

Newsletter Spring 2011

The English Church

Torre Principado

Levante beach, Benidorm

Pastoral team Rev'd Eddie and Mrs Muriel McMillan

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Part of the Paraclete Christian Network International www.paraclete.org.uk

The Pastors Piece

Matthew chapter 6 : 25 - 34

In the seeming confusion that is prevalent everywhere, the works of Jesus Christ come with great clarity providing stability and serenity.

“Seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all the things will be given to you as well.”

There are three aspects included here:

The presence of the king which refers to a kingdom, but we cannot have a kingdom without a king. For those in relationship with Jesus Christ, this involves two things : there must be acceptance of the person on the throne which means full acceptance of the person of Christ in our lives. We cannot fully be Christians without fully having Christ. There must also be an allegiance to the power on the throne and that means His rule in our lives must be fully accepted. Jesus is not only saviour, but sovereign too.

The priority of the king which means we must firstly seek the kingdom of God, for there are others who would influence such allegiance : the world, the devil, our selfish desires, with all the pressures for our consideration. We will fail if we heed such pressures. Christ must have first place in our lives, so we should diligently find His will for us before heeding any other.

The promise of the king :

“and all these things will be given to you as well.”

We have to accept the responsibility of the king. It has to secure the well being of his subjects over whose lives he exercises his rule. Remember, the resources of the king, who is the God of creation, are available for all his subjects to draw from.

The king has taken us from the kingdom of darkness to that of light and will take us from confusion to order and peace. Praise His name.

Eddie McMillan

Arts and Crafts

The making of patchwork quilts from leftover ‘rags’ has been an art form in Europe and North America for centuries, with seed suppliers in North America supplying their goods in pretty bags to attract customers away from their rivals. This created ‘sewing circles’ where housewives would meet to swap their seed bags.

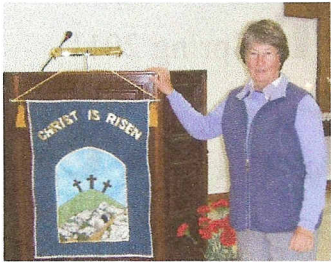


The Piecework Quilters of Altea continue this tradition, making quilts for the children’s ward of San Juan hospital and local children’s homes, and each child who is ‘in residence’ on Christmas eve receives a quilt.

Holding the quilt is our very own Avis, and if you want to know more, then she, through the English church, would be pleased to help you. Also, the quilters would be grateful if you have any clean cotton pieces that you no longer require and could donate to them.

Recently, Eddie and Muriel McMillan were privileged to visit the quilters and they presented this quilt to Muriel as a memento of their day out. Why not arrange a visit as well to see the marvellous work they do.





Tricia, who is also a member of the quilting group, has been making banners for the church for all the Christian seasons. The latest of which she made in time for this

Easter. We are very grateful for the effort she puts into her work, which enhances everyone's experience of the Lords house.

A cross in my pocket

*I carry a cross in my pocket,
A simple reminder to me,
of the fact that I am a
Christian,
no matter where I may be.*



Like the poem says, these are a constant reminder of who we are and to whom we belong. They do not advertise your Christianity to the world, but are for you personally.

Made by Christine Anfield in her spare time, (what spare time? She leads a very full life) they bring comfort to all who carry them.

So I carry a cross in my pocket, reminding no one but me, that Jesus Christ is the Lord of my life, if only I will let Him be.

Poem (7 verses) by Mrs. Vera Mae Thomas

Faith, according to my dictionary, is :

A belief that does not rest on logical proof or material evidence.

Everyone knows and accepts the dictionary definition, but how about this interpretation according to Martin Luther in 1522 :

This faith is a living, creative, active and powerful thing. Faith cannot help doing good works constantly. It does not stop to ask if good works ought to be done, but before anyone asks, it has already done them and continues to do them without ceasing. Anyone who does not do good works in this manner is an unbeliever. He stumbles around and looks for faith and good works, even though he does not know what faith or good works are. Yet he gossips and chatters about faith and good works with many words.

Powerful words and quite a challenge for anyone to accept whole heartedly. Let us hope and pray that we can avoid 'stumbling around'.

Easter is with us again. Is it really twelve months ago that we climbed the Sierra Helada for the Easter Sunday dawn service? The work of the church goes on all year, however, and this March, Mandy and Paul Whittle from Wigan celebrated their 25th anniversary in Benidorm with a marriage blessing.



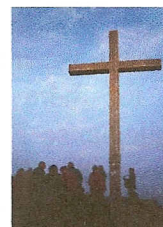
What Easter means to me by Irene Cook

I want to tell my story,
to everyone I see,
a very special story,
of what Jesus did for me.

Through the corridors of time,
God saw the world decay,
and because of His great love for me,
could find no other way.

He wanted me in heaven,
so He sent His only Son
and the tree that He created,
they nailed His body on.

The blood that ran so freely,
from His head and from His side,
is the blood that washed my sins away,
so that I would never die.



This story is not for me alone,
for the world, God sent His son,
who did not only die for me,
Jesus died for everyone.

Summer approaches and we sadly say thankyou and farewell to our regular pastor Eddie, and his wife Muriel who return to their home in Scotland to catch up with the gardening and family. Until they return we will be visited by several pastoral teams, the first of which will be Roger and Sue French, then Bernard and Margaret Hallewell.

Location

Behind the café Artigas II, on Levante beach near the cable ski run.

Sunday services 09.45 & 16.00

Wednesday discipleship course at 14.00

Friday communion service at 10.00