



PARISH NEWS

Holy Trinity Church

COLTON

PASTORAL LETTER

The Vicarage
Penny Bridge
ULVERSTON
LA12 7RQ

March 2005

Dear Friends

STEWARDSHIP

The word stewardship tends to raise the hairs on the back of people's necks as they instantly think of money and usually the church demanding more from them.

As time goes on it is becoming more apparent in all three parishes that some form of stewardship is needed. Partly to increase the financial situation with the cost of running the three parishes being in excess of £70,000 last year and partly to give back to God and His work some of the talent and gifts he has given to us.

Many expect the church to be there day by day, week by week and year by year for worship, for quiet meditation alone or for the occasional offices of baptism, wedding and funeral. To maintain the building and ministry is expensive and we need to provide income for evangelism a well.

If you would like to support the church financially please contact the Gift Aid Officer relating to your parish. Please consider this seriously because the diocese is trimming its costs and the main way to do that is to have even fewer clergy than at present. (Note if you pay income tax then Gift Aiding your giving allows the church to claim the tax back).

Stewardship is about more than money, important as that aspect is. It is also about the way we live our lives in the world as disciples of Christ. Below are a few ideas I found based on the Gospel Readings for the rest of Lent and Easter.

Lent 3 - John 4:5-42

"God is not tied to a place, and those who truly worship God must worship him as he truly is, without regard to place." How many of us feel

that we can only truly worship God in that space we call "our Church"? We know this to be questionable, and yet it seems so difficult for many to actually put this into practice. The faithful steward is one who realizes that God is not tied to a single building, no matter how beautiful or nostalgic it may be.

Lent 4 - John 9:1-41

The Pharisees (those "in the know") seem to think they've got all the right answers. The blind beggar (who has been "on the sidelines") seems to recognize who Jesus really is, and what he's about. What kinds of implications are there in this story for those of us who consider ourselves to be faithful disciples and stewards?

Lent 5 - John 11:1-45

Many who observed what Jesus had done came to believe in him." It seems so much easier for them, back then, to believe. But, what if you were able to see something similar happen right now. Would you believe? A faithful steward is one who believes that their role is to help God's dream for creation come true. What are you doing to make the dream a reality?

Palm Sunday - Matt. 2:1-11, Matt. 26:14-27:66

Both of these passages (one quite short and the other very long) describe some of the very intense situations in the life of Jesus and some of his followers. Many church-goers seem to opt for attending services this day and then again on Easter Day, skipping the in-between "stuff." A faithful steward accepts the reality that at least some of life is lived out in the intense situations and doesn't avoid them.

Easter Day - John 20:1-18 or Matthew 28:1-10

"The disciples had locked the doors for fear." "Don't be afraid." So much of our modern culture, especially in this part of the world, seems to be based on fear. What would life be like, both personally as well as corporately, were we to live "as if" we had nothing to fear? As faithful stewards and disciples can we at least try during these 50 Easter days?

Lent 2005

Wednesday Evening Services

March 2nd	St Luke, Lowick with Blawith	7:30pm
March 9th	Holy Trinity, Colton	7:30pm
March 16th	St Mary the Virgin, Egton	7:30pm

Holy Week

Mon	21st	St Luke Lowick	7:30pm
Tues	22nd	Holy Trinity, Colton	7:30pm
Wed	23rd	St Mary the Virgin, Egton	7:30pm
Thur	24th	Maundy Thursday	
		Holy Trinity, Colton	7:30pm
Fri	25th	Good Friday	
		St Luke, Lowick	10:30am



Annual Parochial Church Meetings

These take place after the Eucharist Service during Holy Week as below:

Monday 21 st March	Lowick Church
Tuesday 22 nd March	Colton Church
Wednesday 23 rd March	Egton-cum-Newland Church

Notices for nominations for election, etc. will be in the appropriate churches at least two Sundays and fourteen days before the meetings.

Sincerely Yours

Gary Wemyss, Vicar.



COLTON CHRONICLES

We have had half term and with it the quietude of rural Cumbria has been shattered by the arrival of children and their children. There have been stories of fathers, or rather grandfathers, utterly bewildered, desperately looking for bolt holes. And there was one report of a cat leaving home! What makes it worse, is that it will soon be Easter.

Valentine's Day has also come and gone with the usual strange and public declarations of eternal devotion in the national press. But "Squishy lovely dovey always and always, your little pumpkin pie" takes the biscuit. Your editor rather liked "Marvellous....! You've such a way with words" but unfortunately does not know anyone called Geeza-Bird.

As you will have noted from the Vicar's contribution that the **Annual Parish Church Meeting** is to be held on **Tuesday 22 March after the Lent Service** Please make an effort to attend, fresh thought are always welcome.

Of late the General Synod, the parliament of the Anglican Church, has been a little dull but the February session was very lively. The House of Laity, you and me, criticised liberal clergy for diluting traditional teaching and want clergy who deny the existence of God and other key doctrines to face heresy trials. This has happened before but the House of Bishops, where the real power lies, threw out the proposals. They have now agreed to reintroduce them.

If all that was not enough the vexed question of women Bishops has been debated with the usual anti-women brigade threatening a breakaway church, and to think we are all supposed to be Christians. Donald.



FLOWERS

It is Lent so there aren't any but the Church will be **Decorated for Easter on Saturday 26 March 10.00am onwards.** Help is always welcome.

COFFEE

6 March Mrs Margaret Campbell and helper.



MOTHERS UNION

Our branch again joined up with the ladies of Leven Valley for the February meeting. As this was International Marriage Week Mrs. Watson used this theme for the short opening service. We then welcomed Bill Shaw from Swarthmoor Hall, who told us about the Quaker Movement, its roots and beliefs.

Our next meeting will be held on **Wednesday 2 March, Rusland Parish Room, 2.00pm.** When the speaker will be the Revd. Doreen Harrison

Margaret.



PARISH NEWS

It is grandmother syndrome time again as May Lambert very graciously reminded me that the guests at her birthday party were not as mean as it stated in the last edition. The amount donated to the Village Green was **£165**, not £65.

A disservice was also done to the Fryers as husband John did tell us, by e-mail, the name of the parents of latest granddaughter Heidi Bo; they are Tania and Luke Fryer. End of groveling.

Good health is at a premium as Mrs. Wren has been very ill, Stan Woods from Bouth is also seriously poorly and Bryan Redhead isn't so good either.

What many thought would never happen, has! Barbara and Tom Watson have moved and their new address is 'Rosegarth', Penny Bridge, Ulverston, LA12 7RH. We welcome their replacements at Tottlebank Farm, Julie, Steve, Nicola and Craig Hodgeson.

We also welcome Jane and John Bamford who have moved into Bluebell Barn, next to the farm.

MORE CHURCH NEWS

It was good to see our old friend the Revd. Reg Harper back at Colton when he conducted a lovely Family Communion on the 6 February and preached his usual sparkling sermon. It has been a good month for on the evening of Ash Wednesday our Vicar led a solemn but beautiful Communion service with another great sermon, this time by the Revd Stephen Pye and accompanied by some wonderful organ music played by Paul Gregson.

The newspaper headlines proclaimed "Synod backs move to end clergy 'jobs for life.'" We have tried to explain before that there are two classes of parsons. There are those who enjoy freehold and are almost irremovable from office and are usually called vicars. Then there are those who are on contracts and have little job security and are normally known as priests in charge.

The Synod decided to draw up legislation to phase in "common tenure" for all priests from archbishops to curates. Critics argued that clergy could become more vulnerable to pressure from domineering bishops and disgruntled parishioners. Which has a ring of truth to it, but clergy will be granted most of the rights enjoyed by secular employees. It will not come cheaply as the Church intends to appoint 18 professional "human resources" posts costing a £1 million per year.

A recent survey revealed that churches top the list of favourite buildings for converting to homes, ahead of barns, schools and warehouses. Apparently churches often have the "wow factor" for house hunters but are viewed as over-priced.

Donald.



Advice to young children.

'Children who paddle where the ocean bed shelves steeply
Must take great care they do not
Paddle too deeply.'

Thus spake the awful ageing couple
Whose hearts the years had turned to rubble.

But the little children to save any bother,
Let it in at one ear and out at the other.

Stevie Smith

WOMENS INSTITUTE

BOUTH

At our last meeting Alan Douglas spoke to us about “Stick dressing” which is the art of shepherd’s crooks’ handles. He was born at Fall Stile, Bouth which is now where Ceddie lives. He entertained us with stories of past times when life really was hard. It was a very interesting evening and enjoyed by all.

The next meeting will be held on **Wednesday 9 March – Bouth Village Hall – 7.15pm.** When Mrs J Smith will give a talk on “The History of the Cavendish Family” The competition will be ‘Royal memorabilia.’ Judith.



SPARKBRIDGE & LOWICK

An evening of fun and laughter was the reward for turning out on a cold dark night on January 25th, with Dorothy Cooke reading some of her collection of poems and letters in Cumbrian Dialect. Prior to this new President Mrs. Watson had dealt quickly with the business, subscriptions were taken and the programs for the year given out.

Our next meeting is to be held on **Tuesday 22 March – Lowick Church Hall – 7.30pm.** when Mrs. Jeffries will talk about her experiences in a Southern Indian Aid Camp, and we welcome everyone to come and join us.

Margaret.



Oxen Park Cinema Club

Due to popular demand the cinema club is expanding. *Master & Commander: The Far Side Of The World* will be shown twice - at Rusland on **1st March** and **Coniston Institute** on **Wednesday 2nd March.** So if you thought you had to miss this great film because it was on a Tuesday you can now come to Coniston on Wednesday. Its 12A so good family entertainment.

Also as part of our young people's Saturday Film Club we are showing *Tigger The Movie* at **Colton 4.00pm on Saturday 12th March.**

Look out for our film/book presentation as a link with the Ulverston Book Fest. We are planning to have a speaker to talk about script writing for films. Possible dates are **23rd or 24th March** at **Ulverston Victoria.**

Possible book/film is *Enduring Love*...check 'Tinnners' Rabbit book shop for final details or phone Carol McNeill 861507.



SCHOOL NEWS

CARTMEL PRIORY

Our bid for £75,000 to start work on a new canteen has now been approved. The whole project involves an enlarged canteen, library and English rooms at a total cost of £240,000.

It would be helpful if parents could support the school in ensuring that the students wear the correct uniform. We expect them to come to school with their shirts tucked in and arrive home that way.

Some parents are causing a hazard by parking close to the school whilst picking up their off springs. This interferes with the parking arrangements for the buses and can cause a potentially dangerous situation.

On the sports front James Oliphant has been listed as a possible for the National Golf team and Brooke Vanhinsbergh has been selected to represent the Cumbria Cross-Country team. Well done to both of you.

There are now Saturday Workshops to develop artistic skills. Contact the office.

Lynda/Donald.



LEVEN VALLEY

Our pyjama party was very successful, and we raised a marvellous £105 for the Tsunami appeal.

One of our pupils, Sam Tickle, is through to the finals of Junior Mastermind. He will be competing later in the year, and his specialist subject will be a historical one, the Stuarts. Good luck, Sam!

If anyone can help with our Toddler group on a Rota basis, please let us know. It is held on Tuesday afternoons in term time, and we are looking for someone to help us who hasn't got a small child, so that they can organise refreshments, activities, etc.

If any of you have "old" passports that have stamps in them (those were the days!), or maybe a passport from another country, perhaps you could

contact us. We would need them at the end of the summer term, when we are working on a topic called “Flight”. Our production of “Joseph” was a great success.

A big thank you to Julia Jones, our staff and many helpers for all their hard work. It is nice to keep up the long tradition of plays at the school.

Another tradition that is being revived is the inter school swimming gala, which will take place in March at the new pool in Grange.

Ron Mein is giving a talk about the history of local villages on **Tuesday March 22nd at 7.00pm**. There will be a pie and pea supper - £2.50 adults, and £1 for children. Do come and join us. Ron says it isn't the first time he has been combined with pie and peas

Our **Easter Service** will take place at **Finsthwaite Church** on **Wednesday 23 March at 2.15pm**. May we extend a cordial invitation to you all.

We are holding an **Easter Bunny** drive on the afternoon of **Thursday 24 March at 2.00pm**. This is very similar to a beetle drive! Once again, you are very welcome to join us, and admission is 50 pence for adults, to include refreshments.

A happy Easter to you all.

Susan.



Home thoughts from Abroad

We were greatly impressed with the Dome –
So unlike dear St Peter's at home!
Perhaps our church spire
Is a tiny bit higher
But our Vicar is much lower than Rome.

Brian Hill



“The joys of motherhood are never fully experienced until all the children are in bed.”

DIARY DATES

- 1 March **St. David.**
- 2 March Lent Service – **Lowick – 7.30pm.**
Mothers Union, Rusland parish Room – 2.00pm.
- 6 March **Mothering Sunday**, Family Service – **10.30am.** Coffee in Hall afterwards.
- 9 March Lent Service – **Colton – 7.30pm.**
Bouth W I Village Hall – 7.15pm.
- 13 March Benefice Communion – **Lowick – 10.30am.**
- 16 March Lent Service – **Penny Bridge – 7.30pm.**
- 19 March **Joseph of Nazareth.**
- 20 March Holy Communion – **9.30am.**
- 22 March Lent Service – **Colton – 7.30pm.,** followed by the **APCM**
Sparkbridge & Lowick W I – Lowick Church Hall – 7.30pm.
Leven Valley School – Ron Mein Talk – 7.00pm.
- 23 March Leven Valley School – Easter Service – Finsthwaite – 2.15pm.
- 24 March **Maundy Thursday**, Service – **Colton – 7.30pm.**
Leven Valley School – Easter Bunny Drive – 2.00pm.
- 25 March **Good Friday – Service – Lowick – 10.30am.**
- 26 March Decorating the Church – 10.00am, . >>
- 27 March **EASTER SUNDAY – HOLY COMMUNION – 9.30am.**
B S T begins – Clocks – **Forward One Hour.** (One hour less in bed!)



Easter Prayer

May the Lord Jesus Christ who, dying for the salvation of the whole world, rose this day from the dead, mortify you from your sins by his resurrection. Amen

And may he ,who, by the gibbet of the cross destroyed the rule of death, grant you a portion in the life of blessedness. Amen

So that you, that celebrate this day of his resurrection with joy in this world, may attain the company of the saints in the heavenly kingdom. Amen

Through the aid of his mercy, who with God the Father and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns one God,. world without end. Amen

