

St Paul's in the Park Newsletter July 2021

Judging Others

While waiting at the airport terminal for her plane to begin boarding, a woman sat reading a newspaper. She had purchased a bag of cookies to eat after she got on the plane. Out of the corner of her eye, she noticed that the man sitting next to her was eating a cookie. She looked down and noticed her bag of cookies had been opened and the man was eating them. The woman couldn't believe that the man would have such a nerve as to eat her cookies. So that she wouldn't lose all her cookies to the man, she reached over, took a cookie and ate one herself. To her amazement, the man continued to eat more cookies. Getting more and more irritated, she removed all but one cookie from the bag and ate them.

At that point, the man reached down and took the last cookie. Before eating it, though, he broke it in half and left half for the woman to eat. This made the woman so angry, she grabbed the empty bag with the half cookie and crammed it into her purse.

Then to her shock, she noticed that there in her purse was her unopened bag of cookies.

Sometimes we are very quick to judge others without fully understanding their circumstances, or what is probably even a bigger sin, turning a blind eye to our own failings.

'Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned.' Luke 6:37.

Fundraising

The fundraising programme is going well, with momentum certainly picking up over the last couple of weeks. At this stage, our total stands at \$4,360,000. Our immediate goal is to reach \$5 million dollars by the end of September in order that we can begin building at the beginning of October. The overall cost is \$6 million but the Diocese will give us the go-ahead to begin building once we have raised \$5 million.

A reminder – your donation can be pledged over 5 years, and you receive a third back from the government! You can donate directly to our build account (06 0991 0056055 01), using your name as reference, or you can obtain a pledge form via email from me.

We have gone out to tender and will be hearing back from them at the end of next week.

Hamper

Speaking of fundraising, Viv and Ngaire have done wonderful job collecting contributions to two His and Hers hampers. These will be raffled very soon. Watch this space.

A huge thanks to those of you who have donated items – you have been most generous.

Finances

And speaking of financial matters, we are still in the red for the year!

'God loves the person who gives cheerfully.' 2 Corinthians 9:7

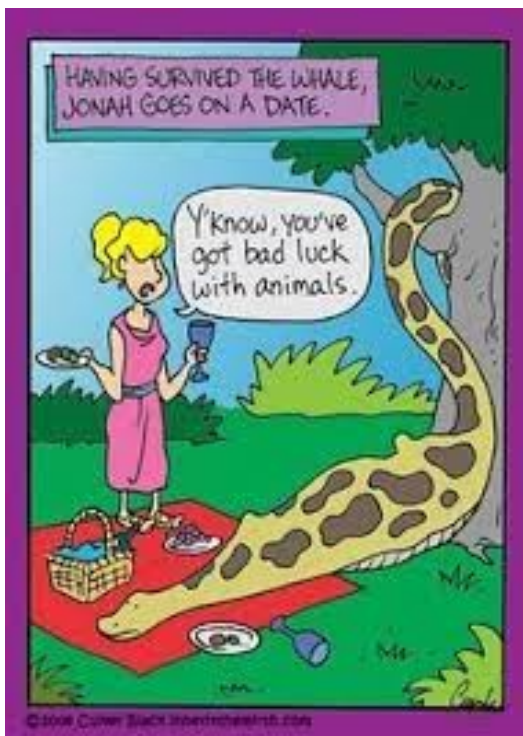
Time for a Smile

One day, a little girl asked her mum, 'How did the human race appear?' Her mum answered, 'God made Adam and Eve and they had children, and that's how all mankind was made.'

Two days later, the girl asked her dad the same question. Dad answered, 'Many years ago there were monkeys from which the human race evolved.'

The confused girl returned to her mother and asked, 'Mum, how is it possible that you told me the human race was created by God, and Dad said they developed from monkeys?'

The mother answered, 'Well, darling, it's very simple. I told you about my side of the family and your father told you about his!'



To Ponder

'Shoot for the moon. Even if you miss, you'll land among the stars.' Les Brown.

Five Interesting Questions

1. Why do religions that support love cause so many wars?
2. If happiness were the national currency, what kind of work would make you rich?
3. When was the last time you noticed the sound of your own breathing?
4. If you had all the money in the world but still had to have some kind of a job, what would you choose to do?
5. What lifts your spirits when life gets you down?

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