

# CLERGY LETTER

Dear Friends

You've probably all heard it said that women can multi task (and that men can't) and to a certain extent I have always believed that to be true. Not necessarily because of some inborn natural ability but because women have usually been the ones who have had to multi task.



Throughout history they were the ones who did the cooking, the cleaning, the mending and the making while at the same time looking after their children and menfolk – keeping a weather eye on them to make sure they don't run into danger, listening for them and to them, talking with them or simply giving them a big hug when needed.

Multi tasking is something that our daughter Beth seems to do very well as she appears to have no problem whatsoever with sitting in front of the T.V. watching her favourite programme, while also texting one of her friends from her phone as well as catching up with others on her laptop, and if you speak to her she definitely will have heard you – even if she doesn't always answer. To be honest, it's quite likely that numerous other young people, both male and female are able to do as many of the same things at once as she does, it's a sign of the times and of their grasp of modern technology. They would no doubt say that in doing so they are able to keep in good contact with all their

friends around the country with many channels of communication being open and used at once.

Although I can see the merit of this argument I can also see the downside. Yes, modern technology can keep people in touch with each other, Beth as well as my other three children,

certainly know exactly what all their friends are doing no matter where in the world they may be. However, I think they have also lost something too – they might know more about these people, but is their personal relationship with them being improved or enhanced? And when (and how) are they to make new friends.

In the book of Genesis we read that God said that it was not good for Adam to be alone, he therefore created Eve. Whether you believe this to be an accurate account of the creation of mankind or not doesn't matter. What does matter is the fact that we are not meant to live in isolation – we can only function as human beings if we can create and sustain proper relationships, and I don't believe that we can do that without personal and attentive contact. Whether it be with old friends or new acquaintances we all need to be able to look people in the eye as we talk to them, we need to be able to hear what they say and know that they can hear us, we also need to be in a position where we can note their facial reactions or body

language and they ours. I believe that it's only then that we can really become moved or even involved in other peoples life stories and they ours.

Here in the Suttons churches we passionately believe in the importance of personal relationships at all levels. It is for this reason that we have very regular coffee mornings and open days. Also, besides myself, there are a number of people from within the Church family who are always willing to pop round and visit anyone who would simply like the company and a chat – and don't worry, there will be no ulterior motives and we wont ask you about coming to church

services. Just let us know who you are and where you live and I or another member of the pastoral team will be round to see you, (we will always make sure you are happy to receive whoever it is who will be coming).

However, it is also important to remember that even though there are times when we might think we are alone, there is someone who will always be there for us when we want to talk, to listen or simply feel that we are not alone and that's the greatest "multi tasker" of all – Jesus Christ.

Wishing you all a very Blessed June.

**St Mary's 100 Club:** Thank you to all those who have already renewed their membership and to those joining for the first time.

It is never too late to join, but in order to subscribe to a full year's membership I need your application by 30th June.

**Mary Brett (Promoter)**

Telephone: 01622 843748 Email: mbrett11@btinternet.com

**Application to join St Mary's 100 Club**

To: Mary Brett, 2 Malthouse Cottages, Chart Road, Chart Sutton ME17 3RA  
I wish to subscribe to the St Mary's Church, Sutton Valence 100 Club for the year 2019/20. I enclose my subscription (of £12 or multiple thereof)

of ..... payable to **St Mary's Church PCC**

Name(s):-----

Address:-----  
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Telephone:-----