

Kettle & Fish News – May 2014

Unfortunately *Kettle & Fish* is only open twice this month. If you are reading this on 8 May, you will have the extra joy of a mini art gallery to visit. This is being staged in connection with the *Two Rivers Mission* visiting Sudbury during the first week of May. The theme of the artwork in St Peter's is 'Show & Tell', and that made me reflect on the role that the visual plays in our understanding of our faith. We're used to listening to words, but pictures can often make a much bigger and maybe more permanent impact on us.

I was looking for pictures to illustrate a talk I was giving on the return of the prodigal son - you know the story, in Luke's Gospel, where a young man asks for his inheritance early, dissipates it in immoral ways and then realizes his only recourse is to return home and ask to be taken on as a servant in his father's household; his father will have none of that and reinstates him fully as his son again.

The picture that grabbed me was one where you could just see the face and upper body of a young 21st-century man on his knees, holding on to the waist of an older man. The young man was clearly desperately sorry for his behaviour, but the hand of the older man is gently resting on his head, as a sign of forgiveness. A powerful picture of God's readiness to take us back if we have wandered away from him.

If you come to *Kettle & Fish* on 15 May, perhaps you could spend a short moment contemplating St Peter's stained glass windows.

Malcolm

Our Prayers for May:

On the prayer table with white cloth there is a copy of a Cartoon from The Mail on the prayer table. It reads: **"it's time for Christians and the cast of Jamaica Inn to speak up!"** So timely!!

The Two Rivers Mission – walking through Colne and Stour Valleys – will be in Sudbury, Acton & Great Waldingfield and Bures during first week of May. Various Events as well as personal meetings on the streets, parks and meadows will give us chance to **Take Steps** to talk to anyone of our faith in our Wonderful God. **Pray that God will give us all the right words to let others know Jesus as Friend and Saviour for themselves**

Look out for posters re 'Art that speaks' and 'Show & Tell' in K&F today, Healing Service Thursday 7.30 pm at All Saints and 'Any Questions' Friday 7.45 pm in St Peter's. Do come and bring your questions. God answers any who reach out to Him **Lord, draw to Yourself those who question; those who want to know and understand You; those who long for real forgiveness and peace of mind and those wanting a new start to life.**

On Market Hill for the whole week, the Prayer Ministry tent offers (as does Kettle & Fish) opportunity to talk over any question you raise or pray with you if you wish or for you to write out a prayer request allowing us to pray later.

Lord help each one of us to:

**Step up – and ask – and then receive
Step forward – for prayer – and then believe
Step aside – and just talk – from the heart
Step out – and find out – God's deep love**

Eleanor