# News and Views from St Peter's Church

## and

# The Parish of Redcar



May 2024

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OFFICE HOUR—the church is open between 6.00pm and 7.00pm on Thursday evenings to discuss baptisms or weddings. For funerals, please contact your funeral director.					
Church email address	hello@stpet	erschurchredca	ar.co.uk		

#### WORSHIP AT ST. PETER'S

- Sundays 10.00am HOLY COMMUNION
- **3rd Sunday of month**

10.00amALL AGE WORSHIP—a family friendlyService with Holy Communion

1st, 2nd and 4th Sundays of month



- Sunday 7.00pm NIGHT PRAYER (Compline) on Zoom (fortnightly) Meeting ID: 930 2516 0828, Password: 1234
- Wednesday 9.30am HOLY COMMUNION The last Wednesday of the month is also Mothers' Union Corporate Communion
- Wednesday 12noon COME TO THE TABLE—bible study, worship, testimony and food
- Wednesday 6.30pm REFLECTIONS—an opportunity to reflect on the big questions of modern life in a safe, comfortable and friendly space
- Thursday 9.00am MORNING PRAYER in the Lady Chapel
  - 10.00am PRAM SERVICE—a time of worship and play for babies, toddlers and their parents, grandparents, and carers

Sunday services are live streamed and can be viewed on our YouTube channel. Prayers, reflections and notices are posted on St Peter's Facebook page.



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# The Vicar Writes...

April saw our annual parochial meeting at St Peters, and while this can be a bit daunting (especially for the Treasurer who has to balance the books), it can be an opportunity to reflect on where we are as a church, to celebrate what God has done though us in the past year and to be encouraged to move forward. I always find it encouraging to look at our activities and to thank all the people involved.

Here's a great list of God's mission at St Peter's Redcar in no particular order..... Sunday and Wednesday Communion, Communion at St Peter's Court and Shoreline, Night Prayer on Zoom, Welcomers, Coffee Rota, Flowers, Coffee Mornings/Easter Eggstravaganza /Teddy Bears' Picnic/Christmas Fair and Grotto, Verger and helpers at weddings and funerals, Cleaning the church, Retired Clergy, Licensed Lay Minister (Reader), Communion Assistants, Home and carehome visitors, Finance/Fund Raising, Technical, communication and fabric, Parish Magazine, Mothers' Union, Guides, Ladies' Wednesday Group, Baptism Volunteers, Reflections, Come to the Table, Redcar Educational Development, rotas for readings and prayers etc, Musicians, Pram Service, St Peter's Ark, Messy Church— Light Party/ Epiphany/ Easter Praise, Admin, Foodbank, Citizens Advice, Deanery Synod, Youth at St Hilda's, Concerts and events, Schools—Zetland, John Batty, Ings Farm and Wheatlands primary schools, Sea Sunday, Mayor's Office, Funeral Directors, Friends of Redcar Cemetery, British Legion, Childrens Society, Church Army, Guisborough Deanery, Room rental: Syrian culture and language, Slimming World, Whist Group, East Redcar Residents' Association.

May God bless all who work and worship at St Peters.



### PENTECOST: GOD'S STORY! Acts 2

If there is any day in history that you can point to as the beginning of the Christian church, then the day of Pentecost is that day. Which means, I guess, that Pentecost is the Church's

birthday, whoop whoop!

And what a day it was, full of miracle and wonder, strange voices, wrong interpretations and freaky weather conditions. It was already a religious observance, Pentecost, (meaning 50 days – since Passover) the feast of weeks when the first fruits of the barley harvest was brought and offered to God.

But this year it was special, this year's Pentecost had already been written about in ancient text, this year's Pentecost contained a message of liberation and hope to all who heard and responded to the message, thousands did on that day and millions more since. God poured out his Spirit on all people, there were prophesy, visions, dreams, wonders were to be seen and... and that promise 'everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved' WHAT A DAY!

Scroll back a few weeks though – and we see a group of people in an upper room getting the rug pulled from under them. Getting the kick in the stomach that they just weren't expecting. Not hope it seemed but despair.

The man that they had followed, prayed with, healed with, adventured with, hoped in, vested in was telling them that he was leaving them.

Philip seems to have been a very proof orientated guy. Thomas usually gets the blame for doubting, but here it's Philip that opens the conversation about the relationship between Jesus and God the Father. "Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us" In a rather more diplomatic answer Jesus basically says to him, "have you been walking around with your ears and eyes shut for the last three years, believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me or at least believe on the evidence of the works themselves"

But then the tone changes, Jesus tells them that he is 'going to the Father' he's leaving them! SO Keep believing, keep seeing, keep asking.

For a moment, try to imagine just how the disciples are feeling at that very moment. He's mentioned this before, perhaps now it's sinking in. Confusion? Despair? They don't really realise as yet, but Jesus is telling them that they are a part of God's narrative, God's story that spans the history of this world. Jesus is telling his disciples that he is leaving them, but also that the story is not finished yet. It's a brilliant fact to hold onto, whenever we are going through those terrible life moments, God promises that our story isn't over.

I love watching Brian Cox's series called The Planets. He tells such a great story of how our solar system is thought to have come about. BUT he misses out one massive element in the story – that this is God's story....

And if we look at God's story intertwined with our story we see a God of restoration, love. Right from the garden of Eden where Adam and Eve have received all that is good, they still fail, and God has to come looking for them. And we see this pattern time and time again throughout history, this failure of people and a God that moves heaven and earth to come looking.

It's in the story of Noah, of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, of Jonah, of the exodus and exile of his people. It was how the character and nature of the kings of Israel were defined and the message and life of the prophets. The story is not over yet, God has his plan.

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And it's in the stories Jesus told, the lost son, and coin and sheep, the Sower and the seed, the workers in the vineyard, and it was in the things Jesus did, restoring sight, hearing, health, mobility, freedom, LIFE!

And in what he is saying in that upper room, with Judas now gone, and the disciples holding onto every word. He's leaving them but God's story isn't over yet. If you love me and keep my commands, in other words, if you really want to be carry on being part of this great story, God's story (it's hard being part of God's story when we are going in the opposite direction) the task will seem too great without me but, I am 'giving you another advocate to help and be with you forever – the Spirit of truth.'

And that spirit, the Holy Spirit is in you and me also. The ripples of Pentecost come down the ages so when we decided to follow Jesus, to love him and keep his commands, we too receive the Spirit of truth, we too become part of this great narrative, this great story. And not in a general truth, detached sort of way, but personally. That's what Pentecost was all about, the Spirit living within us whether you're a son or daughter, old or young, servant or master, man or woman. The current narrative of the western world at the minute is about 'diversity' – God's always been into diversity – "I will pour out my Spirit on ALL people" Peter quotes from an ancient text hundreds of years old then, never mind now!

I guess the question is, do you want to be part of God's story. Perhaps you already are. Since Ascension I've been praying for my 5 people, those names we put on this tree. I'm going to continue to pray for them, so that they will become part of God's great story of love and redemption.

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Every Blessing, Rev'd Andy

Join the global wave of prayer calling all Christians to pray between Ascension and Pentecost for more people to come to know the love and peace of Jesus Christ. Whether you have joined in with Thy Kingdom Come before or not, we invite you to take part from 9-19 May 2024 – along with churches from over 85 different denominations and traditions in



over 172 countries around the world.

In praying 'Thy Kingdom Come' we all commit to playing our part in the renewal of the nations and the transformation of communities.-Archbishop Justin Welby

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**ST PETER'S CHURCH REDCAR** IN FUTURE, OUR ALL AGE SERVICE WILL BE ON THE THIRD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH THE NEXT ONE WILL BE ON SUNDAY, 19TH MAY AT 10.00AM, PENTECOST SUNDAY, WITH REV'D ELAINE SCRIVENS **DON'T FORGET TO WEAR SOMETHING RED!** 



#### **LECTIONARY MAY 2024**

#### Sixth Sunday of Easter

Sunday 5th May Acts 10.44-48 Psalm 98 1 John 5.1-6

John 15.9-17

#### **Thursday 9th May**

#### **Ascension Day**

Acts 1.1-11 or Daniel 7.9-14 Psalm 47 or Psalm 93 Ephesians 1.15-23 or Acts 1.1-11 Luke 24.44-53

#### Sunday 12th May

**Seventh Sunday of Easter** 

Acts 1.15-17,21-26 Psalm 1 1 John 5.9-13 John 17.6-19

#### Sunday 19th May

Pentecost (Whit Sunday)

Acts 2.1-21 or Ezekiel 37.1-14 Psalm 104.26-36,37b\* Romans 8.22-27 or Acts 2.1-21 John 15.26-27;16.4b-15

#### Sunday 26th May

**Trinity Sunday** 

Isaiah 6.1-8 Psalm 29 Romans 8.12-17 John 3.1-17



#### FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

#### Holy Baptism

We welcome into the family of the church...

14th April Emmerson Oliver

21st April Violet Wilson



	In Loving Memory	
Funerals held in April 2024		
Wednesday 10th April	Edith Mudd	
Friday 12th April	Mark McNeill	
We pray for their family and f	Friends	

LOOKING AHEAD to 2024/2025

JULY is the start date

#### But I am accepting payments now!

A game of chance, a bit of fun, 50% of the money given, is paid out as a Prize Draw each month. Two winners - 1st prize £40, 2nd prize £10.

It is pot luck as to what number you receive, as many people have been doing this for years!! But there are numbers available and we can have more if required.

£1 a month per number (only £12.00 for the year), and you can have more than one! How to join? Or continue as a member? Contact ANNE HAGEN on 01642 479755 or 078047354 on how to pay.

Clearly marked envelopes (containing payment) with YOUR NAME and CONTACT DETAILS may be given to Anne or the CHURCHWARDENS at church.

Please do let me know if you NO LONGER WISH TO CONTINUE. Thank you for your continuing support Anne







*Hello Everyone!* I do hope you all experienced a wonderful Easter, whether it was a few days break from the mundane of life or work; perhaps you spent extra time with family or experienced a day-trip or two out? Such a lot seems to have happened since I last wrote.

It was lovely to have so many able to join the lunch at the Park Hotel on the 17th April, though our gathering was tinged with sadness at the news of Betty's death on the 15th. So many of us have lots of happy memories and shared experiences of an amazing lady over the years, and Betty will be sadly missed by us and the whole parish. No doubt her name will be held in high esteem for many, many years to come—and rightly so! The funeral details are in the diary section and also available in church.

So as Easter time ends, and we look forward to Pentecost, we have many important dates throughout the month of May. There is the opportunity to get involved at all levels of MU, starting with Branch meeting on the 7th.

Then, as part of the **'Thy Kingdom Come'** initiative from the 9th May, Mothers' Union is asking members to **'Pray for Five, Invite One'**. As well as an encouragement to pray especially for five people (family, colleagues or friends), bringing them before God during the global wave of prayer from Ascension day to Pentecost, we are using this as an opportunity to invite one individual each to a Mothers' Union event.

I guess you've probably cottoned on to why this article has come before the Diary! Yes, it does seem a particularly busy month ahead. If you would like to attend either the deanery or diocesan events but need a lift, please ask Anne or any committee member. The Deanery festival is where we take our banners, and there are usually light refreshments afterwards; at the Spring Gathering tea/coffee is provided but we need to bring a mug along with a packed lunch!

If all **SMARTIE Tubes** could now be returned please (to either Pat Taylor or Anne) we would be very grateful. The new Tea Rota for Wednesday mornings is out later this month. Thank you ALL for your wonderful support. ANNE X

# MU Diary for May

Tuesday 7th	2.00 pm	BRANCH MEETING Start with Worship		
Friday 10th	12.15 pm	Funeral at church, Betty Parramore RIP		
Sunday 12th	3.00 pm	DEANERY FESTIVAL Service at St Thomas' Church, New Marske		
Wednesday 15th	7.30 pm	EMUs meeting tbc		
Saturday 18th 10.00am–3.00pm MU DIOCESAN AGM and SPRING GATHERING at				
Christ Church Hall, York YO31 1JG. Please ask if lift required.				

Wednesday 29th 9.30 am MU Corporate Communion (do wear your badges!)

Advance notice: If you can make or provide cake or biscuits for the Guisborough Deanery morning at St Helen's Church Carlin How, on Saturday, 1st June, do let Anne or Daphne know. Thanks.

### Rev'd Elaine Writes...

While looking for inspiration for something to write for this months magazine I came upon an article about Liquorice Allsorts. They were my mum's favourite sweets and there were always Liquorice Allsorts in our house.

Liquorice Allsorts have been around since 1899 and the story goes that one day Bassetts sent one of their salesmen, Charlie Thompson, from their factory in Sheffield to Leicester to demonstrate their newly manufactured liquorice sweets to a potential buyer. During the demonstration the salesman accidently knocked over his box of samples on to the floor in front of the buyer. Seeing all the wonderful, colourful mix of sweets on the floor, the buyer asked Bassetts to produce just such an assortment for him to sell. What this became was the mix of sweets we now know as Liquorice Allsorts.

In the aftermath of Easter the disciples were left a bit like the box of liquorice samples upended on the floor. They were a bit of a 'hotch–potch' of people – fishermen, a tax collector, activists and others who we know little about, each with their own colourful personalities, good and bad traits, each with their complex layers of failures and doubts just like the diverse 'allsorts' in the box. While Jesus had been alive they had stayed in reasonable order because Jesus had made it so (like the box of sample sweets the salesman carried).



But when Jesus was arrested and crucified the disciples were scattered, and although after the Resurrection on Easter Day they regrouped in the upper room for a while, like the liquorice sweets being replaced in their sample box for the journey back to Bassetts, here they were after Jesus' Ascension back to heaven, feeling as if they had been poured out onto the floor all over again in a mess and a mix up. But sometimes from what looks like chaos something wonderful begins. The 'happy accident' of the salesman and his liquorice sweets became the wellloved box of Liquorice Allsorts that is still popular today, over 120 years later.

#### And the disciples?

Well, they went on to be filled with the Holy Spirit at Pentecost (this year celebrated in St Peter's on 19th May) and started the Christian Church which shared the Good News of Jesus with all the world. The Christian Church is still sharing that Good News now, over 2000 years later and encouraging people, whoever they are, to follow in the way of life that Jesus demonstrated and to share God's love in the world. Just like Jesus called a bunch of 'all sorts' to follow him and to build something wonderful to share God's love, God still calls all sorts of people to be part of the Church today, in their local churches, in villages, in towns and cities all over the world.

Whoever you are, whatever your past holds, whatever you look like, whatever age you are, you are welcome in God's Church because God loves all sorts! Have a blessed May and don't forget to wear Red to church for Pentecost!

Blessings, Rev'd Elaine

#### **Signs and Promises**

(Mark 13:5-13, Rev 21:4,22:20) 'The one who endures to the end will be saved.'

> Earthquakes, explosions, Tsunamis and terror, Nation rising against nation, Dictators destroying their own, Floods, famine, Families in sewer-slums, Persecution, opposition, And the list goes on...

Signs all around of a broken world, A warning world.

Send Your Spirit, Lord, Bring Your healing, Your compassion, Bring Your good news To those who must endure. Open eyes to see beyond disasters -To the One who saves And will wipe away all tears.

Come Lord Jesus.

By Daphne Kitching, taken from The Parish Pump

#### Prayer for May 2024

Dear Lord,

May, the loveliest of months – and this year, as we welcome the blossom and the beauty of late Spring, we also welcome Your Holy Spirit afresh, as we celebrate Pentecost.

May we open our hearts to receive Your Spirit, as Your people did on that first Day of Pentecost. May we be filled and empowered and emboldened to witness to Your goodness and love.

May we be transformed by Him and reflect Your transforming grace to the broken world in which we live. May people who meet us ask, "What does this mean?" May they turn to You and hear You speaking in ways they can understand.

Without Your Holy Spirit we can do nothing.

With Him living in us, we can do all things.

Come Holy Spirit, come to us, we pray,

In Jesus' name, Amen.

By Daphne Kitching, taken from The Parish Pump



FRIENDS OF REDCAR CEMETERY



The Friends would like to thank the members of St Peter's Church for their support with our bric a brac sale at the last coffee morning. We made £145 which was amazing. We enjoyed the morning. This money will go some way to refurbish the RAF Memorial.



The tulip tree has a new surround thanks to the construction students of Middlesbrough College. They were 1st year students who were labourers mixing the cement and passing the bricks and more senior students who were doing the



brick laying. They loved it as in practice when they build a wall they have to pull it down again, not so with us it will be there for years to come.

We have a major problem with some of the old headstones that are unsafe now and we are just working out the plan to help with this.

We are holding a tombola on the 2nd of May at the Darlington Building Society on the High Street. We have 50 prizes given to us. I hope you will be able to support us and thanks to the Manager and staff of the society for allowing us to be there.



We are looking forward to giving a talk to the Redcar WI. We like meeting new people and sharing the information about our work.

Dot Ahmed



#### East Redcar Residents' Association

The East Redcar Residents' Association works to improve and protect the parks and open spaces in East Redcar.

Meetings are held in St Peter's Church upstairs meeting room at 7.00pm on the first Thursday of each month.

Contact michaelcarling@btintertnet.com for details.

Thank you

Mike Carling

#### Нарру...

Never miss an opportunity to make others happy, even if you have to leave them alone in order to do it.



#### Grin...

Keep smiling - it makes people wonder what you've been up to.

#### Old Person...

I hate it when I see an old person, and then realise we went to school together.

#### Join in?

"Well, well," said the old gentleman to some boys who were playing cricket.

"I wish I could join your game, but I'm too old."

"Not at all," replied one of the boys politely. "In fact, we need you. Our ball has just gone through that window. You can go and ask for it back."

#### **Revival Families...**

After the local mission outreach had concluded, the three ministers were discussing the results with one another. The Methodist minister said, "The mission worked out great for us! We gained four new families." The Baptist preacher said, "We did better than that! We gained six new families." The Anglican priest said, "Well, we did even better than that! We got rid of our 10 biggest troublemakers!"

#### Adam and Eve

Adam and Eve had an ideal marriage. He didn't have to hear about all the men she could have married, and she didn't have to hear about the way his mother cooked.

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