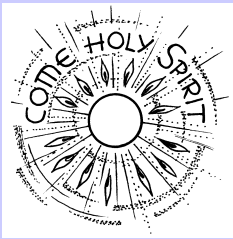


InSpire 4 May 2017

The monthly publication for St John the Baptist, Capel

Issue 4 May 2017



From Easter to Pentecost

Rev Liz writes 'Easter Thoughts'

Dear all,

Writing this on Easter Sunday I am looking back on a wonderful day as we celebrated Jesus' resurrection at church this morning. Many joined us today with old friends and new and all ages. It was a real joy and very heart-warming at the end of a very full but at times a challenging year – please see my report on pages 4 & 5.

The church interior was looking particularly beautiful as our flower ladies and their team excelled themselves once again with flowers and greenery literally bursting out everywhere! As we now come to the month of May we will have held our Annual Parochial Church Meeting after the 10 o'clock service on April 30th and so this month I felt it appropriate to share my report as PCC Chair as I looked back on the past year. I hope you find it interesting. I hope that you found the leaflet outlining our 'Giving Programme' of interest as well. If for any reason you did not receive one please do pick a leaflet up in church just inside the door.

With my love and prayers

Rev Liz

Rev Liz's Annual Report to the APCM can be found on page 4 & 5



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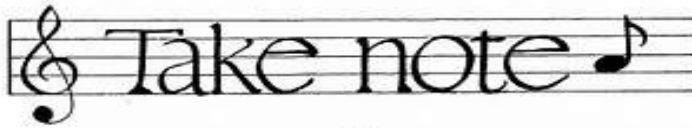
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Don't forget Christian Aid
Week 14th—20th May 2017



...and the theme of this morning's service is... 'Preaching a Gospel of Simplicity'...



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New extended deadline for items for InSpire ...

PLEASE NOTE : The deadline for contributions has now been extended from 16th to **20th of each month.**

Please Notice This



A reminder that there is a **Surrey Weald Team Council Meeting at 7.30pm at Capel Church on Tuesday 9 May 2017 for those that attend.**

One item for discussion will be the proposed linking of St Margaret's Church Ockley with St John the Baptist Capel, and thus Ockley Church becoming a part of the Surrey Weald Team.



This year's **Annual Vicarage Fete** in aid of our local schools will take place on **Saturday 17th June 2017** 12 noon and 3pm. The venue will be confirmed in due course due.

We are **URGENTLY** looking for volunteers to help organise this year's fete? This year with the problems encountered by Scott-Broadwood, it is more important than every to unify and support them as much as we can.

If you can help in any way, please speak to Rev Liz.

Christian Aid Volunteers wanted for Christian Aid Week 14th–20th May 2017

If you can help with the house to house collections for Christian Aid at the beginning of May, please see Sue or Phil Partridge.

Or call them on 01306 711355.

Local Charities we support

Dorking Foodbank

Please keep the donations coming as they are urgently needed! You can also put items in a box in Waitrose in Dorking for the Foodbank if you find it easier to do so at the time of shopping?

"Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Hebrews 13:16

Leatherhead Start

We also support Leather-HEAD START and their Newsletter can be found in church. Also, you can visit their website for more information:-

www.leatherheadstart.org

They aim to improve the lives of homeless people.

NEWS from the Pews

Local news from St John the Baptist, Capel

Scott Broadwood School

We continue to pray for Scott Broadwood as the summer term has begun with lots of good things to look forward. Pray for staff and governors as they work through the transition process and await the County Council's decision on consolidation.

We pray too for all affected by the proposals, for those who have left Ockley base earlier than expected and for all our Ockley children who have happily settled into the Capel base.



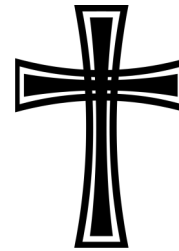
Service on Good Friday at 10.00 am

Many of us enjoyed a new service on Good Friday morning. We gathered together to listen to the choir take us through the story of Good Friday in readings and music from St John Passion by J S Bach.

They had all worked extremely hard under Anthea's able direction and we thank them for giving us a service of thought provoking words—both spoken and sung.

From the Registers

We mourn the loss of **Ethel Puttock** on 18th April 2017.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY see page 5 for Events & Services

Ockley, Okewood Hill & Forest Green

Men's Breakfast 13th May 2017

Mark Weeden of 'Living Word Ministries' will be talking about '**Money, Motivation and Mission**'. It will take place at Oakwood Hill village hall, starting at 8.30am. A full English breakfast will be served together with tea and coffee. There will be a minimum charge of £5.00 per head for those who attend.

Please confirm in advance if you would like to attend.

Contact Barry Thomson on 01306 621234 or email: barry.thomson@btconnect.com

CHURCH TEAS FOR MAY AND JUNE

Monday 1st May	Mayday Bank Holiday
Sunday 14th May	
Sunday 28th May	
Monday 29th May	Whitsun Bank Holiday

Sunday 11th June
Sunday 25th June

All 3.00pm—5.00 pm

If the weather is good, there will be outside seating!



Chair's Report for 2016/17 to the APCM by Rev Liz

This Report will have been included in the APCM held on Sunday 30th April but is here for anyone unable to make the meeting.

Parish life has continued to flourish throughout the year despite some setbacks and difficulties during this last year. Everyone has been working very hard in all the many and varied roles in our church's life and most especially in the area of finance and the fabric of our church building and surrounding churchyard and walls.

Walls and brickwork were in fact the theme for many weeks during the second part of 2016 as the PCC received some worrying news about the condition of the church walls. We also had just begun tackling the churchyard boundary walls which in some places are falling down and in a bad state of repair. All of this has been well catalogued over the last year so I will not go into too much detail but will leave it to the Churchwardens to summarise in their report. However, one thing we were delighted to hear at the beginning of this year following a visit from the DAC otherwise known as the Diocesan Advisory Committee for the Care of Churches and Churchyards, was that in their opinion we would do well to leave the walls alone for the time being and concentrate on the rainwater goods, guttering and downpipes, so to protect the stonework for the foreseeable future. This will still mean quite a large amount of funds will be needed to maintain our beautiful building but it will not be anything in the region of the £250,000 we thought we would have to fundraise for. So a great relief all round!

Some of our PCC have been working on writing bids for funding grants, attending building project days, studying mortar and much more. This is now developing into a building committee. We will be continuing to fundraise specifically for the church building repairs and of course the churchyard boundary walls for which we are hoping work may begin this summer. Thank you to all those of you who have contributed so far – it is all adding up and every penny is much appreciated.

Fundraising for our ministry costs and the running costs of our church has also been a matter of discussion and concern. You will have noticed that we have produced a stewardship leaflet which we have tried to distribute to all the households in the parish outlining the current shortfall. All churches rely totally on money given to them from their parishes. Churches do not receive funding from The Church of England as an institutional body. This may come as a surprise to many.

So building and finance have been a major part of PCC business this last year which was not easy as we had not been able to successfully fill the office of PCC Treasurer. This has meant that finance becomes the responsibility of our Churchwardens and so Dineke not only begun her first year as a new churchwarden but volunteered to become interim treasurer too. It has been a huge challenge and one which Dineke has managed professionally and very capably. She and I are now pleased to report that we will have a new treasurer taking over the accounts from September this year. We look forward to welcoming Debbie von Bergen onto the PCC at the APCM and then as our Hon. Treasurer in September. I also would like to thank John Ashwood and Joy Harman who have assisted in the day to day paying in and paying out.

So it has been a tough year in many respects but throughout, the PCC have met regularly to deal with the business before them with great patience and diligence. The church has continued to run smoothly as it always does providing weekly worship, occasional offices and regular activities such as Capel teas, choir, and art group, bible study groups not to mention Messy Church and Café Church and the special services of remembrance in November. One particular highlight of the year was the Queen's 90th birthday in June 2016 which we celebrated by a special service in church followed by picnics on the Recreation Ground and royal teas in church.

Another highlight was our harvest festival last year when a small group of our members rehearsed and performed a murder mystery play in the Village Hall for our annual harvest supper. This was done very much in good humour and definitely not to be taken too seriously and was a great success! We are hoping to build on this success again this year as once again a play will be performed set in the context of a village cricket club! Not to be missed. A huge thank you to Yvonne Featherstone and Sylvie Beckett for masterminding this once seen and never forgotten event!

Another not to be forgotten event was the knobbly knees competition at the Vicarage Fete last year. Inclement weather meant that we held the fete in the Village Hall and this turned out to be a very wise decision. As the rain lashed down we were treated to some very knobbly knees paraded before us on the village hall stage provided by some very good sports! The theme of the fete was a Teddy Bears Picnic and we had some beautifully dressed bears, lots of fun and raised a good amount of money for our local schools.

Ministry wise we have welcomed new people into our congregation young and old, through our regular Sunday worship and occasional offices of baptism and holy matrimony. We have also accompanied and supported those whose loved ones have died through conducting funerals in church and local crematoria. We have enjoyed some different services over the year with a Pet Service where several dogs sat beautifully on the pews and gazed at me as I led the service. It was pure delight! We had a Songs of Praise service too which was a popular event where we sang favourite hymns and listened to one another's stories. We had a puppet show at our harvest service which was great fun and welcomed more animals as two local donkeys joined us for our annual nativity service. That turned out to be a slightly messier affair than the pet service!! Never mind, the donkeys returned for another first just recently when they led our Palm Sunday procession down the street to church which may just turn out to be another annual event.

We are a third of the Surrey Weald Team and so clergy continue to meet and pray once a week led by our Team Rector Andrew Coe. It is so good to be able to meet regularly with clergy colleagues and this year our church has hosted the team Advent Service where Archdeacon Paul officially licensed me as Half Time Stipendiary priest. We also hosted the team Maundy Thursday Eucharist just recently. It would be good to work more together as a team and the team council meets quarterly to try to make this happen.

There have been several new initiatives in this last year. One is our new monthly faith based publication named InSpire which has been created and developed by Suzanne Cole. InSpire complements the Village magazine which provides the church and local community with news and comment. InSpire is available in church or online at another new initiative which is our new Capel Church website capel-church.co.uk. Do stop and take a look at both. Communication is key and these two initiatives are great vehicles in which to convey helpful information and great inspiration.

We have so much to be thankful for in Capel. There have been many challenges, some of which I have shared with you here and some which I have not. Ministry is demanding and so is running a 21st century church. There are so many people involved in keeping St John the Baptist the village church you all enjoy and treasure so I wish to convey my thanks on behalf of everyone who enjoys it to all our members who work so hard to keep the church and the churchyard clean, beautiful and welcoming throughout the year. Thank you too to the bell ringers who faithfully ring every week without fail. Challenges but most of all there is much joy and this year is another year when I can truly look back and think what a lot of things we have achieved once more and how have we managed to fit it all in! As someone remarked to me last week as they were tasked with an unexpected job: 'it's such fun coming to church – you never know what you are going to be asked to do next!' Amen to that!!

Revd Liz Richardson

Letter from The Editor

What a mixed month April has been with the high temperatures of a Summer's Day earlier on and then sleet, snow and freezing frosts as we near the beginning of May! I hope that everyone enjoyed their long Easter weekend and found time amongst all our busy lives to reflect on the events of Easter.



I enjoyed coming to the Good Friday service along with others and found peace and solace in the moments of silence that were afforded us amongst the readings and singing from J S Bach's St John Passion. It is so good to take time out and find God amongst our hectic daily lives. Personally, I enjoy walking into any new church I come across and I always hope to find peace and quiet in it. My father installed this passion in me to visit every church we came across on holidays and days out and this deep and abiding love for discovering new churches stays with me. Not only do I delight in the fabric of the buildings themselves but I always find myself thinking about the hundreds of people that will have sat in the pew I've sat on in times gone by. Their God was the same as mine and the same can be said if I go into any church which is a source of delight and comfort to me. I love worshipping in my village church but equally, I love discovering ones that are 'new' to me even if they have stood for over a thousand years!

I hope as we move into May that the weather improves and we begin to enjoy being outside more! For many of us our gardens are also a source of solace and contentment and I hope that good weather affords us the opportunity to get in them as regularly as we can! We may be seeking solace from the hive of activity that will surround the forthcoming General Election! It seems we are constantly voting both locally and nationally, BUT how lucky we are that we live in a democracy where this is our right! We may complain but I think we would all agree that the alternatives that many of our fellow human beings have to put up with around the world are worth the occasional 'hassle' of turning out to vote! Wishing you all a Happy May!

With my best wishes,
Suzanne Cole



Brief News from the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) held Sunday 30th April in church

This is a very brief synopsis of some of the items discussed and elections made at the APCM held in church this morning Sunday 30th April. This article is intended to give some of the news and is not intended to replace the formal report of the APCM that will be available in due course.

Norman Ede and Dineke van den Bogerd were re-elected as Churchwardens and thanked by Rev Liz for all their hard work. Pam Cuthbert was thanked for her long service as PCC Secretary and presented with a bunch of flowers. Pam remains on the PCC. Gwyneth Drummond and John Ashwood were standing down from the PCC. We thank them for their time on the PCC and their hard work on behalf of the church. Andy Carr was re-elected and Debbie von Bergen was elected on to the PCC. Debbie is kindly going to be the new PCC Treasurer in due course. She comes well qualified for the job as a Chartered Accountant! We wish her all the best for her time on the PCC and as Treasurer.

Chris Drummond thanked Liz for bringing a Ministry of positivity and happiness to the village and he thanked her on our behalf for all her hard work. There was a round of applause in response to this!

If anyone would like to be PCC Secretary please let Rev Liz know. You do not have to be on the PCC to fulfil this role.

CHURCH SERVICES AND EVENTS FOR MAY 2017**SUNDAY 7th Fourth Sunday of Easter**

8.00 am Holy Communion BCP

10.00 am PET SERVICE

This was a great success last year and so we invite you to bring your pets along for this annual service of thanksgiving for our animal friends and all that they do to help us humans!

SUNDAY 14th Fifth Sunday of Easter

8.00 am Holy Communion BCP

10.00 am Family Communion with Baptisms**3.00— 5.00 pm Capel teas in church *and outside if fine***

TUESDAY 16TH MESSY CHURCH in the Capel Memorial Hall 3.15pm onwards. Fun and activities on a biblical theme for children accompanied by an adult. *Please note this is the CORRECT date, not 23rd as published before.*

SUNDAY 21st Sixth Sunday of Easter

8.00 am Holy Communion BCP

10.00 am Family Communion

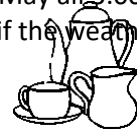
SUNDAY 28th Seventh Sunday of Easter

8.00 am Holy Communion BCP

10.00 am Family Communion

TEAS IN MAY 2017

Church TEAS on Sunday 14th and Bank Holiday Monday 29th May all 3.00— 5.00pm and **OUTSIDE** if the weather is fine!

**MONDAY 29th Bank Holiday****3.00— 5.00 pm Capel teas in church *and outside if fine*****JUNE**

Pentecost—Sunday 4th
June

**SUNDAY 4th Pentecost**

8.00 am Holy Communion BCP

10.00 am Family Pentecost Communion

Every Wednesday at 9.45am in church we pray the Church of England's Daily Office. All are welcome to join us as we intercede for the church, the world and all those in need who have asked for our prayers....

St John the Baptist Capel

Pet Service

A Service of thanksgiving and blessing for all
creatures great and small...
horses and donkeys very welcome!



7th May - 10am

ALL WELCOME - BRING YOUR PETS
SUITABLY RESTRAINED OR CAGED!!

St John the Baptist, Capel Giving Programme 2017



At Easter, our new Stewardship leaflet was distributed by volunteers with the Easter cards to all parishioners. We are hoping to encourage more regular giving to enable us to deal with the ongoing upkeep costs of our church. The leaflet addressed the shortfall we face in maintaining our church every day. A few people have come forward as a result of the leaflet but we need more to commit to regular donations, even if it is a small amount. It ALL makes a difference.

Have you ever stopped to consider the funds required to maintain our beautiful building and the work that our congregation undertakes in its name in our community?

- It costs £144.00 per day EVERY DAY to run St John the Baptist Church, Capel.
- **Heating and power takes 15% of our annual income.**

Much of this is covered by planned giving and donations from our congregation and visitors, but we have a daily shortfall of £56, partly made up by using interest from investments, BUT £32 is left OUTSTANDING every day. So we are using the legacy of previous generations and therefore unable to adequately provide for the future. Clearly this is unsustainable in the long term.

Can you help?

Jesus gave his life for us.
God gives us everything for life—everyday.

Giving is part of the Christian faith and even small, affordable regular giving will make a HUGE difference to securing the future of our church and its place at the heart of our community.

Our plea to you is to consider the figures mentioned above. If you felt able to give small, regular contributions it could make all the difference to the way we care for our church

There are lots of the leaflet available in church if you didn't receive one.

Whilst on the subject of money A little humour!

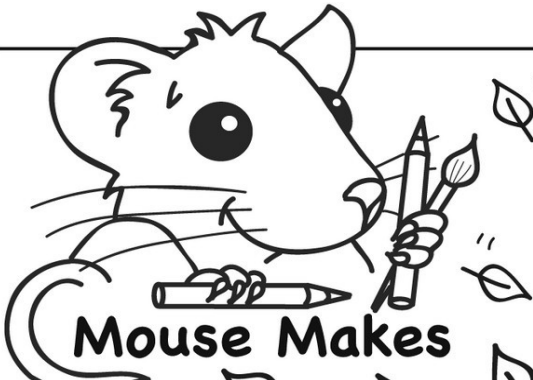


Money

There is the story of a minister who got up one Sunday and announced to his congregation: 'I have good news and bad news. The good news is, we have enough money to pay for our new building programme. The bad news is, it's still out there in your pockets.'



InSpire for our Younger Readers



Mouse Makes

S E E K L O S T S
 I G F O Z H M S A V E
 N I O T A X H A L F
 N V U T C G O D V A J
 E E R I C H U Z A D E
 R X G M H T S I T O S
 P F E A W E I W U
 P O S S E S S I O N S
 F O U R U
 T R E E S

The Man in the Tree

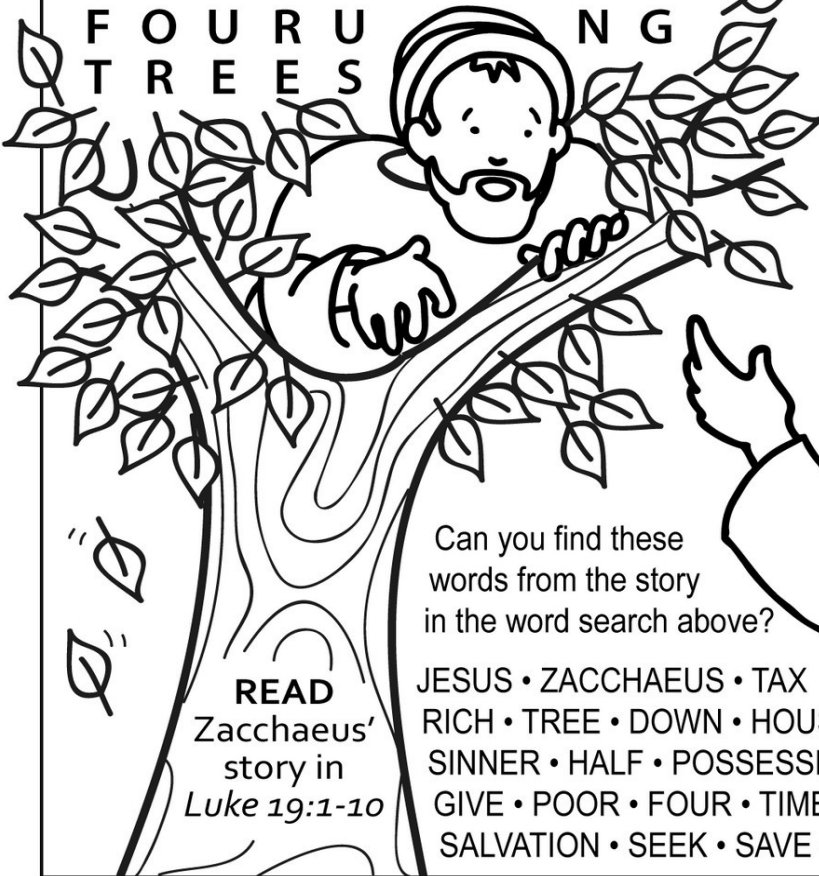
With Jesus passing through the town
 A crowd of people gathered round,
 But as Zacchaeus could not see,
 He ran ahead and climbed a tree.

Jesus stopped as he passed by,
 And saw Zacchaeus there up high,
 Said, "Dear Zacchaeus, come with me,
 I'm going to your house for tea".

Zacchaeus climbed
 down to the floor,
 And walked with Jesus
 to his door,
 Amazed the Lord would
 want to be
 With such a liar and
 cheat as he.

Zacchaeus, sorry for
 all he had done,
 Said, "Lord, I'll pay
 back everyone,
 Half I own I give
 to the poor,
 Those I've cheated get
 four times more."

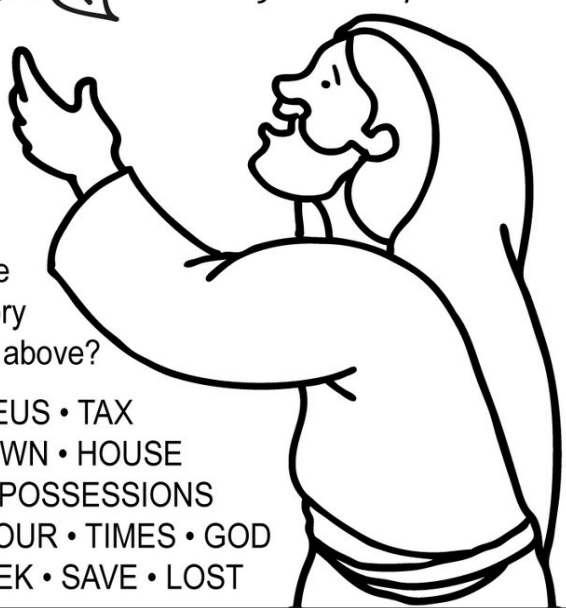
Jesus said,
 "Today you're saved!"
 Zacchaeus replied,
 "May God be praised!"



Can you find these
 words from the story
 in the word search above?

READ
 Zacchaeus'
 story in
Luke 19:1-10

JESUS • ZACCHAEUS • TAX
 RICH • TREE • DOWN • HOUSE
 SINNER • HALF • POSSESSIONS
 GIVE • POOR • FOUR • TIMES • GOD
 SALVATION • SEEK • SAVE • LOST



The Pentecost

Then there appeared to
them tongues as of fire,
which parted and came
to rest on each one
of them

Acts 2:3



**Bible
Memory
Verse**



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New Church website launched!

www.capel-church.org.uk



Our church website has been updated for 2017 with the aim of being able to reach more people in our community and with greater ease. A new addition is that we are now able to distribute regular publications (such as the Vicar's news letter and InSpire).

If you would like to get news delivered to your email inbox, please subscribe on-line. If you hover over either menu option you'll see the subscribe link. It's as easy as 1,2,3.

Next stage: Facebook! Watch this space!

Social Media



You may like to note that we do have two Facebook pages in action already They are the 'Children's Society Support Group in Capel' and 'Capel Annual Vicarage Fete'. If you have any information you would like included in these please email slc@ansford.me.uk or editor@capel-church.org.uk and I will update the Facebook pages with the relevant information! Thank you!

We look forward to the new Capel Church Facebook page going live sometime soon!



Vicarage Fete 2017

Saturday 17th June 12 noon until 3.00 pm

Venue to be confirmed due to weather

This is our big annual fundraiser for our local schools. They all need extra funding and every penny we raise will help! If anyone is able to help in any capacity, please let Rev Liz know. We will be needing Raffle prizes, stallholders, refreshments and much more so please do help if you can!

Please put the date in your diary and spread the word to everyone to come and join us at this lovely community event! Thank you!

PRAYERS

International unrest

Almighty Father,
whose will is to restore all things
in your beloved Son, the King of all:
govern the hearts and minds of those
in authority,
and bring the families of the nations,
divided and torn apart by the ravages
of sin,
to be subject to his just and gentle
rule;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Source: The Church of England

For Christians facing oppression abroad

O Lord God,
your Son Jesus Christ suffered and died for us.
In his resurrection He restores life and peace in all creation.
Comfort, we pray, all victims of intolerance
and those oppressed by their fellow humans.
Remember in your kingdom those who have died.
Lead the oppressors towards compassion and give hope to the
suffering.
Through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Source: The Church of England

Waiting

(Acts1:1-11)

He told us to wait,
then went away.
After all the excitement,
all the joy of having Him back,
He has gone again.
Yet this time there is hope,
This time there is His promise
Of power, of His Spirit,
Of a new dimension of His presence.
This leaving is different
Now we know He's forever alive.
And we wait in confidence and anticipation
to witness to the world...

and we wait
for His Spirit to come...

by Daphne Kitching

Source: Parish Pump

We remember those who ask for our prayers at this time including ...

For Duncan Jennings, Pat Wombwell, Mick Jones, Hannah Dyos.

We give thanks for those continuing to improve from illness or surgery including Mark Ivackovic.

For anyone that is known personally to you ...

For all who have come into our church and put prayer requests on our Prayer Boards. We bring their prayers to you dear Lord.

If you have any particular prayer you would like featured, please do let the Editor know. Also if you would like us to pray for someone you know, please do ask. Thank you.

Puzzle Page

Wordsearch May 17

King George VI The coronation of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth took place at Westminster Abbey 80 years ago this month, on 12th May 1937. It should have been for Edward, of course, but he abdicated. That occasion marked the BBC's first official TV outdoor broadcast. It was the first coronation to be filmed: the 40-strong camera crew inside the Abbey had to wear evening dress. As in the film *The King's Speech*, there was concern about the King's stutter, but he delivered his speech without a problem. He later wrote to the Archbishop: "I felt I was being helped all the time by Someone Else, as you said I would."

Coronation

King

George

Queen

Elizabeth

Westminster

Abbey

Eighty

Edward

Abdicated

BBC

Outdoor

Broadcast

Filmed

Camera

Stutter

Delivered

Problem

Helped

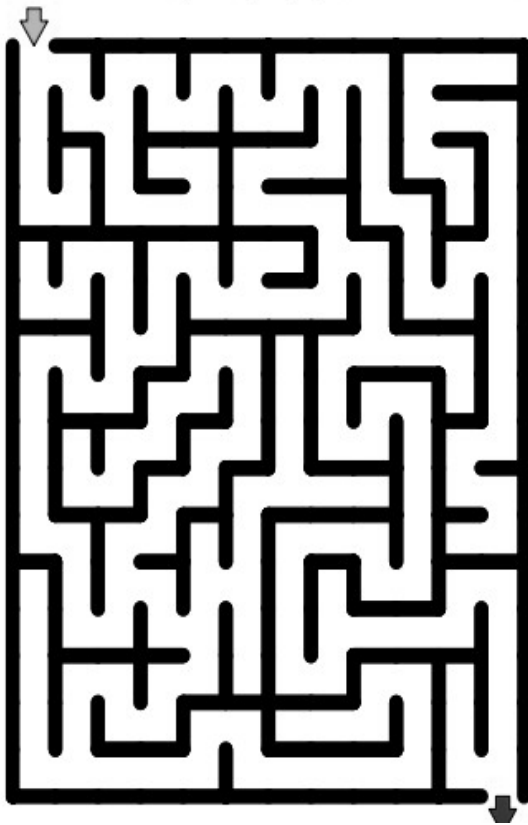
Someone

Else



Wordsearch Solution on page 20

Now try your hand at this Maze!



Time for reflection ...

*Accept Nothing Less
than Jesus!*

Be satisfied with nothing less
than the Lord Jesus abiding in your life.

He is the Light of the World.
He is the Life of the World.
He is your Savior,
your Lord, and
your Friend.

He has promised to come to you
and abide with you.

Then accept nothing less than
Jesus in your life.

Invite Him into your heart.
Embrace Him.

Talk often with your Friend, and

His Light Will Fill Your Life!

Sudoku Puzzle

Solution on Page 20.

5	4			7	6	1	8	
7							2	
		6	1	2	4	7	3	
		4	8			9		
2				3				1
		8			1	3		
	6	1	5	4	9	2		
	5							6
	2	9	7	6			1	3

Apparently this is the 'Easy' Sudoku option for May! If this is too easy for our expert mathematical readers, do let me know and we'll try the 'Medium' level one next month!

Good Luck!

The Editor

Thy Kingdom Come—Event for Pentecost at Guildford Cathedral!



Sunday 4 June 2017: 16:30 – 20:00

Come and gather on the day of Pentecost for a huge Beacon event at Guildford Cathedral for people of all ages and stages of life and faith. There are two events; you can come to either, or both, of these. The service in the Cathedral is especially for young people - from secondary school age to college and uni students. Tickets to BOTH events are free of charge.

4.30-6.00pm Prayer and Food Festival. Church groups from across the region will pilgrimage to Stag Hill to enjoy food, prayer, music and fun! There will be hot dogs, ice-cream, prayer tents, Psalm Drummers, candy-floss, poets, inflatables and live bands. You can bring a pic-nic or buy food.

6:30-8:00pm Pentecost Celebration service in the Cathedral. At the end of 'Thy Kingdom Come' week of international prayer we'll gather to worship Jesus, be empowered by the Holy Spirit, and pray that others will come to know Him. Pete Greig is hosting, with worship led by the Boilerroom Ignite band.

Getting there: we're inviting you to journey with your church or youth group as a pilgrimage by walking to the Cathedral from your local church. There won't be any parking on site at the Cathedral, except for those with a blue disabled badge. If you live too far away to walk the whole way, take public transport to Guildford and walk up Stag Hill to join the celebration!

Tickets via <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/thy-kingdom-come-beacon-event-guildford-tickets-32403272059>



NEWS from



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

Key facts about the Church of England

Education

- **1 in 4** primary schools and **1 in 16** secondary schools in England are Church of England schools.
- Approximately **1 million** pupils are educated in more than 4,700 Church of England schools.

For more information, see the [Church Schools and Academies page](#).

Ministers

- In 2015, there were **20,440** ordained ministers in the Church of England, including stipendiary clergy, self-supporting ministers, and Chaplains. Additionally, there were **6,170** Readers and Licenced Lay Ministers.
- The Church of England ordained **498** new clergy in 2015, with **315** (187 men, 128 women) ordained to stipendiary ministry.

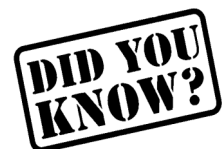
Community involvement

- Over **80,000** volunteers and around **2,700** Church Staff help provide support and activities for children, young people and families.
- Over **100,000** children and young people participate in activities connected to the church.
- In 2012, nearly **half a million** worshippers subscribed to tax-efficient giving schemes such as Gift Aid, accounting for nearly half the voluntary income of parish churches.

For more information visit:

Statistics for Mission:- <https://www.churchofengland.org/about-us/facts-stats/research-statistics/statistics-for-mission.aspx>

Finance Statistics: <https://www.churchofengland.org/about-us/facts-stats/research-statistics/finance-statistics.aspx>



Church buildings

The Church of England has around 16,000 churches, serving every part of the country and open to every local inhabitant. There are 42 mainland Cathedrals, plus one in Peel on the Isle of Man and the Diocese in Europe's Cathedral in Gibraltar.

For more information visit **Church Buildings page:** <https://www.churchofengland.org/about-us/our-buildings.aspx>

All information taken from The Church of England website: www.churchofengland.org

Editor: The Rev Paul Hardingham considers the implications of Ascension Day...

Acts for Everyone

At the end of May comes Ascension Day (25th), a bit of a neglected festival in the Church. As Luke reminds us in Acts 1:1-11, it was the opportunity for Jesus to commission His disciples His witnesses in the world:

‘But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.’ (Acts 1:8).

What is a witness?

a witness knows Jesus:

A credible witness speaks of what they know personally. The disciples had spent 40 days with Jesus and now they were called to share that experience and relationship with others. What is my story of how Jesus is alive in my life?

a witness grows in Jesus:

Jesus told them to wait for the gift of the Spirit to empower them as witnesses. ‘Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about.’ (4). The Spirit equips us to display Jesus’ character (fruit) and enables us to witness (gifts). How does our life demonstrate the difference Jesus makes?

a witness goes for Jesus:

They were called to witness for Jesus in ever-increasing circles of influence. For us, this means family and friends, workplace and community, and the wider world. Where is God calling us to serve Him?

The story is told of Jesus arriving in heaven after the Ascension, being welcomed by the angels. Gabriel asked Jesus, ‘what is your plan for everyone to know your love?’ Jesus replied, ‘I have given my disciples the task of carrying the message into all the world.’ Gabriel’s face dropped, ‘These are unpredictable men, what if they fail? After a pause Jesus answered, ‘There is no other plan!’

Editor: The Rev Paul Hardingham welcomes the major new national initiative for prayer coming from the Archbishops ...

Thy Kingdom Come

The Archbishops of Canterbury and York are calling Christians of every denomination to join in with Thy Kingdom Come, a prayer initiative between Ascension and Pentecost (25th May to 4th June), to pray for the nation to know Jesus Christ. It is a time to seek the empowering of the Holy Spirit, that we may be effective witnesses to Jesus Christ.

Praying for others to know Jesus is one of the most powerful things we can do. Persistent prayer for others brings transformation to their lives. As Paul writes: ‘Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should.’ (Colossians 4: 2-4).

As Paul says, consistent praying for others involves discipline (‘be devoted’) and responding to what God is already doing in people’s lives (‘being watchful and thankful’). We can pray for ‘open doors’ to point people to Jesus and what He can mean in their lives. We all have opportunities to do this, as even Paul prayed as a prisoner in chains!!

The Archbishops are encouraging us to choose five people who we can pray for regularly. Why not ask God to guide you, as you settle on five names and commit to praying for them daily, perhaps by using the following prayer:

‘Loving Father, in the face of Jesus Christ your light and glory have blazed forth.

Send your Holy Spirit that I may share with my friends the life of your Son and your love for all. Strengthen me as a witness to that love as I pledge to pray for them, for your name’s sake. Amen.’

Looking at reflections on one of the latest films 'Beauty and the Beast'

A thought provoking article.

Source: Parish Pump



MOVIE MOMENTS

Nick and Carol Pollard from EthosMedia.org share thought-provoking reflections on the latest films.

Is cinema the new church?

The film director Quentin Tarantino is famously quoted as saying that 'Cinema is the new church.' Certainly, films are the medium by which many people today have the opportunity to encounter the big spiritual themes of redemption and transformation. This is the case with *Beauty and the Beast*, the latest classic Disney film to benefit from a live action re-imagining.

This visually spectacular film retells the story of a prince (played by Dan Stevens) who becomes a beast, because of his self-obsession; and whose only hope is to learn to love and be loved, before the final judgement day. His redemption and



transformation is brought about through Belle (played by Emma Watson) who sees, within him, the person he could become. She helps him to turn away from his anger and pride. Belle is in the beast's castle through another story of redemption, when she willingly substitutes herself to save her imprisoned father, taking his life-sentence for him.

This film is a cinematic feast, with beautiful imagery and captivating songs. But it also provides an opportunity to reflect upon the spiritual themes of redemption and transformation, made possible through a sacrificial substitution.

At a time when many families would rather go to a cinema than be in a church perhaps, through appropriate conversations, we might help them to discover something of the big biblical story that is echoed in the stories on the screen.



EthosMedia.org provides free resources to help people explore spiritual, moral, social and cultural issues through the latest feature films.

**ETHOS
MEDIA.org**

Beauty and the Beast is in cinemas now, certificate PG. Find screenings at FindAnyFilm.com

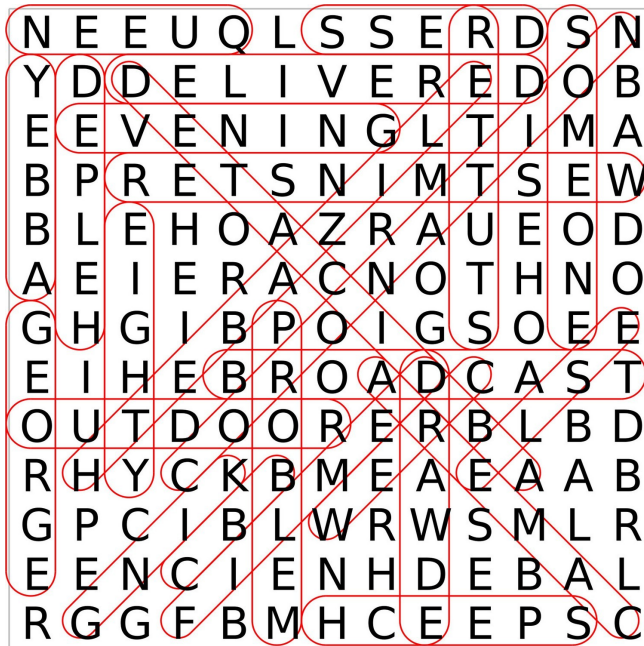
**FIND
ANY
FILM
.COM**



All films. All above board.

Below: Word Search Solution

Crossword can be found on page 14 & 15



Below: Sudoku Solution

The puzzle can be found on page 15

5	4	2	3	7	6	1	8	9
7	1	3	9	8	5	6	2	4
9	8	6	1	2	4	7	3	5
1	3	4	8	5	2	9	6	7
2	9	5	6	3	7	8	4	1
6	7	8	4	9	1	3	5	2
3	6	1	5	4	9	2	7	8
8	5	7	2	1	3	4	9	6
4	2	9	7	6	8	5	1	3

A LITTLE HUMOUR



Breakable There was a very gracious lady who was posting an old family Bible to her brother in another part of the country... 'Is there anything breakable in here?' asked the postal clerk.

'Only the Ten Commandments,' answered the lady.

Morning prayer Somebody has said there are only two kinds of people in the world. There are those who wake up in the morning and say, 'Good morning, Lord,' and there are those who wake up in the morning and say, 'Good Lord, it's morning.'

Sedative

The church pew-sheet reported: Barbara remains in the hospital and welcomes your visits. She is also having trouble sleeping, and requests a CD of the minister's sermons.

Source: Parish Pump

Words of Wisdom ...

Today is the oldest you've ever been, yet the youngest you'll ever be, so enjoy this day while it lasts.

When praying, don't give God instructions - just report for duty. Anon

It is what you do when you have nothing to do that reveals what you are. Anon

The greatest thing anyone can do for God and for man is to pray. - S D Gordon

If your troubles are deep-seated or long-standing, try kneeling. Anon

Source: Parish Pump

Any copy for this publication should be sent to Suzanne Cole editor@stjohnthebaptistcapel.org.uk

By 20th of each month please. This is a new and extended deadline.

If you would like to receive *InSpire* by email, please let me know on the above email address. It can also be downloaded from the new church website:- www.capel-church.org.uk

Any queries, please do contact me either by email or phone: 01306 711449. Thank you The Editor