

St Peter's Rectory,  
67 Church Road  
Woolton,  
Liverpool L25 6DA  
phone: 0151 428 1853  
rector@stpeters-woolton.org.uk  
www.stpeters-woolton.org.uk

7<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Dear Friends

### **Creation**

One thing that many of us are appreciating at the moment is getting outside in the fresh air for and walk, and then feeling better for it. Being outdoors and taking exercise is good for our wellbeing both mentally and physically.

### **Refreshed by creation**

When we are outside, we can enjoy what God has made. In Psalm 19 the Psalmist writes 'The heavens proclaim the glory of God. The skies display his craftsmanship.' The Psalmist responds in a similar way in Psalm 8 as he looks at the night sky and being awed by the greatness of God.

### **Refreshed by Jesus' teaching**

You could certainly argue that Jesus encourages us to be attentive and aware of nature. Much of Jesus' teaching is based on close observation – a notice of the germination and growth of tiny seeds, of yeast mixed into flour, of salt sprinkled on food, of sparrows that fall, of children who wonder.

Jesus uses this approach to challenge our tendency to worry. In Matthew 6.25-29 he tells his disciples then and now to stop and pay attention to the birds and wild flowers. It reminds me of a few playful lines you may already know about the robin and the sparrow:

*Said the robin to the sparrow,  
"I should really like to know,  
Why these anxious human beings  
Rush about and worry so."  
Said the sparrow to the robin,  
"Friend I think that it must be,  
That they have no Heavenly Father,  
Such as cares for you and me."*

## **Renewing our care for creation**

Enjoying God's world is a good reminder that He has entrusted us to look after his wonderful creation. We are called to care for and honour God's creation as a way of delighting in its Creator. We are also called to care for our brothers and sisters all over the world who face having their families uprooted, and their livelihoods destroyed by the effects of climate change.

Many believe God's plea to us is to 'care for creation'. Please see below in this letter how we at St Peter's are seeking to pray and build habits to protect and honour this wonderful world God has made and sustains.

You may think I have totally lost the plot but I love the closing blessing and responses from a creation liturgy from Iona. I love it because nature is such a blessing to me, that I want to be a blessing to nature:

*May the heavens bless you  
May the sun shine on you  
May the rain dance on your wellies  
May the stars make you wonder and smile.*

*May the earth bless you  
And may you bless the earth  
In planting and protest  
And sharing food.  
Amen*

*Go now  
Go and revel in God's world  
Go and be creative  
Go and work for justice  
Go and love you neighbours  
Go and walk with God  
Amen*

God bless

*Kip*

## And finally .....

- **CLIMATE CHANGE** is an urgent concern for us at St Peters and our Eco Team is working hard to help us think personally and collectively about how we respond. Throughout the Bible we read stories that bind creation and humanity together in a relationship of love, respect and protection.

To Quote from the Climate Coalition *“We are all invited this February to show the love for God’s creation by talking about climate change, praying for the earth, making changes in our own lives, and calling upon our political leaders to act. The past year has been a year like no other. The devastating impacts of the pandemic have impacted us all, and made us value what we love more than ever. We know our best chance at rebuilding goes hand in hand with tackling the climate crisis. We need our leaders to protect everything we love and deliver a healthy, green and fair recovery.”*

Powerful and challenging words for us to reflect on as we are called to care for Gods earth and each other – in particular the poorest of the Earth most vulnerable to climate change. I would encourage you to look at our website for all age ways to #show the love hearts this February and beyond.

- **WOOLTON COMMUNITY LIFE** is hoping to connect their befrienders to their family, volunteers and each other, with an Apple iPad Air - (Wi-Fi & Cellular). It must take a sim card, as most of the beneficiaries are not connected to the internet. If anyone has one and would like to sell (or donate) it, please contact Derek Harold with an asking price at [derekharold1@gmail.com](mailto:derekharold1@gmail.com)
- **SAFE FAMILIES**  
This Sunday at the end of the online service Anna and Ruth Robinson talk about their involvement with the Christian charity 'Safe Families'. If you want to know more about the charity you can contact them by email:  
[ruthrobinson06@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:ruthrobinson06@yahoo.co.uk) / [annagracerobinson5@gmail.com](mailto:annagracerobinson5@gmail.com) or search online at [safefamilies.uk](http://safefamilies.uk) or ring the regional office on 0151 334 4473
- **REMINDERS**
  - 1) **Coffee and chat** each Sunday 11.30 am on Zoom.
  - 2) **Our monthly prayer meeting** on Zoom Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> February at 9 am  
To receive the links for either of these events please email Julia:  
[curate@stpeters-woolton.org.uk](mailto:curate@stpeters-woolton.org.uk)
- **PLEASE PRAY**  
for all those who are unwell at this time, in hospital or at home and for those caring for them.  
for the families and friends of those who have died recently, especially Flo Ashton, Edith Bond, Barbara Brown, John McGarvey and Eva Parr.