## **Around the Spire**

FREE Magazine for the Parishioners

of Quedgeley & Kingsway



**Quedgeley & Kingsway** 











## Editorial Thoughts for October Fr. Hugh Broad



#### "PICKING UP THE PIECES"

I am writing this Editorial the day after the funeral of our much-loved and respected Queen, following all the pageantry ceremonial and yet sadness which prevailed both on the day and all that led up to it.

The series of events in that period produced such a huge response from all kinds of people.

For me, the most lasting impression was in the Westminster Central Hall with Her Majesty's laying in state. The precious few minutes when her four children stood around the catafalque with the members of the public still passing by to pay their own respects – bow, sign of the cross, salute and tears – all had their place – in the complete silence!

Regular readers of 'Around the Spire' will recall that last month I spoke of being Lost for Words!

This, in the light of all that was going on in the world of today – drought; financial situation; so much bloodshed; sexual relationships – and so much more! Who could have thought that just days after this even bigger events would dominated all our lives one way or another!

In the space of just three days – the former Prime Minister and her successor were in Balmoral for the formalities surrounding the change at the top – this was to prove to be the last audiences Her Majesty was to give. Then the shattering news of her Passing – news which was to effect not just our own country, but most of the world! And now – to come to terms with a King! Charles and the immediate family, so much in the public eye responded with great dignity in spite of their personal grief.

So – I find myself as a Christian and as a priest, trying to PICK UP THE PIECES – trying in my own mind to make some sense of it all!

As a result I find myself trying to seek help through PRAYER.

Do you remember that last month I was trying to approach these events with praying about it all.

This pleading, and that is what it really is, for you reading this, do seek the presence of the LORD.

GO ON - DO IT NOW!

Please accept my prayers for each and every one of you out there!

FR HUGH

At the time of going to press we have just heard that Wilf Holmes has passed away.

Wilf was a regular member of the church congregation. He loved to attend both church services and social activities that took place at church. He would often help with the washing—up



at our family services! Unfortunately due to ill health his attendance became less frequent. We shall always remember Wilf for his infectious smile and sense of humour. Wilf's funeral service will take place on Friday 14th October at 12.45 in St. James' Church Quedgeley . We send our heartfelt condolences to Wilf's family.

May he rest in peace and rise in glory.



Following our practice as a Church to reach out to those who are in great need, we have for some years now adopted a scheme to invite people to contribute items which are very much needed, and as readers will be well aware are likely to be needed more than ever before!

We have been able to team up with the local branch of the Salvation Army this year, It is so good that Christian churches can team up together on such an occasion.

So here is a list of suggested items for parcels to be made up. Below the list you will see how to make your contributions.

#### FOOD PARCELS.

A typical parcel will contain

Curry Sauce, Bolognese Sauce, Ham, Tuna, Sweetcorn, Tinned new potatoes, Rice, Pasta, Soup, Chopped tomatoes, Peas, Carrots, Spaghetti Hoops, Baked beans.

Custard powder, Rice pudding, Jelly, Tinned fruit, Jam, Breakfast cereals.

Bag of sweets, packet of biscuits, mince pies, shortbread.

#### **TOY PARCELS**

Better than a single gift we try to make up a small Christmas bag for each child which will vary according to the age and gender of the child. We only distribute brand new items at Christmas – any second-hand toys that are donated will be sold in the Salvation Army Charity shops.

The ages we cater for are for newborn babies to age 16. On average each parcel costs £15-£20.

This generally includes:

A main toy that costs around £12 which may include – board games, lego, dolls, playmobile, meccano, playdoh, trucks, cars, role-play things, educational toys etc. For the aged 13+ wallets, bags, watches, scarves, hats & gloves, footballs, card games such as Dobbie

Colouring / puzzle books, pens, pencils, crayons. A reading book, a chocolate selection box, a soft toy for young children or toiletries for older children.

No need to wrap anything as the Salvation Army will make up the parcels to include the items we donate.

No donations too small – every little helps!

Collection dates in church from SUNDAY OCTOBER 16<sup>th</sup> – SUNDAY NOVEMBER 27<sup>th</sup> when a Blessing will be said to send them on their way to the Salvation Army in Gloucester.

Please contact JACKIE BROAD (Ol452 541078) or e-mail – 60jackie60broad@gmail.com

We will then collect items from you i.e. in the Quedgeley / Kingsway area.

**MANY THANKS!!** 

## Out and about in Kingsway and Quedgeley with Revd Mark

Reviews and insights from our community



#### **Three Little Pigs**

https://threelittlepigs.uk

tel. 07826 104604 9 until 9 every day

This is the first 'Out and About' recommended by a reader and so thank you for the recommendation!

Over the summer hols, Erica was out with Daniel and so Emily and I thought we would try the *Three Little Pigs* gourmet burger take away, which is in the small business units next to the sorting office. We both had sausage buns (£5). I sat on the picnic table outside and Emily sat in our 'box bike'. The menu also has burgers from £5.80 and brunch things like American waffles or pancakes (£4.90). Luca, one of the owners served us with an easy going but attentive manner. It was delicious! There is an ethos of everything being hand made and fresh and it certainly tasted that way. A really nice treat and supporting a first-time, small business owner at the same time.

Unit 50, Space Business Centre Quedgeley Gloucester GL2 4AL UK



#### Creation Care /Cash tips



#### Its your call...

You know I notice two things in particular about talking about saving money and caring for the Creation we are part of. The first is that folk often tell me what they cannot do. For example, 'I cannot give up my car because I have to take the person I care for to hospital regularly'. The second thing is to criticise others for caring for creation in one area of life and not another. In other words criticising someone else for not 'doing it all'. Both of these points are often used to justify doing nothing at all to adapt to the needs of the planet we are slowly killing.

I think St Paul has a lot to teach us on this. Paul talks about the common calling from God, or vocation of the Church and how each of us, play a role in that common calling according to our distinctive gifts and skills. It is as if we were different parts of the same body working together. In our case, we have close family ties to the USA. It is not in our gift to give up air travel, but it is for others. On the other hand, we have always avoided becoming car-dependent and this is something we bring to our collective calling to care for the planet. An average family spends £9000 on car travel and so we save a lot of money but we know that it is not possible for everyone. So each of us needs to reflect carefully and honestly. What things are in my own gift to change and what are not? When it comes to caring for the planet, we needn't be perfect but we can play our part and together, as the Body of Christ, we will overcome.

What part will you play in the vocation of our generation to care for this planet, our only home?

#### Revd. Mark

#### "Lights in their Own Generation"

A new series celebrating, month by month, some of those who left a special mark on the history of the worldwide Christian Church.



"Lights" that shine in October:

- 4<sup>th</sup>: Francis of Assisi. He was the son of a wealthy cloth merchant and was expected to take over the family business, but after a time of imprisonment and exile, he became a changed man. He took to caring for the poor and the sick; others came to join him and he prepared a simple, gospel-based rule of life for them all to follow. The Order grew throughout Europe and the Brothers of Francis were well-known for their respect and love for all of God's creation. Francis died in 1226.
- 6th: William Tyndale. Born in Gloucestershire in 1494, William studied at Oxford and Cambridge. He was determined to translate the Scriptures into everyday English but met with strong opposition. He moved to Hamburg, never to return. The first copies of his work arrived in 1524 and it was attacked as subversive by Church authorities. His life's work proved good enough in the next century to be the basis for what we now know as the Authorised Version of the Bible. Sadly, William was charged with heresy and was executed in Brussels in 1536.
- 10<sup>th</sup>: Paulinus. He was among the second group of monks sent by Pope Gregory to England to assist Augustine in his work. He travelled to Northumbria with Ethelburga, who was about to marry the king. Paulinus oversaw the building of the first church in York and was its first bishop. After years of travelling round the north of England, establishing new churches, he moved south the escape persecution by the king of Mercia. He became bishop of Rochester.
- 11th: Ethelburga. She was the sister of Erkewnald, Bishop of London. Bede records that she was the Abbess of the joint monastery at Barking. The monks and nuns lived separate lives but would occasionally meet to celebrate the Mass and the Daily Offices together. There was probably an element of safety involved with impending threat of marauding Danes. Bede relates man miracles occurring around Ethelburga but little else is known of her life. She died on this day in 675AD.

- 12<sup>th</sup>: Wilfrid of Ripon. Born in Northumbria, educated at the monastery of Lindisfarne, Wilfrid felt that Celtic Christianity was too insular. He travelled to Rome and then to Lyons, where he became a monk. He was appointed Abbot of Ripon and brought with him the Rule of St Benedict. He played a leading part in the Synod of Whitby, where his dominance was largely responsible for the victory of the Roman party over the Celts. He was in turn Bishop of York, then Bishop of Hexham, before retiring to the Abbey at Ripon. His gift to the English Church was to make it more clearly a part of the Church universal.
- 12<sup>th</sup>: Elizabeth Fry. Elizabeth Gurney was born in Norfolk in 1780. She married Joseph Fr, a London merchant and strict Quaker. She was admitted as a minister in the Society of Friends and became a noted preacher. The appalling state of the prisons cam to her notice and she devoted much time to the welfare of female prisoners in Newgate. In 1820 she helped to begin a night shelter for the homeless and began to travel through Europe in the cause of prison reform.
- **13th: Edward the Confessor.** Edward was born in 1002, the son of King Ethelred and his wife Emma. Living in exile during the Danish supremacy, Edward was invited back to England in 1042 to become king. He was determined to maintain peace and justice, to avoid foreign wars, and to put his faith into practice. He was determined to found a monastery dedicated to St Peter and chose a site on Thorney Island, by the river Thames, thus beginning the royal patronage of Westminster Abbey. He did on 5<sup>th</sup> January in 1066 and his remains were translated to the Abbey on 13<sup>th</sup> October 1162.
- 18<sup>th</sup>: Luke the Evangelist. A doctor, and dear friend of St Paul he is mentioned three times in Paul's letters. He is accredited as the author of the Acts of the Apostles and of the gospel which bears his name. As a Gentile, Luke makes clear that the gospel is for all, regardless of social position, gender, or nationality. It is said that Luke wrote his gospel in Greece and that he die in Northern Greece, aged 84.

#### Lovell's Chuckle Time

My girlfriend suddenly became a Vegan. Since then she seems to have changed whereby now I feel that I've

never seen herbivore!

I ordered a stretched limousine. It was delivered but then the driver just walked away. I said "Excuse me, but aren't you going to drive it". He said that the price did not include a driver. OH well, £400 and nothing to chauffeur it.

The new Swedish Prime Minister is a former Chief Exec of IKEA. He is spending his first weeks in office assembling his cabinet.

### Ride & Stride



The Ride & Stride event was a huge success. Paul Bridges (Organiser) and his team of cyclists have raised nearly £500 so far. The proceeds are split 50:50 between the Historic Church Trust and the local church. Well done everyone!

#### Don't forget...

Songs of Praise October 9th at 4pm followed by refreshments.



# Quedgeley Town Council



Quedgeley Town Council joined the nation in mourning for Her Majesty The Queen and a book of condolence was made available in the office during the national mourning period. Sadly, whilst we knew this day would come eventually, we were still all shocked and we hope that anyone who needed support during this time were able to access the various avenues of help available. Council meetings during that time were cancelled or not called as a mark of respect and the office and all community facilities were closed on the 19<sup>th</sup> September.

Now we must move forward and respect our new King and look forward to the coronation next year.

As far as council business is concerned, all meetings have now reconvened and a year planner of our meetings can be found on our website, Quedgeley Town Council (quedgeley-tc.gov.uk.

We are still enjoying reasonable weather, although it does feel as if we're moving towards Autumn and with that in mind we are mindful of the every increasing energy bills which will be faced by this council and we urge anyone who uses our community facilities to remember to turn out lights etc when leaving. Every little helps. We are having new light fittings fitted into Kingsway Community Centre which should enable all the lights to be turned off at night which previously was proving to be problematic.

Autumn is the time we start to look at our Events. We are this year pleased that we can finally hold our very popular Fireworks Event at Fisher's Meadow which this year will be on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2022.

The reason for holding this event a week later is to ensure we can enlist Danter's Fun Fair who we work together with to provide to you a successful event. We also have a Christmas Event taking place in December, date to be confirmed. This event will be much like our Easter Egg Hunt but with a Xmas theme, aimed towards little ones. We aim to provide you with the date in the next couple of weeks so please keep an eye on our Facebook Account Quedgeley Town Council | Facebook

As always your Town Councillors are busy working in the background and make themselves visible by holding Saturday Surgeries at Tesco as well as joining forces with Gloucester City Council and the local PCSO's for a joint surgery at Tesco. We welcome you to all of our meetings and into our office which is open Monday - Friday, 9.30am - 2.30pm.

StJ's Family fun, laughter and worship,

snacks, coffee/tea

afterwards

1st Sunday in every month 10.30am





**Every** 

## WANT TO PRAY AND DON'T KNOW HOW TO START?



#### Why not try this suggestion

Prayer is precious; it is talking with the Almighty God, creator of the universe, but keep in mind that he also knows every fibre of your being. He loves you JUST AS HE MADE YOU, even if you might like to be different. He is your friend as well as your God; he loves you just as you are. Talk to him, he wants you to. Prayer can be very simple indeed. Try this as an example.

**Hello God, I am here** and I believe you are there. You made me and I thank you for my life and all that's wonderful in the universe you created. Thank you for caring about me and loving me.

It's good to tell Him you are sorry for the wrong decisions you have made and ask Him to help you do better in the future - but be prepared to let Him help!

Now simply tell God what is on your mind in your own words. Tell Him what you are worried about, ask him for guidance in decisions you face, ask him for what you need for yourself and others. Don't be shy, tell Him everything. Don't feel you have to use special words that sound 'churchy' or religious; just your own version of your preferred language will do Him nicely.

Then thank Him for listening and caring.

That's it.

Try to meet him like that every day at least once, and more often, if you can, and as you need.

Then listen out for his answers which may come in many ways.

Finally, remember to thank him for answering your prayers.

## Andrew Wakely To be continued next month...

### STJ's Family Service

To mark the Season of Creation, STJ's theme was 'Our Planet, Our Future'. Revd. Mark explained to us how we can help towards controlling the devastating effects of climate change, through our daily habits. The youngsters and the not so young enthusiastically made 'Seed Bombs' to take home. The morning was rounded off by a tasty snack.













#### Who's Who in the Parish Church

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