

4th June 2020

Epistle 50! Well now there's a landmark! Not counting Julia's very kind and helpful contributions whilst I was 'away', this is the 50th 'View from the Vicarage' since Mothering Sunday when I began. It's 55 all told!

It's your fault that I have persisted in this endeavor! I have often been encouraged by messages from various people, to continue with this and indeed it has been interesting and fun for me. It struck me early on in the C-19 lockdown process, that communication was going to be a key factor in maintaining a strong sense of community in our parish. These e-mails have served that purpose well and have, in fact, reached a far wider group of friends than I could have ever imagined. We have been able to share services, readings, music, jokes and information in a manner that keeps a sense of our 'oneness' in Christ and as a worshipping community.

I had absolutely no idea how long this was going to go on for, when I began but by the grace of God it hasn't yet become a burden and I'm grateful for the input and offerings of others. A time will come when there will be no need for a communication like this 5 days a week but for now, I intend to continue as we are and we shall see where that leads us.

Stay safe and well everyone. Tom

And finally...(from someone who should know better)

I visited a monastery and as I passed the kitchen, I saw a man frying chips. I asked, "Are you the friar?" He replied, "No, I'm the chip monk."

Sent by Canon Tom Page
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