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All Saints

St. Peter



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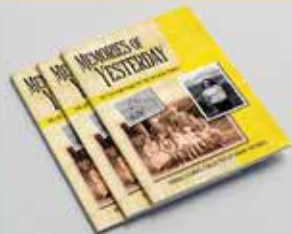
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From the Editor..

It is of course far too late to wish you a Happy New Year: almost before we can blink Lent and Easter will be upon us! But it's not too late to reflect on the past year and consider what 2022 might have in store for us.

This time last year we were still living with the severe lockdown measures that had been introduced just before Christmas and many of us were beginning to wonder whether 2021 would be any different to 2020 or indeed whether we were going to be committed to a series of social, business and economic restrictions for the rest of our lives. The one ray of hope was the fact that the Great Vaccination Rollout had started and we all pinned our hopes on AZ or Pfizer to ultimately overcome Covid and allow normal life as we knew it to return.

And gradually it did. There were many hiccups along the way and often the country (and indeed the world) seemed to take two steps forward and one step back – or was it the other way round? – but now we do seem to have relaxed a bit, as a nation, realised that although Covid is likely to be a part of our vocabulary forever, it is no longer an automatic death sentence for those unlucky enough to be hospitalised with it, and with the rapid advance of the science of coronavirus and the proven ways of dealing with Covid and all its variants, the “fear factor” is diminishing rapidly and it won't be long before we treat it in much the same way as we do a bout of winter 'flu.

As I write this, most of the remaining Restrictions have been, or are about to be, lifted, never to return (or so we are promised) and hopefully we can look forward to a long hot summer, with the Queen's Jubilee giving us a good excuse for some serious partying, and Covid soon fading into the far reaches of our memories. Some of us will have lost family or close friends during the past two years as a direct result of the pandemic and will naturally find it harder to forget. But we'll continue to pray for them and embrace them into the All Saints and St Peters family. It's what we do.

And in another nod to 'normality' we have overcome all the problems and obstacles we have experienced in the past in trying to produce a 'paper' copy of the Church magazine as well as the online version. Getting the print copy for December/January published by the deadline of the first of the month was mildly chaotic, and we had no more idea beforehand as to whether it would be worth it than we had as to how many people actually read the online edition. So you can imagine our huge delight to discover that the eighty printed copies that Fr Andy laboriously produced one Saturday afternoon at the end of November were all snapped up within a week of its publication! So some of you do read it after all!!! Now all we have to do is persuade more of you to write something for it.....!

Malcolm Webb

Editor

From the Rector

Dear Church Family,

Let me begin by wishing you all a belated Happy New Year. As we end the Christmas and Epiphany seasons and look forward to the beginning of Lent, we have much to be grateful for in our parish.



I am much relieved that COVID-19 did not spoil our December as it did in 2020. We were able to gather as a worshipping community throughout the month, culminating in a Christmas weekend that brought joy and happiness to the many families and individuals who visited our two parish churches. From quieter Advent worship to the loudness and frivolity of Beer and Carols, the Christmas Fair, Christingles, Midnight Mass and a wonderful Christmas Day Eucharist; by the end of the month I was a content and happy parish priest, if a slightly tired one!

January also gave us much to celebrate as we brought in the New Year with our now annual house blessings (or "chalkings") on Epiphany Sunday. We were also delighted as the ministry team prepared and presented 22 candidates from our parish to Bishop John for Confirmation on the 23rd January in St Peter's. We squeezed almost 160 people into the church (bigger than any of our Christmas congregations) as we were led by the bishop and our excellent parish musicians and singers.

I am delighted to work alongside such a dedicated and gifted ministry team and I would like to publicly acknowledge their fantastic contributions to the mission and ministry of Hutton Parish, particularly over the festive season.

Looking forward to the coming months, and indeed to 2022 as a whole, I would like to offer a few invitations and then a few thoughts. February sees us kick off several new events and groups that will hopefully deepen the spiritual life of the churches and congregations.

Alpha – all are welcome on Thursday evenings in February and March, from 7pm-9pm in St Peter's as we bring back The Alpha Course. This is an opportunity to explore the Christian faith and ask those burning questions I know we all have about life, faith, our purpose and how we might live. Please get in touch with either me or Revd Lisa if you'd like to find out more or book your place. All are welcome and each evening includes dinner, a short talk and discussion.

Men's Prayer Breakfast – Join me and any other man who decides to get up and come along on the last Saturday of the month at 9am in St Peter's hall for a cooked breakfast, great coffee, conversation, and a simple time of prayer. We'd ask for a £3 donation and assure you that no prior experience of prayer is necessary! If anyone would like to volunteer to help me cook the food and wash-up I'd be grateful. The dates in February and March are both Saturday 26th. All (men) welcome!

Youth Group – Following on from the Confirmation groups we have decided to restart the Sunday Youth Group. The group will initially begin to meet fortnightly (on the 2nd and 4th Sundays) at 4pm in St Peter's. The group will focus on food, fellowship, and faith. Translated into English, this means pizzas, playing some games, and then having a short time of Bible Study and Worship. Those in school years 6-9 are welcome.

These 3 invitations are all part of a bigger plan that I believe the Lord is leading us into this year. I shared a picture with the congregation on the 23rd January about doors and the church. The simple explanation is that most churches have 1 or 2 doors that allow people into the building and for many people these are not thresholds they are willing to cross. In service of the people of the parish, we have spent much of the past 4 years creating new "doors" into the life of the church: Rooted Community, Daily Bread Café, the food hub, Bible Study, C.E.W services and so on. These three new invitations represent three more doors that people can be invited through. It is my prayer that we will see more doorways open into the church for those in our community who do not yet know the redemptive love of Jesus. Because that, dear friends, is why we are here: to share that same love with our neighbours, so that they may find themselves caught up in the great story of God. So may you find a way to become a "door" for someone else this year, that we might see even greater numbers at our next Confirmation and Baptism services!

With every blessing

Andy +



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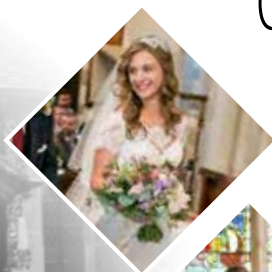
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ALL SAINTS' CHURCH LANE HUTTON BRENTWOOD CM13 1SB

WEDDINGS – LOVE, LOVE, LOVE!

We had an extraordinary year in 2021 during which we held no fewer than thirteen weddings and two wedding blessings at All Saints after the national restriction was lifted in July!

We enjoyed two wintry December weddings and it was wonderful to have Christmas hymns sung. We also held two marriage preparation sessions in person with our couples, to talk about their reasons for marrying in a church and to go through the marriage service.

We have eleven weddings and a vow renewal booked already for 2022 and we look forward to getting to know our couples at our marriage preparation session in February.

Meanwhile, the wedding application form and church wedding fees have been updated for the new year, and details of those along with all information about getting married in our churches can be obtained by contacting me. My details can be found on the "Useful Contacts" page at the back of this magazine.

Annie Bayley

Weddings Co-ordinator

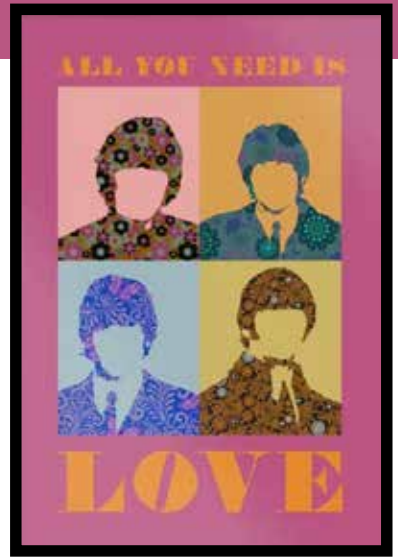


ALL YOU NEED IS LOVE

*In the Summer of Love, 1967,
the Beatles sang:*

*All You Need is Love,
Love, Love, Love,
love is all you need.*

The Lennon and McCartney song created as an international message of love that could be easily understood by people of different nations, was another massive hit for the famous four. But if Love is really all you need why do we find it so hard to Love ourselves, let alone Love others? And if God is Love, how do we know that He really Loves us?



To help answer those questions I recommend a book 'The Father Heart of God'. Not quite as old as the 1967 Beatles song, this little book published in 1985 by Floyd McClung had a big impact on me as a fairly new Christian. The book is still available in used condition on the internet for a few pounds. The author, born in 1945 and who died just last year, was a missional leader and planted churches in Afghanistan, Amsterdam, America and Africa. He was heavily involved in youth work and was an Executive Director with Youth With A Mission (YWAM).

Here is an extract from Floyd McClung's book, which I have used in a Sermon, several times!

The Waiting Father

They say that the first time Sawat went to the top floor of the hotel, he was shocked. He had never dreamed it would be like this. Every room had a window facing into the hallway and in every room sat a girl. Some looked older and they were smiling and laughing, but many of them were just twelve or thirteen years old - some even younger. They looked nervous, even frightened.

It was Sawat's first venture into Bangkok's world of prostitution. It all began innocently enough, but soon he was caught up in it like a small piece of wood in a raging river. It was too powerful for him, too swift, and the current too strong.

Soon he was selling opium to customers and propositioning tourists in the hotels. He even went so low as to actually help buy and sell young girls, some of them only nine and ten years old. It was a nasty business, and he was one of the most important of the young 'business men'.

Sawat became a central figure in one of the world's largest and most loathsome trades: Thailand's sex industry. It is estimated that over 10% of all girls in Thailand end up in prostitution. The top floors of most hotels are used by them, as are the back rooms of many bars. Though the practice is discouraged by the authorities, many poorer rural families sell their young daughters to pay off family debts. Who knows what happens to many of these frightened ten-year-olds when they have outlived their usefulness? Sawat disgraced his family and dishonoured his father's name. He had come to Bangkok to escape the dullness of village life. He found excitement, and while he prospered in this sordid life, he was popular. But then the bottom dropped out of his world. He hit a string of bad luck: he was robbed and while trying to climb back to the top, he was arrested. Everything went wrong. The word spread in the underworld that he was a police spy. He finally ended up living in a shanty by the city rubbish dump. Sitting in his little shack, he thought about his family, especially his father. He remembered the parting words of his father, a simple Christian man from a small village in the south, near the Malaysian border: 'I am waiting for you.' Would his father still be waiting for him after all he had done to dishonour the family name? Would he receive him home after disregarding all he had been taught about God's love? Word had long ago filtered back to his village about his life of crime and sin.

Finally, he devised a plan.

'Dear Father,' he wrote, 'I want to come home, but I don't know if you will receive me after all that I have done. I have sinned greatly, Father. Please forgive me. On Saturday night I will be on the train which goes through our village. If you are still waiting for me will you tie a piece of cloth on the po tree in front of our house?'

During the train ride he thought over his life of evil. He knew his father had every right to refuse to see him. As the train finally neared the village he was filled with anxiety. What would he do if there was no white piece of cloth on the po tree?

Sitting opposite Sawat was a kind stranger who noticed how nervous his fellow-passenger had become. Finally, Sawat could stand the pressure no longer. The story burst out in a torrent of words. He told the man everything. As they entered the village, Sawat said, 'Oh, sir, I cannot bear to look. Can you watch for me? What if my father will not receive me back home?'

Sawat buried his face between his knees. 'Do you see it sir? It's the only house with a po tree.'

'Young man, your father did not hang one piece of cloth. look! He has covered the whole tree with pieces of white cloth!' He could hardly believe his eyes. There was the tree, covered, and in the front yard his old father was dancing up and down, joyously waving a piece of white cloth! His father ran beside the train, and when it stopped at the little station he threw his arms around his son, embracing him with tears of joy. 'I've been waiting for you,' he exclaimed!

Extract from: The Father Heart of God.

Author: Floyd McClung

ISBN 0-86065-326-9 Published by Kingsway

*Rev.
Tony Baxter*



explore

life
faith
meaning

St Peter's Church, Hutton
Thursday Evenings in February and March
Starts 10th February at 7pm.
Hot meal included
contact andy@huttonparish.com
to book your place.

Alpha runs here.

Alpha.org

Alpha

Café Weekly Activities

We kicked off December with our usual weekly activities: Colouring Club; Christmas Arts and Crafts; Computer Hub; Gardening mornings and Knitting Group.

We also hosted a Christmas lunch for the Knitters, Gardeners and Artists/Crafters! The meal was cooked by our Daily Bread kitchen team lead by Sarah Robbshaw and was a huge success.

Gardening Club with Chat 1st

On the 4th December the Gardeners operated a stall at the Shenfield Christmas Fair where they raised over £400 for the Gardening/Arts Fund. All the stock was hand-made by our volunteers.



Computer Hub

The Job Club has now been renamed The Computer Hub. Our computers are set up in the hall every Tuesday morning and can be used by anyone who needs them. Come along and check your emails, search the internet, write your CV, search for jobs and make online applications, amongst other things. We shall also have specialists on hand to provide help and assistance whenever we can.



Daily Bread Christmas Fair

The Arts and Gardening Team also ran a stall at the Christmas Fair on the 11th December where they raised over £500 for the Gardening/Arts Fund. As part of this Sarah Robbshaw made and operated a "Sweet Tombola", the like of which none of us had ever seen before!

"Pink Garlic" Brentwood sponsored both stalls, and their generosity enabled us to buy all the materials to make the stock to sell. We are most grateful to them for their support.

Daily Bread also ran a hugely successful Christmas Hamper campaign during December. We had enough supplies donated to make a massive 250 hampers which were distributed to the local community. Thanks you to everyone who donated to this campaign and to Tracey Jenkins for organising it!



Family Experience



On the 22nd and 23rd December we hosted "Family Experience with Skittleman" events at St Georges and St Peters. Thanks to a grant that we received from Brentwood Council for Voluntary Service (CVS) we were able to provide a memorable experience for some 50 local families.

Skittleman provided the entertainment which was followed by pizza and ice cream! Everyone had a party bag to take home and there was even a visit from Santa with gifts for all the children.

Arts and Crafts

We have a new Arts and Crafts Schedule for 2022 – see the poster here. Come along and join in with some relaxing colouring; make a new showpiece for your home with Chris our Decoupage Artist, or learn how to draw with Beverley.

If you would be interested in giving a little of your time to volunteering with "Daily Bread", please contact us at dailybread@huttonparish.com for further information. We are always happy to receive more help!

Karalyn Stevens

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
FOOD HUB 10am-12pm	FOOD HUB 10am-12pm	FOOD HUB 10am-12pm	FOOD HUB 10am-12pm	FOOD HUB 10am-12pm	FOOD HUB 10am-12pm
	CAFE 9am-1pm	CAFE 9am-1pm	CAFE 9am-1pm	CAFE 9am-1pm	
	ARTS & CRAFTS 10am-12pm	ARTS & CRAFTS (Decoupage) 10am-12pm	LITTLE FISHES (Babes/Preschool) 10am-11am	ARTS & CRAFTS 10am-12pm	
	COLOURING CLUB 10am-12pm	GARDENING CLUB (Chat 1st) 10am-12pm	UNITED IN KIND COFFEE MORNING (fortnightly) 10am-12pm	GARDENING CLUB (Chat 1st) 10am-12pm	
	JOB CLUB/ COMPUTER ACCESS 10am-12pm	KNITTING GROUP 10am-12pm	BLUE FLOWER DEMEMENTIA SUPPORT GROUP (1st Thursday) 10am-12pm		
	PEABODY DROP IN 10am-1pm				

SUBJECT TO CHANGE
CHECK FACEBOOK FOR UPDATES:



St Peter's Church
Hutton Parish



@dailybreadservingourcommunity



Hutton Daily Bread

We provide food, support & friendship to
to those in our community.



JustGiving™

The Daily Bread Cafe has provided food to
hundreds of families during lockdown. Please help
us to continue our work by making a donation
through JustGiving using the QR code above. By
doing so, you will be helping us support hundreds
more during this difficult time and beyond.



Tea Break

POPULAR NAMES

The following is a list of the top ten most popular boys' and girls' names for babies born in 2021.

The names are all hidden in the Wordsearch: horizontally, vertically, diagonally, forwards or backwards. Good luck finding all twenty of them!

AMELIA
ELLA
HENRY
MIA
OLIVIA

AVA
EMILY
JACK
MUHAMMED
ROSIE

CHARLIE
FREDDIE
LIAM
NOAH
SOPHIA

CHARLOTTE
GEORGE
LILY
OLIVER
THEO

I	S	O	P	H	I	A	V	L	L	G	Y	A	L
R	L	O	C	C	H	A	R	N	L	O	T	T	E
O	M	U	H	A	M	M	E	E	D	A	M	E	C
A	A	A	R	N	M	I	A	I	V	L	L	O	E
O	I	H	O	E	H	N	A	S	I	A	E	M	M
E	H	I	L	I	H	M	A	O	Y	H	R	C	H
O	R	L	E	L	A	M	H	R	T	A	H	A	V
S	A	O	I	R	E	G	R	J	O	E	G	A	K
R	I	L	D	A	A	D	A	E	O	E	A	L	C
I	L	I	D	H	E	L	L	E	E	Y	H	L	A
C	E	V	E	C	G	I	R	L	L	E	E	E	J
I	M	E	R	A	V	I	I	M	V	E	N	R	E
O	A	R	F	I	L	L	A	E	A	E	R	H	E
R	H	M	A	H	E	M	I	V	L	Y	Y	E	L

ST CUTHBERT

St Cuthbert is our foremost and important and beloved northern saint. A summary of his life appears in the last six chapters of another northerner – the Venerable Bede in his Ecclesiastical History of the English People written in 731. There are hundreds of stories about Cuthbert, facts and tales so mixed that it is difficult to separate them out. Some have him of royal birth, some as a soldier, some as a shepherd.

Although when we think of Cuthbert our minds focus on Lindisfarne and Durham, his final resting place, this young man, born about 634, started his monastic life when he rode up to the monastery of Melrose and asked to join the community there, because of his admiration for the prior Boisil. Cuthbert was soon noted for his observance of the life there and Eata, the Abbot, included him in a team to establish a new house in Ripon in 660, where he became a much-loved guest master.

Three years later the Synod of Whitby, called, amongst other things, to decide the dating of Easter, which was different in the Roman and Celtic traditions, came down on the side of Rome (possibly spearheaded by Wilfred) and Eata and his monks who followed the Celtic pattern returned to Melrose.

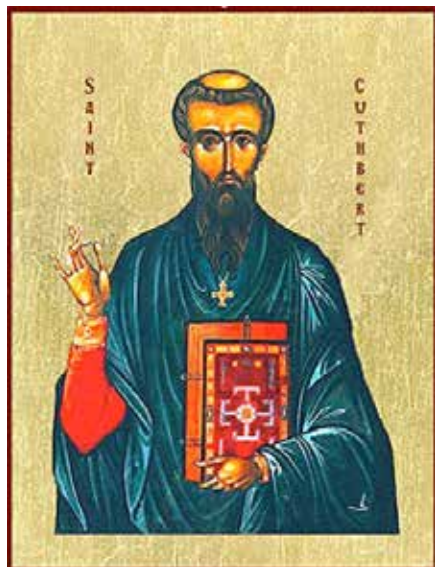
In 664 disaster came to the land with an outbreak of plague. Both Boisil and Cuthbert were struck down and as Boisil lay dying Cuthbert sat with him reading from St John's Gospel. After Boisil died Cuthbert succeeded him as prior and for thirteen years combined his duties at the monastery with much successful preaching in the surrounding countryside. One of the places he visited was the abbey at Coldingham to assist the abbess Ebba. It was from there that we have the lovely legend of Cuthbert's all-night devotions, praying and singing waist deep in the sea and being warmed by two sea otters as he emerged.

On Eata's appointment as abbot of Lindisfarne he took Cuthbert with him as prior and so began his association with that lovely and remote island



monastery, approached even now only at certain times of tide. But even that was not quite remote enough for Cuthbert and after twelve years of obedience as prior, clarifying the Rule (probably that of St Benedict and a version of St Columba's) he sought a more solitary life first on the nearby "Cuthbert's Island" and then on the Inner Farne, a barren island seven miles to the south east of Lindisfarne.

On this rocky outcrop, haunted by seabirds and, it was believed, demons, he built a cell with high walls where he would pray for hours with no distractions except the changing view of the sky. He lived eating barley (wheat failing to grow there) and drinking the freshwater from his well for many years and praying in solitude save for occasional visits from the monks, and sometimes persons of rank who came to him for spiritual guidance.



This solitude and reputation for holiness was to be broken in 684 when he was appointed to be the bishop of the new diocese of Hexham. However, Eata now bishop of Lindisfarne, perceiving perhaps the loss this would mean for Cuthbert exchanged bishoprics with him, going himself to Hexham and leaving Cuthbert in Lindisfarne. But Cuthbert did not shirk from his duties and carried out an active and fruitful ministry as bishop, dressed still as a monk, especially amongst the poor, the sick and the bereaved.

At Christmas 686 he felt his time on earth was coming to an end and took leave of everyone again and retired to his cell on Farne to prepare for his death. He died on 20th March 687 or as Bede wrote he entered "that life which alone may be called life".

ST CUTHBERT

But we are not done with Cuthbert because now began the most extraordinary 'pilgrimage' that a body can make after death.

Cuthbert had wanted to be buried on Farne but the monks took his body back to the monastery on Lindisfarne and buried it in the church to the right of the altar. He was buried not with the simplicity that he might have wanted but with some opulence. His body was clothed in fine garments including a white dalmatic and wrapped in a beautiful cloth, the gift of the Abbess Verca. Silk chasuble and a gold embroidered alb were added together with the gold and garnet pectoral cross worn by him in his lifetime and now to be seen in the Durham Cathedral Treasury.

Encased in an elaborate wooden sarcophagus carved with images of Christ and the symbols of the four evangelists this was by no means Cuthbert's final resting place. As was customary his casket was opened eleven years later to gather the bones and place them in a shrine above ground. His body was found to be miraculously incorrupt - taken as a sign of his saintly status.

It was during those eleven years that the Lindisfarne Gospels were written and illuminated. Considered to be the work of Eadfrith the then bishop, they are thought to have been produced in Cuthbert's honour. These wonderful manuscripts are housed and can be seen in the British Library. But in 793 the island was invaded by the Vikings and although the monks did return for some years in 875 Bishop Eardwulf decided it was too dangerous and the monks took the relics of Cuthbert and the Lindisfarne Gospels and fled inland spending the next seven years on the move. Ireland seemed at one time an option for these wandering monks, but they settled from 883 to 995 at Chester-le- Street near Durham. The shrine there was visited by King Aethelstan who endowed it with further treasures which were found when the tomb was opened yet again in 1827.



In 995 the community of monks moved to the site of what is now Durham Cathedral and in 1083 was established there by William of Calais and so began the process of building what is considered by many to be the most impressive and dramatic of our cathedrals, dominating the River Wear and becoming the final resting place of St Cuthbert.

He was placed in a shrine at the east end of the cathedral at which time the coffin was opened again and his body still found incorrupt. According to a chronicler Symeon of Durham, a small gospel book in a leather satchel was found with the body. This was the Gospel of John and can be seen now in the British Library displayed next to the Lindisfarne Gospels. The shrine became an important focus for pilgrimage and remains so to this day.

The Cathedral is dedicated to Christ, the Blessed Virgin Mary and St Cuthbert and in addition to his tomb has the relics of the Venerable Bede and St Oswald.

The church remembers Cuthbert, shepherd, monk, hermit, bishop and saint on the day of his death March 20th.



Chris Thomas



All Saints' • St Peter's
Hutton Parish

Little Fishes



BABIES AND PRE-SCHOOL GROUP

Come and meet other parents or carers of babies and toddlers.

Enjoy **Toys**, **Free Play**,
Refreshments and **Chat** at
St Peters Church.



THURSDAY 10AM - 11AM

Claughton Way Hutton CM13 1JS



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Little Fishes, the babies and pre-schooler group, meets in the hall at St Peters on a Thursday during term time, between 10 and 11am. We do not charge for the play session but we ask for donations from those who are able to. We usually have between 15 to 20 babies and young children each week with their grown-ups (mums, dads, carers and grandparents).



We had a lovely Christmas "sing and sign" party, with Maggs playing the guitar and Sharon teaching us to sign. The adults enjoyed signing and the children loved the jingly bells! The Daily Bread Café did an amazing Christmas party buffet with finger sandwiches, chocolate caterpillar cake and lots of yummy treats! We also collected £79.52 from our Christmas party for the charity, Basildon's Changing pathways (previously women's refuge).



We are blessed to be able to reach out and connect with our community through the power of play.

We are all God's children.

Shergyl, Annie,
Jenny & Jan



REACHING OUT AND CONNECTING WITH OUR COMMUNITY THROUGH THE POWER OF PLAY.



MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST

Last Saturday of each month
9am - St Peter's Church

JAN - 29TH
FEB - 26TH
MARCH - 26TH
APRIL - 30TH

Join us for a cooked breakfast,
hot drinks, conversation,
and a time of prayer.
£3 donation



All Saints • St. Peter

Hutton Parish



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WALK BY FAITH

HUTTON PARISH YOUTH GROUP

SPACE FOR THOSE IN SCHOOLS YEAR 6-9

2ND AND 4TH SUNDAYS
4PM-5.30PM - ST PETER'S CHURCH
FEB: 13TH, 27TH
MARCH: 13TH, 27TH
APRIL: 10TH, 24TH

Food. Friendship. Faith. Fun



AND THE REVOLUTIONARY POWER OF FRIENDSHIP

Shared Life, Inclusive Welcome, Deeper Purpose - a community for women of all ages, gathering mid-week in homes and around Hutton, seeking to support and strengthen women and grow in faith.

Back in November, we launched a new, monthly, in person gathering called Rooted Recharge - a mix of social, worship, small groups and space for reflection and prayer. This has been a welcome addition for those who have not been able to make daytime gatherings or who have joined through lockdown and we look forward to seeing how this gathering develops. We meet on the 4th Wednesday of each month, 7.30-9pm at St Peter's.

We also continue to meet weekly on Friday afternoons for lunch from 1.15-3pm for chat, support and encouragement, in different homes around the Parish.

What does it mean to belong?.....

The pandemic has brought up all sorts of challenges and opportunities and one of them, for Rooted Community, is how to develop and foster belonging and connection when our model of meeting had mostly been about gathering in homes.

Right at the beginning of the first lockdown, Rooted Community took the opportunity presented to us and went online. From 17th March 2020 we hosted a Daily Hello on our Facebook page and also took our faith focused midweek gathering, Deeper Rooted, online through Zoom.

Online meant we could all be together in one space - it didn't matter if you were working, homeschooling, in bed, in Hutton or in Brazil or Northumberland!

We discovered that friendships can grow via Zoom and Facebook Live, in special and unique ways; we found we could pray together in the virtual world; we saw that huge comfort and joy could be found in hearing and seeing people facing daily life within this community of prayer, friendship and encouragement.

That Community is YOU - and it is Rooted and grounded in the love of God.

Now that many of us are back to work, kids are back in school and much of life feels relatively normal, the 'one space' aspect of lockdown for Rooted Community has been harder to maintain. Not everyone is able to come on a Friday or Wednesday, others find online options to be draining or challenging for other reasons, things change. We know this....

Like many churches and communities, we're having to make sense of things in a new way. What does it now mean to belong to Rooted Community?

You belong to Rooted Community if:

- You are in our Facebook group OR
- You come on a Friday lunchtime OR
- You receive our newsletter OR
- You've been to Deeper Rooted, online or in person OR
- You're in a Pod OR
- You've attended a social event, online or anywhere else OR
- You've watched a Daily Hello, Night Prayer or any other Facebook content OR
- You've made soup OR
- You've invited others to join Rooted OR
- You've done ALL of these things.....at any time in the last 10 years!

We don't have a formal membership set up, we just seek to keep you well informed of all we do and the options available and you're always welcome. If you want to come along, connect, join in or just lurk, you are welcome!

Perhaps this New Year is the right time for you to step into belonging more fully?more details of how you can join us online and/or in person appear below.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/rootedcommunityhutton>

Email: rooted@huttonparish.com

If you'd like to receive our weekly newsletter, check the About section of our Facebook group or email us and request to be added.

Brene Brown says this: true belonging only happens when we present our authentic, imperfect selves to the world.....

Come and be YOU, come and contribute and help others to connect and belong too.

Alice

Bible Study

Between this edition of the magazine and the next edition in April, the Bible Study Group in its evening sessions (we meet on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month at 7:30pm at St Peters), will be looking at Paul's letter to the Colossians. The following is a summary of what we shall be discussing at our meetings. Please come along to join us for any or all of the sessions: everyone is welcome!

TITLE: The Letter of Paul to the Colossians

ORIGIN: This is the twelfth book of the New Testament

AUTHOR: St Paul the Apostle

PURPOSE: To combat errors in the church and to show that believers have everything they need in Christ.

DATE WRITTEN: Approximately AD 60, during Paul's imprisonment in Rome

SUMMARY:

Paul writes this letter in prison. From there he writes to the Christian church at Colosse in Asia Minor. He has never visited the Colossians but he feels responsible for them. The church at Colosse was founded by Epaphras, one of Paul's converts from Ephesus.

Paul has heard good reports of the Colossian Christians, and he praises God for them. He also warns them against some misleading teaching. There are people who say that the way to heaven can be discovered through mystical worship, strict legalism and self-denial. Paul says that these are not what the Gospel is about! The open Gospel of



Jesus Christ is far greater than any mystery. Christ came to set us free from rituals and superstitions. The whole of life, from the creation of the universe to our everyday relationships, finds its meaning and peace in him.

Paul's introduction to the Colossians includes a greeting, a note of thanksgiving and a prayer for spiritual wisdom and strength for these brothers and sisters in Christ (1:1-12). Then he moves into a doctrinal discussion of the person and work of Christ (1:13-23), stating that Christ is the 'image of the invisible God' (1:15).

Paul then explains how the world's teachings are totally empty when compared with God's plan, and he challenges the Colossians to reject shallow answers and to live in union with Christ (1:24-2:23).

Against this theological backdrop, Paul turns to practical considerations – what the divinity, death and resurrection of Jesus should mean to all believers (3:1-4:6). Because our eternal destiny is sure, heaven should fill our thoughts (3:1-4); sexual impurity and other worldly lusts should not be named among us, and truth, love and peace should mark our lives (3:9-15). Our love for Christ should also translate into love for others – friends, fellow believers, spouses, children, parents, slaves and masters (3:16-4:1). We should constantly communicate with God through prayer, and we should take every opportunity to tell others the good news (4:5, 6). In Christ we have everything we need for salvation and for living the Christian life.

Read Colossians as a book for an embattled church in the first century, but read it also for its timeless truths. Gain a fresh appreciation for Christ as the fullness of God and the only source for living the Christian life. Know that he is your leader, head and power source, and make sure of your connection to him.

Tino xx.

**To find out more about the Bible Study Group,
please contact Tino on 01277 230944 or 07845 943676.**



GEORGE HERBERT - PRIEST & POET

In the 19th century Samuel Taylor Coleridge wrote "I find more substantial comfort now in pious George Herbert's 'Temple' than in all the poetry since the poems of Milton", and this opinion was to be endorsed by the poets of the 20th century such as Gerard Manley Hopkins and T.S. Eliot. The 'Temple' to which he was referring was the poetry which Herbert wrote during the three years from 1630-33 when he was Rector of the tiny church of St. Andrew's Bemerton, now a suburb of Salisbury.

George Herbert came from aristocratic stock. He was born in 1593 in Montgomery, son of Richard and Magdalene. His brother became Lord Herbert of Cherbury and they were related to the Earl of Pembroke whose seat was at Wilton House, near Salisbury. Herbert was educated at Westminster School and Trinity Cambridge, where he became Reader in Rhetoric. A gifted scholar, poet and musician, a promising public career beckoned but those who could give him the required patronage died and after what some see as a deep spiritual crisis he took Holy Orders, being priested in 1630. He took the living as Rector of Bemerton where he lived quietly with his wife and family, much loved by his parishioners until his early death from tuberculosis in 1633.

In the year of his death he sent a copy of *The Temple* to his friend Nicholas Ferrers – the leader of a Christian community in Little Gidding – to "burn or print as he saw fit". Fortunately for us and for the world Nicholas saw fit to print.

Herbert had written to his friend and his biographer Izaak Walton, saying that he was unsure how the contents would be received and whether they would help anyone. "He shall find in it a picture of the many spiritual conflicts that have passed between God and my soul, before I could subject mine to the will of Jesus my Master; in whose service I have now found perfect freedom".

In these poems we hear the voice of the country parson instructing and admonishing his congregation in doctrine and liturgy. And where he confesses to the spiritual struggles he endured to feel worthy of God's love and redemption.

The framework of the poems is the Church itself. They are not really meant



to be read in isolation but as meditations on the seasons of the Church, the teachings of the Church, and the growth of the religious community. They are shaped by the order of church ritual and liturgy. They are at one and the same time theological explorations and the poet/priests own struggle to be reconciled to God. I would urge you to read them as a whole. Many of them we now sing as well-loved hymns.

They have a poetic structure beginning in the Church Porch, moving through the body of the church, both its fabric and theology and ending with a narrative of the church.

Here are two poems which I love and often turn to in times of my own spiritual struggles.



The first is called Prayer a subject all writers on spiritual things have been concerned with. Herbert's poem, a sonnet, is in fact a list – there is no verb in this poem. It is his musings on what he thinks prayer might be (he spent hours on his knees) and I quote it in full for you to muse on yourselves.

*Prayer, the Church's banquet, Angels' age,
God's breath in man returning to his birth,
The soul in paraphrase, heart in pilgrimage,
The Christian plummet sounding heaven & earth,
Engine against the Almighty, sinners' tower,
Reversed thunder, Christ-side-piercing-spear,
The six-days world-transposing in an hour,*

*A kind of tune, which all things hear and fear;
Softness, and peace, and joy, and love, and bliss,
Exalted Manna, gladness of the best,
Heaven in ordinary, man well dressed
The Milky Way, the bird of Paradise,
Church-bells beyond the stars heard, the soul's blood,
The land of spices, something understood.*

The second poem is called Love

The sequence of poems began with a poem called Altar, a 'pattern' poem which recalled not only the altar of sacrifice but also the altar of the heart broken in contrition for sin. The sequence ends with this poem where again a soul full of sin and contrition approaches the 'altar' again – to feast at the banquet which we all taste each time we come to the Eucharist.

Tasting, eating, being nourished by Love is Herbert's favourite metaphor for redemption. Notice the importance of all the senses in the poem and notice also the tension between hesitation and encouragement, the paradox between the one who feels that he is not worthy even of being there, or if he is then as a servant, and yet the one who insists on serving – think of the 'suffering servant' of Isaiah. And engage with the paradox of the Host who does the welcoming being the Host himself.

As you read this poem think about the table spread for us at the Holy Communion and at the promised banquet, that heavenly banquet of which we pray that this is the foretaste.

*Love bade me welcome: yet my soul drew back,
Guilty of dust and sin,
But quick-eyed Love, observing me grow slack
From my first entrance in,
Drew nearer to me, sweetly questioning
If I lacked anything.*

*A guest, I answered, worthy to be here:
Love said, thou shalt be he.
I, the unkind, ungrateful? Ah my dear,
I cannot look on thee.
Love took my hand, and smiling did reply,
Who made the eyes but I?*

*True, Lord, but I have marred them: let my shame
Go where it deserves.
And dost thou not know, says Love, who bore the blame?
My dear, then I will serve.
Thou must sit down, says Love, and taste my meat:
So I did sit and eat.*

Not a saint but Herbert is remembered by the Church on February 27th.

SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY AND MARCH

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Service</u>	<u>Church</u>	<u>Preacher</u>
6 th Feb – 4 th before Lent	9.30	Holy Communion/baptism	St Peters	Rev. Lisa
	11.15	ATC Sunday	All Saints	Fr Andy
	19.00	C.E.W.	St Peters	
13 th Feb – 3 rd before Lent	9.30	Holy Communion	St Peters	Fr Tony
	11.15	Morning Prayer	All Saints	Chris
20 th Feb – 2 nd before Lent	9.30	Holy Communion	St Peters	Fr Andy
	11.15	Holy Communion	All Saints	Fr Andy
	19.00	C.E.W.	St Peters	
27 th Feb – Sunday before Lent	9.30	Holy Communion (Joint)	St Peters	Fr Andy
6 th Mar – Lent 1	9.30	Holy Communion	St Peters	Rev. Lisa
	11.15	Holy Communion	All Saints	Rev. Lisa
	19.00	C.E.W.	St Peters	
13 th Mar – Lent 2	9.30	Holy Communion	St Peters	Fr Andy
	11.15	Morning Prayer	All Saints	Chris
20 th Mar – Lent 3	9.30	Uniform Parade Service	St Peters	Rev. Lisa
	11.15	Holy Communion	All Saints	Fr Andy
	19.00	C.E.W.	St Peters	
27 th Mar – Mothering Sunday	9.30	Holy Communion	St Peters	Fr Andy
	11.15	Holy Communion	All Saints	Fr Andy

In addition to the above the following service is also being held:

2 nd Mar – Ash Wednesday	19.30	Eucharist	St Peters	Fr Tony
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4 WAYS TO GIVE

We are working hard to support our community during the COVID-19 pandemic, providing over 360 bags of free food to residents each week. If you would like to help support us by making a donation Please visit us in person or go to our website:

<https://www.huttonparish.com/donate>



DISTRIBUTION OF “HUTTON PARISH LINK”

For the past year you have probably been reading each edition of our church magazine online. Perhaps you have routinely downloaded every copy and printed it off.

But now you have the choice of reading or browsing through your favourite magazine without having to sit in your office or precariously perch a laptop on your knee.

From now on we are producing printed copies as well as the online version.

You will of course still be able to view, download and print the magazine via the church's website www.huttonparish.com but you will also have the opportunity to pick up a copy from the foyers of St Peters and All Saints (while stocks last).

We hope that this will enable even more of our parishioners and the local community to have access to the magazine. In time we hope it will be possible for you to pick up a copy at a few of the local shops, but in the meantime, if you know of anyone who would like a printed copy but is unable to get out to collect one, perhaps you would consider taking an extra one and delivering it to them. It goes without saying that the magazine will still be offered free of charge, even though there are obvious costs – paper and ink – in the production of hard copies. The aim is to cover those costs by selling a small amount of advertising space in the magazine, so if you have your own business or know of someone who does, please could you think about advertising it in future editions? Our rates are incredibly cheap, and think about the exposure you will get..... Anyone who would like more information in this connection should contact the Editor, Malcolm Webb.



ANSWERS

ANSWERS TO "CHRISTMAS ANAGRAMS" IN THE DECEMBER EDITION

Santa Claus; cranberry sauce; sage and onion stuffing; star in the east; paper hats; baby Jesus; crackers; Christmas pudding; decorations; roast chestnuts; carols; manger; roast turkey; fairy lights; Brussels sprouts; Queens speech; mince pies; reindeer; presents; yule log

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FROM THE CHURCH REGISTERS

Funerals

2nd December

Maria Elizabeth Newton

17th December

Arthur Lindsell

17th December

Betty Nau

22nd December

Patricia Lewis

7th January

James Best

18th January

John Alexander

20th January

Joan Carswell

25th January

Doreen Elizabeth Burnham

Weddings

4th December

James Vanner and Katie Matthews

20th December

Bradley Marns and Emma Webb

Funeral Arrangements

Should you need to book a funeral for someone, please contact a member of the Ministry Team in the first instance, and they will arrange for you to be talked through what needs to be dealt with. In normal circumstances this would include funeral arrangements, pastoral care, a visit from a member of the Bereavement Visiting Team, if appropriate, and information about interment of ashes, plaques on the Memorial Wall, Book of Remembrance, and anything else that you would like to know.

Baptisms

We are delighted to announce that we have recently been able to resume conducting baptisms (or Christenings, as they are often called) at both All Saints and St Peter's Church. Any child or adult who lives in the Parish may be baptised in our churches during an appropriate Sunday service.

In the first instance please contact the Parish Office. The Parish Administrator will liaise with the Clergy to establish a date suitable to all parties and you will be sent an application form and information leaflets about the baptism itself and the other facilities available for you and/or your child to become involved with, all of which are mentioned elsewhere in this magazine.

Contact details for all the people mentioned above can be found on the "Useful Contacts" page at the back of the magazine.



USEFUL CONTACTS



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