HERSTMONCEUX AND WARTLING PARISH NEWS 21 50p

March 2021



This Month

Rev Richard writes the letter from the Rectory; Rev Peter's Green Page; Melinda's Famous Hymns column covers "Fight the Good Fight", plus the regular columns and news from around the parishes

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From the Rectory

Dear Parishioners,

With the current Virus issue likely to remain a problem well into the foreseeable future it is worthwhile thinking about the place laws have in our response to problems. We now have some pretty draconian laws in place regarding our behaviour at this time, and it is not at all hard for us to fall foul of several of them.

It seems quite a lot of laws are to do with immediate problems and over time may well lose their relevance. For instance legislation that remains on the statute books includes the 1313 law that it is illegal to wear armour in parliament, presumably there was a particular situation way back then that necessitated this. Another British law states that it is also an offence to be drunk and in charge of cattle in England and Wales, not a common problem these days as far as I am aware; and again much more recently a 1986 poaching law states that it is illegal "to handle a salmon in suspicious circumstances"!! Our society makes many new laws for us to abide by every year. In one recent year over 3500 new laws were created by the Government. It was reported that in our society we have increased our laws to well over 75,000, according to the Daily Telegraph.

It is hard to know if you really are a good citizen when there are so many national laws. Obviously common sense is a great help in this regard.

Although laws are important and necessary to help control problems it seems to me that just keeping the rules is not a good way of improving people or a society, and because there are so many laws this can easily cause some new problems of its own. I believe that neither a really good society or Christianity are based on keeping laws, but rather they are based on something that good laws point to that you can't legislate for or against, that is good relationships.

Someone said that Good laws are just the kerb stone's along the road of love. Dr Paul Brand wrote "It is one thing not to covet my neighbour's property and not to steal from him, it is quite another to love my neighbour so that I care for his family as much as I care for mine"

For when Jesus came he gave us this rule to love one another as he had loved us, but he also offered us the help we need to do this through his Holy Spirit's power. As G K Chesterton said "the more I considered Christianity, the more I found that while it had established a rule and order, the chief aim of that order was to give room for good things to run wild".

May you have a great March Richard Steven

Dear Lord, it is easy to forget the power of kindness. And we often neglect courtesy and consideration. Help us to be thoughtful and kind to one another, showing each other respect and attention in our words and deeds. Stir our hearts to remember putting other's needs above our own. We ask you for your help in this. Amen



March Services in Herstmonceux and Wartling Parish Churches

These are the services for March 2021 if we are able to run a full schedule. Please check our website: www.herstmonceuxandwartlingchurchs.com or phone Richard Steven on 01323 833124 to confirm a service you wish to attend and at which venue. Thank You.

March 7th 3rd Sunday of Lent

- 8am Wartling Holy Communion (BCP) 1 Corinthians 1:18-25. John 2:13-22 10am Herstmonceux Family Service
- 6pm Zoom Service

March 14th Mothering Sunday/4th Sunday of Lent.

- 8am Herstmonceux Holy Communion (BCP) Ephesians 2:1-10. John 3:14-21
- 10am Wartling Mothering Sunday Service
- 6pm Zoom Service

March 21st 5th Sunday of Lent/Passiontide.

- 8am Wartling Holy Communion (BCP) Hebrews 5:5-10. John 12:20-33.
- 10am Herstmonceux Holy Communion (CW) Jeremiah 31:31-34. Hebrews 5:5-10. John 12:20-33
- 6pm Zoom Service

March 28th Palm Sunday

8am Wartling Holy Communion (CW) Philippians 2:5-11. Mark 11: 1-11

- 10am Herstmonceux Family Palm Sunday
- 6pm Zoom Service

April 1st Maundy Thursday

7pm Herstmonceux Maundy Service Comm 1 Corinthians 11:23-26. John 13:1-17. 31b-35.

April 2nd Good Friday

10am Herstmonceux Family Service

2pm Wartling Service of the Cross

April 4th Easter Sunday

8am Herstmonceux Holy Communion (BCP) Acts 10:34-43. John 20:1-18
10am Wartling Easter Family Communion

Isaiah 25:6-9. Acts 10:34-43. John 20:1-18 6pm Zoom.

If you would like the link to join the zoom service please contact Richard on 01323 833124.

Rev Peter's Green Page

Coronavirus has exposed one thing that has surprised many, and that is a food system that has, in many ways, failed our society in its most basic of aims, and that is to feed and nourish all. As the supermarket shelves emptied, and the pubs and restaurants closed, it became obvious that in the panic buying there was a lack of dignity and justice in the getting and sharing. It was likewise obvious that feeding is not simply about getting calories from the table into our digestive system, it is about nourishing not only the body but also nourishing the family and so the community.

It is not really a fault of individuals that we rarely know where our food comes from, it is a result of our rushing and hectic society. However, I know of a small bakery that kept going through the lockdown and made their business a place of connection with all that made their bread possible. In their shop, the farmers and the millers were pictured alongside pictures of their mills and farms, with details of their history and aims. Now, far more than before, small scale producers are being recognised and respected as sources of lovingly produced, healthy food.

The grow your own movement has really caught on, and in my village, what has also happened is that the allotment holders and those that have grown in their own gardens have happily shared what they could. From seeds to plants to produce, all have been offered. One individual generously donated an allotment to members of the community that wanted to grow their own but also needed to be a part of the friendly and thriving allotment community.

A medic friend said to me, that if junk food and poor-quality food is bad for our health, and we call it as such, then should we not call food that is good for our health, medicine? In the situations above, and locally, not only is the food produced of good quality, but it has also achieved the aims of community involvement and engagement. So, when the disaster that is Coronavirus is finally over, then perhaps healthy people, and a thriving and happy community, will be a fitting legacy to those whose lives have been taken and damaged by it.

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Famous Hymns

Fight the Good Fight, John Samuel Bewley Monsell (1811 – 75) with thanks to conservativewoman.co.uk and parishwindow.co.uk

John Monsell, son of an Archdeacon, was born near Londonderry and ordained aged 24. He moved from posts in Ireland to England in 1853, and became rector of Egham, Surrey, then rector of St. Nicholas, Guildford from 1870, and a chaplain to Queen Victoria. In 1875, whilst supervising the rebuilding of St. Nicholas church, he slipped and fell from the roof, and died shortly afterwards from an infected wound.

John Monsell initially called this hymn, published in 1863, "The Fight of Faith". He was a prolific writer, publishing 11 volumes of poems and about 300 hymns, including both this one and "O Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness". He once wrote that hymns "should be more fervent and joyous, more expressive of real and personal love to God". The hymn's first verse is based on 1 Timothy 6:12 in the King James Bible, "Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses." The Greek word used in this verse for "fight" [agonizomai] gives us the English word agonise, to suffer anguish/agony.

The hymn goes on to urge us to "run the straight race," "cast care aside", and "faint not nor fear." The second verse's athletic connotation follows Hebrews 12:1, "Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us." The third is from 1 Peter 5:7, "Cast all anxiety on him, for he cares for you"; and the fourth from Colossians 3:11, "Christ is all, and is in all."

It's now often sung to the tune Pentecost, written in 1864 by William Boyd (1847-1928). Boyd boarded at Hurstpierpoint College where he was taught by Sabine Baring-Gould, writer of Onward Christian Soldiers. While Boyd was studying in Oxford, Baring-Gould, by now a curate in West Yorkshire, asked him to compose a tune to Come Holy Ghost, Our Souls Inspire, (a very old hymn often used at Pentecost) for a large meeting of Yorkshire colliers. In the Musical Times of 1908, Boyd wrote:

'I walked, talked, slept and ate with the words, and at last evolved the tune which I naturally named Pentecost.' [He later contributed it to the 1868 collection Thirty-Two Hymn Tunes Composed by Members of the University of Oxford].

'One day, as I was walking along Regent Street I felt a slap on my back, and turning around saw my dear old friend Arthur Sullivan. My dear Billy, he said, I've seen a tune of yours which I must have. (He was then editing Church Hymns.) All right, I said, send me a cheque and I agree. No copy of the book, much less a proof was sent to me, and when I saw the tune I was horrified to find that Sullivan had assigned it to Fight the good fight!

'We had a regular fisticuffs about it, but judging from the favour with which the tune has been received, I feel that Sullivan was right in so mating words and music.' Melinda Stone



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Recipe Page

This month's recipe is for a Simnel Cake. This cake usually is eaten at Easter but originally it was made and taken as a gift when servants visited their families on Mothering Sunday or, it was used as a respite in the fasting of Lent.

Mary Berry's Simnel Cake. Needed: A deep round 20cm (8in) cake tin.

100g (4oz) red or natural glace cherries.	225g(8oz) butter, softened
225g(8oz) light muscovado sugar	4 large eggs.
225g(8oz) self-raising flour	225g(8oz) sultanas
100g (4oz) currants	50g (2oz) chopped candied peel
Zest of 2 lemons	2 level tsp ground mixed spice.
Ear the filling and tenning	

For the filling and topping. 450g (1lb) almond paste or marzipan 1 large egg, beaten to glaze.

2 tbsp apricot jam

- Preheat the oven to 150c/fan 130C/ Gas 2.
- Lightly grease the tin then line the base and sides with non-stick baking parchment.
- Cut the cherries into quarters, put in a sieve and rinse under running water. Drain well then dry thoroughly with kitchen paper.
- Measure all the cake ingredients into a large mixing bowl and beat well until thoroughly blended. Place half the mixture into the prepared tin and level the surface.
- Take one third of the almond paste and roll it out to a circle the size of the tin and then place on top of the cake mixture. Spoon the remaining cake mixture on top and level the surface.
- Bake for about 2 ¼ hours until well risen, evenly brown and firm to the touch. Cover the foil after 1 hr if the top is browning too quickly. Leave to cool in the tin for 10 mins then turn out, peel off the parchment and finish cooling on a wire rack.
- When the cake is cool, brush the top with a little warmed apricot jam and rollout half the remaining almond paste to fit the top. Press firmly on the top and crimp the edges to decorate. Mark a criss-cross pattern on the almond paste with a sharp knife. Forming the remaining almond paste into 11 balls. Brush the almond paste with beaten egg and arrange the almond paste balls around he edge of the cake. Brush the tops of the balls with beaten egg too and then place the cake under a hot grill to turn the almond paste golden.

RICHARD WHALE

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Children's Page

What do you think of when we say Easter is coming? I bet it's how many Easter Eggs will I get? It is good to have something like chocolate eggs to think about, but have you really thought about why eggs at Easter. Have you thought about why we have Easter? This is a celebration of life and growth and the name Easter itself goes back to over 2000 years ago before Christ.

Easter time is a time of new life, Spring starts, birds lay their eggs and they start to grow. We get warmer days and we can look forward to Summer.

If you look at an egg, the world could have been made in this shape, God could have used any shape we don't know why it is round but we do know that God wanted people to live nicely with each other, sadly that didn't always happen and there were lots of wrong things done as well as right things. God had to find a way to help the world, so he decided to send Jesus. Jesus could have come as a grown man but he didn't he came as a baby, helpless like a chick from an egg. Jesus grew up and did many things that we learn about in the Bible, he wanted people to live in peace and love one another. Unfortunately there were people who didn't like Jesus and they were afraid because he had the love of many people. We know the story of Easter, Jesus was put to death in a very cruel way, just as if he was a thief or robber, but we know that it didn't end there Jesus rose again and he lives with his father in heaven. Jesus still looks after us even though we can no longer see him in person but we can know he is with us.

When someone is cooking with an egg, before it goes into the pan or into the cake mix, look at it.

It has three parts:

The egg white: Jesus was pure and did nothing wrong.		
	Think about what you sometimes do that is wrong	
	and ask God to help you change.	
The egg shell:	Jesus' body was broken.	
	Think about how Jesus was punished for us	
	And say thank you.	
The yolk:	The sign of new life, whether it is a chick or the lovely	
-	yellow sun of Summer.	
	Think about a new life in Jesus.	

So when you are eating your Chocolate Egg (or eggs) think about what new life in Jesus means and what he has done for us all.

But of course- eat your egg and enjoy it. Happy Easter to you all.



60 Years @ Boreham Mill

It was 1st December 1960 that we moved from Tilley Farm to Boreham Mill Farm as it was then. We being my parents Douglas and Barbara, my sisters Anne and Rachel and myself. It would be fair to say that the property wasn't at its best when we arrived but my hardworking parents soon got stuck in to provide a living for the family.

Dad's first task was to plough the land, for the first time in living memory, and sow all types of vegetables. On the top field he planted hundreds of strawberry plants which he covered in cloches in the autumn to get an early crop. These would later be crushed under the weight of snow during the cold winter of 1962-63. He also turned an existing shed into a chicken house selling the eggs from the kitchen door along with vegetables harvested from the fields as required. My mother would chat to customers while they waited for their order to be picked/dug. The pace of life was slower then!

To increase the range of produce Dad soon put up the first greenhouse, on wheels! An ingenious method of getting three protected crops out of one greenhouse in a year. While the summer crop (tomatoes) was flourishing under glass, the second crop (Chrysanthemums for cut flowers in the autumn) was planted outside further down the field. When the tomato crop had finished the greenhouse was winched on rails down to cover the autumn crop. This was repeated when the Chrysanths had finished, to cover Freesias, already sown on the next site down, that were sold from Christmas through to Mothers Day. The process was repeated going back the other way the next year. Eventually Dad put up five more greenhouses and also grew peppers, cucumbers, dahlias, and bedding plants. Alongside this were the outdoor crops which included over time potatoes, cabbages, cauliflowers, carrots, parsnips, broadbeans, runnerbeans, leeks, peas, lettuce, radish and spring onions.

Dad sold his produce to greengrocers, florists and wholesalers in Eastbourne plus a few hotels and Moira House School. He bought a Bedford van with removable seats that was used as a delivery van during the week and as family transport at the weekend. As sales at the kitchen door grew my parents turned the garage into a Farm Shop which flourished for many years particularly at Christmas when it was packed with produce.

As a child I was always interested in growing and started working in the business after leaving school, studying at Hastings College and Plumpton College as a day release student. It was fascinating to learn about new developments/trends in the horticultural world and together Dad and I made changes to the nursery. We put up polytunnels to increase the area for protected crops such as pinks. We planted more soft fruit (strawberries, raspberries, blackcurrants, gooseberries) to sell in the farm shop, expanding into Pick-your-Own during the 1980's. The design of greenhouses improved significantly and in 1985 we started to replace the ones on wheels that had served us so well. It was a real blow when six weeks after putting up the third house we were hit by the notorious October 1987 storm and along with many others suffered significant structural damage. However with the help of friends and family we were able to clear the glass, repair the framework and continue with sowing/planting for the following year.

With increasing demand for ornamentals we closed the Farm Shop in 1994, the year my father died, and opened the Plant Centre. The nursery now concentrates on growing a wide range of plants, with new varieties being introduced each year, to sell directly to you our customers in the Plant Centre or to the wholesale market.

It is with a sense of gratitude that we look back over the past 60 years (43 for my wife Pat). Gratitude to my parents for their hard work in starting the business and passing it on to the next generation, to our family and friends for their support and encouragement, to our staff for their hard work, to our customers for their loyalty and support and most of all gratitude to God for His provision of all the good things that we have enjoyed over the years.

Norman and Pat Honeyset

Herstmonceux CLT homes a step closer

The project to build homes for people with local connections at Strawberry Field, Windmill Hill moved closer in February when the leylandii trees on two sides of the site were removed. This was in compliance with our planning consent and license from Natural England to carry out the work and install dormice nest boxes. The public footpath which runs along one side remains open and will be better for the removal of the trees and eventual replanting with indigenous hedgerow.

Work on the new homes will start this summer and be completed by summer 2022. For further information or if you wish to join the CLT and assist with our project please contact Alan McInnes 01323 833306 or email herstmonceuxclt@gmail.com

Boreham Street Cleanup

lan (The Oast) is leading a band of helpers who regularly keep our area clean of litter and all sorts of rubbish.

This is a great example for helping our neighbourhood, especially at this time of the Covid Virus. I know that many are giving help to others, for instance with shopping.

If you would like to join lan and the others, please ring him on 01323 833984. Thank You. John King.

Warming Up The Homeless

Thank you to all those people who donated warm clothing to the above charity. I had a car full which we delivered to Bexhill.

Warming up the Homeless is a charity that work to help those people who live on the streets and also in short term accommodation. There is a team of people who go out each evening delivering hot meals, breakfast packs and sandwiches to all that need it. They also supply dog food and cat food to those who have pets, these are sometimes the only 'family' these people have. The team also check the health of both people and animals and are there to be a friend to talk to. The charity also work with the people and families that are put into temporary accommodation, but this is often very, very basic hardly any furniture and no cooking facilities. I was told the story of a mum with children who was given shelter but there was only one bed and no cooking facilities, they were helped in the best way that they could be in the circumstances but obviously needed more. Warming up the Homeless supply breakfast parcels and lunch parcels for these families.

There is a great need for things that could make life more comfortable for these people who are in the position of having nothing without being able to do anything about it themselves. There are children often in this situation as well, apparently could be up to 100 in our area of the south coast that are in basic temporary accommodation with one or more parent.

There is a need for all things. The Food Bank help when they can but the call on this organisation is also very great, people are suffering. If you can help with anything like kettles, microwaves, toasters, bedding, sleeping bags obviously must be safe so all electrical items are tested. Warm clothing needed, and as well as supporting food bank, any food items that can be distributed cereal bars, crisps, small drinks, bottled water, also dog food etc., can you please get in touch with the charity, preferably via their website, http://www.warmingupthehomeless.org.uk. This has full details about the charity, including what they are in urgent need of, their donation centre, details of the charity itself and volunteering. The website also has a contact form so that the contact you charity can back, etc or you can email to trudy@warmingupthehomeless.org.uk, Trudy's mobile number is 07367060708

If you would like me to pass on any message please let me know, it is a charity that is doing sterling work in very difficult circumstances. Pam Kendall.



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Herstmonceux Free Church News

Our Sunday services are continuing but due to the current situation we are meeting online, via zoom.

We are praying for all the Herstmonceux community and welcome requests from any of you who would like prayer for a particular issue. You are also very welcome to join our zoom service. To make a prayer request or for details of how to join us, please contact Sylvia (07909 644762).

For further information see our website: www.herstmonceuxfreechurch.org.uk or contact our Family and Community Worker, Sylvia Catt 07909 644762, or John and Helen Ford 01323 832266.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS) HERSTMONCEUX LOCAL MEETING

We meet at 10.45 on the first and third Sunday of every month. Join us for a quiet hour of worship and reflection at the Friends' Meeting House, West End, Herstmonceux BN27 4NR or call 01323 844269 for more details. www.quaker.org.uk

HAILSHAM and POLEGATE CATHOLIC CHURCHES

Sunday Masses

Sunday 10:30am at St. Wilfrid's Hailsham

Sunday 9:00am, at St. George's Polegate

Holy Days

10:00am at St. George's, Polegate; 7:00pm at St. Wilfrid's, Hailsham

Would you like your business to reach more of the Herstmonceux and Wartling community?

Advertising in the Herstmonceux and Wartling Parish News for the year (12 editions) ranges from £40 to £125 depending on the size of the advert.

Contact Sarah Honeysett, via email on hwparishnews@outlook.com

PARISH NEWS

Please send text copy email (together with your name and phone number) to Miss Katherine Blake, theparishnews@hotmail.com (c/o Parish News). Deadline is middayon the 15th of the month prior to publication.

N.B. due to new arrangements no copy can be accepted later.

PARISH NEWS SUBSCRIPTIONS

If you would like a copy of the Parish News delivered to your door each month for the discounted rate of £5:50 for the year, then please contact Chris Edwards on 01323 833207 or email hwparishnews_subscriptions@hotmail.com

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ASSISTANT PRIEST	Rev. Peter Doodes	Tel: 01424 892329		
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	Mrs. Pam Kendall	Tel: 833079		
Wartling	Mr. David Harding	Tel: 832150		
	Mr. Paul Hurle	Tel: 832980		
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Wartling	Mrs. Penny Vasey	Tel: 833603		
PCC TREASURER for both Herstmonceux and Wartling				
	Mr. Andrew Phillips	Tel: 832619		
ORGANISTS				
Herstmonceux	Mrs. Anne Kenward	Tel: 441244		
Wartling				
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Herstmonceux	Mrs. Pam Kendall	Tel: 833079		
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