

Connect

February 2021

St Andrew's

Community

Newsletter

Greetings from Jacky Henretty

Welcome to the February edition of Connect.

It will certainly be a very different month from 2020, and all too easy to focus in on just that, but let's not forget we still have so many things to give thanks for.

- 1) The vaccination programme is gathering pace (I guess most of you will have had yours by now) and what a wonderful team & set up at the health centre.....Thank you Lord.
- 2) The days are getting longer and there are many signs & sounds of spring to enjoy on our daily exercise or even through our window....Thank you Lord.
- 3) Communities are pulling together, looking out for each other & supporting it so many different ways.....Thank you Lord.
- 4) We believe in a God of hope and can therefore hold onto His promise to be our refuge & strength in all circumstances.....Thank you Lord

Dates to remember:

February

14th Valentine's Day

16th Shrove Tuesday

17th Ash Wednesday and start of Lent

March

14th Mothers Day

28th Palm Sunday &

British Summer Time begins

April

2nd Good Friday

4th Easter Sunday

Shrove Tuesday

We all know about pancakes and enjoy the lovely toppings, even if it's only lemon juice and sugar but why is it called Shrove Tuesday.



Tuesday is obvious as it always falls the day before Ash Wednesday.

What does Shrove mean? Derived from shrive, refers to the confession of sins as a preparation for Lent, common practice in the Middle Ages.

Latterly it is often a festival time, that's what 'Mardi Gras' is, French for 'Fat Tuesday' a time of carnival not just pancakes. Lent then follows on; a time for fasting and reflection, leading on to Easter. Have you ever given anything up for Lent? Some people think you can break-fast on every Sunday through lent as every Sunday is a festival day, what do you think? Fact or just an excuse to eat chocolate!



Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent, occurring six and a half weeks before Easter. Do you remember the solemn services that are held? Some churches still put ashes on your forehead. It always has that air of seriousness like Maundy Thursday and Good Friday as we remember Jesus' sacrifice.

Lent

In the early Christian church, the length of the Lenten celebration varied, but eventually it began 6 weeks (42 days) before Easter. This provided only 36 days of fasting (excluding Sundays). In the 7th century, 4 days were added before the first Sunday in Lent in order to establish 40 fasting days, in imitation of Jesus Christ's fast in the desert.

Remember that Hymn?

This hymn was sung in church recently and we thought it would be nice to share it with you. Here is just the first verse.

*Dear Lord and Father of mankind
Forgive our foolish ways
Re-clothe us in our rightful mind
In purer lives our service find
In deeper reverence praise*

- Do you find the words inspiring?
- Do you hear the tune in your head as you read the words?
- Do you remember singing this hymn?

Words by J G Whittier (1807-92)

JG Whittier was an American Quaker poet and advocate of the abolition of slavery in the USA. He also wrote many quotes, here are 2 of them:

- Peace hath higher tests of manhood, than battle ever knew
- Before me, even as behind. God is, and all is well

Music by C Hubert H Parry (1848-1918)

Sir Charles Hubert H Parry was a composer, teacher and historian of music. He wrote Jerusalem and 'I was Glad' for Edward VII coronation as well as Blest Pair of Sirens.

Thomas Merton's book: Thoughts in Solitude. He prays:

My Lord God,
I have no idea where I am going.
I do not see the road ahead of me.
I cannot know for certain where it will end.
Nor do I really know myself,
and the fact that I think I am following your will
does not mean that I am actually doing so.
But I believe that the desire to please you
does in fact please you.
And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing.
I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire.
And I know that if I do this you will lead me by the right road,
though I may know nothing about it.
Therefore I will trust you always though
I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death.
I will not fear, for you are ever with me,
and you will never leave me to face my perils alone.

Good News If you have any items you would like included in future editions of the 'Good news' section, please do get in touch with us.

Contact details: jonathanr@standrewscullompton.com or the Church Office on 01884 33249 and leave a message for Jonathan.

Your Opinion We are still trying to cut down the number of Connect newsletters we are delivering. We would like to trim the list down a little to save a few trees. If you would like to continue receiving a paper copy that is absolutely fine. If you are able to get online we would prefer to send it via email.

Please contact: jonathanr@standrewscullompton.com

Joke

A priest, a minister and a guru sat discussing the best positions for prayer, while a telephone repairman worked nearby. "Kneeling is definitely the best way to pray," the priest said. "No," said the minister. "I get the best results standing with my hands outstretched to Heaven." "You're both wrong," the guru said. "The most effective prayer position is lying down on the floor." The repairman could contain himself no longer. "Hey, fellas," he interrupted. "The best prayin' I ever did was when I was hangin' upside down from a telephone pole."

Word Search

W	G	E	H	T	U	O	M	Y	L	P	K	A
O	I	X	S	N	L	E	K	A	L	D	U	B
B	N	L	I	O	R	V	U	U	Y	T	J	R
A	O	Y	L	T	T	C	T	Q	N	N	S	O
R	T	N	W	A	N	O	M	R	M	N	A	A
N	I	T	A	E	N	S	O	O	O	O	M	D
S	D	O	D	S	E	D	E	T	U	T	O	C
T	E	N	B	N	E	A	R	G	T	I	H	L
A	R	E	T	E	X	E	Z	B	H	N	T	Y
P	C	O	S	H	V	R	E	E	B	O	H	S
L	T	B	R	I	X	H	A	M	W	H	S	T
E	N	O	T	P	M	O	L	L	U	C	A	M

Find the following towns:

Ash Thomas	Barnstaple	Beer	Brixham
Broadclyst	Budlake	Crediton	Cullompton
Dawlish	Exeter	Honiton	Luton
Lynmouth	Lynton	Plymouth	Seaton
Tiverton	Torquay	Totnes	Willand

Answers to January's crossword:

Across	7	Intelligent	8	Helium	9	Ballad	10	Screen
	12	Strike	13	Coo	14	Casino	16	Meagre
	18	Sliver	20	Rotter	22	Irreverence		
Down	1	Bike	2	Stride	3	Flamenco	4	Limb
	5	Cellar	6	Attacker	11	Chaplain	12	Sombrero
	15	Invert	17	Attend	19	Rove	21	Even