

Inspire Issue 27

May 2019

The monthly publication for the Parish of Capel & Ockley

COME HOLY SPIRIT

FILL
OUR
HEARTS

AND KINDLE
IN US
THE FIRE
OF YOUR LOVE

Celebrating the Ascension

In this issue ...

- * The Ascension
- * Baptism Tea news
- * Fire at Notre Dame
- * Sri Lanka atrocities
- * God in the Sciences
- * Christian Aid week
- * May Prayer Diary
- * Bats in the Belfry?
- * All in the month of May
- * Imagining the Future
- * Puzzles
- * Junior InSpire
- * Events & Services

& Much more!

Contents:-

- 2 Church contacts
- 3 Church Services & Events
- 4 Rev Liz writes
- 5 Baptism tea report
- 6 News from the Pews
- 8 Paul Bryer, Archdeacon
'Imagining the Future'
- 9 Letter from the Editor
- 10 Vicarage Fete news
- 11 Christian Aid 2019
- 12 Fire at Notre Dame
- 13 The Ascension
- 14 Easter atrocities in Sri Lanka
- 16 Pet Service 19th May
- 17 Guitar concerts
- 18 Prayer Diary
- 20 All in the month of May
- 21 High Days & Holy Days
- 22 Bats in the Belfry?
- 23 'Eternal Father' hymn
- 24 Junior InSpire
- 26 Puzzle Pages
- 28 Traidcraft Exchange news
- 29 Why do they do that?
& App Review
- 30 God in the Sciences
- 31 Puzzle Solutions
- 32 Smith & Brewer concert

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Bob & Judy Cranham

to celebrate the second anniversary of them moving to Capel.

Inspire is available to download from the church website:-
www.capelandockleychurch.org.uk/inspire-magazine/

You can either sign up to receive Inspire as and when it comes out OR download individual issues.

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MAY 2019

SUNDAY	5TH	THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER	
	8.00	Holy Communion BCP (Capel)	
	9.30	Matins at St Margaret's Ockley	
	10.30	Family Communion (Capel)	
	3-5pm	Capel teas in church	
MONDAY	6TH	BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY	
	3-5pm	Capel teas in church	
SATURDAY	11TH		
	9.30	PARISH PRAYER - Half hour at St Margaret's Ockley	
SUNDAY	12TH	FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	
	9.30	Family Communion at St Margaret's Ockley	
	10.30	Café Church at St John the Baptist Capel	
SUNDAY	19TH	FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	
	8.00	Holy Communion BCP (Capel)	
	9.30	Matins at St Margaret's Ockley	
	10.30	PET SERVICE at St John the Baptist Capel	
	3-5pm	Capel teas in church	
TUESDAY	21ST	MESSY CHURCH	
	3-5pm	Capel Memorial Hall	
SATURDAY	25TH		
	9.30	PARISH PRAYER - Half hour at St John the Baptist Capel	
SUNDAY	26TH	SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	
	10.30	Parish family communion (Capel)	
	3-5pm	Capel teas in church	
MONDAY	29TH	MAY BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY	
	3-5pm	Capel teas in church	
<u>JUNE</u>			
SUNDAY	2ND	SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	
	8.00	Holy Communion BCP (Capel)	
	9.30	Matins at St Margaret's Ockley	
	10.30	Family Communion (Capel)	
SATURDAY	8th	'Imagining the Future' <i>see details on page 8</i>	
	9.30—1.30	A half day away to reflect and explore our work with children, families and young people led by Emma Coy and David Welch	



Rev Liz writes

Dear all,

What a wonderful Spring we have enjoyed and such a beautiful warm Easter. The bluebells were at their peak as we wandered through them on the Parish Good Friday walk, the heat and sunshine in complete contrast to the rain and slippery mud the previous year! So now we move onto summer and time to appreciate even more the beauty of God's creation as our gardens begin to bloom.

Yet it is hard isn't it to equate the beauty of our surroundings to the senseless violence our world suffers at the hands of the few. The slaughtering of so many innocents in Sri Lanka on Easter Sunday, as many of those killed were worshipping like us the resurrection of the Lord Jesus in churches or enjoying their holiday in a country counted as one of the most scenic places to visit. Closer to home the needless murder of the Northern Irish journalist Lyra McKee, a brilliant young journalist, shot dead by New IRA dissidents significantly on the day before Good Friday which 21 years ago was when the Good Friday Agreement was finally signed to bring an end to the conflict in Northern Ireland.

It is easy to feel so overwhelmed by outside events but as I read something attached to a news website designed for children who may be worried and upset by the news, these events don't thankfully happen often. They are not part of normal everyday life and that is why they make the news. It is important to keep a perspective on what we see and hear. We hear don't we when someone loses their life in these situations just how much they often lived their lives to the full, giving so much and making a difference in the short time they had to make their mark on earth.

There is an obvious parallel with our Lord here, as he told his followers that he had come so that they could live life to the full as well and as the world rejected him he gave the ultimate sacrifice so that others may live which came in the form of that cross on Good Friday. A Good Friday which turned into Easter Sunday with his resurrection and as we celebrate next month the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost which meant that all could receive the presence of the risen Lord and be in relationship with him. For the last three years the Church of England has focused on the nine days between the Day of Ascension and the Day of Pentecost as a time of special prayer for God's kingdom to be known in the world afresh. There are lovely free prayer resources in both St Johns and St Margaret's if you would like to join with the worldwide church as we pray 'Thy Kingdom Come'.

Achieving perspective in life is helped by those around us, our family and friends and others who support us through life's ups and downs. Just this last month we have been sad to mourn the passing of two special friends in our church and village community. Hazel James and Julia Horrox were known to many of us in different ways and both contributed

to the life of our community through their friendship and support of others. Julia began the St John's Artists group with me some years ago now and was an inspiring teacher of drawing and painting which helped many including myself to pick up a pencil or paintbrush and make some marks. Hazel also was a much loved member of the art group. Both Julia and Hazel were women who made a difference and helped others find meaning and perspective, both literally in making drawing work (!) but in making sense of life. We shall miss them both very much. In the meantime I leave you with a lovely poem called 'The Dash' which describes that period in time we all live and advises how to live that 'dash' well acknowledging that all lives are precious, all bring value and treasure to others, nothing is ever wasted and all are known to God.



"...and then, as the organist hits us with a cool hip-hop riff, you kick off the wedding vows in a smokin' rap style..."



With my love and prayers as ever and here it is:-

Rev'd Liz

The Dash

I read of a man who stood to speak
at the funeral of a friend.
He referred to the dates on her tombstone,
from the beginning to the end.
He noted that first came the date of her birth
and spoke of the following date with tears,
but he said what mattered most of all,
was the dash between the years.
For that dash represents all the time,
that she spent alive on earth,
and now only those who loved her,
know what that little line is worth.
For it matters not, how much we own;
the cars, the house, the cash.
What matters is how we live and love,
and how we spend our dash.
So think about this long and hard.
Are there things you'd like to change?
For you never know how much time is left
That can still be rearranged.
If we could just slow down enough
To consider what's true and real
And always try to understand
The way other people feel.
And be less quick to anger
And show appreciation more
And love the people in our lives
Like we've never loved before.
If we treat each other with respect
And more often wear a smile,
Remembering that this special dash
Might only last a little while.
So when your eulogy is being read
With your life's actions to re-hash
Would you be proud of the things they say
About how you spent your dash?

Linda Ellis

Baptism Celebration on Saturday 13th April 2019

On a beautiful spring afternoon, we were welcomed into Capel Parish Room to celebrate with other families in our church community. There were so many well planned and thoughtful activities delivered in a relaxed way and at each family's pace, the whole event flowed effortlessly. Our two year old daughter Jasmine enjoyed decorating eggs, making a spring garden from natural materials and chasing bubbles outside. She was delighted to spend time with other children of different ages and wanting to be like to 'bigger girls', she sat perfectly to enjoy a storytime with our local author Jennifer. With the children enjoying themselves, it was great to meet and catch up with other parents over a cup of tea.

The afternoon commenced with a delicious tea of sandwiches, snacks, fresh fruit and cakes. We felt very much looked after and having no extended family locally we feel blessed to be surrounded by such a loving and caring church family.

Thank you to everyone who played a part in preparing for and delivering the event and volunteered their time and skills to make the celebration run so smoothly. We look forward to many more celebrations in the future.

Victoria and Christopher Moss



The Pavilion Café at Ockley

This community cafe is held at the cricket pavilion in Ockley and opens each Wednesday from 9.00 am—12 noon.

Do pop in for delicious homemade cakes, freshly brewed coffee and a range of teas!

We hope to see you there!



Coffee Fellowship

Every Wednesday morning at 9:00am Kindred Spirits have been running the very popular Pavilion Cafe in Ockley as part of our church outreach programme. In 2017 they celebrated 5 years since opening and whilst the core team has changed over the years they still have a dedicated group of very supportive volunteers.

They give their time to home baking and serving at the cafe on Wednesday mornings to all comers, be they local villagers or passers by. In this way they are richly supported by the community and through this support they are able to donate to many various causes.

In 2017 they donated to Macmillan, Tadworth Trust, the Wasp Local Bus, Christian Aid, the Mesothelioma Charity and the Parish Church.

The Cricket pavilion in Ockley where Pavilion Café is held.



For information on lots of Parish activities, please see the 'Activities' tab on our Parish website.

<https://www.capelandockleychurch.org.uk/pavilion-cafe/>

FROM THE REGISTERS

We celebrate the marriage of
Samantha Lynne Campbell Benham
and James Michael Phillips
12th April 2019

We mourn the loss of
Hazel Patricia James
9th April 2019

Julia Louise Broughton Horrox
19th April 2019

**A new fun feature ...
Star of the month!**



This month's
"Star of the Month" goes to
John Ashwood for all the
brass cleaning duties he performs, together
with being the PCC Secretary!
Thank you John for all you do!

The Editor

** Please help me by giving me your nominations from Capel & Ockley as to who needs a little thanks for everything they do!*

Let me know on slc@ansford.me.uk

MORE New hymn books available for Sponsorship!

We have increased our hymn books in both churches to take account of the full church services we have had recently so if anyone would like to sponsor one there are plenty available!

Please contact Debbie von Bergen for a form.
treasurer@capelandockleychurch.org.uk

07774 784008

St Margaret's Bible Study Group

Held every fortnight on a Thursday at 2.00 pm at Gill Christie's house:

'Elderslie', Stane Street, Ockley, Surrey RH5 5TD

Phone: 01306 711917 for more details.

T.L.C. Teas @ Ockley Village Hall

TLC meets monthly for a friendly afternoon chat, scrumptious teas and lots of Tender Loving Care.

Normally held on the THIRD Monday of every month from 3.00—4.30 pm in Ockley Village Hall

Our aim is to provide a happy and relaxed atmosphere for those who just want to meet together.

For further details contact: **Judie on 01306 888456 OR emailthoroldfuters@aol.com**



**Christian Aid Week
12th - 18th
May 2019**

Join thousands of others to take part in the UK's longest-running fundraising week!

Can you help with street collections? If so, please contact Sue Partridge on 01306 711355.

More news on the future of Christian Aid in Capel, together with a Christian Aid special article 'All Mums should Live' can be found on page 11.

Ockley Mothers and Toddlers Group

are starting a "Mum to Mum" market during the usual weekly sessions on

Thursday mornings from 9th January 2019 at Ockley Village Hall 9.30am-11.30am.

Good quality clothes and toys available for exchange or a small donation to the Group's funds.

CAPEL & OCKLEY CHURCH RUNNERS

A few of us from Capel & Ockley churches and community have started an informal running group. We meet and join in with the Park Run at Denbies on Saturday mornings at 9am. If you are not familiar with Park Run you can find out more here: www.parkrun.org It is free to join, you register online [very quick & easy - go to register & our Home Run is the **Mole Valley Park Run**], print up your bar code and turn up at Denbies 8:45am on a **Saturday for a 9am start** and do a lovely 5km run (circa 3.1 miles) around the vineyard. Anyone can join in:- it is completely inclusive all ages, speeds, experience. It is great fun and a good way to start the weekend!



In addition we are going to meet at St. Margaret's Church on Coles Lane in Ockley on the following Wednesday evenings at 6:30pm over the Summer for a 5-8km / 3 — 5miles run starting simple and seeing how we go! 8th May, 5th June, 3rd July, 7th August, 4th September, 2nd October.

We have set up a WhatsApp Group so please contact Tom who will add you to it and will confirm the runs on here as well.

Tom Chambré

0771 890 2345 or tom@chambrepm.com

Archdeacon of Dorking Paul Bryer takes up new post in Cornwall

The Archdeacon of Dorking, Paul Bryer, is leaving Guildford this summer, to take up a new post as Archdeacon of Cornwall in the Diocese of Truro. Paul has served as Archdeacon of Dorking since 2014. After serving a curacy at St Stephen's Tonbridge in the Diocese of Rochester, Paul moved to the Diocese of Guildford in 1994 becoming vicar at St Mary's Camberley and then St Paul's Dorking, where he also went on to serve as Rural Dean of Dorking. As archdeacon Paul has helped steer the Diocese of Guildford in a strategic and missional direction. Especially focused on resourcing and releasing parishes and deaneries for mission and ministry he has pioneered initiatives to support the health and wellbeing of clergy.

The Bishop of Guildford, Andrew Watson, gave thanks for Paul's long ministry in Guildford Diocese, and added: "I wish Paul and his wife Fiona God's richest blessing as they move to their beloved Cornwall. I have sensed – with them – that it's been the wind of the Spirit that's been blowing them in a westerly direction. The new Bishop of Truro will certainly be blessed to have such an experienced, prayerful and supportive archdeacon at his side."

Paul said: "Fiona and I have had a love for Cornwall, the church and its people, that has been quietly nurtured over many years. Consequently, I am delighted to be offered the opportunity to serve as Archdeacon of Cornwall and join Bishop Philip at what promises to be a new and exciting chapter in the life of the diocese."

Date: 09 April 2019

Source: <https://www.cofeguildford.org.uk/whats-on/news>

Rev Liz would like to add ...

Archdeacon Paul has been a good friend to both Capel and Ockley over recent years and we shall miss his ministry to us. We were pleased to have been able to assist him and his family with the funeral of Fiona's father, Dr John Linnell and we will continue to pray for both Paul and Fiona and their family with this bereavement and wish them every blessing for Paul's exciting new post as Archdeacon of Cornwall.



Parish of Capel and Ockley

'Imagining the Future'

A half day away to reflect and explore our work with children, families and young people led by Emma Coy and David Welch
(Children and Families Ministry Advisor and Youth Advisor for Guildford Diocese)

SATURDAY 8TH JUNE

at St John's North Holmwood Community Hall

9.30 am - 1.30 pm includes lunch

contact Rev'd Liz 01306 711260
or vicar@capelandockleychurch.org.uk
if you need more details

All are welcome to come and help us imagine the future for the children and young people of our parish regarding how we can best help them to grow up in the Christian faith.

We need your assistance and ideas!

By attending you will not automatically be volunteering to be a children or young person's leader!!

Letter from the Editor

Dear Readers,

What a glorious Easter weekend we had with the wonderful weather! I'm sure that garden centres, pubs, amusement parks and the seaside all gained from the unexpected summer weather! What a pity that more people don't flock into our churches at the first sign of good weather too! We all gather to share in the Glory of God and sing His praises and how we wish that we could harness that same attraction that appeals to the masses! However, that doesn't stop us trying to spread the Word to others. We continue to reach out as a Parish whether it be through the recent Baptism Tea or the Alpha course that is currently running in Newdigate and soon in our largest community event as a Parish, the Annual Vicarage Fete. Even if you already have a Faith, it never does any harm to explore what you do know and maybe, even more importantly, things you don't know?! I did the Alpha course about 15 years ago in our Parish even though I had never really questioned my faith. I found it enlightening to share faith, testimonies and experiences with other Christians and those coming to faith. I never had that 'thunderstruck' or 'lightbulb' moment that many do when they come to faith, but rather a calm and certain knowledge that there was a God from about the age of 12. I later met my husband Stuart as Servers at a church in New Malden where my parents had married and the rest as they say is history! How lucky we are too that we share that faith!

Later in life, when major events disrupt your life and you begin to lose some of those you love the most to some dreadful illnesses, you can begin to question even the most deep and reverent faith. However, even in the darkest moments, I have remained sure that God is with me and those I love and that He has been merciful. Many of you know that my father, Colin died from Motor Neurone Disease (MND) and died within 18 months of diagnosis. His death came sooner than any of us expected and came in an unexpected manner because he was undergoing treatment for a chronic headache that had lasted 10 years. However, I believe God was with him and us as he had a far more merciful death than the one he would have endured if the MND had raced on. So in the beginning in shock and anger I had questioned WHY my father had to endure the indignity that is MND and there were many tears of sadness and frustration BUT ultimately mine and my father's God took away the pain and suffering sooner rather than later. At Easter time we are pained to hear of Christ's suffering for us but then the joy of the Resurrection three days later. This month we will celebrate Christ's Ascension into Heaven. What cause for celebration every year! A sure and certain faith, either come to by a 'lightbulb' moment for some through courses such as Alpha or a quiet certainty with others of us, that rejoices in Christ's suffering, resurrection and then ascension into Heaven and ALL for us! Alleluia!

In this issue we have lots for you to read and adverts for events to come such as more guitar concerts with Bob Cranham! Also, we are still on the look out for Raffle prizes and help on the day with the Vicarage Fete on 22nd June so don't be shy ... do help out if you can! This is one of our biggest outreach events and is a fundraiser for our local schools. We'd like to make it the best one yet, but we can't do it without you! There will soon be raffle tickets in church as well as those sent to the schools themselves so I hope you will snap them up as we have some lovely prizes on offer including meals in a couple of local pubs, a free cut and blow dry at Sebastians in Dorking, Two FREE adult entries to the newly re-opened Leonardslee Lakes & Gardens in Lower Beeding, a voucher towards a beauty treatment with our local beautician Beccy Clevett of BEKE, a voucher towards shopping at our local farm shop at Village Greens AND MUCH MORE!

Best wishes,

Suzanne

*Could you sponsor a month of InSpire?
We have a couple of months that need
sponsoring this year. This is not only OUR
magazine but an outreach tool that we can share
with others.*

*The average cost is approximately £60.00. If
you can help, please let Debbie von Bergen
know. Thank you.*

Pop the date in
your diaries now!
22nd June 2019



The Capel Annual Vicarage Fete is now only weeks away!

on Saturday 22nd June 2019
12.00 - 3.00 pm

ALL in aid of OUR local schools ...
Scott-Broadwood Infant, Capel Pre-School and The Weald C E (A) Primary

We need your help with the following ...

* Do you know anyone who might like a stall?
Cost is £15.00 per stall.

* **RAFFLE PRIZES** - Can you donate a prize or know someone who could?
The following are a selection of what we have so far:-

* *Main meal for 2 at The Old House, Dorking* * *Glazed ham from Hillhouse Farm, Capel* *
Oven cleaning * *Treatment voucher from BEKE* * *2 Free Adult Entries to Leonardslee Lakes &*
Gardens * *Free Cut & Blow Dry at Sebastians salon in Dorking* * *Bottle of Pimms* *
*£15.00 Voucher for Village Greens—our local farm shop! *

Raffle tickets will be available to buy in church soon! £1.00 per ticket

* Can you help set up the Fete late Friday (21st June) afternoon/early evening -
this would be to help put up gazebos and party tents to shelter our stalls.

* Can you help on the day with the BBQ, teas, stalls etc OR helping get the tables and
chairs from the Village hall and church and later on returning them?
We would be particularly grateful for any help with this!

This year, we have a **Carousel** coming, a **Children's Theatre show** (The Cat's Grin Theatre Co)
and an old-fashioned **ice cream cart!** Also we look forward to entertainment from our local schools!

Come and join in all the fun of the Fete on the day!

Any queries or offers of help ... please contact

Debbie von Bergen on debbievonbergen@icloud.com 07774 784008
or Suzanne Cole on slc@ansford.me.uk 07923 517202





'All mums should live'

Sierra Leone is the world's most dangerous place to become a mum. Every day 10 women die from giving birth. In Sawula district, the community struggle with a clinic which has no electricity and only two delivery beds.

Jebbeh is heavily pregnant but as her baby grows, it's not joy that fills her heart, but fear. When Jebbeh's sister Fatmata went in to labour, there were so few ambulances that Fatmata had no choice but to walk for three hours under the baking sun, to the nearest hospital. The journey was long and with every step Fatmata struggled to keep walking.

Jebbeh told us: 'My sister was crying out with hunger. She died on the side of the road. She never gave birth.'

This Christian Aid Week, together, we can make childbirth safe for mums and babies. Through our gifts and prayers, we can help give the world's poorest mums a chance to live.

This Christian Aid Week, 12th -18th May, our Parish is doing a door to door collection. ***If our church raised £300, it could help provide a new delivery bed so more mums like Jebbeh can deliver their babies safely.***



If you would like to help with collecting in the village, please speak to Sue Partridge on 01306 711355. Thank you.

Christian Aid - update from our local Co-ordinator

Dear friends,

I think this year will be the last year I will head up the door to door collection for Christian Aid. Thank you to all the collectors, and let's make this year a bumper year! There are only two areas in Dorking, Westcott and Capel which now collect monies by door to door collecting. The way of fundraising in the Christian Aid week, is changing. Next year and thereafter, I hope we can get a team on board and fundraise in different ways for example 'A Big Breakfast', open to everyone, could be held in the village hall? This is just one idea, in the meantime, if any one would like to help this year, please do contact me by phone on 01306 711355. Thank you in advance to the collectors, and to all who give, as every envelope of money is vital; no matter how big or little the donation.

With my thanks

Sue Partridge

01306 711355

Fire at Notre Dame, Paris

As fire caused significant damage to Notre Dame Cathedral, Paris, representatives from the Church of England spoke out:

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, tweeted:

“Tonight we pray for the firefighters tackling the tragic Notre Dame fire – and for everyone in France and beyond who watches and weeps for this beautiful, sacred place where millions have met with Jesus Christ. Nous sommes avec vous.”



The Church of England’s Director of Cathedrals and Church Buildings, Becky Clark, said:

“The fire and the destruction it has caused are heart-breaking. We stand together in prayer with all who love Notre Dame: its worshipping community, those who have visited, and those who only know it from afar. We understand their sense of loss, and the uplifting connection people feel with cathedrals and churches the world over.

“But no matter the destruction, the spirit of what it means to be a cathedral can and does survive such catastrophes. “

“In England, the spire at Lincoln collapsed in the 1500s, St Paul’s was destroyed in the Great Fire of London and Coventry was destroyed by bombs. All have been rebuilt, sometimes taking on new forms, to stand as reminders of eternity and resurrection which are the foundation of the Christian faith.”

Work begins at Notre-Dame by Adam Becket for The Church Times 26th April 2019

An international architecture competition is to be launched to redesign the roof of the Cathedral of Notre-Dame de Paris, which was destroyed in a fire on Monday of last week. The President of France, Emmanuel Macron, pledged that the cathedral would be rebuilt within five years, to be complete when Paris hosts the Olympics in 2024. The fire at Notre-Dame caused the spire and much of the roof to collapse, but the structure was saved. It is expected that it will be closed to the public for five to six years.

The French Prime Minister, Édouard Philippe, said on Wednesday of last week that the competition would be for “a spire suited to the techniques and challenges of our time”. Tarpaulins were erected over the cathedral this week to protect the shell of the cathedral from rain. The architect in charge of the restoration project, Philippe Villeneuve, told the French broadcaster BFMTV, on Tuesday, that erecting the cover was “the highest priority”. He said: “The beams are in place; the tarpaulins have arrived; the climbers and the scaffolders, who will put it up, are ready.”



Investigators believe that the fire was started by an electrical short circuit, although inquiries are ongoing. The prosecutor’s office said that “all leads must be explored”.

The Rector-Archpriest of the cathedral, Mgr Patrick Chauvet, said that he hoped to establish a temporary structure in front of Notre-Dame for worship. He said: “The Rector has no cathedral for the moment . . . but I’m going to try to invent something.” More than €1 billion has been pledged towards the restoration effort so far. Protesters in France have criticised the donations, as the country remains divided over President Macron’s record on inequality. Benjamin Cauchy, one of the leaders of the *gilets jaunes*, said on Twitter that it was “good the oligarchy is giving. But exemplary tax behaviour would be better. Good conscience doesn’t cover up for poverty and austerity”. Protesters took to the streets of Paris last weekend, and a further mass demonstration is expected on 1 May.

One piece of good news that emerged after the fire was that the 180,000 bees who lived in hives on a roof above the sacristy survived unscathed. The hives’ beekeeper, Nicolas Géant, told CNN that it was a “miracle”. “I was incredibly sad about Notre-Dame, because it’s such a beautiful building, and, as a Catholic, it means a lot to me,” he said. “But to hear there is life when it comes to the bees, that’s just wonderful.”

Writing in *The Sunday Times*, the Bishop of Leeds, the Rt Revd Nick Baines, drew parallels between the crucifixion and the blaze at Notre-Dame. He wrote: “This is the story of that cross in Notre-Dame Cathedral. A symbol of failure that dares to keep standing there amid the ruins and destruction of the glories that made people feel secure. The smoke rises, but the cross stands naked, unadorned, brutal. “I wonder if the response even of secularists to the fire in Paris says something about our deep cultural yearning for a reality that has somehow got lost in a world dominated and facilitated by icons that are merely utilitarian.”

Both of the above articles are from The Church Times

The Rev Paul Hardingham considers a much-neglected event...

The Truth of the Ascension

***'While He was blessing them, Jesus left them and was taken up into heaven.'* (Luke 24:51)**

The Ascension is a hugely neglected festival, which deserves to have a bigger place in our church life. How do we understand it?

The Ascension tells us that Jesus is in control: 'Jesus has gone into heaven and is at God's right hand' (1 Peter 3:22). Jesus occupies the top spot in the universe; the control of our world is in the safe, scarred hands of Jesus. We can offer Him our worship and allegiance, knowing that His plans are better than those of any Prime Minister or President. The Ascension tells us that God is committed to His world: 'And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with Him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus' (Ephesians 2:6). Jesus did not leave His humanity behind when He ascended, for we are raised with Christ to heaven. Therefore, God is bound to His world and we can trust Him to fulfil His purpose for our lives and world.

The Ascension gives us a job to do: 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations' (Matthew 28:18,19). God's primary means of working in the world is now through us. He commissions for this task at Ascension and equips us at Pentecost. We are called to make disciples, starting in our workplace, family and community.

'Christ has no body now but yours. No hands, no feet on earth but yours. Yours are the eyes through which He looks compassion on this world. Yours are the feet with which He walks to do good. Yours are the hands through which He blesses all the world.' (Teresa of Avila).

Looking up into Heaven

The Church remembers the Ascension this month – when Jesus went back up into heaven. But where is heaven? How will we experience it?

The Bible is clear that Christians can expect a personal, conscious life after death. It is clear that heaven is NOT some wispy, anaemic realm with a few clouds floating around, but as real as oceans and suns, winds and planets. The Bible tells us that the triumph of Christ over dark powers will release the cosmos from sin's bondage (Rom. 8:21) and we will become more, not less, embodied. Heaven will be physically perfect, sparkingly alive, and stunningly beautiful.

The apostle Paul called the present "whole creation" as groaning like a woman in labour, waiting to be delivered. Those who believe in Jesus have the "first-fruits of the Spirit" and can expect bodily redemption and sharing the glory of the risen Lord (Rom. 8:15-25). The apostle Peter spoke of "a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness". (2 Pet. 3:13).

For Jesus's triumph over death signals our own victory. Death is not the last word, life is! And it will be life that is personal, conscious continuation beyond death.

And best of all, we will be with the risen Jesus (Phil 1.23) and see Him face to face. He promised: "I will take you to myself, that where I am, you may be also." (Jn 14.3)



Church leaders condemn barbarism of Sri Lanka bombings and urge peace

A statue of the Virgin Mary, broken in two, at the front of St Anthony's Shrine, Kochchikade, after an explosion inside the church on Easter Day.



CHURCH and political leaders around the world joined together in mourning this week for the hundreds of people killed and injured in the Easter Day bombings in Sri Lanka.

As the news emerged early on Sunday morning of a series of explosions targeting two RC churches during Easter mass, one Evangelical church, and three luxury hotels in and around the capital of Colombo, religious leaders used their Easter messages to condemn violence and persecution, and to express solidarity with the people of Sri Lanka.

The RC Archbishop of Colombo, the Most Revd Malcolm Ranjith, said: "I condemn to the utmost of my capacity this act that has caused so much of death and suffering to the people." He urged the Government to hold "a very impartial and strong inquiry, and to find out who is behind this act . . . to punish them mercilessly, because only animals can behave like that." He also urged people in Sri Lanka "not to take the law into their own hands, and to maintain peace and harmony in this country".

Subsequent Easter services at RC churches in the country were cancelled. "It's a very, very sad day for all of us. I wish to express my deepest sorrow and sympathy to all those families who have lost someone, and to those who have been injured and rendered destitute." Archbishop Ranjith requested prayers for healing of the injured and for the bereaved to be consoled, and urged blood donors to come forward.

The Anglican Bishop of Colombo, the Rt Revd Dhilloraj Canagasabey, said that he was "terribly shocked and deeply saddened by the barbarous acts of violence brought on innocent worshippers. . . The Church of Ceylon unreservedly condemns these cowardly and cruel acts of terrorism." He called on the government to take "quick action to investigate thoroughly these incidents and to bring the perpetrators to justice, to ensure the safety of places of religious worship and to prevent any individuals or group from taking the law into their hands or provoking acts of intimidation or violence against any community or group".

Bishop Canagasabey also told the people of Sri Lanka to "act with patience and understanding. The motives of those twisted and warped minds that planned and executed such appalling acts could very well be to destabilise the country and to cause damage to the unity and harmony of our nation. "I pray that these persons, whoever they may be, will be awakened to the awfulness of their crime and will be moved to repentance." He concluded his statement with a prayer: "May the peace of the Risen Christ, who on the cross prayed for forgiveness, be with you all."

In his Easter Day sermon in Canterbury Cathedral, the Archbishop of Canterbury reported that Bishop Canagasabay had begun the prayer of consecration during the Easter eucharist when police had told him: "You must come with us, they are about to come and kill you." The Bishop told Archbishop Welby that he had refused to move until he had finished the prayer: "If God gives me permission to live, I shall live. If he gives me permission to die, I shall die." Archbishop Welby told the congregation: "Today, we say the Easter acclamation, Christ is risen, with bittersweet joy, knowing that our sisters and brothers, and many others of other faiths, suffer and mourn." He later said in a statement: "Those affected by the appalling and despicable attacks on churches and hotels in Sri Lanka will be in the prayers of millions marking Easter Sunday around the world today. On this holy day, let us stand with the people of Sri Lanka in prayer, condolence and solidarity as we reject all violence, all hatred and all division."

During his address in St Peter's Square, on Easter Day, Pope Francis said: "I was informed with sadness of the news of the serious attacks which, precisely today, on Easter Day, have brought pain and mourning in some churches and other meeting places in Sri Lanka. "I entrust to the Lord those who are tragically deceased, and I pray for the wounded and all those who suffer due to this dramatic event."

The general secretary of the World Council of Churches, the Revd Dr Olav Fykse Tveit, said: "The targeting of churches in this manner is an attack on religious peace and harmony and on the social and cultural fabric of the nation, which has long struggled to uphold principles of religious harmony and diversity."

The Archbishop of Wales, the Most Revd John Davies, said: "Cold, calculating and carefully planned barbaric acts of terror were launched against people exercising their freedom to worship, relax or go about their daily business. I condemn, in the strongest possible terms, those possessed of perverse and sick minds and who both planned and executed these dreadful attacks."

The Foreign Secretary Jeremy Hunt has said that the UK would give "any help" it could to the Sri Lankan authorities in the aftermath. To target worshippers on Easter Day, he said, was "unspeakably wicked. Everyone has a right to practise their faith in peace, safety and security but tragedies like this, and the one in Christchurch, remind us that there are some who hate these rights and freedoms.

"These despicable acts were carried out at a time when millions of Christians celebrate Easter while living under the shadow of persecution. Many gather in churches at risk of attack; countless more will have suffered threats or discrimination." His statement came after the Prime Minister's statement, on Sunday. She said that "no one should ever have to practise their faith in fear."

The Bishop of Truro, the Rt Revd Philip Mounstephen, is to lead a government review into the global extent of Christian persecution and the foreign office response. Speaking before the Sri Lanka attacks, he told *The Times*, that the UK had "something of a blind spot to the persecution of Christians. That's true culturally. . . and in terms of public policy. "There is a lot of post-colonial guilt around a residual sense that the Christian faith is an expression of white western privilege. Whereas actually the Christian faith is overwhelmingly a phenomenon of the . . . global poor and people who, by their very socio-economic status, are vulnerable."

Source: 'The Church Times' article by Hattie Williams 29th April 2019

<https://www.churchtimes.co.uk/articles/2019/26-april/news/world/church-leaders-condemn-barbarism-of-sri-lanka-bombings-and-urge-peace>



Parish of Capel and Ockley

Join us at
St John the Baptist Capel

for our annual

Pet Service

*A Service of thanksgiving and blessing for all
creatures great and small...*



Sunday 19th May at 10.30am
All are welcome!

BRING YOUR PETS ...
SUITABLY RESTRAINED OR CAGED!!

Next Guitar concert - book now!

The second of our series of concerts this year features the outstanding talents of Smith & Brewer. They first came to my attention at the Queen Elizabeth Hall last December when they were supporting Ralph McTell on the last night of his UK tour. In fact, during November and December alone they clocked up 40 gigs supporting either Ralph or 10cc. Earlier you could have seen them playing at the Cambridge Folk Festival, the Cropredy Festival, the AmericanaFest in Nashville and many other venues playing alongside Fairport Convention, Brian Wilson (of The Beach Boys), Joan Armatrading and the like.

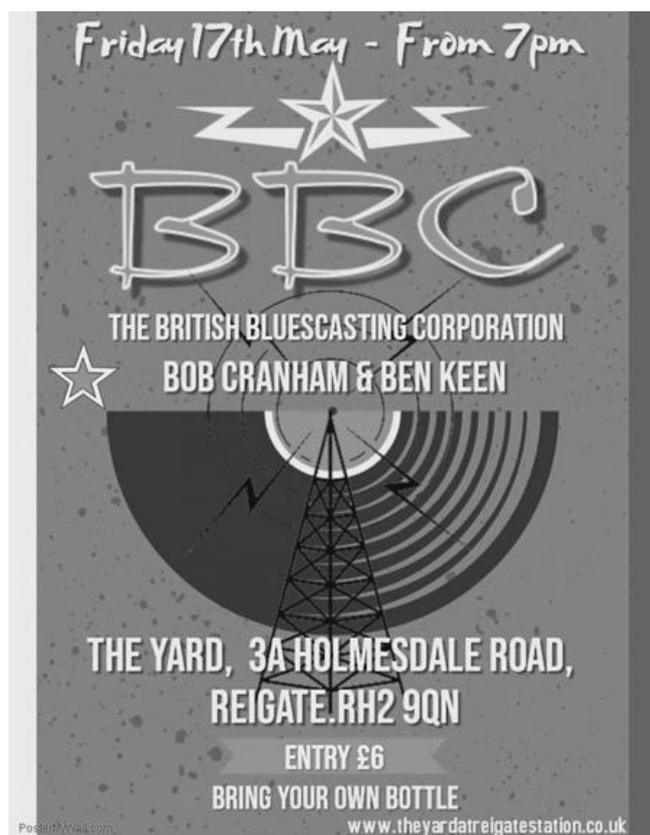
But now the big time beckons. Yes - an evening at St. John the Baptist in Capel! A night of virtuoso guitar playing, beautiful vocal harmonies and great songs. Acoustic music at its very best. You could wait until October and go to see them at The London Palladium or you can save the bus fare and walk to your local church. Life is full of difficult choices

There's the added bonus of a support set from local singer/songwriter Pickingsongs. Tickets are just £12 and are available from www.capelboxoffice.co.uk or on the night at the door. Profits from the evening will once again go towards the work of our church.

Bob Cranham

A colour advert for the event is on the back page of this issue!

And another of Bob's forthcoming concerts but in Reigate this time not Capel!



Do you know your hymns?

Dentist's Hymn.....	Crown Him with Many Crowns
Weatherman's Hymn.....	There Shall Be Showers of Blessings
Contractor's Hymn.....	The Church's One Foundation
Tailor's Hymn.....	Holy, Holy, Holy
Golfer's Hymn.....	There's a Green Hill Far Away



The procession had taken the scenic route

What is the difference between perseverance and obstinacy?

One is a strong will, and the other is a strong won't.

And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with everincreasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.' 2 Corinthians 3:18

HOLY SPIRIT

WEDNESDAY 1st Dear Lord, what we say reveals the state of our hearts so we pray for kind and loving hearts as Jesus has taught us. May we allow the Holy Spirit to fill us with new attitudes and motives so that our speech will be cleansed from the source.

THURSDAY 2nd Father, we rejoice in the presence of the Kingdom of God within us here and now because the power of the Holy Spirit lives in the hearts of all believers. Help us to keep Your Spirit alive within us keeping us from temptations.

FRIDAY 3rd Loving Father, we thank You that Your Holy Spirit helps us to worship, prays for us, teaches us the words of Christ and tells us that we are loved.

SATURDAY 4th Lord of all, help us, with the power of the Holy Spirit, not merely to hear Your word, but to learn and understand. We are thankful that the Holy Spirit guides our thoughts and brings us to fellowship with other Christians.

SUNDAY 5th Everlasting God, we long for rivers of Living Water to flow from within us. We pray that the Holy Spirit will be with us for ever, will guide us into truth and will fill us with God's deep and lasting peace.

Pray every day this week for people who live in your street

CHANGE

MONDAY 6th Almighty God, help us not to fear any changes in our lives. Help us to embrace change as we embrace You daily. We pray for those facing changes in their working life, that they may know Your loving, guiding presence.

TUESDAY 7th Lord, if changes in our lives baffle and confound us, help us to be still and remember that You are in charge. Help us to trust in You and give us strength to rise above conflicts and overcome difficulties.

WEDNESDAY 8th God of wisdom, help us to examine our thoughts and hearts and to turn to You knowing that we need to change. We pray that You will help us to process our thoughts and desires in accordance with Your way. Guide us and awaken us to Your depth of love.

THURSDAY 9th Heavenly Father, we pray for families whose personal circumstances have changed for the worst and where there is division, conflict or sorrow. Reunite families with the shared knowledge of Your love and bring comfort to those who mourn.

FRIDAY 10th Loving God, You have made the whole of human life in your image, each one of us shaped in love. But, there is so much evil and pain in our world. Teach us how to rediscover Your love within us and to use that love as a force for good.

SATURDAY 11th Lord Jesus Christ, thank You for being with us during the different changes throughout our lives. Help us to trust You and to know that Your plans for us are to prosper us and not to harm us.

SUNDAY 12th God grant us the serenity to accept the things we cannot change; courage to change the things we can and wisdom to know the difference.

PEOPLE IN THE SERVICE OF GOD

'Then I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will lead you with knowledge and understanding.'
Jeremiah 3:15

MONDAY 13th Dear Lord, we pray for all those exploring their vocations, for those advising them and for those helping them discover God's will for their lives.

TUESDAY 14th Creator God, we pray for Pastors, leaders and educators throughout the world, spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ. We pray that the gospel will soak their hearts to fuel their leadership and preaching.



WEDNESDAY 15th Lord of the Harvest, You ask us to pray for people to respond to the need to bring the Gospel of Christ to all. We pray for Your guiding Spirit to lead those who are willing.

THURSDAY 16th God of Power, we pray that all preachers operate in wisdom when counselling and assisting Your people. We pray for the stress they bear in their work and in carrying the weight of responsibility for our souls, that they would find rest in Christ. Father, we pray that they would resist temptations to sin and depend wholly upon the grace of Christ.

FRIDAY 17th God of Wisdom, surround all church leaders with people they can trust who will encourage them in Your way. Lord, we know that leading a church is not easy so we pray for good friends and family to offer support, protection, care and love.

SATURDAY 18th Father God, we pray for chaplains in hospitals and hospices and for prison chaplains as they bring the word of God into difficult and emotional places. Give them a patient and loving heart as they bring Your words of love, comfort and hope.

SUNDAY 19th Loving Father, in Jesus' name we bless all those leading services today, especially those who are preaching in dangerous places of the world. We thank You for their care, dedication and devotion. Give them courage, compassion and a readiness to obey Your call.



MARRIAGE

"Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved - you and your household." Acts 16:31

MONDAY 20th Loving Father, we thank You for the gift of love and the blessing of marriage. We give You praise and thanks for the joy You have poured into hearts through this bond of love that is shared.

TUESDAY 21st Dear Lord, we pray for couples planning their wedding ceremony. May the focus be on the joy of the occasion and their future lives together rather than the stress of the details for the day.

WEDNESDAY 22nd Father God, Thank You for our partners in marriage. We confess that sometimes, some days, keeping a loving relationship is hard. We ask that You would make us more like You. Please fill marriages with truth and cover them with blessing.

THURSDAY 23rd Loving Lord, pour Your blessings on husbands or wives who have become carers to their spouse. Grant them patience based on love and bring them support to ease their burden.

FRIDAY 24th Lord, when a marriage is in difficulties, we pray that partners can confess any wrong attitudes or actions that have caused, or that might contribute to, a troubled relationship. May each partner recommit their marriage to You, inviting You to take control.

SATURDAY 25th Father, through prayer, may couples use God's Word to protect and bless their marriage throughout the years.

SUNDAY 26th Father, Your greatest command was to love You and love each other. Show us how to follow your example and set aside selfishness and pride and humbly serve each other. In the midst of busy lives, help us to take time to love each other as you have loved us.

CHILDREN

MONDAY 27th Lord Jesus, we thank You for the gift of children and pray that children everywhere may feel loved in a safe environment. We pray for Your constant presence in the lives of families who struggle with parenting.

TUESDAY 28th God of Love, we pray for children who are sick in hospital. By Your grace may they be healed and, while they are separated from families, may they find the atmosphere in the hospital comforting, safe and loving.

WEDNESDAY 29th Father, we pray that children may be filled with the knowledge of the love of You. We pray that they will know how deeply they are loved and that Your word will be a lamp to their feet and a light to their path.

THURSDAY 30th Caring Father, we pray for children in all countries of the world. May they have teachers so that they can learn, doctors and medicine when they are ill, food when they are hungry and comfort when they feel sad.

FRIDAY 31st
Ever present and Merciful God, we ask You to keep children safe in this increasingly unsafe world. We pray that You will protect them from harm, from temptations, bad influence and wickedness.

May

All in the month of May

It was:

500 years ago, on 2nd May 1519 that Leonardo Da Vinci, the Italian artist, scientist and inventor, died.

200 years ago, on 24th May 1819 that Queen Victoria was born. (She reigned from 1837 to 1901)

175 years ago, on 3rd May 1844 that Richard D'Oyley Carte, British theatrical impresario, was born. He built the Savoy Theatre and the Palace Theatre in London, managed some of the most important theatrical stars of the era, and founded a touring opera company.

125 years ago, on 21st May 1894 that the Manchester Ship Canal was officially opened.

100 years ago, on 18th May 1919 that Dame Margot Fonteyn, British ballerina, was born. (Died 1991)

90 years ago, on 4th May 1929 that Audrey Hepburn, Belgian-born British actress, fashion icon and humanitarian, was born. Her film roles included Roman Holiday, Breakfast at Tiffany's and My Fair Lady.

80 years ago, on 25th May 1939 that Sir Frank Dyson, Astronomer Royal of England and Scotland, died. His observations of the 1919 solar eclipse helped prove Einstein's theory of relativity. He also introduced the Greenwich Time Signal ('pips').

75 years ago, on 20th May 1944 that Joe Cocker, British blues/rock singer and musician was born. Noted for his gritty, raspy voice. (Died 2014.)

70 years ago, on 5th May 1949 that the Council of Europe was founded.

65 years ago, on 6th May 1954 that British athlete Roger Bannister became the first person to run a mile in under four minutes. (Three minutes, 59.4 seconds in Oxford.)

Also 65 years ago, on 29th May 1954 that British athlete Diane Leather became the first woman to run a five minute mile. (Four minutes, 59.6 seconds in Birmingham.)

50 years ago, on 11th May 1969 that the Monty Python comedy group formed.

40 years ago, on 3rd May 1979 that the British General Election was won by the Conservative Party, and Margaret Thatcher became Britain's first female prime minister. The election was triggered when Mrs Thatcher instigated a no-confidence vote against James Callaghan's Labour government on 28th March.

25 years ago, on 6th May 1994 that the Channel Tunnel linking England and France was officially opened. Also 25 years ago, on 10th May 1994 that Nelson Mandela was inaugurated as South Africa's first black president after many years of white rule. *And on 6th May 1994 the Editor's eldest son James Cole was born!*

20 years ago, on 6th May 1999 that the first general elections for the Scottish Parliament and the National Assembly for Wales took place. Donald Dewar became First Minister of Scotland and Alun Michael became First Secretary for Wales.

15 years ago, on 1st May 2004 that the following countries joined the European Union: Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia.

HIGH DAYS AND HOLY DAYS IN MAY

New*10th May - Comgall

Here is a great saint for all teachers, head teachers and principals of educational institutions, and indeed anyone whose vocation is to train and equip others.

For Comgall (c 516 – c 601) was founder and first abbot of Bangor, which became the largest monastery in Ireland. And large means LARGE – for including several daughter houses, the total population is reckoned to have been 3,000. If you have ever run an educational institution of 3,000 pupils (!), you will know it takes a special kind of person to cope with that, and Comgall seems to have been perfect for the job. A biographer at the time called him ‘the outstanding father of the monks in Ireland, known for his insistence on study and strict discipline.’

Comgall’s rule had what it took to succeed: it was ‘strict, holy and constant’, both ‘graced with the hope of salvation and made perfect in love’, according to the 7th century writer Antiphoner of Bangor. Above all, followers were to love Christ, and reject the love of money.

Comgall also had a gift for friendship, for on the death of a close friend, he wrote in grief: ‘My soul-friend has died and I am headless; you too are headless, for a man without a soul-friend is a body without a head.’

Like heads and principals today, Comgall knew a lot of important people. He had trained Columbanus and knew Columba, whom he visited on Iona. They even preached the Gospel together in Inverness, to the pagan chieftain Brude.

15th May - Matthias the Apostle: called by lots

Have you ever happened to be in the right place at the right time, with certain qualifications, and suddenly realise that God is singling you out for a special task? If so, Matthias is a good patron saint for you! In Acts 1 (15 – 26) the apostles had a task to do: Judas had committed suicide, and a new apostle needed to be chosen. He had to have been a follower of Christ from the Baptism to the Ascension, and also a witness of the Resurrection in order to qualify. In the event, the choice fell to one of two: Joseph Barsabas and Matthias.

Lots were drawn, and Matthias was chosen. How confident he must have felt in his calling: what encouragement that would be when the going got rough in later years! Matthias is thought to have ministered in Cappadocia and even Ethiopia. His emblem is usually an axe or halberd, regarded as the instrument of his martyrdom. His supposed relics were translated from Jerusalem to Rome by the empress Helena.

21st May – Helena: Protector of the Holy Places

Helena should be the patron saint of all mothers who help their sons achieve great things.

Helena was born at Drepanum in Bithynia about 250. Although only a stable-maid or innkeeper’s daughter, she caught the eye and affections of a Roman general, Constantius Chlorus, while he was stationed in Asia Minor on a military campaign. She bore him a son, Constantine, in about 272.

But Constantius was ambitious, and when he became co-emperor (Caesar) in the West in 292, he abandoned Helena in order to marry the stepdaughter of his patron. Helena and her son were sent to live in the court of Diocletian at Nicomedia, where Constantine grew up as a member of the inner circle. Helena never remarried, and lived close to her son, who was devoted to her.

Then, in 306, Constantius died, and Constantine became Augustus of the Roman Empire. He brought his beloved mother to live at the imperial court.

When Constantine became the first Christian emperor of Rome, Helena also became a Christian. She was devout, dressing modestly, and giving generously to churches, the poor, and to prisoners. But soon Constantine had other plans for her: they agreed that she would help him locate the relics of Judeo-Christian tradition in Palestine. To aid her, Constantine gave her the title Augusta Imperatrix, and unlimited access to the imperial treasury. And so, from 326-28, even though she was very old, Helena explored the Holy Land on behalf of her son, the Emperor. She went to Bethlehem and founded the Church of the Nativity. She went to the Mount of Olives and founded the Church of Eleona. She went to Calvary and tore down a temple built to Venus over the tomb of Jesus. Constantine then ordered the building of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. Helena also seems to have founded the chapel at St Catherine’s Monastery.

Helena died in 330 in the Holy Land, with Constantine at her side. He brought her body back to Constantinople and buried her in the imperial vault in the Church of the Apostles.

We owe to this special mother and son the preservation and honouring of the most famous sites of Christianity.

Bats in the Belfry?



Bell ringers are often asked if they have bats in the belfry, not always in jest, and the answer is often affirmative. The towers have openings in the walls around the bells for ventilation and for the sound of the bells to be heard. There are louvres to keep out the worst of the weather and restrict access to wildlife. The bell chamber therefore provides a secluded area sheltered from the elements perfect for bats to roost in or, more problematically, birds to nest in, which can cause quite a mess. It is also a popular place for hibernating insects.



A few years ago when ringing in the summer at St John's, Capel we had an angry visit from a large number of wasps. They had built their nest against the bell frame and the movement of the bells had disturbed them. They flew down the rope holes and stung several people in the short time it took to stand the bells and evacuate the tower.

Thankfully this type of visitation is usually more pleasant, normally butterflies, ladybirds or such. Woken by the moving bells they follow the ropes down to the light and relative warmth of the ringing room and flutter about. We often see red admirals, peacocks and tortoiseshells but this year we have had a lot more ladybirds.



Every autumn dark patches appear on the walls around the ringing chambers which on closer inspection are found to be clusters of ladybirds. Due to the mild winter this year a large number have survived and in the warm early spring they started flying around the ringing chamber during practices, landing on the clothes and hair of unsuspecting ringers, sometimes hitting quite hard. Carrying on ringing during such a distraction can be quite challenging.

Ringling is well within the capabilities of most people. Being able to count is all the maths needed and you can become a very good ringer knowing nothing about music. Anyone who would like to come along and have a go, under supervision, or

just to watch, would be most welcome. Practice nights are at St. Margaret's in Ockley, on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month from 7.45 to 9.15, and at St John's in Capel on the 2nd, 4th and 5th weeks.

For more details call Sue on 01306 627168 or email ockleybellringers@btinternet.com



"Ready when you are, George..."

If you have ever been to a military service, a Remembrance Day, beating retreat or a funeral the chances are that you will have heard and sometimes sung 'Eternal Father strong to save'. It was written in 1860 and appeared in the first edition of Hymns Ancient and Modern in 1861. It was written by William Whiting who was born in Kensington in 1825 and educated at Winchester College. and later became choirmaster of Winchester College Choristers' School. It is said that he wrote it as a gift to a choirboy about to set sail for America and based upon his own experience of his life being spared by God when a violent storm nearly claimed the ship he was travelling on. He was inspired by Psalm 107, which describes the sea in verses 23-26:



***They that go down to the sea in ships, that do business in great waters;
These see the works of the Lord, and his wonders in the deep.
For he commandeth, and raiseth the stormy wind which lifteth up the waves thereof.
They mount up to the heaven, they go down again to the depths: their soul is melted because of trouble.***



It is usually sung to the tune 'Melita' (or Malta, after the place of St Paul's shipwreck in Acts 28:1) composed by John Bacchus Dykes, who wrote well over 300 hymn tunes. He was born in 1823 in Kingston upon Hull and was not only a composer and organist, and also a Canon of Durham Cathedral. The tune was reused by Benjamin Britten in his opera Noye's Fludde (1957).

It is often known as 'the Sailors' hymn' and has been adopted as the anthem of both the British and American navies. It has had a number of additional verses composed for submariners, airmen as well as other uniformed services, but the original four verses are still the most popular and the most frequent used:

**Eternal Father, strong to save,
Whose arm hath bound the restless
wave,
Who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep
Its own appointed limits keep;
Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee,
For those in peril on the sea!**

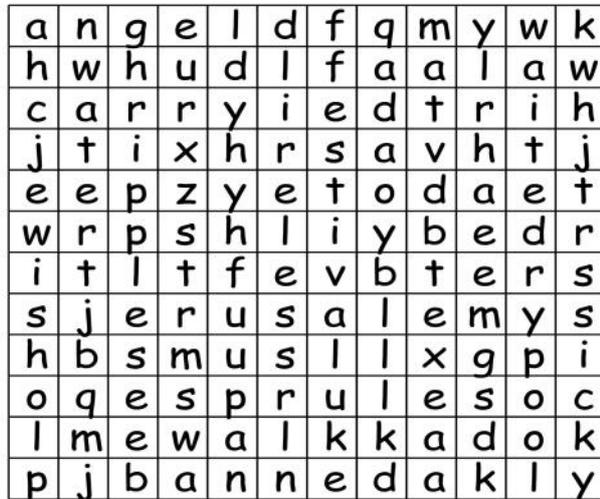
**O Christ! Whose voice the waters heard
And hushed their raging at Thy word,
Who walkedst on the foaming deep,
And calm amidst its rage didst sleep;
Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee,
For those in peril on the sea!**

**Most Holy Spirit! Who didst brood
Upon the chaos dark and rude,
And bid its angry tumult cease,
And give, for wild confusion, peace;
Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee,
For those in peril on the sea!**

**O Trinity of love and power!
Our brethren's shield in danger's
hour;
From rock and tempest, fire and foe,
Protect them wheresoe'er they go;
Thus evermore shall rise to Thee
Glad hymns of praise from land and
sea.**

The verses talk about how each person in the Trinity have controlled the sea. The first verse addresses the Father forbidding the waters to flood the earth in Psalm 104 and in Job "who shut in the sea with doors...". The second to Jesus commanding the storm and walking on the Sea of Galilee and falling asleep in the boat during a storm until the disciples woke him. The third the Holy Spirit's role in creation "darkness was over the face of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters". The final verse is a reference back to Psalm 107 promising continued praise.

Word Search



day
ripple
waited
father
rules
healed
walk
law

Jesus
mat
disobey
temple
carry
Bethesda
leaders
banned

sick
Jerusalem
Jewish
water
festival
Sabbath
pool
angel

Last month we looked at 'Why we have Easter eggs' and 'Why are they made of chocolate?' We then promised you a little info on the Easter Bunny

.... 'Why do we have the Easter Bunny'?

The Easter bunny is a gentle figure of folklore, who seems to have first come from the German Lutherans. They depicted him as a rabbit who brought coloured Easter eggs to children. The idea of an egg-giving hare went over to the US in the 18th century, when Protestant German immigrants in the Pennsylvania Dutch area told their children about the 'Osterhase'. Hase means hare, and according to the legend, only good children found the hare's gifts of coloured eggs, placed in the nests that they had made in their caps and bonnets before Easter.

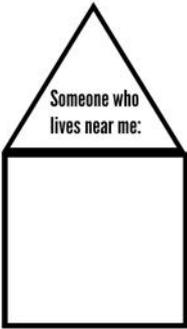
The Easter bunny became a prominent symbol of Easter. Rabbits, prolific procreators, are an ancient symbol of new life. Easter eggs are said to represent Jesus' emergence from the tomb and resurrection.

Decorating Easter eggs dates back to at least the 13th century. One possible reason for the custom was that in those days eggs were forbidden during the Lenten season. So people would paint and decorate them to mark the end of the period of penance and fasting, and then eat them on Easter as a celebration.

Article source: Parish Pump

I will pray for . . .

Someone who lives near me:



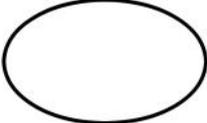
Someone Bigger Than Me:



Someone who lives far away:



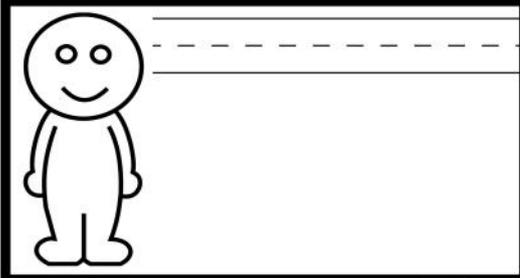
Someone Smaller Than Me:



Someone I've never met:



Myself!!



www.cherigamble.com

Word Search solution on Page 31

Junior InSpire

Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in John chapter 5 verses 1-18

Jesus was in Jerusalem for a festival, and he visited the pool of Bethesda. People said that an angel sometimes made the water ripple.

Sick people waited for the water to ripple, because they thought that the first person in would be healed.



Jesus went up to a man who had been sick for 38 years.

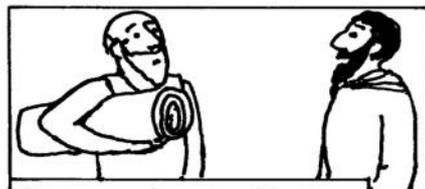


Do you want to be healed?

I've got no-one to put me in the pool, so I can never get in first.



Pick up your mat and walk!



He was healed! The man picked up his mat and walked around. But it was the Sabbath.

God had given the Law that the Sabbath day was a rest day (Ex 20: 8-11)... but to make sure it was kept, the Jewish Leaders had made up rules, and then more rules so that anything that even might be work was banned.

The Jewish Leaders saw the healed man.



It's the Sabbath! You can't carry a mat, that's 'work'!

The man who healed me told me to carry it.



Which man?
I don't know.

Later, Jesus found the man in the temple.



You are healed now, but don't sin any more, or something worse might happen to you.

Now the man knew who Jesus was...



he went straight back to the Jewish Leaders to tell them.

and they went to Jesus



You were working on the Sabbath!

My father, God, doesn't stop working on the Sabbath so I keep on working as well

Not only does he disobey our Sabbath rules, but he says he is equal to God!

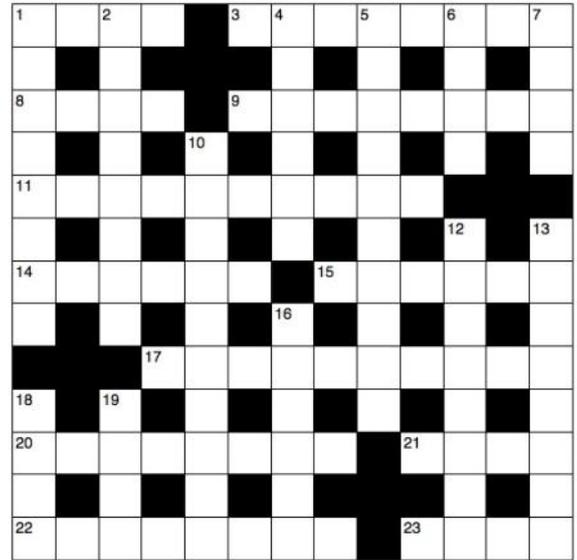


We definitely have to kill him.

Crossword Clues & Answers for May 2019

Across

- 1 Infant (Luke 2:12) (4)
- 3 Luis must (anag.) (8)
- 8 What Jesus called the devil (John 8:44) (4)
- 9 'My God, my God, why have you — me?' (Matthew 27:46) (8)
- 11 Anglican form of church government (10)
- 14 'Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like — ' (Isaiah 40:31) (6)
- 15 Ministers of religion (6)
- 17 Make stronger (1 Thessalonians 3:13) (10)
- 20 Devoutness (1 Timothy 2:2) (8)
- 21 The father of Jesse (Ruth 4:22) (4)
- 22 Pool where Jesus healed a man who had been an invalid for 38 years (John 5:2) (8)
- 23 '[Jesus] said to them, " — here and keep watch"' (Mark 14:34) (4)



Down

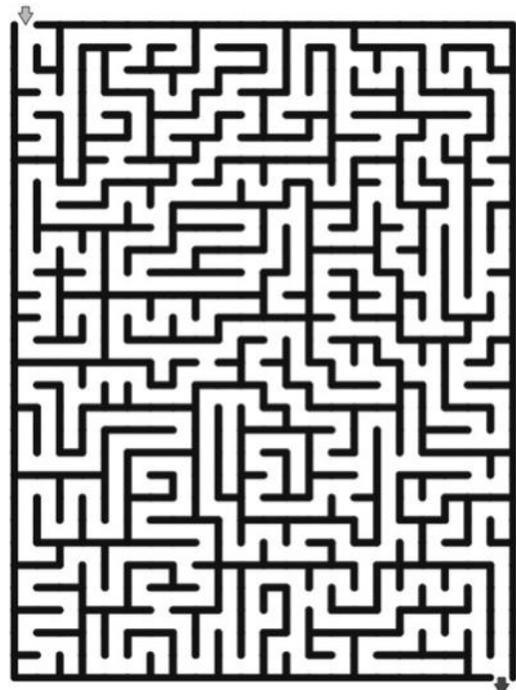
- 1 Follower of Christ (Acts 16:1) (8)
- 2 One of the punishments endured by Paul (2 Corinthians 6:5) (8)
- 4 Soldiers (Exodus 14:9) (6)
- 5 Scholarly study of melody, harmony and rhythm (10)
- 6 'I am God, and there is none — me' (Isaiah 46:9) (4)
- 7 'And how can they preach unless they are — ?' (Romans 10:15) (4)
- 10 Favourable reception (1 Timothy 1:15) (10)
- 12 Hip orbit (anag.) (8)
- 13 End of life (Isaiah 22:14) (5,3)
- 16 'About midnight the sailors — they were approaching land' (Acts 27:27) (6)
- 18 He married Jezebel (1 Kings 16:30–31) (4)
- 19 'According to your great compassion — out my transgressions' (Psalm 51:1) (4)

Medium Level Sudoku

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

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Starting at the top arrow, can you find your way through the maze?



Wordsearch for May 2019

This month (31st May) the Church remembers the visit of the virgin Mary to her cousin Elizabeth. Both were pregnant, and the visit gives us a poignant glimpse of two humble, ordinary women, caught up in a great event that would shape world history. Their trusting faith in God and total acceptance of His will, shine through.

After Jesus is born, Mary fades into the background, and makes few appearances: when she loses her Son in Jerusalem, when she urges Him to help the wedding party in Cana; and when Jesus gives her into the keeping of the beloved disciple when He is on the cross.

Mary, chosen to be the mother of Jesus Christ, one who is both God and Man, holds a unique place in the history of mankind. Down the centuries that have followed, the Church has paid special honour to Mary – and well deserved it is. “All generations shall call me blessed...”

Visit

Virgin

Mary

Cousin

Elizabeth

Pregnant

Glimpse

Humble

Ordinary

Women

Great

History

Trusting

Faith

God

Acceptance

Will

Jesus

Jerusalem

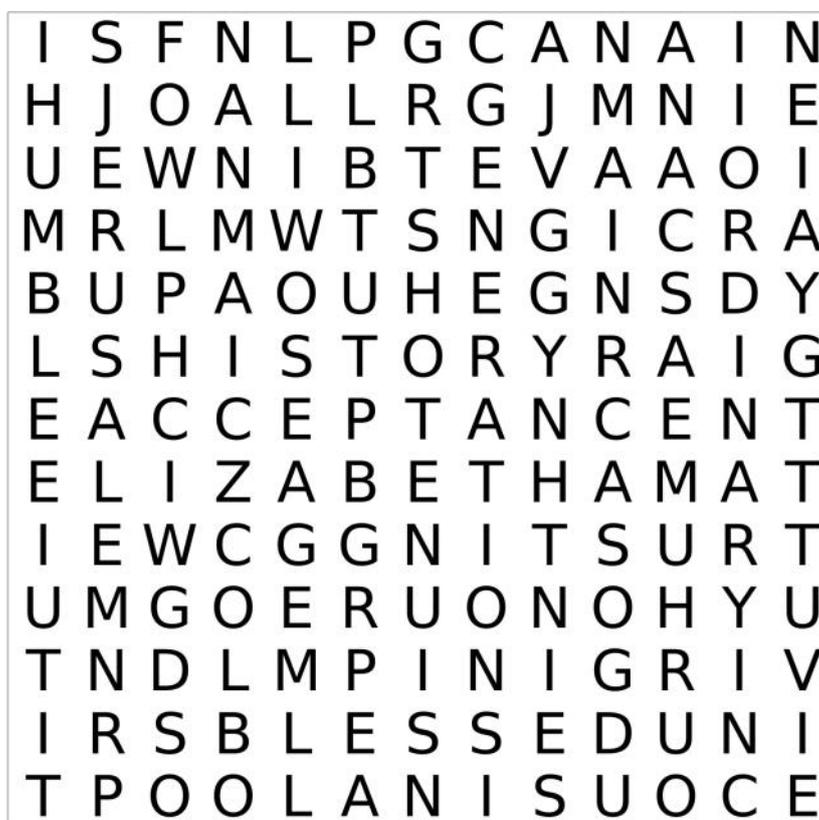
Cana

Special

Honour

Generations

blessed



Puzzle solutions

on page 31

All the UK's big brands have now answered the question 'Who picked my tea?' So what does this mean for tea workers in Assam? And what else can we do?



Traidcraft Exchange's Mary Milne reflects.

'Who picked my tea?' That's a question we've been asking for the last year – and now we know. If the tea you drink is sold by, say, Tetley or PG Tips or Clipper, and now Typhoo, you can now go to their website (or even easier to ours) and find the list of their tea suppliers, including estates in Assam and elsewhere in the world. I expect if you are reading this, it's because you care about making a difference in the world. You got involved in the campaign because you care about people who work long hard hours on the tea estates of Assam, paid less than the minimum wage despite their skill and the crucial role they play in bringing us the tea we enjoy. So I think it's more than likely that the things you want to know now are: *Will this make a difference? And what else can we do?* These are important questions which I'll address if you keep reading. But just for a moment or two, I'd like to ask you to pause and celebrate our collective success.

Success doesn't come often enough in campaigning – especially in recent years as the tide of public and political opinion has ebbed away from concerns about global poverty and trade justice. But, this time we did it. We really did. Together we have persuaded the six biggest UK tea brands – plus two others we didn't even target directly – amounting to around 70% of the UK market, to do what they told us just 18 months ago wasn't possible: to publish the estates they buy from. Collectively we have shifted the market from a default of secrecy to a default of openness. If you sent an email, or a postcard, or replied to a bland customer service response, or tweeted or shared on Facebook, or came to an event or got your church or friends involved, then this is something you helped to make happen, and I want you to take a moment to smile and say, **'Well done, together we did it.'** Success doesn't come easily and it's worth celebrating.

Now back to the questions: will it make a difference? And what else can we do? OK, here goes...

Will it really make a difference?

Getting the UK brands to open up about where they publish is an important step in the right direction. It's not going to change everything straight away but it's a start. Now the details of the supply chain are open for all to see, it's in the interests of all the businesses involved to make sure that they live up to their claims and that basic minimum entitlements are delivered to workers. In addition to that, the concern for the workers that you've shown will have had an impact on the UK brands, and through them to their suppliers, all of whom will have been consulted and informed about the new transparency. This respect and concern for workers by consumers, people like you and me, might also begin to help shift some of the pervasive paternalistic attitudes within the Assam tea sector. The transparency that you have helped to bring about isn't everything, but could just be the faultline that opens up opportunities for change in Assam.

What next?

While it's useful and interesting to look at where our tea comes from, the information we have together persuaded the brands to uncover is going to make the biggest difference in Assam. Traidcraft Exchange has already shared the information with some community organisations there who are working with tea workers and their families. They're in the process of mapping the information so that they can share it more widely within the tea workers' communities. Ultimately it will enable local organisations and tea workers themselves to raise problems which their immediate tea estate management has not been able to address – either publicly or with the UK brands.

What else can we do?

1. Keep buying tea from Assam – especially from those brands which have published their lists. By buying, not boycotting, we are supporting an industry that provides livelihoods for more than a million people.
2. Keep in touch. As public pressure is lifted, I'm concerned that some of the brands might be tempted to backtrack. So we'll be keeping an eye on them to make sure they update their lists year to year, and don't just quietly drop them. If they do, we promise you'll be the first to know! If you don't already hear from us by email, you can do so at:- <https://action.traidcraft.org.uk/join-our-email-list>

And we've got more campaigning ideas to share with you very soon. Watch this space!

Mary Milne is Traidcraft Exchange's Head of Campaigns & Communication

This article can be found online: <https://www.traidcraft.org.uk/blog/2019/4/11/our-best-campaign-yet>

Why do they do that?

Aiming to take away the mystery of some of the things which happen in Church

Editor: Continuing with The Rev Dr Jo White series entitled 'Why do they do that?'. It will look at things that happen in churches which don't need to remain mysterious...

Kneeling

Some of us prefer to kneel for just about everything in church. People around us might sit – but we are kneelers!

Time may have taken its toll though, and sadly the knees may not what they were. But if you visit different churches, you will find that not all of them have furniture designed to help you kneel.

Some have the wooden support so close to the pew back that you are 'forced' to perch your rear on the seat in order to physically fit. Others have the gap so wide you cannot reach the seat, so you have to kneel with a straight back. Some don't have anything to kneel on at all.

But why do we kneel in church? In church we're continuing the actions of those in the Bible – both at worship and when addressing Jesus. Just think of all those who knelt before Him to ask forgiveness or healing, or, like the single leper, to give thanksgiving.

In the conscious presence of Almighty God, as we come before Him in worship and supplication, what can we do but we kneel with our body, mind and soul?

Source: Parish Pump

App review: *Thy Kingdom Come, and Daily Worship*

by Gavin Drake for The Church Times 18 May 2018

THE support for the initiative Thy Kingdom Come is phenomenal: from Catholics and Orthodox to Pentecostals and Charismatics: churches around the world are forming this wave of prayer.

Many will be helped by the official **Thy Kingdom Come** (TKC) app. Produced for Android and iOS by SPCK, it was released only on Wednesday of last week, 24 hours before it was to be used. It is not the only resource produced for TKC: the others are on the dedicated website thykingdomcome.global.

Just as the initiative is inter-national, the app is multilingual: the first thing is to select whether you want to use it in English, French, Spanish, Portuguese, Kiswahili, Korean, or Welsh. One of the aims of TKC is that Christians pray for five people whom they wish to come to faith; and, having selected the language, you are asked to input the names of five people for whom you want to pray, and then the time you want to receive a daily notification.

The app provides several resources to help people to pray: these include video reflections, including youth videos, a novena, or a mini-liturgy containing a brief Bible reading and prayers, a brief text thought, the names of the five people you are praying for, audio podcasts, and images by the artist Ian Pentney.

The app is free to download and use; and is a very simple, easy daily reminder to pray. It will help those for whom daily prayer is difficult; and — being for ten days — is short enough that people who do not pray regularly are unlikely to feel that they have failed by not keeping it up. On the contrary, it has the potential to help people to begin a daily prayer routine.



Editor: The following article is written by Dr. Ruth Bancewicz, who is based at The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion in Cambridge. Ruth writes on the positive relationship between Science and Christian faith.

Love Me to the Moon?

Do you know the story of little nutbrown hare? His father cared for him so much that the only thing big enough to describe his love was the enormous distance between the Earth and the Moon - and back again. It's a wonderful story, but it pales into insignificance compared to the love that the Creator of the entire universe has for each one of us.



When Paul wrote to the Ephesians, he said that he prayed they would be able "to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge". So what sort of scale could you use to capture the size of a love like that?

I have heard professional astronomers say it is impossible to keep the enormous scales of our universe in mind all the time and keep functioning normally. But every now and again it is worth trying to wrap our heads around these distances, and feel a sense of awe at our smallness compared to the vast distances of space.

One way to connect more personally with astronomical scales is to consider the total amount of DNA in our bodies. This long thin chemical carries all the instructions needed for building and maintaining each cell – every tiny building block – in your body. A human cell contains two metres of DNA, coiled up very tightly. If it were possible to take this long thin molecule out of every cell, unroll it, and line up every piece end to end, how far would it reach?

The average adult has about 3 trillion (3,000,000,000,000) DNA-containing cells in his or her body. Multiplied by two metres, that makes around 6 billion kilometres of DNA, which is immense compared to the distance to the moon. The sun is around 150 million kilometres from earth, so our DNA could take us there and back many times. Pluto is, on average, around 6 billion kilometres away from Earth, so with our string of DNA we could take a one-way trip to the very edge of the solar system.

God is the Creator of the vast spaces of the universe, but when Jesus described how God cares for us He said that 'even the very hairs on your head are numbered'. You could also say that He knows every molecule of DNA in your body. Jesus' death on the cross showed that His love for each one of us is more unbreakable than the love of a parent for a child. So what might He say in today's language - I love you to Pluto and back?

Source: Parish Pump

Credit: "Guess how much I love you" by Sam McBratney

A new pulpit had been installed in the Baptist church, and the young pastor and his elders were testing the acoustics. "We'll stand way at the back and see how you sound," said an elder.

"What shall I say?" faltered the pastor.

"Say the first thing that comes to your mind."

He blurted: "I've not had a pay rise in two years. How does that sound?"

* * *

For those on the roads – a few hymns

30 mph..... Pass me not, O gentle Saviour
50 mph..... God Will Take Care of You
70 mph..... Nearer My God to Thee
85 mph..... This World Is Not My Home
95 mph..... Lord, I'm Coming Home
100 mph..... Precious Memories

A graphic with a light grey background. The text reads: "Laughter is God's blessing." in a large, serif font. Below it, in a smaller font, is "- Joseph Prince". At the bottom right, there is a small logo for "SermonQuotes".

CROSSWORD solution

ACROSS: 1, Baby. 3, Stimulus. 8, Liar. 9, Forsaken. 11, Episcopacy. 14, Eagles. 15, Clergy. 17, Strengthen. 20, Holiness. 21, Obed. 22, Bethesda. 23, Stay.

DOWN: 1, Believer. 2, Beatings. 4, Troops. 5, Musicology. 6, Like. 7, Sent. 10, Acceptance. 12, Prohibit. 13, Dying day. 16, Sensed. 18, Ahab. 19, Blot.

B	A	B	Y		S	T	I	M	U	L	A	S		
E		E				R		U				E		
L	I	A	R		F	O	R	S	A	K	E	N		
I		T		A		O		I		E		T		
E	P	I	S	C	O	P	A	C	Y					
V		N		C		S		O		P		D		
E	A	G	L	E	S		C	L	E	R	G	Y		
R		S		P		S		O		O		I		
					S	T	R	E	N	G	T	H	E	N
A		B		A		N		Y				I		G
H	O	L	I	N	E	S	S			O	B	E	D	
A		O		C		E					I			A
B	E	T	H	E	S	D	A			S	T	A	Y	

Wordsearch solution

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

Medium Sudoku solution

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

Junior InSpire Bible Bite's Wordsearch

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

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