

## Special Edition August 2020

Vol 47 No 8

As we can't get our Rendezvous printed or use the usual distribution method in the current situation I have created this simpler edition. If you have an email address, please let me know by emailing me at [andrew\\_pledst@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:andrew_pledst@yahoo.co.uk). For those who do not have email, we will endeavour to get this simpler version printed and circulated.

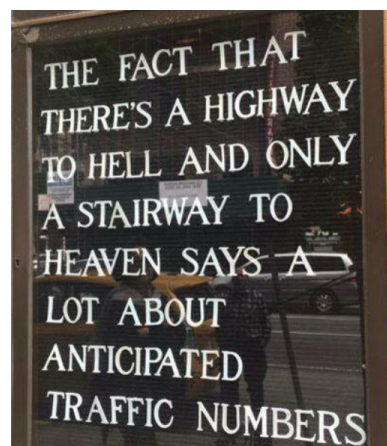
My apologies for the lateness of these editions - teething troubles with a different way of producing and printing this and other things taking up my time! Hopefully we should soon be back to normal.

Take care

Andrew

## CALENDAR August 2020

Sun	2	<b>The Eighth Sunday after Trinity</b>
Wed	5	Oswald, King of Northumbria, Martyr
Thurs	6	<b>The Transfiguration of Our Lord</b>
Sat	8	Dominic, Priest, Founder of the Order of Preachers
Sun	9	<b>The Ninth Sunday after Trinity</b>
Mon	10	Laurence, Deacon at Rome, Martyr
Tues	11	Clare of Assisi, Founder of the Minoresses [Poor Clares]
Thurs	13	Jeremy Taylor, Bishop of Down and Connor, Teacher
Sun	16	<b>The Tenth Sunday after Trinity</b>
Thurs	20	Bernard, Abbot of Clairvaux, Teacher
Sun	23	<b>The Eleventh Sunday after Trinity</b>
Mon	24	<b>Bartholomew the Apostle</b>
Thurs	27	Monica, Mother of Augustine of Hippo
Fri	28	Augustine, Bishop of Hippo, Teacher
Sat	29	The Beheading of John the Baptist
Sun	30	<b>The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity</b>
Mon	31	Aidan, Bishop of Lindisfarne, Missionary
Thurs	3 Sept	Gregory the Great, Bishop of Rome, Teacher
Sun	6	<b>The Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity</b> 10.30 a.m. SUNG EUCHARIST
Tues	8	The Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Thurs	10	10.30 a.m. Holy Communion
Sat	12	<b>St Eanswythe</b> 10.00 a.m. – 4.00 p.m. Ride and Stride



## Supporting our Church Financially

During this time when our usual supporters are not able to make cash donations or use the planned giving scheme, I would like to ask if donations could be made instead by bank transfer so that we can keep paying our bills! All donations would be gratefully received. Our bank details are:

Account Name: Vicar and Churchwardens of the Parish Church of St Mary & St Eanswythe  
Sort Code: 52-41-42  
Account Number: 08627290

---

## Ride and Stride Saturday 12th September 2020

I have been notified that hopefully this will be able to take place this year. The Plested family have nobly offered to visit as many churches in the area as possible to raise much needed funds, half of which will go to St Mary and St Eanswythe and the other half to support Kent churches generally,

Andrew and family do need sponsoring in their endeavour. Naturally it is difficult to collect cash as usual so please give your support in the form of a pledge either contacting Andrew direct or Marilyn Edey on 01303 223049 or [m.edey45@btinternet.com](mailto:m.edey45@btinternet.com)

You will be notified if circumstances change

Very many thanks

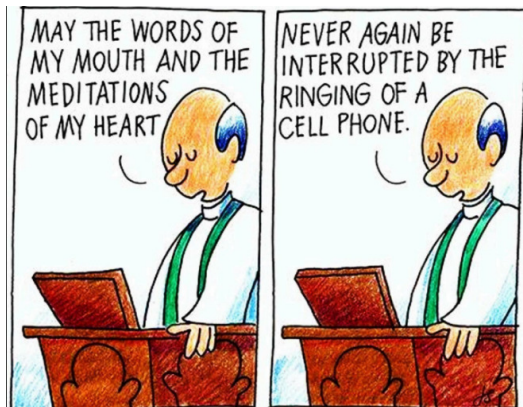
*Marilyn Edey*

**Please also note that the Friends of Kent Churches gave us a grant of £20,000 towards the roof works at the beginning of 2020 and towards the mural repairs at a later date so it would be good to show our appreciation.**

For the past three years Patricia has taken over from me to do the rounds. As she is due around the time of Ride and Stride, it would not be wise for her to be riding a bike around the town!

We have yet to decide whether someone (not me!) will cycle around or whether I attempt it with my mobility scooter and see how far the battery gets me (it's rated at 14 miles but that appears to be only if the roads are flat, and they aren't around Folkestone and Cheriton, I have twice tried to go to the town centre and back but it didn't get me all the way back up Canterbury Road) but I can always get picked up and put the mini Tesla in the boot!

*Andrew*



**This month's Commemoration**  
**John Mason Neale, Priest and Hymn Writer**  
**7 August**

Neale was born in London on 24 January 1818, son of the Rev. Cornelius Neale and Susanna Good. He was educated at Sherborne School, Dorset, and Trinity College, Cambridge.

Whilst chaplain of Downing College, Cambridge he was affected by the Oxford Movement and, being particularly interested in church architecture, helped to found the Cambridge Camden Society (afterwards known as the Ecclesiological Society), which advocated more ritual and religious decoration in churches. He was closely associated with the Gothic Revival. In 1846 he became warden of Sackville College, an alms house at East Grinstead, an appointment which he held until his death.

Neale was strongly high church in his sympathies, and had to endure a good deal of opposition. However, he is best known as a hymn writer and, especially, translator, having enriched English hymnody with many ancient and mediaeval hymns translated from Latin and Greek. For example, the melody of Good King Wenceslas derives from a Medieval Latin springtime poem, *Tempus adest floridum*. More than anyone else, he made English-speaking congregations aware of the centuries-old tradition of Latin, Greek, Russian, and Syrian hymns. The English Hymnal of 1906 contains 63 of his translated hymns including: All Glory, Laud and Honour; O come, O come, Emmanuel; Sing, My Tongue, the Glorious Battle; Jerusalem the Golden; Christ is Made the Sure Foundation and Creator of the Stars of Night.

Having suffered frail health for many years he died on the feast of the Transfiguration in 1866 aged 48 and is commemorated on the following day.

**Collect**

Eternal God  
you called John Mason Neale to proclaim your glory  
in a life of prayer and pastoral zeal;  
keep the leaders of your church faithful  
and bless your people through their ministry,  
that the church may grow into the full stature  
of your Son Jesus Christ Our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit  
one God now and for ever

Readings: OT Isaiah 6.1-8; NT 1 Cor. 4.1-5 Gospel  
John.12.15-17



**Sunday Eucharist Gospels – August 2020**  
**Sunday 2 August – 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity: Matthew 14.13-21**

*All ate and were filled*

Faith is often incomplete, fearing God will help us only in certain ways or to a limited extent. He meets all the needs of those who turn to him confidently and with the whole will.

**Sunday 9 August – 9<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity: Matthew 14.22-33**

*'You of little faith, why did you doubt?'*

The great events of life, the happenings of the world, the extreme moods of nature can dominate our minds. Even seeking to understand the deeper mysteries of faith can make us fail to see what is near us. All that the believer needs is to be still and trust in the personal; encounter with God.

**Sunday 16 August – 10<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity: Matthew 15.[10-20]21-28**

*Even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master's table.*

The promises of God were first made to the Jewish people. Their great prophets came to understand that he is God of the whole world and the incarnation of Jesus Christ opened salvation to all who respond in faith.

**Sunday 23 August – 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity: Matthew 16.13-20**

*'Flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven'*

Careful attention to what is close and immediate is necessary in an ordered life, but our eyes should not always be looking down. We need also to look up to God for guidance every day and to learn as much as we need of his greater purposes.

**Sunday 30 August – 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity: Matthew 16. 21-28**

*'Those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it'.*

To follow our own way is comfortable and can too easily be mistaken for following the way set before us by God. The easy road may be leading us away from him. The committed life must continually be aware of the call of self-will.

**RED LETTER DAYS OF OBLIGATION**

**Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> August – The Transfiguration of Our Lord: Luke 9.28-36**

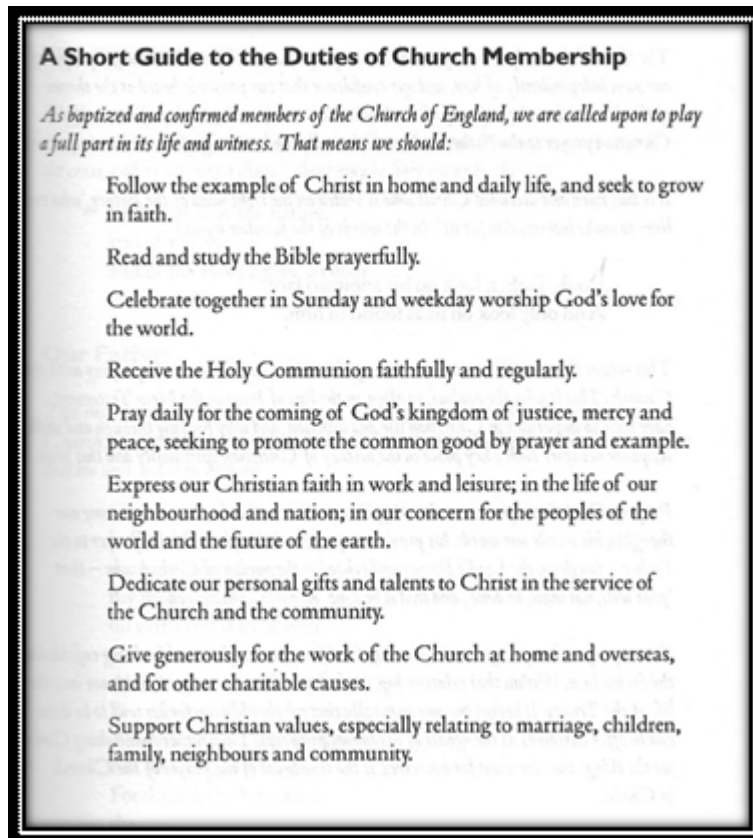
The appearances of God in the Old Testament are surrounded by mystery and the distinctive glory of the divine presence. In Christ the glory is seen in human form, as he opened the way between humanity and God.

**Saturday 15 August – The Blessed Virgin Mary: Luke 1.46-55**

God redeemed the world by making the divine incarnate in the human as a perfect sacrifice. He chose the Virgin Mary to be the mother through whom the purpose would be fulfilled.

---

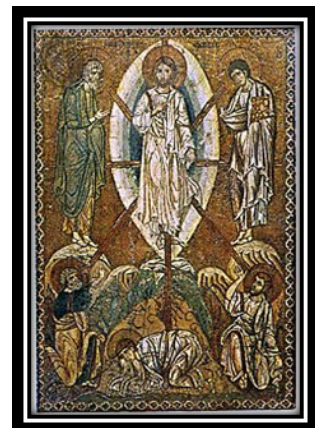
*The best vitamin for a Christian is B1*



---

## Feast of the Transfiguration – 6 August

The Transfiguration commemorates the occasion upon which [Christ](#) took three of his [disciples](#), [Peter](#), [James](#), and [John](#), up on a mountain, where [Moses](#) and [Elijah](#) appeared and Jesus was [transfigured](#), his face and clothes becoming dazzlingly bright (Mark 9:2–13; Matthew 17:1–13; Luke 9:28–36). The [festival](#) celebrates the revelation of the eternal glory of the Second Person of the [Trinity](#), which was normally veiled during Christ's life on earth. According to tradition, the event took place on [Mount Tabor](#).



It is not known when the festival was first celebrated, but it was kept in Jerusalem as early as the 7th century and in most parts of the [Byzantine Empire](#) by the 9th century. It was gradually introduced into the Western Church, and its observance was fixed as [August 6](#) by Pope [Calixtus III](#) in 1457 as a thank offering for the victory over the Turks at Belgrade on that day in 1456. In 2002 Pope [John Paul II](#) updated the meditations of the [rosary](#) with five “luminous mysteries,” of which the Transfiguration is one.

## **The good old Church of England and the Future**

In July 2011, the Daily Telegraph reported the debate in General Synod during which members heard that the average age of worshipping congregations is now 61 and that by 2020 the C of E would be facing a crisis. It was, members were told, 'impeccably' managing itself into failure. The focus of the debate was an internal report calling for an urgent national recruiting drive to attract more members. Well here we are in 2020 and, yes, I suppose the church is facing a crisis – not helped by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Synods and PCCs could spend hundreds of hours analysing why this has happened and avoiding the really difficult discussion of what each congregation could and should be doing to reverse the decline.

There is no sure-fire, 'fix it for everyone' method which can be adopted. Each church community has to look to itself, its parish area, its worship, its attitude to strangers and how it works out its Christian faith in the world today. Christians are identified far more by the way they live their lives and treat others than by simply wearing a cross.

It is incumbent on every church to know their faith, to understand its history and to learn together how to communicate their beliefs to those who come seeking some spiritual focus for their lives. This is not, and never has been, an easy path to take. It demands inspired leadership - ordained and lay - and a congregation that actually WANTS to welcome newcomers and grow. If your church is at that stage, then now is the time to plan your outreach strategy, church welcoming approach and move forward. Only God knows where it will lead - that is what faith is all about. If not, then the clock is ticking.

*Malcolm Adie*

*This article is an updated version of that which first appeared in Rendezvous in 2011*

---

### **Points to ponder**

*Are you in the right place? Are you doing the right thing?*

'God has created me to do him some definite service. He has committed some work to me that he has not committed to another. I have my mission.' *John Henry Newman.*

*Are the school holidays proving a strain?*

Children are a great comfort in your old age... and they help you to reach it faster, too!

*How do you decide how much to give?*

Give God what's right - not what's left.

*Do you feel you are not good enough?*

God doesn't call the qualified, he qualifies the called.

Our Church is gradually re-opening - see page 8

page 6



## **Bookworm – What I've Been Reading**

### **Lockdown – Peter May (2020)**

It couldn't happen they said. A major city like London under Lockdown because of a flu pandemic. Never. Which was why the publishers refused to publish Peter May's book 15 years ago!

But he had done his research. Thoroughly. He had studied the detailed pandemic planning of both the British and American governments and the Spanish Flu pandemic of 1918.

And so when Covid-19 reached pandemic proportions this year, he had this book already written and it was published at top speed at the end of April, just over a month after the whole of the UK (and most of the world) had gone into Lockdown.

I was somewhat anxious about reading it as I thought it might scare the living daylights out of me at the moment, but it didn't. Although it is scary. It's a very good book indeed.

Not only is there a Bird Flu pandemic, there are some very ruthless people about and in his last 24 hours in the Metropolitan Police DI Jack MacNeil becomes obsessed with finding the killer of the young girl whose bones were discovered on the construction site for a temporary hospital. As he proceeds with his investigation, he makes some very sinister discoveries.

It's an exciting thriller. The body count is high, and that's not just because of the flu.

It is no surprise that this became an instant bestseller and I commend this book to you.

### **The Carer – Deborah Moggach (2019)**

I always enjoy Deborah Moggach's books (I've read them all, some more than once) so I was looking forward to this one very much. It did not disappoint. Indeed, it surpassed some of the review quotations on the cover. The Times described it as "a cracking, crackling social comedy" and The Observer as "compelling and surprising". All of which it was.

As suggested by the title it's about a carer, the elderly man she is caring for, and the lives of his two adult children. Mandy appears to be the perfect carer and builds up a close relationship with James, who is now on the edge of dementia. Having Mandy to look after their father means that Phoebe and Robert can carry on with their own busy lives. Then things start to take a rather sinister turn. And then there are several huge twists in the plot, which I just didn't see coming at all and made the book unputdownable.

This is a great book. It's both funny and very moving, and I would have read it in one go if I could.

### **The Noble Path – Peter May (1992, revised 2019)**

This was quite different from the other books I have read by Peter May, but it was an exciting and interesting read.

It is set over a few months in 1978-1979 in Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam and London, and is about mercenaries, high class prostitution, the Khmer Rouge, refugees, Vietnamese Boat People, trust, human kindness, desperation and brutality.

I found it a bit slow at first, but it soon became a real page turner. Well worth a read.

*Catriona Hunter*

## RE-OPENING ST MARY & ST EANSWYTHE FOLKESTONE FOR PRIVATE PRAYER

St Mary & St Eanswythe Church are pleased to announce a limited opening for private individual prayer on 6 days a week from Saturday 20 June.

Opening hours are:

12.30-1.30 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday.

10.30-1.30 p.m. on Sunday.

We regret that we can't do more than this just yet, but hope to expand our opening times just as soon as we can.

Access within the building will be restricted to the Nave. Use of Hand Sanitizer and Social Distancing must be observed.

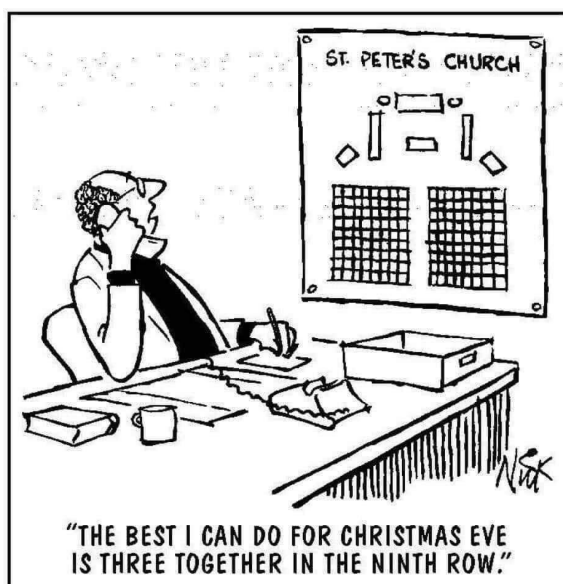
Update 28/6/2020

## RE-OPENING ST MARY & ST EANSWYTHE FOLKESTONE FOR WORSHIP

We have decided to delay opening St Mary & St Eanswythe Folkestone for worship services until **Sunday 6 September**, as long as we are not experiencing a second wave of Covid-19 at that time. The main reason is the age and health profile of our congregation, which affects both the heightened risk of infection and also the availability of volunteers to help run services. Services of daily Morning Prayer and Sunday Eucharist will continue to be published online.

For those of you with a computer or smartphone Fr John has been providing the following:

- Daily Reflection - if you aren't getting this, email [rev.dr.john.walker@gmail.com](mailto:rev.dr.john.walker@gmail.com) to be put on the mailing list
- Recorded Services on Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/pg/sainteanswythe/videos/> you will get a facebook sign in panel but just click *not now* at the bottom of the panel.
- See also the church website <https://stmaryandsteanswythe.org/>



### Food for Free!

Each Friday in August from around 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. a selection of tinned and packaged food and some fresh vegetables and fruit will be available at the door to the Woodward Hall, for anyone to help themselves. This has been donated to St Eanswythe School for distribution to those who are in need but as a result of the generosity of donors the food on display is surplus to requirement. Don't let it go to waste!