

Vicar's Blog

June 2017

I Care!

June is one of the busiest months for weddings for many churches. It is a month of hopefulness, with long daylight hours, the likelihood of a warm day with sunshine and flowers in abundance. One of the most popular Bible readings at a church wedding is the reading from Paul's 1st letter to the Corinthians, chapter 13. The topic is LOVE, yet not the romantic love of couples who are committing to each other through marriage. Paul is writing to Christians in Corinth to encourage them in understanding the meaning of living together as community, caring for each other and seeking the wellbeing of each other. Paul explains that love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonour others, it is not self-seeking. He goes on to say love rejoices in the truth, it always protects, trusts and perseveres.

This is indeed a wonderful picture of fruitful commitment through relationship. It helps couples reflect on their commitment through marriage and particularly that marriage is not about 'me' it is about 'you' – respecting and cherishing each other. Paul's guidance to the community in Corinth, is equally relevant to us all as community in Britain today. Living the values Paul outlines is not easy, yet it is important if we are to thrive as individuals, community and world. We need to cherish each other with trust and respect and we all have a part to play in recognising and striving for this.

On June 8th we have a General Election. As the nation has been preparing for it there have been many claims and counter claims by politicians about what they have to offer for the good of community and nation. Their claims depend on our response. It is a blessing of democracy that we have a voice through voting. This is our chance to vote and vote for fruitfulness for community and nation. This is a time when Paul's qualities of love can be reflected in our decisions, vote and ongoing commitment to cherishing each other, whatever the outcome of the election.

We can all help make a difference and help shape the future.

'I have come that they may have life and have it to the full' John 10.10

Gwyneth