

# Newslink

The online journal of St Faith's Church, Great Crosby

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Welcome to the June 2019 online issue of our church magazine, which features news, reports, announcements, comment and comedy from St Faith's and elsewhere. During the course of the month, material will be uploaded as it arrives and as each month ends, the issue will be archived and a new month opened: (access these on the 'Magazine archive' link above.) The editor welcomes contributions of every kind at any time: the latest article is at the top of the page. Input from new (or lapsed!) contributors is eagerly anticipated...

**Contributions, comments or complaints to [c davidprice@gmail.com](mailto:c davidprice@gmail.com)**

June 30<sup>th</sup>



## Something of a Ding-dong

A bell-ringing festival descended into violence after an irate resident attempted to storm a church tower.

A brawl took place at St Peter's Church in Noss Mayo, Devon, recently when campanologists from across the local deanery attended an annual event held for more than 50 years.

Witnesses claim a man attempted to storm the church to confront a bell-ringer suspected of parking his car across the driveway. He was restrained, but shocked onlookers said several men started 'thumping' each other, adding that terrified women and children fled from the scene in tears. Devon and Cornwall Police were not called to the incident, but a spokesman confirmed that the matter had been reported and enquiries were being made.

The man accused of storming the church is Jeremy Brown, 62, who lives in a large detached house opposite. He was described by neighbours as a 'highly intelligent' former lecturer, and witnesses say he 'lost his rag' after four hours of bell-ringing.

Speaking outside his house yesterday, Mr Brown said he was still furious and that he would be taking further action so that 'the bells never ring again'.



Here endeth the June 2019 'Newslink'

June 27th

*'In my Liverpool home ...'*



**'If you want a Cathedral we've got one to spare!'**

Denis Griffiths took this striking image of our two Liverpool cathedrals on a recent ascent of St John's Tower. Rumours that he then abseiled back to earth are sadly unfounded.

June 22nd

*The Vintage High Tea and  
Old-Time Musical  
Afternoon Sunday June 9<sup>th</sup>*

*Picture Gallery 2*





**The afternoon raised the splendid sum of £50.50 which, together with the £500 raised by the Quiz Night, means that the back of church fund has been enriched by just over £1,000. Renewed thanks to Corinne, Christine, and all who helped or contributed to this marvellous result. Ed.**

June 20<sup>th</sup>



*The Vintage High Tea and  
Old-Time Musical Afternoon  
Sunday June 9<sup>th</sup>*

*Picture Gallery 1*

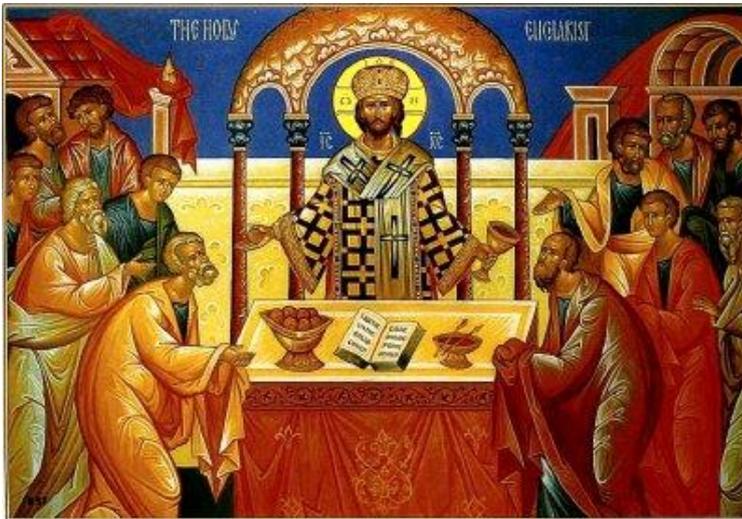






June 18<sup>th</sup>

## Celebrating Corpus Christi



### THE FEAST OF CORPUS CHRISTI

The Feast of Corpus Christi in the Church of England's calendar falls on the Thursday after Trinity Sunday – a movable feast depending on the date of Easter. The words are Latin, and mean 'the body of Christ', and the longer name for the feast is 'day of thanksgiving for the institution of Holy Communion'. It is only relatively recently that the day has featured in the calendar of the Church of England, and it is celebrated almost exclusively by Anglican churches of a 'High Church' tradition, although marked by great festivity and colourful processions in Roman Catholic countries.



## **Corpus Christi - Signs and Symbols**

The pictorial symbolism of Corpus Christi is interesting, especially the representation of the pelican. The bird is shown in stylised form with its beak to its breast, often with blood dripping from a chest wound, which is seen falling into the mouths of its nesting young. As such it is taken as symbolising Christ's sacrificial blood in the eucharist nourishing the people of His Church.

The image was well known in mediaeval times, and is portrayed in bestiaries with the heraldic title of 'the pelican in her piety' or 'a pelican vulning (wounding) itself. It features more than once in Shakespeare's plays, notably in King Lear when the old monarch castigates his ungrateful children as 'pelican daughters' – feeding off their parents and draining their life blood - and in Hamlet in the phrase 'the kind, life-giving pelican'.

There are several possible explanations for this belief. One lies in the behaviour of the mother bird plucking its breast feathers to line its nest, and exposing a raw patch, mistaken for blood. Another refers to a diseased patch sometimes found on pelicans' breasts; yet another that it arises from the pelican's actions in pressing its beak to its pouch to extract stored food for its young. The most extreme version of the legend has the pelican killing its young then, after three days, bringing them back to life with its blood: the parallel with Christ's death, resurrection and the sacrifice of the eucharist is obvious.

Both the editor's old Oxford college of Corpus Christi (whose crest is reproduced below between two other symbolic representations) and its Cambridge namesake have the pelican as their symbol - and there is a public house near Bridgend in South Wales intriguingly entitled 'the pelican in her piety'. The pelican is the symbol of the Irish Blood Transfusion Service!



June 17<sup>th</sup>



## A Tale of Two Fundraisers, Part 2

### *Vintage Victorian High Tea with Old-Time Music Afternoon*

After the success of the Quiz Night, the next question was, what next? As some people hadn't been able to attend the quiz due to it being in the evening, Christine Spence wanted to arrange a fundraising event in the afternoon, preferably after church, so people wouldn't have to go home and come out again.

It was decided that we should hold a Vintage Luxury High Tea with an Old-Time Musical Sing-a-long. Again, this would be in aid of the back of church project.

Rather than produce a budget meal, Christine and I wanted to give ticket holders a taste of luxury with, as Christine said, "amazing food, unlimited tea and coffee AND entertainment". A comparable event at a top-class hotel would have cost at least double the price and would not have included musical accompaniment.

Jacqui Williams, who is a graphic designer by profession, produced the charming flyers, posters and tickets for the event. Anne Dickinson offered to perform a medley of Old-Time Music Hall favourites, the church hall was booked and we were all set to go!

D-Day - Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> June at St. Faith's Parish Hall, Milton Road.

The day before – Saturday, 8<sup>th</sup> June, the hall was transformed, as if by magic. Tables were dressed with beautiful vintage linen, china tea-cups, saucers and plates were set out and pretty paper napkins folded to enhance the vintage look. The hall looked stunning. Have a look at the photographs and you'll see why we're so proud. Christine, Irene, Fiona and Liz all worked so hard to accomplish this. Special mention must be made of Laura Caddick who created a gorgeous floral feature to decorate the stage and dressed the window sills with fresh flowers and flowing foliage. Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> June brought yet more surprises.

Besides Anne Dickinson tinkling the ivories as our guests arrived at the hall, we also had solo performances by singers Alison and Ian. As to be expected, Ian's rendition of the hippopotamus song, "Mud, Mud", brought the house down, with the whole audience joining in. As befitted D-Day commemorations, Alison gave a perfectly judged performance of "The White Cliffs of Dover" and the musical interlude concluded with their Gilbert and Sullivan duet which everyone thought most impressive. A certain deputy church warden gave an amusing recitation all about the joys of an afternoon tea, courtesy of Brian Williams who provided the script.

Then the food was served: dainty triangular assorted sandwiches, bite-size melt in the mouth home-baked cakes, home-made scones with jam, butter and fresh cream, all sorts of different teas available and coffee, if so desired. The food was so delicious – smoked salmon and cream cheese sandwiches, finger slices of Victoria Sponge cake, lemon drizzle and chocolate cake, tiny exquisite meringues. I could go on and on....a real foodies' delight!

The final icing on the cake – Anne Dickinson, resplendent in Victorian dress and straw hat, organising the sing-a-long finale. We began with a rousing rendition of "The Red Red Robin" and then finished with "You Made Me Love You".

The audience gave a huge round of applause in appreciation of the sumptuous tea. Christine, Irene, Laura and Liz Gray did a splendid job preparing and serving the meal.

A few more thank yous.

- Thanks to those of you who so generously donated prizes for our luxurious raffle
- Thanks to Liz Mackert for selling tickets in our absence
- To those who couldn't attend, for whatever reason, but made a donation anyway

And finally, thanks to all of you who brought friends and family, or simply turned up on the day to support our delightful soiree.

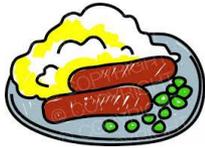
The final total raised is **£504.50**. We are absolutely thrilled! Thank you so much.

**Christine Spence and Corinne Hedgecock**



**Watch this space for the photo gallery, coming soon...**

**June 15th**



## **A Tale of Two Fundraisers, Part 1** *Or, the Father, Son and the Holy Ghost*

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> February saw the first of two fundraising endeavours by the Deputy Churchwardens. We enjoyed a quiz night in aid of the “back of church” project.

Converting the back of St. Faith’s Church into an area with a self-contained kitchen, (complete with running water), toilets for disabled users and proper purpose-built disabled access will take an awful lot of money, but we’re determined to “do our bit”. A Quiz Night with a bangers and mash supper seemed just the ticket!

Take-up for tickets was slow to begin with, but nearer the date saw a flurry of activity and interest. On the day itself, we had sold over 62 tickets and guests included parishioners from both St John’s and Christ Church Waterloo, as well as friends and supporters from outside the church community.

Christine Spence suggested a home-cooked bangers and mash supper using best quality sausages from Williamson’s Butchers. Keeping the catering “in house” kept costs down, and quality high. Everyone complimented Christine, Irene, Helen, Laura and Liz on the delicious meal, complete with jugs of plain or onion gravy on hand.

Our churchwarden, Gareth manfully, (or personfully!), stepped in to present the quiz and great fun it was too, especially the question:

From which song are these lines taken?

“And the three men I admire the most,  
The Father, Son and the Holy Ghost.”

Nothing ecclesiastical, but two lines from Don McLean’s classic American Pie, delivered in such an entertaining fashion we were all amused, especially Father Dennis! It was certainly a light-hearted quiz with all mobile phones switched off, and no recourse to Mr. Google! The choir were in lively spirits, (no pun intended) and the evening

was topped off by a very generous selection of raffles prizes, all donated. Special thanks to Laura Caddick for her beautiful gift wrapping of the prizes.

The fact that the quiz was won by a team on my table was nothing to do with me! Two of the team members were seasoned quizzers from St. John's Church and what they didn't know about quiz questions could have been written on a postage stamp! Besides, I abstained from taking part, not even hinting at answers!

Due to some last-minute donations, the final total raised amounted to the substantial sum of £500.

My thanks to Christine Spence for all her help and support and to everyone who supported the event through donations, gifting raffle prizes or purchasing tickets and supporting us on the night itself. Well done and thank you so much for making the event a success.

*Coming soon - the second fundraiser: the Vintage Tea and Musical Afternoon - with photos!*

Corinne Hedgecock

June 14th



# Hymns and Poems of the Holy Spirit

## **We are your people:**

Lord, by your grace,  
you dare to make us  
Christ to our neighbours  
of every nation race.

How can we demonstrate  
your love and care?  
speaking or listening?  
battling or serving?  
help us to know when and where.

Called to portray you,  
help us to live  
closer than neighbours  
open to strangers,  
able to clash and forgive.

Glad of tradition,  
help us to see  
in all life's changing  
where you are leading,  
where our best efforts should be.

Joined in community,  
breaking your bread,  
may we discover  
gifts in each other,  
willing to lead and be led.

Lord, as we minister  
in different ways,  
may all we're doing  
show that you're living,  
meeting your love with our praise.

## **There's a spirit in the air,**

telling Christians everywhere:  
'Praise the love that Christ revealed,  
living, working, in our world'.

Lose your shyness, find your tongue,  
tell the world what God has done:  
God in Christ has come to stay;  
we can see his power today.

When believers break the bread,  
when a hungry child is fed,  
praise the love that Christ revealed,  
living, working, in our world.

Still his spirit leads the fight,  
seeing wrong and setting right:

God in Christ has come to stay;  
we can see his power today.

When a stranger's not alone,  
where the homeless find a home,  
praise the love that Christ revealed,  
living, working, in our world.

May his spirit fill our praise,  
guide our thoughts and change our ways.  
God in Christ has come to stay;  
we can see his power today.

There's a spirit in the air,  
calling people everywhere;  
Praise the love that Christ revealed,  
living, working, in our world.

### **Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire,**

And lighten with celestial fire;  
Thou the anointing Spirit art,  
Who dost thy sevenfold gifts impart.

Thy blessed unction from above  
Is comfort, life, and fire of love;  
Enable with perpetual light  
The dullness of our blinded sight.

Anoint and cheer our soiled face  
With the abundance of thy grace:  
Keep far our foes, give peace at home;  
Where thou art guide no ill can come.

Teach us to know the Father, Son,  
And thee, of both, to be but One;  
That through the ages all along  
This may be our endless song:

'Praise to thy eternal merit,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit

### **Hymn to the Holy Spirit**

Jesus, we on the word depend,  
Spoken by thee while present here,  
"The Father in my name shall send  
The Holy Ghost, the Comforter."

That promise made to Adam's race,  
Now, Lord, in us, even us, fulfill;

And give the Spirit of thy grace,  
To teach us all thy perfect will.

That heavenly Teacher of mankind,  
That Guide infallible impart,  
To bring thy sayings to our mind,  
And write them on our faithful heart.

He only can the words apply  
Through which we endless life possess,  
And deal to each his legacy,  
His Lord's unutterable peace.

That peace of God, that peace of thine,  
Oh, might he now to us bring in,  
And fill our souls with power divine,  
And make an end of fear and sin;

The length and breadth of love reveal,  
The height and depth of Deity;  
And all the sons of glory seal,  
And change, and make us all like thee!

### **We are your people:**

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of every nation race.

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calling people everywhere;  
Praise the love that Christ revealed,  
living, working, in our world.

## Hymn to the Holy Spirit

Oh fiery Spirit, praise to you  
who stirs us with cymbals,  
soothes us with the lute!  
From you the minds of men catch fire; you know  
how to set up the body's  
tent, to house the soul.

From both, the Will ascends: lends the Soul  
sapience, to taste the world;  
desires, to light it.  
Our understandings make  
music with you, set up the Spirit's workshop  
distilling golden deeds.

The secateurs are in your hand to cut  
that apple - full of the black Parasite  
who clouds our wills, and poisons  
our longings; sets our souls in a flap  
wheeling and screaming round, nowhere to settle -  
till the mind, restored, restrains those wills and those desires.

If our spirit is tempted to look  
through that evil eye - or talk  
with that 'wicked' tongue - you throw it back on the fire;  
If our reason is down on the boards, knocked cold  
by our own bad deeds, you pound it up even smaller  
and brew it up afresh - like a new Creation.

If evil draws a knife  
or gun on you, you're faster: down he goes again  
who made Heaven itself a penthouse for his pride.

You've made another tower to stand in Heaven  
from publicans and sinners - those who daren't  
look up, who beat their breasts.

So every creature that takes life from you  
praises you - precious ointment  
who turns stinking wounds to precious jewels.

Descend to us;  
gather us to yourself;  
Show us the paths of life. Amen.

### **Hildegard of Bingen (1098-1179)**

*Paraphrased from an English translation by Sabina*



June 12<sup>th</sup>

## Pussy Cat Power



A German Shepherd dog, a Doberman and a cat died and went to pet heaven.

When they arrived, all three faced God, who wanted to know what they believed in.

The German Shepherd said, I believe in discipline, training and loyalty to my master.'

'Good!' said God. 'Sit on my right side.'

'Doberman, what do you believe in?' asked God

The Doberman answered, 'I believe in love, care, and protection of my master.'

‘Aha!’ said God. ‘You may sit to my left.’

Then God looked at the cat and asked, ‘And what do you believe in?’

The cat replied, ‘I believe you are sitting in my seat.’

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*With thanks to the magazine of St Peter’s Church, Formby*



**June 10<sup>th</sup>**

*Devotional material for the season of Pentecost*

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## **PENTECOST PAGES**

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***“Blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire”***

**Pentecost, or Whitsunday, is an important date in the church’s calendar when Christians celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit.**

**Pentecost is regarded as the birthday of the Christian church and the start of the church’s mission to the world. Red vestments are worn as a symbol of the flames in which the Holy Spirit came to earth.**

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### **The Pentecost Theme**

At this time we celebrate the great feast of Pentecost, the birthday of the Church. We celebrate God amongst us in power. Through the Holy Spirit we become not just a group of believers but we are made

into Christ's presence in the world, unafraid and empowered to share the message of the Gospel.

## Prayers for use at Pentecost

Holy Spirit, sent by the Father, ignite in us your holy fire; strengthen your children with the gift of faith, revive your Church with the breath of love, and renew the face of the earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

God, who as at this time taught the hearts of your faithful people by sending to them the light of your Holy Spirit: grant us by the same Spirit to have a right judgement in all things and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort; through the merits of Christ Jesus our Saviour, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

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## The Pentecost Scriptures: a reading from the Acts of the Apostles

*(There appeared tongues of fire which rested above them. They were filled with the Holy Spirit and people marvelled that they could understand their words as they spoke about the goodness of God.)*

When Pentecost day came round, the apostles had all met in one room, when suddenly they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven, the noise of which filled the entire house in which they were sitting; and something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak foreign languages as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech.

Now there were devout men living in Jerusalem from every nation under heaven, and at this sound they all assembled, each one bewildered to hear these men speaking his own language. They were amazed and astonished. Surely they said all these men speaking are Galileans? How does it happen that each of us hears them in his own native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; people from Mesopotamia, Judaea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya round Cyrene; as well as visitors from Rome - Jews and proselytes alike - Cretans and Arabs; we hear them preaching in our own language about the marvels of God.

## The Pentecost Gospel

*(While they were afraid, Jesus appeared and gave his disciples his peace. He breathed his Spirit on them and sent them out for the forgiveness of sins.)*

In the evening of the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you', and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.'

'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive,  
they are forgiven: for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.'

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Jesus said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit... And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'

*(S. Matthew, Chapter 28)*

## Hymns of the Holy Spirit

### **We are your people:**

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you dare to make us  
Christ to our neighbours  
of every nation race.

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Who dost thy sevenfold gifts impart.

Thy blessed unction from above  
Is comfort, life, and fire of love;  
Enable with perpetual light  
The dullness of our blinded sight.

Anoint and cheer our soiled face  
With the abundance of thy grace:  
Keep far our foes, give peace at home;  
Where thou art guide no ill can come.

Teach us to know the Father, Son,  
And thee, of both, to be but One;  
That through the ages all along  
This may be our endless song:

'Praise to thy eternal merit,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.'

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**June 8th**



## **AAADD - KNOW THE SYMPTOMS.....!**

Thank goodness there's a name for this disorder. Somehow I feel better, even though I have it! Recently, I was diagnosed with A.A.A.D.D. - Age Activated Attention Deficit Disorder. This is how it manifests itself:

I decide to water my garden. As I turn on the hose in the drive way, I look over at my car and decide it needs washing. As I head towards the garage, I notice post on the porch table that I picked up from the postman earlier. I decide to go through it before I wash the car.

I put my car keys on the table, put the junk mail in the recycling box under the table, and notice that the recycling box is full. So I decide to put the bills back on the table and take out the recycling first.

But then I think, since I'm going to be near the post box when I take out the recycling paper anyway, I may as well pay the bills first. I take my cheque book off the table and notice that there is only one cheque left. My extra cheques are in the desk in my study, so I go into the house to my desk where I find the cup of coffee I'd been drinking.

I'm going to look for my cheques but first I need to push the coffee aside so that I don't accidentally knock it over. The coffee is getting cold, and I decide to make another cup. As I head toward the kitchen with the cold coffee, a vase of flowers on the worktop catches my eye - the flowers need water. I put the coffee on the worktop and discover my reading glasses that I've been searching for all morning.

I decide I'd better put them back on my desk, but first I'm going to water the flowers. I put the glasses back down on the worktop, fill a container with water and suddenly spot the TV remote control. Someone left it on the kitchen table.

I realise that tonight when we go to watch TV, I'll be looking for the remote, but I won't remember that it's on the kitchen table, so I decide to put it back where it belongs, but first I'll water the flowers. I pour some water in the flowers, but quite a bit of it spills on the floor. So, I put the remote back on the table, get some towels and wipe up the spill.

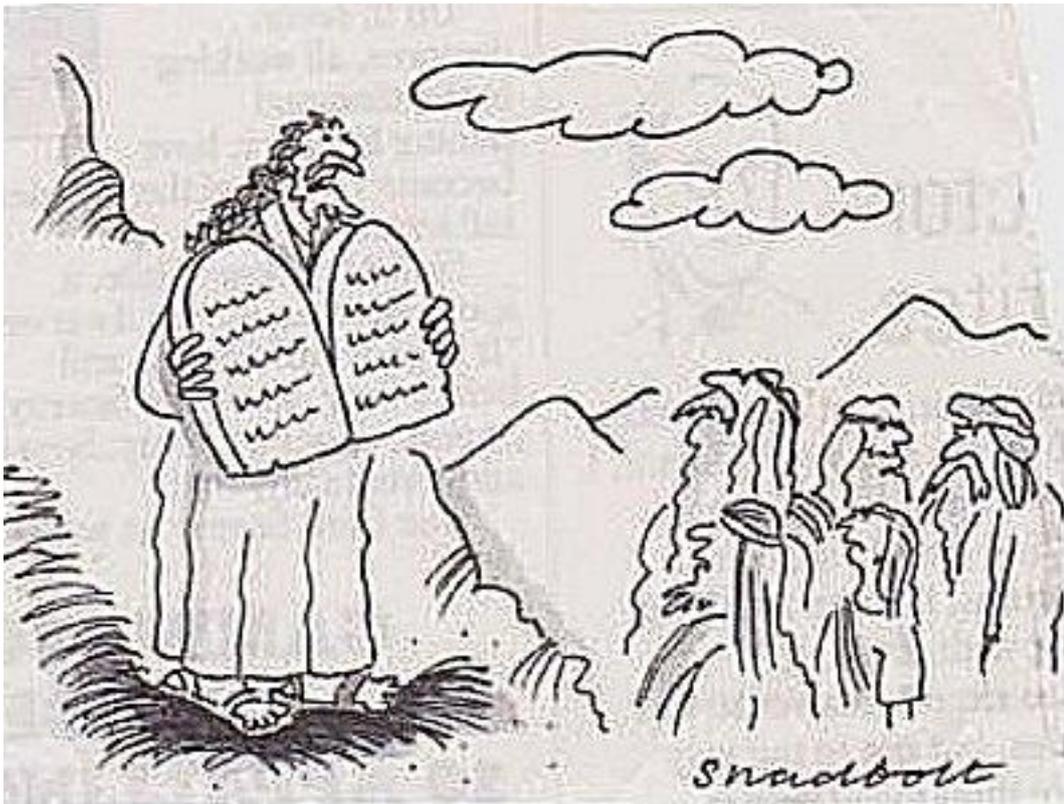
Then, I head down the hall trying to remember what I was planning to do. At the end of the day: The car isn't washed...The bills aren't paid... There is a cold cup of coffee sitting on the kitchen work-surface... The flowers don't have enough water... There is still only one cheque in my cheque book... I can't find the remote... I can't find my glasses... And I don't remember what I did with the car keys.

Then, when I try to figure out why nothing got done today, I'm really baffled because I know I was busy all b\*\*\*\*y day and I'm really tired. I realise this is a serious problem, and I'll try to get some help for it, but first I'll check my e-mails.....

*This article was submitted to Newslink several years ago. Sorry I can't recall who sent it in or when it appeared, which only goes to show... ED*

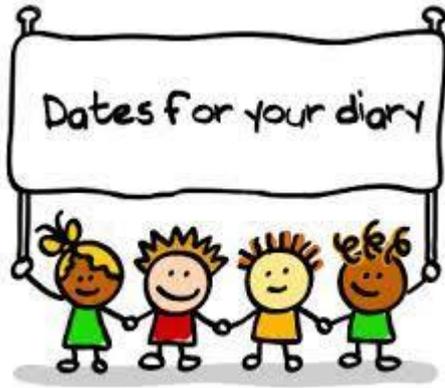
June 4<sup>th</sup>

While awaiting a flood of new material, here is another topical political/religious cartoon



What do you mean, 'resign'? This is the best deal we're going to get!

1<sup>st</sup> June



## What's on at St Faith's this month

Saturday 1st	12 noon	Recital
Sunday 2nd	11.00 am	Sung Eucharist, Sunday after the Ascension
	6:30pm	Evensong
	Thy Kingdom Come season of prayer begins	
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	10.00 am	Morning Prayer at the Seafarers' centre
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup>	9.00 am	Morning Prayer at Christ Church
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	9.00 am	Morning Prayer
	7.30 pm	Forces Family Support
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup>	9.00 am	Morning Prayer
	12 noon	Eucharist
Friday 7th	9.00 am	Morning Prayer at Christ Church
	7:30 pm	Choir practice
Saturday 8th	10 am - 4 pm	Thy Kingdom Come, day of prayer Walton Breck Church, Anfield
	12 noon	Recital
Sunday 9th	11.00 am	Sung Eucharist and parade, Pentecost
	2.30 pm	Baptism
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup>	9.00 am	Morning Prayer
	7.00 pm	Eucharist

Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup>	9.00 am	Morning Prayer
	7.30 pm	Deanery Synod at St. Phillips
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup>	9.00 am	Morning Prayer
	12 noon	Eucharist
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup>	7:30pm	Choir practice
Saturday 15 <sup>th</sup>	12 noon	Recital
Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup>	11.00 am	Sung Eucharist, Trinity Sunday
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 am	Standing Committee in the upper room
	1.45 pm	Waterloo Group Council
		Standing Committee
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup>	7.00 pm	Eucharist
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup>	9.00 am	Morning Prayer
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup>	9.00 am	Morning Prayer
	7:30pm	Eucharist, Institution of Holy Communion (Corpus Christi)
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup>	7:30pm	Choir practice
Saturday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	12 noon	Recital
Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	11.00 am	Sung Eucharist, 1st Sunday after Trinity
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup>	9.00 am	Morning Prayer
	7.30 pm	Confirmation Service, Sefton Parish Church
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup>	9.00 am	Morning Prayer
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup>	9.00 am	Morning Prayer
	12 noon	Eucharist
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup>	7:30pm	Choir practice
Saturday 29 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Waterloo Group Council at St. John's
	12 noon	Recital
Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Sung Eucharist, Ss. Peter and Paul

**For full details of the Saturday recitals, click [HERE](#)**

