

A few words from the Vicar

'... each has a particular gift from God, one having one kind and another a different kind.' (1 Corinthians 7:7)

Well the Christmas festivities and the Christmas break are well and truly behind us. So it's back to school or college and, for those of us with jobs to go to, it's back to work.

The novelty has even worn off some of those presents we received with such joy on Christmas Day. Indeed, some presents will doubtless have already been stored away, earmarked for one of the stalls at our Spring Fair later this year.

Sorry, was that meant to be a secret!

Actually, you don't have to wait until the Spring Fair for your 'surplus' ('unwanted' is such an indelicate word) gifts to be of benefit to the Church. Enid Horrocks does a roaring trade on our behalf on Ebay auctioning off items that Church members no longer require. If you think you have something (it doesn't have to be a 'surplus' present) that might sell on Ebay, why not give Enid a call on 0161 764 7070.

Now, there is another sort of gift that can (and should) be used to benefit the Church. Gifts that can't be sold on Ebay - gifts from God!

All of us have natural talents, enhanced by skills that we pick up in life. Some of us are artistic; some of us are good at making things or growing things; some of us are teachers; some of us are musical and can sing (not me); some of us have organisational skills; and some have medical skills. The list isn't exhaustive but, in the final analysis, our natural talents are all God-given.

These gifts are not given by God just for our pleasure or so that we can earn a living, important though these things are. They are also given for the Glory of God.

All of us, through our Baptism, are called to serve God.

Without wishing to suggest that it isn't possible to serve God through our day jobs and our day to day living – of course it is – let's never forget our calling as Christians to serve God by engaging in the mission of the Church.

So, in Church during February we will be considering what the Bible teaches us about making good use of the gifts God has given us.

In the meantime, why not ask God to reveal to you how He would like you to make best use of your talents in His service and then do something about it!

Happy New Year!

Dave

