



Sunday Snippets

22nd April 2018

Beware! There will be Weather

What a delightful few days of warm weather this past week – warmer than usual for the time of the year. And so, immediately headline warnings appear about the risks of sunburn, dehydration, the high pollen count, leaving dogs in cars with the windows closed and so on. When it is cold there are reminders that elderly people should dress up warmly and perhaps stay indoors or risk broken limbs when falling on the ice and snow. With rain, the prophets of doom predict flooding of Old Testament proportions and when the wind blows we have be wary of falling branches and slipping on leaves. Please, just for once can we not just enjoy the weather for what it is and be thankful that it provides a ready conversation piece and a variety that eliminates boredom.



Today's is a Special Service

The service will commence as usual at 9.30am with an introduction and prayer followed by a hymn, Confession, Absolution and Collect. There will then be the two Bible readings, prayer by Rev Chris and short reflection. Following the Eucharistic Prayer there will be the receiving of Communion, a hymn and after the Blessing all will leave the church. From about 10-10.15am, there will be an opportunity



to look at the church hall improvements whilst refreshments are served. There will then be a special thanksgiving

with short talk by David Loynes on the hall project. A Prayer of Blessing will be followed at approximately 10.30am by the Vestry Meeting for the Election of Church Wardens. There will immediately follow the Annual Parochial Church Meeting which will conclude with prayers by Helen Routledge and songs with Rev Keith and the St Edward's Worship Band, finishing at around 11.30am

Evening Prayer at St Edward's

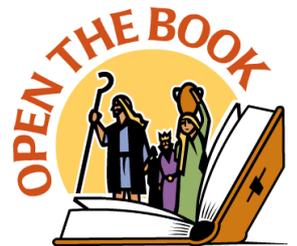
22nd April Taizé Prayer

29th April Holy Communion



Open the Book

The success of Open the book nationwide is amazing. As most will know, here at St Edward's we have two teams of volunteers who each week visit St Edward's and St Matthew's CE Primary Academies presenting Bible stories through interactive, innovative and interesting ways. Costumes, scenery and props of all sorts including puppets can be used. The Bible Society's Julie Jefferies, who is the Open the Book Development Manager, has been travelling far and wide meeting the Open the Book Regional Training & Development Officers. She has been greatly impressed by the passion and enthusiasm she has found. Almost unbelievably, Open the Book will be 20 years old next year and recently the number of volunteer storytellers passed the 15,000 milestone. The long term success of Open the Book may be difficult to quantify but some churches have found "energies could be better used going into the schools instead of trying to get families to come to the church." As Julie Jefferies says, "Be encouraged friends when a child wants to miss the school trip because it is on the same day as Open the Book, God is at work. Who knows what seeds you are planting?" Our Open the Book teams need more members so if you are interested in doing something for a couple of hours a week that could just make all the difference to a child's life, please speak to Rev Chris.





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Bare Cupboard

She'll never make Poet Laureate but Helen Soole does try her hardest to touch people's consciences, encourage them to good deeds and inspire them by her own actions. This is Helen's latest literary effort for which she can be forgiven as it's the thought that counts! "Old Mother Hubbard (AKA Helen Soole) went to the cupboard (North Plymouth Food Bank box) to collect some goodies, but the cupboard was bare! So not to be too rude, Please fill the box next week with food or else I'll set the dog (AKA Jules) on you all." The box is at the back of the church and Helen regularly delivers the donations that are placed therein.



Summer Fayre

If anyone has any items they wish to donate for sale at the Summer Fayre on 2nd June, such as for the nearly new stall, books, bottles and chocolates, etc, please contact Helen Soole on either 783412 or 07772283712.



Only Joking!

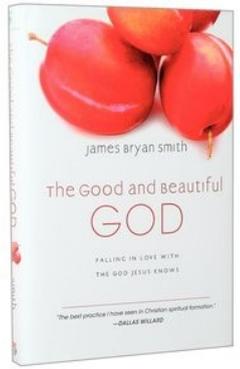
One Sunday a cowboy went to church. When he entered, he saw that he and the preacher were the only ones present. The preacher asked the cowboy if he wanted him to go ahead and preach. The cowboy said, "I'm not too smart but if I went to feed my cattle and only one showed up, I'd feed him." So the minister began his sermon. Half an hour passed, then an hour and finally an hour and a half. When the preacher finished, he asked the cowboy how he had liked the sermon. The cowboy answered slowly, "Well I'm not very smart, but if I went to feed my cattle and only one showed up, I sure wouldn't feed it all the hay."

A man and a woman who had never met before found themselves sharing a cabin on an overnight sleeper train. After the initial awkwardness, he went in the upper berth and she in the lower bunk. In the middle of the night he leaned down and said, "I'm sorry to bother you but I'm really cold so I was wondering whether you would get me another blanket?" The woman replied coyly, "I have a better idea. Just for tonight let's pretend we are married." "That sounds great," said the man, preparing to climb down to join her. "Good," said the woman. "You can go and get your own blanket!"



The Good & Beautiful God

A number of participants of the Lent Course have expressed a wish to continue meeting. Rev Chris has agreed to make this available as previously, 12 noon at Christ Church and 7.30pm in the



Vicarage, beginning this coming Tuesday, the 24th April. After the material from the book by James Bryan Smith, "The Good and Beautiful God" which was used in the Lent Course, Rev Chris says they will be moving on from book 1 to book 3 – "The Good and Beautiful Community". He strongly encourages reading of the books and invites others to join a group. For anyone interested or requiring further information, please speak to Chris.