

this  
month  
includes...

May  
2026

Rector's Journal

Pentecost

George Herbert  
by Robin

plus

Thy Kingdom Come  
Baptism care  
Looking at livestream  
World Bee Day

## He's our Dad...

**Saturday:** I am eating a pulled pork sandwich and looking out, first over the Washburn Valley, and, second, when the beauties of nature pall, at a couple on a neighbouring table.

I can't be the only one who enjoys speculating about strangers' **relationships**, and this couple are a puzzle.



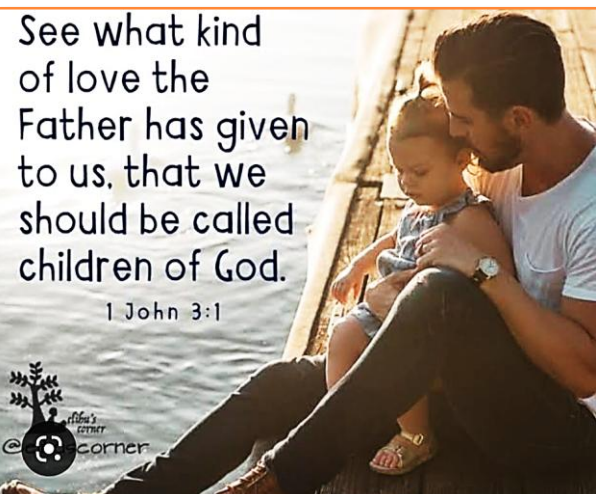
He is describing (at great length) the plumbing arrangements of a new house. She looks as bored as a congregation at the twelve minute mark of a sermon. I therefore

conclude that she is not a partner (she would have shut

him up), nor is she a first date (surely he wouldn't have banged on quite so much about reverse circulation if he wanted to impress?). So, what is going on? At the point when he whips out his phone to show her a picture of a heat exchanger, all becomes clear. She must be a long-suffering sister.

Which brings me to how Jesus relates to us, and why he is so keen to stress the **fatherhood of God**. It is the kind of relationship where a parent knows, and tolerates his eccentric, often maddening, children. He knows us inside out, and yet continues to be patient, loving, and never pulls away: **we are his family** after all.

Mark





**Eco Hints** : 20<sup>th</sup> May is **World Bee Day**, when we're urged to improve local conditions for bees and other precious pollinators, in decline from habitat loss, climate change and agricultural intensification. Some suggested actions are: *grow wild flowers; don't use pesticides; host a bee hotel; buy honey from local beekeepers.* What will YOU do??

Our **May podcast** is about the rich **variety of music** which can be part of our church life – to watch, on [stpetersaddingham.org.uk](http://stpetersaddingham.org.uk) click **Online**, scroll down to **Podcasts**, then click **Watch on Vimeo**



May I never forget on my best day that I still need God as desperately as I did on my worst

**Big shoes to follow...** One of the valuable roles that our friend Margaret Spencer has played in church life at St. Peter's over the years has been to prepare **baptism cards** for children (and adults) being baptised here. She's attended the baptism services to welcome our newest members (*let's all follow that example!*), and then kept track of the dates and sent **follow-up cards** on the anniversary of their baptism, so that families know that they remain **in our thoughts and prayers** through the ups and downs of daily life. Now that Margaret is not able to be with us very frequently, we are looking for someone to take on this ministry. Does that sound like something **you** might be able to do? If so, please have a word with Philippa 830306 to find out more. (*PS – want to have your child baptised, or be baptised yourself? Speak with Mark or Beth today.*)



**24<sup>th</sup> May : Pentecost a poem**

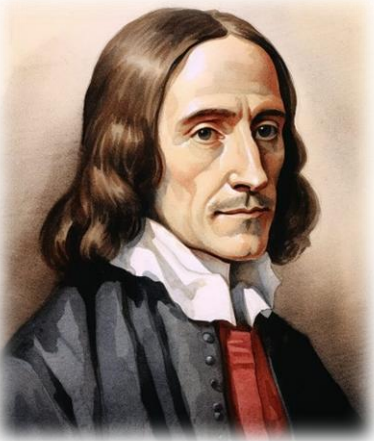
**At the first Pentecost,  
the disciples were blown away,  
lit up,  
and the listeners said  
“now you're talking my language”  
not just because of the words they heard  
but because the lives they saw  
illuminated with holy fire  
made sense of the Gospel to them.  
Father, burn away our dross  
so that we can shine for you  
and be a breath of fresh air  
blowing from your Kingdom  
into the lives of those we meet,  
today and every day.**

If you think of the number of empty minutes in a day when we are doing something because we are afraid of emptiness and of being alone with ourselves, you will realize there are plenty of short periods which could belong to us and to God at the same time.

*Metropolitan Anthony Bloom*

## George Herbert (1593 – 1633)

In the confused religious and political scene of early seventeenth century England the short (1630-33) ministry of George Herbert stands out like a ray of essentially sensible Anglicanism. He was born into a prosperous and **literary** family; George's godfather was the poet John Donne while his mother was friends with the composer William Byrd. As well as starting an **academic** career – he wrote poetry in Latin and Greek as well as English – he tried **politics**, sitting as an MP in the acrimonious parliaments of 1624 and 1625.



However he was increasingly drawn to the church, being **ordained** in 1629 and becoming Rector of Bemerton, just outside Salisbury. Here he would take two services every day, accompanied by his young wife and their three adopted orphaned nieces, while attending the Cathedral twice a week, joining the musicians after the service. He continued to write **poetry**, always on religious themes, revising and expanding his published work '*The Temple*'. This provoked the appreciative comment: '**Herbert speaks to God like one that really believeth in God**'. He also wrote a **handbook for rural clergy** '*The Country Parson*' which was influential until modern times. Much of his religious work has provided **inspiration** for modern composers like Vaughan Williams and Benjamin Britten. Five of his hymns are in our hymnbook, albeit sung to more recently composed tunes, including '*Let all the world in every corner sing*' and '*King of glory, King of peace*' with the couplet '**Seven whole days, not one in seven, I will praise thee;**' ever to guide us. He died of consumption aged only 39.

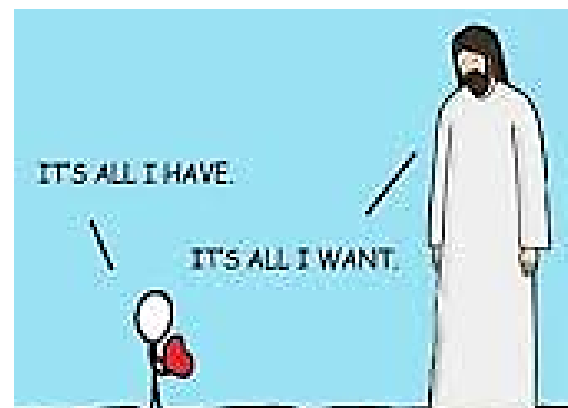
### Men's Social

Our next meeting is  
**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> May** from **7.30pm**  
all welcome to join us for a chat in  
**The Fleece (left hand bar)**

**Book the date,  
and tell family,  
friends and  
neighbours!**



Next **Messy Church** is  
Sunday 10th May at 4pm  
- this is **YOUR** invitation  
to join Messy Church  
children and families  
to share in our theme  
**"Breakfast on the Beach"**



On Tuesday in Holy Week, Wulpherans and members of the congregation met in church for the moving Tenebrae service, a candlelit service of hymns, readings, peace and reflections. Afterwards hot cross buns and Easter biscuits were enjoyed with friendship in the hall.

Our next meeting will be :

**Tuesday  
5th May  
7.30pm**



**The Beamsley Project**

### From the Registers

#### **Baptism**

12<sup>th</sup> April Alfie Atkins

#### **Interment of Ashes**

17<sup>th</sup> April Maureen Woodhouse

#### **Funerals**

8<sup>th</sup> April Pat Laycock

**Rector:** Revd Mark Cannon 07866 298 892  
**Children/Teens/Families:** Bethany Harrison 07803 175 080  
**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

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*

Watch all **St. Peter's monthly Podcasts** via the church website – click **Online**, scroll down to **Podcasts**, then click **Watch on Vimeo**

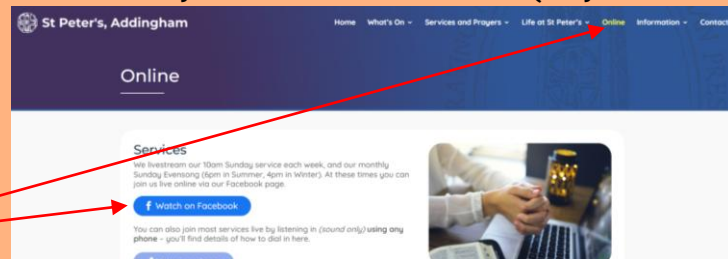


### **Livestream de-mystified**

Each week, Roger Staniland films our 10am service (and some others) from the Gallery in church, so that anyone who wants to join us but can't be there in person is able to **share in our worship**, either **as it happens** or by watching the **recording** at a later time. (When Roger can't be there, Andrew R and Ian B stand in to provide this livestream.) Many tell us that they find this link to St. Peter's a real lifeline when they can't get to church. **THANK YOU** to Roger for skill, time and equipment making this possible.

The services are viewed via **St. Peter's Facebook page** – *be assured that by doing so, you are NOT engaging with all sorts of dubious internet content!* Our Facebook page is used simply as a sort of **digital noticeboard**, giving details of our events and access to our filmed services. You can just look at it, on your computer or on your smartphone, without any further involvement (beyond possibly logging in to Facebook - if you need help with that, please ask Roger over coffee after church any Sunday morning.) **So, just go to**

- **stpetersaddingham.org.uk** (the church website)
- click the **Online** tab
- then click **Watch on Facebook**



## **Thy Kingdom Come**

is a global ecumenical prayer movement which invites Christians around the world to pray during the eleven days between Ascension and Pentecost for more people to discover the transformative presence, power and love of God, who is with us in the joys and sorrows of everyday life.

There are lots of different ways you can take part. For example, you could pray each day 14-24th May for one or more people you know to recognise and respond to God's live-changing love (and having started, don't stop praying after 24<sup>th</sup>!).

