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800

ST PETER'S BRACKLEY

“Loving God, loving each other, loving Brackley”

The desert shall rejoice,
and blossom as the rose.
Isalah 35:1



Revd, Rich Duncan writes.....

"Thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of his holy people in the kingdom of light"
(Colossians 1:12).

How qualified are you?

June is exam season. Growing up with a June birthday, I would sometimes have to postpone celebration for revision. For many, the arrival of summer is synonymous with having to prove yourself under exam conditions, in order to get the grades and be qualified for some job in the future. But even once in employment, qualifications remain a headache. In 2019, a survey of thousands of UK and US employees found 32% felt unqualified for their job, and another 33% feared that a boss or colleague thought the same. What if, though, you knew you had the one and only qualification that really matters in life? What if you were qualified for the Kingdom of Heaven? Perhaps then, the imposter syndrome would end, the sense of insecurity and constant striving (that taints even the sunny seasons of life) would finally cease?



Recently, in our Sunday series, we read these remarkable words written to Christians, "Thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of his holy people in the kingdom of light" (Colossians 1:12). Extraordinary! Can it be true? How on earth is that possible, when none of us get anywhere *near* to God's perfect pass mark (Romans 3:23)? Well, what if someone had aced the entrance exam for us?

I like the story of the physics exam where students were asked to determine the height of a skyscraper using a barometer. One sharp student replied, "Firstly, you could take a barometer up to the roof of the skyscraper, drop it over the edge and measure the time it takes to reach the ground (too bad for the barometer). If the sun is shining you could measure the height of the barometer, then set it on end, measure the length of its shadow, before measuring the length of the skyscraper's shadow, and then it's a simple matter of proportional arithmetic. You could tie a short piece of string to the barometer and

swing it as a pendulum, first at ground level, then on the roof of the skyscraper. The height of the building can be calculated from the difference in the pendulum's period. If the skyscraper has an outside emergency staircase, you could walk up it and mark off the height in barometer lengths. If you wanted to be boring and orthodox, of course, you could use the barometer to measure the air pressure on the roof of the skyscraper and on the ground, and convert the difference into height. But, probably the best way would simply be to knock on the caretaker's door and say: 'I'll give you this barometer if you tell me the height of this building.'"

Genius. (In one version of the story, the student turns out to be Niels Bohr, later to win a Nobel Prize for physics.) Now imagine that this student could sit every physics exam for you. Your worries about atomic structures and electromagnetism would be over!

Well, Christians believe something similar has happened to them. For anyone who has trusted in him, Jesus Christ has aced the entrance exam of Heaven on their behalf. His perfect life and record are transferred to us, while all our errors and mistakes were passed to him on the cross. Our grade has been published: full marks! The never-ending need to prove ourselves has gone. And as long as we don't disqualify *ourselves* by letting go of Christ, no one can take that qualification away from us.

So then, the most important facts that every Christian should revise this summer are: the sufficiency of Christ and his death in your place. You are qualified! Rest in that.

3 things to look forward to this month:

- 11th June – **800 Celebration Service** (9:30am) – the pinnacle of our year of celebrations, with former vicars, local leaders and diocesan representatives present. There will be no Lord's Supper during the service, but there will be an 8am BCP Communion that day.
- 23rd-25th June – **Brides & Blooms Flower Festival** – with floral wedding displays, wedding dresses and wedding photos. 10am-4pm on Friday and Saturday, 1pm-4pm on Sunday, £3 entry on the door.
- 25th June – **Ordination of Rob Wood** – at Peterborough Cathedral, before he comes to serve as curate at St Peter's for the next 3 years.

Ever tried the Alpha Course?



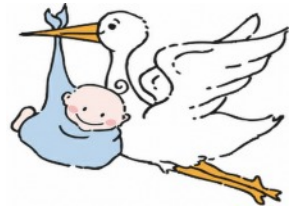
Try a condensed version on the
4 Wednesday evenings in June
(7th, 14th, 21st, 28th),
at 8pm in the church hall.

Explore four crucial questions:
'Is there more to life?' 'Who is Jesus?'
'Why did he die?' 'How can I have faith?'

All are welcome,
unbelievers and believers alike.

CONGRATULATIONS

To Kate and the Rev'd Rich on
the birth of their son Raphael (Raffy).
A brother for Jago and Gus.



800 Appeal progress

For every £10,000 raised for the 800
Appeal, another pane of glass is col-
oured in.

Thank you so if have already contrib-
uted.

Our total at the time of writing is
£55,000!

Please join us in continuing to pray
for God's provision.

Brides and Bloom Flower Festival June 23rd - June 25th



The church flower team are busy planning the floral arrangements for the forthcoming Brides and Blooms festival.

June has always been traditionally a popular time for weddings. The weather is often good. Flowers in the garden are prolific including roses, sweet peas, peonies and delphiniums, to name just a few.

We have been very fortunate to gain sponsorship from Edd Frost and Daughters funeral directors and Heart of England Co-operative funeral care as well as J van Vliet, Northampton who will be supplying the hundreds of beautiful blooms.

The success of the festival will depend on the number of visitors who attend the festival in church during the weekend of June 23rd – 25th. Please encourage family and friends to come along.

Spread the word. Help us to make the festival a huge success.

Sally Hughes – St Peters flower team co - ordinator

St Peter's Church Holiday Club



The King's Quest

£10 per
child for
the week



21st-24th August 2023

**Mon - Thurs
10am - 12noon**

**For children
aged 4-11
(end of yR to
end of y6)**

**Games, Bible
stories, craft
& more!**

**We welcome children
of any faith or none.**

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brackleychurchkids@gmail.com**

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here!**



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If you would ever like to make a donation to
St Peter's Church,
your gift would be hugely appreciated.
Our bank details are as follows:
sort code 30-11-08,
account number 00060124.
Thank you.

Would you like to hear more from St Peter's?

If you are online and would like to receive the weekly Vicar's Update, just send an email to brackleyvicar@gmail.com and ask to receive the church's email bulletin



Save the Date!

Sunday 9th July - Family Fun Day



Picnic in the churchyard with all the family on the Silverstone Grand Prix weekend.

Children can enjoy their own race circuit around the churchyard, as well as a teddy parachute drop from the church tower.



The event is free but please bring your own picnic.

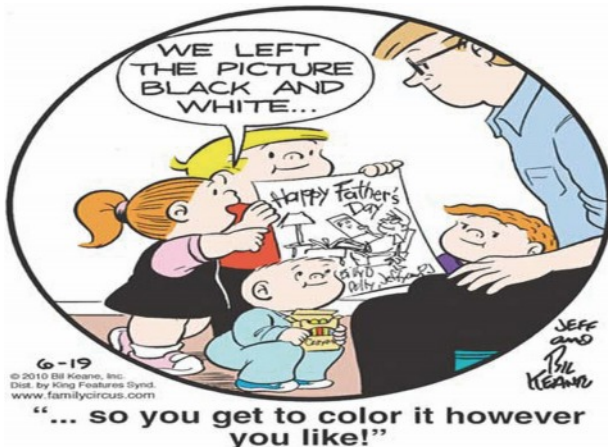


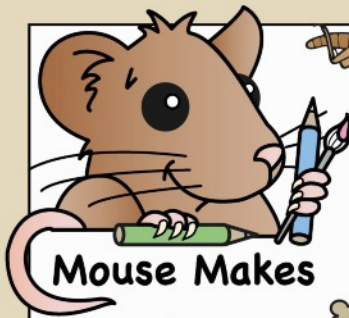
THE FAMILY CIRCUS®

By Bill Keane



CELEBRATING
DADS EVERYWHERE
FATHER'S DAY
18TH JUNE





Mouse Makes

The Lord said to Moses,
"Your brother Aaron shall tell Pharaoh
to let the people of Israel go out of his land...
The Egyptians shall know that I AM the Lord
when I stretch out my hand against Egypt..."

As Pharaoh's heart was hardened against the
Israelites, God sent ten plagues upon him...



1
Water turns to Blood
Which water turned
to blood?
Read - Exodus 7:19

2
A Swarm of Frogs
In which
places were the
frogs found?
Read - Exodus 8:3-4

3
A Plague of Gnats
When Aaron struck his
staff on the ground
what became Gnats?
Read - Exodus 8:16-17

4
Swarms of Flies
In which land were the
flies not be found?
Read - Exodus 8:22

5
Death of Animals
Which animals that belonged
to the Egyptians died?
Read - Exodus 9:2



D F G B O I L S L
 L S O O T O P I B
 A W D P E O P L E
 N A N I M A L S A
 D R S N G N A T S
 U M I D N I G H T
 S S T A F F U O
 T A A R O N E N O
 D E B K D F S D G
 T M A N W A T E R
 M O S E S R W R O
 C R F S N I L E U
 F I R S T B O R N
 I V O K N L C F D
 R E G H W O U I E
 E R S A K O S S A
 H W I N D T H T
 I L F L I E S E H

GOD • PLAGUES • MOSES • AARON
 WATER • BLOOD • STAFF • RIVER • NILE • FISH
 FROGS • SWARM • GNATS • DUST • FLIES
 GROUND • DEATH • ANIMALS • SOOT
 BOILS • PEOPLE • HAIL • THUNDER • FIRE
 MAN • BEAST • LOCUSTS • WIND • LAND
 DARKNESS • FIRSTBORN • MIDNIGHT

6
A Break out of Boils
What did Moses throw into
the air before boils appeared
on people and animals?
Read - Exodus 9:10

7
A Rain of Hail
What also rained
down with the hail?
Where did it not hail?
Read - Exodus 9:24-26

8
A Swarm of Locusts
Where did the wind
come from that brought
the locusts to the land?
Read - Exodus 10:13

9
Darkness over the Land
How many days did
it remain dark?
Read - Exodus 10:21-22

10
Death of the Firstborn
At what time would the
firstborn in the land die?
Read - Exodus 11:4-6

