

St Paul's in the Park

October Newsletter

Life after Death

One day a court jester said something so foolish that the king, handing him a staff, said to him, 'Take this and keep it until you find a bigger fool than yourself.'

Some years later the king was very ill and lay on his deathbed. The king addressed those gathered around his bed, 'I am about to leave you. I am going on a very long journey, and I shall not return, so I have called you to say goodbye.'

The jester stepped forward and said, 'Your majesty, may I ask you a question? When you journeyed abroad visiting your people, your heralds and servants always went ahead of you making preparations for you. May I ask what preparations your majesty has made for this journey you are about to take?'

'Alas', he said, 'I have made no preparations.'

'Then,' said the jester, 'take this staff with you, for now I have found a bigger fool than myself.'

Last Sunday I spoke about life and after death and made the point that we are very likely to be judged when the moment of truth arrives (*see below*). I believe that how we conduct ourselves in this life will have some bearing on the quality of our next life. Bearing in mind the significance of this next life – it is, after all, eternal! – that surely must give us a real sense of purpose for this life. Let's make sure we get it right, that we make preparation for that journey that every single one of us will make.

'For we must all stand before Christ to be judged. We will each receive whatever we deserve for the good or evil we have done in our bodies.' *2 Corinthians 5:10*

'Heaven must be in me before I can be in heaven.' *Charles Stanford*

Sunday 28 October

A reminder that our architect, John McClean, will be presenting the updated plans for our new church at our 10.00am service on Sunday 28 October. We are looking forward to receiving your feedback, so it would be great if you are able to attend that service.

Survey

We are in the throes of deciding what Christmas services to hold. It was agreed at our vestry meeting on Wednesday to conduct a survey, which will take place at the next two Sunday services. However, I have attached the survey and you might like to do the survey, scan and send back to me, or even bring it along to church.

Fire Drill

We are required to hold a fire drill during a church service at some stage. This will not be announced beforehand. Someone will call 'Fire' and everyone will file out and assemble between the church and the graveyard. So between now and Christmas you can expect this to happen!

Christmas Wonder Park

A community celebration of Christmas is being held in Barry Curtis Park, right opposite our church, on Saturday 15th December, 12.00midday to 6.00pm. We are hoping to be involved in some way. Watch this space. If you are at all interested in being part of our involvement, please let me know.



To ponder

'You are not here to make a living. You are here to enrich the world, and you impoverish yourself if you forget the errand.' President Woodrow Wilson.

Reverend Warner Wilder
warnerwilder30@gmail.com
021 548 407