



John Holdsworth

this
month
includes...

Rector's Journal

Nature Notes

from Margaret

Wood wide web

from Anne

plus

Note from Tamsin

St. David's message

March 2023

Rector's journal...

Fri: I am sat in a Surgery with a nurse mentioning my weight – it is all done very politely, but I am left in no doubt that my shape is far from healthy (and this is even after I've been holding my breath in / taking trousers off to get weighed / wearing my Spanx Pants etc.). But the result is that the NHS has achieved what I could never do on my own – I went biscuit-free*.

And this for me turned also into a **message about Lent**.



In theory, I know what I should be doing to be a Christian: 1) praying 2) Bible reading 3) loving other people. But, **this stuff is just not easy** – some of it is tedious, and the rest can be difficult – especially the 'other people'. So I need the spiritual equivalent of that lovely nurse to give me the shock I need to start being a better Christian.

Where will it come from? For me it came from talking to a good Christian – someone so far ahead of me that I was forced to think – “Actually, just what do I do? Have I even started yet?” This shock was enough to make me enter this Lent knowing that I can't do this on my own, that **I need the church and its rhythm of Lenten worship** to stop me drifting away, and to encourage a greater effort. **We can all help each other at St. Peter's.**

Mark

*'Biscuit giving up' does not cover biscuits offered during home visits... these I take as a generous token of God's grace (not digestives, though).

1st March: St. David's Day (Dydd Dewi Sant)

St. David was a 6th Century Welsh Bishop, grandson of the King of Ceredigion, and an inspiring preacher. He and his fellow monks lived a very simple life, sharing all their possessions, drinking only water and eating bread, salt and vegetables (David's favourite was said to be leeks, so the leek is now a national symbol of Wales).

David died c.589 on **1st March**, and this became known as St. David's Day. He was buried at the site of St. David's Cathedral, where his shrine was a popular place of pilgrimage throughout the Middle Ages. David's last words to his followers reminded them to **'Be joyful, keep the faith, and do the little things that you have heard and seen me do.'** Good advice for all of us, Welsh or not!



Did you know that Daffodils are also called Lent Lilies?

From the Registers

Funerals

February 2nd Kasheen Hastings

February 3rd James Gelsthorpe

Not everything can be cured, but everyone can be healed



questions

Why the cross?

What does it mean?

Why does it matter?

What difference can it make for me?

find out more in a informal group, led by Shannon and Mark

Wednesdays at 7pm

March 8/15/22/29

at Mount Hermon hall

Everyone welcome, just turn up!



ADDINGHAM CHURCHES TOGETHER

01943 830306 for details

Message from Tamsin

our Children and Family worker

Addingham Primary School would love a team of **good listeners** to go into school once a week to listen to Year 3 and Year 4 children read.

Is this something you would like to **help** with? The idea is to create a rota so that each person on the reading team will go into school one morning or afternoon each half term.

Do **get in touch** with me to volunteer or to find out more. You will need a DBS check, but this is a simple process.

Thanks. My number is 07877 952 522

childrenandfamilywork@stpetersaddingham.org.uk



'It is an awareness of **shared humanity** that underpins the global enterprise of cosmopolitan conflict resolution.'

Ramsbotham, Woodhouse and Miall

Peace point

Beloved Is Where We Begin a blessing for Lent by Jan Richardson

If you would enter into the wilderness, do not begin without a blessing.

Do not leave without hearing who you are:

Beloved,

named by the One who has travelled this path before you.

Do not go without letting it echo in your ears,

and if you find it is hard to let it into your heart, do not despair.

That is what this journey is for.

I cannot promise this blessing will free you

from danger, from fear, from hunger or thirst,
from the scorching of sun or the fall of the night.

But I can tell you that on this path there will be help.

I can tell you that on this way there will be rest.

I can tell you that you will know the strange graces

that come to our aid only on a road such as this,

that fly to meet us bearing comfort and strength,

that come alongside us for no other cause

than to lean themselves toward our ear

and with their curious insistence whisper our name:

Beloved. Beloved. Beloved.

from 'Circle of Grace'
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Come as you are – you can change later

Nature Notes for March



There is something intensely uplifting in seeing house martins, who undertake dangerous migratory journeys to built their houses here, as though this place was perfect! I do look forward to their arrival, I shall never tire of seeing them each year.

I smiled to learn from Jim Muir's book that *'Robin Redbreasts don't have red breasts – they have orange breasts. They are called Redbreasts because the word orange didn't arrive in English until the end of the 16th Century.'*

Sparrows seem to visit the garden just now, they love to splash in the water and make a real fuss dashing here and there – I always enjoy their company and wonder where they are nesting. Several handsome swans were on the canal when I walked down last week – they swam nearby, and near the canal boats, hoping for food!

We have quite a few rooks already in the tall trees across the road. They use the fields both for food and for nest building materials. Rooks look very handsome but are extremely noisy at times. Jonathan Tullock writes in the Yorkshire Post *'when the rooks return, spring cannot be far away'* - such good news! As I write the sun is out and there was a lovely blue sky this morning. Enjoy these bright the cheery days!



Dick Daniels

Welcome to
St. Peter's for

Mothering Sunday

a day for
coming home

Sun 19th March 10 am

informal family service
and Communion

plant for
every Mum!



stpetersaddingham.org.uk or 01943 830306

livestreamed f St Peter's Church Addingham

Wulfherans

After our AGM in February, Peter Settle gave a fascinating illustrated talk "*Britain : A Nation of Shopkeepers*" on the changing nature of shopping since medieval times.

Next meeting
Tues 7th March,
7.30pm

A warm welcome
awaits you

**Ghost
writing**

with the well-known author

**NEIL
HANSON**



Don't forget to watch the latest
podcast on *Healing*

Contacts

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Find out more


www.stpetersaddingham.org.uk

St Peters Church Addingham

01943 830 306

contact@stpetersaddingham.org.uk

For up-to-date details of all services and activities, please look at our website or follow us on  Facebook.

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

If you are more fortunate than others, get a longer table not a higher fence

Wood wide web

Anne Hodgson

It's now known that trees grow better when planted in groups rather than singly, as they support each other through a network of root mycorrhiza. If a tree is attacked by predators it can warn other trees through this "*wood wide web*" so they can produce toxins to fend off an attack. A healthy tree can also support a nearby weaker tree by passing extra nutrients through the root network.

We ourselves are part of a world wide fellowship where, as Jesus taught us, **we can support one another** through difficult, potentially weakening, times, helping one other to recover and grow again.

Isn't Nature amazing.



Addingham Environment Group planting a mixture of trees to help stabilize the slope and prevent undercutting of the beck bank.