

Around The Spire

Saint James' Church **FREE** magazine for the
parishioners of Quedgeley & Kingsway

■ ***Looking after
our planet
page 4***

■ ***Evie
supports her
friend
page 5***

■ ***Tale of Two
Priests
page 11***

■ ***Afternoon Tea at Lu & Ian's - page 8***



Editorial
September 2023
Fr. Hugh Broad



TO RESPOND TO HUMAN NEED BY LOVING SERVICE

If you read my Editorial in the July/August edition of 'Around the Spire' you may recall that I introduced the ***FIVE MARKS FOR MISSION - WAYS TO TAKE THE GOSPEL FORWARD IN OUR PRESENT AGE.***

This is one of those marks and relates very closely to the story from my own parish ministry. in the parish of All Saints in Hereford City.

I can do no better in order to illustrate this Response to Human Need from an illustration of that ministry as it was at that time - the late 1970's.

Adjacent almost to All Saints was the local cattle market - a large area of open pens where cattle and sheep were housed for auction. Each night a very different form of life took over - men, women and even youngsters who were homeless, used straw in the pens to bed down for the night whatever the weather.

Our parishioners were appalled at the situation of these people and together we decided that we could not turn a blind eye!

Hence the appointment of the Lay Worker who brought his own expertise into this situation and with a band of willing church members set up a night shelter in the back of the church to provide some warmth and soup and hot drinks. This went on for some years until a more suitable organisation took over.

So I use this experience to illustrate just what I believe is meant by that phrase - to **RESPOND TO HUMAN NEED.**

HOW DO WE RESPOND TO THIS HUMAN NEED IN THE HERE AND NOW?

Clearly the need is very much still here in our midst! We do not have to look far to see examples of **HUMAN NEED** around us.

How do we respond? Do we?

Let's be honest - unless you are far better than me, you too will have done just that! Of course, you may say, the little response I can make will not help much - and by itself you would be quite right! But a corporate, team effort with each giving a little **WILL** make a difference going where it is really needed.

SO PLEASE DO ASK YOURSELF - CAN I? SHOULD I? WILL I?

ONLY YOU CAN ANSWER THOSE QUESTIONS!!

WITH MY LOVE AND PRAYERS

FATHER HUGH - YOUR EDITOR.

This verse was created by Brian Cretney.

I have a garden called "My Mind" which no one else can see,

And from it grows all kinds of things, all planted there by me.

Before me lies two different sacks, containing different seeds,

The first is labelled, "Spirit's Fruit", the other "Fleshly Greed",

Don't be fooled, God is not mocked. We reap that which we sow.

Though hidden there inside my mind, in time, that fruit will show.

It shows up in my character, my words, my walk, my ways,

Eventually the garden no one sees, its hidden work displays.

So, tend your garden carefully, for thoughts are just like seeds,

They'll either grow the Spirit's fruit, or harmful choking weeds.



Verse submitted by Lovell Cornwall

music-chat-laughter-faith

JAM SESSIONS

music-chat-laughter-faith

Note the new time!

**Back 3 September, St James,
GL24PN, 4pm (new time)**

Out & About with Revd. Mark



Something Dan and Emily love in our parish is the 'Pump Track' in Kingsway opposite Asda. A 'Pump Track' is a BMX track with very short humps and jumps that you can move around without pedalling, just by moving (or pumping) your weight up and down on the bike. We can spend hours here with a picnic as Dan and Emily master their very impressive bike skills on the track. Loads of young people use this great facility, keeping them fit, healthy and happy. All you need is a bike, a helmet and a good sense of balance as well as a bit of determination and courage when you inevitably come off onto the grass or gravel. If you are new to Kingsway and Quedgeley or haven't tried it then why not give it a try?

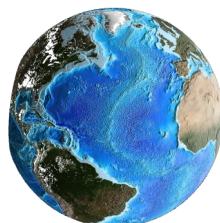
What I am praying about ...

Something very close to my heart is my interactions with pre-schools, primary and secondary schools in our parish. I call them 'communities of love'. For all the targets and inspections the vast majority of staff are able to put the children and their welfare first every single day. We may give this calling of those who work in schools different names but I am happy to call it love. As a Christian I am happy to call the source of this love God, the source of all life and goodness. So I pray for the pre schools and schools in our parish as they return after the summer break. I give thanks for the commitment of parents, staff and students. I give thanks for the love they show which nurtures the young people of our community. May they know God's blessing on them. AMEN.

Creation Care - Quality of Life

I get very frustrated when caring for our planet is equated with a loss of our quality of life. In my experience, the reverse is the case and one good example is shopping locally. Walking or biking to local shops gives us a breath of fresh air and is good for our mental and physical health. What's more, shopping locally helps us make friends, support local jobs, entrepreneurs and skills all of which greatly add greatly to our quality of life. The Orchard Butchery, which was the Orchard Deli has just moved to a new site: Unit 47, Space Business Centre, Quedgeley, Gloucester GL2 4AL. They sell locally sourced and fully traceable meat and other goods of a very high quality and fair price. We got our Christmas Turkey from them and it was delicious, enough to remember even nine months later!

As we care for our planet, our investment in its future is returned to us in so many ways. Let's get on with caring for Creation!



Evie supports her friend fighting Cancer

My name is Evie Hughes and I recently shaved my head in support of one of my oldest friends Harley who is unfortunately fighting cancer. We have known each other since I was 10 weeks old and met Harley and his Mum at baby swimming.

We have tried many sports out together over the years including swimming, hockey, cycling and football. We are now goal keepers and both play for our local team Quedgeley Wanderers.

I wanted to show support for Harley and decided I would like to raise money for him by shaving my hair. I had seen Harley's team mates and school friends shaved theirs for him and really wanted to do the same.

I donated the hair that was cut off to The Prince's Trust who make wigs for cancer sufferers so my hair could also help!

I was very nervous beforehand but loved having it done and couldn't stop smiling as the hairdresser, my Mum's cousin Kelly who generously donated her time to help us, cut my hair off. The salon really looked after me and it made the experience easier.



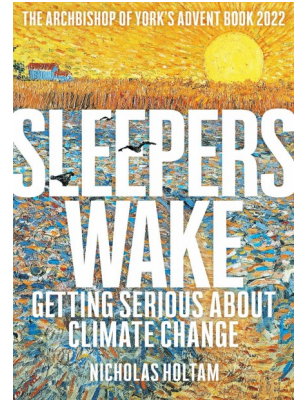
Well done Evie and to all your other friends! You have led by example and we feel sure you have really made a difference. We send your friend our love and prayers for a full recovery very soon.

Following the example set by Evie, St. James' (Tea@2) along with Theresa (Tesco) and the Q Club will be holding a coffee morning in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. We shall let you know the date very soon!

- Editorial Team



**Fr. Hugh reviews Nicholas Holtam's
popular, thought provoking book on climate
change.**



"SLEEPERS WAKE"

The signs of the times are indeed ominous to say the least!

In the wake of Covid and all this has and still has made such an impact on a world-wide scale, come the widespread fires, huge floods and by contrast severe droughts.

In this book, Bishop Nicholas indicates that the Christian as well as other Faith communities have a clear responsibility to make a response. Originally intended as an Advent study book, Sleepers Wake now takes on a further role with graphic texts, pictures and questions which make this book more relevant than ever before!

Whether it is read by the individual or within a group, we have in its message one that we just cannot ignore!

Your Editor of 'Around the Spire' would be pleased to obtain a copy for you!



Jesus' Jester

The Venerable David Sutch TD

Having just moved here, I was sorting through my papers and found my grandfather's (The Venerable Ronald Sutch, Vicar of Cirencester and Archdeacon of Cheltenham -AT THE SAME TIME!)-book of Religious Jokes and this was on a piece of paper within the book

The Bishop of Ripon told this story : " A not very wise bishop asked the girls of one school what a mitre, a pastoral staff and a pectoral cross were. None could answer. The headmistress telephoned to her opposite number at another school, which the bishop was to visit the next day, to warn her. The bishop's suspicions were roused by the unanimous response to his first two questions. So he changed the third, and asked 'What is an Archdeacon?' The girls answered with one voice: 'A cross that the bishop has to carry round his neck.'"

1 Corinthians 4. Verse 10 'We are fools (clowns/jesters) for Christ's sake'

Laughter is the best medicine

“Lights in their Own Generation”

A 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 September by
Fr. Ian Robb***



2nd: The Martyrs of Papua New Guinea: During the second world war, two English priests, seven Australian priests and two Papuan evangelists remained with their congregations following the invasion of the island, during which the Christian community was persecuted. They were betrayed and beheaded and are now collectively known as the New Guinea Martyrs.

3rd: Gregory the Great. Elected pope in 590, Gregory initiated the mission to England, sending Augustine and forty monks to re-establish the church here. He was well-known as a teacher of the faith and a dedicated pastor to his flock.

8th: The Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This festival in honour of the mother of our Lord is celebrated on this day in both the Eastern and Western Churches, and the part she played in the great plan of salvation.

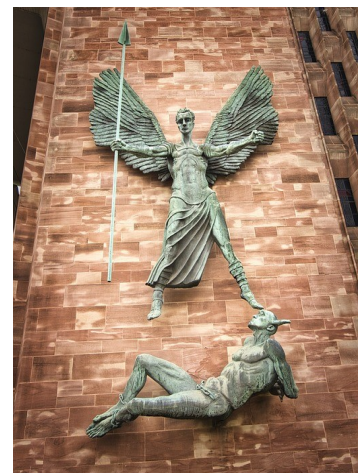
14th: Holy Cross Day. Helena, the Christian mother of the emperor Constantine, whilst on a pilgrimage to Jerusalem, observed the discovery of a wooden cross which many believed to be the cross of Christ. As a result of her testimony, Constantine adopted the sign of the cross as the official Roman emblem and contributed towards the building of a basilica on the site of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem.

17th: Hildegard of Bingen. She became a nun at the age of eighteen in the abbey of Bockenheim. She wrote extensively about her visions of the light of Christ and established a new abbey at Bingen, from where she and her fellow nuns travelled out into the Rhineland, teaching and ministering to the sick. She died in 1179.

21st: Matthew, Apostle & Evangelist The tax-collector who Jesus called to be a disciple. Much despised because of his occupation, Matthew affirmed that his life would change because of his call. The gospel which bears his name is testament to his commitment to Christ.

25th: Lancelot Andrewes, Bishop of Winchester. In addition to his ministry as a bishop he was also a translator of much of the Old Testament of what is now known as the “Authorised (or King James) Version”. He died on this day in 1626 and was buried in a church which was then in his diocese but which is now Southwark cathedral.

29th: Michael & All Angels. Michael, Gabriel, & Raphael are the three named Biblical angels, depicted as the beloved messengers of God. Michael is known as the slayer of the dragon in the book of Revelation and is regarded as the protector of Christians from the devil. Gabriel was charged with the task of announcing God's plan of salvation to the Virgin Mary of Nazareth. In previous years, the Church of England allocated the feast of Michaelmas as a day for ordaining new deacons and priests to the sacred ministry.



30th: Jerome, Translator of the Scriptures Born 1342 in what is now Croatia, Jerome studied in Rome where he was baptised before trying out a vocation as a monk. He felt called to use his linguistic skills – he was fluent in Greek and Hebrew - to study the Scriptures more deeply. Thus began his life's work of translating the newly-canonised Bible into Latin. He eventually settled in Bethlehem, where he founded a monastery and where he died in 420AD

STJ Family Service Harvest Thanksgiving Sunday 1st October 10.30am



All donations of food to Gloucester Food bank.

Please ensure items are non perishable. Packets and cans are ideal. Please leave your donations in the church. Many thanks



Foodbank needs your support more than ever

**OVER 90% OF THE FOOD DISTRIBUTED BY
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FOOD.

ITEMS WE ARE IN NEED OF:-

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- ♦ TINNED SPAGHETTI, TINNED MEAT PIES
- ♦ TINNED MEAT (E.G. CORNED BEEF, HAM) •
- ♦ TINNED RICE PUDDING/CUSTARD
- ♦ PACKET INSTANT MASH, PACKETS OF BISCUITS
- ♦ LONG LIFE MILK (NOT CHILLED), SMALL

Saint James' Church Quedgeley Fund Raiser



Ploughman's Lunch & choice of yummy dessert!

12.30pm -2.00pm

Saturday 9th September

Saint James' Church Quedgeley GL2 4PN

**Tickets cost
£12.00 each**

**Tickets available from
Val Harris
valerieharris@hotmail.co.uk**

First glass of wine or soft drink included in the price.



A free phone line of hymns,
reflections and prayers

Afternoon Tea at Lu and Ian's

The annual afternoon tea party at Lu & Ian Pearce's raised a fantastic £426.35. Lu & Ian were prepared for inclement weather and erected marquee's to provide cover for those attending. The afternoon went without a hitch and everyone attending had a very enjoyable afternoon.



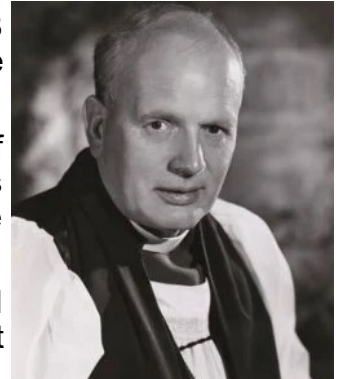
Photos courtesy of Lu Pearce

"GOD HAS A SENSE OF HUMOUR!"

Mark Hodson, the Bishop of Hereford who ordained me way back in 1968 as well as being a very holy man, also had a great sense of humour. He often related this story about himself::

'Look what God has done to me! - I was a parish priest in the East End of London, a very poor area known as Poplar (this is where the TV series 'Call the Midwife' was set), my life was very much seeking to relate the Church to the poorest people living in such an area.

Now look! Here am I the Bishop of one of the most rural parts of England surrounded by green fields and farms - here the need is just as great - but in a different way'



I was made aware of Bishop Mark's story some time later! He came to the church where I was vicar to license a lay worker to relate to the poor people around the Church of All Saints. A beautiful ancient church in the heart of Hereford City. In spite of its surroundings it was very much one with people around it with very real and genuine needs.

Hence the need for a worker to relate to such people who we were attempting to help.

In the course of the service Bishop Mark referred to this story of his background and went on to tell the listeners that here was a parish priest (me!) who had a similar change - the other way round! Father Hugh, he said, had changed from a busy life in farming when God called him to a ministry here in the middle of a busy city!

YES - GOD DOES HAVE A SENSE OF HUMOUR!

Father Hugh

THE PRAYER OF THE CHALICE

Father, to you I raise my whole being,
-- a vessel emptied of self. Accept, Lord,
the emptiness I have, and fill me with
yourself, --your Light, your Love, your
Life ----- that these precious Gifts
may radiate through me and over-
flow the chalice of my heart into
the hearts of all with whom I
come in contact this day,
revealing unto them
the beauty of
your Joy
and wholeness
and
the
serenity
of your Peace
which nothing can destroy.

TALE OF TWO PRIESTS



I moved from the Parish of St George in Tuffley with our family to Spain to take up the Chaplaincy of Costa Almeria, with its three centres of worship. After a couple of years I was also appointed as Assistant Director of Ordinands. Shortly after this the Archdeacon of Gibraltar retired with ill health. I was asked by the Bishop to take on the duties of Archdeacon until a new person could be found.

Much to my relief it was soon announced that Revd David Sutch was to take over as Archdeacon as well as the Chaplaincy of Del Sol East. David too came from Gloucester and with our joint roles we soon became firm friends, and I became Area Dean which is really an assistant to the Archdeacon.

It should probably be pointed out to the Reader just what the Archdeaconry of Gibraltar comprised! As well as Gibraltar itself where the Cathedral is based, it covers Anglican Chaplaincies in Spain, Portugal, Madeira, Canary Islands, Balearic Islands and Morocco.

No small task even for the two of us!

The task before us was in a way similar to UK dioceses except of course the great distances involved and sometimes negotiations with other denominations and local authorities.

One of the real qualities of Archdeacon David as he then was, was his sense of humour - once asked what the advantage was of this job was, his response was "He was 3,000 miles from the Bishop!"

Well, of course all good things come to an end and in 2013 my family and I returned to Gloucester to this parish of St James in Quedgeley.

In 2017 David and his wife returned - also to Gloucester. Sadly Megan died and David remained in Brockworth and exercised a retirement ministry in that area.



David & Gwendoline on their wedding day

In the fullness of time David and Gwendoline also from Spain were married and are setting up home, also here in Quedgeley in the flat where David's parents lived.

David and Gwendoline are assured of a great welcome in this large and busy parish!

Fr. Hugh

Quedgeley Town Council



We hope you have all enjoyed a good Summer, despite the weather!! As always, your councillors have continued to work behind the scenes, including meeting and speaking with the local schools about the Local Nature Reserve, attending council meetings, maintaining good governance and taking care of remedial works where necessary. To be able to do this effectively, the council enjoys a full compliment of councillors which runs at 16. All looking after their wards within Quedgeley and Kingsway.

Finance - the council's accounts have now been audited by the external auditor, PKF Littlejohn and have been returned showing no exceptions. The Notice of Conclusion of Audit has been advertised in the office window for some weeks now, inviting anyone local to view the council's accounts and whilst this has now passed, we still urge you to ask anything you want to as the council works on a transparency basis.

In July 5 Town Councillors were awarded Long Service Awards, Cllr Margaret Slatter, Cllr Nick Lee, Cllr Julian Powell, Cllr Steve Wilcox and Cllr Steve Smith. A big well done for many years of volunteering their time, energy and enthusiasm solely for the benefit of their local community.



Discussions are taking place regarding the need to refurbish Druids Oak Playpark. An extremely large project, however to save money, the councillors are setting up a working party to provide an uplift to the play equipment/railings etc themselves so only the expertise work needs to be financed.

Two unveilings have recently taken place.



A plaque placed on the wall at Quedgeley Community Centre in memory of Flight Lieutenant Robert Coventry. Unveiled by the Head Girl and Head Boy of Severnvale School.



A bench erected in memory of Queen Elizabeth II. We were very proud to unveil this lovely tribute and it has certainly been well used since!

Finally, as we move into the Autumn season, the council will be working hard to plan their ever popular Fireworks Display which this year will be held at Fisher's Meadow on Saturday 11th November 2023. Tickets will be on sale nearer the time and updates provided on the Council's Facebook page www.facebook.com/qtccouncillors

A reminder to everyone that your Town Council Office is situated in the same retail park as Matalan. We are open Mondays – Fridays, 9.30am – 2.30pm. We are also available on email, Office@quedgeley-tc.gov.uk up until 5pm. You can also follow us on Facebook on www.facebook.com/qtccouncillors

Community Jottings...

The Tesco Knit and Natter team cracked it once again. Under the inspirational leadership of Theresa Fisher the team raised an incredible £827 for the Focus Fund.

The group regularly knit to raise money for local causes but this time it was in support of one of their members who is currently receiving treatment from the Cheltenham Oncology Centre. The group held a 12 hour knit-a-thon and used the time to finish projects and start new ones. Well done everyone!



Light Eternal by Luxmuralis

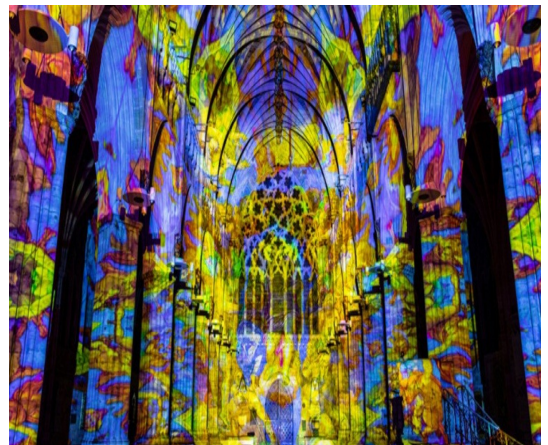
Thursday 19th –Saturday 28th October 2023

Light Eternal: Yesterday, Today, Forever,

This autumn you're invited to come and experience Gloucester Cathedral like never before. Light Eternal will take visitors on a journey that delves into the Cathedral's 1,000 year long history.

Entry to the event is by 15minutes slots. You will need to book your tickets Find out more by contacting 01452528095 / emailing visits@gloucestercathedral.org.uk or visiting

<https://gloucestercathedral.org.uk/whats-on/light-eternal-by-luxmuralis>



Pause for Prayer ...

During term-time, Morning Prayer is said at 9.15am on Monday to Thursday. The Revd Mark is available then for pastoral conversations. Please contact him by phone or email to discuss the arranging of Weddings, Banns of Marriage, Baptisms, etc.

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

HOLY BAPTISM

June 25th ALBIE TIGER CLARK-BRAY
 MACEY JANE CLARK-BRAY
July 11th BODEE CAIN MIDLANE-THEAKSTON
 18th TOMMY LEE ASHLEY VAUGHAN

"WELCOME INTO THE LORD'S FAMILY"

HOLY MARRIAGE

NICOLA DAWN BURNHAM & NICHOLAS DONALD PETER HOUGHTON

"THOSE WHOM GOD HAS JOINED TOGETHER"

FUNERALS

ANN CONNOLY
EVELYN SCOTT

"REST ETERNAL GRANT THEM O LORD"

Local events that are on...



Frampton Country Fair

Sunday 10th September
from 9.00am

Frampton Court Estate

If you have an article you would like included in this magazine please contact our Editor Fr. Hugh Broad on 01452 541078 .

Services at Saint James' Church Quedgeley

You are warmly invited to...

Morning Prayer - 9.15am daily during term time

Holy Communion - Wednesday 10.00am

Holy Communion - Sunday 10.30AM except for the first Sunday in the month when said Communion is at 9.15am.

STJ'S Family Service - First Sunday in the month 10.30am

JAM - Every Sunday at 4pm – 5pm



Life
TOGETHER



alpha colour printers

design • pre-print • litho digital large format
finishing • packing • storage • distribution



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press in the country

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to add to your print



CO₂ neutral
Product printed on a
Carbon Neutral Press
www.hendelberg.com/CO2_210504



Who's Who in the Parish Church

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Liz Keenan	01452 722320		mrs.e.keenan@btinternet.com
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Tea@2			
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Bell Ringers—Anne Heron		07360008632	anneheron@gmail.com
Open the book—Liz Keenan	01452 722320		mrs.e.keenan@btinternet.com
Altar Servers—Angela Hughes		07984265977	angelajeanhughes@hotmail.co.uk

www.quedgeleychurch.org.uk

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