

# AROUND THE SPIRE

The Magazine for the Parishioners  
of Quedgeley & Kingsway

Issue No 82

July 2022

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**St. James  
& Saint Mary Magdalene  
Quedgeley & Kingsway**



**Editorial**  
**Thoughts for July**  
**Fr. Hugh Broad**



**KEEP SMILING!!**

Some time ago I spotted these words on a tombstone –

***“EACH TIME YOU SMILE – A BRICK IS ADDED TO YOUR HOME IN HEAVEN”***

Not all that usual, but an interesting thought I guess!

There have been occasions when mourners at a funeral do feel it is right to introduce an element of humour into an otherwise sad occasion. Indeed, I have known people ask that it would be right to do so, and certainly when it does happen, it does seem the right way to pay tribute to a departed loved one!

How important it is to have an element of cheerfulness in our lives when we can! We shall feel all the better for it, and this is specially true in these days when sad things dominate the news as much as they do at present.

In this our Parish Magazine we do try to keep a balance in these things when we can. As your Editor I am so pleased when the contents we have to include, yes, on occasions something which is challenging and requires us to make an effort to avoid being sad. Thankfully the contents are, I hope, enable us to look on the bright side.

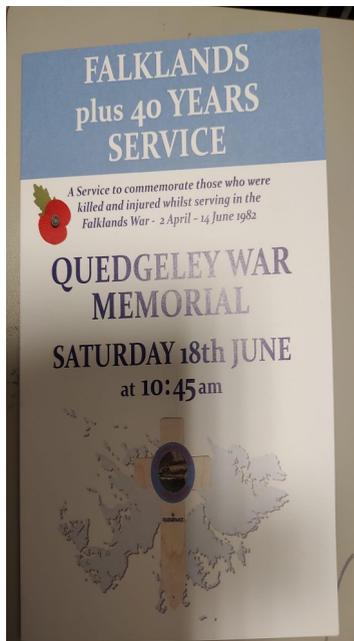
Recently a couple came to our Sunday morning service who I had not seen before. I discovered that they came because that week they had laid a loved one to rest whose name was mentioned in the prayers. I had opportunity to have a chat with them as we shared coffee time after the service. They confessed that they had not been looking forward to coming, and it was purely as an act of duty to their loved one!

They were persuaded to stay after the service as they noticed that everyone seemed to be smiling and even laughed when the priest cracked a joke in his sermon – and no, it was not me!

So, dear reader who ever you are –

**DO KEEP SMILING**

## 40th Anniversary Falklands War



*Photos courtesy of Theresa Fisher*

## Out and about in Kingsway and Quedgeley with Revd Mark

*Reviews and insights from our community*

This has been a lovely month getting to know all the good things on offer here in Kingsway and Quedgeley. One place we have been back to is Fat Toni's pizzeria, which is one of the restaurants at the Orchard Centre, next to the Roastery cafe if you know it. Fat Toni's is a local, Gloucestershire company with branches in Bishop's Cleeve, Cheltenham and Stroud as well as Quedgeley. This place offers authentic, northern Italian style pizza (and very nice Gloucester beer) and it does so with a difference. You can, if you want, order a standard pizza, which will be very tasty and cost around £10....or....if you go as a family with children or grandchildren, you can share an ENORMOUS pizza together. These come in about two foot across and you can choose up to four different flavours on each quarter. It makes for a great family meal for £24 but most of all, great family fun because there is something especially nice about sharing it together. Of course, being 'the vicar', my favourite is the Diavolo!



# Kingsway Community Day

After the initial rain, the sun shone for the Kingsway Community Day held at Kingsway Primary School. Tricia and her friends were selling plants in aid of Saint James' Church. The total amount raised was £200 towards church funds. Tricia still has some plants left so if you would like to buy some please contact her direct.



# Congratulations



Congratulations to Val and David Lowman who celebrated their 65th (Sapphire) Wedding Anniversary. After a short service of thanksgiving in the church, Val and David invited many members of their church family to join them for a celebration lunch at a nearby hotel. We wish the couple many more years of good health and celebration.



# Platinum Jubilee Fayre

Although the weather left a great deal to be desired, the fayre was a great hit. We raised over £3,000 towards church funds. The first prize in our raffle was won by a local resident who bought a ticket from one of our sales team. The team went out selling door to door in Quedgeley & Kingsway weeks prior to the start of the fair. Our thanks to everyone who helped in the preparation and setting up on the day. Tricia's plants were very popular, bringing in a very healthy amount towards church funds. So our added thanks to Tricia Cook and Jackie Broad and many like them, who spent weeks, months, cultivating, sewing, knitting, baking, practising music instruments etc. Fayres such as these take time to arrange and are not suddenly plucked out of thin air. So our additional thanks for helping to make the day so successful.





Then on Sunday the parade down School Lane...



**“What is that called?” and  
“What is it for?”  
By Revd. Fr. Ian Robb**



*This month we focus on The Reserved Sacrament – the consecrated bread of the Eucharist which is kept “in reserve” in the tabernacle on the high altar.*

You will have noticed that during the Parish Eucharist, after everyone who so wishes has received Holy Communion, that either the deacon or one of the servers takes a small vessel from the altar, containing the consecrated bread, the Body of Christ - and places it reverently in the tabernacle on the high altar. We reserve the sacrament of Holy Communion for two purposes. Firstly, so that those who are unable to come to church – primarily because physical immobility prevents them from doing so – can then receive Holy Communion at home. I was recently asked to administer Communion, along with the sacrament of Anointing, to a friend of long-standing whose life was nearing its end; having access to the Reserved Sacrament meant that I was able to minister to him as quickly as I was able.

Note that I referred to the “Body of Christ”. In the book of Exodus we read of the Israelites sharing in “The Bread of the Presence – in Hebrew: lehem ha panim” - as they remembered the meeting of Moses and God on mount Sinai. The Hebrew phrase, literally translated, means: “Bread of the Face”. The Bread is in some sense a visible sign of the face of God; this makes sense when we read that the command to share the Bread comes just after Moses and Aaron have beheld God and eaten and drunk with him. The Bread of the Presence was then preserved in the Tabernacle,, which was of course in those days a tent in the desert, to remind and reassure the people of God's continued presence with them on their journey and in all their struggles.

The earthly Bread of the Presence is therefore a visible sign of the invisible, heavenly face of God. In the Bread of the Tabernacle it is God himself who presents himself as the host to his believers, giving them his strength and life. The bread therefore became the sign of the covenant between God and his people, his love for Israel, and a sign that although they were to leave Mount Sinai, he was with them for ever.

At the Last Supper Jesus does exactly the same and gives us the Eucharist to be the new Bread of the Presence, the Bread of the Face of God, the Bread of the New Covenant established by the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, and it is that Bread which we reverently reserve and into whose presence we come when we kneel, sit, or stand, in quiet contemplation in church.

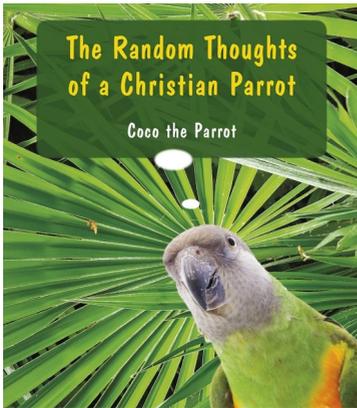
So here is the second purpose for keeping the Reserved Sacrament. When it is not possible to receive Holy Communion, or when we come into church when a public act of worship is not taking place, we can still come into the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ and in a few moments of stillness receive his blessing. In our Lord's day it was customary for pilgrims to go into the Temple on the great feasts of Passover, Pentecost, and Tabernacles and at each of these feasts the priests in the Temple would lift up the holy bread for worshippers to see and proclaim "Behold God's love for you!"

This Bread truly was a sign of God's love because it was a sign of his covenant; those who ate and drank on Mount Sinai where God's people saw him were not harmed or destroyed, but were blessed.

The white light which burns beside the tabernacle on our high altar reassures us that we have come into the presence of the light and life of Christ, visible in the Bread of the Eucharist. It is also a reminder to us, as we contemplate in stillness, that the same words are said to us: "Behold God's love for you!"

The next time you come into church, approach the altar; give thanks for the eternal presence of our Lord Jesus Christ - in his church building and in his church family – and let those words sink into your heart. Jesus, the fulfilment of the promises of the old covenant, is always among us, showing his love and sharing his grace.

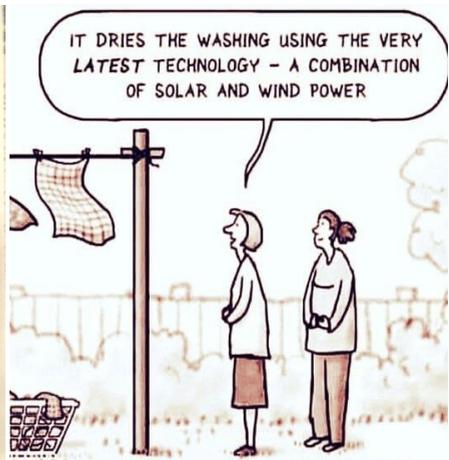
*To be continued.....Fr Ian*



Val Harris is still selling the books *'The Random Thoughts of a Christian Parrot'*

Half the proceeds of the sales go towards church funds. If you would like to buy a copy contact Val. Her contact details are on the back page of the magazine.

## To make you smile...



# Open the Book



At Field Court Infant Academy and Clearwater Primary Academy, Open the Book have been telling stories from the Old Testament this term.

One of the stories was called 'A Special Promise' about Noah's Ark. The children joined in as we sang, 'The animals marched in two by two'. A rainbow was held up at the end and the children joined in as well with the following prayer:

Dear God, thank you that the rainbow reminds us that we can all make a new start whenever we need to. Please help us with any new starts we have to make today. Amen.

# For our younger readers

See if you can spot the words at the bottom of the page in the jumble of letters. All the words are there!

## Noah and the Ark

Noah did everything just as God commanded him.  
Genesis 6:22 (NIV)

Based on Genesis 6:9-22; 7:24; 8:14-19 (NIV)



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

BLAMELESS	SONS	CREATURES	DECKS	PITCH
BUILD	PEOPLE	ANIMAL	ARK	EARTH
WOOD	DESTROY	ROOF	VIOLENCE	ROOMS
RIGHTEOUS	WIFE	CYPRESS	BIRD	NOAH



# Giving a Little



Although the funds raised at our Summer Fayre help towards the annual upkeep of our church it is far short of the £69,000 that we need to raise each year, to keep our church functioning. Therefore we would very much welcome your help in this. Our church is not only a place of worship or a quiet place during the day for prayer or contemplation, but is fully functioning during the week through supporting local schools and a community group. It is also used as a food distribution facility during the school holidays. It is your parish church, here for YOU in your community. We hope you will use this opportunity to invest in it.



To the right, you'll find a Q Code. If you have a smart phone you can use your camera to scan the code press on the 'give a little' box and up will pop our *Just Giving Page*. You can choose to donate from a range of options or choose your own amount to donate. If you don't have a smart phone you can go to our website at <https://givealittle.co/campaigns/a46352ae-0852-48db-a888-35b479b56405>

If the digital age is not for you, try ringing our Treasurer. His details are on the back page of the magazine and he will advise you of the best way to make your donation.

Many thanks and looking forward to hearing from you.

# Registers

## WELCOMED INTO THE FAMILY OF THE CHURCH IN HOLY BAPTISM

May 28<sup>th</sup> SIENNA ROSE HORSMAN

June 6<sup>TH</sup> KEVIN STEVENS

## CELEBRATION OF CHRISTIAN MARRIAGE

June 24<sup>th</sup> ROY URQUHART & PAIGE DOCKSEY

## LOSS OF LOVED ONES

June 24<sup>th</sup> SARIF ROWE-TAYLOR 73

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