

## WORKING UP A THIRST

We expect to hear about water in Lent. After all, Lent is traditionally a period of preparation for baptism. Throughout the world there are many thousands of people for whom Lent is the final stage in their journey to becoming Christians. It's a 40-day retreat for them before they take the plunge.

But John's account of Jesus and the woman at the well takes a different turn. Instead of talking about washing, it talks about thirst.

Jesus tells the Samaritan woman what she already knows: she's had so many affairs and been through so much, but deep down she's not happy. She lacks what today we would call "fulfilment".

Drinking the well water is like dabbling in so many different interests, trying this latest fad or being part of the "in thing". We've all done it. We've searched around for something to catch our interest. We look for a "drink" that will refresh the parts that others don't reach. We make designer water our tippie.

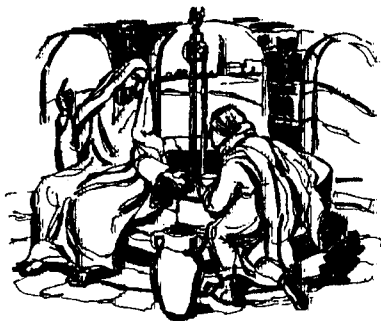
If you drink the water I give you, says Jesus, you'll never want anything else; you'll find fulfilment in God. A good test of our faith is to ask just how much do we thirst for God. How much do we yearn for God? If God were to disappear from our lives, would we simply change to another philosophy of life, or would we feel spiritually parched?

Jesus's question is simple. How thirsty are you?

### SCRIPTURE

Whoever drinks this water  
will get thirsty again;  
but anyone who drinks the water I shall give  
will never be thirsty again.

*(John 4:13-14)*



PARISH NEWS

March 6th, 1999

SEDLSCOMBE WITH WHATLINGTON

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Third Sunday of Lent

10p

**MOTHERS' UNION** Our next meeting on **9 March** at 2.30 pm will be at Roselands. Our speaker will be Mrs Beryl Phelps, Deanery President. Why not come and join us and find out the good work that we do across the world. A warm welcome awaits you. *VH*

### **SEDLSCOMBE PARISH**

**COUNCIL** The next meeting of the Council will be held in the village hall following the Open Forum at 7 pm on **Tuesday 9 March**. Members of the public are welcome to attend and take part in the Open Forum.

The following Tuesday, **16 March**, the Annual Assembly of the Parish Meeting of Sedlescombe will be held in the village hall starting at 7.30 pm. This is a meeting when all residents of the Parish are invited to take part and any question or comment regarding Sedlescombe is welcome. Copies of the agenda are being distributed to every house in the parish. The guest speaker will be the County Council's Area Highway Manager, Mr Graham Furness. Some will remember the last time Mr Furness attended our Annual

Assembly and his interesting talk. The Parish Council is aware that residents usually have a lot of questions regarding roads, grass verges, speed limits, etc - this is your opportunity to hear first-hand Mr Furness's replies. For the first time there will be a sales table at the Assembly where you will be able to buy a "Sedlescombe 2000" bone china mug at £3.50 each. The design is based on the winning competition entry which was submitted by Sedlescombe School. We will also be selling Parish Maps, footpath leaflets and copies of "A Century of Village Life".

**SEDLSCOMBE & DISTRICT FLOWER CLUB** **Wednesday, 10 March** 7.15 pm in the village hall, demonstration by Mrs R Leary - "Inspiration". Members' competition "To be Inspired". New members and visitors very welcome.

**Saturday 13 March** - 10 am to 12 noon in the village hall, a Mothers' Day coffee morning. Flower arrangements, gifts, cakes, etc. Everybody welcome!

The Theme: Living water - God's love quenching our spiritual thirst

The Readings:

Exodus 17:1-7

God provides water from the rock

Romans 5:1-11

God's free gift of love poured into our hearts

John 4:5-42

Jesus offers the water of life and the love of God

Services and Meetings this week

The Third Sunday of Lent

March 7th 1999

SEDLESCOMBE	WHATLINGTON
<b>Lent 3</b> [7]	<b>Lent 3</b> [7]
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> [8]	
7.30pm Holy Communion	
<b>Tuesday</b> [9]	
2.30pm Mothers' Union - Roselands	
7.30pm Holy Communion	
Wednesday [10]	
10.00am Holy Communion	
Friday [12]	
12.30pm Holy Communion	
1.00pm Lent Lunch	
3.00pm Stations of the Cross	
8.15pm Scout Committee	
Saturday [13]	
9.00am Holy Communion	
<b>Lent 4 {Mothering Sunday}</b> [14]	<b>Thursday</b> [11]
10.00am Family Eucharist, J&YCh	8.00am Holy Communion
	<b>Lent 4 {Mothering Sunday}</b> [14]
	8.00am Holy Communion

The Chapel Hill Church {United Reformed}

Morning worship and Junior Church 10.30 am with Geoff Powell, followed by Holy Communion.

7pm Prayer and Praise in the church

Weekly meeting: Home Group, Tuesday 7.30 pm.



SEDLESCOMBE & DISTRICT GARDEN SOCIETY

"DAFFODILS FOR GARDEN & SHOW"



PLANT SALE

AN ILLUSTRATED TALK BY

RAFFLE

FRANK VERGE



SEDLESCOMBE VILLAGE HALL

2.00 P.M. WEDNESDAY, 10 MARCH



VISITORS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND AT A CHARGE OF £1.00

**MOTHERING SUNDAY** As usual, we shall be making posies for the children to give to their mothers at the Mothering Sunday service at 10 am on **14 March**. We are asking for gifts of small flowers to be left in the garden of the Old Gun House by about 2 pm on **Saturday 13th**. Please can you spare a few of your precious spring flowers to make some Mum very happy.

**HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE**

A pilgrimage to Galilee and Jerusalem is planned for January 2000. The cost will be about £800 plus extras and this will include all costs of flight, hotels, guides, transport, etc. The planned itinerary has some interesting changes to the last pilgrimage. Anyone interested should contact Father Colin Pritchard as soon as possible.

**ST MICHAEL'S HOSPICE SUPPORT**

**GROUP** are pleased to announce the result of a year's fund raising, when £1047.18 was made through events and £738.35 taken via collection boxes. This is a tremendous achievement on the part of the organisers and the whole village. Thank you for all your support - please continue it throughout this year. The functions are a fashion show on 20 April, a performance by Battle Light Opera on

17 June and an event in October, not yet decided.

The Fashion Show in April is sure to be as enjoyable as the first one. Tickets at £2.50 (to include light refreshment) will shortly be on sale in the Post Office.

**THE SEDLESCOMBE PLAYERS**

The recent Victorian evening was successful financially as well as "artistically" and as a result of our two events over the past couple of years we are pledging £1000 to the new village hall fund should this project go ahead.

**SEDLESCOMBE RANGERS JUNIOR**

**FOOTBALL CLUB** Only two teams had matches last weekend. The Under 10's were 2 goals down at the interval but in a spirited second half they beat Spartan 3-2. Goals from D Saunders and F Sullivan 2, Man of the Match S Elliott. The Under 12's were unfortunate to lose 3-2 to St Leonards Youth United, in a very evenly matched game. Scorers were Z Nathan and MOM D Smith.

**HASTINGS & ROTHER VOLUNTARY**

**ASSOC FOR THE BLIND** are starting a new craft & social club in Mountfield from 25 March. They need volunteers to help and also drivers to take people to and from Mountfield village hall. Ring 01424 853711 if you can help.