

A few words from the Vicarage ...



April is shaping up to be a busy month, with Holy Week and all that that entails, followed by Easter ~ and who could forget that we have our Annual Parochial Church Meeting (or APCM) to add to the mix?? Please see the various notes elsewhere regarding the APCM – and give serious consideration to offering your services.

It was both a distinct sadness and a privilege that we saw a television news camera in church recently – it was sad in the circumstances which gave rise to this in the first place with the tragic death of Sergeant Nigel Coupe, killed whilst serving in Afghanistan. The privilege was that we were given this unique opportunity to offer our prayerful support to his family and colleagues. I know that we all feel the loss of a loved one acutely at any time, yet this was magnified through the media because of the circumstances and I hope and pray that we were able to offer some degree of comfort to those who feel the loss greatest.

On a much happier note, I am delighted at the response to the offer of Confirmation preparation and would ask that you keep the seven candidates in your prayers at this exciting time in their journeys of faith. They are Harry Baines, Christine and Abigail Challenger, Zoe Chelsea, Charles Coyle and Helen and Siân Thompson. Their Confirmation will take place in the Parish Church of St Michael, Kirkham on Sunday, 29th April.

Before then, of course, we have to complete our Lenten preparations. By the time this issue goes live, we will have enjoyed yet another of Linda's organ recitals as we host the final Churches Together Lenten Lunch. We are indeed fortunate to have an organist of Linda's calibre week by week and I am delighted to thank her once more for her invaluable contribution to the worshipping life of our church family.

Having mentioned Churches Together, I am also delighted to record that, with our sister churches, we are hoping to enter into a form of Covenant together. The wording of the Covenant is currently being debated and the timing and format for its signing have yet to be considered. However, this is a great step forward for the whole process of working as one in harmony with each other and I am encouraged by the support being given to this by all churches involved.

So, with that thought very much in focus, I once again wish everyone a most blessed Easter.

God bless you all,
Fr D.