



this month includes...

September 2024

Rector's Journal

Flop!
by Fr Philip Gray

Nature Notes
by Margaret S

plus
Zero Carbon Week
Alpha Alert

Get out there...

Thursday: I am in Airedale Hospital trundling along what we used to believe was the longest hospital corridor in Western Europe. You can get a good pace up along this corridor, and having noticed a tightness around the cassock, I am bowling along at a good kick. Surprisingly, I am failing to keep up with a middle aged gent and his partner ahead - he's in tattoos and she's in a dressing gown; so possibly consultants going back to the car park and home.



There is no way I'm going to catch them before the exit, but I do turn the corner to see them climb into a car in a nearby disabled space. I am seriously rethinking my fitness levels.

Tuesday: I'm explaining to a client about my two jobs, and she tells me she thought there weren't any vicars anymore, and was surprised to hear that anyone went to church, but she recalled her grandmother used to go.

Sunday: Am I living in a bubble? I thought I was fit (that one got popped by a man in a motability car), I think people still come to church (not quite so many this morning), and I think vicars have a role in our community (who knows? Are we deluding ourselves?). But in the reading today Moses is doubting himself too, and has a thousand complaining people behind him. If we do get ...

...continued overleaf



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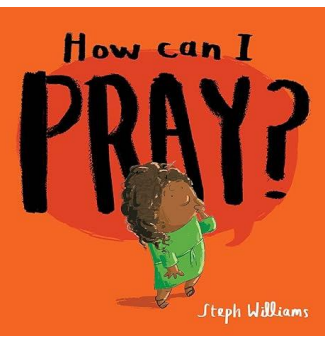
...trapped in a churchy bubble, God always sends someone else to pop it. Get out of church, and **into the world.**

Mark

ALPHA
starts 6th Nov
at The Fleece
find out more
at
stpetersaddingham
.org.uk/alpha



When a deep injury is done to us, we never heal until we forgive
Nelson Mandela



Need a gift for a child, grandchild or godchild?

This little book is an engaging retelling of Jesus teaching his followers **how to pray** - young children will learn that **God loves them like a father**, so they don't need to use loud prayers, or long prayers, or lots of fancy words. It includes a **child-friendly Lord's Prayer**. (One of the "Little Me, Big God" series)

29th September: St Michael and All Angels

"Michaelmas" has been the English name for the Saint Michael's Day since at least the eleventh century. There's an evocative comment that Michaelmas is "a golden autumn feast which falls on the cusp between the last glow of fiery summer and the yellow-gold 'falling' leaves of autumn; the wings of Michael and his angels seem to flutter in harmony with the unleaving of the trees."* **Michael the Archangel** was a popular figure in church wall paintings of the Middle Ages, often portrayed as carrying the scales of divine justice on the Day of Judgement or, like St George, protecting humanity by slaying the dragon (the devil) - "a cosmic battle played out on the walls of quiet village churches".*



St Michael slays the Dragon

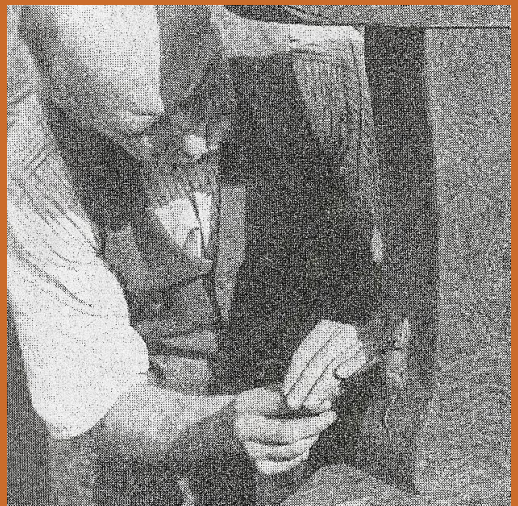
* *aclerkoxford*

"Walking is for the *body*, pilgrimage for the *soul*" - www.britishpilgrimage.org

Do we need a church cat..?

Judith has sent this old photo of a craftsman in Kilburn near York, carving a "Mousie Thompson" mouse on the leg of a table for Peterborough Cathedral.

Can you find all 14 mice at St. Peter's? (*ask Phyllis for help if you're stuck!*)



Messy Church
Sun 15th Sep,
5pm



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

Also Oct 20th, Nov 24th



Zero Carbon Week is coming to Addingham this month! *Climate Action Addingham* have planned a series of **evening events at the Hub** from **23rd to 28th September**. The programme is packed with advice about *home energy efficiency, heat pumps, solar panels* and even *electric vehicles*, so **do join in**, it's a great way to get hints on how to cut your carbon footprint one step at a time (and save money too!). You'll find details of events on posters and at **www.climateactionaddingham.info/events/zero-carbon-week**.

*An address by Fr. Philip Gray at a recent wedding blessing at St. Peter's
(this precis reproduced with permission)*

FLOP!

"You are a young, attractive, intelligent, ambitious couple : what can the church offer you today?

Well, after 32 years of my own marriage I offer you this advice : **FLOP**. Be the ones who can flop together, **relaxing** at home, and be the ones who can "flop" securely with each other, who don't have to succeed all the time, who will **support** each other through every kind of "flop" or **failure**.

And what else will it mean to "flop" in marriage?

F – forgiveness – of big things if that is needed, but of the little irritating everyday things too.

L – could stand for love, or letting go, but in this case it's for **listening** – paying real attention to each other.

O – stands for "**ours**" : from now on, change your mindset from "me" and "mine" to "us" and "ours" – the wellbeing of the two of you as a couple.

P – is for **patience** – linked to forgiveness of course, but also to waiting (hospital "patients" know all about this) – wait for each other, wait on each other, wait with each other without impatience.



Today you've come to start your married life **in church and with God**. "Flop" is true here, too – God is overflowing with **forgiveness**, and a relationship with him is about paying **attention** both to his message and to the real needs of those around us. We are all the children of God, one family – we don't pray "My Father", we pray "Our Father", and that community of the **church family** is here for you and for every one of us throughout our lives. You can relax and be yourself here. And, if you don't know that God has **unbounded patience** with us his beloved family (even when we're flops) then you haven't yet grasped who God is, and what his patience and love can mean for you.

So, **flop together** and **flop with the church** – and good luck!"

Wulpherans

The Wulpherans annual BBQ on 6th August was a friendly occasion and the food was excellent! As always, a big thank you to all who helped to set up the event and for the work of everyone in the kitchen.

(N.B. no meeting in September)

Our next meeting is

A Vintage Affair

with Jill Jeffrey

Tues 1st October



Peace point

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

Ramsbotham, Woodhouse & Miall

From the Registers

Baptism

Aug 31 Matilda Grace Baxter

Wedding blessing

Aug 17 Lucy White and Thomas Dickson

Funeral

Aug 2 Michael Henville

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!

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St Peter's Church Addingham

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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

The secret of change is to focus all of your energy not on fighting the old, but on building the new

Socrates

Nature Notes for September

from Margaret Spencer

I've enjoyed sitting in the garden late in the evenings, watching the Swifts busy flying here and there, what a lovely sight! I've read that they are the most aerial of all birds, and spend all their lives in the air.

Sand martins are here too, nesting again on the river's edge – lovely!

This may help you spot the differences! →

I've ordered a copy of a "Birdwatchers' Pocket Guide" by Peter Hayman, as it's really useful – hope it comes!

image by permission B.B.C.W.T.

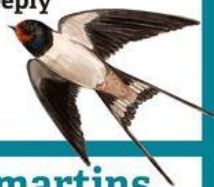
Swifts

- Dark brown all over
- Larger than swallows & martins
- Long, curving wings



Swallows

- Glossy, dark blue-black above & creamy-white below, with a dark red forehead & throat
- Long, deeply forked tail



House martins

- Glossy, blue-black above with a bright white rump
- Short, forked tail



Sand martins

- Our smallest member of the swallow family
- Brown above, white below & a brown band across its breast
- Short, forked tail



Katy Frost