

Fr Tubbs writes

If you were asked what Jesus spoke about most, I wonder what you would say? Good behaviour? Sex? Honesty? God? Prayer? The Bible?

The answer is that Jesus seems to have spoken quite a lot about money! Now there's an embarrassing thing! We know that religion and politics are the two subjects banned by convention from public conversation, but we also ban talk about money – at least as far as our personal details are concerned. Recently a young person asked me how much I earned. Immediately a listening adult jumped in! 'Don't be so rude!' In fact I have no problem with anyone knowing how much I earn, so I told the person who had asked the question. And it's a good job I don't have a problem, because clergy pay is discussed each year at General Synod and Diocesan Synod, so the whole world knows what I earn!

Yet if we are the People of God in Paignton; if our congregations are called to worship God and to preach the Gospel and convert others, then we need money. Even if we were to have only non-stipendiary clergy (and we may well end up in that situation, though how such people will manage to do what needs to be done goodness only knows!) we would still need to maintain our buildings and pay the expenses of the parish and cover the insurance and fuel bills – and the one hundred and one other things that have to be bought. And only money will pay for them!

So we are to have a stewardship campaign in all three of our parishes. The campaign will be about money. You will hear what it costs to 'run' the parish; you will be told how the money is spent; you will hear that the biggest bill we pay is the annual sum, this year nearly £90,000, which goes to the Diocese and which is used almost entirely for the payment of the clergy; you will hear that at present the money which we receive from our members, by the envelope scheme or direct debit or whatever, does not cover that 'common fund' amount. We rely on fund-raising events to make up some of the difference; the rest comes out of our reserves. Money we had in the bank for the decoration of the Parish Church, for a new heating system, for a new sound system, has gone, swallowed up by our debts. The stewardship campaign will attempt to raise the level of giving so that we not only cover the cost of running our parish, but also begin to build up our reserves again so that we can do the things I've already mentioned.

Yet it is still the wrong way around! Jesus didn't have to pay the Common Fund; he didn't have to pay the apostles (but let's not forget that someone had to maintain them, they didn't live on fresh air or go around naked; money was needed, provided by the women who accompanied them – Luke 8.3). Jesus didn't have insurance bills or gas and electricity bills to pay (but let's not forget that he paid his Temple tax – Matthew 17.24ff, and commended the widow for giving everything she had to the upkeep of the Temple – Mark 12.42). It is the wrong way round because Jesus starts, not with our duty to help maintain the Church and its work, but with our duty to give to God. Give privately and God will reward you (Matt 6.1-4). Don't store up riches on earth (Matt 6.19ff). You can't serve two masters, God and money (Matt 6.24ff). It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of heaven (Matt 19.24).

The right way round is to start with God! What do I need to give back to God in response to his generosity to me? The Old Testament rule was a tenth – the tithe – and there are still Christians who give a tenth of their (disposable?) income. Sacrificial giving is what is asked of Christians – not because the Church needs the money, but because we need to give – to respond to God's generosity with our own generosity, just as David did – 'I will not give to the Lord my God offerings which have cost me nothing' (2 Samuel 24.24).

So please pray for God's blessing on our stewardship campaign; pray for Fr Mark Bate who is coming to the Parish Church on Sunday 8 October and S Andrew's and S Boniface on 15 October; pray that God will touch all our hearts with his generosity, so that we might respond generously, so the two objectives will be met: we shall have enough money to meet the expenses of our church, including the Common Fund; and we shall have opened our hearts and bank accounts to God's love – and that will be a very good thing for us spiritually and materially!

Yours sincerely



TAP INTO FAITH'S COURSE: Why You Shouldn't Be A Christian!

The course ran at Babbacombe last month, and is now to run in Paignton at the Parish Church.

The titles of the four sessions are:

- Oct 9 **Jesus, Buddha and Mohammed are all the same**
Fr Simon Wakely, Parish Priest, Babbacombe
- 16 **Science has disproved the Bible**
Fr Mike Cain, Associate Priest of Paignton
- 23 **A good God wouldn't allow suffering**
Fr Brian Tubbs, Vicar of Paignton
- 30 **Religions Cause War**
Bishop David Silk, formerly Bishop of Ballarat

The timetable for the evenings will be as follows:

- 7.30pm Presentation
- 8.15pm Coffee
- 8.30pm Open Forum for questions, discussion and debate
- 9.00pm Finish

I hope that you will support this venture. We shall need help with the coffee-making; volunteers please sign the list in one of our churches

BRT



ST ANDREW'S

Most of you will know by now that Fr Paul has resigned from his position of priest in charge of S Andrew's. He has given the customary three months' notice and will be leaving in the middle of November.

This, and the fact that S Andrew's has not been able to pay its Common Fund last year, nor is it likely that it will be able to do so this year, means that its future is now very precarious.

Therefore the workshop on 8 October is vitally important as a means of looking to the future and seeing whether it is possible for S Andrew's to stay open. The workshop will run from 12 noon to 4.15pm, and will be led by Fr Andrew Mottram and Emma Osmundsen, whose business is called appropriately Ecclesiastical Property Solutions.

The future of S Andrew's is, of course, not the concern only of the people who attend. It is of concern to every member of our other two churches as well. The workshop is open to anyone from the other two churches who would like to attend – but it will be the attendance from S Andrew's that will be important.



BRT

ST BONI FACE

The development at S Boniface continues, though it is a slow business – Emma Osmundsen, to whom we are extremely grateful, talks about these projects in terms of years, not months! However, thanks to Fr Mike's attendance and influence the project is still exciting and should provide us with a wonderful opportunity to maintain a Christian presence on the Foxhole Estate which will be able to serve that community for many years to come. Please keep the project, and Fr Mike, Ann Jackson and Sue Willcocks, in your prayers in the weeks and months ahead.

BRT

MAKING CONNECTIONS 2



Making Connections 1, organised by TAP into Faith, took place last year at S Marychurch. Its theme was mission – hence making connections. Bishop Lindsay Urwin was our keynote speaker, and he and others ran workshops on that theme.

Making Connections 2 continues that theme of mission, and the outline of the day is the same. This year it takes place at Paignton Parish Church and begins at 10.00am with a keynote speech by the Bishop of Plymouth. He will then lead a workshop for clergy. The Abbot of Alton will lead one on prayer and mission, The Revd Gordon Percy, Rector of S Matthias Torquay, will lead a workshop on the practicalities of mission, and Mrs Jane Whitcomb, who used to be Children's Adviser in this diocese and now does the same thing in the diocese of Bath and Wells – and aren't they lucky to have her! – will run a workshop on Children and Mission. There will be an opportunity to attend two workshops in the morning. After lunch – please bring your own, drinks provided – there will be a plenary session with the opportunity to ask questions and discuss, and we shall end with Benediction at 3.00pm at which the Bishop of Plymouth will preside.

Once again we shall need coffee-makers for the lunchtime period! Volunteers please sign the list at the back of our churches.

BRT



WHAT'S IN A WORD?

The Church of England recites at the Eucharist the Nicene Creed and at the daily offices the Apostles' Creed. In each case we proclaim our belief in 'one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church' (Nicene Creed) or 'the holy catholic Church' (Apostles' Creed). At the licensing of every clergy person, Reader or lay worker the Bishop says 'The Church of England is part of the one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church'.



The dictionary definition of the word catholic is 'universal; of interest or use to all men; all-embracing, broad-minded, tolerant'. For Christians, however, it does have rather different meanings.

It can mean a) the universal Church as distinct from local Christian communities; b) orthodox as opposed to heretical; c) in historical writers, it refers to the undivided Church before the final schism of East and West in 1054. After that date the Western Church usually referred to itself as 'catholic', the Eastern Church preferring to describe itself as 'orthodox'; d) since the Reformation the Roman Catholic Church has come to use the word exclusively of itself – something we should not let them get away with! e) in present-day usage, it is employed of those Christians who claim to be in possession of a historical and continuous tradition of faith and practice, as opposed to Protestants, who tend to find their ultimate standards in the Bible as interpreted on the principles of the Reformation of the 16th century.

So the Church of England is catholic. Every member of the Church of England is a catholic. Every Anglican priest is a catholic priest. However, we also use the word to describe those bishops, priests and lay people in the Church of England and the Anglican Communion who prize the Church's continuity with its past; who value the apostolic ministry of bishop, priest and deacon; who see the sacraments as central to the life and mission of the Church. So we talk about the 'catholic' parishes in Torbay.

If you use the intercessions in this month's magazine you will find the intention for 12 October 'The Federation of Catholic Priests'. This is an organisation of Anglican priests, mostly English, though there are Welsh and Scottish members, as well as some overseas. I am the Secretary-General, and that intention is in the intercessions because the FCP have a pilgrimage to Walsingham each year and it will be taking place from 11 to 14 October.

So rejoice to be a catholic! Don't believe that the Church of England is a Protestant sect! Value our catholic heritage reaching back almost 2000 years! And pray regularly for the reunion of all Christian people within the fold of the one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church!

BRT

WIVES' GROUP



Our Round Robin trip by bus, boat and train was a huge success on 21 August. Many people came and we enjoyed a day of fun and fellowship, and beautiful scenery.

Please come to our meeting on 23 October when Mr Lumsden will speak to us about the music of the 1950's. His talk will be illustrated by records.

It is time to start thinking about our gift stall for the Christmas Bonanza. We shall soon be appealing for all types of gifts, cosmetics, stationery, in fact anything suitable for Christmas gifts.

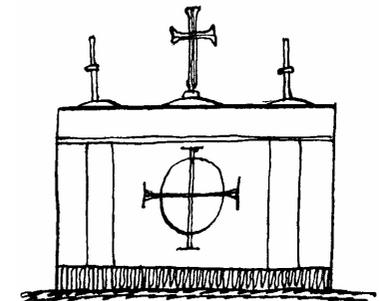
Audrey Smith



THE ARTHUR DAY COLUMN

As promised, I quote further from a former Guide Book of our Parish Church published in 1940 and written by our then assistant priest, the late Father le Grice. The extract quoted last month described how church architecture generally changed in this country during the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. During that period a style known as "Perpendicular" became very common in England but apparently nowhere else. The extract quoted below tells how this change affected our Parish Church:

"During these fifteenth and sixteenth centuries extensive alterations were made in the Parish Church here. The aisles were made higher and pierced with the present Perpendicular windows. The two transept chapels and the two choir chapels (one of which now contains the organ) were built at this time. A carved and painted oak screen, not unlike the present one in shape, separated the nave from the chancel, and another similar screen isolated the northern transept chapel. The stone screen across the entrance of the south transept chapel, one of the greatest glories of the church, was added towards the end of the period, and the fine stone pulpit was built at about the same time. There were also two chapels in the body of the church, in the second bay of the nave arcade, one on the north and the other on the south. The church four hundred years ago was thus similar in shape to the present church, but very different in appearance. The windows would be filled with the beautiful rich colours of medieval glass, all of which has perished. There would be seven altars with rich decorations. Everywhere there would be colour; woodwork and stonework, glass and images, would all be painted in simple colours, harmonising or contrasting with the rich vestments which every Parish Church possessed in those days."



So, if you had walked into our Parish Church just over 500 years ago, you would have recognised a building structurally as it is today, but you would have seen a much more colourful interior – an interior that, unfortunately, was soon to be vandalised by people who mistakenly thought that they were doing the will of God.

Arthur Day

THANK YOU to the many Church members who supported the Cream Teas in aid of Factory Row and the Coffee Morning for the RNLI the following week. The Cream Tea raised £486 and the Coffee Morning £196, a wonderful effort all round.

Sadie & Ray Yates

STAN CROWCROFT

Mark and I would like to thank Fr Tubbs and the parish for all the prayers, kindness and support we received during Dad's illness and for the messages of sympathy we received at our sad loss, it is very much appreciated and helped us through a difficult time.

Sandra Chappell

CHRISTMASS BONANZA GRAND DRAW



Yes, I know you hate selling raffle tickets, but on the other hand you raised £1607 by doing so last year. So I shall be handing out books of tickets very soon, please force yourself to take them and see if we can beat last year's total. First prize is again £500, won by a local person for the last two years.

Offers of items suitable for prizes will also be welcome, preferably with a Christmassy theme, eg biscuits, chocolates, bottles etc.

Thank you for what you are going to do!

Ray Yates

PARI SH REGI STERS

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|------------------|---|--|--|
| Baptisms: | 24.9.06 | Sophie Jane Martin Kieron Maurice Collings Alisha Jasmine Collings Layla Stacey Collings | |
| Weddings: | 16.9.06 23.9.96 | Richard Whittaker & Emily Heather Nigel Holt & Anna Greaves | |
| Funerals: | 25.8.06 29.8.06 31.8.06 31.8.06 11.9.06 20.9.06 27.9.06 | Edward Formby-Booth Paul Woodward Joseph Etherington Kathleen Underwood Bertha Weeks Gillian Lahaive Dorothy Burgess | 65 59 78 85 96 74 89 |

A note from the Editor:

A few years ago I saw a car sticker which read something like this "If you can read this thank a teacher". I thought it was a brilliant slogan so if you can read this short note thank a teacher BUT if you are reading this thank Ron Edinborough.

Last month, just before the master copy of the magazine was due to be printed the computer became very unwell! Ron came to the rescue. He spent hours (as Pam will testify) doing a temporary repair to the computer and then getting it up and running so that the magazine could be printed. He then spent many more hours taking it apart and doing all sorts of wonderful technical things to it. By doing this Ron saved probably the hundreds of pounds which it would have cost the Parish if the computer had had to go away for repair.

So on behalf of the editor, readers of the magazine and the parish, thank you Ron.

Gwyneth Tubbs



DIARY FOR OCTOBER

| | | | |
|----|-----|-------------------|---|
| 1 | Sun | 10.30am 6.00pm | Harvest Thanksgiving: Combined Service Harvest Songs of Praise |
| 2 | Mon | 7.30pm | TAP into Faith Course: Last session at Babbacombe |
| 3 | Tue | 8.00pm | Baptism Preparation |
| 4 | Wed | 10.00am 7.30pm | Mothers' Union Corporate Communion Parish Church Committee |
| 6 | Fri | 7.00pm | Prayers around the Cross |
| 8 | Sun | 6.00pm | Stewardship Campaign starts: Fr Mark Bate to speak at morning services at the Parish Church Evening Worship: S Boniface |
| 9 | Mon | 7.30pm | TAP into Faith Course begins at Paignton |
| 10 | Tue | 7.30pm | CTIP Business Meeting |
| 12 | Thu | 7.30pm | Evening Mothers' Union |
| 15 | Sun | 6.00pm | Fr Mark Bate to speak at S Andrew's & S Boniface Wholeness and Healing: Parish Church |
| 16 | Mon | 7.30pm | TAP into Faith Course: Parish Church |
| 17 | Tue | 6.30pm | Junior House Group meets |
| 18 | Wed | 8.00pm | Parochial Church Council |
| 19 | Thu | 9.00am | Magazine material to Vicarage please |
| 21 | Sat | 10.00am | TAP into Faith: Making Connections 2 |
| 22 | Sun | 2.30pm 6.00pm | Holy Baptism: Parish Church Evensong & Benediction: S Andrew's |
| 23 | Mon | 7.30pm | TAP into Faith Course: Parish Church |
| 27 | Fri | 7.30pm | Wine and Wisdom Evening: S Andrew's |
| 29 | Sun | | CTIP Service |
| 30 | Mon | 7.30pm | TAP into Faith: Parish Church |
| 31 | Tue | 6.30pm | Junior House Group |

INTERCESSIONS FOR OCTOBER

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|----|-----|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 | Sun | HARVEST THANKSGIVING | Thanksgiving for the harvest |
| 2 | Mon | Holy Guardian Angels | TAP into Faith's Course |
| 3 | Tue | Feria | Those asking for baptism |
| 4 | Wed | S Francis of Assisi | All Franciscans |
| 5 | Thu | Feria | Our Parish Outreach |
| 6 | Fri | Feria | Our Mayor and Councillors |
| 7 | Sat | Of Our Lady | Our sidesmen and women |
| 8 | Sun | TRINITY 17 | Our Stewardship Campaign |
| 9 | Mon | S Denis & Companions MM | The Church in France |
| 10 | Tue | S Paulinus B | The Archbishop of York |
| 11 | Wed | Feria | Federation of Catholic Priests |
| 12 | Thu | S Wilfrid B | Mission in our own country |
| 13 | Fri | S Edward the Confessor | The Queen |
| 14 | Sat | Of Our Lady | Walsingham |
| 15 | Sun | TRINITY 18 | S Andrew's & S Boniface |
| 16 | Mon | Feria | The Bereaved |
| 17 | Tue | S Ignatius BM | Our Junior House Group |
| 18 | Wed | S Luke Ev | The Nursing Profession |
| 19 | Thu | Feria | Parochial Clergy |
| 20 | Fri | Feria | All scientists |
| 21 | Sat | Of Our Lady | Making Connections 2 |
| 22 | Sun | TRINITY 19 | Our Sunday Schools |
| 23 | Mon | Feria | The Deanery Chapter |
| 24 | Tue | Feria | The Peace of the World |
| 25 | Wed | SS Crispin & Crispinian MM | Our Young People |
| 26 | Thu | SS Chad and Cedd BB | The monastic life |
| 27 | Fri | Feria | Our Wine & Wisdom evening |
| 28 | Sat | SS Simon & Jude AA | All bishops |
| 29 | Sun | LAST AFTER TRINITY | Christians Together In Paignton |
| 30 | Mon | Feria | The Faithful Departed |
| 31 | Tue | Feria | Christian/Muslim relations |

