



## MONEY CAN'T BUY YOU LOVE

We're tempted to think that if only we had enough money we could be really happy. In fact, the only guarantee is that we would be really rich. For money does not equate with happiness any more than sex equates with fulfilment, drugs with serenity or alcohol with sociability.

What temptation actually offers us is illusion. It's that flickering image of greener grass on the other side. But green grass always needs mowing eventually, and temptation always needs payment of one kind or another.

Jesus' temptations were all-inclusive. They were about money, power and success. The Devil was saying that if Jesus would give in to him, then the world was Jesus' oyster. There's nothing sinful about that - only an offer. But it's an offer that he could and did refuse.

As Lent begins we are pointed in the direction of real life. We are reminded that there are so many choices that face us each day. We have to be clear not only about which ones we are going to make, but also about why we are doing so.

The ashes, with which we begin Lent, are a reminder of the cross. And it's this cross that we hold before our eyes as we journey along the forty days. It's a constant reminder to us that there are no easy ways out, no quick fixes, and no shortcuts to holiness. If we are to share in the joy of the Easter resurrection then we have to embrace the cross. And this means making some choices in life that are difficult. It means sometimes swimming against the tide of public opinion and practice. It means having a vision of what life really is rather than the flimsy imitation that temptation would have us believe.

Jesus knew that what the Devil had to offer could not help him in his mission from the Father. What the Father offered was glory. What the Devil offered was at best fame. Jesus was steadfast in facing whatever would lead him to fulfil his mission.

In Lent, as in life, we will come across the chance to take what look like wonderful offers but which in our hearts we know to be flawed. They are the temptations which can be our undoing - or our making.

### SCRIPTURE

Then Jesus was led by the Spirit out into the wilderness to be tempted by the Devil.

*(Matthew 4:1)*

PARISH NEWS

February 20th, 1999

SEDLSCOMBE WITH WHATLINGTON

Vol.32 No. 8

First Sunday of Lent

10p

### SEDLSCOMBE PARISH CHURCH

The cedar shingles at the top of the tower are being replaced. If anyone would like to put their name on one of the new shingles [and make a donation towards the cost of the work] the new shingles will be in church on Saturday and Sunday, together with an indelible marker pen. Donations should be placed in the wallbox or posted through the Rectory door. Why not make a mark for posterity? - the signed shingles will be the last to be placed and so will be near the top of the "spirelet".

SEDLSCOMBE PLAYERS - a reminder that we are meeting up on **Monday 22 February** in the Queen's Head. Bring a contribution to the feast!

### SEDLSCOMBE GREEN W.I.

Monthly meeting will be on **Wednesday 24 February** at 7.30 pm in the village hall. Our speaker will be Dr Jardine Brown on "Friend or Enemy". Tea hostesses: J Esmond-White and S Beaney. Competition: "Flower of the Month". Visitors and new members always very welcome.

### HUNGER LUNCH Friday 19

**February** (and every Friday throughout Lent) following Holy Communion at 12.30 pm, both in the Rectory. Lunch of home-made soup and roll (£2.50 per head) will be available, proceeds to Christian Aid. Please support our efforts to raise money for the needy.

Churches in Sedlescombe, Whatlington and Brede are joining together for the Women's World Day of Prayer on **Friday, 5 March** at 7.30 pm at the Parish Church of St John the Baptist in Sedlescombe. This year's service has been prepared by women of Venezuela, with the theme "God's tender touch". Refreshments will be served after the service and men, women and young people are all welcome.

CHOIR FESTIVAL One again our Choir will be taking part in the Chichester Festival on **Saturday 6 March**. A coach will be leaving the village at 10.30 am, going straight to Chichester. Cost £5. Packed lunch optional or plenty of eating places in Chichester. The choir will be

**The Theme: The challenge to do battle with our sinfulness & weakness**

**The Readings:**

**Genesis 2:15-17;3:1-7 Our choices matter- we need to be careful!**

**Romans 5:12-19 God's love & mercy given to us as a free gift**

**Matthew 4:1-11 How Jesus deals with stress and difficulties**

**Services and Meetings this week**

**The First Sunday of Lent February 21st, 1999**

<b>SEDLESCOMBE</b>		<b>WHATLINGTON</b>	
<b>Lent 1</b> [21]		<b>Lent 1</b> [21]	
8.00am Holy Communion		9.00am Holy Communion	
10.00am Parish Communion Junior and Youth Church			
4.30pm Lent Group and tea			
6.00pm Evening Prayer			
<b>Monday</b> [22]			
7.30pm Healing Eucharist			
<b>Tuesday</b> [23]			
7.30pm Holy Communion			
<b>Wednesday</b> [24]		<b>Thursday</b> [25]	
10.00am Holy Communion		8.00am Holy Communion	
<b>Friday</b> [26]			
12.30pm Holy Communion			
1.00pm Lent Lunch			
3.00pm Stations of the Cross			
<b>Saturday</b> [27]			
9.00am Holy Communion			
<b>Lent 2</b> [28]		<b>Lent 2</b> [28]	
10.00am Parish Communion, J&YCh		8.00am Holy Communion	
4.30pm Lent Group			
6.00pm Evening Prayer			

**The Chapel Hill Church {United Reformed}**

Morning worship and Junior Church 10.30 am, taken by Dave West.

7pm Worship in a fellowship home.

Weekly meeting: Home Group, Tuesday 7.30 pm

rehearsing in the afternoon with an Evensong early evening to which you are invited. The coach leaves Chichester at approximately 7 pm. If interested, contact Rosemary on Sedlescombe 870533.

**BONUS BALL** Last week's winner, number 48, Yvonne Green.

**POST OFFICE - LOST PROPERTY**

Recently handed in (found outside the Brickwall Hotel) youth's anorak, slate grey/orange lining. Also black detachable hood for a child's coat.

**STAN STANDLEY** wishes to thank everyone who sent cards, best wishes and visited him whilst in hospital. He has now returned home.

**1ST SEDLESCOMBE SCOUT GROUP**

Scout Leader Kevin Barton is keen to hear from anyone interested in becoming a leader within the Group. Contact the Secretary - 870385.

**BINGO - Saturday 20 February** in the Scout Hut. Eyes down at 7 pm. Everyone welcome but children must be accompanied by an adult.

**SEDLESCOMBE SPORTS ASSOC**

Still some places left for our popular Quiz Night **13 March**. Teams of six, £3.50 per person including ploughman's supper. Ring Sarah, 870707, to enter your team.

**SEDLESCOMBE RANGERS JUNIOR**

**FOOTBALL CLUB** Rangers Under 12's continued their run of emphatic wins with a 15-2 home victory against Bexhill Town. That's an incredible 31 goals in the last 2 games for the Rangers! On target for Rangers were Man of the Match Z Nathan who scored 6, H

Sullivan scored 3, there were two apiece for M Tapp and D Smith. L Wickham and A Ford concluded the tally. The Under 8's played a double header at Bliby (Ashford). Won the first match 4-2, (goals from O Jeffs, A Morgan, D Newton and J Smith, MOM G Boreham) but lost the second match 1-0. T Butler-Manual was MOM.

**SEDLESCOMBE SCHOOL**

It's half-term already! We are planning a project on "Improving Playtimes" and I wondered if any of our local community would like to share games you used to play in your school days with our children. Come into school and talk to a group of children or write down the game and send it to us. We would love to hear from some of you - please! The special week dedicated to this is the week beginning **8 March**. We would also like to have our picnic bench tops covered with a piece of wood (so that pencils don't keep falling through the slats) as the children like to sit and draw at these benches. If anyone would like to do this job for us that would be wonderful (2 benches). We have other ideas of a wooden play house and play boat for the children to play in, a trim trail around the edge of the field, seating under the pergola and lots more! If you'd like to help the children in any of these ways, please let me know. Thank you.

The next Senior Citizens' lunch is on **Tuesday 2 March** - lunch at about 12.00 in the hall. We would love to see you so do please ring to book your place. Cost: £2 for lunch, optional raffle 50p.

See next week's Parish News re. Tesco Tokens & Book Tokens. *MH*