

InSpire 5 July 2017

The monthly publication for St John the Baptist, Capel

Issue 5 July 2017

God is a little like American Express - don't leave home without Him.

High Summer: Season of Fetes and Weddings

Rev Liz writes

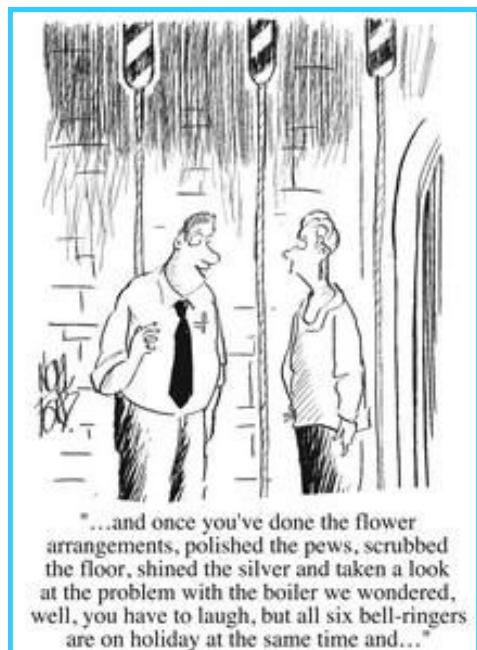
Dear all,

What a heatwave we had this last month! Our prayers were certainly answered for fine weather for the vicarage fete – it was a scorcher! Thankfully there was plenty of shade toward the end of the garden and it was lovely to see so many children and parents relaxing and enjoying the barbeque and other delights. It was a very happy day and we made a good amount of money for our local schools who provided us with some wonderful stalls, singing for us and country dancing. A big thank you to you all and our theme of Seaside certainly was appropriate for the day!

So June was the driest and hottest month since records began but it must surely have been one of the most difficult months for our nation for a long time as well. Last month I wrote as the Manchester terrorist attack took place and since then we have witnessed more terror in London Bridge and the Borough Market area of London and Finsbury Park. Many innocent people lost their lives and were wounded and scarred after these terrible attacks. Sadly that was not the end as many more would lose their lives in the Grenfell Tower inferno. Our hearts and prayers go out to all who have suffered at the hands of these attacks and those who little thought that simply enjoying an evening out listening to music and meeting with friends or even in the case of Grenfell Tower asleep in their own homes, would find their lives changed or ended in such devastating ways. In all of these tragic events we have witnessed the bravery, courage and sheer dedication of our emergency services and also of the general public in the outpouring of help and support to those who have been affected. It has been wonderful to see people of all faiths or none working together despite their differences and divides, churches, mosques and other places of worship opening their doors and providing practical help and shelter where necessary as well as a shoulder to cry on and a listening ear.

Contd on page 4.

Happy Summer holidays to our Readers and safe travels to those venturing far and wide!



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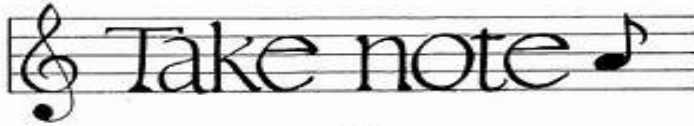
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New extended deadline for items for InSpire ...

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

Please note that Cafe Church will now begin at 10.00am each time instead of 10.30am as previously.

Thank you!



"It's not lead thieves, it's the only place left the verger can go for a smoke,"

Charities we support

The Children's Society

If you would like a Box to collect at home or in your workplace, do please let Suzanne know. This is an easy way to raise money all year round and raises valuable funds.

Thank you.

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

Hebrews 13:16

Traidcraft

You can buy Traidcraft FairTrade goods from Sue Partridge on 01306 711355.



TRAIDCRAFT
Fighting poverty through trade

NEWS from the Pews

Local news from St John the Baptist, Capel

From the Registers

We welcome into the family of the church

Cooper James Curls and Ernest Michael Shaw
14th May 2017

Sienna Olivia Frost 3rd June 2017



We celebrate the marriage of

Samantha Loveland and Ian Boyle 24th June 2017



We mourn the loss of

Ethel Puttock 18th April 2017
Paul Anthony Huggins 27th April 2017
Michael John Wadey 26th June 2017
Duncan Richard Jennings 12th June 2017

ADVANCE NOTICE FOR AUGUST!



ALTERNATIVE SERVICE & VENUE

SUNDAY 6TH AUGUST 2017

Rev Liz will be away on this day. So there will be no Cafe Church as planned, but all are welcome to attend Matins at 9.30 am at St Margaret's church, Ockley.

We wish her a happy holiday!



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY see page 7 for Events & Services

Book Reviews

Source: Parish Pump

Still Valued and Blessed

By Patrick Coghlan, Kevin Mayhew, £12.99

What exactly is old age? Grey hair? A pension? A state of mind? Whatever it is, and however it is defined, one thing is for sure: God wants our lives to continue to be valued and blessed. And so Patrick Coghlan encourages everyone entering and journeying through old age to do so with a positive attitude and to live a spiritually fruitful and fulfilling life. "We still have spiritual needs to be met, callings to fulfil, and new things to learn!"

Spiritual Growth in a Time of Change - Following God in midlife

By Tony Horsfall, BRF, £7.99

Midlife - our 40s and 50s - can be some of the most important years of our lives in spiritual terms. They are also times of change, which can include turbulent emotional transition as we face up to a range of challenging personal issues. Tony Horsfall addresses a number of such issues - from facing up to the past to renegotiating relationships. He also explores how to navigate a spiritual journey through these years, leading to deeper faith and a closer walk with God.

Rev Liz writes continued

And so the question we might normally voice or be thinking is 'so where is God in all this'? Strangely, post-election the question has instead seemed to have been 'where is the government in all this?' It has been a torrid time of mistakes, mishandling, misjudging at a time when frankly I think any government would struggle to cope with the month we have just had. I do hope and pray that parliament and certain parts of the media might take a lesson from the decency shown by much of the general public in these disasters and work together now putting aside political differences, point scoring, and other divisive issues so that the government can now work to put things right which should be put right and get on with the job of government they have been asked to do. I do realise I am now beginning to sound like a party political broadcast which as a vicar is beyond my remit!

So where though is God though in all this? Scripture tells us that God weeps with those who weep and rejoices with those who rejoice. Where is God? He is where he always is - with the lost, the vulnerable, the bereaved and all who suffer. Jesus meets us where we are – not where we think we ought to be; no he meets us where we are today, wherever we are. He is always there in the midst of any suffering, with the agony and dirt and he would have been with all who lost their lives in these events, being with them and holding them in his everlasting arms.

So as we continue now through July let us in our own way do what we can to support and uphold one another through the changing scenes of our individual and communities lives, knowing that God is with us always.

With my love and prayers

Revd Liz



Which way to Heaven?

The Rev Dr Billy Graham told of a time early in his ministry when he arrived in a small town to preach a sermon. Wanting to post a letter before the service, he asked a young boy where the post office was. When the boy had told him, Billy Graham thanked him and said, "If you'll come to the Baptist Church this evening, you can hear me telling everyone how to get to heaven."

The boy replied, "I don't think I'll be there... You don't even know your way to the post office."



Letter from the Editor

Chris and Gwyneth and furry friend enjoying the Fete!



Dear Readers,

My apologies for there being no issue of InSpire in June. Unexpectedly, I suddenly had to spend a large amount of time over the last few weeks up in Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire sorting out the funeral and estate of an Aunt of mine. She died suddenly and alone, which is something none of us would wish for. She died just a couple of weeks' short of her 90th birthday. Sorting out the possessions of a loved one is very hard emotionally and physically as every item you touch had a special meaning to its owner and it does feel very invasive and intrusive, although you know there is no choice in the matter. But amongst the copious items we had to go through, we discovered photos never seen before going back to the time my parents got engaged in the early 1960's! Also, the true treasure of our endeavours was the large haul of poetry I have brought home that my Aunt wrote. None of us knew just what a prolific poet she was, nor how successful until we saw her awards and trophies! She has left us and many other individuals who read her poetry a lasting testament to who she was, what she aspired to and some very amusing limericks as well! I suppose what I'm trying to say is that in every dark cloud there is a silver lining and in this case it's the real gift she gave in her life and the legacy she has left of the wonderful power of words.

It is with great sadness too that we lost our own Duncan Jennings in the month of June. Many of us went to his Memorial service held on Wednesday 5th July. The church was full to the brim with people in every conceivable space that could be found for them! What a testament to him that he was revered and liked by so many people! He was a true gentleman and his many gifts, particularly his photography, will be greatly missed. As a congregation, we will miss him greatly too. But our sorrow is nothing compared with that of his family. Our thoughts and prayers are with them at this sad time.

Moving on to local events, it is great to be able to report how wonderful the Vicarage Fete was! We were so lucky with the weather and had so many attractions to offer our visitors. I heard many times how much people were enjoying themselves and how they wished they had been before! 'A true country fete' was how several people described it. They loved the fact that everything was affordable and the attractions for their children weren't going to cost them a lot every time they asked for money! The children at the schools and our Brownie pack had decorated pennants to form an individual and unique bunting to decorate the occasion which was lovely to see. I understand that approximately £1,400 was raised to split between Capel Pre-School, Scott-Broadwood and The Weald C E Primary schools. A wonderful community event, raising money for where it is needed — right on our doorsteps in our schools.

The wedding season has started and I have to comment on the glorious spectacle that greeted me when I took up the weekly sheets last weekend. The flowers there were for the wedding of William and Jade Schryver and they filled the church from front to back and every available surface! It was a wonderful sight to behold!

With best wishes

Suzanne



The Human Fruit machine at The Vicarage Fete 2017 run by the Ockley Dramatic Society

Events in Manchester May 2017

A short reflection By Rev Peter Hancock Bishop of Bath & Wells

Not just in Britain or Europe but around the world vigils have been held this week to remember all those whose lives have been touched by the tragic event in Manchester on Monday night.

People have gathered in public places, in homes and at work, in churches and cathedrals to remember all those whose lives have been turned upside down by violence.

People of all nationalities, ages and creeds have come together in a shared longing for peace and justice in our world.

But underneath the shock and anger and grief there has been a determination by the people of Manchester to stand together, to support those most affected and to unite across their diversity. They have resolved to rebuild and repair the damage to their city and to face down the fear that terrorists seek to instil in our lives.

Incidents like this raise many questions, including the question: 'where is God in the midst of all this?' At moments like this I am reminded of something I read many years ago and which has remained with me: 'In Jesus, God did not come to explain suffering, or to remove it, but to fill it with his presence.' In this life we may not get all the answers we seek to the pain and problem of suffering. We live in a world which continues to be torn apart by suffering in many ways. But I believe we live in a world which is held and shaped by the love and light of God. Jesus came to fill the world with his presence.

Let us make that the focus of our prayers

Rt Revd Peter Hancock, Bishop of Bath and Wells

A Collect for Peace



O God, the author of peace and lover of concord,
to know you is eternal life and to serve you
is perfect freedom:

Defend us, your humble servants, in all
assaults of our enemies;
that we, surely trusting in your defence, may
not fear the power of any adversaries;
through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

CHURCH SERVICES AND EVENTS FOR JULY 2017

Please note the new time of 10.00am for Cafe church

SATURDAY 1st

2.30pm Wedding of Jade Norton and William Schryver

SUNDAY 2nd Trinity 3

8.00 Holy Communion BCP

10.00 CAFÉ CHURCH - Note new time

WEDNESDAY 5th

11.30 Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Duncan Jennings

Dress code: coloured please

SUNDAY 9th Trinity 4

8.00 Holy Communion BCP

10.00 Family Communion

SUNDAY 16th Trinity 5

8.00 Holy Communion BCP

10.00 Family Communion

Please note: No teas today

SUNDAY 23rd Trinity 6

8.00 Holy Communion BCP

10.00 Family Communion

SATURDAY 29th

11.30 Holy Baptism

SUNDAY 30th Trinity 7

8.00 Holy Communion BCP

10.00 Family Communion with Holy Baptism

3-5pm Capel teas in church *and outside if fine*

AUGUST

SUNDAY 6th Trinity 8

8.00 Holy Communion BCP

9.30 am Matins at St Margaret's, Ockley (* This is in place of Cafe Church as planned . Rev Liz will be away)

Each **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....



SATURDAY 22ND & SUNDAY 23RD JULY

THE OLD CROFT, SOUTH HOLMWOOD (As described in the NGS Yellow Book). A remarkable 5-acre garden with many diverse areas of exquisite natural beauty, giving a sense of peace and tranquillity. Stunning vistas including lake, bridge, pond fed by natural stream running over rocky weirs, bog gardens, roses, perennial borders, elevated viewing hide, tropical bamboo maze, curved pergola of rambling roses, unique topiary buttress hedge, many specimen trees and shrubs. **Visitors return again and again.** The garden is about 2 miles south of Dorking on the A24. Full directional signs from A24, Mill Road and Blackbrook Road will be in place. Situated in the heart of Holmwood Common, there is free parking on the common with a lovely 600 yard woodland walk to the garden.

For the disabled and the elderly please ring 01306 888224 to arrange for direct access.

This is a garden to explore slowly, discovering it's peace and serenity as it reveals the beauty of God's amazing creation. It should help to restore your soul.

The garden is open under the auspices of the National Garden Scheme with proceeds to them and St Catherine's Hospice. Admission £5.00 (All entrance money goes to the NGS), children free.

Homemade teas (Money to St Catherine's Hospice), open from 2 - 6pm each day."



We remember our Patron Saint St John the Baptist

24th June 2017

John the Baptist – preparing the way for the Messiah

John the Baptist is famous for baptising Jesus, and for losing his head to a woman.

He was born to Zechariah, a Temple priest, and Elizabeth, who was a cousin of Mary, the mother of Jesus. John was born when his mother was advanced in years, and after the foretelling of his birth and the choice of his name by an angel, we hear nothing more of him until he began his mission of preaching and baptising in the river Jordan c27.

John was a lot like an Old Testament prophet: he lived simply on locusts and honey in the wilderness, and his message was one of repentance and preparation for the coming of the Messiah and his Kingdom. He went on to baptise Jesus, at Jesus' firm request.

When John went on to denounce the incestuous union of Herod Antipas with his niece and brother's wife, Herodias, he was imprisoned and eventually beheaded at the demand of Salome, Herodias' daughter.

John is the only saint to be remembered three times in the Christian calendar, in commemoration of his conception, his birth (June 24), and his martyrdom. When John saw Jesus he said that Jesus was the "Lamb of God", and he is the only person to use this expression of Jesus. In art John is often depicted carrying a lamb, or with a lamb near him.



InSpire for our Younger Readers

Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in Genesis ch 25:19-33, 27:1-42

Jacob had cheated his father and brother, and had run away to stay with his uncle Laban. On the way there..

Jacob saw angels and heard God.



At Laban's house, Jacob met his cousin Rachel



Work for me for 7 years and you can marry her

7 years later



Can I marry Rachel now?

But Laban tricked him into marrying her sister Leah

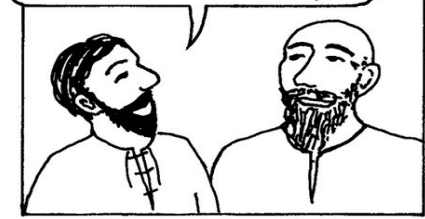


So Jacob worked 7 more years to marry Rachel



Then he said to Laban

As you aren't paying me wages, can I have the black sheep?



Laban agreed, but that day he moved all the black sheep far away



But God blessed Jacob and his black flock grew



Laban became very jealous of Isaac



Your father doesn't like me any more. We need to go back to my home.



They waited until Laban was away..



but he was told ...

Jacob!



Word Search

(Solution on back page)

a	w	a	y	r	u	n	d	n	e	p
m	h	t	r	a	j	e	s	c	e	o
b	r	o	t	h	e	r	l	e	a	h
l	m	l	m	r	a	c	h	e	l	w
a	a	n	g	e	l	s	o	h	r	a
c	r	a	y	g	o	d	n	e	s	g
k	r	w	r	y	u	i	h	i	e	e
j	y	o	s	i	s	t	e	r	v	s
a	s	r	r	u	a	m	o	v	e	d
c	b	k	o	f	l	o	c	k	n	l
j	a	c	o	b	l	a	b	a	n	e

sheep	God	angels	seven
Leah	work	jealous	brother
years	sister	away	home
run	Rachel	marry	Laban
flock	black	Jacob	cousin
agreed	father	wages	moved

Did you know? Fun facts!

1. Kids Bible Fact One - The oldest person in the Bible was Methuselah. He died when he was 969 years old!
2. Kids Bible Fact Two - The wisest man in the Bible is Solomon
3. Kids Bible Fact Three - The strongest man in the Bible is Samson
4. Kids Bible Fact Four - The tallest villain in the Bible is Goliath at over 9½ feet tall



**Updated for 2017 our new
Church website**

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!

As yet I don't believe there is a Capel Church Twitter page anyone fancy tweeting on behalf of the church?!

The Editor



PRAYERS

For anyone going on a long journey over the summer

For a long journey

Be to us, O Lord,
 a support in our setting out,
 a comfort by the way,
 a shadow in the heat,
 a covering in the rain and cold,
 a conveyance in weariness,
 a protection in adversity,
 a staff in unsteady ways,
 and a port in shipwreck;
 that, with you being our Leader,
 we may reach the place we seek,
 and at length we may return again to our home in safety.
 Amen

Forgiveness

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image, through Jesus Christ, the light of the world.

Amen

A Prayer for those awaiting their exam results

As thousands of students across the country await exam results that will determine the next stage in their life's development, the Church of England has issued a prayer to support them through the anxious moments of waiting.

The prayer, written by a gap-year student when receiving her own results was still fresh in her mind, will be issued on social media on Wednesday, the day before this year's A Level results are released.

Jesus,
 Keep reminding me of the bigger picture over the next few weeks,
 Keep me in your hands when all other hands disappear,
 For I am convinced that neither entry requirements nor exam results,
 neither anticipation nor doubts, neither success nor failure, nor any expectations,
 neither last minute fears nor anxieties, nor anything else in life, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.
 Please, don't let me forget it!
 Amen

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

For **Duncan Jennings** who died recently. We pray for him and for his family as they mourn his loss.

Also we pray for **Michael Wadey** who has died recently and for his family.

We pray for the couples who have recently married in our church. We pray for **Sami and Ian** and for **Jade and William** that God will bless their married lives.

For anyone that is known personally to you and 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.

2,500 primary pupils reflect, pray and celebrate

Nearly 2,500 Year 6 pupils from Church of England schools across our diocese gathered together at Leavers' Services last week to reflect on their primary school achievements and celebrate their transition to their next stage of education.

The six services, which were spread over four days at the 'Canvas Cathedral', involved a combination of practical activities and a structured service.

Pupils reflected on their time at primary school by celebrating 'wow' moments, creating prayer hands, crafting 'thank you' people from pipe cleaners, and laying 'sorry stones'. A teacher from St Mary's, Chessington, commented: "The simplicity of the themes and activities was perfect for the short space of time and accessible for all pupils."

Over the course of the week's events, Bishops Andrew and Jo, and Dean Dianna Gwilliams each led services, speaking to the leavers about the exciting transition to secondary school and the new opportunities ahead of them.

As well as sung worship, prayers and reflections written by the attending schools, pupils were treated to a new element for this year – a performance by actors from Wintershall, who enacted a short scene around a character's encounter with Jesus.

Jane Whittington, Diocesan Education Officer, commented: "This added a different and thought provoking element to the service. The children were fully engaged watching the actors and several teachers said that the scene generated much discussion back at school."



Each school was also presented with candles representing the light of Christ. These were taken back to the schools and given to the current Year 5 cohort. A teacher from The Weald School said:

"The candle is a good idea in terms of the continuity aspect, moving from one year to the next, passing the baton onto the next group of Year 6 children."

Jane added: "It was wonderful to join with so many Year 6 pupils and their teachers to mark their transition from primary to secondary education. This service with its mixture of reflection, celebration and affirmation for the future demonstrates what is so special about being part of a church school.

"This style of service would not be possible without the work of so many volunteers from the churches and parishes connected with the schools. I am very grateful for their time and energy."

New guidelines for our Sidesmen

The Sidesman have received this guidance as an email from Dineke, but I thought it may help to remind everyone in this month's InSpire.

The Editor

Emergency exit

Whenever we have a meeting in church we should now **open the two doors in the west porch** so this can act as an emergency exit. It's not ideal but better than nothing! I suggest that the doors are unlocked before the 8.00 am service with the keys that reside in Betty's box (ask Joy, Betty, Liz, Norman or me to show you the keys if you are unsure).

When arriving for the 10.00 am duties, please check that these doors are open and lock them when most people have left after the service, unless we have teas in the afternoon.

Money counting

There are now **forms in the vestry on the board to register collection income per service**. Please take a look next week if you are in church and if you have any questions I will be around to answer them. There are instructions attached and a copy is on the board as well.

There are several reasons for this change:

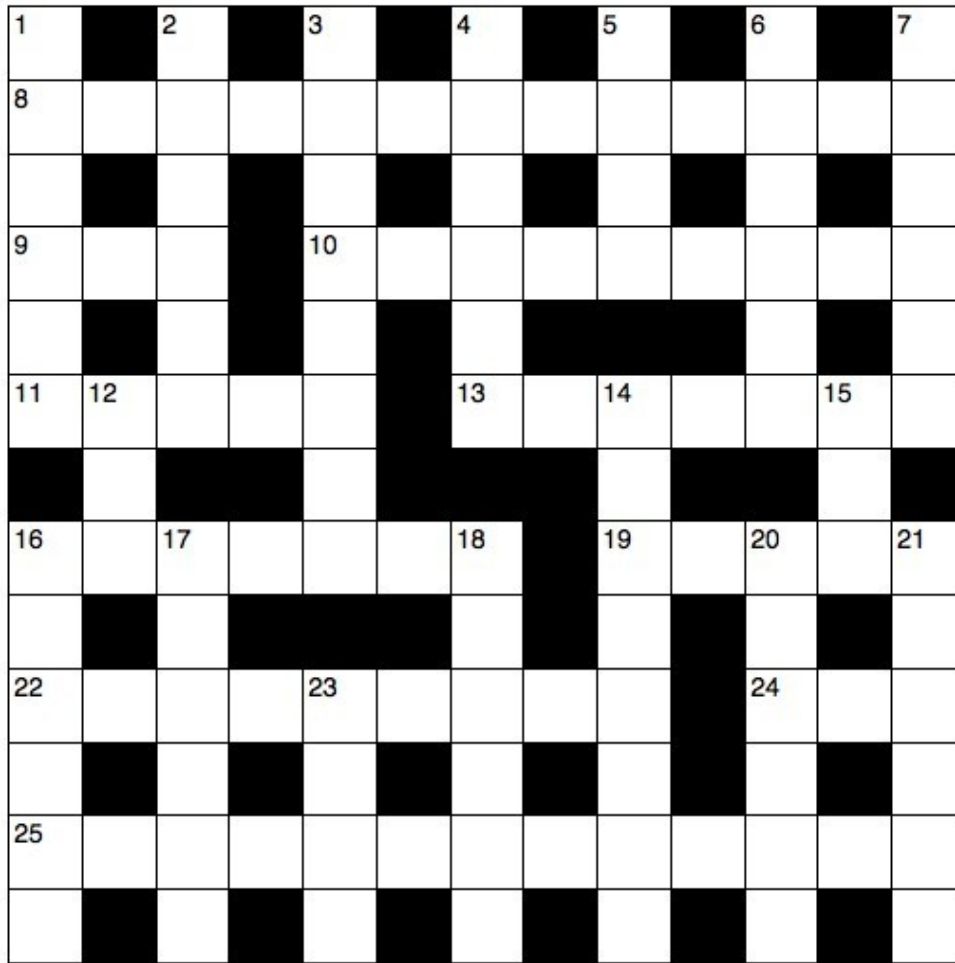
- Counting with two people eliminates the risk of third parties accusing us falsely of fiddling.
- Envelope money will now be counted by two for the same reason, ie to protect counters from false accusations
- Any discrepancies are much easier to sort out with a detailed record.
- Banking will from now on be done every week to reduce the risk of discrepancies, theft, etc

We have as a parish signed up to a Direct Debit scheme. Individual parishioners can link into the scheme and they get these tokens to use in the collection instead of the money they would otherwise give. More information on the scheme itself is available in church and I am more than happy to talk it through with any of you who are interested.

The tokens are half the size of a debit card (see picture below) and can be re-used. I suggest we put a bowl out at the start of the service with tokens (if we have any!) for subscribers to take and use during collection. We can keep the 'token bowl' in the cupboard with the items to go on the altar.



Puzzles Page



Crossword Clues

Across

8 Laban complained he had not been allowed to kiss them when Jacob fled with his family (Genesis 31:28) (13)

9 In favour of (3)

10 'The child's father and mother — at what was said about him' (Luke 2:33) (9)

11 Swagger (Psalm 12:8) (5)

13 'Terrors — him on every side and dog his every step' (Job 18:11) (7)

16 Bay bits (anag.) (7)

19 Preach, address an audience, speak in public (5)

22 Holy Communion (9)

24 'On their way to — out the land, Joshua instructed them, "Go and make a survey of the land"' (Joshua 18:8) (3)

25 Joseph advised Pharaoh to appoint these to administer his grain storage plan (Genesis 41:34) (13)

Down

1 'Assyria's pride will be brought down and — sceptre will pass away' (Zechariah 10:11) (6)

2 'And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in — with God and men' (Luke 2:52) (6)

3 The descendants of Esau (Genesis 36:9) (8)

4 The components of the crown that Jesus was made to wear before his crucifixion (John 19:2) (6)

5 Colour of cloth which was to cover holy objects in the tabernacle when moving camp (Numbers 4:6–12) (4)

6 One of the gold articles plundered from the Midianites offered to the Lord by the Israelite army 'to make atonement' (Numbers 31:50) (6)

7 'The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set — — ' (Jeremiah 31:29) (2,4)

12 Ate (anag.) (3)

14 'We ourselves... groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our — as sons' (Romans 8:23) (8)

15 Abram's nephew (Genesis 14:12) (3)

16 Rupture (Job 30:14) (6)

17 'Yet to all who received him... he gave the right to — children of God' (John 1:12) (6)

18 'I... asked him the true meaning of all — . — he told me and gave me the interpretation of these things' (Daniel 7:16) (4,2)

20 Military units (Exodus 14:20) (6)

21 'Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to — her to public disgrace' (Matthew 1:19) (6)

23 Diva (anag.) (4)

Answers on page 20

Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long. Psalm 25:5



TRAIDCRAFT
Fighting poverty through trade

Joel's story

By Mwanzi Mutaki.

For Kenyan cotton farmer Joel Mwanzi Mutaki and his family, life is a constant struggle. On his six acres Joel grows foodstuff for the family table and two-and-a-half acres he has planted with cotton. But, like many similar farms in the Kitui District, Joel's *shamba* (small farm) has been worked for generations so fertility is poor, which, combined with inferior quality seeds and uncertain rainfall, means yields are low. So feeding his family of six children is not something Joel can take for granted. "Sometimes, when I have money, I buy. When I do not have money, then we go without," he says.

Educating his family is another struggle. When Joel can't afford to pay the £4 a month it costs for each of his children to go to school they are sent home. There, at least, they can share the burden of working the family *shamba* – but at a terrible cost for their future prospects.

As a family they are familiar with hunger and hard work – yet their lives are, nonetheless, filled with hope. Partly that comes from Joel's strong faith: "I pray to God as I work. I sing along as I am doing my work and I am encouraged," and partly it comes from the practical help he and other farmers like him are getting from the Traidcraft charity, Traidcraft Exchange. Thanks to the training he has received as part of the project, he has learned how to plough using his three cows – and how to use their manure to improve his land.

"With God's grace I hope to do some profitable farming," says Joel. "The Bible says that when we understand the Lord it is the beginning of wisdom and when I knew about Christ I got wisdom and he is the one who guides me."

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Editor's note: As a church we have supported Traidcraft for some years now and I thought it would be good to hear a story about how it is directly helping traders around the world. Sue Partridge sells Traidcraft products after our 10.00am service sometimes and a percentage of those sales go back into our church. Alternatively, you can also order directly online: <http://www.traidcraft.co.uk>



Medical knowledge?

If you have never worried about the NHS before, perhaps it is time to begin now... here are ten actual sentences written in patient's notes

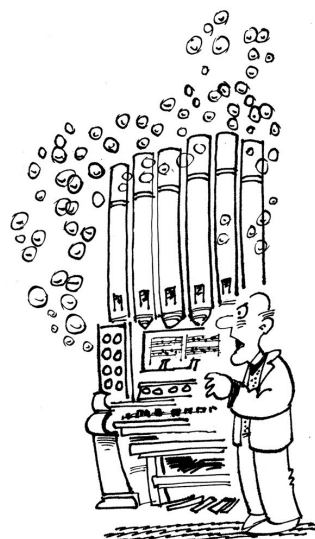
- The patient is tearful and crying constantly. She also appears to be depressed.
- Discharge status: Alive but without my permission.
- Patient has left white blood cells at another hospital.
- Patient's medical history has been remarkably insignificant with only a 40-pound weight gain in the past three days.
- Patient has two teenage children, but no other abnormalities
- On the second day the knee was better, and on the third day it disappeared.
- I saw your patient today, who is still under our car for physical therapy.
- Skin: somewhat pale but present.
- The patient was to have a bowel resection. However, he took a job as a stockbroker instead.

School play

A little boy was given a part in the school play and went home to tell his father. His father was really proud of him, and asked what the part was. The boy replied: "I got the part of a man who has been married for 25 years." His father congratulated him. "That's good son, and maybe next time round, you'll get a talking role!"



All she had said was it was time for her annual lawnmower service



For the last time! - Which member of the Junior Choir put bubble mixture in the organ-blower?!

Below: Word Search Solution to Bible Bites Wordsearch on Page 11



A LITTLE HUMOUR



Source: Parish Pump

Cost of preaching

One beautiful Sunday morning, a priest announced to his congregation: "My good people, I have here in my hands three sermons...a £100 sermon that lasts five minutes, a £50 sermon that lasts fifteen minutes, and a £10 sermon that lasts a full hour. Now, we'll take the collection and see which one I'll deliver."

Flight path

Windsor Castle, outside of London, is directly in the flight path of Heathrow International Airport. While a group of tourists was standing outside the castle admiring the elegant structure, a plane flew overhead at a relatively low altitude, making a tremendous noise. One irritated tourist demanded: "Why did they build the castle so close to the airport?"

CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS

ACROSS:

8, Grandchildren. 9, Pro. 10, Marvelled. 11, Strut. 13, Startle. 16, Babysit. 19, Orate. 22, Eucharist. 24, Map. 25, Commissioners.

DOWN:

1, Egypt's. 2, Favour. 3, Edomites. 4, Thorns. 5, Blue. 6, Armet. 7, On edge. 12, Tea. 14, Adoption. 15, Lot. 16, Breach. 17, Become. 18, This So. 20, Armies. 21, Expose. 23, Avid.

Words of Wisdom ...

I can take my telescope and look millions of miles into space; but I can go away to my room and in prayer get nearer to God and heaven than I can when assisted by all the telescopes of earth. **Isaac Newton**

The tyrant dies and his rule is over, the martyr dies and his rule begins. - **Soren Kierkegaard**

On the Trinity ...

Tell me how it is that in this room there are three candles and but one light, and I will explain to you the mode of the divine existence. - **John Wesley**

Any copy for this publication should be sent to Suzanne Cole
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 By 20th of each month please.

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