



this month includes...

April 2024

Rector's Journal

Sydney Carter  
by Robin

“a little church...”

plus

FOSPA needs YOU!  
Not yet confirmed?

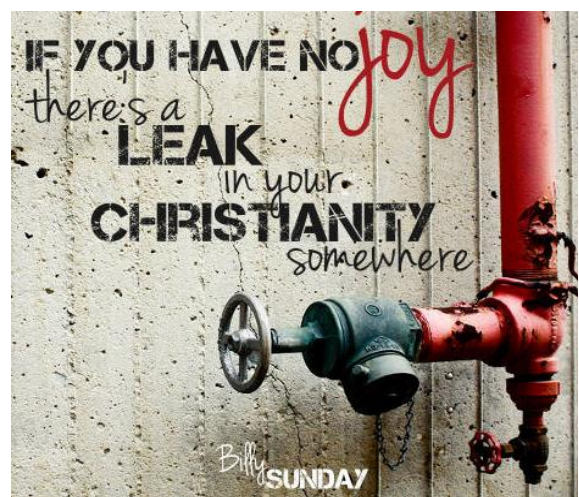
## Repeat after me – Hallelujah, regardless!

**Wednesday:** I am 62.5% through Lent (not that I'm counting or anything the days until I can have a bath in Maltesers), and it's a good time to review whether or not it has been a Good Thing.

It has probably made me realise that there is some problem here, and if I was only strong enough, I could do this. But I'm not, and the craving has not gone away. So, I would say, typically human, or as St Paul says, *I know what I should be doing, but I cannot.*

We have been reading Paul's letter to the *Philippians* as a group at Mt Hermon during Lent, and this has focussed on **joy**, and rejoicing even when life is going wrong. The hospitality is good and generous at Mt Hermon,

and chocolate biscuits are being scoffed by my fellow pilgrims (perhaps they have all given up something else?). Paul tells us not just to be happy (a meaningless piece of advice) but to *rejoice in the Lord*. Paul wrote this whilst in a prison cell, and facing a death sentence, but this joy in the Lord seeps out of his letter to his favourite church. Whatever else goes wrong, he says, **nothing is more important than the joy of knowing Christ.**



**Thursday evening:** a delivery driver finds a piece of metal on the Rectory driveway. He confidently identifies it as piece of “coil spring”. I had wondered about the additional rattle acquired by my old banger, but, alas, this proves to be terminal as it would be vastly uneconomic to repair. This is ...continued overleaf

...continued from page 1

not a cause of rejoicing, and becomes even an occasion of woe when I scan the internet for second hand car prices. How did Paul do it, I wonder, as I am sorely tempted by a cheeky floozy of a left over Chocolate Orange from Christmas. Can I rejoice? Again the phrase comes back from Paul – *rejoice in the Lord*. **Don't lose the bigger picture**. As we race through Lent, that bigger picture is being revealed: a horrible death and an astonishing Easter Day when **rejoicing** becomes the theme of the whole word. I may still need a car, and I may still be drawn into a chocolate orgy but I know that My Redeemer liveth, and He has **promised such wonderful things** as surpass all my desires.

Mark

Nature Notes will be back next month

Briony H shares this poem by e.e. cummings which she found in a church in rural Sussex

i am a little church (no great cathedral)  
far from the splendour and squalor of hurrying cities  
– i do not worry if briefer days grow briefest  
i am not sorry when sun and rain make april  
my life is the life of the reaper and the sower;  
my prayers are prayers of the earth's own clumsy striving  
(finding and losing and laughing and crying) children  
whose any sadness or joy is my grief or my gladness  
around me surges a miracle of unceasing  
birth and glory in death and resurrection:  
over my sleeping self float flaming symbols  
of hope, and I wake to a perfect patience of mountains  
i am a little church (far from the frantic  
world with its rapture and anguish) at peace with nature  
– i do not worry if longer nights grow longest;  
i am not sorry when silence becomes singing  
winter by spring, i lift my diminutive spire to  
merciful Him Whose only now is forever:  
standing erect in the deathless truth of His presence  
(welcoming humbly His light and proudly His darkness)



## FOSPA teas

The 41<sup>st</sup> season of our famous and much loved FOSPA teas starts at the end of May – and **we very much need YOUR HELP!!** If you can help by **servicing or baking**, please have a word with Margaret W or sign the lists in the hall as soon as you can – and, thanks!!

## Cut the Carbon tip

If you can reduce your home heating thermostat by a degree or even two, not only will this cut carbon emissions, but you'll find it can slash your heating bill by up to 10% too. If you can't turn it down all the time, try just in the mornings – anything is better than nothing!

**Not been confirmed?** It's *never too late* to make this commitment - speak with Mark now about joining those **being confirmed this year.** 😊

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup>  
April 4pm  
@ St Peter's**





# April 25<sup>th</sup> : St. Mark's Day



Confusingly, there are a number of 'Marks' mentioned in the New Testament, including the "young man" who ran from the Garden of Gethsemane when Jesus was arrested. Today we think of **Mark the Evangelist**, who journeyed with Peter and wrote down his sermons, so composing the **Gospel "according to Mark"**. Mark came from Cyrene; he established in Alexandria what became the Coptic Church, and is honoured as the **founder of Christianity in Africa**. He was killed for his faith in 68AD. St. Mark is often symbolised by the image of winged lion – you can see one such in the carvings on our pulpit at St. Peter's, have a look.

*Faith never knows where it is being led, but it knows and loves the One who is leading.*

*Oswald Chambers*

## Hymn Writers

part 8 in an occasional series

by **Robin Leleux**

### Sydney Carter (1915 – 2004)

Several of the carols we sang over Christmas, as well as celebrating Jesus's birth, looked ahead to his death and resurrection. Sydney Carter's ever-popular hymn '**Lord of the Dance**' does this in reverse, looking at Jesus's life, achievements and death before coming to the final triumphant conclusion: *'They cut me down and I leapt up high; I am the life that'll never, never die'*.

Carter was a prolific and popular folk song writer rather than a musical cleric, working with Donald Swann on revues, musicals and recordings. He wrote that he saw Christ as the piper leading us on, and as a lover of folk dance he found the Shaker melody '*Simple Gifts*' appropriate and adapted it accordingly. (The Shakers in America saw dance as a spiritual activity.)

Carter has the unique distinction in that three of his widely popular songs come in the top ten of those sung in children's school assemblies, 'Dance' being 5th behind '**One more step along the world I go**' (1st) with '**When I needed a neighbour**' at 7th, all in our hymn book.\*

As a committed pacifist and conscientious objector, he served with the Friends Ambulance Unit in the Middle East in WWII. His friend Rabbi Lionel Blue observed: *'Carter's songs have the status of psalms for today ... reflecting broader twentieth century currents of approaches to belief and faith.'* His spirit will live on in words and music affirming the future.



\* Come and hear Carter's "**Said Judas to Mary**" at *Easter Songs of Praise* (April 7<sup>th</sup>, 6pm)

## Wulfherans

On March 5<sup>th</sup>, Catherine Snape gave a very interesting talk about the archaeological finds “beneath our feet” in Addingham (which she told us is named after a Saxon called Adda). There is evidence here of Iron Age settlements, along with burials, fish ponds, a manor house and pottery artefacts.

On Tuesday in Holy Week, the Wulfherans led a moving service of Tenebrae with readings recalling Jesus’s path to the Cross, using candles to symbolise that even the darkest of times cannot overcome God’s light.

*(There is no Wulfherans meeting in April.)*

Join us  
for our next  
meeting  
**Tuesday**  
**7<sup>th</sup> May**  
**7.30pm**

**VINCENT DOBSON**  
talks about  
**Myddleton Lodge and**  
**Black+White Cricket**



come and join us!

When God gives you a new beginning,  
don't repeat the old mistakes

## Peace point

The restraint of war is the  
beginning of peace. *Michael Walzer*

## Thoughts on the Lord's Prayer

At the Healing service in March, Joy shared thoughts on each phrase of the *Lord's Prayer*. Phyllis suggested that this talk be made available for all to read, so, you'll find copies at the back of church to take home and ponder.



Image: iJcamp on Freepik.com

## Contacts

**Rector:** Revd Mark Cannon 01943 831 382

**Children and Family worker:** Tamsin Carr  
[childrenandfamilywork@stpetersaddingham.org.uk](mailto:childrenandfamilywork@stpetersaddingham.org.uk)

**Churchwarden:**

Margaret Widdowson  
[margaretwidd3@btinternet.com](mailto:margaretwidd3@btinternet.com)

**Parish Office:** 01943 830 306  
[contact@stpetersaddingham.org.uk](mailto:contact@stpetersaddingham.org.uk)


## Find out more


[www.stpetersaddingham.org.uk](http://www.stpetersaddingham.org.uk)

St Peters Church Addingham

01943 830 306

[contact@stpetersaddingham.org.uk](mailto:contact@stpetersaddingham.org.uk)

For up-to-date details of all services and activities, please look at our website, follow us on  Facebook or pick up a “What’s On” leaflet.

**Everyone is welcome** and you can also join with St. Peter’s online; we livestream many of our services to our  Facebook page, so take a look.

You can also follow  **C.a.f.e** – **children and family events** at St. Peter’s Addingham

**You can watch all St. Peter’s Podcasts at [vimeo.com/showcase/10274277](https://vimeo.com/showcase/10274277)**

From the Registers

**Wedding**

Feb 29<sup>th</sup>

Mary Jenner and Kevin Grange

**WFP**



To help the United Nations  
World Food Programme  
prevent famine in Gaza,  
you can donate at  
[www.wfp.org/support-us/stories/  
palestine-food-parcel](http://www.wfp.org/support-us/stories/palestine-food-parcel)

**Advice for insomniacs...**

*(from Diocese of Leeds website)*

When sleep will not come,  
use this time to pray for  
other people and their needs