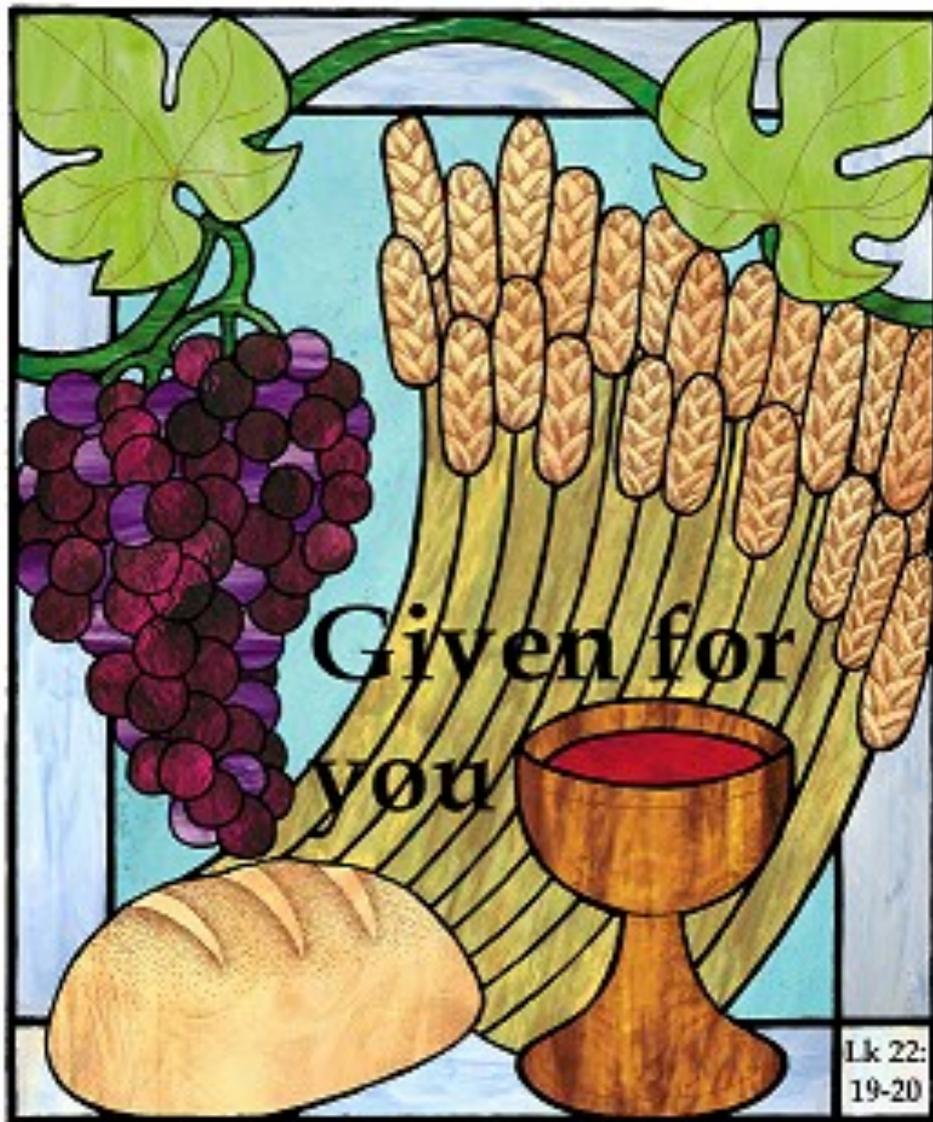


News and Views from St Peter's Church and The Parish of Redcar



September 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

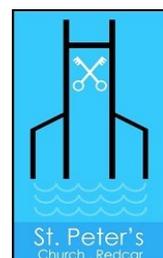
To discuss baptisms or weddings, please call 01642471825 between 6.00pm and 7.00pm on a Thursday evening.

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



Hello everyone,

It's hard to believe a month has passed since I last wrote! So much has happened in that time: those of us who were **shielding** were encouraged to venture out of our homes; to help the economy and encourage more 'normality' in our lives. There was the "Eat Out To Help Out" scheme and more and more other life enhancing opportunities like hairdressers, salons and barbers to visit. For the past two weeks more indoor activities such as Bowling Alleys and indoor play areas have opened and finally our schools and places of learning are also ready to welcome our young people back!!

And what of places of worship? Last month I shared a couple of photos of what St. Peter's looked during a Sunday morning worship. Over the years there has been a lot to moan about our church building, **however** it is big, spacious and airy (can be a bit chilly!) and we have been welcoming God's people back for nearly TWO months and the wonderful news is that EIGHTY FOUR people have ventured back! Not all at the same time (I might add ponderingly!) The fit ones amongst us would have to use the Balcony!

Our **CHURCH GARDEN** needs your help!

Saturday Mornings in September from 9.00am

Paths, litter, behind the East End in particular

Bring gloves and tools if have them

Love to see you! Anne H





Teamwork is what got us here. The Team coach (our loving Father in Heaven) is mighty pleased, I'm sure, with our progress but the challenge is always there: to stick to His plan and to achieve more (following His Way).

So let's do it this 'mantra' just fell out of a book yesterday

Coming Together is a beginning

Keeping together is progress

Thinking together is unity BUT

Working together is SUCCESS



PLEASE JOIN US in church for our

ANNUAL PARISH CHURCH MEETING 2019

WEDNESDAY 21st OCTOBER

7.00pm START

I KNOW WHAT YOU ARE ALL THINKING! Yes, 2020 is nearly over and next April we will, no doubt, have to go through this all again for 2020!! But needs must and this is a wonderful opportunity for us to come together and to review and reminisce on all that happened in 2019.

Nominations forms for CHURCHWARDENS and new members to join the PCC [Parochial Church Council] are available at the back of church.

We have some testing times ahead and we need energy, wisdom, enthusiasm and most importantly commitment. Please give your support to those who represent you FOR FURTHER INFORMATION do speak to Anne or Michael or Rev Tina.

Anne Hagen and Michael Williams



CURATE'S CORNER

What does 'the new normal' mean to you? It's a phrase we may have heard a lot from newscasters, tv presenters, community leaders and even church

leaders, as they try to imagine how life will be in these next months, 'post-Covid-19'. Without doubt, we are all having to take extra measures to protect ourselves and others as best we can. To ignore the fact that the virus is still with us borders on being foolish...even if we haven't known anyone who has caught it. And although many have continued to work throughout, the rest of society is beginning to function again with safeguards in place as we find ourselves moving forwards after a long, enforced period of inactivity.

In one of our recent readings from the gospel of Matthew, Jesus is speaking to his disciples about a coming time when there would be huge social, political and spiritual upheaval at the time of the 'coming of the Son of Man'. Some scholars think his whole discourse at this point referred to the destruction of the Temple in AD70...the religious, cultural and social centre of Jewish identity.....but as Jesus continues to speak, his words telescope prophetically down through the ages, providing warning and guidance to Christians in every generation, to be prepared...to be ready and to be actively keeping watch for the unexpected so that they may avoid the coming calamity.

But being ready does not mean we live on the edge of our nerves. Being ready is more to do with being faithful...growing in a life of prayer...daily being attentive to God and his word...growing in wisdom. Serving, loving and giving so that our whole lives are pointing God-ward.

And being ready is relying on God's faithfulness **to us**, which is steadfast and eternal.

Just like the first disciples and early followers of Jesus, keeping watch does not keep us from living through hard times. Indeed, our current experience of living through a pandemic has felt tumultuous but the readiness to turn to our heavenly Father and to pray, helps us to draw on His goodness and faithfulness... which in turn strengthens us and keeps us from despair.

How are you finding the new normal? Does it feel very much like the old normal...or has the lockdown experience given you space where you found yourself re-evaluating your priorities and re-discovering some long-forgotten values which have led to some major life-changes?

Whether we are experiencing something good or something challenging, let's remember Jesus' instruction to keep watch.

Let's seek to be ready...let's seek to be faithful...and let's seek to make that our 'new normal'.

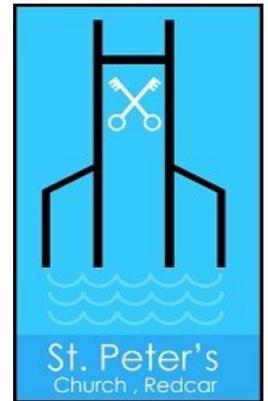
Every blessing

Tina



WORSHIP AT ST. PETER'S

We still have restrictions and guidelines to adhere to because of COVID19 but please be assured of a warm welcome and assistance if needed.



EVERY SUNDAY at 10.00am SAID EUCHARIST (Holy Communion) in church

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

Zoom meeting ID: 884 7969 6809

Password: 185195

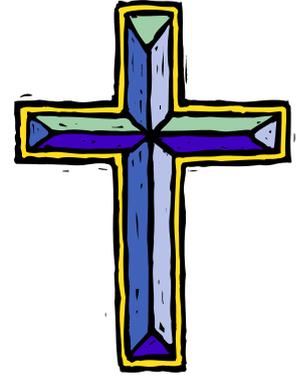


EVERY WEDNESDAY at 9.30am SAID EUCHARIST (Holy Communion) in church

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



From the Parish Registers



Funerals *We pray for the family and friends of*

30th July Edna Valance 102yrs (died 12.7.20)

20th August Dora Blowers 97yrs (died 4.8.20)

21st August Mark Andrew Thompson 58yrs (died 7.8.20)

Prayer for Those Who Mourn

Father,

you know our hearts and share our sorrows.

We are hurt by our parting from those whom we loved:

when we are angry at the loss we have sustained,

when we long for words of comfort,

yet find them hard to hear,

turn our grief to truer living,

our affliction to firmer hope

in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

From The Church of England website



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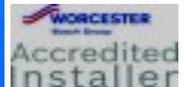
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Redcar TS10 5JU



Hi everyone,

Hope everyone is keeping safe and staying well? It has been a busy time opening up the church for services and trying to bring some rhythm and purpose back into the life of St. Peter's! I wonder, did you, like me, miss your Strawberry Tea and our Annual Outing ?

Last month I let you know that the Diaries and Calendars could be ordered but I haven't heard from anyone! The 2021 DIARY is a fetching GREY @ £4.25 and (my favourite) The Year Planner/Calendar is £3.55!

If you have received a Mail Order Catalogue, why not show it to family and friends and collect orders for Christmas Cards and Gifts? Bring to church or ring me and I will get them sorted. Last year we raised over £600 for Mothers' Union charities and projects; of course, this year, sadly, all our fundraising ceased due to the COVID19 Crisis.

Which is why our Membership will be so important in the New Year!

Here is an extract from the new Autumn Edition of 'Families First' magazine:

“ANNOUNCING A NEW MEMBERSHIP PUBLICATION

An exciting update on how Britain and Ireland MU members can share, celebrate and learn together more in 2021!”

If you have received the Autumn issue through your door you will know all about this!

From Spring next year, all members will receive a twice-yearly mailing included in our annual subscription and also the 'Families Worldwide' booklet, which always included the Wave of prayer, will become an ANNUAL Prayer Diary with additional reflections and prayer resources. Straight to your own letterbox!! More information to come in the Winter edition of Families First!

PLEASE CONSIDER if you can join us in church at 9.30am on Wednesday, 30th September, the last Wednesday of the month, for CORPORATE COMMUNION.

Our President Sheran Harper used this verse, which I too would like to pass on to you

“Let us not become weary in doing good,
for at the proper time we will reap
a harvest if we do not give up” (Galatians 6:9)

Every blessing Anne



MU Worldwide President Sheran Harper

Chris Bowers writes...

In November 2019 Lorraine and I achieved a lifelong desire to visit Japan, the Land of the Rising Sun. We went on something of a whirlwind tour by coach across Honshu Island, the largest of the main islands that make up the country of Japan. Shinto shrines, Buddhist temples, high mountains, lakes, palaces and castles, massive cities, and wonderful gardens. It was a real treat for all the senses.

One stop on our itinerary was the city of Hiroshima, a name that brings up all sorts of feelings, feelings that can be very different depending on which generation you come from and your family history of WWII.



Sunrise over Hiroshima harbour from our hotel window

When we were looking for a tour of Japan, I did not really want to go to Hiroshima, I really did not know how I would feel in such a place; but there we are, and perhaps I was sent there, who knows. Anyway I spoke with Rachel, our vicar, and we thought that this trip, this opportunity should be marked in some way by St. Peter's.

I found a white quartz pebble on Redcar beach; it seemed to be the right symbol for some reason, and you might say it spoke to me. This pebble was laid on the altar at St. Peter's during our All Souls Service in November 2019, and it was held by Rachel and Tina. It was possibly a vessel for our prayers; it was without doubt a symbol that we remember.

On the 6th of August 1945, a NEW SUN was born by the will of man, it burnt fiercely some 600metres above the ground, and the ground reached 5000 degrees in temperature. Hell on Earth!

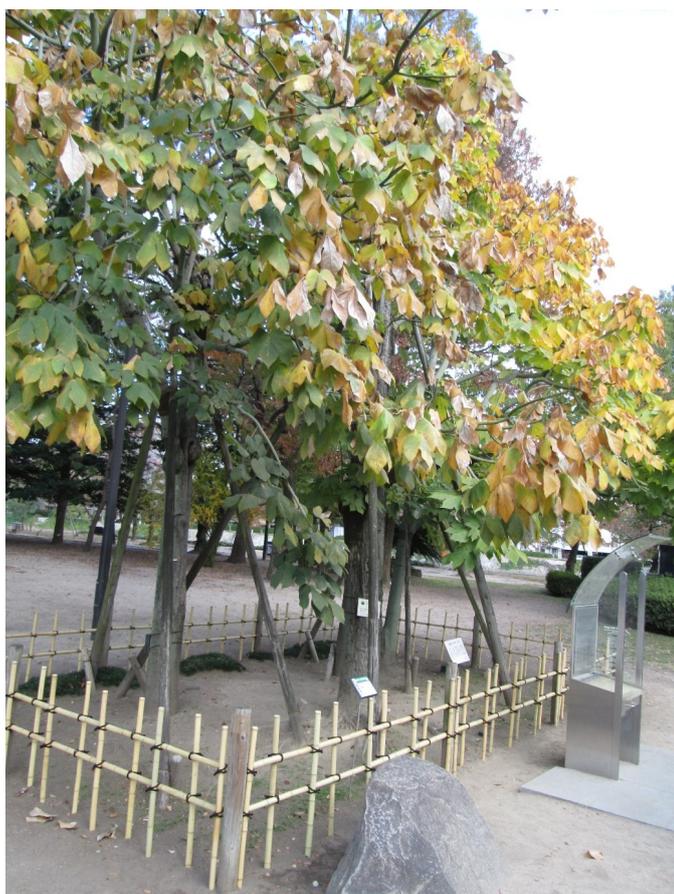
In the middle of Hiroshima is the Peace Park, there is a memorial to all those who died that day and in the years following. An eternal flame burns, and a bell rings for the children. School children throughout Japan fold origami Cranes as a symbol of peace; the reason behind this is down to the story of one school girl who wished to be an athlete, a story worth reading*. There is a museum in the Peace Park, a museum with photographs and artefacts; we lasted ten minutes at most. I am not a brave soul.



The Atomic Bomb Dome, survivor of that August day

Whatever you think of the reasons behind the dropping of the TWO atomic bombs on Japan, I think we can all agree that War is an abomination and nothing less. There is no glory here, there is no honour.

In the Peace Park is a tree named the Phoenix tree, it was present on the day of the blast, totally burnt on one side from the immense heat, left a charred stump. Over the days and weeks that followed it started to sprout green, and people saw this and it became a symbol of the desire to live and to rebuild. It still grows and produces seed, and the seed is distributed to people around Japan and the world as a symbol of peace. It has become the symbol of Hiroshima university and the song below was written for the university, and school children across Japan are taught this song.



The Phoenix Tree

Song of Paulownia (Song of The Phoenix Tree)

music and lyrics by Nanase Morimitsu

The train brought me to Peace Park
where I finally met you, Paulownia Tree.
You are the mother of a tree at my school.
You gave birth to many seeds
and your children have grown tall.
The breeze from the Paulownia Tree heals
the scars of war from long ago.
The sadness of that day long ago.
Pictures of peace at the Peace Museum--
a promise to gather our courage,
with people from many countries,
and together think of Hiroshima.
Countries without conflict, the fire of peace.
The song of the Paulownia Tree
will never forget that day long ago.
Cherish the future of Hiroshima.
Hiroshima's hope is only one:
Happy smiles around the world.



I thought quite hard about where our pebble should go.

An eternal flame seemed not quite rights as a memorial for such an event, but this tree seemed right, it was and is a testament to life, a testament to God's creation, it seemed the right place.



Our pebble from Redcar beach at the base of the Phoenix Tree

75 years since the end of WWII.

75 years to consider the actions of all nations.

Hiroshima is a thriving city, but it will always be a fearful reminder.

Chris Bowers

**The story of the little girl, Sadako Sasaki, and the Japanese legend and cultural significance of One Thousand Origami Cranes, can be found in Wikipedia, the free online encyclopaedia—<https://www.wikipedia.org>*



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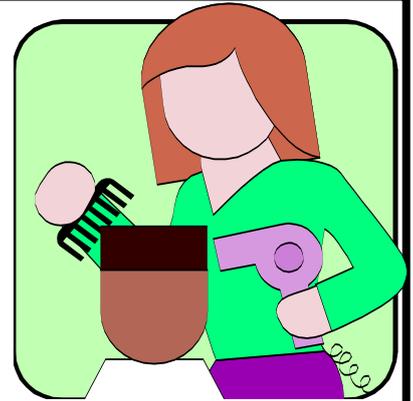
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READERS

“What is a Licensed Lay (Reader) Minister ?

A Licensed Lay (Reader) Minister is a lay person who, following a call from God, is trained and licensed by the Anglican Church to teach the faith, enable mission and lead in church and society.”

St Peter’s Redcar has a long and proud tradition of Licensed Lay Readers.

We currently have two Readers, Chris Bowers and Steve Graham—and are looking forward to welcoming a third, Sister Louisa Ann OHP, who will be licensed at York Minster on the 26th of September. Due to the Covid issues the numbers allowed to attend are very limited, 4 guests for each reader being licensed. So although we will not be able to be there in person, we will still be able to send our love and prayers to support Sister Louisa Ann as she takes another important step on her life long journey of faith and service.



This photo of St Peter’s Readers with Revd Jim Robertson was taken in 1987 at Ryehills School when we celebrated St Peter’s Day and the 25th Anniversary of Lay Readership at our church.

NEWS FROM THE FRIENDS OF REDCAR CEMETERY

In 2010 we were able to provide the sundial cremation area with the funding received from Impetus Environmental Trust, The Water Board and from our own fundraising efforts with community help. Our volunteers have recently spent time cleaning this area. The sundial is made of stainless steel and is cleaned every week. The Rev'd. John Weetman, former vicar of St Peter's, was a member of the group at the time and he advised and helped us with the settings of the sundial.

The quote on the sundial reads:

“Let others tell of storms and showers, I'll only mark your sunny hours”

The quarter beds have been weeded with the plants in these beds chosen to attract butterflies. The memorial wall and sanctums have been cleaned and the paving around the area scrubbed clean. There are two seats facing each other.

Ian W, a volunteer who maintains all our seats, is in the process of preserving these two. It is such a quiet, peaceful area that people spend time sitting there with only a few rabbits for company as they like this area too!



Thanks to Wendy, Andrea, Theresa, Tracey, and Gavin, who are new volunteers, for all the work they are doing to keep this area looking good. Here is Ian C transporting the gardening tools brought from the lock up into the cemetery using our new trolley. We are very lucky to have 20 volunteers on the gardening and maintenance team so plenty of tools are needed.

We are looking for small off cuts of synthetic grass for a special project in the cemetery, even very small pieces would be useful. Please contact Dot – Telephone 01642 478349 or Email dotahmed@btinternet.com



ST PETER'S 100 CLUB DRAW FOR AUGUST 2020

No. 87	Ann Gray	£40
No. 40	Margery Walker	£10



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Next To You and Lonely

(Matthew 25:40)

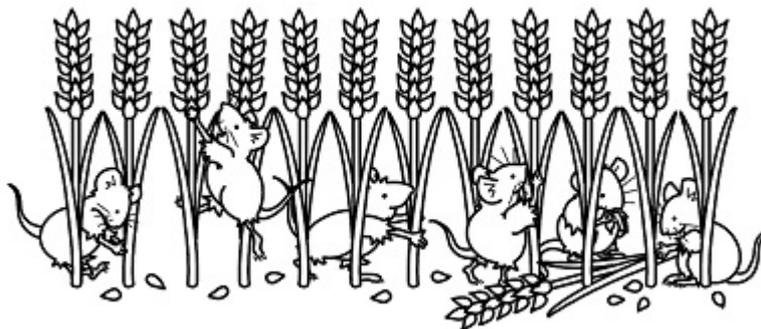
Cups of tea and people,
People who do and who know.
People with purposeful expressions,
Their eyes searching beyond her, through her,
The invisible one.
She's next to you and she's lonely.

Smiles and one-way conversations,
With thoughts and eyes elsewhere,
Never noticing the masks of brightness
Hiding hurting children,
The tired ones,
Who are next to you and lonely.

And the makers of the cups of tea,
The knowers and the doers,
Those who smile and seem to have so much.
They too wear masks that hide their crying,
The together ones
Sit next to you and are lonely.

By Daphne Kitching

Taken from The Parish Pump



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Young son to father: “Dad, what is the middle class?”

Dad: “The middle class consists of people who are not poor enough to accept charity and not rich enough to donate anything.”

∞

A sure way to forget all your troubles is to wear tight shoes.

∞

On dating app: ‘Princess, having had sufficient experience with princes, seeks frog.’

∞

This morning I saw a neighbour talking to her cat. It was obvious she thought her cat understood her. I came into my house and told my dog. We laughed a lot.

∞

Our neighbour’s son is very active in church – he squirms, wriggles and fidgets.

∞

Why is it that saying: "Have a nice day" sounds friendly, but saying "Enjoy your next 24 hours" sounds threatening?

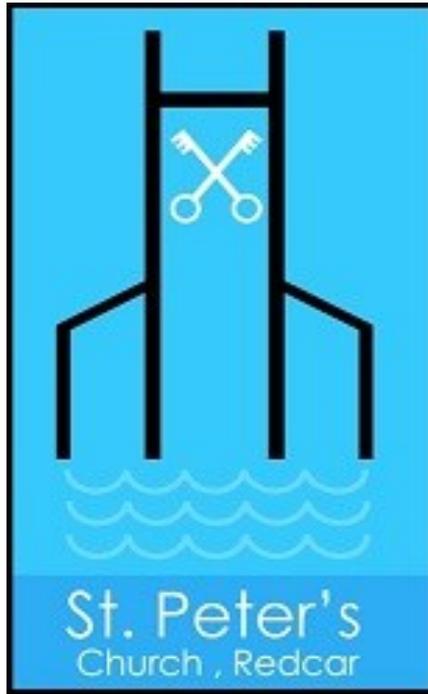
∞

I told my suitcases that due to the pandemic, there will be no holiday this year. Now I'm dealing with emotional baggage.

Taken from The Parish Pump



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.

You can remember a loved one, celebrate a baptism, a wedding or perhaps an anniversary.

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