

# MONTHLY CALENDAR FOR OCTOBER SUNDAY OCTOBER 6TH 10.30A.M.



#### THANKSGIVING FOR THE HARVEST

HOLY EUCHARIST & S.T.J. SERVICE TO CELEBRATE GOD'S GIFTS

A SERVICE FOR EVERYONE followed by Refreshments

#### **SATURDAY OCTOBER 12TH**

HOLY MARRIAGE AT ST JAMES 3P.M.

#### **SUNDAY OCTOBER 13TH -TRINITY 17**

PARISH EUCHARIST 10.30A.M. HOLY BAPTISM 1.00P.M.

#### **SUNDAYS OCTOBER 20TH & 27TH**

HOLY EUCHARIST 10.30A.M.

Please note – copy for possible inclusion in the NOVEMBER edition of this magazine should reach the Editor, Fr. Hugh Broad by SUNDAY 13TH OCTOBER at the latest. email address: hugh.broad@yahoo.co.uk

### Your Editor Fr. Hugh Broad



## THERE BUT FOR THE GRACE OF GOD GO I! INTRODUCING - "PETER TWO COATS"

Let me introduce you to this strange but impressive 'man of the road'

I first met Peter during my time as Parish Priest of All Saints Church in the centre of the Cathedral city of Hereford. This city centre church is in a unique position surrounded these days by shops and offices with homes very much a minority.

We had, in All Saints a centre to develop all kinds of activities, specially in the worlds of music and church liturgy but also ideal for all kinds of activities which draw people together.

But All Saints was the venue for hospitality of a rather different kind; we sought to reach out to those less fortunate as men and women 'on the road

These seem to concentrate on town and city centres, and one of those I met and got to know was Peter Two coats. So how did he fit into all this?

SEE NEXT MONTH!

FATHER HUGH - YOUR EDITOR!

## On the record - with the Rector



#### The Sacrament of Confirmation



Next year 17<sup>th</sup> May 2020, Bishop Rachel will officiate at our Confirmation Service. Many of you are aware that I have said on several occasions that you don't need to be confirmed, only baptized, to take the holy sacrament of Holy Communion. The Bread and the Wine in church

Some of you are probably wondering what then the point of Confirmation is.

First those of you who are members of the church, you are members of the church family and at the Confirmation Service you are renewing your baptismal vows and reaffirming your faith as a follower of Christ in front of your Christian family.

If like me you were baptized as a child, I doubt you'll remember much about it. The vows were taken on your behalf by your God parents. Therefore as young adults or elderly adults, for that matter, it is important that we consider what those vows mean and why they were taken on our behalf all those years ago.

Vows are commitments – Do we live in the way that Jesus would find acceptable? Have we 'renounced the devil'? Or do we still at times waiver? None of us are perfect. But moving forward, are we prepared to give it all we have and do better as a disciple of Christ?

For Confirmation, we usually ask candidates to attend a number of 'classes'. These take place either on an evening or Saturday morning. It is a time of reflection, to explore scripture and liturgy.

It is a time of preparation, to ask questions and to seek out answers and not all of them are written in a text book!

We also welcome at our classes those who have been confirmed and would like a 'refresher course'.

For those of you yet to be confirmed, I would like you to think seriously about this reaffirmation of your faith. Please come and have a chat with me or one of the clergy if you would like to know more. It is a serious part of furthering your Christian faith and I know many find the process worthwhile.

Yours in the Faith of Jesus Christ.

#### Fr John

Bishop Robert officiating at our last Confirmation in Saint James'





#### Your "Post-it" Questions to Fr Hugh

## "Why do we recite "We believe in one, holy, catholic, apostolic Church"?

It is a common misunderstanding that the Church of England is a Protestant body; if it were, we would not recite the Nicene Creed at all nor would we have bishops & priests, nor profess allegiance to the teaching laid down in the other ancient Creeds of the Church (as set out in the Book of Common Prayer.)

But let us go back a little. In 325 AD a council of bishops was summoned from all parts of the Church to a meeting in Nicea because of a real threat to the teachings of the Church by a group who followed a man called Arius. This man actively promoted a belief that Jesus could not possibly be the divine Son of God – because he suffered physical death. This idea became so popular that the leaders of the Church convened this council in order to clarify just what the true teachings of the Church were. The final decisions of the Council were put into the form of an official statement which was unanimously accepted by all those attending – including bishops from Britain. "We believe" - the Council spoke for all who professed to be Christians. The findings of the Council of Nicea were later ratified by three other ecumenical councils and the "creed" (from the Greek word "credomen – we believe") became part of the order of the Eucharist.

Henry VIII is accredited with the breakaway of the Church in England from the control of Rome – but not simply because of his matrimonial "difficulties"! Henry was aware that large sums of money were being handed over to Rome – money that Henry felt could be better used at home – but he never sought to contradict or deny any of the Church's teaching. That is why the pope bestowed on him the title "Fidei Defensor" - Defender of the Faith.



Henry wrote extensively on theological matters and was determined that he and his people would remain faithful to the one true Church. He taught that the Church in England was part of the one (undivided), holy (from God), apostolic (based on the teachings of Jesus as handed on by the first apostles), catholic ("kata holike" - according to the whole; universal) Church.

Despite the attempts of later sovereigns to align the Church with European Protestantism, the ministry of the Church of England has continued in an unbroken line since before the Reformation – we are part of what is called the "Apostolic Succession" - and still ordains bishops, priests, and deacons.

The Cromwellian / Puritan movements sought to remove all traces of "Popish heresy" from the Church in England, but also destroyed much of the art and architecture which had beautified the work and worship of the Church. The restoration of the monarchy allowed



the Church greater freedom and saw the publication of the Bible in English – the King James "Authorised Version" in 1611 and the Book of Common Prayer in 1662 (which forms the basis of all Anglican teachings today.) The Church of England came to be seen as a "Via Media" - middle way – between the Church of Rome and the Protestant Churches, and declared itself as Catholic and Reformed.

In the 19<sup>th</sup> century the Oxford (or Tractarian) Movement put great emphasis on a parish-based church, with regular Sunday worship and the daily recitation of morning & evening prayer. The parish structure emphasised care for the sick & housebound, education for all, and the growth of "Sunday Schools". The teachings of the Church of England upheld the authority of Scripture and the doctrines of the Church as set down in the "Catholic Creeds", and the continuity of Holy Orders; it has always followed the regular calendar of festivals and saints' days.

Since the mid 20<sup>th</sup> century the Church of England has been part of the Joint Liturgical Commission, a world-wide group which works on providing orders for wordship and sharing common texts, resulting in forms of worship which have much in common across the globe and in many different branches of the Church.

Reformation of the Church removed what had become almost superstitions and brought order and clarity. Local parishes and dioceses are truly part of the whole and we share a rich heritage that goes back centuries, to the arrival of Joseph of Arimathea in Glastonbury, and certainly to the time of Patrick, David, Aidan, and Columba –



pillars of the Church who helped to establish Christianity in these islands, and thus enabling us to be represented at that famous, important council, and establishing us as part of "The one, holy, catholic, apostolic Church".

Footnote: On the subject of the Creed: look at the line "...all that is, seen and unseen".

The comma is not a typing mistake! It indicates that the word before it is important and carries stress: "all that *is*," - a poetic way of saying "everything that exists (even the things we cannot see with our naked eye)". In this little phrase we affirm that God is the source of all Creation - "all that *IS*, seen and unseen".

## **Christmas Raffle Tickets**

Well, folks it's that time of year again! I do hope this year will be a bumper year for selling raffle tickets. We have lots of lovely prizes with the first prize of £100.

Raffle tickets are available throughout October .

Deadline for the return of cash, counterfoils (and any unused tickets—but hope we shan't have any of these!) is Sunday 17th November.

So let's sell as many as we can and make lots of money for church funds

Many thanks
Jackie Hall

## **Rectory Feast**



#### FROM THE REGISTERS IN AUGUST

#### **HOLY BAPTISM**

August 11th JOSHUA THOMAS HEAD

ALFIE GEORGE BOYLE

18<sup>th</sup> OSCAR & ROSIE HART

#### "WELCOME INTO THE LORD'S FAMILY"

#### **FUNERALS & CREMATIONS**

August 16<sup>th</sup> IAIN APPLETON Aged 53

23<sup>rd</sup> JAMES HODGSON Aged 23

"REST ETERNAL GRANT TO THEM O LORD"

#### **Rectory Feast**

My thanks go to everyone who contributed in any way.

We raised £ 738.10 towards church funds. - Fr. John

Creator God, give us a heart for simple things:

love and laughter; bread and wine; tales and dreams.

Fill our lives with green and growing hope; make us a people of justice

whose song is 'ALLELUIAH

and whose name breathes love.



#### **CARING**

## Saint James' poetry group has CARING as this month's THEME

My brain found it hard to compose an appropriate "POME".

Then laying awake in the middle of the night I had a DREAM

And I thought of a person so very close to "HOME"

Who epitomises CARING to everyone she MEETS.

Still recovering in hospital after a major OP,

But lucky the patients In her ward that she GREETS

With a gentle smile, an encouraging word, knowing when to STOP.

Her faith in God and all our prayers have seen her THROUGH.

Yes, you've guessed dear friends, I'm referring to LOU.

May the good Lord bless her and all the Pearce's anew.

Pam Westwood 27/08/2019



Parish Pilgrimage Saint David's Wales



#### Parish Pilgrimage to St. David's Wales

We left at 8.00am with the sun shining, lucky for us it continued throughout the day. After a quick stop at Bridgend services we reached St. David's at around 11.45am. The most important part of the day for me was celebrating Holy Eucharist in the Lady Chapel at 12.30pm. Thanks to the Dean and Chapter of the Cathedral I was given the great privilege of being the Celebrant for that Eucharist. My thanks go to Fr. Ian who assisted me.

Following the service our group could take time to explore the cathedral and its grounds a MUST for those who hadn't been before. For those of us who were becoming a little peckish (it had been a long morning). Our taste buds were tempted by some of the delights in the cafes or restaurants that were scattered in the City centre. OK so St. David's is the smallest City in the UK but nevertheless it is a City!

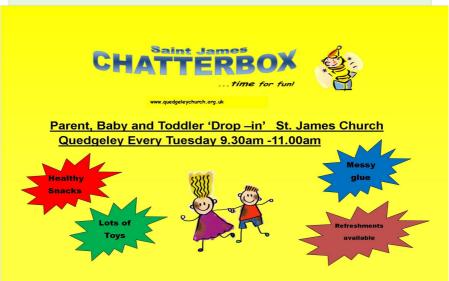
Personally, I found the entire day memorable and quite emotional. In July 1984 I had been ordained Deacon in the Cathedral, the following year I was ordained Priest. Now 35 years on I was able to revisit taking with me friends and parishioners from Saint James,' a parish that I have grown to know and love.

The Cathedral itself is a splendid piece of architecture and the challenge for everyone was to find the Sovereign's stall. Saint David's is the only cathedral where a sovereign has a seat in the Chapter.

At around 4.00pm we reassembled outside the cathedral for the trip home. There was much to talk about and I believe everyone had an enjoyable day.

Fr. John





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# COFFEE MORNING FRIDAY 18th October SAINT JAMES' CHURCH QUEDGELEY 10.00AM-12NOON





# **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

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