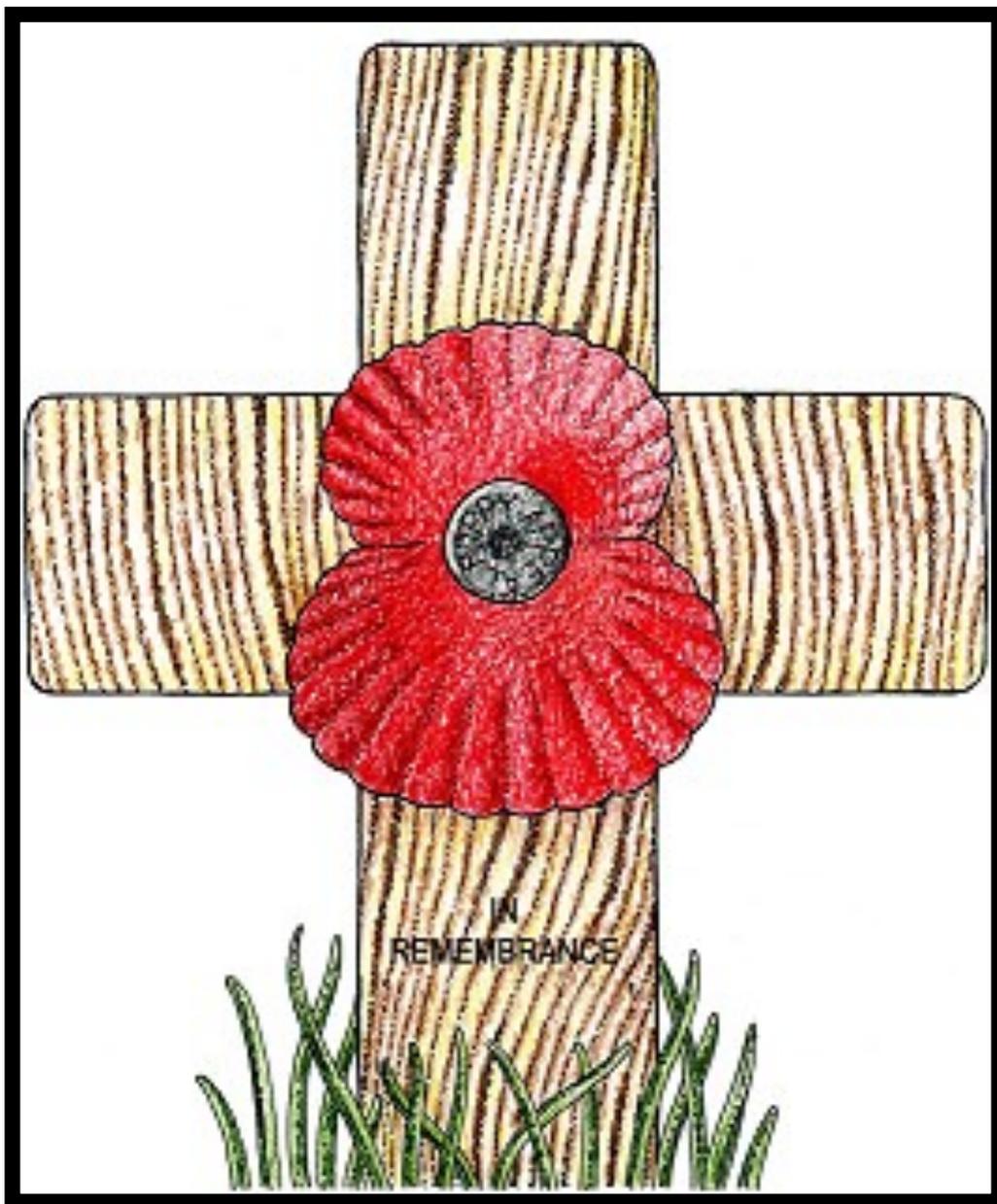


News and Views from St Peter's Church and The Parish of Redcar



November 2020

PARISH CONTACTS

THE VICAR In Vacancy (For all parish enquiries please contact the Churchwardens)

ASSISTANT CURATE Reverend Tina Burgess 07909107404
Email: revtinaburgess@gmail.com

CHURCHWARDENS Mrs Anne Hagen 01642479755
20 Cartmel Road 07804047354

Mr Michael Williams 01642758044
24 Windsor Road 07813016630

READERS Chris Bowers
Steve Graham
Sr. Louisa Ann, OHP

VERGER Mrs Sue Steele 01642473706
2 Dene Grove 07807069795

CHURCH EMAIL ADDRESS stpeterschurchredcar@gmail.com

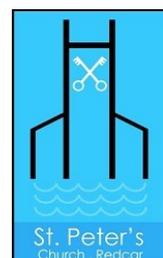
To discuss baptisms or weddings, please call 01642471825 between 6.00pm and 7.00pm on a Thursday evening.

Keep up to date with our activities by
visiting our Facebook page -

[https://www.facebook.com/
stpeterschurchredcar](https://www.facebook.com/stpeterschurchredcar)

or our Website

www.stpeterschurchredcar.co.uk



FROM THE CHURCHWARDENS



Hi everyone!

Hard to believe a month has gone by already! It was so good to see a decent turnout to the APCM last month especially in these unusual circumstances and so late in the year. Thank you to everyone for your support.

And what a change in a month – the clocks have gone back and the nights have started to draw in ever quicker. I know some people love the winter months, turning up the heating or even lighting a real fire and curling up on the sofa in front the telly or with a good book to read. For others though, it certainly is not something to enjoy; they long for summer sun and beaches and dark nights mean only one thing: feeling miserable, lacking energy; might as well stay in bed!!

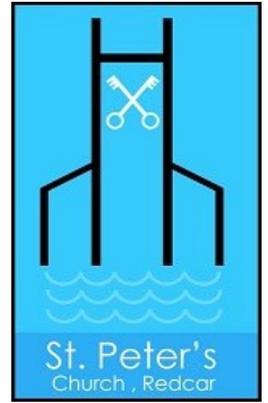
There we were just getting into a nice rhythm of services and beginning to think a little excitedly of new ways to get ready for the approach of Advent at the end of this month and the sparkle of Christmas approaching when WHOOSH! We're back into another lockdown! It will probably mean some changes for a few weeks and we will do our best to keep you informed as to what difference it will make here at St. Peter's.

Please take time to make a note as you read through the magazine of any changes. If able to, do please take a look at our facebook page or the website. If you are alone at home, please don't feel lonely! Please know that God is always with us and that here at St. Peter's we are praying for you and each other; do pick up the phone and call one of us if you feel like a chat.

Please stay Safe

God Bless Anne and Michael

WORSHIP AT ST. PETER'S



During this month of lockdown,
St Peter's Church will be open for private prayer
on Sunday and Wednesday mornings from 9.30 to 11.30am

Please come to light a candle, and meet with God in our prayers
for the nation and for those who are in need.

*Upon entry, please sanitise your hands, wear a mask and
sit socially distanced from one another. Thank you!*

At this time of great need,
may the lord bless us and keep us,
may the Lord shed
His light upon us
and give us his peace

EVERY SUNDAY at 8.00pm NIGHT PRAYER (Compline) via Zoom

Zoom meeting ID: 884 7969 6809

Password: 185195



Daily Prayers are posted on the St Peter's Facebook page





Curate's Corner

Interruption after interruption to the usual patterns of life....that's how life can seem these days. But there's only

one interruption that we really need to be ready for. This Advent season is a time of anticipation, of preparation and of waiting...not only for celebrating the birth of Christ but also for being ready for his coming again in glory. This second coming, not as a baby but as the King of Glory.

At this Advent time I share a reflection which helps us to focus on Jesus as King, and which I hope, will put all other manner of interruptions into a much greater perspective.

“Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.” Matthew 2:2

At both the beginning and the end of Jesus' physical life, Gentiles proclaimed His kingship. The wise men were the first non-Jews to seek out Jesus, and they came because the cosmos announced His birth in such a glorious manner that they concluded it must be royalty.

Acknowledging the crime for which Jesus was being crucified, Pilate ordered that a placard be fastened to the cross that read, “Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.” The Jews themselves did not acknowledge Jesus as their King and wanted Pilate to change the sign, but he refused.

Despite their refusal to recognise Jesus' kingship, Jesus is King. He came to rule what was rightfully His, both due to His lineage and His creation-ownership.

Matthew dedicates the first part of Jesus' narrative to His genealogy, carefully tracing His lineage to David's royal blood. And Luke outlines Jesus' family tree all the way back to Adam, son of God.

Perhaps the most fitting moment of worship in the New Testament is when Jesus entered Jerusalem riding on a donkey, the crowds praising God and shouting, “Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.” (Luke 19:38)

Although many in the crowd may not have understood that Jesus’ kingdom is not of this world, such praise befits the King of kings, and we who have the benefit of the entire New Testament narrative have ample reason to bow our knees in praise and adoration.

Jesus came first as a humble King, but He will return as a warrior King to claim what is rightfully His. John tells us of the present reality in heaven:

“On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS” (Revelation 19:16).

The King of Glory is not absent from His kingdom; He is patiently awaiting the time when He will come again to establish His kingdom.

We do not trifle with a weakling, nor do we worship an incompetent wannabe rock star. We worship the King of kings who deserves all honour and glory, and continually receives it from the heavens, creation, angels and the chorus of His redeemed. Who is this King of Glory? His name is Jesus.

In this Christmas season, let’s take our eyes off our selves and our circumstances and fix our gaze on the King of Glory.

(Taken from “Unwrapping the Names of Jesus” by Asheritah Ciuciu. Moody publishers. 2017)

Every blessing,

Rev Tina

A Wedding at St Peter's

It was my pleasure to have been able to conduct the Wedding of Hannah and Ben Lowery on Wednesday 4th November. After a few challenges due to Covid regulations, they were able to make their declarations and vows to each other and before God and family. We celebrate their joy and happiness and send them all our good wishes, prayers and blessings.

Rev Tina





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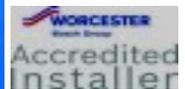
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LECTIONARY FOR NOVEMBER

1st November

Matthew 5:1-12
1 John 3:1-3
Psalm 34:1-10
Revelation 7: 9-end

All Saints Day

8th November

Matthew 25:1-13
1Thessalonians 4:13-end
Psalm 70
Amos 5: 18-24

Remembrance Sunday

15th November

Matthew 25:14-30
1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
Psalm 90: 1-12
Zephania 1:7, 12-end

2nd Sunday before Advent

22nd November

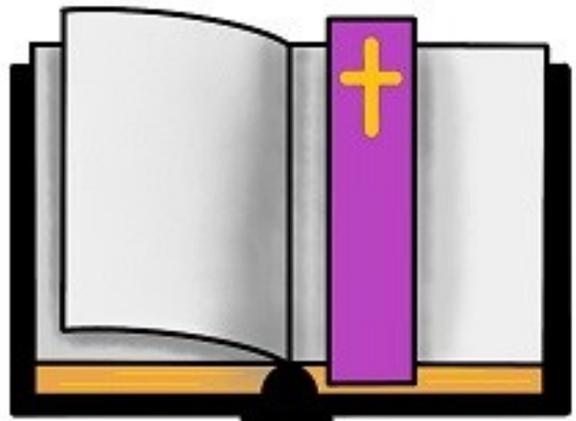
Matthew 25:31-end
Ephesians 1:15-end
Psalm 95:1-7
Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

Christ the King

29th November

Mark 13:24-end
1 Corinthians 1:3-9
Psalm 80: 1-8, 18-20
Isaiah 64: 1-9

1st Sunday of Advent



St Peter's Church - GENEROUS GIVING

St Peter's Church is an extremely generous church, with the many and varied talents that our people give in so many different ways that underpins and enables the work of mission to flourish. So many people freely offer the gifts given to them by God which is wonderful, however the Churches finances are a critical part of maintaining our building in which we worship and is how the Church of England is financed through voluntary giving.

COVID19 has presented us with new challenges throughout which we have been gifted with the ability to worship and care for each other in new ways. These unusual times have seen a reduction in donations and generous giving. Since January there has been an overall decrease in our income in excess of **£ 23,000**, which is not surprising, as we have been unable to hold our Summer Fair, coffee mornings and other social fundraising events; and with reduced weekly collections and lost revenue from groups not using the Zetland rooms or the church itself.

The PCC have continued to drive our ambitions to continue the development and upkeep of our building. With the west end entrance toilets now refurbished, the boiler overhaul / repair commenced and the purchase of 20 lovely new chairs to augment the 30 bought with a generous donation of £500 specifically given to replace our old and damaged ones. We also intend to give full accessibility around the church by levelling the raised area in front of the altar rail. The project for the urgent replacement of the Lady Chapel and office roofs is in a very advanced stage (hopefully to be completed early in the new year).

We have also commissioned a survey of our windows and stonework to identify urgent remedial works. These projects have only been made possible by a very generous bequest to the Church.

How can you help?

A key to achieving our project ambitions is cash donations, you may wish to consider:

- An increase in your weekly donation whether by plate, envelope or standing order
- Switch from plate or envelope donation to standing order
- Consider a one off donation, which can be via the new online giving facility 'Donate Now' button on the home page of our website (www.stpeterschurchredcar.co.uk)
- A donation by gift aid envelope posted in the alms boxes in church
- Ensuring that all donations, envelopes and standing orders are gifted aided where applicable
- Sell unwanted items via online sales platforms and donate the proceeds to church



Our church is not about money, (giving is made so generously in so many ways) but we feel that sharing our ambitions and by a collective effort God will lead us to his work as he intends for each of us.

As Paul wrote to the people of Corinth:

“the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”

God bless

Michael and Anne (Church Wardens)



Hi Everyone, (especially if you are a visitor!)

Thank you for placing orders for next year's diary and for Christmas cards.

I will be in touch as soon as I hear from Jennifer Finel.

I know many of you are asking about our annual subscription for next year and as yet we haven't had any official notification through the Diocese; though as a heads up, I think it is going to be around £30 (we paid £27 each last year plus £1 towards the AFIA project) , fingers crossed it won't need to be too much more!

This month I've included a couple of the national events and I particularly HOPE that everyone reading this article will have a go at the FREEPHONE number. There are other bits on it (Options 1 – 3) and it might seem a bit long but don't forget YOU CAN HANG UP ANY TIME and then ring back when you have a bit more time!! How cool is that! Get the kettle on and enjoy!

Cheerio Stay Safe God Bless us All

Anne x

Mothers' Union Worldwide President speaks at Church of England Sunday Service



The Church of England ONLINE streams a service every Sunday at 9.00am. On 15th November, our Worldwide President, Sheran Harper, has the great honour of giving the address. It will be wonderful to watch, either on the day or afterwards!

MOTHERS' UNION Global Day

As many of you are now aware 5th December marks our first ever Global Day when we will say "No More 1 in 3" in response to the horrific statistic that 1 in 3 women worldwide experience domestic abuse in their lifetime. MU branches Worldwide are planning events, most of which have to now be VIRTUAL events online, many of which are free to join



STAYING CONNECTED THROUGH MID DAY PRAYERS

MU Members who don't have access to the internet at home are still able to hear our midday prayers thanks to the Church of England's Daily Hopeline. Just call 0800 804 8044 from your own telephone or mobile and press option 4, then option 8



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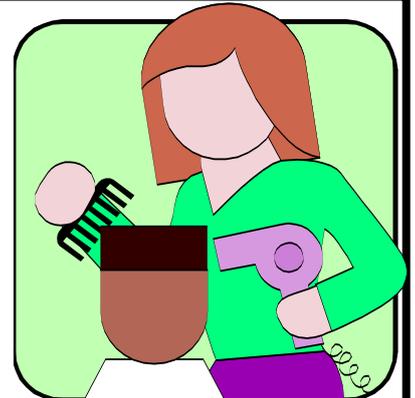
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Autumn Fire

I watched the clock strike September
And the trees burst into autumn
Flaming colours streak up and away
Glorious, vibrant, alive
As the days pass the colours coat the ground
The fire dies down
Slowly fading
Embers
November, December.

Chris Bowers

Claire Soderman writes....

An Unexpected Gift

As term ended at Cranmer Hall in late June with summer placement plans in



disarray and the prospect of many months in the student house in Durham stretching ahead of me, Anna, the college chaplain, sowed the seeds of going to her parish, St. Brandon's, Brancepeth, for a two week placement. Two weeks turned into 12 weeks. 12 significant weeks in my life.

Philippians 4:19 says, 'And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.'

Over the summer, God indeed supplied what I needed, even before I knew it, in that village and back with my dear Church family at St Peter's, Redcar.

The summer was long and unexpectedly challenging, not only with Covid restrictions and planned events cancelled but particularly as my Mum's health deteriorated rapidly. Sadly, the cancer we had thought curable became terminal and we entrusted her to God's loving arms in late September. In the midst of it all though, God has provided the people I needed to get through it.

Each Wednesday morning, I came to the Holy Communion service at St Peter's and was strengthened and sustained by the living bread yes, but also by the kindness and care of the people who make up the Church family. I felt known and loved, comforted with words and looks even when we haven't been able to hug or touch one another. Both real and virtual connections have been an unexpected gift in a time of great sadness.

At St Peter's, much has been in person but I've also loved and benefited immensely from Sunday evening Compline. The chance to gather, pray and encourage one another during times of happiness and times of adversity speaks of Psalm 62:8 'Trust in him at all times, O people; Pour out your heart before him; God is a refuge for us.' I've also hugely appreciated staying connected via Messenger, Whatsapp, cards and emails.

At St Brandon's, much worship was on Zoom but I spent time in the village working on a summer project with young people. However it met, it was still a community gathering to worship God. Most mornings I joined with a deeply prayerful group, some on Zoom, some alongside me in the stunning church with the sun streaming through the Paradise Window. This pattern of prayer was life-giving indeed.

In starting my second and final year at Cranmer Hall in difficult times, I have been reminded of just how important St Peter's is to me: a place of nurture, friendship and belonging. But I found something in St Brandon's too, which opened my eyes to how those who are new to a Church can experience the transforming love of Jesus through the welcome we offer. You or I may be the unexpected gift God is placing in someone's path for a moment or a season.

Thank you to all who have prayed for my Mum, me and the family over the past year and for all who continue to encourage me as I train for ordained ministry. Thank you for being my port in a storm.

As we continue to journey through these times, with physical connections to our friends and family limited, may we keep reaching out to one another and put our trust in our Lord and Saviour, Christ Jesus for he will provide us with what we need.

Claire x

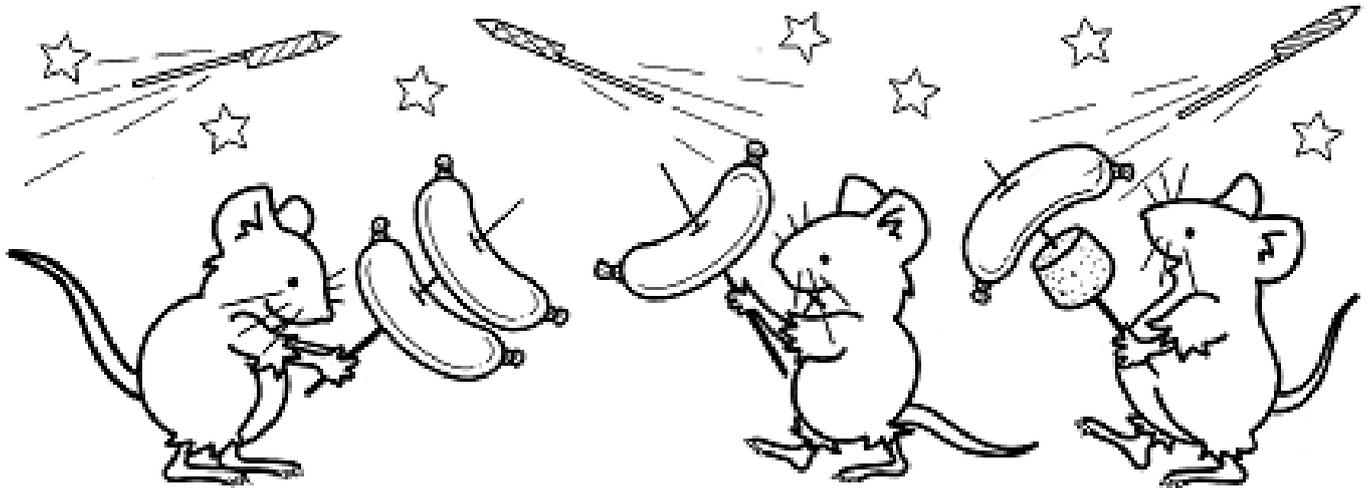
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NEWS FROM THE FRIENDS OF REDCAR CEMETERY

Tuesday, 26th October, was a good day working in the old section of the cemetery. We needed all the gardeners to help as we had to rake off the wildflower area. The previous week, the council grass cutters had cut the area for us. The raking off is important, as we do not want the area to be rich in nutrients because wildflowers like poor soil. We have recently had some funding from Tees Valley



Nature Partnership, and thanks to them we have been able to purchase plants to improve the area. After raking the area, we planted wild tulip, Lent lilies (daffodils) and Leucojum bulbs. We will also be sowing some yellow rattle seeds to help reduce the vigorous grasses. Through our facebook page we have asked for a couple of volunteers to look after this area on a Tuesday between 10.00am and 12noon, easing out the grass and weeds and nurturing the plants that come up. It is a lovely quiet area based against the old cemetery wall and is often in full sun. This part of the cemetery was opened in 1874 and has a very peaceful feel. There is a small budget for wildflower plug plants. If Coronavirus is under control, we will be meeting twice a year with tea and scones to discuss gardening progress and review images that will be taken throughout the year. Thanks to Margaret, Kath, Bren, Ged, Ian C, Ian M, Anth, Brian, Jonty, Wendy, Theresa, Julie and Tracey for their help.

Jim and Deb have planted over 100 daffodils in the old cemetery in borders and beds; thanks to them and to Kevin Wilson, Heritage Manager RCBC, who organises meetings for all the voluntary groups in the borough. We miss meeting the other volunteers and hope all our distant friends are safe.

On November 11th we will be placing poppy crosses on the 47 commonwealth war graves in the cemetery and laying wreaths to remember all those who gave their lives in in the service of their country.

Dot Ahmed



ST PETER'S 100 CLUB DRAW FOR OCTOBER 2020

No. 60	Brenda Mitchell	£40
No. 80	Joyce Hogg	£10

The Promise of Advent

Stir up our hearts, we beseech you,
to prepare ourselves to receive your Son.
When He comes and knocks, may He find us not sleeping in sin,
But awake to righteousness,
Ceaselessly rejoicing in His love.
May our hearts and minds be so purified,
That we may be ready to receive His promise of eternal life.

*from The Gelasian Sacramentary, c.500
(oldest official prayer book of the Western Church)*

Taken from The Parish Pump

Remember Me

(A poem for Armistice Day - The voice of the dead)

Remember me

Duty called and I went to war
Though I'd never fired a gun before
I paid the price for your new day
As all my dreams were blown away

Remember me

We all stood true as whistles blew
And faced the shell and stench of Hell
Now battle's done, there is no sound
Our bones decay beneath the ground
We cannot see, or smell, or hear
There is no death, or hope or fear

Remember me

Once we, like you, would laugh and talk
And run and walk and do the things that you all do

But now we lie in rows so neat
Beneath the soil, beneath your feet

Remember me

In mud and gore and the blood of war
We fought and fell and move no more
Remember me, I am not dead
I'm just a voice within your head.

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Rooms

When the vicar moved his family into the large Victorian vicarage, a member of the congregation asked the young son how he liked his new home. "It's great," the little boy replied. "At last I have my own room, Mike has his own room, Jemma has her own room, and Bobby has his own room. But poor Mum is still in with Dad."

Prayer

A little girl attempted the Lord's Prayer: "Our Father, who does art in heaven, Harold is your name. Amen."

Don't worry

A little boy was told that he should try and be good, and that he could ask God for help with this. So he prayed: "Lord, please make me good, if you can. But if you can't, don't worry about it. I'm having a real good time like I am."

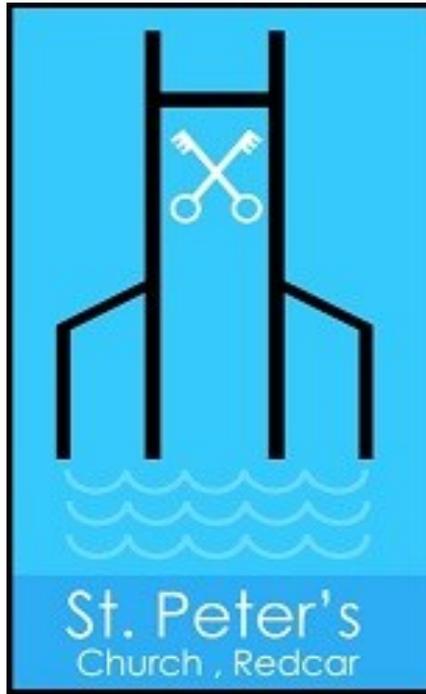
Family tree

At a drinks party at a wealthy golf club, the conversation turned to the subject of ancestry. "Of course, we trace our family back to coming over with William the Conqueror," observed one lady with satisfaction. She turned to a second woman, who was new to the club, and asked, "What about you dear? Can you go back very far?"

"Not very far," came the reply. "You see, all our early family records were lost in the Flood."



PLEASE CUT ALONG LINE TO DETACH



With a donation of £25 you can remember a special occasion as well as contribute to the upkeep of St Peter's Church.

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