



LIVING IN THE REAL WORLD

When the baby needs feeding in the middle of the night, we can easily forget all the good resolutions we made in church. Or when that essay has to be in by the next morning, our faith can seem irrelevant. And it perhaps takes a saint of a bricklayer to think of his work as building up the Body of Christ. Although there may be the odd coalman who utters a prayer about being heavily burdened and needing rest!

People have wrestled with the link between faith and life for generations. It's arguably the most important task facing Christians. The world is the stage on which we are all called act out our faith.

Some people fall into the trap of keeping faith and life separate. In the world of work this can lead them to questionable practices. But they see no conflict with their religion. After all, God lives in church not in the office. Others become religious maniacs, seeing God in every piece of trivia. They decide that the Holy Spirit told them which washing powder to buy and what colour to paint their house.

For most of us the link between faith and life has to be somewhere in the middle. Jesus' farewell speech shows that he had a clear sense of the Father working in his life. He prayed that all his endeavours would be acceptable to God, and he prayed for those around him.

Because the Holy Spirit has been given to us, no moment of our day can be lived out of God's sight. A Christian in the world does the same things that everyone else does - but for and with God. Although they look the same as non-believers, there's an inner quality or purpose to everything they do. It's called self-offering.

SCRIPTURE

Now, Father, it is time
for you to glorify me
with that glory I had with you
before ever the world was.

(John 17:5)

Those who work as they pray,
lift up their heart to God with their
hands.

(St Bernard of Clairvaux)

It is a law of man's nature, written into his very essence.....(and just as much part of him as the desire to build houses and cultivate the land and marry and have children and read books and sing songs).....that he should want to stand together with other men in order to acknowledge their common dependence on God, their Father and Creator.

(Thomas Merton)

PARISH NEWS

May 16th, 1999

SEDLESCOMBE WITH WHATLINGTON

Vol.32 No. 20

The Seventh Sunday of Easter

10p

TODAY - SEDLESCOMBE & DISTRICT GARDEN SOCIETY'S Plant Sale in the Village Hall - 10.30am until 1.30pm (see display on inside page): members of SEDLESCOMBE GREEN W.I. are reminded to take their cakes to the Village Hall by 9.30am if they have promised to help - thank you.

TOMORROW - MACMILLAN MILE CHALLENGE walking the perimeter of Bodiam Castle in aid of this very worthy cause; meet on the Village Green at 2.00pm - all are welcome to take part.

SEDLESCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL - the Annual Meeting will take place in the Village Hall next Tuesday 18th May after the Open Forum which commences at 7.00pm.

SEDLESCOMBE GREEN W.I. members of the Committee are reminded that this month's meeting will take place on Wednesday 19th May at 15 East View Terrace starting at 8.00pm.

1st SEDLESCOMBE SCOUT GROUP Annual May Fair takes place next Saturday 22nd May on the Village Green from 11.00am 'til 2.30pm; Fun for all - games, music, raffle, refreshments, coins around the Pump.....and....the STOCKS....who's going to get a soaking? Donations of raffle prizes, cakes or Tombola prizes will be very gratefully received - please contact Marion on **870385**.

SEDLESCOMBE SCHOOL P.T.A. Quiz Night takes place in the School on Saturday 22nd May starting at 7.00pm; Teams of 6, please: Fish & Chips Supper....a good evening out; see posters as well.

BONUS BALL - last weeks' winner on Ball No 7 was Mr D Hollis.

THE FRIENDS (of Sedlescombe Parish Church) wish to thank all those who opened their gardens over last week-end for their kindness. The event raised in excess of £400 and we are very grateful.

Anthony Rand

Personal - Maidie Rouse would like to thank all those kind people who sent cheques for the R.N.I.B. amounting to £135, also for the many floral tributes and messages of sympathy. My thanks also to all those who attended the Service at the Parish Church for my Darling Jack. Deeply Appreciated.

The Theme: Jesus reigns as King of heaven and is always with us.
The Readings:
Acts 1:6-14 The disciples begin a new phase of life in prayer
1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11 Look beyond immediate difficulties to future glory
John 17:1-11 The ascending Lord prays for his disciples

Services and Meetings this week

The Seventh Sunday of Easter May 16th, 1999

SEDLESCOMBE	WHATLINGTON
The Seventh Sunday of Easter [16] 8.00am Holy Communion 10.00am Parish Communion Junior and Youth Church	The Seventh Sunday of Easter [16] 9.00am Holy Communion
Monday [17] 7.30pm Hastings & Bexhill Organists 7.30pm Holy Communion- Rectory 8.00pm PCC Meeting - Rectory	
Wednesday [19] 10.00am Holy Communion 2.00pm Restholme Trust	Thursday [20] 8.00am Holy Communion
Pentecost Sunday [23] 10.00am Parish Communion, J&YCh 11.30am Burial of Cremated Remains of Ted Waller 5.00pm United Service on the Green	Pentecost Sunday [23] 8.00am Holy Communion

The Chapel Hill Church {United Reformed}
Morning Worship and Junior Church 10.30am
leader: Geoff Powell speaker: Mike Freeman
Weekly Meetings:
Mens' Group Tuesday 3.00-4.30pm in the church
Home Group Tuesday 7.30pm in the Manse
Coffee Morning Wednesday 10.30-12.00 in the church

Mrs Winifred Langridge cannot remember who it was who kindly loaned her a book called "The Wit and Wisdom of the Royal Family" about 6 weeks ago - there is no name in the book either; please 'phone 870061 if you are the owner of the book.

A 13-STEP ACORN STAIRCASE in almost "mint" condition is for sale locally, and for someone this opportunity could save a great deal of inconvenience and cost; please contact the **Parish News** Editor if you are interested or you know of someone who might be.

LESLIE BARTER who has had a short spell in Hospital recently is now back home feeling much better; he plans to visit friends in Bexhill next month and will call in at the Queens's Head for some lunch on his way back to Barnet on June 10th. Leslie is hoping to see as many of his Sedlescombe friends as possible at around 1p.m. on that day in the Q.H. - he sends warmest good wishes.

P.C. MICK KEMPSTER reports several thefts and criminal damage in April involving motor cars; damage to hay bales on a farm site, attempted thefts from caravans, attempted theft from the Hotel and a burglary in Cottage Lane are all detailed in the April Report on the Parish Notice Board. There is also a leaflet with some good advice on car security which all car owners are recommended to read. Your Community Police Officer can be contacted on (Battle) 772356 extn 65280; leave a message with The Controller if unavailable on local page no 105; in an Emergency ring "999";

SEDLESCOMBE AND DISTRICT GARDEN SOCIETY
PLANT SALE
10.30 am - 1.30 pm
SATURDAY 15th MAY
SEDLESCOMBE VILLAGE HALL
SPONSORED BY
BLACKBROOKS GARDEN CENTRE
ADMISSION 20p