



this
month
includes...

October
2024

Rector's Journal

Mary Byrne and
Jan Struther

by Robin

Insights from St.
Francis

plus

Alpha Approaching!
Join in MacMillan Tea
No cash? No problem!

Fed, filled and formed

Sunday: 11.30am, and our Head of Biscuits is flustered. He has catered for exactly 38 coffee drinkers at 2 biscuits per head, and yet when I and the Head of Wine and Wafers present ourselves at the counter, there is just one biscuit



image: needpix.com

left for each of us. Fortunately, a Bourbon/Custard Cream splits, so we are both happy, but the others have eaten more than predicted. Some have taken three.

Tuesday: in the office kitchen are some brownies, they will stay there for a long time however, on account of them being vegan. They don't hit the spot in the same way as a good dollop of sugar and fat.

Thursday: we are looking at carols for Christmas (I know, I

know; we've left it late again!). We look at some new carols, and, well, we say, thanks, but, no thanks. We know what the punters want, and that is what they're going to get.

Sunday: for about the 4th Sunday in a row, we have Jesus talking about bread. And thinking of the week that has gone, I think He's got it right. He knows we **need** it, and so he promises more than enough for everyone. He knows we want something **special**, and so He promises that His bread will be heavenly. He knows that we want something that will be completely **satisfying**, and He promises us Bread for ever, and an end to our hunger. **Jesus's bread feeds us, fills us, and forms us.** The life it gives is not lacking, or shocking; it promises **all we could ever want.**

Mark



image: artlezz

The true call of a Christian is not to do extraordinary things, but to do ordinary things in an extraordinary way.

Dean Stanley



Francis of Assisi

4th October: St Francis of Assisi

Born in 1181, Francis grew up wealthy in the small town of Assisi, Italy, and as a young man enjoyed an indulgent life, but after a strange vision chose to live in penitent poverty, initially nursing people with leprosy. He walked through the countryside, urging people to brotherly love and peace. Soon he attracted followers, the first "Franciscans", to this simple way of life; their aim was to replicate the life of Christ and literally carry out His work. He

established the order of "Poor Clares" for women devoted to the same life of poverty, preaching and service. Francis felt compelled to present the Gospel to all, so that God could bring about their conversion. In this conviction he travelled to Egypt to preach to the Sultan, hoping thereby to bring an end to the Crusader wars; some sources say that as a result the Sultan was indeed converted in secret, and baptised.

Francis preached that "God lives in your nearest neighbour, in every person", and said that "he considered himself no friend of Christ if he did not cherish those for whom Christ died". This extended to the whole of the natural world: he called all creatures (including sun, moon and the elements) his "brothers" and "sisters, and stories and legends abound of his affinity with animals. He is now known as the patron saint of animals and of ecology (as well as of those who die alone).

Francis is the first person known to have set up a Nativity scene to celebrate Christmas, using a straw-filled manger and a real ox and donkey so that people could contemplate the birth of Jesus with their own eyes.

There is, sadly, no reliable evidence that the famous "Prayer of St. Francis" can actually be attributed to him, but as well as inspiring us to simplicity of life and loving respect for environment he has left us many memorable and challenging words, including "The deeds you do may be the only sermon some people will hear today."

Joy is the infallible proof of the presence of God

Madelaine L'engle

MACMILLAN Sunday 6th Oct CANCER SUPPORT 2pm-5pm

This year, instead of the usual Coffee Morning, St. Peter's is having a **MACMILLAN TEA** to support this great cause - so, please do come and join us for delicious homemade cakes at this last **FOSPA** tea of the year, when all proceeds from the day will go to Macmillan.

Messy Church
Sun 13th Oct,
4pm



activities, fun, music,
a meal - a different
way to meet with God,
especially for families.
Bring your friends!

Also Nov 24th

so, remember when you said you wouldn't date me if i was the last giraffe on earth?



image brgfx on Freepix.com

try **ALPHA**

Wednesdays 7pm
at The Fleece
starts 6th Nov

find out more at

stpetersaddingham.org.uk/alpha

Explore

life
faith
purpose



Hymn Writers

part 11 in an occasional series

by **Robin Leleux**

Two very different ladies whose hymn-writing was limited – one apiece in our hymnbook, but both deservedly popular hymns thanks to their relevance & beauty.

Mary Byrne (1880 – 1931)

Mary Elizabeth Byrne was a Dubliner, educated at the National University of Ireland. She specialised in Celtic studies and worked in Irish educational administration.

In 1905 she translated a traditional Irish poem redolent of 8th Century Celtic Christianity into English as '*Be though my vision, O Lord of my heart*'. In 1912 this was versified by another leading Celtic scholar, **Eleanor Hull** (1860–1935) and from 1919 as a hymn it has been sung to the Irish folk tune '*Slane*'. The military symbolism (breastplate, sword), while harking back to St Paul's letter to the Ephesians, is also a reminder of the constant clan warfare of Celtic times.

You can listen to this hymn here :

www.youtube.com/watch?v=WZBOSfiH8Rk

Jan Struther (1901 – 1953)

Jan Struther was the pen name of Joyce Anstruther which she adopted when writing for *Punch* magazine and then *The Times*. Her column here (from 1937) centred on an ordinary housewife, "Mrs Miniver", and at first related normal domestic incidents but preparations for war then intruded. Her columns were collected into a book (1939) which was then made into a patriotic film (1942) which won serious approval from both Churchill and President Roosevelt. Meanwhile Canon Percy Deamer of Westminster Abbey had asked her to write some hymns of which '*Lord of all hopefulness*' (also sung to '*Slane*') is regularly sung throughout the world. An agnostic, she still attended church.



To the man who prays habitually (not only when he feels like it - that is one of the snares of religion - but also when he does not feel like it) Christ is sure to make Himself real.

James Stewart



...and well done, any b/w film buffs who identify the film from which this shot of James Stewart was taken (hint: the modern re-make with updated title starred Tom Hanks).

Wulpherans



Our next meeting is

A Vintage Affair

with Jill Jeffrey

Tues 1st October



Peace point

We look forward to the time when the Power of Love will replace the Love of Power. Then will our world know the blessings of peace.

William Gladstone

From the Registers

Wedding

Sept 21 Katie Eggington and Richard Wall

Funeral

Sept 24 David Pratt

Have you watched the latest monthly podcast from St. Peter's? The theme is "Living with God's Creation", and as well as music, prayer, and some words of Pope Francis, there are conversations between Mark, Rick Battarbee and Mark Penny, who share their environmental expertise and experience. Not to be missed!

Many people don't carry cash now, they make digital payments via card or phone instead, so the Diocese has recommended that all churches have a contactless device to receive such donations. Thanks to work by Andrew Robinson, St. Peter's is now up to date with this for anyone who chooses to give that way. You may see it at the back of church on Sundays and other services, and for use by visitors. Don't worry, it's only an option - the collection plate and the donations box still take cash!!



Our love and best wishes to Jessie and Tom Simkiss, confirmed on 29th September

Contacts

Rector: Revd Mark Cannon 01943 831 382

Children and Family worker: Tamsin Carr
childrenandfamilywork@stpetersaddingham.org.uk

Churchwarden:

Margaret Widdowson

margaretwidd3@btinternet.com

Parish Office: 01943 830 306

contact@stpetersaddingham.org.uk

Find out more

www.stpetersaddingham.org.uk

St Peter's Church Addingham

01943 830 306

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** via the church website – click on **Online**, scroll down to the **Podcasts** heading, then click the **Watch on Vimeo** button. Take a look!

Nature Notes will be back next month