

**InSpire**

Issue 11 January 2018

The monthly publication for St John the Baptist, Capel & St Margaret's, Ockley

**Wishing all our Readers  
A Happy New Year  
& Celebrating our Unification  
of St John the Baptist, Capel  
and  
St Margaret's, Ockley**

**JESUS**

**BRINGS HOPE**

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*Dear Readers,*

*As we enter a new year and the Eleventh Issue of 'InSpire', Rev Liz and I would like to wish you all a very Happy New Year and every blessing for 2018.*

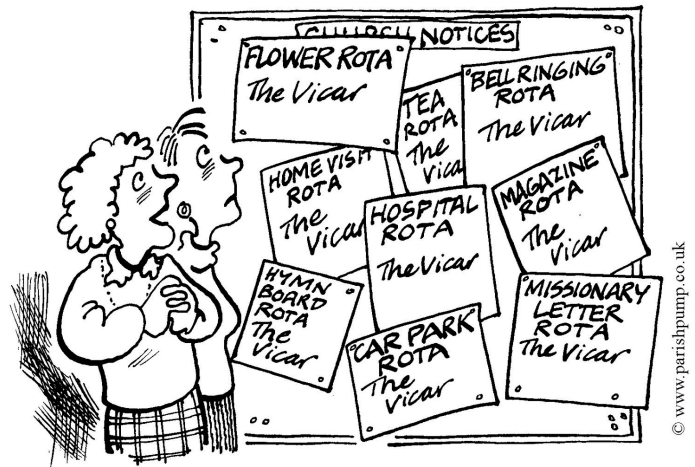
*As we celebrate our unification with St Margaret's Ockley, I very much hope that we can share more of their news and events in forthcoming issues.*

*Suzanne, Editor*



*Dear all*

Happy New Year! As I write this just before Christmas I find myself as usual panicking about last minute Christmas presents, cards and food, as well as anticipating the joy and anticipation of the season to come. I mean how many pairs of socks does someone really need?! It's the same every year – however organised I try to be I cannot seem to escape the pressure of this combination of joyful celebration and frenetic preparation!! I share this not in any way to complain but simply to acknowledge the beauty, joy and the complexity of the season. One of the things that is helping me navigate my way through the richness and complexity of these days before Christmas at the moment is the photograph we have on our mantelpiece of a little three year Ethiopian girl that our family is sponsoring through Compassion UK but more of that later on....



*...he's great at organising; but just not so good at delegating!*

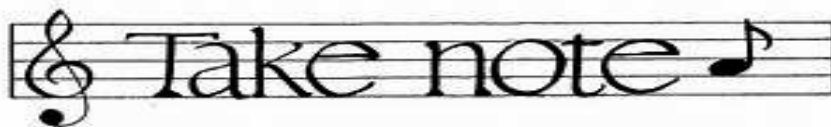
Recently in church we began the gospel of Mark with his opening words which simply state 'The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God'. And that is what Christmas and for that matter New Year is all about – it is the beginning of the good news and each year Christmas reminds us what God came to do, to come and live among us, to bring his kingdom of love and peace to his created world and to involve us in his work. So as much as we might frantically try to get everything done before the big day, God reminds us that Christmas is just the beginning. Because quite honestly there is just too much courage, too much tenderness, too much hope, too much promise to squash into a single day or even the twelve days of Christmas. Which maybe means that it is precisely this time of the year in January that we need this promise more. Most of us are mightily relieved to put away the decorations and the tinsel post-Christmas, those are the pretty surface bits of the celebrations, we may feel our homes seem somewhat bare without them, for a few hours (!) but remember that the promise of the Christmas child is still with us, working through us, continuing the story of the good news among and in and with us. It is important to remember this given the headlines, scandals, upheavals, unrest and general anxiety of many in our world. The thing is the promise of Christmas is bigger than we can ever imagine and God's mercy and courage and blessing extends further and deeper than we can imagine too.

God cannot change the world without our participation and here I return to our little three year old and her family who we are helping through sponsorship so that little Yabsira can go to school which will be a wonderful new beginning for her and her family. Of course there are several charities through whom you can do similar but having met a young man who was sponsored himself as a child in India and who now works as an ambassador for Compassion UK sharing his amazing story, we are putting on an evening hosted by him called Curry and Comedy on February 8<sup>th</sup> at the Memorial Hall, which promises to be a great occasion. Jane' Alam Sheikh along with comedian Steve Legg will be telling us his story while showing us how to cook an authentic Indian Curry. It is definitely something to look forward to It is a ticketed event so look for the details in this magazine. A new venture for many of us as church and community which we would love you to share so that we can give many children the new beginning they deserve.

So if you've a tendency to January blues, remember God's promises, join in with his work, look forward and remember this is just the beginning....

With all love and prayers

*Rev'd Liz*



## More news items and events for St Margaret's, Ockley

As we celebrate our unification, we very much hope to bring more regular news and features from our friends at Ockley.

If anyone at St Margaret's has any comment, news to share or events they wish to highlight, please do contact me as soon as possible as the February issue will be being prepared shortly as I am late preparing this issue due to a holiday after Christmas and a few problems that have arisen since!

Thank you so much for being patient with me!

Suzanne

## NEW SERVICE TIME FOR CAPEL

Would you please note that with effect from

**Sunday 4th February 2018**

our 10.00 am services will begin at 10.30 am

**This means that our Christingle Service on Sunday 4th February will commence at 10.30 am and every Sunday thereafter unless notified.**

## Charities we support



"Given the state of our heating system, your name seemed rather appropriate."

### The Children's Society Houseboxes due in!

Every January, we gather in the houseboxes that people kindly have at home to collect for The Children's Society. If you have a box that needs emptying and counting, please speak to Suzanne to arrange to exchange it!

Alternatively, they can be left in church, with Rev Liz or at Suzanne's home address (please speak/email her if you do not know her address). I do not particularly want to publicise the address in here if there are likely to be several boxes of money left on my back door step!

Thank you to everyone that helps raise money for the Children's Society and if you would like to have a housebox sometime, please let Suzanne know. Thank you.

slc@ansford.me.uk 01306 711449

## NEWS from the Pews



### EXCITING NEWS!

We are now officially united with St Margaret's Ockley! After months of discussion and preparation, The Diocesan Pastoral Committee sent the following to Rev Liz:

"This is just to let you know that the Church Commissioners did not receive any objections to the pastoral scheme proposals, and have miraculously managed to make the scheme on the 27<sup>th</sup> December! It therefore is my great pleasure to let you know that the scheme came into effect yesterday! (1st January 2018) I will send you all an official letter with a copy of the scheme in due course, but just wanted to give you the good news!"

***On the practical side ... What will this mean for us as we moved forward?*** It will mean our service times will be changing ***from Sunday 4th February when the Christingle service will begin at 10.30 and thereafter all morning services will also move from 10 to 10.30am.*** This is so that Ockley can be accommodated with their weekly service beginning at 9.00 am.

We will of course pass on more information as we receive it! **WHAT AN EXCITING AND POSITIVE WAY TO START 2018! Praise be to God!**

***"From them will come songs of thanksgiving and the sound of rejoicing. I will add to their numbers, and they will not be decreased; I will bring them honour, and they will not be disdained. "***  
***Jeremiah 30:19***

### New Larger print Sheets for Sunday services

St John's Guild



Due to the generosity of St John's Guild, Redemptorist who supply our Sunday readings sheet, will now be supplying us with 5 Larger print versions for those who are visually impaired. This is at no cost to us presently, unless we wish to order more than the allocated 5 copies?

This is a fantastic initiative and will definitely help some of our own parishioners to enjoy being able to follow the Collect and Readings each Sunday.

For further information on the good work that the Guild carries out, you can go online:-  
<http://www.stjohnsguild.org/>

***"Meeting the spiritual, physical and sensory needs of people who are blind, or visually impaired, and providing resources where possible to meet those needs, to enable them to fully participate in church services and spiritual activities"***

### From the Registers

We mourn the loss of

*Nancy Crook*  
from Dorking (formerly of Capel)

*Ray Quilter*  
of Wayside Flats

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY see page 6 for Events & Services**

## CHURCH SERVICES FOR ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, CAPEL AND EVENTS FOR JANUARY 2018

**SUNDAY**      **7th**                      **Epiphany**  
8.00 am                  Holy Communion BCP  
10.00 am                Family Communion

**SUNDAY**      **14<sup>th</sup>**                      **Epiphany 2**  
8.00 am                  Holy Communion BCP  
10.00 pm                Family Communion

**SUNDAY**      **21st**                      **Epiphany 3**  
8.00 am                  Holy Communion BCP  
**10.00 am**                **Café Church**

**TUESDAY**      **16th**                      **Messy Church – 3.15 pm onwards in Memorial Hall**

**SUNDAY**      **28<sup>th</sup>**                      **Epiphany 4**  
8.00 am                  Holy Communion BCP  
10.00 am                Family Communion



**Would you please note that from the first Sunday in February (4th) our 10.00 am services will begin at 10.30 am to accommodate Ockley's 9.00 am service, now that we are a unified parish. Thank you.**

### **FEBRUARY**

**SUNDAY**      **4<sup>th</sup>**                      **Candlemas**  
8.00 am                  Holy Communion BCP  
**10.30 am**                **Christingle Service in aid of The Children's Society**



Most Wednesdays 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....

Dear Readers,

Happy New Year to you all! I hope that 2018 is a happy, healthy and peaceful one for you all. As we start the year, I'm pleased to be able to share with you that we currently have sponsorship for 6 months of InSpire a year! This is following our Treasurer Debbie's appeal last month. Thank you to those who are enabling us to keep producing and enjoying our church publication, without it costing our church too much.



It seems that so many people were unwell over Christmas and unfortunately families and friends gathered in large groups for the festivities just creates a wonderful breeding ground for germs! I'm pleased to be able to report that apart from my elderly mother-in-law, the Cole clan and the rest of our family came through it unscathed which makes a lovely change after numerous chest infections over the past few Christmas breaks! I hope that this now finds most people on the mend or fully recovered and hopefully refreshed as we begin another year.

We launch into church activities with energy and zeal as we gather in the houseboxes for the annual count up of the contents for The Children's Society, the approaching Christingle service in aid of The Children's Society on Sunday 4th February (new time of 10.30am—please note!), the Curry & Comedy night for Compassion UK on Thursday 8th February and no doubt many more events and special services in the months to come! The Christingle service is usually a lovely occasion, packed with our younger friends from the local Scouting and Girl Guiding movements and a chance to raise money for The Children's Society which we support as a church. If anyone would like a housebox to keep at home during the year to collect money for The Children's Society, please do let me know? Shortly afterwards, on Thursday 8th February we are hosting a Curry & Comedy night in the village hall in aid of Compassion UK. Rev Liz and I have talked in earlier issues about how moved we were by this particular charity's interactive display at Sandown Park a few months ago and how we each felt inspired to sponsor a child. My 'child' Myra is smiling out from her photo on my mantelpiece as I write and is a lovely reminder that we play a small part in her life now. I made sure her photo was there over Christmas as it felt right to see her and remember her as we celebrated together as a family. I hope that the fundraising evening is packed to capacity and that through socialising together, the important message of Compassion UK is heard by many local friends.

Thinking a long way ahead, we are going to be looking at producing a 2019 Calendar for our church and its place in our village/local community and anyone that would like to be involved, please do let Rev Liz know? Also, if anyone has done anything like this before and knows good printers/publishers, we would appreciate your advice! We are hoping that this might be an outreach tool and a fundraising instrument as well.

With the exciting news of our unification with St Margaret's Ockley coming through over the festive period, it is worth noting that the most immediate practical change will be that our 10.00 am services will be moving to a new time of 10.30 am each week from Sunday 4th February to accommodate the 9.00 am service at St Margaret's. We give thanks to God for this exciting new initiative and fellowship with our friends at St Margarets and we must spare a thought for Rev Liz whose workload will increase dramatically. I'm sure that we, together with our friends at St Margaret's will want to help and support her however we can in the coming months and years. You might be interested in the article "Ten things a Vicar needs to hear ... often" on page ....

With my best wishes,

Suzanne

Dear Readers,

January the 21<sup>st</sup> is said to be the worst day of the year. Not only is it cold and dark, Christmas is long gone but the credit card bills have just arrived and you don't get paid again until the end of the month which is still 10 days away. It happens every year and yet we're caught out each time.

The only way to soften this blow is to budget for it. Budgetting is an unfashionable and boring word, it smacks of fusty accountants in dingy offices adding up columns of figures, but in fact with today's computer programmes is much less of a chore than you might expect.

So as one of those 'fusty' accountants I have been preparing not only the budgets for our home finances, but also for the church, to try and prepare ourselves for the year ahead, and that is where all budgetting begins, working out the story behind the figures, what do you want to do, how much will it cost and how you are going to pay for it.

The budget for the church will go before the PCC on 24th January, then with their permission I'd like to make it available to anyone who would like to have a look. Do come and ask me if you have any questions, I'll do my best to help.

Happy New Year!

Debbie von Bergen

### Sponsorship of InSpire

Following Debbie's suggestion of people sponsoring a month of InSpire, we are pleased to report that the following months are now accounted for due to generous sponsorship:-

**March**

**May**

**June**

**July**

**September**

**October**

If you would like to sponsor another month, maybe to commemorate a loved one's birthday or a special anniversary, please do let Rev Liz, Suzanne or Debbie know? It can remain anonymous if you prefer.

Alternatively, if you would like a special mention in your sponsorship month, please do let us know and Suzanne will include it.

The approximate cost of the current format is £40-£50 per month. If you have any queries about sponsorship please call either Rev Liz on 01306 711260, Suzanne Cole, Editor on 01306 711449 or Debbie von Bergen, our Treasurer on 07774 784008.

### APPEAL FOR OLD £1.00 COINS!

If you are anything like me you will have a pile of the now defunct £1 coins sitting at home waiting to take to the bank. Can I suggest a second use for them? Bring them to church and deposit them in our £1 coins for the Wall Fund jar. I will take them into the bank and let you know the total raised at the end of January 2018. This money will go towards the wall.

### Prayers

My 10 year-old niece says her prayers every night, but instead of 'amen', she says 'click, send.'





## Prayer for a New Beginning

Lord,

At the beginning of this new day, I offer you my life.  
Come take my voice, may the words I speak be filled  
with encouragement and goodness.

Come take my hands, may the work they create be  
generous and giving.

Come take my feet, may the journeys I walk be led  
by your Spirit within.

Come take my life Lord, for I love your goodness,  
your kindness and your leading.

Amen

Source: <http://www.prayerscapes.com>



## A New Year's Prayer

Lord, You make all things new  
You bring hope alive in our hearts  
And cause our Spirits to be born again.

Thank you for this new year  
For all the potential it holds.  
Come and kindle in us  
A mighty flame  
So that in our time, many will see the wonders of  
God  
And live forever to praise Your glorious name.

Amen

(A modern prayer for the New Year from  
[www.lords-prayer-words.com](http://www.lords-prayer-words.com))

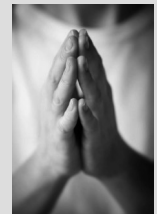


We pray for our churches in Capel and Ockley and give thanks to God for our unification that has now officially come into effect. We pray that we will learn the joy of worshipping together and working together in the name of Christ. We pray for Liz our Vicar as this change takes effect. We know that this will increase her workload so we pray for strength and guidance to cope with the new challenges ahead. We pray for her as we go forward and ask God to help us support her wherever and however we can.

We give thanks for the recent Christmas festivities but also remember those for whom it is a difficult time of year. We give thanks for a new year of opportunities that now greets us once more, particularly in the light of our recent unification with St Margaret's.

We pray for all students and teachers returning to schools and universities, many of whom are going straight back into exams. We pray for your comforting presence with them Lord in anxious times. We hope that the teaching staff and pupils return refreshed after the Christmas break.

We give thanks for the continuing improvement of Alan Smallwood following his health scare and we remember Peter Ede and Pat Wombwell amongst others who have endured more health issues recently. We pray for others known to us who are ill or suffering and those who are lonely. Please be with them in their times of pain and anxiety. We remember any that are known to you individually and all those who ask for our prayers on the prayer board.



We remember those who have died recently including Nancy Crook and Ray Quilter. We give thanks for their lives and remember all those who mourn their passing.



## Ten Things a Vicar Needs To Hear...often

By John Martin

(Taken from an article in 2013)



Our parish has been living through a long vacancy. It's been a mixed bag. Being a parish where the Eucharist is the main service we have relied on neighbouring clergy to help out. The upshot is we've experienced many different personalities and styles and it's helped us see the validity of traditions different from our own.

Vacancies are risky times. Statistics published by London Diocese indicates that few parishes emerge from a vacancy period, certainly not long ones, without some numerical losses. Our numbers are down. We understand why in some instances, but without a Vicar at the helm people do fall through the net almost unnoticed.

But it's been a valuable time. Each of our last three Vicars all found our parish a 'challenge' in different ways. We needed to better understand why and demonstrate that our lay leadership could work harmoniously. We were helped having put in place a PCC structure served by four sub-committees (Plant & Fabric, Mission & Worship, Fundraising & Activities, Finance) and as PCC members realised they could trust their colleagues, things have ticked along well.

One of the issues was preparing spiritually for the next phase in a parish replete with smart, opinionated lay people who don't always appreciate the effect their tongues can have. James rightly called the tongue an 'unruly member'. So as well as guarding what we say it helps to cultivate speech habits that build up and affirm.

I recently shared with our congregation 10 statements their new Vicar needs to hear....often.

**1. 'How can I be praying for you?'** Prayer is the very heart of what the vocation of priesthood is all about. In a very special way a priest is an intercessor. They will no doubt have a prayer rota which includes specific people as well as wider concerns. But prayer needs to be reciprocal. We need tell our Vicars we are praying for them and it needs to be informed prayer: 'What have you got on this week that I can pray about? What else?'

**2. 'I'm sorry. I got that wrong. Please forgive me'** We all get things wrong. We often are not careful in the way we speak. Sometimes we are apt to forget our Vicar is human and things said and done feel like a slap in the face. If you get something wrong say so, especially if it involves the Vicar, say so. It will be appreciated.

**3. 'Enjoy your time away'** A Vicar's holiday is sacrosanct and vital for well-being, So too are days off. Many lay people only see their Vicar on Sundays and some mistakenly think that's their only working day. In fact a Vicar's day-to-day workload is constant and can be very demanding. Research I read recently from MODEM said the average Vicar works 63 hours a week. It's in the interests of lay people to make sure your Vicar has time to read, recuperate and enjoy family time.

**4. 'Let's give it a try'** New Vicars will take their time in sussing out what works and what doesn't. But soon enough they will begin to suggest changes. There is nothing more deadening for a Vicar than being told 'we tried that and it didn't work'. People in congregations can be quite skilled at saying 'no'. Not every idea a Vicar suggests will work, but it's far better to say 'let's explore that' or 'why don't we give this a try.'

**5. 'I was interested in what you said in your sermon about.....'** It's nice to say 'I liked your sermon'. It's even better to say 'I very much liked the bit where you said...'. Preachers love it when you engage with the substance of what they have been trying to get across, even if you disagree. It shows that you were listening and it reminds Vicars their role as preacher and teacher is valued.

**6. 'How can I help?'** Vicars love it when someone comes up with an offer to help with no strings attached. One of the things lay people learn during a vacancy is just how many routine jobs are needed to keep parish life ticking over.

**7. 'Is everything okay?'**

Vicars and laity in parishes become quite familiar with each other, Lay people soon acquire a sense for noticing days when the Vicar doesn't seem in top form. Showing concern and not criticising will mean a lot.

**8. 'Be yourself'**

We all have our image of the ideal Vicar and there is an ever-present temptation to cast our Vicar according to what we'd like her to be. Remember your Vicar is unique, with a unique blend of skills and experience.

**9. 'Whatever time you can make it is fine by me'**

Vicars are invited to many events, not least family celebrations, and they love to be asked. It's true too that they often have a lot to fit in. So don't be offended if they can't manage much more than a token appearance or turn up towards the end. Let them know you understand.

**10. 'Don't be afraid'**

There will be times when Vicars feel reticent to try things, risk either failing or upsetting people who are pillars of the church. Let's never forget, risk is a necessary part of ministry. These are hard times for the Christian church in this country. We cannot afford to be risk-averse.

**John Martin is a Media Consultant and the Gen Sec of Fulcrum. Adapted from an article published in *Cornerstone*, magazine of St Barnabas Church Ealing W5. <https://www.fulcrum-anglican.org.uk/articles>**



## 1 January The naming of Jesus

It is Matthew and Luke who tell the story of how the angel instructed that Mary's baby was to be named Jesus - a common name meaning 'saviour'. The Church recalls the naming of Jesus on 1 January - eight days after 25 December (by the Jewish way of reckoning days). For in Jewish tradition, the male babies were circumcised and named on their eighth day of life.

For early Christians, the *name* of Jesus held a special significance. In Jewish tradition, names expressed aspects of personality. Jesus' name permeated His ministry, and it does so today: we are baptised in the name of Jesus (Acts 2:38), we are justified through the name of Jesus (1 Cor 6:11); and God the Father has given Jesus a name above all others (Phil 2:9). All Christian prayer is through 'Jesus Christ our Lord', and it is 'at the name of Jesus' that one day every knee shall bow. The name Jesus is a transliteration of a name that occurs in several languages. It is of Hebrew origin, 'Yehosua', or Joshua. Or there is the Hebrew-Aramaic form, 'Yesua'. In Greek, it became 'Ἰησοῦς' (*Iēsoûs*), and in Latin it became 'Iesus'.

The meaning of the name is 'Yahweh delivers' or 'Yahweh rescues', or 'Yahweh is salvation'. No wonder the angel Gabriel in Luke 1:26-33 told Mary to name her baby Jesus: "because He will save His people from their sins".

## 6 January Epiphany

On 6<sup>th</sup> January we celebrate Epiphany - the visit of the wise men to the baby Jesus. But who were these wise men? No one knows for sure. Matthew calls them 'Magi', and that was the name of an ancient caste of a priestly kind from Persia. It wasn't until the third century that they were called kings - by a church father, Tertullian.

Another church father, Origen, assumed there were three - to correspond with the gifts given. Later Christian interpretation came to understand gold as a symbol of wisdom and wealth, incense as a symbol of worship and sacrifice, and myrrh as a symbol of healing - and even embalming. Certainly Jesus challenged and set aright the way in which the world handled all three of these things. Since the 8th century, the magi have had the names Balthasar, Caspar and Melchior.

## 31 January Maedoc of Ferns

Are you wondering about which charities to support this year? Does it matter to you if your money is used wisely or not? If so, then Maedoc of Ferns is the patron saint for you this month. He certainly knew how to deal with people who would waste his money.

Maedoc (d 626) was born in Connacht, and educated in Leinster and St David's Pembrokeshire before returning to Ireland in the early 7<sup>th</sup> century. He founded a small monastery on land given by Brandrub, prince of Leinster, at Ferns, in Co. Wexford. He also founded monasteries at Drumlaane and Rossinver. He must have been loved, because after his death his bell, his staff and reliquary were carefully preserved – you can see them today in the National Museum (Dublin) or the Library of Armagh cathedral.

Maedoc had a reputation for self-denial, holiness and charity. But he was not 'stupidly good'. The story is told of how one day some spurious beggars hid their fine clothes and dressed in rags, and came to the monastery pleading for his help to buy new sets of clothes. Maedoc invited them in, and did some investigating. When he discovered their fine clothes hidden outside, he gave them away to real beggars nearby, and then sent the imposters off in their dirty rags, with neither new clothes nor alms. Rather cleverly done!



**Coming to Capel on Thursday 8th February 2018!**

**\* An excellent night of fun and fundraising! \***

**\* Raffle Prizes needed please \***

**If you would like to offer your help in any way, please speak to Bob or Judy**

This will be an excellent night of fun and fundraising!  
Good food accompanied by comedy and at the heart of it, Compassion UK will be telling everyone about what they do.

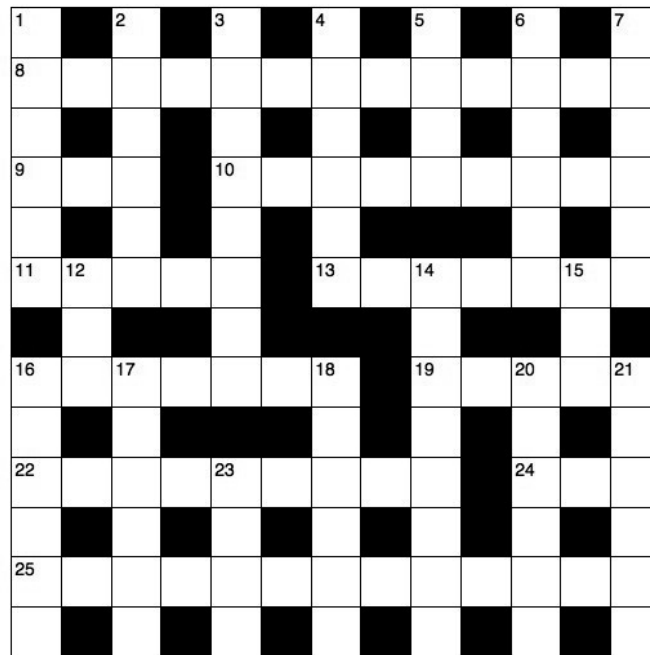
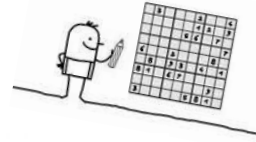
The evening gives us a great opportunity as a church to both support the wonderful work that Compassion does throughout the world and to welcome our local community to a fun-filled, family-friendly event that gives a real insight into faith in action. Please talk to Bob or Judy for more details or call 01306 711349.

*If you would like to help on the evening, please speak to Bob.*

***"We're passionate about protecting and empowering every child left vulnerable by poverty.  
Our world-class one-to-one model means we can't do it without you.***

***Independent research shows that if you sponsor a child with Compassion, they are more likely to be employed  
and be a community leader when they grow up."***

**To learn more about Compassion UK logon to <https://www.compassionuk.org/>**



## CROSSWORD

### Across

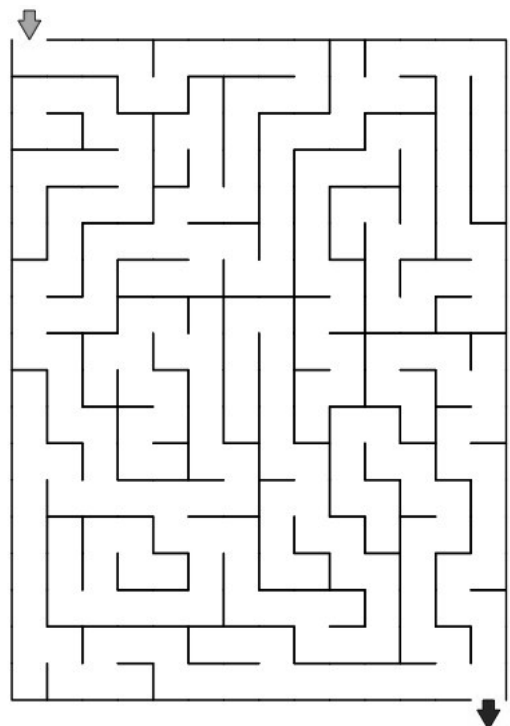
- 8 How the Abyss (NIV) is described in the Authorized Version (Revelation 9:1) (10,3)
- 9 Frozen water (Ezekiel 1:22) (3)
- 10 The Ten Commandments (9)
- 11 In Roman Catholic theology, neither heaven nor hell (5)
- 13 Des cons (anag.) (7)
- 16 'Though [your sins] are red as — , they shall be like wool' (Isaiah 1:18) (7)
- 19 Keen (Romans 1:15) (5)
- 22 Repugnant, loathsome (Jeremiah 24:9) (9)
- 24 Drink like an animal (Judges 7:5) (3)
- 25 First and last (Revelation 22:13) (5,3,5)
- 20 Ancient rowing boat (Isaiah 33:21) (6)
- 21 Say again (2 Corinthians 11:16) (6)
- 23 What Jesus did in the synagogue in Nazareth after he stood up (Luke 4:16) (4)

**Down**

- 1 Father of Ahi, a Gadite (1 Chronicles 5:15) (6)
- 2 Where David found the stone with which he killed Goliath (1 Samuel 17:40) (6)
- 3 'Hour by hour fresh lips are making thy — doings heard on high' (8)
- 4 'And there were shepherds living out in the fields near by, keeping watch over their — at night' (Luke 2:8) (6)
- 5 United Society for Christian Literature (1,1,1,1)
- 6 'If he refuses to listen even to the church, treat him as you would — — or a tax collector' (Matthew 18:17) (1,5)
- 7 Where Paul was taken when things became difficult for him in Berea (Acts 17:15) (6)
- 12 Istituto per le Opere di Religione (Vatican Bank) (1,1,1)
- 14 'Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new — ; the old has gone, the new has come!' (2 Corinthians 5:17) (8)
- 15 Used to colour ram skins red for use in the tabernacle (Exodus 25:5) (3)
- 16 Vat car (anag.) (6)
- 17 'Be joyful — — , patient in affliction, faithful in prayer' (Romans 12:12) (6)
- 18 'The parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty, while our presentable parts — — special treatment' (1 Corinthians 12:23) (4,2)

**SUDOKU**  
Solution on back page

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



Can you make your way out of the maze, starting at the top left corner? Good luck!

# InSpire for our Younger Readers

## Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in Exodus chapter 2 verses 1 to 11

In Egypt the Hebrew people flourished so well that the new Pharaoh grew scared and ordered all their new-born boys to be killed.

Moses' mother hid him when he was born, but he grew too big.



She made a basket from reeds for him and put it in the grass by the river Nile.



She told Moses' sister Miriam to keep watch.



Pharaoh's daughter found Moses



Shall I get someone to look after the baby?



So Miriam got her mother.



The princess adopted Moses as her son.



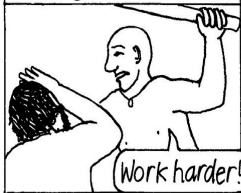
When Moses was grown up he went to see where his people worked as slaves.



Perhaps I will be the one to save my people.



Moses saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew slave.



Moses checked no-one was looking and...



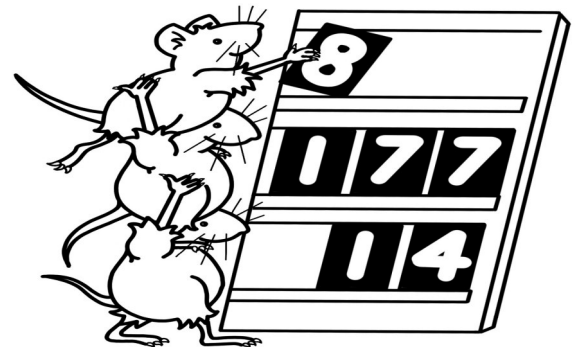
He hid the body in the sand.



o	w	n	m	m	g	r	a	s	s	b	y
r	l	s	i	p	o	x	c	l	z	a	i
d	p	i	r	l	k	t	n	a	o	s	e
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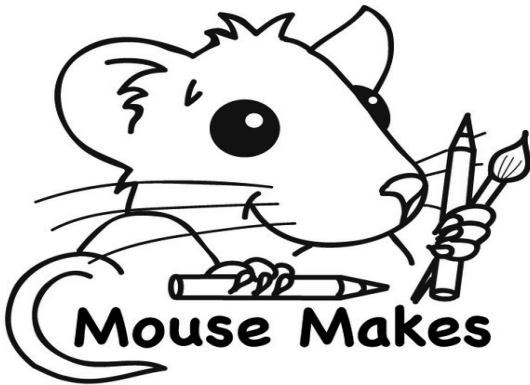
sand mother grown grass save princess Pharaoh flourished  
 reeds Nile Egyptian slaves river son Moses scared  
 basket killed daughter ordered Miriam body baby Hebrew

Can you colour in the mice who are busy organising the hymn numbers on the board?



Wordsearch solution on back page





Words to live by  
from Proverbs 3

*"My child, never forget  
the things I have  
taught you.  
Store my commands  
in your heart". vs1*

Don't ever forget kindness and truth  
...then you will be respected and  
will please both God and people.  
*from Proverbs 3:3-4 NCV*

**Trust in God from the bottom  
of your heart; don't try to figure out  
everything on your own.**  
*from Proverbs 3:5 MSG*

Don't assume you  
know it all.

**Run to God!**  
*from Proverbs 3:7 MSG*

Seek God's will in all you do and He will  
show you which path to take.  
*from Proverbs 3:6 NLT*

Honour God with everything you own;  
give Him the first and the best.  
*from Proverbs 3:9 MSG*



Cut out and colour these  
Scripture verse cards  
to remind you this new year  
of God's wise ways to live.

**Some jokes to share!**

**Why couldn't Jonah trust the ocean?** .... Because he knew there was some-  
thing fishy about it!

**What did Adam say on the day before Christmas?** ... It's Christmas, Eve!



## British want cathedrals and churches protected for future generations, new poll reveals

Castles, cathedrals and churches and royal palaces are the historic buildings that the British public think it is most important to protect for future generations. These are the findings of a recent opinion poll, carried out for the National Churches Trust, the UK's church buildings support charity, by ComRes.

Out of ten key types of historic buildings, British adults are most likely to say that castles should be protected for future generations (34%). This is closely followed by cathedrals and churches (20%) and royal palaces (18%). Other building types and their ranking in the poll included country houses (4%), transport buildings and structures (4%) and government and civic buildings (3%).

Claire Walker, Chief Executive of the National Churches Trust, said: "At the heart of communities in cities, towns and villages, cathedrals and churches are a treasure trove of architecture, history and faith."

With 42,000 church buildings, the United Kingdom's religious heritage is a unique part of its national story, with 45% of all England's Grade I listed buildings cathedrals and churches.

### Homophobic, biphobic and transphobic (HBT) bullying tackled in new guidance for Church schools

Recent guidance for the Church of England's 4,700 schools says that it aims to prevent pupils from 'having their self-worth diminished or their ability to achieve impeded by being bullied because of their perceived or actual sexual orientation or gender identity.'

The report makes 12 recommendations for schools, including ensuring schools' Christian ethos statements offer 'an inclusive vision for education' where 'every child should be revered and respected as members of a community where all are known and loved by God.'

The report goes on to say that clear anti-bullying policies should include HBT behaviours and language, and that policies on how to report incidences should be accessible, and staff trained on recognising bullying. Curriculum and collective worship should support the vision, with the wider church ensuring that schools are responding well to the guidance.

Commending the report, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, said: "All bullying, including homophobic, biphobic and transphobic bullying causes profound damage, leading to higher levels of mental health disorders, self-harm, depression and suicide. "Central to Christian theology is the truth that every single one of us is made in the image of God. Every one of us is loved unconditionally by God.'

The advice is an update on *Valuing All God's Children*, guidance published in 2014 which tackled homophobic behaviour. This update covers a wider range of negative behaviours, incorporates the relevant legal and inspection frameworks and reflects the Church's Vision for Education, whose four elements of wisdom, hope, community and dignity form the theological basis of the guidance.

Source: Parish Pump

Dear Friends,

Things are well here. I am learning the tricks of winter, and that is mainly, you just keep living!!! Snow or no snow you do life. It is currently -9c and a very dry cold!

I am doing well but am grieving the loss of a little girl from my church in Chichester. Grace, 12 years old, passed away on Saturday night of her 3rd brain tumour. So very very sad.

Prayer points and news to finish off 2017

This past Saturday I did a 5km to raise support for Source (it was -8c and outside). I raised \$300 for Source and the event was a great success raising \$40,000 for the anti trafficking work in the City.

We had a delay on a resident moving in this week but the hope is she will move in on Tuesday next week. She is 27 and has two children in care. Please pray for the women in recovery from the life at this time of year. It is an extremely difficult time because of the financial pressures.

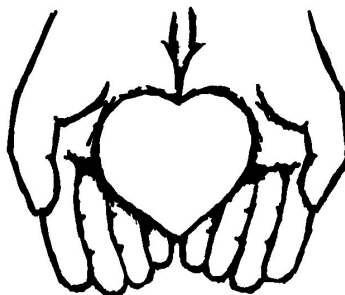
We are ready to host here at the Annex and responsibilities will increase around the simple ministry of just being available and present to our new resident. Please pray that good boundaries are created as well as moments of joy and creativity during this season.

Finally I would love it if you could pray for a young 22 year old called Kelsey who came up to me on the street today asking for money for lunch. She is homeless, young and 4 months pregnant. I bought her lunch and sat with her, I arranged for her to look through the clothing we have available at Source. She found a great winter coat that fitted her perfectly. She is very vulnerable and in that will likely be working from a trauma cycle and thought process of distrust. Please just pray for her healing and that she would be present in the area over this season. I would love to be able to come alongside her in the next few months. She is staying in shelters and it is unclear whether she is in the life of prostitution. This really is the reality of living in the neighbourhood I am in.

Please pray for continued safety and provision. I really appreciate your prayers and support. Have a very happy Christmas and big smile from cold cold cold Minneapolis!

Thank you again for your prayer filled support. Many blessings to you all there.

*Sally Cranham*



*We are delighted to be able to advertise the following events in Ockley, to which we are all warmly invited.*



### Coffee Fellowship

## The Pavilion Café at Ockley

In September, we celebrated 5 years since opening and we are delighted that the café is as popular as ever! Although the core team has changed over the years, we still have a very dedicated group who spend time baking cakes, biscuits, buns and savouries. For this reason we are very grateful for the generous support of all who come to the café, whether it's every week or just every now and then.

This year we have donated to Macmillan, The Children's Trust at Tadworth, Ockley and Forest Green Village Halls, the Wasp Bus, Christian Aid, Embrace the Middle East and our parish churches.

So do keep coming, bring your friends and don't forget that we serve bacon butties on the last Wednesday of every month.

### The Kindred Spirits Women's Ministry

**Kindred Spirits Women's Ministry warmly invite you to**

## Women's Breakfasts

Dates for 2018

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> June  
 Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> August  
 Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> November

All starting at 8.45am in the Cricket Pavilion, Ockley.

There will be a joint breakfast with the men's group in March, date to be confirmed



### Hands

A teacher saw a student entering the classroom with very dirty hands. She stopped him and said, "John, please wash your hands. My goodness, what would you say if I came into the room with hands like that?"

Smiling, the boy replied, "I think I would be too polite to mention it."

Laughter  
 is God's  
 blessing.

- Joseph Prince

SermonQuotes

*Editor: The Rev Paul Hardingham considers a different kind of honours list.*

## God's New Year's honours list

We are all familiar with the Queen's New Year's honours list, celebrating those who have made a significant contribution to public life. In 2017 famous names included Andy Murray, Mo Farah, Ken Dodd, Patricia Routledge, Angela Rippon and Victoria Beckham. However, what would God's New Year's honours list look like? In 1 Sam. 2:30 God says, 'Those who honour me I will honour'. In this New Year, how can we honour God in our lives?

Honouring God means giving Him reverence, submission, and obedience; the complete surrender of our entire lives to His glory and loving service: 'in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God – this is your true and proper worship.' (Romans 12:1). So, we might honour God this year in five key areas:

**My Time:** how can I use my time to glorify God (Colossians 4:5)? **My Gifts:** how am I using my God-given gifts and abilities in His service (Matthew 25:14-30)? **My Body:** in what ways do I honour God in my body (1 Corinthians 6:18-20)? **My Treasure:** who is in charge of my finances (Matthew 6:24)? **My Heart:** how do I honour God not just outwardly, but from my heart: 'These people come near to me with their mouth and honour me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me' (Isaiah 29:13)?

Here's a challenge for 2018: When we wake up each day, let's ask God: 'How can I honour you today? Please help me to honour you with the time, gifts, body, finance, and heart that you have given me.' Jesus Christ gave His life for us, and promises to give us the Holy Spirit to help us to serve Him. 'When the worship is over, let the service begin.'

*Editor: Lester Amann considers what should happen AFTER we 'finish' Christmas*

## Lights of the world

Our Christmas celebrations are over. As we tidy up and restore our homes to what they were like before Christmas, we might look back at our festivities and ponder on what was so special about it.

Jesus made clear that He came as light for the world. He came to give life in all its fullness. He came to show God's character—full of love, compassion, forgiveness and mercy.

So if, as we put away our Christmas decorations, we think there is no more to be said until next Christmas, we have missed out on a vital part of the Christian message. For Jesus also said that we, His followers, were to be the light of the world.....'let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven'. (Matthew 5:14-16). We are now involved! Jesus calls us, as His disciples, to be like Him this coming year - lights of hope, love, joy, healing and peace in a world that badly needs it.

A song by Graham Kendrick, 'Do Something Beautiful', urges us to: 'Do something beautiful in the name of Jesus', and 'Go do something Jesus would'. Now that's a challenge for 2018!

Source: Parish Pump

## 12 Bible Verses of Renewal and Hope for the Coming New Year:

“And he who was seated on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.” Rev. 21:5

“The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.” Lam. 3:22-23

“Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.” Is. 43:18-19

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.” 2 Cor. 5:17

“Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead.” Phil. 3:13

“Therefore repent and return, so that your sins may be wiped away, in order that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord.” Acts 3:19

“For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.” Jer. 29:11

“But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.” Is. 40:31

"I will give them an undivided heart and put a new spirit in them..." Ez. 11:19

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.” Prov. 3:5-6

“May he give you the desire of your heart and make all your plans succeed.” Ps. 20:4

"You crown the year with your goodness, and your paths drip with abundance." Ps. 65:11

### ***Recommended reading ... Either individually or small group study***

#### **31 Proverbs To Light Your Path** by Liz Curtis Higgs, Authentic, £11.99

This is a Bible-centered, flexible resource for gift giving, for devotional reading, and for small-group study.

With her signature ability to blend ancient truth with real-life takeaway, best-selling author and Bible teacher Liz Curtis Higgs examines 31 selections from the wisdom of Proverbs, and then offers a unique "One Minute, One Step" challenge at the end of each chapter, suggesting a do-it-now task that requires one minute or less. Readers will quickly discover how practical and applicable the book of Proverbs is, and how the Lord can use even the smallest steps to lead us in the right direction.

Source: Parish Pump

## The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 18th—25th January 2018

This year the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity runs from 18th to 25th January. The theme of the week this year comes from the churches of the Caribbean, and addresses some of the problems which affect the people there, but also worldwide.

Thus, as abuses of human rights are found across the region, the week will challenge us to consider our manner of welcoming the stranger into our midst. Human trafficking and modern-day slavery continue to be huge issues. Addiction to pornography and drugs continue to be serious challenges to all societies. The debt crisis has a negative impact upon the nations and upon individuals – the economies of the nations and people have become precarious. Family life continues to be challenged by the economic restrictions which lead to migration, domestic abuse and violence.

What are Christians to do, in the face of such vast problems? The Caribbean Churches work together to heal the wounds in people's lives, but also know that reconciliation demands repentance, reparation and the healing of memories. The whole Church is called to be both a sign and an active agent of this reconciliation.

*Our church can show support by posting unity messages to the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Twitter wall – simply add the #wpcuwall hashtag to your Twitter post (note they take 15 minutes to appear). More details at: <https://ctbi.org.uk/week-of-prayer-for-christian-unity-2018/>*

## Holocaust Memorial Day – Saturday 27th January

This month we remember the horrors of the mass slaughter of Jews during the Second World War. Here are some facts and figures on the holocaust:

**When was it?** It has been defined as the period that Hitler was Chancellor of Germany: 30th January 1933 to 8th May 1945.

**How many Jews were murdered during this time?** It is impossible to reach an exact figure, but more than 5,860,000. Six million is the round figure accepted by most authorities.

**How many Jews were murdered in each country?** Just a selection from many countries: Austria, 50,000; Poland, 3 million; Soviet Union, 1,100,000; Germany, 141,500; France, 77,320; Hungary, 569,000.

**How many death camps were there?** There were six death camps specially equipped for mass murder of the Jewish people: Auschwitz-Birkenau, Belzec, Chelmno, Majdanek, Sobibor, Treblinka. All were located in Poland.

Sadly, Jews still feel under threat and persecution of the Jews continues today as anti-Semitism continues in various places around the world. Even in America last year, there were 67 bomb threats against Jewish Community Centres, in 27 States around the country.

*There is a website which provides resources; please visit <http://hmd.org.uk/resources/theme-papers/hmd-2018-power-words>*

### CROSSWORD SOLUTION

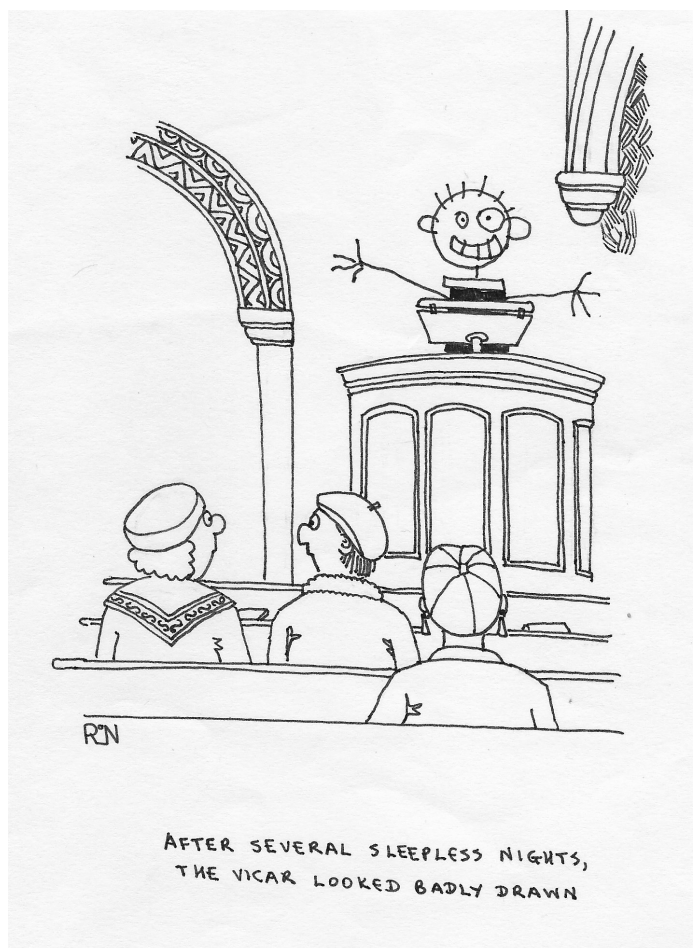
**ACROSS:** 8, Bottomless pit. 9, Ice. 10, Decalogue. 11, Limbo. 13, Seconds. 16, Crimson. 19, Eager. 22, Abhorrent. 24, Lap. 25, Alpha and Omega.

**DOWN:** 1, Abdiel. 2, Stream. 3, Wondrous. 4, Flocks. 5, USCL. 6, A pagan. 7, Athens. 12, IOR. 14, Creation. 15, Dye. 16, Cravat. 17, In hope. 18, Need no. 20, Galley. 21, Repeat. 23, Read.

A	S	W	F	U	A	A						
B	O	T	T	O	M	L	E	S	S	P	I	T
D	R	N	O	C	A	H						
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### Sudoku Solution Puzzle on page 21

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



Your contributions would be most welcome and any copy for this publication should be sent to Suzanne Cole  
[editor@stjohnthebaptistcapel.org.uk](mailto:editor@stjohnthebaptistcapel.org.uk) **By 20<sup>th</sup> of each month please.**

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