



ST. PETER'S CHURCH

BROADSHEET

FEBRUARY 2016

A MONTHLY NEWS ROUND-UP FOR THE PARISH OF ALDBOROUGH HATCH

Services

Sunday 7th February

Next Sunday before Lent

8am Holy Communion
10.30am Morning Prayer
6.30pm Holy Communion

Wednesday 10th February

Ash Wednesday

10am Holy Communion
7pm Holy Communion

Sunday 14th January

First Sunday of Lent

8am Holy Communion
10.30am Holy Communion
6.30pm Evensong

Sunday 21st February

Second Sunday of Lent

8am Holy Communion
10.30am Family Service
6.30pm Holy Communion

Sunday 28th February

Third Sunday of Lent

8am Holy Communion
10.30am Holy Communion
6.30pm Evensong

Sunday 6th March

Mothering Sunday

8am Holy Communion
10.30am Morning Prayer
and distribution of
flowers
6.30pm Holy Communion

Weekdays

The church is open for private prayer
Wednesday (10.30am to 12noon)
Wednesdays 10am: Holy Communion

St. Peter's Coffee Morning & Bring and Buy Sale

Saturday 19th March
10am to 12noon
Preserves - Raffle
All are very welcome

What it means to sacrifice something we enjoy

As we go into 2016 our mind's eye turns to the next big events of the year. After the start of the New Year's bells ringing, I always begin to think about Lent - about the 40 days we strive to fast before Easter and what it really means to fast or sacrifice something we enjoy.

New Year's resolutions ask us to give up and sacrifice all the same, but why do we find ourselves in February with the Resolutions all but forgotten? With Lent right around the corner, they both ask us to better ourselves through diet or learning. I think it boils down to purpose. New Year's Resolutions find themselves hesitating over the bin, bar of chocolate in hand with the idea that we are supposed to better ourselves, but what could just one chocolate bar do? Or one more Wafer Thin Mint? When we fast, we don't just do it to better ourselves; we do it to bring ourselves closer to God. In St. Luke, Chapter 2, after the birth of Jesus he is presented at a temple. Here we meet Anna, aged 84, a widow from a young age, who has spent her days praying and fasting in the temple, and is known as a prophet. She comes face to face with the baby Jesus in St. Luke Chapter 2, verse 38: *'Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem.'*

It's important this woman be mentioned here, at the very beginning of Jesus's journey - the significance of her fasting journey leading her to be face to face with God so she recognises the truth of this baby before her.

So when we look at giving up something for lent we are not doing it for show or to show how holy we are, but we are doing it to be more like Jesus and we do not do it without his support. If we set our eyes on him in those forty days he gives us the strength to resist and to make a little sacrifice, but it also brings us a little closer to God.

Revd Kate Lovesey, Priest-in-Charge

Easter Lilies

This scheme continues to run and is as popular as ever.

The names of departed loved ones are displayed on the altar from Easter to Whitsun. The minimum subscription is still £1 per name. The money is used to decorate the Church with lilies and daffodils at Easter. Any money in excess enables us to decorate the Church throughout the year with fresh flowers. If you would like to participate in this scheme please contact Shirley Rudge (TEL: 020 8590 5882). If you have taken part recently you will receive a letter in February. Closing date for donations and names (please write clearly) is Friday 11th March. *If you would like information regarding the Memorial Book and the Year's Mind Book please contact Shirley.*

Around the Hatch

Developing St. Peter's Churchyard

Plans have been drawn up by Abi and Kristy Leach, and approved by the Parochial Church Council, to develop the far side of the churchyard into a garden with shrubs, paving and seating. Early work started at the end of January, involving clearing the border along the fence and ready for planting, digging out the area and marking everything out. Helpers will be very welcome. Details from Abi at abi.leach@btinternet.com or 020 8590 6628



Pre-Mothering Sunday Tea

St. Peter's Church Halls
Saturday 5th March
3pm to 5pm

All are very welcome
Tickets £7 from Shirley Rudge
(TEL: 020 8590 5882)
Please book by 29th February.
Donations of unwanted bone china tea services and tiered cake stands welcome.

St. George's Lunch

St. Peter's Church Halls
Sunday 24th April
12noon for 12.30pm
Three course meal with wine or fruit juice
Tickets £13 from Jenefer Allen
(TEL: 020 8599 8738)
Please book by 19th April

St. Peter's Organisations
Monday Club – Monday 2pm
Beaver Scouts – Monday 6.30pm
Cub Scouts – Monday 6.30pm
Scouts – Monday 8pm
Brownie Guides – Tuesday 7pm
Guides – Wednesday 7pm

Women's World Day of Prayer

Theme: "Receive Children, Receive Me" - prepared by the Christian women of Cuba
Friday 4th March 2pm
St. Peter's Church
All are welcome

More scarcely believable true-life stories in twenty-first century Britain

Stay alert!

Blind crossing

The traffic light on the corner buzzes when the lights turn red and it is safe to cross the road. I was crossing with an intellectually challenged friend of mine. She asked if I knew what the buzzer was for? I explained that it signals to blind people when the light is red. Appalled, she responded: "What on earth are blind people doing driving?"

She is a Local County Council employee in St. Albans, Hertfordshire. (And she's *not* blonde)

Locked!

When my husband and I arrived at our local Ford dealer to pick up our car, we were told the keys had been locked in it. We went to the Service Department and found a mechanic working feverishly to unlock the driver's door.

As I watched from the passenger side, I instinctively tried the door-handle and discovered that it was unlocked.

"Hey," I announced to the Fitter/Mechanic, "it's open!" He replied: "I know. I already did that side."

This was at the Ford dealership in St. Albans, Hertfordshire.

Four is larger than two

We had to have the garage door repaired. The Garador repairman told us that one of our problems was that we did not have a 'large' enough motor on the opener. I thought for a moment, and said that we had the largest one Garador

made at that time, a 1/2 horsepower. He shook his head and said: "Lady, you need a 1/4 horsepower." I responded that 1/2 was larger than 1/4 and he said: "NOOO, it's not. Four is larger than two." We haven't used Garador repair since. Happened in Moor Park, near Watford.
Stay alert!
They walk among us and are allowed to vote!

Out of the mouths . . .

At Sunday school they were teaching how God created everything, including human beings. Johnny seemed especially intent when they told him how Eve was created out of one of Adam's ribs. Later in the week his mother noticed him lying down as though he were ill, and she said: "Johnny, what is the matter?" Johnny responded: "I have pain in my side. I think I'm going to have a wife." A Sunday school teacher was discussing the Ten Commandments with her five and six-year-olds. After explaining the commandment to 'Honour thy father and thy mother,' she asked: "Is there a commandment that teaches us how to treat our brothers and sisters?" Without missing a beat, one little boy answered: "Thou shall not kill." Three boys are in the school yard bragging about their fathers. The first boy says: "My Dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a poem, they give him £50" The second boy says: "That's nothing. My Dad scribbles a few words on piece of paper, he calls it a song, they give him £100." The third boy says: "I got you both beat. My Dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a sermon, and it takes eight people to collect all the money!" Attending a wedding for the first time, a little girl whispered to her mother: "Why is the bride dressed in white?" The mother replied: "Because white is the colour of happiness, and today is the happiest day of her life." The child thought about this for a moment then said: "So why is the groom wearing black?"

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