



**Saint James'
&
Saint Mary Magdalene**

November Issue 51

CALENDAR FOR NOVEMBER

SUNDAY 3RD ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

9.30 Holy Eucharist
10.30 S.T.J. Service for families
4.00pm Annual Bereavement Service
for the Departed –
followed by Refreshments

SATURDAY 9TH

11.00 Marriage & Baptism

SUNDAY 10TH REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

8.30 Holy Eucharist
9.30 Scout Service
10.30 Service of Remembrance and War Memorial



MONDAY 11th

10.45 Act of Remembrance

WEDNESDAY 13TH ALL SOULS DAY

10.00 & 7.30 Requiem Mass

SUNDAY 17TH SECOND BEFORE ADVENT

10.30 Parish Eucharist
1.00pm & 2.00 pm Holy Baptisms

SATURDAY 23RD



OPEN 1.30pm

PARISH CHRISTMAS FAYRE
QUEDGELEY COMMUNITY CENTRE



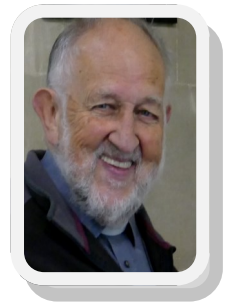
SUNDAY 24TH CHRIST THE KING

10.30 Parish Eucharist

Activities for children and refreshments at all Sunday services.
All those who are Baptised (Christened) are most welcome to
receive Holy Communion at all our Eucharist services.

For news of activities, groups and weekday services
Please see our Weekly Newsletter, copies in church

Your Editor Fr. Hugh Broad



THERE BUT THE GRACE OF GOD GO !!

**THE STORY OF PETER TWO-COATS
PART TWO**

Last month I introduced you to Peter – one of the first visitors to the Drop in centre we ran from my city centre church in Hereford – All Saints.

I for one was quite intrigued by Peter because he was not like our average clients – obviously very knowledgeable, in spite of his appearance and long beard, dirty clothes and the two coats which he would not be parted from!

What he did like to do was engage in conversation and I learned from this that he had been Deputy Head of a large school! His life took such a drastic turn for the worse when his wife left his taking their two children with her; his life fell apart and very soon he could no longer hold down his job and he took to the road in this dramatic way.

After a few weeks seeking the sparse life we were able to offer, Peter just disappeared! My colleagues and I were sad about this, but our efforts to find him were of no avail, and all we could do was hold him in the prayers of the church where we had at least found some friendship and sanctuary.

All we could hope that his brief stay with us was a step to enable him to re-build his life.

WHY DO I SHARE THIS STORY WITH YOU?

It is because this illustrates one of the ways in which the Church can and should reach out to those who need our help and support.

There are many 'Peter two-coats' in our world, in our nation, and indeed in our city whose cry for help should remind us

THAT THERE BUT FOR THR GRACE OF GOD
GO !!

Father Hugh,

Switch on to Christmas

in association with KRA (Kingsway Residents Association)

Join local residents to welcome in the season of Christmas with Carols and the switching on of the Christmas Tree lights!

**Friday 6th December
6.00pm**

**Kingsway Village Centre
Christmas Tree kindly**

donated by

Cllr. Richard Cook

*Carols led by Revd. Canon
Father John Ward and
Revd. Jenny d'Esterre*



*Special guest appearance by
Elsa
from Enchanting Story Book
Parties!*

Tree decorated by Kingsway and Waterwells Primary Schools

On the record - with the Rector

Revd. Canon John F Ward



Dear Parishioners and Friends,

As the days become shorter and the dark nights draw in, November brings its own sombre mood. The month itself is identified as a month of remembrance.

Our service here on the 3rd November at 4.00pm is for all those who have lost loved ones throughout the year. We'll be holding a short thanksgiving service followed by refreshments and a chance to meet others who perhaps are in a similar situation to you.

There is no easy remedy for overcoming the loss of a loved one – emotions can change from day to day. Someone described it like waves on a beach. You can be standing in water up to your knees and feel you can cope, and then suddenly a big wave comes and knocks you off your feet. Time they say is a great healer.

Comforting words can be found in many verses throughout the bible and reminds us that God is always with us even in our darkest hour. God promises to get us through the intense loneliness of grief.

Some people find that talking to family and friends help. However, for some bereavement counselling can be a huge help and there are many organizations both locally and nationally offering this service. Whatever your loss – don't think you are alone. Members of the clergy and I are always available to you to offer advice support and guidance.

Yours in the Faith of the Risen Lord, Jesus Christ.

Fr. John

Revd. Canon Fr. John Ward

Rector & Parish Priest

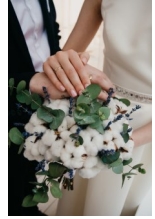
Field Court Infant Academy

Pupils from Field Court Infant Academy help with Holy Communion on the first Wednesday of each month. Many thanks to Jackie Broad for making the lovely sashes that each child can wear during the service and identifies them as a helper!



(Photograph courtesy of Field Court Infant Academy)

WIDOW, WIDOWER, **WOULD YOU CONSIDER MARRIAGE AGAIN?**



There is no definitive answer to that question. It's really a matter of choice, and may well relate to whether you had a good marriage, a happy or difficult one?

I was happily married for 43 years when my wife died suddenly. I was 63. We had had 3 wonderful children and a number of grandchildren, and I was devastated. But when I came to terms with the loss, I thought that as I could cook, shop and look after the house, I would be able to cope.

However, during long winter nights I became very lonely and needed company. I met a lady who I'd known years before. She was divorced; we have now been married for over 16 years and as Christians we believe that the Lord has brought us together as we are both very happy. If children are involved, which was the case with us, it can be difficult, but patience and understanding was the answer.

In today's society, we hear that lots of married couples breakup after being unfaithful to their partners, which seems acceptable, but consider remarrying after losing a loved one after many happy years of marriage, and it seems to be frowned on.

When telling friends that I was remarrying, they asked, "Oh! I see, and how long is it now since your wife died?"

And a family relative on my first wife's side hasn't spoken to me since. Conversely, a friend at my wife's work was thrilled and said that the marriage must have been a happy one to consider doing it again. Life is for living, and another family member said, "Just go for it, you are too nice a chap to be miserable for the rest of your days!"

Lovell Cornwall.

Note from Father Hugh – like most priests I guess, I have been asked on a number of occasions, if I thought it right for them to re-marry. It was for this reason that I asked Lovell to put these thoughts on paper as a way of helping couples with this dilemma. Lovell and his wife, Rita are keen and dedicated members of our church here at St James.

FROM THE REGISTERS IN SEPTEMBER

HOLY BAPTISM

- SEPT 8th MYLES MURRAY HITCHMAN
EMMA JANE FORD
- 15th AMORA-GRACE ESME PEPPER
ISAAC-JAMES RICHARD LINDSEY
NOAH CRAIG PETER LINDSEY
- 29th HARRY PETER LOCKE
OLIVIA ANNE YOUNG

“WELCOME TO THE LORD'S FAMILY”

FUNERALS AND CREMATIONS

- SEPT 11th GILLIAN BALL (86)
- 20th FREDERICK RAPER (94)
- 27th VERA WATTS (95)

“REST ETERNAL GRANT THEM LORD”

Please note – copy for possible inclusion in the DECEMBER edition of this magazine should reach the Editor, Fr. Hugh Broad by SUNDAY 17TH NOVEMBER at the latest. email address: hugh.broad@yahoo.co.uk



A Service and Parade was held by Help if we Can. The Dedication of the Colour which they purchased for the Hardwicke Army Cadet Platoon was dedicated by Canon John Ward, Chaplain of Help if we Can in a packed St.James' Parish Church,attended by the County High Sheriff, the Chairman of Quedgeley Town Council; the Chairman of Hardwicke Parish Council; the Mayor of Ledbury and other dignitaries.

A parade led by the Corps of Drums from the Naval Unit TS Alacrity from Portsmouth led cadets from both Alacrity and TS Ledbury (Hereford) to the church. The Pipes and Drums from St. Andrews led the Army Cadets and Colours from the Emergency Services and other organisations. At the Service, the Army Cadet Colour was placed on the High Altar and blessed by the Chaplain before he handed it to the Chairman of Help if we Can Steve Smith who asked the High Sheriff to present it to the Ensign. Andrew Oldham and Michelle Mazelin, both Vice Chairs of Help if we Can presented certificates of affiliation to both TS Alacrity and TS Ledbury for the support they have given over the 8 years the organisation has been in being. After the Service, the parade reformed and marched to Severn Vale School where the Salute was taken at a march past by the High Sheriff. Refreshments were then served in the school by the Stroud Valley Guides and cheques were presented to many groups that were selected from monies raised during 2018-19 by Help if we Can.

Help if we Can continues to grow and has raised many thousands of pounds for good causes. Anyone who might like to be involved in some way are asked to make contact.

**Thank you to HELP IF WE CAN for their generous
donation to Saint James' Church of £300.00
- Much appreciated Father John**

Harvest Festival



Your “Post-it” Questions to Fr Hugh



“Why do we use incense?”

Many faiths use incense in both public and private worship; its use seems to stem from the fact that human beings acknowledge, and rely on, their five physical senses in all aspects of life – including their religious lives. The nations of the Middle East used dried stems of the Frankincense plant to

provide a fragrant aroma; the worship in the Temple in Jerusalem had set times when incense was offered and it was believed that the smoke drifting upwards was symbolic of the people's prayers ascending to God. (St Luke tells that Zechariah was making the daily incense-offering when he learnt that he was to become a father to the fore-runner of the Messiah.)



Chapter 8 of Revelation implies that incense was used in early Christian worship, and there is written evidence that it was used during worship from the 5th century onwards (in fixed thuribles near to the altar-table). Later on, portable thuribles were used so that the church building, the people, and their offerings, could be blessed with incense. It has been in use in the Church of England from the 16th century, and particularly following the Tractarian Movement in the 19th century.

It is possible that the earliest users noted the reference in Genesis to the sacrifice offered by Abel – the scent of which “was pleasing to the Lord”, and so perfumed their own offerings. There is also the possibility that the use of incense in blessing had a connection with being purified by fire.

(The incense we use at St James is in fact made at Prinknash Abbey here in Gloucestershire and is a mixture of dried herbs, spices, and resins.)

“What is the difference between Baptism and Christening?”

Briefly, there is no difference; they are two words describing the same event. The formal title is of course “Baptism” (which comes from the Greek word meaning “to immerse”). This is the sacrament by which we become members of the Church, the Body of Christ on Earth. (See John ch 3 & Jesus' instruction about being born “of water and the Spirit” and his reminder that all who turn to Christ must be

See also the end of Matthew's Gospel, where the Twelve are instructed to "Baptise men everywhere in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit").

The word "Christening" has come about through our habit of shortening words to make them easier to say. In Baptism we become Christians – we are "Christianised" - and you can see how "Christianing" became "Christening". The word describes what happens to us when we are Baptised; it is often used to describe a "naming ceremony", but there is more to being baptised than just receiving a name. The Sacrament involves



anointing with oil – being set apart for anointing with oil – being set apart for discipleship – and washing – cleansed from sin. It is surely wrong to use the word "Christen" when an inanimate object, such as a boat, is involved.

"Why do some people make the sign of the Cross during worship?"

The cross is the most important of all our Christian symbols and images, simply because it is through the cross of Christ that the gateway to salvation and the kingdom is opened to us. You may recall that Helena, the mother of the emperor Constantine, while on pilgrimage to Jerusalem, was shown a relic of the cross of Jesus; she was so moved by the reverence and devotion shown by the

Christians in Jerusalem towards this object that on her return she convinced her son that the cross should in fact be the emblem, not only for all Christians, but also for the Roman empire. So it was that the imperial eagle was replaced by the sign of the cross on all the armoury and banners of the army along with the motto "In this sign, conquer", and the sign of the cross encouraged to be displayed in churches and homes.



We all received the cross when we were baptised – to remind us that we belong to Christ and to reassure us that we are now safe in his care. At the end of every act of worship in church we are blessed with the sign of the cross to reassure us that not only do we go out in the name of Christ, but that he goes with us, to protect and defend us. When we anoint the sick with holy oil, it is done in the sign of the cross to reassure the person that it is the healing power of Christ which is at work in them.

When I make the sign of the cross – in church, at home, or elsewhere, and whenever I pray – I am reminding myself that I belong to Christ; that I am called to live and work for him, and most of all that through his terrible suffering and death on that cross he opened the way to a new and everlasting life for me and for all those who turn to him.

Making the sign of the cross on our bodies helps us to focus our attention on the prayers we are about to offer, on the words which we are about to hear and say, and most of all on the Saviour who love us so very much.

The “Tree of shame” has become the tree of glory, and where life was lost there life has been restored”. So: “Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim, til all the world adore His sacred name.”



Come and join us!

Christmas Services
Christmas Eve
Crib Service 4.00pm
Carol Service 6.00pm
Midnight Mass 11.30pm

Follow The Star
Christmas Day 10.30am

Jesus is the light of the world
John 8:12

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

Saint James' Chit -Chat

Relax and meet new friends!

**Thursday Morning
10.00am -12noon**

**Saint James' Church
School Lane
Quedgeley
GL2 4PN**



**Refreshments and newspapers available.
Selection of books and board games
You need never be bored!**



Saint James CHATTERBOX

...time for fun!



www.quedgeleychurch.org.uk

**Parent, Baby and Toddler 'Drop-in' St. James Church
Quedgeley Every Tuesday 9.30am -11.00am**

**Healthy
Snacks**

**Lots of
Toys**



**Messy
glue**

**Refreshments
available**

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STJ's

Family Worship and
Praise



Come and join us
Every First Sunday
in the month
10.30am
Saint James' Church
Quedgeley



FREE BUFFET

Saint James' Church Christmas Fayre

Saturday
23rd November
Doors open 1.30pm

Quedgeley Community Centre
School Lane
Quedgeley

Lots of Stalls!

Bouncy Castle

Refreshments

Father Christmas



Who's Who in the Parish



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Extended Church Office, in the vestry -No appointment necessary!

...for the Calling of Banns of Marriage; Holy Baptisms: Marriages etc.

WEDNESDAY 5.30 –6.30pm SATURDAY 9.00—10.00am

Kingsway Community Centre

Saturday 11.00am –12noon

www.quedgeleychurch.org.uk