

Fr Roger writes.....

Dear Friends,

Lent begins on **Ash Wednesday (9<sup>th</sup> March)**, a day when we should all try and be at a Communion service.

Preparing for Easter is what lent is all about. It is intended to have us spiritually fit and fine tuned to celebrate once again the 'saving events' of the passion, death and resurrection of the Lord that are at the heart of our life and faith. Preparing properly for Easter helps us to Experience Easter in all its fullness, and sharing the journey of preparation together can be an enormous encouragement.

At the heart of our preparation is prayer.

- Prayer through Christ to the Father is a key part of our Christian discipleship and taking it seriously deepens our faith and sense of God's presence and guiding in our lives.
- Lent is a time for disciplined growth in faith, discipleship and spirituality.
- We need to strengthen our sense of being a praying community upholding one another and seeking God's will for us as a Church.
- Prayer draws us into the mind and intention of God and really changes things.

Lent has often been a time of gloom and self denial, and the Gospel is clear – it is a time to repent. But it is also a time of joy, and we are not loved by God because we repent, but we repent because God loves us more than anything else. Some people will make their confession, maybe the only time in the year they do it, or they may find ways of showing love and compassion to those around them in a deeper way than at other times. So let us think about having a positive lent.

Could you attend an extra service during the week?

Could you join in one of the house groups (It would be fantastic this year if everyone joined one of them just for a few weeks) For those who do not like groups perhaps the Lent Lunch and meditation will be an opportunity to focus minds for a short while each week.

Could you give up something and put the money you save in a mission lent box.

Could you set aside some time each day/week for bible reading or silent prayer.

Whatever we do, let us try and keep a holy lent that we may be enriched in our Christian pilgrimage,

Your friend and priest

Fr Bob writes ...

There was a wedding at Cana.....

In the Scriptures the relationship between God and God's people is often described in terms of a marriage. The early Christians, reflecting on Christ's love for us, also used this image. Christ and the Church embrace in mutual love and self-giving, even as do husband and wife (see, for example, Ephesians 5:21-33). "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.' This is a great mystery, and I am applying it to Christ and the church" (Ephesians 5:31-32).

In each of the sacraments a window opens and we can glimpse the mystery of God and God's plan for the salvation of the world. In Christian marriage we see that God was not content to be alone, but embarked on a whole new life project. Out of love God created us and all that is. God is faithful no matter what. Whether we are faithful or faithless, God is faithful; whether we wander away in sin or remain in the embrace of love, God is always there and is ever ready to embrace us.

This sacramental sign, which the husband and wife give to each other, they also give to the entire community of witnesses. We all have made commitments to God and God has made commitments to us. There are times when we wonder if God will be faithful. We have never seen God, but we can see the fidelity of Christian husbands and wives. Their love for each other is a sacramental sign and witness of God's love for us. Our human lives are interconnected, like a fabric, woven together by many commitments. The fidelity of their commitment strengthens our own commitments.

I include below The Preface of the Marriage Service from Common Worship, which reflects the Christian understanding of marriage:

### The Marriage Service

A wedding is one of life's great moments, a time of solemn commitment as well as good wishes, feasting and joy. St John tells us how Jesus shared in such an occasion at Cana, and gave there a sign of new beginnings as he turned water into wine.

Marriage is intended by God to be a creative relationship, as his blessing enables husband and wife to love and support each other in good times and in bad, and to share in the care and upbringing of children. For Christians, marriage is also an invitation to share life together in the

spirit of Jesus Christ. It is based upon a solemn, public and life-long covenant between a man and a woman, declared and celebrated in the presence of God and before witnesses.

On this their wedding day the bride and bridegroom face each other, make their promises and receive God's blessing.

In the presence of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, we have come together to witness the marriage of *N* and *N*, to pray for God's blessing on them, to share their joy and to celebrate their love.

Marriage is a gift of God in creation through which husband and wife may know the grace of God. It is given that as man and woman grow together in love and trust, they shall be united with one another in heart, body and mind, as Christ is united with his bride, the Church.

The gift of marriage brings husband and wife together in the delight and tenderness of sexual union and joyful commitment to the end of their lives. It is given as the foundation of family life in which children are [born and] nurtured and in which each member of the family, in good times and in bad, may find strength, companionship and comfort, and grow to maturity in love.

Marriage is a way of life made holy by God, and blessed by the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ with those celebrating a wedding at Cana in Galilee.

Marriage is a sign of unity and loyalty which all should uphold and honour. It enriches society and strengthens community. No one should enter into it lightly or selfishly but reverently and responsibly in the sight of almighty God.

*N* and *N* are now to enter this way of life. They will each give their consent to the other and make solemn vows, and in token of this they will [each] give and receive a ring.

We pray with them that the Holy Spirit will guide and strengthen them, that they may fulfil God's purposes for the whole of their earthly life together.

*Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.*

*1 Corinthians 13.4-7*

## St. Boniface

On the 24<sup>th</sup> of this month we have the official opening of the Foxhole Community Campus – that is Kings Ash School and the Foxhole Community Centre. This will be carried out by a local sporting celebrity and the Mayor of Torbay. This should be a marvellous occasion, bringing not only publicity, but also much needed resources to the people of Foxhole. This facility will be a major step in creating a sense of unity and stability within the community. We at St. Boniface look forward to working together within the Foxhole Community Campus for the benefit of the people in this part of the parish.

Shrove Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March, our St Boniface Pancake Feast, following the 9.30am Eucharist. 10am – 12 noon

Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> March, Prize Bingo, 'eyes down' at 7.30pm.

Keep a look out for posters advertising our future events.

*Fr Bob.*

## St Andrews

### Coffee, Chat and Creativity

Coffee mornings have re-started at St Andrews. They are held on a Thursday morning each week (so as not to clash with the other two churches) and provide time and space for coffee, a chat and craft activities.

Please come along and try our Coffee, Chat and Creativity morning soon. You will be most welcome.

### Lent At St Andrews

St Basil the Great said, "Do not limit the benefit of fasting merely to abstinence from food, for a true fast means refraining from evil. Loose every unjust bond, put away your resentment against your neighbour, forgive him his offences. Do not let your fasting lead only to wrangling and strife. You do not eat meat, but you devour your brother; you abstain from wine, but not from insults. So all the labour of your past is useless."

Two Lent Courses are planned at St Andrews; one will be immediately after the Lent lunches on Wednesdays and will follow the York Course Programme. Another alternative course will run at St Andrews @ 4 during Lent.

Stations Of The Cross will be before Mass on a Wednesday.

A full parish programme of events and activities during Lent and Holy Week will be available soon. Please see the weekly sheets for detailed timings.

### Summer Flower Festival.

This year St Andrews Flower Festival will coincide with Torbay Carnival Week on the 29<sup>th</sup> to the 31<sup>st</sup> July. With two Royal Weddings this year the theme, of course, will be "Weddings". We welcome input from St Johns and St Boniface – in fact would like it to be a united event. If

anyone from any of our churches is interested please contact either Joyce Cappello (856999) or Anthea Siviers (553329) and we will arrange a meeting to discuss ideas, plans and further arrangements.

#### The New Arrival!

On the 14<sup>th</sup> February our latest great grandchild arrived; a baby girl Hayley Joyce born to Jason and Gemma. A great grand daughter after three great grandsons! Naturally all the family are thrilled and Barry could be heard singing the Soliloquy from Carousel with the lines "You can have fun with a son, but you've got to be a Father to a girl."

I recalled the Ten Commandments for Parents which goes something like this:-

1. Your sons and daughters are not yours alone; bring them to know Me before they are grown.
2. Provide for their needs and know as you do that I will provide for each one of you.
3. Live by My Word, in love and in fear, so that you are living a message that children can hear.
4. I delighted in sharing creation with you; help your children appreciate loveliness too.
5. Respect them, for each is unique by design. Welcome their specialness. Help them to shine.
6. Cultivate their character, loyalty, truth – lessons in living to carve in their youth.
7. Take time to listen, to laugh and to play; when your children have grown their memories stay.
8. Teach them to talk to Me often in prayer; I want them to trust that I will always be there.
9. I am there for you too. Remember to ask and I will equip you for this Holy Task.
10. These are my loved ones. This it shall be; as you do unto them, so you do unto Me.

*Joyce Cappello*

#### Parish Ladies Group

Susan Wills-Pope Of 'Susan's Flowers' in Hyde Road, who is one of our regular guest speakers, arranged flowers for us at our January meeting.

On a wet and dismal evening she brightened up our lives with Spring-like and imaginative flower arrangements.

With her usual skills she made it look so easy, and that's the art, isn't it?

The popularity of Susan's previous talks was shown by the large number of members who attended, and we were very pleased to welcome our church flower arrangers at this meeting.

Thank you, Susan, and we know you will come again.

Our March 21<sup>st</sup> Snack & Chat will be at the Redcliffe Hotel at 12.30pm. This is open to all parishioners, and no subscription is needed even if you are not a member of the Ladies' Group. All you pay for is your lunch – large or small.

On Monday 28<sup>th</sup> March, Mr Rowe, from Kent's Cavern and the English Riviera Geopark, will speak to us.

Come, and you will be surprised at what you will learn about what is under your feet and under the Bay. We hope to visit Kent's Cavern in the near future so this will be a good introduction. Thank you.

*Audrey Smith*

**The Mothers' Union** will be holding their Corporate Communion on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March at 10.00am.

## Club 2000

Dates for your Diary –

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March – Cash Bingo in the Hall 7.15pm

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March – our annual “Fish & Chip Lunch” (with peas bread & butter/cup of tea) at the original “Old Police Restaurant Princetown

Price to arranged – list is in the Hall

*Cynthia Borrill*

## Club 2000

January came and off we went for our Christmas lunch stopping off at Jack’s Patch for our coffee and a shop, lots of shopping as it’s a lovely place for all sorts of goodies, not just gardening. Then all aboard and on to the Smuggler’s Inn at Dawlish for our lunch, we didn’t have to stick to the carvery (beef, turkey or pork) we could have anything off the menu, I’m afraid the crackling got the better of me. I don’t think anyone was disappointed and we were given a nice long time to enjoy each others company or the view. We had a nice surprise as we had time to stop off at Teignmouth for afternoon tea. Lovely day with beautiful sunshine all day. Thanks Cyn.

Susie K

### **Traidcraft Big Brew**

Coffee Morning in the Parish Hall  
on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March 10.00am - 12 noon

Raffle

Tickets £1

(available from Jean Kitson or Ray Sellers)



## Bellringing News

### *Competitions*

On Saturday 19 February the Paignton bell ringing team won the “Gilbert Shield” for being the best ringing team in the Newton Abbot, Ipplepen and Torbay Deanery. The competition involved ringing against other teams in three churches, High Week, Abbotskerswell and Ipplepen. Congratulations to the younger member, Harry McAdam who has been remarkable successful after only ringing for just over a year. Unfortunately, young Sam Wilks and his mum Vashti, although turning up to support the event, were both unable to ring due to ill health. This is the second win for Harry and thanks go to John Kelly who has devoted time to teaching Harry.

### **Devon Association Novice Competition**

Each year, the Devon Association of Ringers holds a novice competition to encourage developing teams where they have not reached the precision of striking of the teams that attend regular competition events. The novice competition is very well supported with numerous teams competing and the whole afternoon and early evening is very friendly and relaxed. This year the competition is to be held at Holne on Saturday 12 March from 2pm.

### *Forthcoming events*

### **Paignton’s May Day Outing**

The May Day 2011 outing organised by Paignton will be a coach trip to ring at Truro Cathedral that now has 12 bells and is Cornwall’s only ring of 12 bells. Ringing is also planned on the way to and from Truro. Ringers and non ringers are welcome to join us. For more information please contact the undersigned.

*Michael Webster.*

## Holy Voice Mail

Voice Mail nowadays is a nuisance  
And becoming too often routine.  
But imagine it being in Heaven!  
If you will, try to picture the scene.

“Hello, and we thank you for praying:  
To continue remain on your knees  
And select from the following menu  
Any one of the options you please.

“All our angels right now are quite busy  
Helping sinners who prayed before you,  
So hang on and just try to be patient,  
You’ll be glad that you did when you do.

“Press 1 if you’re seeking forgiveness,  
Press 2 if you’re offering thanks,  
Press the pound key if you’re getting frantic  
And are dying to reach ANYONE.

“Press zero to dial Operator,  
If it’s busy don’t panic or fuss;  
Just wait and re-pray a bit later,  
Your prayer is important to us.

“Your prayer may perhaps be recorded  
And relayed later on back to earth;  
To hear psalms, while you wait, by King David  
Please enter the year of your birth.

“You may pray every day except Monday,  
There’s a chance you may reach someone live:  
Please don’t pray before eight in the morning  
And there’s nobody here after five.

“Well, thank you again and keep praying,  
We hope that you have a nice day;  
In the future for aid or for comfort,  
Remember we’re here, so just pray.”

*John T Baker*

## Annual Parish Lunch

What a lovely meal and afternoon of entertainment we enjoyed at our Annual Parish Lunch.

Congratulations, especially to Mavis, but also to our lovely MC, to all the co-workers, to those who brought raffle prizes, to those who attended and to the Riviera International Centre for a delicious meal.

This sounds like the Oscars doesn’t it? Mavis we shall see you again next year. You are not off the hook yet.

## Friends of Paignton Parish Church

### **Cheery Cheese & Wild Wine Evening**



**Tickets £7.50**

**Saturday 5th March**

**7.30 for 8pm**

**In the Parish Hall**

*Tickets available from Karen  
Morris*

## Go Treasure Hunting

In this world there are wonderful treasures,  
some buried deep down in the ground,  
like silver and gold or bright gemstones,  
but others are more easily found.

See the silvery web of the spider,  
on a morning, when covered in dew,  
and admire the amazing construction  
by a creature much smaller than you.

In the Springtime just look at the flowers,  
like jewels, a sight to behold.  
The trees, lush and green in the Summer,  
in the Autumn will turn into gold.

There's more you can find if you want to,  
on the land in the air and the sea.  
A world full of natural treasures  
we can share in, and all this is free.

Ron B



Funerals		
	1 <sup>st</sup> February	Hilda D'arcy
	22 <sup>nd</sup> February	Charles Harper
	23 <sup>rd</sup> February	Joyce Westaway

## DIARY FOR MARCH

2	Wed	10.00am	Mothers' Union Corporate Communion: Parish Church
			Lunch at St Andrew's following 11.00am Mass
5	Sat	7.30pm	Friends of Paignton Parish Church Cheery Cheese & Wild Wine Evening: Parish Hall
6	Sun	3.00pm	Annual Parochial Church Council Meeting: Parish Church A Service will follow the APCM
7	Mon	9.00am	Time Out: Parish Church
8	Tue	10.00am	St Boniface Pancake Feast, following 9.30 Eucharist, 10.00am – 12 noon: St Boniface
9	Wed		Lunch at St Andrew's following 11.00am Mass
		7.30pm	Ash Wednesday Service: Parish Church
10	Thu	10.30am	Coffee, Chat & Creativity: St Andrews
11	Fri	10.00am- 12 noon	Traidcraft Big Brew Coffee Morning: Parish Hall
		7.15pm	Club 2000 Cash Bingo: Parish Hall
13	Sun	4.00pm	St Andrews@4 Lent Group: St Andrews
		6.30pm	Special Evening Service for Lent **
14	Mon	9.00am	Time Out: Parish Church
		2.00pm	Lent Group: 1 Roundham Crescent
		7.00pm	Lent Group: 1 Sandringham Gardens
15	Tue	10.15am	Lent Group: St Boniface
16	Wed		Lunch at St Andrew's following 11.00am Mass
		2.00pm	Lent Group: St Andrew's
		8.00pm	Lent Group: Hillcrest, Roundham Crescent
17	Thu	10.30am	Club 2000 Coach Trip: Princetown
		10.30am	Coffee, Chat & Creativity: St Andrews
		12.30pm	Lent Lunch: Parish Church
18	Fri	10.45am	Lent Group: Parish Church
20	Sun	10.30am	Traidcraft Stall: Parish Hall
		4.00pm	St Andrews@4 Lent Group: St Andrews
		6.30pm	Special Evening Service for Lent **
21	Mon	9.00am	Time Out: Parish Church
		12.30pm	Parish Ladies' Group Snack & Chat: The Redcliffe Hotel, Paignton

		2.00pm	Lent Group: 1 Roundham Crescent
		2.30pm	Prayer Group: Parish Church
		7.00pm	Lent Group: 1 Sandringham Gardens
22	Tue	9.00am	Magazine Material to Ann Howard please
23	Wed		Lunch at St Andrew's following 11.00am Mass
		2.00pm	Lent Group: St Andrew's
		8.00pm	Lent Group: Hillcrest, Roundham Crescent
		10.30am	Coffee, Chat & Creativity: St Andrews
24	Thu		Official opening of the Foxhole Community Campus
		12.30pm	Lent Lunch: Parish Church
25	Fri	10.45am	Lent Group: Parish Church
27	Sun	4.00pm	St Andrews@4 Lent Group: St Andrews
		6.30pm	Special Evening Service for Lent **
28	Mon	9.00am	Time Out: Parish Church
		2.00pm	Lent Group: 1 Roundham Crescent
		7.00pm	Lent Group: 1 Sandringham Gardens
		7.30pm	Parish Ladies' Group Meeting: Parish Hall
29	Tue	10.15am	Lent Group: St Boniface
30	Wed		Lunch at St Andrew's following 11.00am Mass
		2.00pm	Lent Group: St Andrew's
		7.30pm	Prize Bingo: St Boniface
		8.00pm	Lent Group: Hillcrest, Roundham Crescent
31	Thu		Coffee, Chat & Creativity: St Andrews
		12.30pm	Lent Lunch: Parish Church

## INTERCESSIONS FOR MARCH

1	Tue	St. David B	The Church in Wales
2	Wed	St. Chad B	All Religious
3	Thu	Feria	The elderly and infirm
4	Fri	Feria	Women's World Day of Prayer
5	Sat	Feria	Walsingham
6	Sun	<b>Next before Lent</b>	<b>Our Annual Parochial Church Meeting</b>
7	Mon	Ss. Perpetua & Felicity M	Christians in Africa
8	Tue	Feria	An awareness of our sin
9	Wed	<b>Ash Wednesday</b>	<b>Our keeping of Lent</b>
10	Thu	Feria	The sick and disabled
11	Fri	Feria	Rowcroft Hospice
12	Sat	Feria	The Government
13	Sun	<b>Lent 1</b>	<b>The congregation of St. John's</b>
14	Mon	Feria	Our Lent courses
15	Tue	Feria	Torbay Deanery Chapter
16	Wed	Feria	Our young people
17	Thu	St. Patrick	The Church in Ireland
18	Fri	St. Cyril of Jerusalem	Peace in the Middle East
19	Sat	St. Joseph	Those preparing for Marriage
20	Sun	<b>Lent 2</b>	<b>The congregation of St. Andrew's</b>
21	Mon	St. Thomas Cramer M	The Archbishop of Canterbury
22	Tue	Feria	Ministers of CTIP
23	Wed	Feria	Tower House School
24	Thu	Feria	Kings Ash School
25	Fri	The Annunciation	Thanksgiving for the Incarnation
26	Sat	Feria	Hayes Road School
27	Sun	<b>Lent 3</b>	<b>The congregation of St. Boniface</b>
28	Mon	Feria	Curledge Street School
29	Tue	Feria	The needy & hungry of the world
30	Wed	Feria	The homeless
31	Thu	Feria	The Medical Profession

Please note there will be not be a 6.00pm service on the 6<sup>th</sup> March at the Parish Church. There will however be a service immediately following the Annual Parochial Church Council meeting.

\*\* There will be a Lent leaflet available in your church from the 6<sup>th</sup> March. This will give details of the Lent courses and services at St Andrews, St Boniface and the Parish Church.