays away from home is that God's creation can actually re-create us. The beautiful world we live in, whether it is the Lake District or the Scottish hills which I enjoy, or the Mediterranean



sunshine which blesses others, somehow enables us to relax and unwind, then re-energises us. Thank God for this wonderful provision.

This shouldn't be a surprise. "Holiday" is "holy day", originating from the pilgrimages of the Old Testament, running through the saints' days of medieval Christendom, through to our bank holidays and summer breaks today. The human spirit needs refreshment and renewal, and our wise creator provides for this.

I hope you can get away during this summer. I hope and pray that you will be blessed through that. I suspect you will be even more if you can spend some of that time consciously seeking God's renewal and re-energising in your life.

With best wishes

+ Donald

+Donald
Bishop of Peterborough

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Articles, news and views from anyone in the parishes are always welcome.

Please contribute to the next issue, the earlier this month the better! – Eds

The views expressed or implied in this magazine are not necessarily those of the Rector, Ministry Team, Churchwardens or Editors.

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