

30<sup>th</sup> April 2020

Hello everyone, it's a funny old life and that's a fact.

I've been asked to contribute a monthly article to 'The City Times' a free monthly magazine, currently online but hoping to go back into print once the lockdown rules are eased. This came about through my friend Sarah, who helped me so much with my singing when my voice was going wonky and also helped me put on our 'Music and Mirth' evening last May and sang for us too (she's a star). Sarah showed the editor some of my 'View from the Vicarage' e-pistles and he has asked me if I'd like to send in something on a regular basis. That could be interesting, thanks Sarah!

Now I'm not telling you this because I think my articles will be great but as an example of the truth of the old saying "It's not what you know, it's who you know". It is indeed true that we often have opportunities to meet people, or take up interesting invitations, through the people we already know. It's one of the great joys of Priestly ministry that we meet so many people who, knowingly or otherwise, open up chances for us to bring the gospel into people's lives.

I am sure that this is often true, not just for priests but for all Christians and so I would urge you all to take up these chances as and when they come along. I don't think that these things happen just as a coincidence, I don't believe in coincidences, however, I do believe in what someone once called 'Godincidences', the things and people that God introduces into our lives in order to further his purposes. They are there, if we choose to see them.

PS. Could I gently ask people, if you are replying to these messages, to do so only to me. Some people are experiencing a bit of e-mail overload if the reply goes to the whole newsletter circulation. If there is something you'd like everyone to see, send it to me and I'll gladly forward it. Thanks.

Attached...Readings for this Sunday 4th Sunday of Easter & the Hymns for this Sunday

And finally...Noted on the parish news sheet one Sunday the Sidesmen counting the collection would be Mr. Robb, Mr. Crook and Mr. Cheatham!

Tom

Sent by Canon Tom Page  
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(AwAS)