



June 2023

this month includes...

Rector's Journal

Nature Notes

by Margaret S

Faith

by Margaret L

Hymnwriter Heber

by Robin

A bit naff...?

Wednesday: I am in the office with a colleague whose son is going to get married abroad. You often get to write your



own vows when abroad, and mum asked for the CofE vows to assist the happy couple. "By the way", she said, "those vow things won't do. They think they're a bit naff."

These are the usual words, "I take you to be my husband, in sickness and in health" etc etc. They've been around for hundreds of years, but now they are a bit "naff".

Friday: am in the Coop not buying biscuits but I seem to have become addicted to Maltesers instead, so I am trying

not to buy them either. A man approaches and asks if I'm the vicar. "Yes," I confirm. "So, he continues, "does that mean you believe in God?"

I think our job has got a lot harder. There could well be a **majority of our neighbours** who go along with the above. **The church has missed them** completely for years. No future for us if we don't..... *(add your own suggestion here, and let me know...)*.

believe
in
God

Mark

When life gets too hard to stand... kneel

29th June ST. PETER's Day

Patron Saint of Bakers, Bridge Builders, Butchers, Horologists, Fishermen, Locksmiths – and of ALL AT ST. PETER'S ADDINGHAM!!

Successful fisherman, family man, home owner; **challenged to follow Jesus; impulsive but calculating, bold but doubting, uncomprehending but insightful, brave but fearful, traitorous but loving; repentant, restored, commissioned, enabled, humble, courageous, inclusive, teacher, church leader, pastor, faithful lifelong. A mixture of strengths and weaknesses, but forgiven, empowered and used by God. Sounds a bit like you?**



You don't have a soul. You ARE a soul. You have a body.

C.S.Lewis

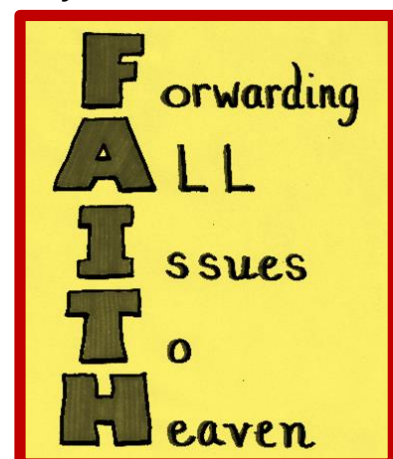
FAITH

by Margaret Longden

I would say that faith is a strand running through my life - habitual attender of the local parish church in my childhood and early teens, swapped for the Baptist church (with its livelier youth club) in my later teens. Through my long married life, I attended intermittently, usually high days and holidays but if asked, I would have said I had a faith, but it was a background thing - though I always felt that the teachings of Jesus Christ were the best framework for any life.

However, with the onset of Covid and lockdown I was severely tested when my very fit husband of 50 years was diagnosed with aggressive prostate cancer. Every treatment was tried to little or no avail. At the same time, I was unable to visit my elderly mother in her nursing home due to the Covid restrictions, and she died without my being able to see her for almost year. Another relative died unexpectedly leaving my sisters and I to sort her estate. My three children don't live nearby and could only visit occasionally due to lockdown rules, and it was a time of intense loneliness and sadness for me, culminating in my husband's death in spring last year.

Throughout this time though, I became aware of being sent a strength to bear this load and to cope with the challenges, and I felt as though I was being carried, something I can only put down to the presence of God. This has remained a constant in my widowhood in spite of the inevitable grief and I would now say that my faith has become a living hopeful thing - bolstered by my attendance at St Peter's and the kindness I have found here.





The best medicine

"Wireless communication is nothing new. I've been praying for 75 years!"



Hymn Writers part3 : Bishop Reginald Heber 1783 – 1826

an occasional series by Robin Leleux

Trinity Sunday is upon us (*June 4th*); in the Anglican Church it is traditionally marked by singing Reginald Heber's great hymn '**Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty**', celebrating the majesty and mystery of the Holy Trinity.

Heber was from Cheshire, born into a clerical family which had distant links with Craven; indeed he liked to spend time here in **Wharfedale** outside Hubberholme, as a plaque over a farmhouse door attests.

After Oxford, where he had a reputation as poet, he journeyed extensively through Scandinavia and Russia where in both the Crimea and St Petersburg he encountered large groups of Muslims, being most impressed by their friendship and the vibrancy of their worship.

Following ordination, he took over his father's Cheshire country parish where he combined pastoral duties with writing hymns and literary works.

He slightly inclined towards **evangelical** Anglicanism and was keenly interested in overseas missionary work. Appointed a canon of St Asaph, in 1823 he became Bishop of the huge diocese of **Calcutta**, through which he travelled widely, encouraging the ordination of **local clergy**.

The CofE hierarchy distrusted hymn-singing, although it was catching on in parishes; nevertheless Heber insisted on **publishing his hymns** in book form, an important step for Anglicanism. Five of his hymns are in our hymnbook, and his '**Brightest and Best of the Sons of the Morning**' remains popular at Epiphany (but few of his others are sung now, some being out of line with modern sentiments, like 'From Greenland's Icy Mountains', its wording criticised by Ghandi).



Peace point

"The culmination of the developing concept of peace lies in a general recognition that the vast majority of humanity have preferred and actively worked towards a culture of peace"

Oliver P. Richmond

From the Registers

Baptisms

May 21 Frederick Bean
Harrison and Bodhi Pett

Weddings

May 26 Max Quilter & Megan Thompson
May 28 Adam Bennett & Jayne Hawkes

Wulfherans

In May, Tim Foreman gave us an excellent talk, "20 Amusing Years in Sales & Marketing", interspersed with many amusing anecdotes.

You can read a full report at this link:

www.stpetersaddingham.org.uk/life-at-st-peters/social-events/previous-wulfherans-meeting/

Our June meeting is a visit to the lovely gardens of Birstwith Hall

near Harrogate. We will leave St. Peter's car park at 1pm, travelling by coach and in cars. Lovely surroundings, good company – tea and cakes available too!

Tuesday 6th June

Visit to Birstwith Hall Gardens



Remember to watch St. Peter's Podcasts at vimeo.com/showcase/10274277
The next one is about hope

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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

Nature Notes for June

Margaret Spencer

I have been fascinated to hear the birds singing nearby, early each morning.



This is the time for the arrival of Whitethroats, and Bill Bill Teale from the Yorkshire Post describes them as "singing their scratchy song from the tops of the bushes."

(You can listen for yourself to the song of the Whitethroat at

www.rspb.org.uk/birds-and-wildlife/wildlife-guides/bird-a-z/whitethroat/)

Blackbirds are also enjoying the garden at present - especially using the little water fountain. However, Avian Flu is apparently still raging in this region, and sadly many gulls have been lost to the disease.

I have been sent a lovely RSPB booklet, which features everything to do with birds and their needs! Please feel free to borrow it from me if you want.

Enjoy nature and all its wonder.