



Inspire

February 2017

Dear brothers and sisters

I remember a series of T.V. adverts from the 1970s and 1980s which I found on YouTube recently. The adverts were sponsored by The National Dairy Council and featured well known celebrities like Les Dawson eating cream cakes while uttering the phrase '*naughty but nice*'.



The slogan was written by an unknown writer called Salman Rushdie. The adverts suggested there was something illicit in indulging one's appetite with a cream cake but that it was immensely enjoyable. This approach has been followed by other advertisers, for example today some ice creams are sold with the tag line: *Who wouldn't say yes to this very tempting ice cream collection? Give in to desire and indulge in the NESTLÉ TEMPTATIONS range. These delectable flavours will surely leave you yearning for more.*

Now of course there is nothing wrong with the odd cream cake or ice cream, though continual over indulgence is damaging to our health as the national obesity and diabetes rates testify. The danger is that we can begin to see other more serious temptations and behaviours being as trivial as eating a cream cake; not really harmful and to be indulged at no real cost to ourselves and others. In today's society some of these things, like greed, pride and envy, which were in the past regarded as harmful and to be avoided, are even held up as good and to be desired. What Christians once considered sin; damaging to our physical, emotional and spiritual health, and our relationships with God and each other, many now see as harmless and even virtuous. It is easy for us as Christians to get caught up in the climate and culture of our age.

Yet, the Bible warns us of the danger of sin expressed in attitudes and habits that indulge our selfishness and sense of self-importance. Instead, the Bible calls us as followers of Jesus to strive for the virtues which reflect his character and help us to become more like him. During February and March we will be following a preaching series on what Christians have traditionally regarded as The Seven Deadly Sins: Pride; Envy; Anger; Gluttony; Lust; Greed and Sloth. However, it is not just about what we should avoid but about the habits and attitudes we are called to develop as disciples of Jesus: Humility; Contentment; Peace; Feasting & Fasting; Love; Generosity and Passion. Many of our Homegroups will be using study material developed on the same themes.

May God help us to see that he has blessed us with many good gifts to use and to share with others. Used in the wrong way they can become harmful and even deadly; used for their God given purpose they become a source of great joy and fulfilment.

With love and prayers, Philip, *Team Rector*

Mission Focus on Church Pastoral Aid Society (CPAS)

Founded in 1836 it is a long established Anglican home mission organisation

CPAS enables churches to help every person hear and discover the good news of Jesus Christ and is committed to mission and equipping churches for their God-given task of evangelism. CPAS believes the most strategic way to help churches become more mission-focused is by developing effective leadership.

Activities include:

- Making disciples of young people and developing leadership potential through Ventures and Falcons.
- Resourcing churches in developing missional leaders.
- Developing key local church leaders for mission.
- Taking a national lead in furthering missional leadership through our patronage work.

For many years, a team from Great Baddow, led by Mark and Jo Brown, have run a Falcon house party at Ringsfield in Suffolk for young people from disadvantaged backgrounds.

CPAS are the Patrons of our parish and have been involved in the appointment of our Rectors. CPAS and Falcon camps are supported each year from our Mission giving budget.

More information can be found on their website: <http://www.cpas.org.uk/>

Tiny Church

Do you have pre-school children?

Would you like to enjoy church together where both they and you are comfortable?

Then come to **TINY CHURCH a new initiative for 2017**

Meeting on 3rd Thursday each month in Bell Street Hall between 1.45pm and 2.45pm for a time of singing, bible story, craft activity and refreshments all aimed at pre-school children

If you would like to find out more about coming along or helping please speak to Sue Finch (473143) or Kirsty Houghton (475724)

Look forward to seeing you there ☺

DATES FOR SPRING TERM 2017: 16th February & 16th March

Electoral Roll

In March the Church Electoral Roll is to undergo its annual revision to ensure that it continues to reflect our church membership. Joining the Roll enables you to vote at the annual meeting and stand for membership of the Church Council and other church governing bodies.

All church members who are not on the Roll and wish to be included must complete an application form and forms are available in the Welcome Corner. All those who are currently on the Roll need do nothing.

The updated Roll will be exhibited in church for the period between its revision and the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in order that inaccuracies can be notified and corrected. Please take the time to review and advise of any changes.

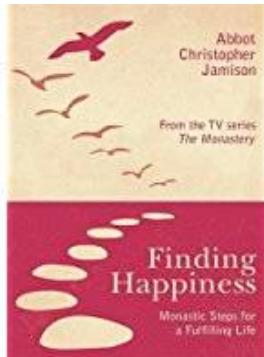
If you have any questions, please have a word with me or one of our wardens or clergy.

Neil McLean, Electoral Roll Officer (01245 901028)

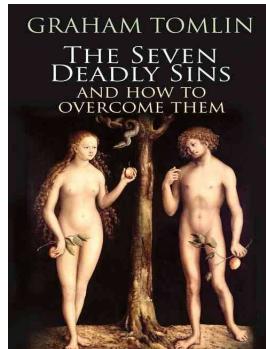
Lent Sermon Series 2017

The series of sermons during February and Lent will be based on the theme of the Seven Deadly Sins.

Below are a couple of highly recommended books that will allow you to take the theme deeper. These are available from Sally Matthewson at the Diocesan Bookshop.



Finding Happiness –
Monastic Steps for a fulfilling life
By Abbott Christopher Jamison



The Seven Deadly Sins
and how to overcome them
By Graham Tomlin

Lent & Easter Services - Great Baddow Team Ministry

Ash Wednesday 1st March

8.00pm - Holy Communion at St Paul's Church

Palm Sunday 9th April

8.00am - Holy Communion

10.00am – All-Age Morning Praise

6.30pm - Meditative Communion

Maundy Thursday 13th April

8.00pm - Holy Communion at St Mary's Church

Good Friday 14th April

9.20am - March of Witness beginning at The Vineyards

2.00pm - An hour at the Cross at Meadgate Church

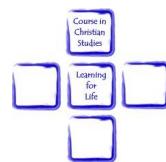
Easter Day 16th April

8.00am - Holy Communion

10.00am – Easter Family Communion

Lent Modules 2017

A series of short courses running across the diocese between Ash Wednesday & Good Friday.



Booklets which include a short description of each course offered, dates, venue & a booking form, will be available in the Welcome corner.

The final booking date is **Friday 3rd February 2017**.

Please feel free to speak to Philip Ritchie, if you would like any further information.

Café Club – a Future?

Our past – Café Club was set up in 2009 intentionally with a small team so that we wouldn't "poach" leaders from Coffee Pot, which has faithfully and lovingly reached out to the community every Wednesday over so many years.

We meet at the back of church fortnightly on Thursdays in term time. We decided on the church as a venue so that people would get used to coming into the building and feel at home and also with a view to growth. As more people came along we were able to move more chairs to accommodate them and set up tables for Scrabble, jigsaws, computer help, crafts, dominoes, and, more recently Boggle, which has caused a lot of laughter amongst the players. Most people enjoy taking part in these various activities but some just like coming in for a chat and the coffee.

We also have the Prayer Chapel laid out with candles, pictures and books as a quiet place for reflection, prayer and prayer ministry when needed. We give lifts to those who would otherwise be unable to get out and enjoy a morning in the company of others. We do 2 or 3 outings a year using our own cars and a majority come along to the Coffee Pot/ Café Club Songs of Praise in May.

Our present – Café Club has steadily grown in numbers so we now have 60 people on the books, about a third aren't church attenders, and a regular gathering of 40 – 50.

Our future? – This would be up to you dear church family! A few years ago, we were delighted to add Matt and Clare Curties and Zoe Clifford to our team who considerably lowered the average age of the team, previously consisting of Jen and Sidney Arthur, Eileen Saunders, Heather Ansell, Audrey Bullman, and myself, with staunch helpers every meeting without whom we couldn't manage. Pete, Matt and Brian set up and clear up and Nigel and Muriel, Pat and Mike assist with giving lifts. At present, we are all going strong, though we do find chair moving, giving lifts and overseeing everything more tiring than we used to. Looking ahead some time, as the rest of us get creakier, (sorry, fellow members of the team!) I'm sure Matt, Clare and Zoe would be happy to lead a team to continue welcoming the community for a morning they enjoy. Many who come are widowed, several are unable to get out without a lift and spend a lot of time on their own, so they do appreciate coming out for some friendly company and a listening ear and sometimes a prayer. Would this form of service to the community appeal to you? If you think it might and you have the time to give to it please just pop in on a Thursday when we're open or talk to any of us.

Café Club won't remain static. It could close in a few years if there was not enough help available and we have to accept that sometimes things happen just for a period of time. On the other hand, it could take off in new ways – though this would need to be with Phil's agreement of course – he may not want the team giving lifts into space from the church steeple!

This is a work we have enjoyed and continue to enjoy so this comes for your thoughts and prayers. With love, *Sandy*.

Holiday Club 2017

Holiday Club 2017 will be **Sunday 30th July - Sunday 6th August** and we have an exciting theme planned. Putting this fun filled week into action takes a huge number of volunteers but many hands make light work and it is always full of laughter and lovely moments. Oh & Lynsey usually manages to make us lose a few pounds with her action-packed songs!

This year I would like to divide the work into small chunks and I am looking for sub-team leaders to organise and run parts of the event:

Team leaders sub-group, Craft sub-group, Decoration sub-group, Publicity sub-group.

If you are interested in looking after one of these elements of Holiday club, please contact me and I can send you a short description of what each involves.

We will have a planning meeting in the next month or two which you are all welcome to attend and add your ideas to. In the meantime, I hope you stay warm and well and enjoy January. *Elizabeth Podd (Elizabethpodd@aol.com)*

Linda's Seventh Trip to East Africa

I shall be leaving on Thursday 9th February for what may be my last visit, for some time, to Rwanda and Uganda. I have been very thankful to the Lord for all the wonderful people I have met out there and for your support as you travel with me "in spirit".

After 10 days of visits and some holiday in Rwanda, Jeannette (my friend from Durham) and I will move on to South West Uganda. Our friends' Dr Mike and Sue Hughes at Potters Village are doing a great work, often in challenging circumstances. They are battling "traditional medicine", parents resorting to the witch doctor first to cure their sick children then turning to Potters Village as a last resort when it's sometimes too late.

We are reminded that we are in a battle and need to sharpen and exercise our spiritual weapons (Ephesians 6 v 10 – 19).

As I seek to tie up ends and complete farewells I would appreciate your prayers. Health and safety remain top of the list as well as wisdom and discernment on a daily basis. And please remember Mike and the family who will remain at home.

Thank you, *Linda Lane*

Forthcoming Dates for your Diary

Saturday 18th March

7.30pm - An evening with Michele Guinness in church. More details in February edition of "The Month". Tickets (£10) are available from the Church Office and the Diocesan Bookshop in Chelmsford.

Saturday 2nd April

9.00am – Women's Prayer Breakfast in church

Friday 20th April

7.30pm - Light of the World Performance.

Saturday 21st April

2.30pm - Matinée performance of Light of the World

7.30pm - Evening performance of Light of the World

Sunday 23rd April

MAC lunch in Church

Monday 24th April

8.00pm - The Meeting of Parishioners and the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in church.

Church Diary for February 2017

Wednesday 1 st	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	10:00am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	Coffee Pot in Bell Street Hall
Thursday 2 nd	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	10.00am	Café Club in Church
	11:30am	Church Open until 2:00pm
Friday 3 rd	11.00am	24/7 Prayer Space in Church with Church Open
	7.30pm	Bellringing in Church
Sunday 5th February – The Fourth Sunday before Lent		
	8.00am	Holy Communion
	10:00am	Holy Communion
	6.30pm	Crossfire Service
Monday 6 th	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	7:00pm	Prayer meeting for the church and the world
Tuesday 7 th	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	9:30am	Meditation group in Prayer Chapel
Wednesday 8 th	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	10:00am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	Coffee Pot in Bell Street Hall
Thursday 9 th	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	11.30am	Church open until 2.00pm
Friday 10 th	11.30am	Church open until 2.00pm
	5.00pm	Coffee Pot Film Night in Bell St Hall
	7.30pm	Bellringing in Church
Sunday 12th February – The Third Sunday before Lent		
	8.00am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	Morning Praise
	6.30pm	Encounter...with Holy Communion
Monday 13 th	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	9.00am	Bibles & Babies group in Bell St Hall
	7:00pm	Prayer meeting for the church and the world
	8.00pm	Standing Committee meeting
Tuesday 14 th	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	9:30am	Meditation Group in Prayer Chapel
Wednesday 15 th	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	10:00am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	Coffee Pot in Bell Street Hall
Thursday 16 th	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	10.00am	Café Club in Church
	11.30am	Church open until 2.00pm
	1.45pm	Tiny Church meet in Bell St Hall
Friday 17 th	11:30am	Church open until 2.00pm
	7.45pm	Choir practice in Church

Sunday 19th February – The Second Sunday before Lent		
	8.00am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	Holy Communion
	6:30pm	Encounter...
	6.30pm	Pathfinders meet in Bell St Hall
Monday 20 th	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	10.00am	MAC pack in Bell St Hall
	7:00pm	Prayer meeting for the church and the world
Tuesday 21 st	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	9:30am	Meditation Group in Prayer Chapel
	7.30pm	Book Club in Church
Wednesday 22 nd	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	10:00am	Holy Communion
	10:00am	Coffee Pot in Bell Street Hall
Thursday 23 rd	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	11:30am	Church Open until 2:00pm
Friday 24 th	11:30am	Church open until 2.00pm
	6.00pm	Cool Connections Club Night in Church Centre
Sunday 26th February – The Sunday Next before Lent		
	8.00am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	Family Service
	6.30pm	Encounter...with Holy Communion
	6.30pm	Pathfinders meet in Bell St Hall
Monday 27 th	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	9.00am	Bibles & Babies group in Bell St Hall
	7:00pm	Prayer meeting for the church and the world
Tuesday 28 th	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	9:30am	Meditation Group in Prayer Chapel

The Church Office

Hours of Opening:

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday:

9:30am to 12:30pm, 1:45pm to 3:00pm

Wednesday & Friday

9:30am to 12:30pm

Tuesday evenings

7:00pm to 8:00pm (wedding applications only)

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