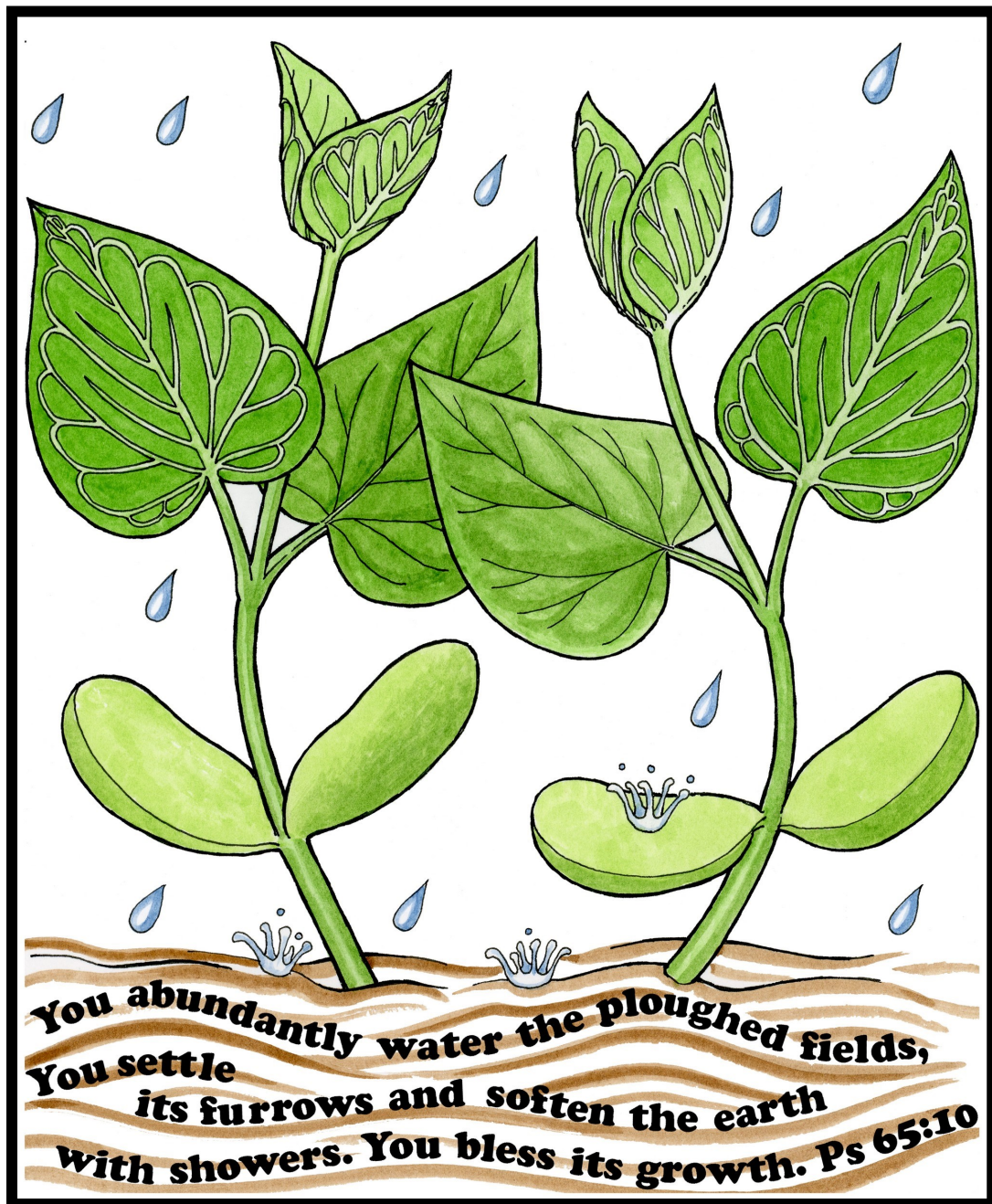


# News and Views from St Peter's Church and The Parish of Redcar



April 2024

## PARISH CONTACTS

VICAR	Rev'd Andy Greiff	07522 445569 vicar@stpeterschurchredcar.co.uk
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READER and COMMUNITY MINISTER	Mr Steve Graham	07505275961 readers@stpeterschurchredcar.co.uk
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SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVE	Mr Brian Harvey	07970 849004
VERGER	Mrs Sue Steele	01642 473706 07807 069795
ORGANIST	Contact the Churchwardens	
MOTHERS' UNION	Mrs Anne Hagen	01642 479755 07804 047354
PARISH MAGAZINE	Mrs D. Wood	07715 324098 01642 479672
e-mail	daphne.wood@stpeterschurchredcar.co.uk	

OFFICE HOUR—the church is open between 6.00pm and 7.00pm on Thursday evenings to discuss baptisms or weddings.

For funerals, please contact your funeral director.

Church email address      hello@stpeterschurchredcar.co.uk

## WORSHIP AT ST. PETER'S

Sundays 10.00am HOLY COMMUNION

2nd Sunday of month

10.00am ALL AGE WORSHIP—a family friendly Service with Holy Communion

1st, 3rd and 4th Sundays of month

10.00am ST PETER'S ARK—a service for children  
Come and learn about Jesus with us

Sunday 7.00pm NIGHT PRAYER (Compline) on Zoom (fortnightly)  
Meeting ID: 930 2516 0828, Password: 1234

Wednesday 9.30am HOLY COMMUNION  
The last Wednesday of the month is also  
Mothers' Union Corporate Communion

Wednesday 12noon COME TO THE TABLE—bible study, worship,  
testimony and food

Wednesday 6.30pm REFLECTIONS—an opportunity to reflect on the big  
questions of modern life in a safe, comfortable  
and friendly space

Thursday 9.00am MORNING PRAYER in the Lady Chapel

10.00am PRAM SERVICE—a time of worship and play for babies,  
toddlers and their parents, grandparents, and carers

Sunday services are live streamed and can be viewed on our YouTube channel.  
Prayers, reflections and notices are posted on St Peter's Facebook page.



 [www.stpeterschurchredcar.co.uk](http://www.stpeterschurchredcar.co.uk)

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 [@stpetersredcar](https://www.youtube.com/@stpetersredcar)

# The Vicar Writes...

Lent and Easter are over now for another year... well that's not exactly true because the church's season of Easter lasts until 18th May, the eve of Pentecost. I'm writing this during Holy Week, a very special time when we concentrate on the price Jesus paid for our salvation and when we look forward to the wonder and marvel of Easter. Christ is Risen!!

St Paul tells the Corinthian church, '... ***if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith***'.



There are many things that we could take from Lent and Easter that bring us nearer to Christ. What did you take and how might that change you?

One of the moments that always impresses and challenges me are the words of Jesus on the cross. Especially "Father, forgive them! They do not know what they are doing".

**Forgiveness is a key element of our faith. God forgives us and we should forgive others.**

Here's a couple of stories about forgiveness:

There's a Spanish story of a father and son who had become estranged. The son ran away, and the father set off to find him. He searched for months to no avail. Finally, in a last desperate effort to find him, the father put an ad in a Madrid newspaper. The ad read: Dear Paco, meet me in front of this newspaper office at noon on Saturday. All is forgiven. I love you. Your Father. On Saturday 800 Pacos showed up, looking for forgiveness and love from their fathers.

When Narvaez, the Spanish patriot, lay dying, his father-confessor asked him whether he had forgiven all his enemies. Narvaez looked astonished and said, "Father, I have no enemies, I have shot them all."

Whatever you took from Lent and Easter I hope and pray that your walk with God is nearer and more blessed than before.

## Every Blessing, Rev'd Andy

**Work like you don't need the money**

**Love like you've never been hurt**

**Dance like nobody's watching**

**Sing like nobody's listening**

**Live like it's Heaven on Earth**

## LECTIONARY APRIL 2024

### Sunday 7th April

Acts 4.32-35

Psalm 133

1 John 1.1 - 2.2

John 20.19-31

### Second Sunday of Easter

### Sunday 14th April

Acts 3.12-19

Psalm 4

1 John 3.1-7

Luke 24.36b-48

### Third Sunday of Easter

### Sunday 21st April

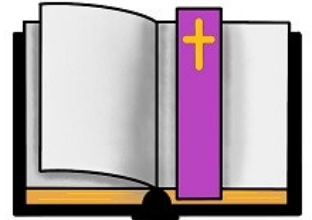
Acts 4.5-12

Psalm 23

1 John 3.16-24

John 10.11-18

### Fourth Sunday of Easter



### Sunday 28th April

Acts 8.26-40

Psalm 22.25-31

1 John 4.7-21

### Fifth Sunday of Easter

#### David Cartwright RIP

We wanted to take a moment to express our deepest gratitude for the overwhelming love and support you have extended to us during David's illness and passing.

Your prayers, kind words, and gestures of compassion have been a source of immense comfort during this difficult time, and we are deeply touched by your thoughtfulness and generosity.

With Love

Christine and Craig Cartwright

**FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS**

**Holy Baptism**

*We welcome into the family of the church...*

17th March      Ollie Harris



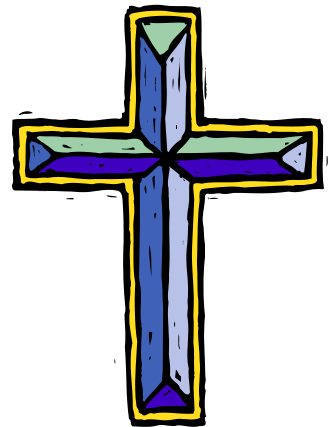
**In Loving Memory**

Funerals held in March 2024

12th March      David Cartwright

15th March      Glenda Lapworth

*We pray for their family and friends*



**ST PETER'S CHURCH, REDCAR LANE, REDCAR**

**NOTICE OF ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING (APCM)**

**SUNDAY 28th APRIL 2024 at 12noon**

**ALL WELCOME**

## ST PETER'S AT TWILIGHT IN HOLY WEEK



### AND BY STARLIGHT!

Thanks to Elizabeth Wass for these two beautiful photos of church, one taken on the way into the Stations of the Cross service on Wednesday of Holy Week, and the other on the way out afterwards.





**SATURDAY, 27th APRIL**

**10.00am to 12noon**

**Bacon Buns, Raffle and Cake Stall  
and**

**The Friends of Redcar Cemetery  
With their famous Bric-a-Brac Stall!**

**A VERY BIG THANK YOU!**

We would like to say a very big thank you to all members of St Peter's family and friends who have been so generous over the past few weeks.

Firstly, the Easter Eggstravaganza raised over £650 for church funds.

Secondly, our recent Organ Restoration fundraising efforts - the Choir Concert, Organ Recital and Organ-o-meter sponsorship - have raised over £2,000 towards the costs.

We have also been awarded a £1,000 grant, and are awaiting the results of two other grant applications.

Special thanks to the Catherine Cookson Trust for the grant, Dave Dipple and the Redcar Community Choir for the concert, the Bishop of Whitby, the Rt Revd Paul Fergusson for the recital, and Nick Harvey for the magnificent, marvellous model of the Organ-o-meter.

Thank you all for your generosity; please watch out for news of further events.

Your Church Wardens, Daphne Wood and Brian Harvey

## Happy Easter Everyone

Alleluia! Christ is risen .... He is risen indeed Alleluia!

Don't you just love this proclamation? I do hope it brings as much joy to your hearts as it does mine. Feel uplifted and renewed; be invigorated, feel cherished and loved. Our God is AWESOME and we are so blessed .

I thought I'd share with you some updates this month.

Following the coffee morning, we were able to send £200 to the 'Make a Mothers' Day appeal; and how lovely was it on Mothering Sunday to have help from children from The Ark in distributing daffodils to the congregation.

Our spring 'Smartie Appeal' ends next month on the 7th of May.

In this edition of the magazine we celebrate the 90th birthdays of TWO members

Avis on 27th March, and Betty on 1st April.



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY, LADIES!**

## MU Diary for APRIL

EASTER WEEK	NO Branch meeting
Monday 8th April	Lady Day (transferred from 25th March)
Wednesday 17th April	Lunch at Park Hotel
7.30pm	EMUs tbc
Wednesday 24th April	9.30am Corporate Communion (do wear your badges!)

Advance notice:

### The MU Wave of Prayer 30th April - 2nd May

Every day at mid-day around the world, our members pray for one another and our work around the world. We would like to hold a short service (as we do every year) to hold in prayer and light a candle for each of our linked dioceses of **Aru** in DR Congo; **Kigezi** in Uganda; **Ikeduru** in Nigeria; **Ho** in Ghana; and **Guyana and Suriname** in Guyana. Ours will probably be in the Lady Chapel. To be confirmed

One item of news from the Mothers' Union website was that a joint delegation of Mothers' Union and the Anglican Communion attended the **United Nations Commission on the Status of Women. (UNCSW)**. A resounding success, it gave us a real opportunity to showcase how Mothers' Union is transforming lives around the world. Meetings were held with government delegations – a key way to show how our work is making an impact around the world and to call for their support.

God Bless, Anne x





## Reader's Rambling

### Lent- Reflection and Renewal

Hi everyone

Since we started Reflections on Wednesday evenings, we have had a lot of interesting discussions. We have been lucky to welcome new people in to church, many asking about faith, what it means, do they have any faith and how to explore more deeply what “having faith” in their lives can mean. Someone new to the group, wanting to examine their faith more , said that they did not understand what our church service was all about, the various elements and in some cases what seemed to be needless chanting, where we all repeat the same words together.

On unpacking this question more closely the chanting part was discovered to be the creed. We decided as a group to look at the various parts and break them down into manageable chunks for better understanding. We agreed that the creed was a good place to start and it got me thinking, I wonder how many more people feel the same way, and are put off because they don't understand or just repeat the words without feeling them and getting the meaning, so I thought I would give you a precis of what our creed means and what it stands for.

Way back at the earliest beginnings of the church there was a lot of dispute over various aspects of Jesus's teachings and overall questions of faith.

In the fourth century two leading theologians known as the church father's Arius and Athanasius disagreed on the relationship between God and Jesus. There are whole chapters available going into the exact disagreements but for this piece we will accept there were major differences.

The Roman emperor at the time Constantine was the first Christian Roman Emperor and he called together the ecumenical Bishops of the time to try and get a common ground and a settling of the religious unease within his empire.

In AD325 the leaders gathered at a place called Nicaea and having discussed and referred to early documents, a common statement was formed, The Nicæan Creed as we know it and apart from some slight word modernisation, it remains the same statement that we say in our eucharistic worship every Sunday. Wikipedia describes the Creed as a universally accepted statement of the main points of the Christian faith that is represented in a concise, formal way.

Why this was needed? Well, the early church tended to use Lent as a time for preparing new Christians for baptism. This would traditionally take place on Easter day and an important part of this preparation was that those being baptised on Easter day was that they should publicly state their newly accepted faith in God. The Creed comprises twelve statements that generally cover what we need to say when declaring our faith in God.

I have condensed this greatly, but hopefully highlighted the history and why we say it as we do, so when we are at our next Eucharistic service and we all stand to say the Creed, we can recite those words with a little more feeling, knowing why we say them.

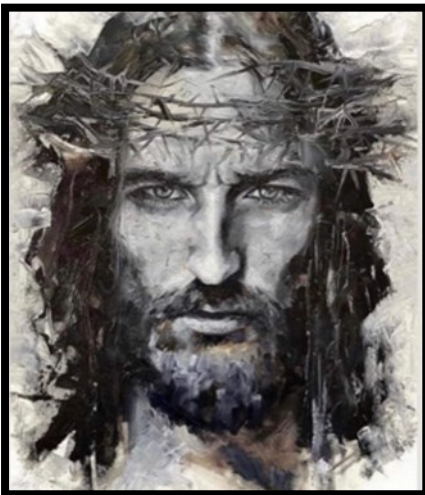
I hope you all had a great Holy Week and Easter weekend.

*God bless us all, Steve*

# Just A Thought?

Hi Again!

With Easter upon us and we are all thinking about how we will celebrate, this reminder of the Passion came up on my facebook page and I thought I would share it with you.



“He received 39 stripes because 40 was known to kill a man. They wanted him alive. They held handfuls of his beard, and hair and pulled it out by the roots. They wanted him alive. They kicked, punched, and spit on him for hours. Until there wasn't a single spot on his body not covered in blood. They wanted him alive.

They shoved a crown of thorns down on his head so harshly it stuck in his skin. They wanted him alive. After hours of being beaten, mocked, whipped, flogged, and tortured they made him walk with a cross. They made him carry it. A rough piece of wood with splinters digging into fresh wounds. They wanted him alive.

They wanted him to feel every ounce of pain they could bring. He had to feel it in order to heal us. Crucifixion was historically one of the cruellest most tortured deaths a human could face. Hours upon hours of torture. Torture most of us can not mentally think of because the cruelty isn't normal. It isn't something our minds can comprehend.

We celebrate Easter with pastel colours, happy children hunting eggs, and chocolate. The truth is, there was absolutely nothing happy about the day Jesus died. It was cruel, bloody, and nasty.

He could have stopped all of it. He could have called every angel in heaven to demolish every person standing and shouting "Crucify Him!" He didn't. He knew in order to have a Sunday you have to have a Friday. He knew in order to have joy you have to carry your cross. He felt everything that day. He felt how your heart broke wide open when you had to watch your baby die. He felt how heavy your life was when you were staring down the barrel of a gun wondering if the man you called husband was going to shoot you. He carried the weight of the burden you have felt since your spouse died and life just doesn't seem right since.

On that cross he held the rapist and murderers, the sinner and the saint. He levelled every playing field and said ALL of you are worth it. He knew he had to carry the cross. He never promised the cross you carry in this life would not be heavy. His wasn't. His promise is that Sunday is coming.

No matter how heavy Friday is. Financially, emotionally, mentally, or physically. Friday is heavy. That cross is weighing you down and you are about to crumble under its weight. His promise was simply this. He won't make you carry it alone. What kind of king would step down from his throne for this?

Jesus of Nazareth, the Son of God did. For you. He did every bit of it for you and me. Oh yes, it is heavy. So heavy sometimes you do not think you can take one more step. But look up, because Sunday is coming."

I do not know who wrote this, but it is POWERFUL!

*Blessings, Claire*



FRIENDS  
OF  
REDCAR  
CEMETERY

The Friends would like to thank the Borough Park Rose Garden Group for the £50 donation for our fundraising. Also for the 'bring and buy' sale that we held at the Bowls Club. Thanks to all who contributed, bringing items to sell and buying back.



We are now updating the RAF Memorial as it is showing signs of wear and tear after all this time. Our well loved Tulip Tree now has considerable rot at the base so we are getting advice on this. One of our notice boards needs refurbishing or replacing. So the money we are making this year will go to these causes.

The Gardening Group have been busy weeding and tidying beds and borders and grave spaces dodging the showers. We are looking for hyacinths that have been in bowls to decorate the house at Christmas if you have any to spare please let us know. We are creating a scented entrance to cheer visitors when they come into the cemetery.



We are having a tombola at the Darlington Building Society Redcar Branch in the High Street on Tuesday, April 2nd between 10.00am and 2.00pm Thanks to them, to our Friends and to all who have contributed prizes, please support us if you can. We will also be giving a talk to the retired ladies of the Marks and Spencer soon. We first met them many years ago, and we hope they will be surprised at the progress we have made.

On Saturday, April 27th we will be coming to St Peter's Coffee Morning between 10.00am and 12noon with a stall selling jewellery, books, games, jigsaws and bric a brac. We love bric a brac and hope you do too. Thanks to Sandra and the team for inviting us. We are looking forward to Malcolm's bacon buns and a lovely cake stall. Hope to see you there.

Dot Ahmed



## Ten commandments for relieving stress

In silence look at these and see if there are any you particularly need to obey....

1. Thou shalt not be perfect or even try
2. Thou shalt not try to be all things to all people
3. Thou shalt leave undone things that ought to be done
4. Thou shalt not spread thyself too thin
5. Thou shalt learn to say 'no'
6. Thou shalt schedule time for thyself and thy supportive network
7. Thou shalt give thy computer a Sabbath rest and do nothing regularly
8. Thou shalt be boring, inelegant, untidy and unattractive at times
9. Thou shalt not feel guilty
10. Thou shalt not be thine own worst enemy

## ST PETER'S 100 CLUB



The result of the March 2024 draw was:

1st No. 5      Elaine Scrivens      £40

2nd No. 27      Lindsey Dickinson      £10



## **Who is he?**

A musical concert was about to be performed in a prison.

The Governor was talking to a titled lady guest, explaining that the orchestra was made up of murderers, embezzlers and other hardened criminals.

The lady then pointed to a man in the corner, holding a trombone.

“He looks a tough customer,” she whispered. “Whatever has HE done?”

The Governor paused and smiled. “Ah, actually, he is the chaplain.”

## **Worry...**

I have so many problems that if a new one comes along today, it will be at least two weeks before I can worry about it.

## **Warning...**

Sign seen in a store: Unattended children will be given an espresso and a puppy.

## **Those Typos in the Church Newsheet...**

- The church’s AGM will be hell on 22nd April...
- While the pastor is on holiday, massages can be given to the church secretary...
- More sinners wanted for the choir...

## **Beyond...**

I’m living so far beyond my income that we may almost be said to be living apart.

*Taken from The Parish Pump*

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THE CHURCH WARDENS**



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

A certificate will be issued to commemorate the occasion  
and the name will be recorded.

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*Cheques should be made out to PCC of Redcar Parish Church*

PLEASE DETACH