



St Mary the Virgin Baldock



“Building with Christ”

Rector's Blog – day 28

Dear Friends

Following on from yesterday!

Revelation 21: 1 - 5

1I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. 2And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, 'See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; 4he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.'
5And the one who was seated on the throne said, 'See, I am making all things new.'

You may have noticed yesterday that I said 'We have a faith in Christ who makes 'all things new'', and suggested that when lockdown ends some would merely hope that life would go back to normal but Christians might hope for rather more than that. If this happens this will have an effect globally, nationally and indeed personally.

What changes do you think would be good to hope for? Well, if getting back to normal means a return to using the earth's resources for what we want with no regard for the effect that has on pollution or climate change or the delicate ecological balance of the species, I don't want that. If it means being able to buy cheap clothes because they are made in a town we have never heard of 10 000 miles away by children who have no chance to go to school, I don't want that either. If it means patronising a cheap carwash in this country even though it may use slave labour in this country, I certainly don't want that.

Change is not always easy or painless or cost free. However if it means I can support local producers so that their goods don't entail huge airmiles to bring them to Baldock meaning the polar icecaps are in lightly less danger, I would pay a premium for it. If it means greater funding for impoverished nations which led to a slower stream of economic migrants, I would certainly be prepared to support that. If it means a few extra pennies on income tax to pay for a public transport system to be proud of so that the present absence of traffic jams on the A1(M) round Stevenage would be continued, I would be strongly in favour. And please don't get me started on the delights of not seeing vapour trails in the sky and how we might help that to continue!

Change is not easy, or cheap, or painless. But is it worth it? And what would you like to see? What do you think?

Here is the Collect for the Second Sunday after Epiphany

Almighty God,
in Christ you make all things new:
transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace,
and in the renewal of our lives
make known your heavenly glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

And here is a song we sing in church, I am a new creation <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kt0u2iwmuEA>

Every blessing

Andrew



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If you would like to join us for Evening Prayer on Tuesday it is at 4.30pm

The link is

Topic: Evening Prayer Zoom on Tuesday
Time: Apr 28, 2020 04:30 PM London

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86465994705?pwd=TnlxR0wzODFkRVJsaJFXbXg0cHI5UT09>

Meeting ID: 864 6599 4705

Password: 019060

The times for Evening Prayer for the rest of the week are as follows:

Wednesday 5.00pm (contact Katrina)

Thursday 5.00pm

Friday 5.00pm (contact Katrina)

Saturday 5.00pm

Sunday 6.00pm