

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



June 2023

PARISH CONTACTS

VICAR	Rev Andy Greiff	07522 445569
CHURCHWARDENS	Mrs Chris Harvey	01642 479189 07779 600418
	Mrs Daphne Wood	01642 479672 07715 324098
READER and COMMUNITY MINISTER	Mr Steve Graham	
PCC SECRETARY	Mrs Suzanne Graham	07761 497981
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SUNDAY CHILDREN	Mrs J. Fox	01642 478336
ORGANIST	Mr J.F. Jowsey	01642 461121
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PARISH MAGAZINE	Mrs D. Wood	01642 479672
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LADIES' WEDNESDAY GROUP	Mrs D. Falconer	01642 484396

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 stpeterschurchredcar@gmail.com

CHURCH WEBSITE www.stpeterschurchredcar.co.uk

FACEBOOK PAGE <https://www.facebook.com/stpeterschurchredcar>

WORSHIP AT ST. PETER'S

Sundays 10.00am HOLY COMMUNION

2nd Sunday of month - two services on this Sunday morning

**9.00am REFLECTIONS BREAKFAST CHURCH
(includes breakfast)**

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



The children's area near the font has appropriate resources and activities available for all services.

Fortnightly, on ALTERNATE Sundays, either

5.00pm PETER'S NET - a relaxed service of worship, praise, bible study and prayer

Or

7.00pm NIGHT PRAYER (Compline) on Zoom

Meeting ID: 930 2516 0828, Password: 1234



Wednesday 9.30am HOLY COMMUNION

Last Wednesday of month is also Mothers' Union Corporate Communion

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

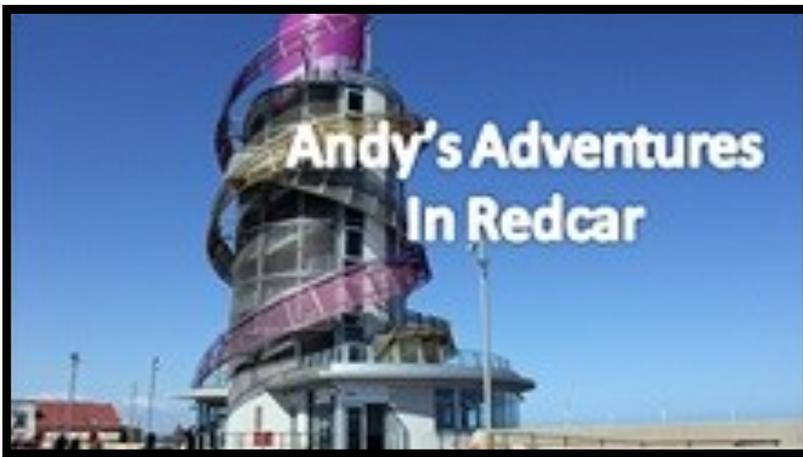
Thursdays 9.00am MORNING PRAYER in the Lady Chapel

10.00am PRAM SERVICE—a time of worship and play for babies, toddlers and their parents, grandparents, and carers (school term-time)

Prayers and reflections are posted on St Peter's Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/stpeterschurchredcar>





Isn't it strange (and sometimes very pleasurable) to be transported back in time? The other day the Men's Group went to the Sunderland aircraft museum and whilst walking

around looking at all the fascinating exhibits we came across a trolleybus. Strange really, because the last thing in the world you'd expect to find in a museum dedicated to flying, would be a trolleybus.

Of course, it was in a shed that was dedicated to motor vehicles rather than aircraft. What made this trolleybus special was the fact that it had come from my hometown of Bradford. In fact, on the picture that went with the exhibit the trolley bus was shown to be the one that travelled to Wibsey, the next-door neighbour of my last parish and where my wife Debbie grew up. I should imagine that my wife and I had, at some point, ridden on that very bus as children. It brought back memories of times I've stood at the bus stop waiting to go to church on a Sunday pressing my ear against the post that carried the wires, listening for the hum of the trolleybus which was still out of sight.



Looking back from time to time is important; we all have our memories, cherished ones and difficult ones. Similarly, as a church community, we also have a history that we can look back on. People that were around when we were kids, the way the church has changed over time, the old Vicars and the old youth groups, church outings and the like. I remember my old church, what do you remember about Saint Peter's from the past?

I was looking in the display cabinet at the back of church just a couple of weeks ago and noticed that the first stone to be laid at Saint Peter's was June 1823, exactly 200 years ago. The church didn't



open until 1829, but the desire for a church predates this. I admire those Christian people who had the vision for such a project and for the host of committed Christians that have populated the pews ever since, those we remember and those who have been forgotten now, they are not forgotten or lost by God.

See the parable of the lost sheep.

Over the last 200 years I'm sure the church has changed quite a bit in appearance and in practice. New liturgies, new hymns as well as new devices such as our chip and pin machine. In fact, the church has recently gained quite a lot of equipment that lurks around in the background but it is very beneficial to church. Nick Harvey has been writing emails here there and everywhere asking companies to donate equipment for our mission at Saint Peter's. We have now a much-upgraded sound system new computers, new screens and excitingly new expensive cameras that will be able to live stream services. You will hear more about this when it's all up and running, which should be pretty soon now. In the meantime, we celebrate the past, but we also look to the future and live in a very blessed present at St Peters. I wonder what the next generation or two or three will think when they look back at us and what we did here at Saint Peters, and how we took the gospel to Redcar in our time. What will our legacy be?

Every Blessing, Rev Andy

LECTIONARY JUNE 2023

Sunday 4th June

Isaiah 40.12-17,27-31

Psalm 8

2 Corinthians 13.11-13

Matthew 28.16-20

Trinity Sunday

Sunday 11th June

Genesis 12.1-9

Psalm 33.1-12

Romans 4.13-25

Matthew 9.9-13,18-26

OR

Sunday 11th June

Job 29.11-16

Psalm 112

Acts 11.19-end

John 15.12-17

or

First Sunday after Trinity

Barnabas the Apostle

Acts 11.19-end

Psalm 112

Galatians 2.1-10

John 15.12-17

Sunday 18th June

Genesis 18.1-15 (21.1-7)

Psalm 116.1,10-17*

Romans 5.1-8

Matthew 9.35 - 10.8 (9-23)

Second Sunday after Trinity

Sunday 25th June

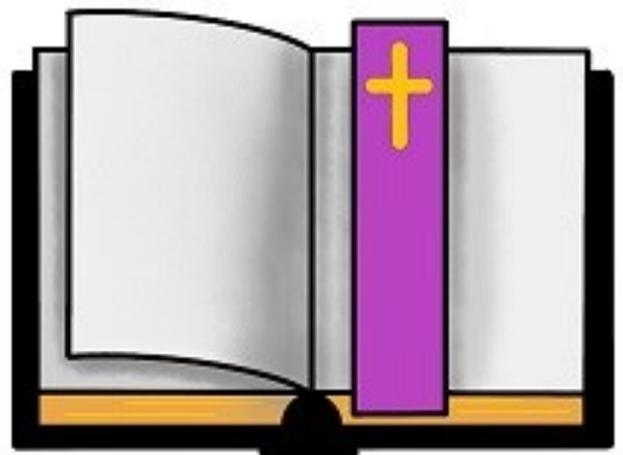
Genesis 21.8-21

Psalm 86.1-10,16-17*

Romans 6.1b-11

Matthew 10.24-39

Third Sunday after Trinity



FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

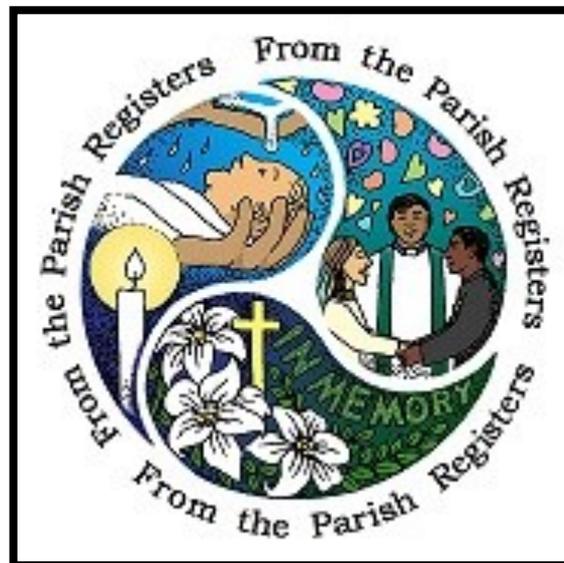
Holy Baptism

We welcome into the family of the church...

7th May Tommy Dowey

14th May Nancy Helm

21st May Mia Hall



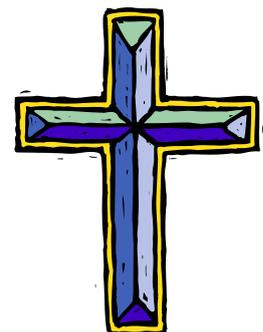
In Loving Memory

Funeral services held during May

15th May Marjorie Lawson

15th May Gary Colley

We pray for their family and friends



BIG CHURCH CLEAR OUT and CLEAN UP!

Churchwardens Chris and Daphne would like your help to tidy up our lovely church both inside and out. We are particularly concerned about items that are no longer used, just stored, and may constitute a potential fire risk—we are sure we would not pass a Fire Service Fire Risk Assessment!

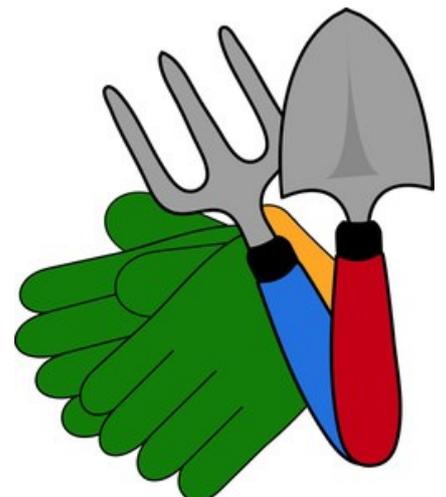
On Saturday, 27th June, between 9.30am and 12noon, we are asking representatives of our church groups to take a look at their equipment and resources stored in church and clear out anything no longer needed.

After this date, the churchwardens will take decisions on what should go and what should be kept.

Our Verger Sue would love some more recruits to the Holy Dusters cleaning team—we meet on a Friday morning. Someone to clean the brasses would be most appreciated!

From July, we hope to restart our regular Saturday morning working sessions to tackle the outside areas, particularly the weeds and the rubbish at the back of church.

There are always plenty of other jobs that need doing around the church—if those who are able all do a bit, it really will help a lot! If you are Interested, or know someone who might be, have a word with our Churchwardens Daphne or Chris, our Verger Sue or Rev Andy.



ST. PETER'S CHURCH



SATURDAY 1st JULY

10.00am to 1.00pm

**Come and support our BIG
SUMMER FUNDRAISER**

**REFRESHMENTS and
VARIOUS STALLS,
including CAKES, TOMBOLA
and
GRAND RAFFLE**



Our Diary for June

Sunday 4th 4.00pm MU Deanery Festival welcoming branches (with banners).

A celebratory service of Holy Communion followed by refreshments.

Everyone is welcome to join us.

MU Home Bakers: *Please let me know if you able to provide something for the tea*

Tuesday 6th 2.00pm Branch Meeting— worship followed by fellowship.

Joan Bentley is our 'birthday girl' today!

Wednesday 21st 7.30pm EMUs meeting tbc



Wednesday 28th 9.30am Corporate Communion (do wear your badges)

Advance notice: Tuesday 4th July at church, our SUMMER STRAWBERRY and PIMMS fundraising event! Get your tickets and invite your friends too!

Hi everyone,

May I begin by asking if anyone still has a 'SMARTIE TUBE' sitting at home to return it asap so that we can close our Spring fundraising challenge. Total now stands at £169, so a big thank you to everyone who joined in.

Last month, the Diocesan Spring Council meeting took place at St Cuthbert's Centre in Marton and it was super that SIX members were able to make the meeting from our branch! It was a lovely sunny day and as Year Reviews and AGMs go, it was quite agreeable!

Along with the warm welcome, prayers and hymn, the official business of presenting reports was all completed in time for the 10.45 coffee break! Sadly, the numbers have again decreased in the Diocese but there is a great deal of optimism among the membership.

We resumed the Spring Gathering with a 'Stretch of the Muscles' to Psalm 61; a new draft 'Constitution' for York Diocese MU was presented, discussed and accepted (with a couple of minor amendments of words); a bit of finance; the fellowship was good and we ended the afternoon session with a group Prayer Activity. Before we left for home we were reminded of the National Annual Gathering to be held in York on 22nd September. Hopefully those who came also felt it was worth their time and will come again.

The AFIA (Away from it All) caravan project was also mentioned. As a branch, we are hoping to liaise with the local Women Aid's project (EVA) about sponsoring families or women in crisis, who would benefit from a caravan holiday and we are waiting to hear back from them.

Looking ahead to Saturday, 1st July and the church Summer Fair, offers of help for our MU stall will be much appreciated. I do know that so many of our gallant ladies are already 'spoken for' so it is good to know who is available.

Last but not least, a summer outing of sorts!

A Deanery lunch on Mary Sumner Day, Wednesday, 9th August at Cleveland Golf Club, Redcar, 1.00 pm for 1.30pm. We are required to give our numbers, with choices and dietary and access requirements and a £5 deposit asap.

Sandra has a sign up list (it will be £18.95 for the 3-course option; no price as yet for just 2 courses but it will be cheaper!) The menu choices are posted on our notice board in church.

God bless Anne x

Take Your Place at the Table: a meditation on the Holy Trinity

In Genesis we see the divine dance in an early enigmatic story (18:1-8). “The Lord” appears to Abraham as “three men.” Abraham and Sarah seem to see the Holy One in the presence of these three, and they bow before them and call them “my lord” (18:2-3 Jerusalem Bible). Their first instinct is one of invitation and hospitality—to create a space of food and drink for their guests. Here we have humanity feeding God; it will take a long time to turn that around in the human imagination. “Surely, we ourselves are not invited to this divine table,” the hosts presume.

This story inspired a piece of devotional religious art by iconographer Andrei Rublev in the fifteenth century: *The Hospitality of Abraham*, or simply *The Trinity*. As icons do, this painting attempts to point beyond itself, inviting a sense of both the *beyond* and the *communion* that exists in our midst.



There are three primary colours in Rublev’s icon, each illustrating a facet of the Holy One: Gold: “the Father” — perfection, fullness, wholeness, the ultimate Source .

Blue: “the Incarnate Christ” — both sea and sky mirroring one another (In the icon, Christ wears blue and holds up two fingers, telling us he has put spirit and matter, divinity and humanity, together within himself. The blue of creation is brilliantly undergirded with the necessary red of suffering.)

Green: “the Spirit” —the divine photosynthesis that grows everything from within by transforming light into itself (Hildegard of Bingen called this *viriditas*, or the greening of all things.)

The icon shows the Holy One in the form of Three, eating and drinking, in infinite hospitality and utter enjoyment between themselves. If we take the depiction of God in *The Trinity* seriously, we have to say, “In the beginning was the Relationship.” The gaze between the Three shows the deep respect between them as they all share from a common bowl. Notice the Spirit’s hand points toward the open and fourth place at the table. Is the Holy Spirit inviting, offering, and clearing space? I think so! And if so, for what, and for whom?

At the front of the table there appears to be a little rectangular hole. Most people pass right over it, but some art historians believe the remaining glue on the original icon indicates that there was perhaps once a mirror glued to the front of the table. It’s stunning when you think about it—there was room at this table for a fourth.

The observer. *You!*

Yes, you—and all of creation—are invited to sit at the divine table. You are called “to consciously participate in the divine dance of loving and being loved,” as Wm Paul Young, the best-selling author of *The Shack*, writes. The mirror seems to have been lost over the centuries, both in the icon and in our on-the-ground understanding of who God is—and, therefore, who we are too!

Come, sit at the table.

Adapted from Richard Rohr, *The Divine Dance: The Trinity and Your Transformation* (Whitaker House: 2016)

A FRESH OLD LOOK

If you were to spend any time on the Church of England website these days, or indeed any source of “advice for churches”, you’d see that one of the biggest messages being pushed is IMAGE. Specifically, how it’s now more important than ever to consider how we as a Church, a parish and a community, are perceived by others. Traditionally we’ve had this covered by our activities, our actions and the way we interact with others - and, yes, sometimes the Church has got it wrong. Most of the time we’ve done a pretty good job though!

However, today, when people are bombarded with visual stimulation, permanently connected, and are being fought over for their attention, we need to cut through all that noise and be seen. The only way to do that is to try and use similar tactics to our advantage. We need to be professional.

I’ve spent the best part of 25 years working as a digital marketing and communications adviser for some of the world’s largest and most prestigious companies and the message has always been drummed into us - it’s paramount to have a clear, consistent and instantly recognisable message or brand, no matter which channel of communication you’re using. We need to be immediately recognised and remembered as St. Peter’s Church, Redcar; not just a generic church; and that experience needs to transition seamlessly from one channel to the next. A simple example would be if someone walks down the High Street and sees a poster in a shop window advertising an event at Church, past experience should immediately tell them - from a distance - it’s St. Peter’s, simply because they’ve seen our “brand” elsewhere already.

Most churches have been reasonably early adopters of the first steps of this process. The vast majority, for example will, have a logo of some description. Many now have accounts on social media and use them regularly. In fact, St. Peter’s is leaps and bounds ahead of many parishes when it comes to this. However this is normally where it grinds to a halt.

After quite a few conversations within Church, I was asked to take a look at how we can apply this principle to St. Peter’s, and many of you may already have spotted some changes, perhaps noticed a marked increase in the use of a dark, rich turquoise around the building! The first step was to take our fantastic logo, originally designed by a friend of Claire Soderman’s some years ago and thoughtfully developed by Ian Westcough, and improve its usability.

Not change it completely, but just make it more adaptable to the different materials and media on which it's used. Basically, clean it up, simplify it and give us a few more options. A version in "landscape" format, portrait format, one that works in black and white, greyscale, single colour, and full colour. The idea is to improve its use, not necessarily change it. And this goes for the whole exercise...

The next step has been to take that logo and expand it to not only be a logo, but to be toolbox of styles, colours, fonts/typefaces, layouts and design rules, all the while keeping it simple and easy for anyone to understand and use. At the recent APCM, I was asked to officially take the role of Communications Advisor to the parish and I've already started to apply our new design language this to our pew sheets, service booklets and the signage around the building. Over time, I'll apply this to the myriad other things too. Step by step mind you - there is a lot of material! Currently I'm studying how to bring our website and social media channels in line with this too.

Yes, a lot of this can be done using technology, but everyone can play a part in making this a success by simply embracing a new mindset. We need to constantly ask ourselves during our ministry "How will this look or be perceived?", "Does this immediately say St. Peter's?", "Does it look like a professional organisation?". I'm here to help and guide in any way I can, so just ask if you have questions or suggestions.

We rely heavily on volunteers for pretty much everything - and they do an awe-inspiringly good job of it. It's important to stress that no one wants to change this. The idea is to coordinate together, so that our message and the way we communicate it is consistent; and that we have the tools at our disposal to do this easily.

So keep your eyes peeled for further developments. Most of them will be simple overhauls of the existent; however, we also have some ideas for new and exciting ways to improve and increase the way we communicate with you, our parishioners and the wider community.

Nick Harvey

MEN'S GROUP VISIT TO NELSAM

After three years of lockdown and restrictions the menfolk were finally allowed out for a bit of respite. Sadly, there were only eight of us, but we filled two cars nicely and set off north to the North East Land Sea and Air Museum near Nissan off the A19. Admission was a mere £3.50 (card payments only)!

What followed was a leisurely stroll through four hangars housing all manner of transportation. There were helicopters, armoured military vehicles such as a Saracen and Saladin, all manner of aircraft including an Argentinian Pucara from the Falklands War. Sadly, some of our group were anoraks who spouted all manner of technical details about the vehicles and aircraft.

The other hangar included buses and trams, and our vicar Andy was quite emotional and ecstatic to see a rather drab coloured Bradford trolleybus at the far end of the hangar.

There is also an outside display area with more aircraft, including a Trident airliner and, of course, the prime exhibit, the Avro Vulcan. We were fortunate that there was a volunteer who opened up the Vulcan so we could access the cockpit, which is an extremely confined space. Two hours seemed to fly by and everyone seemed to



enjoy the visit. With the lack of on site catering, we ventured back down the A19 to Dalton Park for lunch. On returning back to Redcar, it was a case of "where shall we go next month?"

Malcolm Steele

The new year 2023/2024 begins in JULY and I am accepting payments now!



Way back in 2020, I recall writing that this is a valuable source of income being roughly the equivalent to the amount spent on our heating bill at St. Peter's! Not so anymore I'm sorry to say, but it does raise the equivalent of an extra Coffee Morning or maybe even two! A game of chance, a bit of fun, 50% of the money given, is paid out as a Prize Draw each month. It is pot luck as to what number you receive as many people have been doing this for years!! But there are numbers available and we can have more if required.

£1 a month per number (Only £12.00 for the year) - and you can have more than one! How to join? Or continue as a member? Contact ANNE HAGEN on 01642 479755 or 078047354 on how to pay. Clearly marked envelopes with YOUR NAME and CONTACT DETAILS (containing payment) may be given to the Anne or the CHURCHWARDENS at church.

Please do let me know if you NO LONGER WISH TO CONTINUE.

Thank you for your continuing support.

Anne



ST PETER'S 100 CLUB

The result of the May 2023 draw was:

No. 21 Sandra Veitch £40

No. 83 Pauline Stephenson £10

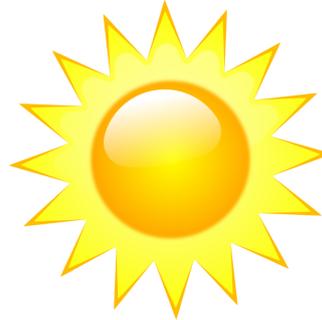
LADIES' WEDNESDAY GROUP

We all enjoyed starting the Coronation celebrations with an Afternoon Tea at the Cleveland Golf Club which was very well attended by our members.

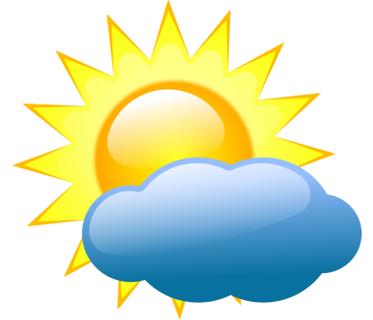
Several ladies dressed in red, white and blue to create a festive atmosphere, which was much enjoyed by all.

Weather Report

When you start to think about it
It's a fact that can amaze
Your face is like the weather
In like so many ways
You can be a ray of sunshine
With an ever-present smile
A look that's cold and frosty
Can put winter on your dial
A deep depression is imminent
With traces of a frown
A grin that spreads from East to West
By thunder earns renown
Your face is like the weather
And its often up to you
To demonstrate your preference
For skies of grey or blue



sunny



partly
cloudy



cloudy



rainy



snowy



stormy

CHURCH CREATURES

Sitting watching the antics of “Speedy”, our friendly Church Mouse, as he flew at speed around the Narthex (turned out he was feeding on bird seed stored in a cupboard), I began to wonder what other creatures or livestock dwelt in our Church.

At the feet of St Columba, there resides a lonely little “Thompson” mouse condemned to a life of solitude following the forcible removal of the house downstairs and his friend who lived there to the Zetland rooms above. A keen eye will see the friend eternally scampering along the skirtings desperately seeking a way to return.

Near the Altar, beneath and behind the Keys of St Peter, there resides a bushy tailed furry animal whose friend (another furry animal) does not hide its lamp under a bushel but puts it on a candlestick to shed light.

Near water and under a conical cover, flying away from a six pointed star and bearing a stoney expression, is the Dove of Peace. On the other side of the Nave a tiny Lion roars in memory of the fallen of yesteryear. In the Lady Chapel a bird beats its wings to escape the heat of a burning Sun.

Elsewhere in the heights, Horses and Lions with glazed expressions abound in company with St Nicholas, St Bartholomew and Guilelmus Turner Esq.

I am sure the diligent researcher will be able to find more little friends around the Church. Recent attacks on the Food Bank cupboards hint at more but efforts are on hand to contain this.

But I must ask you to be careful in your searches as there lurks in the darkest corners of the Church, members, past and present, of the dreaded sect of Church Wardens, fiercer in their way than any of the creatures described above.

Jim Veitch



Prayer for June 2023

Dear Father,

As we come to this beautiful time of year, the month of June, we thank you for the wonder of your creation and the way our spirits are lifted as we see all around us the freshness of a new summer.

This month we remember Barnabas, whose name means, *child of encouragement*. He was a good person, full of the Holy Spirit and faith. Lord, help each of us to be a *Barnabas* to someone today, to encourage and lift up, led by your Holy Spirit and full of faith.

Help us to share your love and goodness, especially with those whose circumstances are difficult. Help us all to trust you through good times and testing times, knowing you are always with us, always encouraging us, always faithful.

In Jesus' name. Amen

By Daphne Kitching, taken from The Parish Pump

EAST REDCAR RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

The next two meetings of the above will be at 7.00pm on Thursday, 1st June and Thursday 7th July.

The meetings will be held in the upstairs meeting room of St. Peter's Church, Redcar Lane, and will finish at 8.30pm or earlier.

Guest Speakers to be announced.

There will be reports from Redcar local police officers, whereby we can also feed back any policing concerns we may have. There will also be the Parks Reports – a round up of what's currently happening in Redcar's parks – Zetland park, Green Lane, Holyhead park, Borough Road park, Redcar cemetery, the Lily Park and the paddling pool. Finally we will have Any Other Business where members can raise specific concerns or items of interest not covered by the agenda.

Why not come along and see for yourself? Just turn up on the night, give me a ring on 01642 482132 or e-mail bib_ken@ntlworld.com for further information.

Ken Bibby Chairman



NEWS FROM THE FRIENDS OF REDCAR CEMETERY

The Friends would like to thank everyone who contributed to the tombola recently held in Morrison's store, also thanks to their staff and customers.

We have held a craft workshop, painting pebbles to give to visitors to the cemetery on Father's Day. We will have a stall at the cemetery on this special day, we only want some good weather. It will be good to meet people that sometimes we don't see and get their thoughts about the work at the cemetery. We will be thinking of all those who have lost their Dad this year.

We will have a stall on the High Street on Armed Forces Day on Saturday 24th June. Our stall will be near the Re-loved Café; please look for us there. We are having one of our famous bric a brac stalls with many bargains. We also have a 'everyone's a winner' straw game, which is always popular.

This month will see a Commonwealth War headstone fixed in the cemetery on Robert V Wilson's grave. Robert was a Redcar man who served in the RAF in the Second World War and died in an accident at Middleton St George Airfield at a Battle of Britain



display. This is to ensure his service will not be forgotten in the future.

Our work continues in the cemetery over the summer months.

Dot Ahmed

Reasons for Marriage....

Studying our wedding photos, my six-year-old asked, "Did you marry Dad because he was a vicar?"

"Not at all," I replied.

"Did you marry him because he was good-looking?"

"No, not that either," I replied.

"Did you marry him for his money?"

"Definitely not," I laughed. "He didn't have any."

"So," he concluded sadly, "you just felt sorry for him."



Gardening ...

Overheard at my gardening club meeting: "I never knew what compost was until I met my husband."

Marriage again ...

During a heartfelt chat with her friend about relationships, my wife sighed and said, "You know, if something happened to my husband, I don't think I could ever marry again." Her friend nodded sympathetically. "I know what you mean," she said.

"Once is more than enough."

This Next One....

A local DJ was introducing a record at our annual church fete/parish party.

"This next one," he said, "is for Charlotte, a choir member, who is a hundred and eleven! Hey, Charlotte, congratulations on a ripe old age!"

There was a short pause and then the DJ said in a somewhat more subdued voice, "I'm sorry, I got it wrong. This next one is for Charlotte, who is ill."

Taken from The Parish Pump

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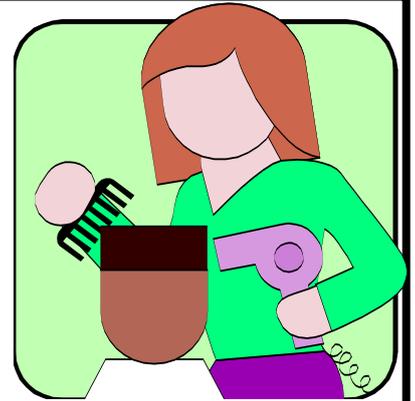
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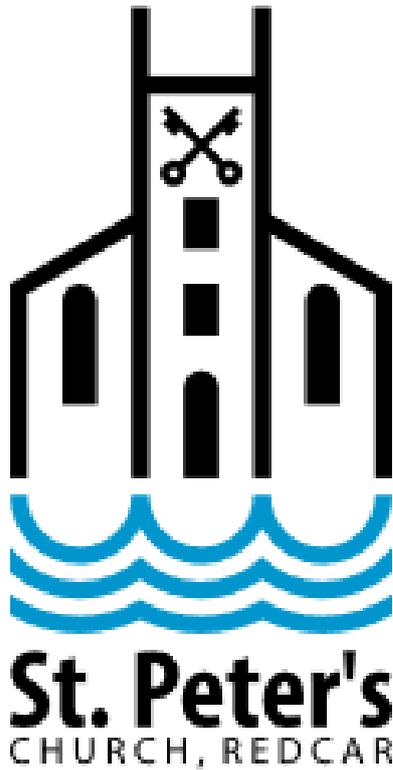
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