

CHRIST CHURCH *in* OCTOBER



VOLUME 5 ISSUE 9 OCTOBER 2021

Registered Charity No. 1152846

Parochial Church Council of Worthing Christ Church

Website: www.christchurchworthing.org.uk



Worship in October at Christ Church

3rd 10.30am Holy Communion

with Archdeacon Chris Skilton

6pm BCP Evensong with Revd Roger Walker

10th 10.30am Morning Prayer and Harvest

with Revd Canon Muriel Pargeter

14th 10.30am BCP Holy Communion

with Revd Roger Walker

17th 10.30am Holy Communion

with Archdeacon Maurice Slattery

6pm BCP Evensong with Revd George Butterworth

24th 10.30am Morning Prayer lead by Derek Hansen with Karen Hill, Diocesan President of the Mother's Union to speak

28th 10.30am Thursday BCP HC

with Revd George Butterworth

31st 10.30am Holy Communion

with Revd Roger Walker

Church Wardens:

Kenneth Hobbs

email: christchurchfinance@btinternet.com

Steve Davis

email: christchurchvolunteers@btinternet.com

Parish Administrator: *Janine Hobbs*

email: christchurchadmin@btinternet.com

Administrator's email is monitored constantly

Parish Office 01903 215343

Hours: Tuesday & Wednesday 10.30 – 12 noon

Thursday 2.30 – 4pm



HARVEST SUNDAY

Sunday 10th October

**This year, we will be collecting donations
of non-perishable food that we will be giving
to 'Care for Veterans'
at**

**The Queen Alexandra Hospital Home
who, since 1919, have been
supporting physically disabled
ex-Service personnel of the past,
present and future**



**Providing residential nursing care,
rehabilitation, respite and end of life care to
physically disabled ex-Service personnel and
their families.**

**PLEASE BRING WHATEVER YOU CAN
OFFER**



Poet's Corner

Prayer!

Entreaty from the heart is heard
Always, by Heaven's grace,
Never denied, perchance deferred,
The soul ne'er to deface,
With faith mistrust displace.

Let not the I, itself, assert,
Pride goes before the fall,
The meek can doubt to trust convert,
With hope thus to install,
Ensued by walking tall.

©Elliott Allison

* *

Fated!

Narrow-minded self,
Nurtured by gargantuan greed,
Suffocates to death.

©Elliott Allison

* *

“Peace, Be Still!”

It is not the destiny of everyone to experience the sheer violence, immense natural power and utter fearsomeness of a sudden STORM out at Sea, aboard a ship of any description.

I cannot claim that experience out at Sea, though I have had some terrifying experiences of extremely violent storms out in Africa. I can well imagine how much worse such storms must be out at Sea.

It has been claimed that, although the Sea of Galilee is an inland expanse of water, one can, and people still do, experience quite sudden and rather terrifying storm winds there, with accompanying huge waves and squalls. So, it is not at all surprising that an incident of such brutal natural violence befell Jesus and his disciples on that Sea of Galilee; it is also not surprising to read of the terror with which those on board were filled.

To compound matters, one of the passengers on board was lying fast asleep while all “hell” raged around them.. Jesus was totally oblivious to the goings-on; or so it seemed.

However, He was very much aware of the storm, but He was not paralysed by anxiety or fear. Hence, his gentle words of admonition to his followers... Why are you so frightened? Yes! Fear can be debilitating.

Despite the obvious images of terror that the episode, recounted in Mark’s gospel, evokes in us, it is a very touching and moving anecdote from the life of Jesus; an episode from ordinary daily life as those people would have lived; fishermen, mostly, all of them quite familiar with the strange weather patterns that can come, unpredictably over the area.

Quite touching: Jesus is asleep; He had had a very busy day and needed to get away for a rest.

How very human - Jesus needed a rest.

Then, on the boat, another piece of very human nature reacts instinctively to nature, itself. Fear!

Fear of powerlessness...fear of Death!

In the midst of all such human feelings, needs and emotions the presence of God is shown to be; notice the very close parallel to the presence of God in the midst of the tempest of Human Life as recounted in the Book of Job.

Job, caught in the middle of desperately human emotional turmoil...an emotional tempest.. is reminded that even here God is in control; even in such circumstances and at such times, the power of God reigns supreme.

This may not always seem that acceptable to us humans.

When the chips are down; when Life seems to treat us dreadfully; when hope begins to fade away and all lines of escape seem closed; even then, the person of faith and trust in the ultimate goodness of God, must needs remind himself - or herself - of the incident on the Sea of Galilee; Jesus asleep while the storm rages...only to rouse from sleep to admonish quietly the Sea and the Storm Winds with such gentle words: "Quiet Now! Be Calm!"

"Peace! Be Still!"

Almost like a Mother calming down her troubled child!

Such a calming and reassuring mood and tenor of voice can be observed and heard when a child needs stilling by its Mum.

Distraught by some deeply disturbing feelings the child, like those disciples in the boat, would call to the Dispenser of Calm and Reassurance, and the "Storm" would be stilled!

"Peace, my little ones! Be Still!"

It is never easy for anyone to accept such promises of Reassurance when emotional chaos is around; try bandying religious clichés around when someone is profoundly troubled; it is like trying to tell a deeply distressed person to "Cheer Up!"

Over-zealous Christians need to be extremely cautious in dispensing, willy-nilly, soothsaying words of wisdom when they encounter deep stress, profound sadness, emotional chaos, or sheer turbulence in the lives of others - however well intentioned the gesture might be. Such offerings can be counter-productive - they are, almost always.

More helpful will be the fact that for us personally, God is in there...God is in there when we experience such turmoil. People will pick this up from us; they will pick up that inner strength of conviction without our having to dish out the clichés.

Refer back to Job; there we saw the personal struggle of MAN/WOMAN with the Turbulence of Life!

In Job we saw the very personal realization that God is in there.. even in the midst of the pain and turmoil of Life!

In the end, Job, Everyman, has to accept that God truly is in charge! This is great cause for celebration! Thanksgiving! God is right in there with us.. Amid all the turbulence of Life!

With God lies the ultimate power to say to any situation:

Peace! Be Still! Quiet Now! Be Calm!

(Elliott Allison)



Food for thought....

The General Director of a large bank got economists thinking when he said:

"A cyclist is a disaster for the country's economy: he does not buy cars and does not borrow money to buy. He does not pay for insurance policies. He does not buy fuel, does not pay for the necessary maintenance and repairs. He does not use paid parking. He does not cause serious accidents. He does not require multi-lane highways. He does not get fat.

Healthy people are neither needed nor useful for the economy. They don't buy medicine. They do not go to hospitals or doctors. Nothing is added to the country's GDP (gross domestic product).

On the contrary, every new Burger restaurant creates at least 30 jobs: 10 cardiologists, 10 dentists, 10 dietary experts and nutritionists, and obviously, people who work at the restaurant itself."

Choose carefully: cyclist or Burger Bar? It is worth considering.

P.S. Walking is even worse. Pedestrians don't even buy bicycles.



Definitions

ADULT: A person who has stopped growing at both ends and is now growing in the middle.

CANNIBAL: Someone who is fed up with people.

CHICKENS: The only creatures you eat before they're born and after they're dead.

COMMITTEE: A body that keeps minutes and wastes hours.

DUST: Mud with the juice squeezed out.

EGOTIST: Someone who is usually me-deep in conversation.

GOSSIP: A person who will never tell a lie if the truth will do more damage.

HANDKERCHIEF: Cold Storage.

MOSQUITO: An insect that makes you like flies.

RAISIN: A grape with sunburn.

SECRET: Something you tell to one person at a time.

TOOTHACHE: The pain that drives you to extraction.

TOMORROW: One of the greatest labour-saving devices of today.

YAWN: An honest opinion openly expressed



Three things to remember to help you to move forward:

**The life in front of you is more important
than the life behind you**

**Ask yourself if what you are doing today is getting you closer
to where you want to be tomorrow**

**Don't be a prisoner of your past.
It was a lesson, not a life sentence**

A message for my children:

**Don't make fun of me for asking questions about
my mobile phone.**

I once taught you how to use a spoon!

**If you don't allow yourself to move past what happened,
what was said, what was felt, you will look at your
present and future through that same dirty lens.**

Realise this, focus and breathe.

**Try to see things as they are today, instead of how you
hoped, wished or expected them to be.**

THE LONELY MAN

It was a bitterly cold night, the wind and the rain seemed relentless. Peter pulled the sleeping bag up close to his chin and huddled down in the corner of the empty shop. He gazed at the three other men with him, all homeless. Peter could hardly believe he was in this position.

Six months ago, he lived in a rented flat with his wife Claire and their small tortoiseshell cat called Tabitha. At that time life suddenly took on a different spin – he was made redundant, and they could no longer afford the expensive flat in which they were living. This did not help their married life. Claire took Tabitha and left him and returned to live with her mother. Peter became another victim of homelessness. He found life on the street quite difficult. He no longer belonged anywhere permanently, and he really had no particular friends anymore.

As he remembered life as it had been, he took out from his pocket the ham roll that an old lady had given him as she passed him sitting on the road earlier in the day. How thankful he was at that moment that there were kind people who cared for those who had nothing. As he munched on his roll, he heard the sound of a man drawing up close to them, and knew he was one of the street pastors bringing cups of tea, coffee or soup; and who were prepared to have a chat and listen to their needs. After the pastor had gone, he settled down for the night.

Next morning, he awoke, and not thinking too much about it he realised it was Christmas Eve. What a different one from those in the past. As he looked back on his memories, he felt a great sadness and deep loneliness within him. What had he done with his life? – not much. Had he prepared for the future? No, not really. Had he thought about God? Never! It crossed his mind that perhaps he had led a rather selfish life until that moment. He had to be honest and say to himself I have only ever lived for me and what I wanted, and not for anyone else's desires or needs.

In the distance he could hear church bells ringing. He folded up his sleeping bag and other belongings and left them in the corner of the shop and headed towards the church. He thought it would be warmer in there than out here in the street. As he walked through the church door, he could hear the congregation singing 'Away in a Manger'. It reminded him of his childhood and the Christmas story. The preacher was talking about the baby Jesus who was born in a stable, homeless in fact, like him. He had never thought about the story in such a personal way before and wondered why Jesus had come to live in such poor and mean circumstances. As he listened to the story of the coming of Jesus and why he came, something melted in his heart. He began to realise that there was someone who loved him despite all his failings and selfishness. Could he change at this time in his life? He looked around at the congregation who were people of all ages who seemed happy and contented and enjoying the Christmas Service. He

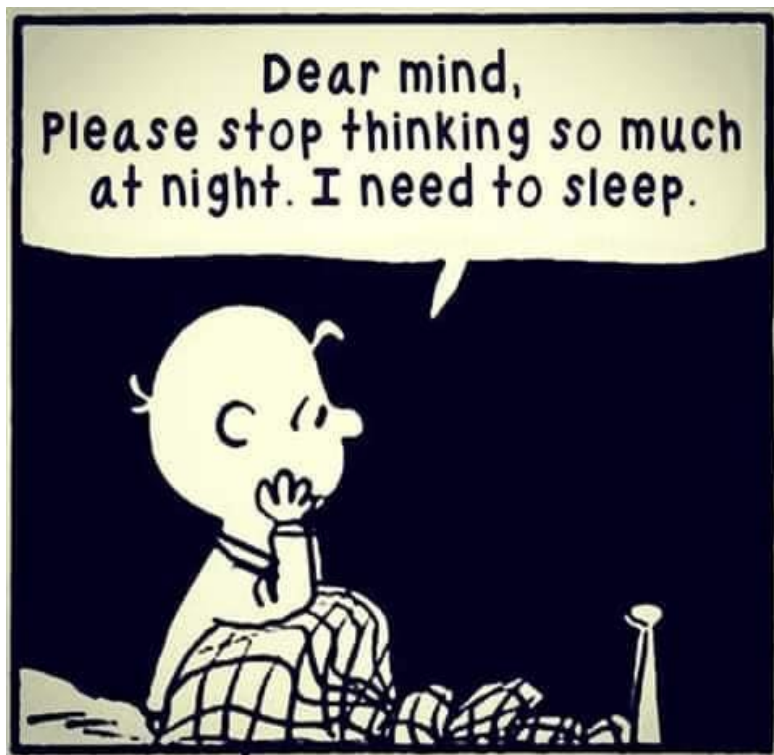
wondered had he missed out on the real meaning of life? and at this moment had come face to face with the true reality of why he was here.

At the end of the service, the Vicar came and spoke to him and Peter asked if he could talk to him privately, so they went into the vestry to talk together. When Peter came out of the vestry, he was a different man – he realised for the first time in his life that there was more to living than he had thought. How could he change the way he had been? How could he give up being homeless and find some permanent job? As he sat in a pew, one of the street pastors he knew came and sat next to him. ‘Are you looking for a job?’ he said. ‘Yes’ Peter said. ‘Well’, said the street pastor, ‘we have just bought a shop in the town that was a café, and we want to open it up to the homeless to come in for refreshments. I think you have the gift to be able to run it – what do you think about the idea?’ ‘Well’, said Peter, I would love to do something like that’ – ‘Good’ said the street pastor ‘because I want you to know that above the shop is a flat which is not very big, but I think would be ideal for you. Peter could not believe this was happening to him! He said ‘Thank you so much I would love to do it’!

Weeks passed and Peter so enjoyed this new opportunity. He felt a different man. He came to realise his time on the streets was an asset as it enabled him to understand the needs of others. A year passed, and by this time Peter was established in his faith and in his job. He fell in love with one of his co-workers so life for him was now complete.

Another year passed and he began to think that maybe God was calling him into the ordained ministry. His wife, Susan, also felt this was the way forward for Peter. Peter was thrilled to be accepted into training for church ministry. After 2 years, he found himself being ordained in St. Paul's cathedral. Following that he realised he was being called to serve in a parish where there were a great number of homeless people in the area. He thought to himself that no experience is wasted if we can use it to help others. He now knew he was no longer a lonely man, and that God had given him a future and he wanted to give his life in return in service to him.

M Pargeter



Winston Churchill loved paraprosdokians,
figures of speech in which the latter part of a sentence or
phrase is surprising or unexpected.

1. Where there's a will, I want to be in it.
2. Since light travels faster than sound, some people appear bright until you hear them speak.
3. If I agreed with you, we'd both be wrong.
4. War does not determine who is right - only who is left.
5. Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit. Wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.
6. They begin the evening news with 'Good Evening,' then proceed to tell you why it isn't.
7. To steal ideas from one person is plagiarism. To steal from many is research.
8. I thought I wanted a career. Turns out, I just wanted pay checks.
9. In filling out an application, where it says, 'In case of emergency, notify:' I put "DOCTOR."
10. I didn't say it was your fault, I said I was blaming you.
11. A clear conscience is the sign of a fuzzy memory.
12. You do not need a parachute to skydive. You only need a parachute to skydive twice.

13. Money can't buy happiness, but it sure makes misery easier to live with.

14. I used to be indecisive. Now I'm not so sure.

15. You're never too old to learn something stupid.

16. To be sure of hitting the target, shoot first and call whatever you hit the target.

17. Nostalgia isn't what it used to be.

18. Change is inevitable, except from a vending machine.

19. Going to church doesn't make you a Christian any more than standing in a garage makes you a car.

20. I'm supposed to respect my elders, but now it's getting harder and harder for me to find one.

Sally says: "This is my go-to recipe when my energy levels & inspiration are flagging":

Catchgate Cheese Pud



Scald 2 cups of breadcrumbs with 2 cups of milk & soak for about half an hour.

Add 2 eggs & 1 cup of cheese. Season. I often add chives or garlic or anything that feels right.

Bake at 190' for half an hour.

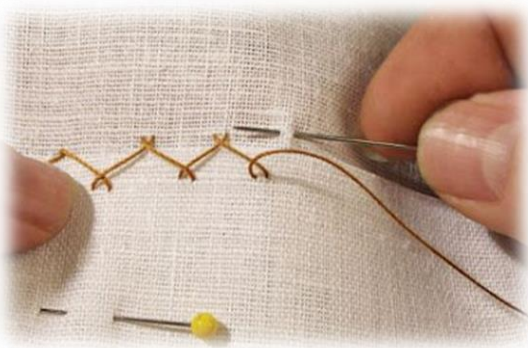
Good with salad or a green veg or cold meat if you're not a vegetarian, which I am!

Thanks Sally!

**When I was
eighteen I used
to touch my toes
twenty times
each morning,
these days
I have a cup of
coffee and wave
 at them **

*2 pieces kindly sent in
from John C's friends in Brazil:
From Ana in Braga.*

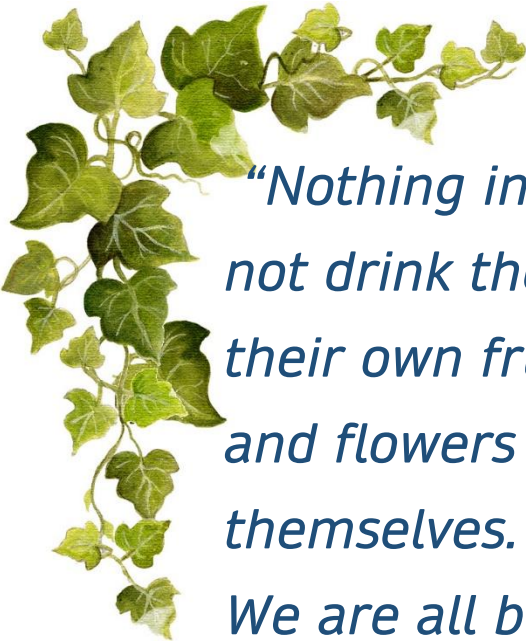
The "old sewing" of life. We used to be able to sew TIME, to embroider on top of mistakes so that they disappeared. To sew the PEOPLE whom we like very close by. To sew on Sundays, one closer to the other... to sew true LOVE into the heart of those we love. To sew truth in the mouth of humans. To sew YEARNING into the bottom of a trunk so that it cannot escape. To sew SELF ESTEEM up high so that it never falls. To sew FORGIVENESS into the soul and KINDNESS into the hand. To sew GOODNESS onto what is good and GOODNESS onto what is bad. To sew HEALTH onto illness and HAPPINESS everywhere. And to continue sewing into our LIFE a little HOPE every day and much FAITH in every human. We are the true "tailors" of our life! May we know how to live by what is right and never by the reverse, that wrinkles come only from happiness and that our story may be tacked or basted daily.



From Mariane in Brazil

"The weather is always changing, one day it is sunny, another it is raining, one day it is grey, another it is windy. The weather, just like life, gives us the big lesson that nothing lasts for ever, neither sun nor rain, neither pain nor joy. It is for us to make the best of each situation, laugh loudly at our mistakes, and even more so at what we get right especially if by a fluke, for just as the weather doesn't stop, so life continues..."

Rosi Coelho



"Nothing in nature lives for itself. The rivers do not drink their own water; the trees do not eat their own fruit; the sun does not shine on itself and flowers do not spread their fragrance for themselves. Living for others is a rule of nature. We are all born to help each other. No matter how difficult it is...Life is good when you are happy; but much better when others are happy because of you."

Pope Francis



Car owned by a gentle old man who just drove it so carefully

Mr. Allen Swift: Born - 1908 - Died 2010.

This man owned and drove the same car for 82 years.
Can you imagine even having the same car for 82 years?

Mr. Allen Swift (Springfield , Massachusetts) received
this 1928 Rolls-Royce Piccadilly-P1 Roadster from his
father, brand new - as a graduation gift in 1928.

He drove it up until his death in 2010...

At the age of 102.

He was the oldest living owner of a car that was
purchased new. Just thought you'd like to see it.



Rolls Royce Phantom I 1928

It was donated to a Springfield Museum after his death.
It has 1,070,000 miles on it, still runs like a Swiss watch,
dead silent at any speed and is in perfect cosmetic
condition. 82 years - That's approximately 13,048 miles
per year (1087 per month).

That's British engineering of a bygone era.

They just don't make things as they did before!