



TWO-FACED?

The question to Jesus was another one of those traps. Whatever he answered would leave him open to charges of blasphemy, heresy or incitement. Yet he summed up the Law without denying any of it.

We may be forgiven for thinking that Jesus was making some wonderfully new and radical statement.

He was not. Anyone who knew about the books of Deuteronomy or Leviticus would recognise where Jesus drew his inspiration from.

What was perhaps important was that Jesus was able to take the burden off many people's backs with a simplicity that disarmed: all you have to do is love God and your neighbour.

St Augustine once got himself into hot water when he said, "Love, and then do whatever you want." Some interpreted it as license to do anything as long as you had the right intentions. But in fact what Augustine was really saying was what Jesus had proclaimed in his answer to the Sadducees. If all our actions are motivated by love, then doing whatever we like would essentially mean acting out of love not self-interest.

In Jesus's eyes loving God and loving our neighbour are on an equal footing. We cannot do one without the other. Elsewhere he would go on to say that the way people would know that his followers loved God was by the way they would love each other.

And our neighbour means everyone. Everyone with the same face as us: a human face. Only people who are unbalanced hate themselves. Our natural way is to take care of ourselves, to want to grow and develop, to survive and prosper. When Jesus talks of loving our neighbour as ourselves, he means in this way. We see ourselves in others because we share the common face of humanity. If we say we love God but have scant regard for our neighbour, then we are fooling only ourselves. The hallmark of the New Covenant is the link between these two great commandments.

SCRIPTURE

On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.

(Matthew 22: 40)

When someone moves into the Village near to you, it would be very helpful if you could inform Mrs Raymond (870508), Clerk to the Sedlescombe Parish Council, so that a welcoming letter can be dropped in to them by a parish councillor.

PARISH NEWS

October 23rd, 1999

SEDLESCOMBE WITH WHATLINGTON

Vol.32 No. 43

The Last Sunday after Trinity

10p

SEDLESCOMBE PLAYERS are meeting on **Monday 25 October** and thereafter every Monday night, 7.30 pm in the village hall. New members are welcome (annual subscription £5). Do come along and join this lively group.

SEDLESCOMBE GREEN W.I. All members are reminded the next meeting will be the **Annual General Meeting** in the village hall on **Wednesday 27 October** at 7.30 pm. If you want your Institute to continue, please come to this meeting. It will be followed by a social time.

Tea ladies Sue Whitehead and Pamela Sharp. Competition, Flower of the Month.

ST MICHAEL'S HOSPICE SUPPORT GROUP Table Sale on **Saturday 30 October**, 10 - 12 noon in the village hall. There are still tables available. We are looking for contributions to the cake stall: if anyone would care to bake a cake or pie we would be very grateful to receive it for sale in aid of the Hospice.

I must say how impressed I have been with the response to my approach for cakes. No one I have

yet asked has declined to help out - I am very grateful to all my chums for their magnificent response to my request.

Sylvia Cook

NEW VILLAGE HALL It is probably well known that the new village hall has become more of a reality with the Lottery acceptance of moving the new building from the sports field to the Donkey Field. The Lottery agreed the transfer, subject to the project being conducted in two phases, design and costing and then construction. Last Saturday a committee of 4 people, Ted Comford and Ron Sunderland for the Village Hall Management Committee, Mary Irwin representing the Parish Council and Hope Gosse acting as an independent witness, opened four sealed bids for stage 1. They are currently evaluating the bids and expect to make a decision by the end of this week. The bid will then be submitted to the Lottery for approval, after which we can go forward.

FRIENDS OF SEDLESCOMBE CHURCH are holding a jumble sale on **Saturday 6 November** in the village hall at 2 pm. Please start collecting your jumble together. For

The Theme: The Commandment of Love
The Readings: {RCLA Proper 25}
Leviticus 19:1-2,15-18 We are called to be holy, and to love our neighbour
1 Thessalonians 2:1-8 Paul shows how God's commandment works
Matthew 22:34-46 The two greatest commandments

Services and Meetings this week

The Last Sunday after Trinity **October 24th, 1999**

SEDLSCOMBE	WHATLINGTON
Last after Trinity [24]	Last after Trinity [24]
10.00am Parish Communion Junior and Youth Church	8.00am Holy Communion followed by the Burial of Ian Fadden's Ashes
Monday Forty Martyrs [25]	
7.30pm Holy Communion- <i>Rectory</i>	
Wednesday [27]	
NO eucharist today	Thursday [28]
	NO eucharist today
All Saints' Sunday [31]	All Saints' Sunday [31]
10.00am Parish Communion with Holy Baptism, Junior and Youth Church	8.00am Holy Communion followed by a PCC Meeting

The Chapel Hill Church {United Reformed}

Morning worship and Junior Church 10.30 am with Michael and Judith Welsh.
 No evening worship.

Weekly meetings: Men's Group, Tuesday 3 pm in the church
 Coffee morning, Weds 10.30 am in the church
 'Alpha', Thursday 7 pm in the church
 'Art & Craft', Friday 1 pm in the church

collection please ring Anthony on 870723. Helpers are wanted as well please.

POST OFFICE/SHOP The Editor was a bit quick off the mark last week and Jenny and I missed the opportunity publicly to thank John and Jackie at the Queen's Head for making space available at the pub for a makeshift shop while work was being done at the post office. We are very grateful to them, and to the staff who cheerfully rallied round, making a success of the whole operation. *John Mainwood*

LOST FRUIT BASKET Is anyone holding on to a rather nice large fruit basket with handle, wondering to whom it belongs? Eileen of 870628 will be pleased to be reunited with her basket.

HALLOWEEN will soon be on us again. I am hoping that PC Mick Kempster will have a supply of leaflets as he did last year, to leave at the post office for those who don't wish to be called on during the Hallo'-ween celebrations.

The Post Office has a nice line in witch's hats, masks etc. I'm lucky, I can look like a witch without any help at all. *(Ed)*

BEREAVED PARENTS' SUPPORT GROUP meets on the second Thursday of each month at 7 pm in the Day Centre, St Michael's Hospice, Upper Maze Hill, St Leonards-on-Sea. Further

information from 01424 757062.

A REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

A service of remembering and sharing for all those who have suffered the loss of a baby will take place at the Chapel of the Holy Cross, Conquest Hospital, The Ridge, St Leonards-on-Sea at 2.30 pm on **Sunday 7 November 1999.**

OBITUARIES

We offer our sympathy to John Durnford on the death of his wife Betty Durnford. Betty died on 13 October and her funeral took place at Hastings Crematorium last Friday.

We also offer our sympathy to Gillian Lloyd on the death of her father, Leslie Barter. Leslie died last Tuesday and his funeral will be at Sedlescombe Parish Church on **Wednesday 3 November** at 12 noon.

BATTLE LANDFILL SITE

Please join in the efforts to prevent the proposed new landfill being sited in Marley Lane. You can sign a petition (one in the post office) and write to East Sussex County Council opposing the scheme. It would not be much fun for anyone having this amenity right in the middle of our lives and it's hoped everyone will be vociferous in their objection.