

The monthly publication for the Parish of Cappel & Ockley

# Inspire Issue 35

JESUS  
The Way  
the Truth  
and the Life

**Free of charge - please take a copy!**

# Funding InSpire for 2020

In order to save our Parish the printing costs of InSpire, this year we have two options ...

## Sponsorship or advertisements

**Sponsorship** .... If anyone would like to continue (or begin!) sponsoring an issue of InSpire for 2020, please do let Suzanne or Debbie von Bergen know?

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**NB: There will be no obligation to advertise every month.**

*We are aiming to keep the cost of adverts as reasonable as possible, whilst offering an advert that can feature a colour logo amongst other things.*

*Currently box sizes will be as follows:-*

*7cm x 7cm (approximately a sixth of a page) £10.00 per month or £100.00 per annum*

*Half page ad approx. 17.5cm w x 13 cm deep £20.00 per month or £200.00 per annum*

*Inside back cover (in colour) whole page: £30.00 per month or £300.00 per annum*

*Back page of selected issues (NOT June or December) £50.00 per month*

*This gives any advertisers the opportunity to reach a new audience of readers and we very much hope to increase the circulation as we move forward.*

*We are particularly keen to support local businesses wherever possible.*

***If you or anyone else you know would be interested in advertising, please contact Suzanne Cole or Debbie von Bergen. (Contact details on page 3)***

SAMPLE 7cm x 7cm advert

**The opportunity to have your colour logo included in your advert**



Text .....

Web address:

Contact details: 12345



A 7 x 7 cm advert would cost £10.00 per month or £100.00 per year (saving £20.00 over 12 issues)

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**\* Would you like to be in this space? \***

**You could be as an advertiser or sponsor \*  
If you would like to be involved, please speak to  
Suzanne Cole or Debbie von Bergen**

**Inspire** is available to download from the church website:-  
[www.capelandockleychurch.org.uk/inspire-magazine/](http://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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*Dear all,*

Isn't it lovely to see already the Spring flowers arriving with the snowdrops and crocuses as well as all the wonderful flowering winter shrubs, some of which have such a beautiful smell. Just last week at the Women's breakfast held at Ockley Cricket Pavilion on the green, we had table arrangements with a winter type of honeysuckle with a wonderful scent. I am sure you gardeners will tell me what it is! The women's breakfasts are a good thing to try to go to when you see them advertised as are the men's ones. And they even have a mixed one!! The Women's Breakfasts are at Ockley Cricket Pavilion and the Mens and combined men and women are at Okewood Hill Village Hall. There is an excellent breakfast included of course (!). The main event though is the always very interesting speaker who has been invited to tell those there about their work or area of interest. For example last Saturday we had a talk from a fundraiser from the Chestnut Tree House hospice in Sussex which was very informative and gave us a real feel for the wonderful work children's hospices do. So do look out for them.



Today's hymns are based on last week's trend in petrol prices...

This month at our two churches leads us into Lent at the end of the month and of course it is a Leap Year this year. You will see on the list of church services for February that there are a couple of new services. First of all I will be doing a service for Ash Wednesday on the 26th at St John the Baptist beginning at 10 o'clock. For those who don't really know what happens on Ash Wednesday this special day marks the beginning of Lent having eaten lots of pancakes the day before on Shrove Tuesday! The phrase 'sackcloth and ashes' may come to mind but actually it is a really nice thing to come to. It will be a spoken service only within a service of Holy Communion, but again don't let that put you off if you are not familiar with taking the bread and wine in our services. We offer a prayer of blessing for those who wish to join us at the rail. Ash Wednesday offers us all a chance to come before God and to prepare ourselves for Christ's Passion and of course his amazing Resurrection on Easter Day.

Lent is a time of what the church calls penitence but it is better termed as a time to think about where we are with God, to slow down a bit and appreciate the good things around us, to take time out to think about what is important in life and to regain balance therein. The ashes which are a mixture of last year's palm crosses burnt down and mixed with oil, are in fact a symbol of our mortality. The words that are used when a small cross is traced in these ashes on your head 'Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return' remind us that our lives are indeed a gift and we all wish to be able to reflect at the end of our lives that we have lived our lives well. Of course there may well be things which we wish we had done differently - hindsight is a great thing; but we can have space to change our attitudes perhaps, to ponder anew. And if that sounds like too much naval gazing for you, then take up a more practical challenge?!

With both of these thoughts in mind there is a new course beginning at St Peter's Newdigate which is the other new inclusion in our calendar. The course is called Discipleship Explored and will be held in St Peter's Church Newdigate on eight Wednesday evenings in February and March, 7.30 - 9pm. You can go just once, twice or to all eight sessions, whatever suits. There will be light refreshments with a DVD presentation and group discussion. The course is for anyone who wishes to know more about following Jesus Christ, who wishes to make the most of their Christian lives or to find out more about the Christian faith. Please do contact our team rector Andrew Coe for more information or to sign up on 01306 631469 or [rector@stpetersnewdigate.org.uk](mailto:rector@stpetersnewdigate.org.uk). I hope I may see you there!

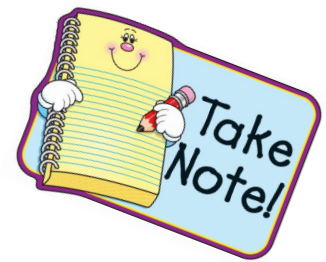
With my love and prayers as ever

*Rev Liz*

# CHURCH SERVICES & EVENTS FOR FEBRUARY 2020

Page 5

|                     |  |   |
|---------------------|--|---|
| <b>SUNDAY</b>       | <b>2nd</b><br>8.00 am<br>9.30 am<br>10.30 am           | <b>CANDLEMAS</b><br>Holy Communion BCP (Capel)<br>Matins at St Margaret's Ockley<br><b>CHRISTINGLE Service</b> at St John the Baptist Capel<br>with visiting speaker from The Childrens' Society.                       |
| <b>TUESDAY</b>      | <b>4th</b><br>4.30 - 6.30 pm                           | <b>Youth Cafe</b><br>Ockley Cricket Pavilion (Cafe for young people years 7-11)   |
| <b>WEDNESDAY</b>    | <b>5th</b><br>9.45am<br>7.30 - 9pm                     | Daily Office in church - <i>see vicar's letter</i><br><b>Discipleship Explored</b> course at St Peters Newdigate  |
| <b>SUNDAY</b>       | <b>9th</b><br>9.30 am<br>10.30 am                      | <b>Third Sunday before Lent</b><br>Holy Communion at St Margaret's Ockley<br>Cafe Church at Capel   |
| <b>TUESDAY</b>      | <b>11th</b><br>4.30 - 6.30 pm                          | <b>Youth Cafe</b><br>Ockley Cricket Pavilion (Cafe for young people years 7-11)   |
| <b>WEDNESDAY</b>    | <b>12th</b><br>9.45am<br>7.30 - 9.00 pm                | Daily Office in church<br>Discipleship Explored course at St Peters Newdigate   |
| <b>SUNDAY</b>       | <b>16th</b><br>8.00 am<br>9.30 am<br>10.30 am          | <b>Second Sunday before Lent</b><br>Holy Communion BCP (Capel)<br>Matins at St Margaret's Ockley<br>Family Communion at Capel   |
| <b>TUESDAY</b>      | <b>18th</b><br>3.15pm<br><br>4.30 pm<br>4.30 - 6.30 pm | <b>Half Term Messy Church at Capel Memorial Hall</b><br>onwards and finishing at 5pm. <i>Fun, craft and supper for all ages!</i><br><br><b>Youth Café</b><br>Ockley Cricket Pavilion (Cafe for young people years 7-11) |
| <b>WEDNESDAY</b>    | <b>19th</b><br>9.45am<br>7.30 - 9.00 pm                | Daily Office in church<br><b>Discipleship Explored</b> course at St Peters Newdigate  |
| <b>SUNDAY</b>       | <b>23rd</b><br>10.30 am                                | <b>Sunday next before Lent</b><br>Parish communion at Capel   |
| <b>TUESDAY</b>      | <b>25th</b><br>4.30 - 6.30                             | <b>Youth Cafe</b><br>Ockley Cricket Pavilion (Cafe for young people years 7-11)   |
| <b>WEDNESDAY</b>    | <b>26th</b><br>10.00 am<br>7.30 - 9.00 pm              | <b>Ash Wednesday</b><br>Ash Wednesday Service with Imposition of Ashes - <i>see vicars letter</i><br><b>Discipleship Explored</b> course at St Peters Newdigate - <i>see advert on page 13</i>                          |
| <b><u>MARCH</u></b> |  |   |
| <b>SUNDAY</b>       | <b>1st</b><br>8.30 am<br>9.30 am<br>10.30 am           | <b>First Sunday in Lent</b><br>Holy Communion BCP (Capel)<br>Matins at St Margaret's, Ockley<br>Family Communion at Capel   |



*For all Services & Events*

<https://www.capelandockleychurch.org.uk/events-calendar/>

**Stamp Collecting for RNIB**

Please KEEP COLLECTING YOUR POSTAGE STAMPS and bring them in to either St John the Baptist or St Margaret's where you will find collecting boxes. They are being collected in aid of RNIB (Royal National Institution for the Blind).

Thank you!  
The Editor

\* See article on  
page 12

**From the Registers**

St Margaret's, Ockley

We mourn the loss of  
David John Ede  
30th December 2019

This month's  
"Star of the Month" goes to



**TWO STARS ...**

**Wendy Birch & Betty Mitchell**

for their many years of crafting for Church teas, flower arranging and much much more!

Thank you both!

Editor's Note: *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](mailto:slc@ansford.me.uk)*

**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!*



**TWO EXCITING DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES!**

**THE VICARAGE FETE 2020**

**This year's Capel Vicarage Fete will be held on  
Saturday 20th June 2020  
12.00 until 3.00 pm  
at a venue to be confirmed.**

(Rev Liz is on sabbatical so we are not going to use the Vicarage garden).

There will be lots to do, plenty of stalls and lots on offer to eat and drink too!

We will be appealing for the loan of gazebos, party tents and baked goodies for the cake stall nearer the time! Thank you

**CAPEL CHRISTMAS FAIR**

**The first Capel Christmas Fair in aid of our two Parish Churches and the Motor Neurone Disease Association (MND)**

will be held on

**Saturday 14th November 2020  
from 12.00 until 4.00 pm**

**in the Memorial Hall AND Parish Halls, Capel**

with lots of tempting stalls to choose from, together with hot food and refreshments and all in aid of good causes!

**Why not make it your Christmas shopping event!**

Don't forget our local Panto

### 'The Snow Queen'

this weekend and next!

31st January and 1st/6th/7th February  
featuring our very own Rev Liz,  
Sylvie, Laura and many more!

Ockley Dramatic Society

For tickets call: 01306 628255 or  
email:- [BoxOffice@CapelOckleyPanto.co.uk](mailto:BoxOffice@CapelOckleyPanto.co.uk)  
Adults: £10 Children under 16: £5

**For further details see the poster on page 8!**

## 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.

## Thank you from The Ede Family

Thank you to all those who braved the atrocious  
weather to attend the funeral of Mary Ede on  
Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January.

Many thanks also to all those who contributed  
food for the gathering afterwards. We are  
fortunate to live in such a wonderful  
community.

Best wishes from  
Peter, Norman, George and family.

*See Tribute to Mary Ede on page s 10 & 11*

## St Margaret's Bible Study Group

Held every fortnight on a Thursday at 2.00 pm

For further details, please contact Helen Burt for on  
01306 711671 or [helenmb0909@gmail.com](mailto:helenmb0909@gmail.com)

## After School 'Youth Café'

Every Tuesday from 4.30-6.30pm, Ockley  
Cricket Pavilion will be open as a  
Youth Cafe. This is a donations (i.e. no fixed  
prices for refreshments) cafe  
with drinks and snacks available for  
youngsters aged 11-16 (school years 7-11)  
who are invited to come and chill with friends  
or by themselves - there are a  
few newspapers and board games but really  
this is just like any other cafe only exclusively  
for youngsters!

Any queries please telephone Helen Burt on  
01306 711671  
email [helenmb0909@gmail.com](mailto:helenmb0909@gmail.com)

## 'Village Teas' at Ockley Village Hall (formerly known as TLC)

**Village Teas** 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**

*Dear Readers,*

We have another packed issue for you and are delighted to be able to reproduce the article 'Time for Tea with Mark Davison' which featured in the Dorking Advertiser in the Autumn. It's taken a little while to get the authorisation but I'm pleased that you can now read it in full on page 9. What a tribute to the hard work that has gone on for the last 20 plus years! Joy, Betty and Wendy have achieved so much, both in monetary terms and in outreach by hosting these teas regularly every year.

Again, there is a lot going on in both Capel and Ockley and there are adverts for Bob Cranham's next two Cottage Concerts—see details on pages 35 and 26. Our thanks to Bob for putting on these new regular features which are bringing people into our beautiful churches as concert venues and raising money too!

We have two other events to highlight too which may seem a long way off but we are already busy planning and organising them! The first is to confirm the 2020 Capel Vicarage fete on Saturday 20th June 12—3pm and our brand new 'Capel Christmas Fair' on Saturday 14th November 12—4pm. See further details on page 6 'News in the Pews'.

Finally, I am very pleased to be able to share with you all the full transcript of Norman and Peter's tribute to Mary Ede who died recently. The tribute is reproduced in full on pages 10 & 11. We've certainly lost some of our stalwarts and very dear friends in the last year—Tony Goddard, Chris Drummond, Briony Thomas and Mary Ede. They all contributed hugely to our local communities and were friends to many of us. We will miss them all, but we are grateful for having had the blessing of knowing them in their lifetime.

*Best wishes,*

*Suzanne*

The Capel and Ockley Pantomime Co.  
*Proudly presents*

# The SNOW QUEEN

by Michael Brennan

## Capel & Ockley

Ockley Dramatic Society  
Est. 1948

**31st Jan,  
1st, 7th, 8th Feb**

Tickets now on sale:  
call 01306 628255 or email:  
BoxOffice@CapelOckleyPanto.co.uk  
or in person from the Inn on the Green, Ockley

**Adults £10, children under 16 £5**

**Capel and Ockley matinee Special Offer :**  
Adult tickets just £6 if accompanied by a child  
(under 10 years of age) who enters for Free.

**It's all in the spelling...**

- G** - God
- R** - ran
- A** - alongside
- C** - carrying
- E** - everything

**Don't forget our local panto *The Snow Queen!***

**It's on this weekend and next ...  
OH YES IT IS!**



# In Celebration of our Church Teas

In October 2019, a lovely article in the Dorking & Leatherhead Advertiser under the regular feature 'Time for Tea with Mark Davison' featured our very own church teas! I am delighted to be able to share the full article with you now! Sorry it's taken a while, but we needed to make sure we had the correct copyright etc! The Editor

THE heavy rain during the night on the first Saturday in October led to warnings of floods in parts of Surrey but by the time I parted the curtains on the Sunday morning, the sunshine was trying to break through. Happily, the day was not going to be a washout as I feared. And after meeting some friends for a country stroll across the fields in waterlogged Nutfield, I decided to return to a favourite place for afternoon tea.



The "Friends Of St John The Baptist Church, Capel" were formed in March 1991 to raise money in times of need to maintain and improve the fabric of Capel's 12th century church, at the centre of the village. I gleaned that the "Friends" represent not only churchgoers but also community members who take a keen interest in its history, up-keep of the village and buildings. Over the years, contributions have been made to roof repairs to the west porch and the north aisle. Also the path was relaid. Improvements to the toilet and kitchen brought the church up to modern standards.

The wonderful "tea ladies" produce and serve Sunday teas in the church fortnightly in summer and autumn and now well into early winter. I was not surprised to learn that the "Capel Teas" have a reputation far and wide and have become part of the local scene and add greatly to village social life.

After motoring through Leigh, Holmwood and Beare Green – the sun filtering through wet trees and woods – I emerged at Capel, which looked charming, with its main street flanked by historic cottages. I parked near Carter's Garage and crossed the road, passing a large sign saying "teas". I tried to open the doors but they were locked. But all of a sudden, a lady inside hurried to them and released the catch. She said enthusiastically: "Are you after a cup of tea?" I said I was and checking the opening times. I had earlier jotted down 2-5pm and as it was just gone two o'clock, I thought I'd be OK. "Well, actually it's 3 to 5," she said. "But come in and have a tea and a cake. We never turn anyone away if they're early." I apologised but they were hearing nothing of it. On a long table was a fabulous array of home-made cakes including scones with jam and cream. I sat down and chatted with one of the founders of the famous "Capel Teas" – Joy Harman. Hesitantly, she admitted that, apart from the scones, she had baked all the cakes, including mine: flapjacks, chocolate fridge cakes, and apple sponge. As thunder rumbled above outside,

Joy quietly explained how the Capel Teas began some 25 years ago. "There was a flower festival in the church and I offered to make some cakes to help raise some funds," she said. "They seemed to go down well and I suggested teas more regularly." As Joy was then recently widowed, she cherished the chance of doing something for others and teamed up with Betty Mitchell and Wendy Birch. The trio still run the teas now.

As I munched my mouth-watering fridge cake, Joy told me that in its heyday the church would be packed with ramblers, cyclists, villagers and others from further afield calling for tea. Numbers are down somewhat, but there are still many loyal visitors who have been coming for years – some from as far away as Richmond and elsewhere in south London. "Some come for the company and stay for the afternoon," she said. I couldn't resist buying a cheese scone and a second cuppa as I talked with sweet-smiling Joy. She told me she had lived in Capel for more than 50 years and, when she first came to the village, there were two butchers' shops; a fruit and veg store – Ken's; a knitting and wool shop, a gas showrooms; Carter's Garage, a hairdresser's, chemist's, a newsagent and more.

Carter's and the Capel News are among the survivors, plus the Crown pub, which happily has survived, there was the King's Head "where all the coaches used to pull up". I chomped on the cheese scone and by now some others were arriving. One was in motorcycle leathers and I gathered he was a good illustrator and did many drawings of Surrey churches for architects. He made a bee-line for the cakes. Oddly, Capel's main road was once much busier – it used to be the route of the main A24. This changed when Capel bypass was built. Joy said: "When people started getting cars in the 1960s it was all the thing to go to the coast on Sundays so the road was so busy. If you had a pram it was hard to get across. I had a mental picture of Ford Zodiacs, Consuls and Cortinas inching their way through the village. It was hard to imagine, as on my visit there were only a few cars. I told the ladies I remembered as a child coming to the village on a green double-decker 414 bus from West Croydon to Horsham. "It's the 93 now," I was told. "Horsham to Dorking, every hour."

To get involved contact the chairman, Andrew Forsyth, on 01306 712422 or email [andrew.forsyth@talk21.com](mailto:andrew.forsyth@talk21.com)  
©The Dorking Advertiser

*The following is a full transcript of the tribute read by Norman Ede at his mother Mary Ede's funeral on 14th January 2020.*



"As you will each see on your Order of Service, I am reading words that Dad has both written and dictated to me.

Thank you all for coming along this afternoon to join in this service of thanksgiving for Mary's life. Mary had a long life and, until recently, enjoyed very good physical health.

Mary was born on the 27<sup>th</sup> of January 1930 in the old Capel Village Hospital, now called The Charlotte Broadwood Flats. I arrived into this world at Nightless Copse 11 weeks later and my mother & Mary's mother, Mrs Parr, used to chat together when they brought their respective offspring to the Church Room to be weighed.

Mary's parents had, only shortly before she was born, moved into one of the lodge cottages at Shiremark House. Here her father was employed as a domestic chauffeur and groom to the Richardson family – who themselves had only recently moved into Shiremark. In those days the family employed 6 men on the outside staff and 5 indoors.

As the entrance to Shiremark is just (and only just), in the county of West Sussex, Mary went to Warnham School and then onto Horsham High School for Girls. It was while a pupil at Horsham that Mary chose to become a school teacher and went on to Bishop Otter College in Chichester, graduating in 1950.

Mary's first teaching appointment was at Blackheath in London, where she stayed for 2 years. In 1952 a vacancy arose at St Martin's Infant School in Dorking, for which she applied and was awarded the post. She remained at St Martin's for 8 years until the intake of children dropped dramatically and she was made redundant. Very conveniently a post became available that autumn at Capel School; this suited Mary even better as it meant that she could live at home.

It was soon after her move to Capel School that one of the other teaching staff, Miss Lewry, insisted that Mary join the Wesley Guild so that she could get to know the families of some of her pupils. It was at these meetings in the hall at the rear of the Methodist Chapel that I took a shine to this good-looking young woman and I asked her if she would come with me to a bell-ringers dinner in Guildford. Our next outing was to a tea rooms in Adversane.

We were engaged in Inverness in 1963 whilst visiting the area near Forres on the Moray Coast where Mary's mothers' family, the Frasers, came from. We married here in Capel church on the 4<sup>th</sup> of April 1964. The piece of music that Mary entered the Church to today is called Highland Cathedral in honour of her Scottish roots. Our honeymoon was to Shanklin on the Isle of Wight (where subsequently several family summer holidays were taken), staying at Harrow Lodge which is still a tourist hotel today.



The Ede Bros office continued to be a corner of the living room at Nightless Copse and Mary fielded calls from customers up until 1998 when we moved into Strood Copse to let Norman and George make their mark on Nightless Copse. Following the death of my father in 1978 and my mother in 1987, Mary had taken on various aspects of the firm's book-keeping and continued to do so until in her early 70's.

Throughout the 1970's and early 1980's family holidays were taken on the Isle of Wight and in Scotland, Devon and Cornwall; and once Norman and David were not holidaying with us anymore we enjoyed touring in Scotland in our own car and then later on organised coach tours around Scotland, Ireland and also into Europe, travelling as far north as Norway.

Mary was active in Capel village life: continuing to be a member of The Wesley Guild until its demise, flower arranging in this church and helping out with the Church Fete, being an enthusiastic competitor in both the flower arranging and baking classes of our Flower Show and for many years was the editor of The Capel & Beare Green magazine.

Mary's dementia became noticeable in her later 70's, just as it had done with her own mother and, apparently, maternal grandmother. This gradually robbed her of many elements of her character – except that of an infant school teacher. She would often in recent years tell us all to be quiet, not to be so silly and to sit down! May she rest in peace”.



## Stamp Collecting

A huge thank you to everyone who has dug out all their old stamps to give to the RNIB. I have just sent 2 large packages off to the charity who will be most grateful.

I thought we would continue to collect stamps throughout the year as everyone seems to have enjoyed doing it. I realise there won't be as many as at Christmas, but I will empty the boxes in both churches on a regular basis and send them off.

Two requests:

- ◆ For stamps that have been on envelopes, please trim so that there is no more than 1cm of paper around the stamp – I have done this for all those so far received.
- ◆ If you would like to donate stamp albums or first day covers RNIB are very happy to have them and I can arrange for postage paid labels and/or boxes for you to put them in, just contact me to arrange this.

## Capel church boundary wall

You will be delighted to hear that we have been awarded £2,400 by **Surrey Historic Buildings Trust** for the North section of the wall. This along with very generous donations from **Capel Show Day** (£1,600) and **Capel Church teas** (£500), brings the balance on the reserve for the wall to £10,400. Just another £1,100 is needed to meet our target for this section, so the PCC have instructed Shaun Williamson our stone mason to start work in the spring, an exact date will follow.

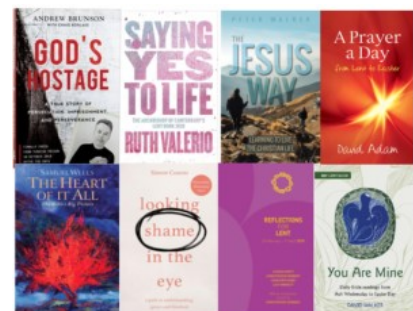
I am delighted that we have managed to raise nearly enough for the second part of this project, but there are another two sections to do! We will be raising money for the East section next which fronts the road. If you feel you could make a donation to help this work, please make cheques payable to **Capel & Ockley PCC**.

Debbie von Bergen

## BOOK REVIEWS

**Saying Yes to Life – The Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent Book 2020**  
By Ruth Valerio £7.99 SPCK

*Saying Yes to Life* lifts our focus from natural, everyday concerns to issues that are having an impact on millions of lives around the world. As people made in the image of God, we are entrusted to look after what He has created: to share in God's joy and ingenuity in making a difference for good. Ruth Valerio imaginatively draws on the Days of Creation (Genesis 1) as she relates themes of light, water, land, the seasons, other creatures, humankind, Sabbath rest and resurrection hope to matters of environmental, ethical and social concern.





**Come and join us in St. Peter's Church Newdigate  
for the 'Discipleship Explored' Course**

**It will be held in Church on 8 Wednesday Evenings  
in February & March 2020**

**Starting 5<sup>th</sup> February 2020 7.30pm - 9pm**

**Come once, twice, to all 8 sessions,  
whatever suits**

**Tea/Coffee/Cake/Light refreshments,  
DVD presentation, Group discussion**

**It's for those:-**

- who want to know what it means  
to follow Jesus Christ**
- to make the most of their Christian lives**
- or to find out more about the Christian Faith.**

**For more information, or to sign up please contact**

**Rev Andrew Coe**

**01306 631469**

**rector@stpetersnewdigate.org.uk**

**'Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.'**  
Colossians 3:13-14

## **HEALTH AND HEALING cont..**

### **SATURDAY 1<sup>st</sup>**

*Dear Heavenly Father, bless our health service to thrive, to prosper, and to heal. Bless our doctors and nurses to care and to bring healing. Bless our nation to understand, thank, and honour those who seek to bring us health.*

### **SUNDAY 2<sup>nd</sup>**

*Lord, stand by the side of those who await a forthcoming operation. Send Your Spirit to bring peace and comfort to the patient and confidence into the hands, hearts and minds of those who are in charge.*

## **FRIENDS and FRIENDSHIP**

**"Dear friends, since God loved us that much, we surely ought to love each other."** 1 John 4:11

### **MONDAY 3<sup>rd</sup>**

*Loving Father, we pray for our friends and ask that You will help them with any struggles they are facing for You know exactly what they need. Draw near to them and let them feel Your presence. Open their eyes, ears, and hearts to You.*

### **TUESDAY 4<sup>th</sup>**

*We thank You, Lord, for the gift of friendship, for friends who love us, who share our sorrows, who laugh with us in celebration, who bring comfort when we are in pain and who need us as we need them.*

### **WEDNESDAY 5<sup>th</sup>**

*Loving Father, bless our friends with health, joy, peace and love. When their hearts are burdened with sadness, we ask that You would be their comforter, that You would cover them with your infinite grace and mercy, and surround them in peace.*

### **THURSDAY 6<sup>th</sup>**

*Dear Lord, we pray for those who have a broken relationship with a friend. May they each show the humility and grace that You taught us so that broken bonds may be quickly mended.*

### **FRIDAY 7<sup>th</sup>**

*Help us Lord to demonstrate Your grace towards our friends at work. Help us also to be able to share Your word at our place of work and be ready and willing to give an answer for what we believe.*

## **SATURDAY 8<sup>th</sup>**

*Help us Lord to demonstrate Your grace towards all our friends whether they are new friends or longstanding. Help us also to be able to share Your word when we meet and be ready and willing to give an answer for what we believe.*

## **SUNDAY 9<sup>th</sup>**

*Heavenly Father we lift up to You our friends who are suffering in mind, body or spirit. Help us to turn to You in this time of deep distress and surround our dear friends with Your comforting arms of blessing and pour into all our hearts Your peace.*

## **MUSIC**

**'...be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another with psalms, hymns and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord'** Ephesians 5:18-19

### **MONDAY 10<sup>th</sup>**

*Almighty God, we thank You for music which lifts our hearts, calms our fears and takes us into the presence of Your joy.*

### **TUESDAY 11<sup>th</sup>**

*Father, we ask You to bless those who compose, conduct, play and perform music so that the glory of You may be heard in it and be felt in the hearts of all the people who listen.*

### **WEDNESDAY 12<sup>th</sup>**

*Lord Jesus Christ whose birth was greeted by the songs of angels, we thank You for the gift of music. May music bring light into darkness and restore hope, well-being and health.*

### **THURSDAY 13<sup>th</sup>**

*God of compassion, bless all those who take part in musical events. Bless the organisers and may their hard work be appreciated by all who attend and result in a joyful celebration of music.*

### **FRIDAY 14<sup>th</sup>**

*Loving Father, bless the music that has been written to glorify Your name. May the words reach into the hearts of all who listen so that they may draw closer to You.*

### **SATURDAY 15<sup>th</sup>**

*Father, we praise You for the blessings of this life and for all the sounds that bring us joy; laughter, birdsong, the voices of loved ones and melodies of music and song.*

**February's Prayer Diary**

Compiled by Belinda Kerry

## FAITH IN FAMILIES

**'I am reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also.'** 2 Timothy 1:5

### MONDAY 17<sup>th</sup>

*God of the heavens and the earth, may we not hide our love for You from family members but let them know about our faith in Jesus and be sure they see Christ's love, His peace and His joy in us.*

### TUESDAY 18<sup>th</sup>

*Creator God, when we are with our families, among the people who know us best, may our faith in You shine through. Help us to be thoughtful and loving, even through difficulties. Help us to honour and respect each other, caring for others as we care for ourselves.*

### WEDNESDAY 19<sup>th</sup>

*God our Provider, we pray that the message of Christ and His sacrifice is the root of gratitude in our hearts and that His gracious gift leads us to thankful living, setting an example for our families. Lead us to do everything in the name of Jesus and give thanks to You through Him.*

### THURSDAY 20<sup>th</sup>

*Father, we pray that the non-believers in our families will have their own relationship with Jesus one day, and that You would grow gratitude in their hearts out of the acceptance of Jesus as their Saviour.*

### FRIDAY 21<sup>st</sup>

*Lord, when we gather together to share a meal with our families, may we bring praise to You for putting us together as family. Thank You for our food. Guide our mealtime conversations and steer our hearts to Your purpose for our lives.*

### SATURDAY 22<sup>nd</sup>

*Heavenly Father, thank You for the comfort of family. We pray for families where trust is broken through abuse and/or abandonment and we pray for Your protection and Your guardianship of hearts and minds.*

### SUNDAY 23<sup>rd</sup>

*Lord of all, help us to be thankful for one another. Help our children to be thankful for each other, for our family to be grateful for each member. May we pray for every member of our family continually. May our gratitude for one another bind us together as a family, and our prayers for each other further unify us in gratitude and love.*

## LENT

### MONDAY 24<sup>th</sup>

*Holy Spirit, help us to see this coming Holy season of Lent as a time of spiritual renewal rather than a time of deprivation. Motivate us to reach a new level of experiencing Your grace.*

### TUESDAY 25<sup>th</sup>

**'Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and compassionate...'** Joel 2:13. Lord, as the Holy season of Lent begins, turn our hearts towards You. May our repentance be truthful and sincere.

### WEDNESDAY 26<sup>th</sup>

**'And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear.'** 1 Corinthians 10:13. Loving Father, we thank You that You will help us resist temptations by helping us to recognise the people and the situations that cause us to turn away from You.

### THURSDAY 27<sup>th</sup>

*Lord Jesus, we are thirsty and we are weak. Lead us to Your Living Water to refresh us body and soul, for this water will never run dry. We thank You for the groups, meetings and courses taking place over the Lent time and for opportunities to have fellowship and learning.*

### FRIDAY 28<sup>th</sup>

*Father God, in this season of Lent, help us to draw nearer to You in praise and take away all that distracts us from worship. Sometimes we find ourselves saying, 'Tomorrow, I will spend more time in prayer.' Help us to strengthen our resolve and know our need for You daily.*

### SATURDAY 29<sup>th</sup>

*Heavenly Father, as Jesus resisted temptation by the devil in the wilderness, help us to reflect on His faithfulness to God, His rejection of worldly values. May we hold these thoughts in our hearts throughout Lent and beyond.*





## **An Open Letter to the Prime Minister**

**The President and Vice-President of the Methodist Conference have written to the new Prime Minister, assuring him of their prayers and asking for clarification on key issues including climate change, poverty and social cohesion.**

### **The letter says:**

We wish to congratulate you on being given the responsibility by the British electorate to form a government, and assure you of our prayers and the prayers of the Methodist people as you take on that responsibility.

Churches are rooted in communities around Britain. It is our task to emphasise, from our ground level experience of British society, issues which we believe must be seen as key priorities.

Creation does not belong to us. Our task is to nurture and recognise our place within it. Many of our members see climate change and environmental degradation as the most pressing issues of our day. *Can you tell us what steps you will be taking internationally and domestically to help the UK to reach its climate change targets? What kind of lead will you be taking at the 2020 UN Climate Change Conference in Glasgow?*

Many of our churches and church members are involved in running foodbanks and offering support for people caught up in poverty. Foodbanks should not have to exist. *Can you clarify for us what steps your new government will take to address the scandalous levels of poverty, and particularly child poverty?*

The church is an inter-generational, multi-ethnic, socially diverse collection of communities. It is far from perfect. But we have seen in our communities growing forms of hostility, divisiveness and hatred, and have sought to support people who have experienced such discord. *What active steps will your government now take to work towards healing and greater concord in society?*

We wrote to you, Prime Minister, in July 2019 to express our concern that a No Deal Brexit was likely to impact the poorest communities very hard indeed. We wish to reaffirm our concern that the poorest in society face huge risks as our trading relations with EU are rewritten. We seek your reassurance that needs of families facing poverty will be central to the proposed trade deal and that should it not be in place before the transition period expires that comprehensive measures are put in place to protect them from the ensuing upheaval.

*Revd Dr Barbara Glasson, President of the Methodist Conference  
Professor Clive Marsh, Vice-President of the Methodist Conference*

## **Church of England appoints National Environment Officer**

Jo Chamberlain has been appointed as the National Environment Officer for the Church of England, taking forward the strategy developed by the Environment Working Group. This is a new post reflecting the Archbishops' Council's focus on the environment as a theological and mission priority.

Jo joins the Mission and Public Affairs team from Christian Aid and the Diocese of Sheffield where she volunteers as their Environment Adviser. She will work closely with the Environment Consultant, David Shreeve, and link with the Cathedrals and Church Buildings team where Open and Sustainable Churches Officer, Catherine Ross, forms the third part of a new environment staff 'hub'.

Source: Parish Pump



### **Four dioceses in new Province of Alexandria**

THE new Province of Alexandria, whose creation out of the diocese in Egypt was approved by the Primates' Meeting ([News, 17 January](#)), will be the 41st Province of the Anglican Communion, and comprise four dioceses: in Egypt, North Africa, the Horn of Africa, and Gambella. In a report to the standing committee of the Anglican Consultative Council, the exploration group said: "We have a strong sense that this is the appropriate time for the provincial independence of the diocese of Egypt, as it is poised for future development, which would be difficult to achieve whilst maintaining balance within the current Province [Jerusalem and the Middle East]. We are convinced that the rationale for the proposal is sound, and that the diocese of Egypt has the potential to become a vibrant independent Church."

### **South Sudanese declaration comes into force**

A TRUCE brokered by the Rome-based lay Community of Sant'Egidio came into effect in South Sudan on Wednesday of last week. Leaders of the government and opposition movements wrote in a Rome Declaration on the Peace Process in South Sudan that they were "mindful of the unprecedented suffering of the people of South Sudan caused by devastating civil war and the urgent need to cease hostilities", and committed themselves to providing humanitarian access. In the statement, they spoke of being "humbled by the relentless spiritual and moral appeal for peace, reconciliation and fraternity by Pope Francis, the Archbishop of Canterbury, and the former Moderator of the Presbyterian Church of Scotland".

### **Kidnapped seminarian is released**

ONE Roman Catholic seminarian has been released after he and three other seminarians were kidnapped from the Good Shepherd Seminary, Kaduna, earlier this month. He is being treated in hospital after being dumped on the side of a highway, the Catholic News Agency [reported](#). The whereabouts of the three others are unknown. The RC bishops of Nigeria have appealed to the kidnappers to release the young men. Also in Kaduna State, children from the Du Merci Centres in Kano and Kaduna have published a statement condemning the detention of the co-founder of the orphanages, Professor Richard Solomon Musa Tarfa, and the closure of their orphanages ([News, 17 January](#)).

### **MU's world President joins faith leaders in Rome**

THE Worldwide President of the Mothers' Union, Sheran Harper, attended last week's Abrahamic Faiths Initiative dialogue in Rome, which brought together 25 leaders from different faiths at the Pontifical Gregorian University to discuss sustainable peace and mutual respect. Others attending included the President of the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue, Cardinal Miguel Ángel Ayuso Guixot; the President of the Forum for Promoting Peace in Muslim Societies, Shaykh Abdallah Bin Bayyah; the Chief Rabbi of Rome, Riccardo di Segni; and the Greek Orthodox Patriarch Theophilos III of Jerusalem and All Palestine. The increased inclusion of women and youth was one of the subjects under discussion.

### **Aid for vulnerable Iraqis may stop soon, UN warns**

AID for vulnerable Iraqis may run out within weeks as a result of the suspension of government documents allowing critical humanitarian missions, the United Nations' humanitarian chief in Iraq, Marta Ruedas, warned on Tuesday. "Our operations are at risk," she said. "Without predictable, continual-access authorisation, humanitarian aid is in danger of rotting in warehouses, putting lives in jeopardy and wasting badly needed donor funds." As of this month, documents allowing humanitarian workers to travel around the country expired, and no replacements are forthcoming. A survey of the UN's NGO partners found that more than 2460 humanitarian missions had been cancelled or prevented from reaching their destinations.

Taken from the Church Times dated Tuesday 28th January 2020

<https://www.churchtimes.co.uk/articles/2020/24-january/news/world/world-news-in-brief>

# CHURCH TIMES

*Editor: Nigel Beeton writes: Sometimes we can be terribly careless with our family and our loved ones. On Valentine's Day, it is worth reflecting upon the trust placed in us by both God and our partner when we are entrusted with the priceless gift of another person's love:*

## A Treasured Heart

A pearl beyond all human measure  
Your heart is such a golden treasure  
Too valuable to tell!  
Through times of toil and of leisure  
Times of sorrow and of pleasure  
I shall guard it well!

Love and trust, once they are woken  
Are more than just a heart-shaped token  
This gift from God above  
Not a treasure to be broken  
By careless deeds or phrases spoken  
This precious gift of love!

Love is patient, love is kind  
Love leaves selfishness behind  
Forgiving from the start  
Truthful, trusting, never blind  
Such are the beauties I can find  
If I just guard your heart!

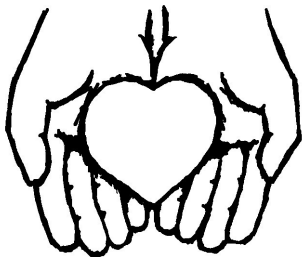
*By Nigel Beeton*

## Love

O God give the joy and God the love  
To those who are lovers true,

Shed down benediction from above  
As in one are joined the two.

*From Poems of the Western Highlanders*



## QUOTES

### *With romantic love in mind*

One loving heart sets another on fire. -  
*Augustine*

Duty makes us do things well, but love makes us do them  
beautifully. - *Phillips Brooks*

Even if marriages are made in heaven, man has to be  
responsible for the maintenance. - *Anon*

The proof of love is its capacity to suffer for the object of its  
affection. - *Anon*

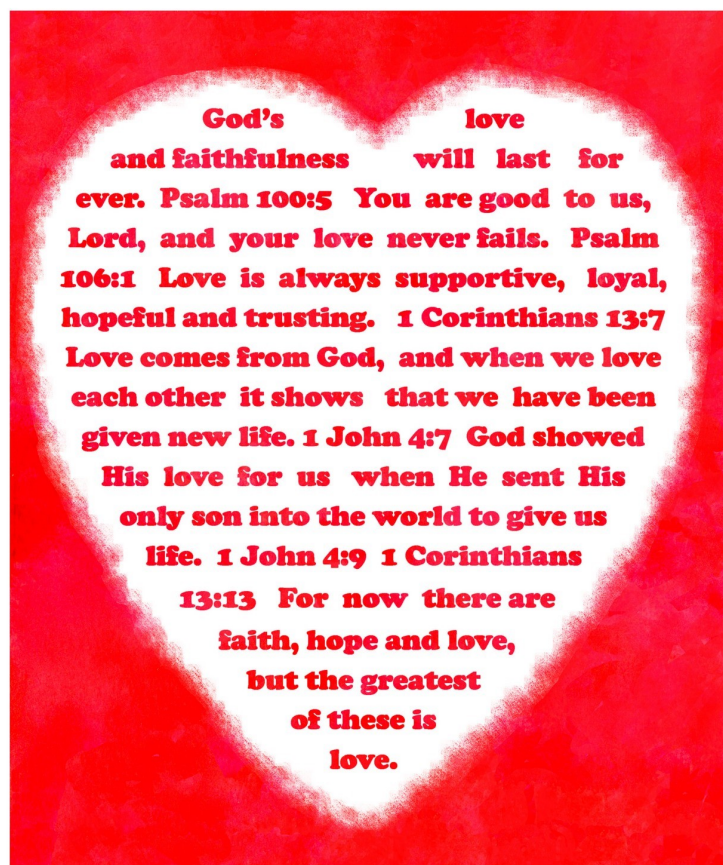
Love can wait to give; it is lust that can't wait to get. - *Josh  
McDowell*

God did not create woman to be a competitor but to be a  
companion. - *Frederick Sampson*

Before man had any other calling, he was called to be a  
husband. - *Henry Smith*

The woman was made of a rib out of the side of Adam; not  
made out of his head to rule over him, nor out of his feet to be  
trampled on by him; but out of his side to be equal to him,  
under his arm to be protected, and near his heart to be loved.

*Happy  
Valentine's  
Day*





Mrs D von Bergen  
Capel Lodge  
Horsham Road  
Beare Green  
DORSET  
RH5 4PQ

15 January 2020

Thank you for helping us to provide the Bible across the globe and here at home

Dear Mrs von Bergen

Thank you for your gift of £ 50.00 from St John The Baptist, Capel and Ockley Parish.

Your donation will help provide the Bible to people, families and whole communities who are waiting for it. We believe that when people engage with the Bible, their lives can change, for good, and your gift is an important part of that.

A donation like yours means that at home and across the world, we're able to connect people to the word of God through translation, distribution, engagement and advocacy.

Thank you again for being part of this amazing mission.

Nigel Langford  
Head of Church Relationships



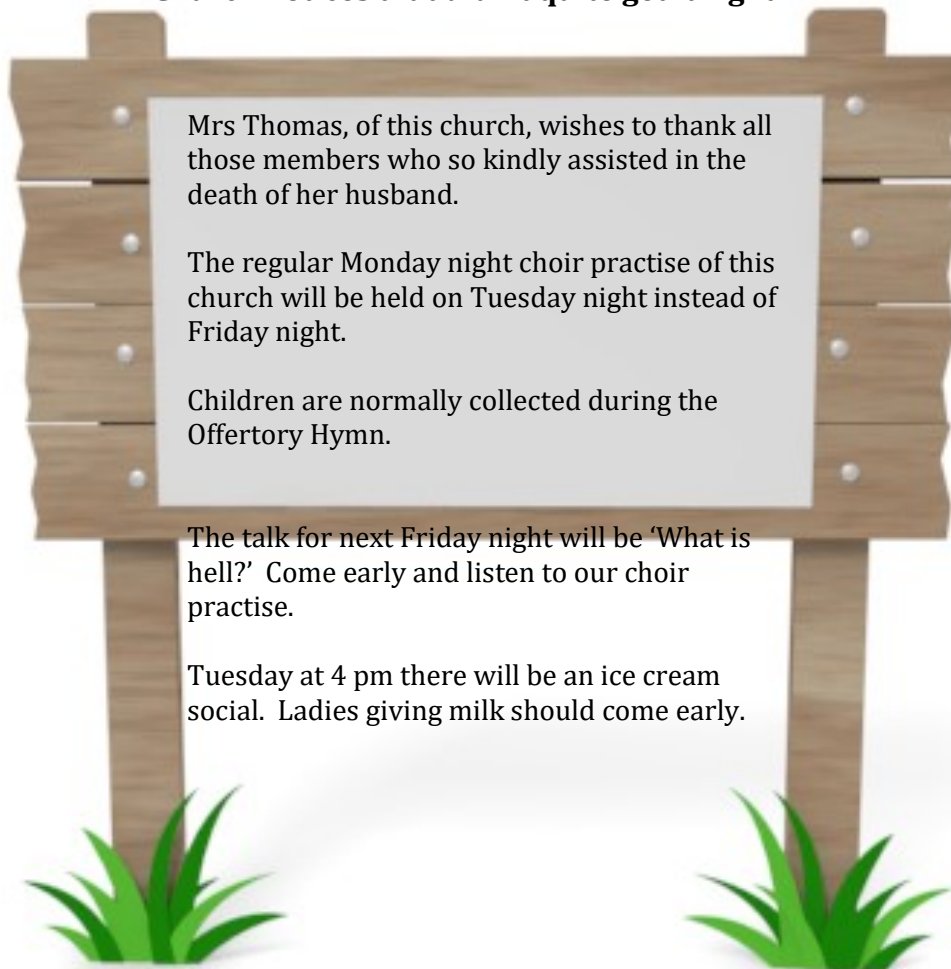
A lovely thank you from The Bible Society. We sent a donation as we used their Nativity Play resources for our Nativity service.

Also, can we please encourage everyone when making out cheques to now address them to: **Capel & Ockley PCC**

Thank you!

Debbie von Bergen & Helen Burt  
Treasurers

### Church notices that didn't quite get it right...!



## O come, O come, Emmanuel

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For those that attended the team Advent Sunday service at St Johns, would have heard Alan Bullard's cantata O Come, Emmanuel. It was written in 2012 for the Chapel Choir of Selwyn College Cambridge. It contains arrangements of traditional Advent carols, together with words and hymns, and running throughout it is the tune and words of O Come, O Come Emmanuel.

Although the setting sounds very old it is a relatively modern hymn. The original text was in Latin and is based upon the O Antiphons for Advent. These were originally a series of plainchant antiphons sung with the Magnificat at Vespers in the final days of Advent just before Christmas. They were translated by John Mason Neale and came to prominence when a version was used in Hymns Ancient and Modern in 1861. The O Antiphons were in existence in the eighth century and were paraphrased in English by Cynewulf as early as 800 AD. In 1710 O Come O Come Emmanuel was published in German and had numerous revisions until 1868. And it appears that it was originally from one of these versions that Neale translated in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

The hymn only uses five of the original O Antiphons and rearranges their order. In some versions the remaining two O Antiphons have been added as "Come, O Wisdom" and "Come, King of Peoples".

The tune normally used is "Veni Emmanuel" and was first linked with the hymn in 1851 in an early Neale translation (where in place of O Come he uses Draw nigh) published in the Hymnal Noted, in it the tune was said to be from a French Missal in the National Library, Lisbon. It is now believed to be from a 15th century manuscript in the National Library of France. In the manuscript there are a number of processional chants for burials, and this tune was the setting for the text "Bone Jesu dulcis cunctis"; it is part of the responsory Libera me.

Neale was born in London on 24 January 1818 to a clergy family. He was named after the Puritan cleric and hymn writer John Mason who was an ancestor of his mother Susanna. He was educated at Sherborne School in Dorset, and Trinity College, Cambridge. At Cambridge he became interested in the Oxford



Movement and architecture – particularly Gothic. He helped to found the Cambridge Camden Society which advocated for more ritual and religious decoration. He wrote and translated many hymns and poems as well as books on mediaeval and orthodox religion. His translations include many from Latin, Greek, Russian and Syrian. He was briefly incumbent of Crawley, and in 1846 he became warden of Sackville College, an almshouse at East Grinstead and remained there until his death in 1866. Neale was buried in St Swithun's churchyard, East Grinstead.

O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here,  
Until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Thou Rod of Jesse, free  
Thine own from Satan's tyranny;  
From depths of hell Thy people save,  
And give them victory o'er the grave.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Thou Dayspring, from on high,  
And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
And death's dark shadows put to flight.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Thou Key of David, come  
And open wide our heav'nly home;  
Make safe the way that leads on high,  
And close the path to misery.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Adonai, Lord of might,  
Who to Thy tribes, on Sinai's height,  
In ancient times didst give the law  
In cloud and majesty and awe.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

*Written by Stuart Cole*

## *Miscellaneous observations on daily life...*

If you had to identify, in one word, the reason why the human race has not achieved, and never will achieve, its full potential, that word would be 'meetings'.

There is a very fine line between 'hobby' and 'mental illness'.

You should not confuse your career with your life.

No matter what happens, somebody will find a way to take it too seriously.

When trouble arises and things look bad, there is always one individual who perceives a solution and is eager to take command. Very often, that individual is crazy.

Nobody cares if you can't dance well. Just get up and dance.

The most powerful force in the universe is gossip.

The one thing that unites all human beings, regardless of age, gender, religion, economic status or ethnic background, is that, deep down inside, we ALL believe that we are above-average drivers.

The main accomplishment of almost all organised protests is to annoy people who are not in them.

A person who is nice to you, but rude to the waiter, is not a nice person. (This is very important. It never fails.)

## **Hymns for professionals**

*Dentist:* Crown Him with many crowns...

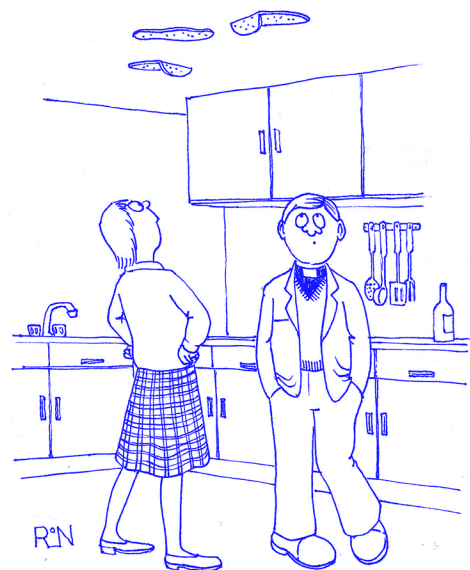
*Contractors:* The Church's one foundation...

*Obstetricians:* Come labour on...

*Golfers:* There is a green hill far away...

*Politicians* – Standing on the promises...

*Librarians* – Let all mortal flesh keep silent...



"Pancake party?" said Simon,  
"What Pancake Party?"

## FINAL PUBLIC APPEAL!



### *Would you like to be the next Church Group Representative for the Children's Society?*

After nearly 7 years of being the Church group representative, I have decided it is time to move on. Rita Ball did a wonderful job for approximately 30 years so I really am a 'lightweight' in comparison! I feel that I would personally like to do more fundraising for The Motor Neurone Disease Association as it has personally helped me throughout my father's illness and subsequent death. It hasn't felt appropriate to do that as well as support The Children's Society.

The main aspects of the role are:-

- ◆ **Co-ordinate the gathering in of houseboxes each year** (once a year). Count the contents and return to the box holders. The numbers of box holders has diminished significantly in recent years.
- ◆ **Co-ordinate the Christingle service preparations** and liaise with Rev Liz and the uniformed groups of Guides & Scouts and their younger counterparts as they have traditionally been involved in collecting before the annual service. It is usually your role to order any resources but this is very straight forward as many are now available to download. But you do still need the components to make up the orange Christingles for the service.
- ◆ **Any other fundraising events you would like to put on!** The new one I introduced was an annual Coffee morning in November.

If you would like any more information on this role, please speak to either myself or Rev Liz.

If no-one wishes to take it over, I will publish the ideas proposed by the Society in next month's issue.

Thank you  
**Suzanne Cole**  
slc@ansford.me.uk



## BOOK REVIEWS

### Reflections for Lent 2020

By Steven Croft, Christopher Herbert and John Pritchard, CHP, £4.99

Reflections for Lent is designed to enhance your spiritual journey through forty days from Ash Wednesday to Holy Saturday (26 February – 11 April 2020). Covering Monday to Saturday each week, it offers reflections on readings from the Common Worship Lectionary, written by some of today's leading spiritual and theological writers.

It is ideal for individuals and groups seeking Lectionary-based reflections for use during Lent and Holy Week, or for anyone wishing to try Reflections for Daily Prayer before committing to a year's worth of material. It also features a simple form of morning and night prayer and a guide to Lent by David Hoyle.

Source: Parish pump



the

The Revd. Sally Davies, of Shamley Green Church and Parish, reflects on the greatest gift available to all of us.

## What did you get for Christmas?

### The forgotten gift

There was a nail-biting moment at the school nativity one year. The wise men came to the Bethlehem stable and presented their gifts but as the third one approached there was a shocked gasp and much pointing of fingers from the other children. As the teacher tried to get them to start the next song, the children continued to point – at the far edge of the stage stood a solitary gift, forgotten, abandoned by the third wise man. The teacher hissed; “the show must go on, “and they began the song but you could tell they were not happy and the gift continued to stand there, like a reproach to us all. And although we laughed about it afterwards, deep down I felt that the children were right and the wise man should have gone back to collect the gift and present it to the new born King. And the more I thought about it, the more that gift, abandoned on the very edge of the stage, came to symbolize an important truth.

### God’s gift

In many parts of the world, in households and individual lives, there is a forgotten or abandoned gift; the gift first offered two thousand years ago. Over time it has been unwrapped, played with and tried out, pulled about and broken, and put away again many times. Now it is often pushed under the farthest corner of the tree; out of sight. Many feel it has been replaced by modern technology, by iPads, smartphones and x-boxes, and a hundred things that come bearing the baleful message ‘batteries not included’. Some have not even recognized it because it comes in unexpected wrappings. Others have not realized it is their name written on the gift tag and have put it aside. And because it has not been received, neither has the gift been passed on or shared.

Yet this gift has been offered to us again this Christmas, a gift wrapped in a baby’s swaddling clothes. What then is this gift – so remarkable, so precious – that even when people have forgotten it or abandoned it at the edge of the stage, it has been kept safe through the centuries and offered to us again and again? It is the gift of God’s love, seen in the birth of His Son, Jesus, which is offered to us not just at Christmas but anew each and every day that dawns, even when all the presents have been put away and the decorations have come down and ordinary service resumes. Nowhere else is seen so clearly God’s interest in our lives as in Jesus Emmanuel, God with us, coming to be one of us. Nowhere else does He demonstrate so powerfully His desire to be involved in every aspect of our lives as when He himself takes on human life; from birth to death.

### Our gift

It is time to rescue that most precious of gifts from the margins of our lives and society because we need that gift of love to be centre stage in our world today. We need that love to be at the centre of our families; uniting, healing, reconciling and affirming us in our relationships. We need that love to be at the centre of our communities; drawing in those who are themselves at the margins – the lonely, the mentally unwell, the poor and the bereaved. We need that love to be at the centre of our world; bringing an end to conflict and oppression and restoring life as well as homes and livelihoods to those for whom last year was one of loss, deprivation and hardship. And we need that love be at the centre of our own selves, reminding us that it truly is our name on the gift tag; that we are God’s beloved children, the recipients of the greatest gift ever given.

As we remember the wise men bringing their gifts at our Epiphany services, retrieve the precious gift of God’s love from the margins and place it centre stage in your life this year. Receive it for yourself and ‘pass the parcel’ on to each person you meet.

## Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

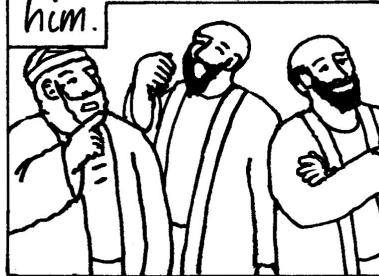
It can be read in the Bible in  
1 Samuel 2:11-17, 22-25, 3:1-21

As soon as he was old enough to leave his parents, Samuel went to live at God's temple in Shiloh, with the priest, Eli..

Eli's sons were also priests, but they helped themselves to what people had brought to give to God.



Eli talked to them about it. They ignored him.



But Samuel did all the work he was given well.

One night, after everyone had gone to bed, Samuel heard someone calling him.



He thought it was Eli, so he ran to him.



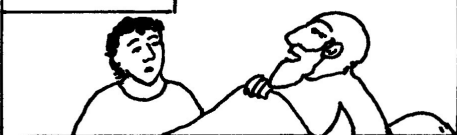
No, I didn't call you

It happened again.



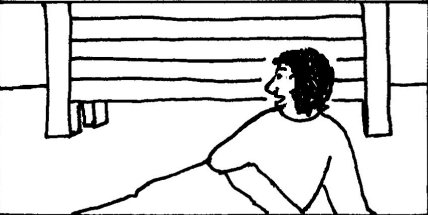
I didn't call. Go back to bed.

The third time, Eli knew it must be God calling Samuel.



You must say, 'Speak, Lord, your servant is listening!'

God called Samuel again,

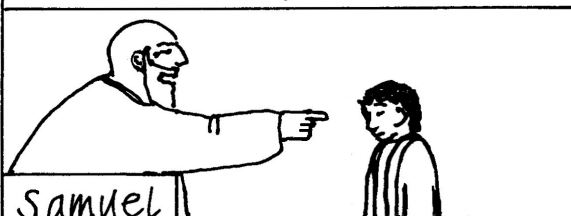


and Samuel answered as he had been told.

I told Eli his sons had done bad things, but he has not stopped them. Now, even being sorry will not make up for what has happened.



The next morning, Eli demanded to be told what God had said.



Samuel was afraid, but he told him.

He is God. He will deal with us as is right.

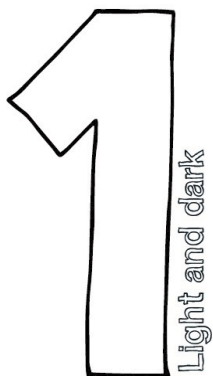


God continued to talk to Samuel. He became known throughout Israel.





# In the beginning...



# Thoughts for February

Editor: *The Rev Paul Hardingham considers self-discipline during Lent.*

Page 26

## Lent Fasting

This month sees the start of Lent, the season of penitence, self-examination and fasting running up to Easter. Fasting can be a neglected discipline, but it plays an important part in the Christian life. Jesus began His earthly ministry by fasting in the wilderness for 40 days and He taught His disciples to fast (i.e. not *if* but *when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that it will not be obvious to others that you are fasting, but only to your Father, who is unseen.*' (Matthew 6:17,18).

### Why Fast?

Firstly, giving up something in my life underlines my desire to put God first in my life. Secondly, fasting shows me how much I depend on things other than God in my life, so I can surrender my idols to Him. Thirdly, fasting encourages me to have a deeper hunger and dependency for God in my life. Therefore, fasting gives me space to humbly focus on God for His strength, provision, and wisdom and results in a more intimate relationship with Christ. It also enables the Holy Spirit to reveal my true spiritual condition, leading to brokenness, repentance, and a transformed life, with a heart more attentive to God.

### How can I fast?

Usually fasting involves missing one or two meals during the day, although some can't abstain from food for medical reasons. It might also include abstaining or limiting the time I give to television, alcohol or social media. However, Lent can also be a time to embrace new spiritual disciplines e.g. joining a study group, 'random acts of kindness', or giving more time to prayer and Bible study. Whatever you do, make Lent count this year!

*'Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.'* (Matthew 5:6).

## Lent – a good time to deepen your prayer life

Lent is a time to take stock of ourselves spiritually. This includes setting aside extra time for prayer. Here are some helpful things to remember as you settle down to it:

People have been praying since Adam had a grandson named Enosh. The Bible tells us (Genesis 4:26) that it was during his days when 'men began to call on the name of the Lord'. They have been doing it ever since.

People have had their prayers answered by God since Genesis, too. But if you want to read some beautiful prayers – and answers to them, browse through the Psalms. Again and again the psalmist writes: "the Lord heard my cry".

Source: Parish Pump

So – what do you need to bring to prayer? Just the tiniest amount of faith that God is even there.... Jesus assures us that even faith as big as a tiny mustard seed will be effective.

What gives you the right to come before Almighty God? Jesus does. The Bible is clear that "there is one mediator between God and men, the man Jesus Christ". (1 Timothy 2:5)

The Bible makes clear that God does not stand on ceremony – in fact, He prefers our personal, spontaneous prayers. Jesus was very matter of fact about it: "When you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you." (Matthew 6:6)

The Bible assures us that prayer will bring us good things: "we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need". (Hebrews 4:16)

Above all, prayer must be made with a pure heart. "If I had cherished sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened." (Psalm 66:18) That simply means that if you know you are doing something wrong, and intend to keep right on doing it, don't waste your time praying.

Finally, what can be the results of your prayers this Lent? Well, here are seven, for starters....

1. Joy and deep happiness. (John 16:24)
2. Relief from your worry, stress and tension (Philippians 4:6,7)
3. Wisdom and more mental clarity (James 1:5,6)
4. Protection and deliverance from temptations (Matthew 26:41)
5. An ability to share the Good News of Jesus to other people (Matthew 9:38)
6. Strength to persevere when you feel under spiritual attack (Ephesians 6:18)
7. A growing thankfulness to God, who is worthy of all glory (Revelation 4:11)

## Romance is not everything!

Almost two thirds (60 per cent) of the single adults in the UK have deliberately chosen their single lifestyle, with more women (66 per cent) than men (53 per cent) opting for the single life. There are two good reasons, according to the findings of a recent study: a desire for independence, and a weariness when it comes to dealing with relationship problems.

The research, carried out for Lloyds Bank, also found that love can cost you financially. According to Office for National Statistics (ONS) data, single people spend £300 less on living costs each month – or £3,600 a year.

### **Anxious and lonely? Come to church!**

Young people who go to church are less likely to struggle with anxiety than those who do not go to church (22% compared to 33%.) Fewer church goers are also lonely and isolated (16% compared to 31 %)

In a survey almost one third of all young people reported feeling sad or depressed; this was compared with 18 per cent among young practising Christians.

The survey is published in *The Connected Generation*, commissioned by the Barna Group in partnership with World Vision. The full report can be seen at [theconnectedgeneration.com](http://theconnectedgeneration.com).

### **How do you feel about sharing your faith?**

Perhaps you have been 'gossiping the gospel' for years? Maybe you even lead a small group, or are passionate about community outreach?

Or – perhaps you feel a quiver of panic at the very thought of talking about your faith. Society seems to be hostile, and so you struggle to know how to engage with people who think very differently from you.

If you struggle, then here is good news: Bible Society is keen to help you. It has recently launched a new website called Lumino (<https://lumino.bible/>) to do just that.

Lumino aims to support Christians who want to share the good news. It explains the different types of people you are likely to encounter, and their attitudes to the Bible and Christianity. Bible Society has found from research that "an estimated 20% of the population is open to the Bible, open to faith and interested in knowing more. What an exciting opportunity..."

***Don't forget our own 'Discipleship Explored' course Starting 5th February 2020 ... See further details on page 13.***

*Editor: by Tim Lenton*

### **Remembering Anne Frank and her diary**

Anne Frank, the Dutch Jewish diarist and Holocaust victim, died 75 years ago, in February 1945, in Bergen-Belsen concentration camp at the age of 15 – probably from typhus. She is known for writing *The Diary of a Young Girl*, an account of how she and seven others were hidden in a secret annex to escape the Nazis.

The group had been arrested the previous August, and only Anne's father Otto survived the war. At first it was believed they had been betrayed, but it is now thought possible that they were discovered by accident.

The *Diary*, which Anne – who was born in Germany – started writing at the age of 13, is the story of how ordinary people risked their lives to help those in need, but it says little about the unclear relationship the Dutch had with Nazi Germany. Up to 80% of the Dutch Jewish population were killed during the war – the second highest percentage after Poland.

The diary, which had been kept safe by Otto's secretary, Miep Gies, was published in English in 1952 and has since been translated into more than 60 languages. The Anne Frank House, a museum in Amsterdam, opened in May 1960. Asteroid 5535 Annefrank was named in Anne's honour in 1995.

*Editor: by Tim Lenton*

### **Remembering Eric Liddell – Olympic gold medallist and prisoner of war**

Eric Liddell, the Scottish athlete who became a 400-metre Olympic gold medallist in 1924, died 75 years ago, on 21<sup>st</sup> February 1945, in a Japanese internment camp in China. He was 43 and had a brain tumour.

Because of his Christian convictions he had withdrawn from the 100-metre heats in the 1924 Paris Olympics because they took place on a Sunday. He entered the 400-metre heats instead – and won.

He also got bronze in the 200 metres, where he finished ahead of his Jewish team-mate Harold Abrahams, the 100-metre gold medallist. Their story is told in the classic 1981 film, *Chariots of Fire*.

Born in China to missionary parents, Liddell went to boarding school for 12 years at Eltham College, South London, where he continues to be recognised as inspirational. He was always an outstanding sportsman but never failed to put God first. He returned to China after studying pure science at Edinburgh University and married a Canadian missionary, Florence Mackenzie.

While in internment camp, despite his tumour and weakness, he gave hope to others, being seen as a great unifying force. He helped to ease tensions through his selflessness and was admired for the way he forgave his captors.

## 10 February – Scholastica: the persuasive sister

Scholastica (d.c. 543) should be the patron saint of any woman who can bend her brother to do her will - no matter how 'powerful' that brother might seem to other people.

For Scholastica's brother was no less than the great monk Benedict, who founded the famous Benedictine order and lived at Monte Cassino. In no way over-awed, Scholastica simply became the first ever Benedictine nun, with a nunnery five miles down the road – at Plombariola.

Now Scholastica greatly enjoyed her annual meetings with her brother at a house nearby, but the time passed too quickly. One year she begged him to stay longer, to discuss "the joys of heaven", but he refused. So Scholastica took swift action: she prayed up such a mighty thunderstorm that her brother was forced to spend the rest of the night talking to her. Or maybe – she talked, and he listened? No one knows for sure.

In any case, Scholastica died happy three days later, and was buried in the tomb Benedict had prepared for himself. She became the patron of Benedictine nunneries.

## **NEW \* 25 February – Shrove Tuesday: Who's for pancakes?**

*by David Winter*

Why do we have pancakes on Shrove Tuesday, or Pancake Day, as we call it today? And what is Shrove Tuesday? And why do thousands of people feel it rewarding to race along a street somewhere tossing pancakes from their frying pans as they go?

Well, the answer to the first question is that it is the day before Lent begins and for well over a thousand years that has meant it was the last chance to enjoy meat, fat and other tasty dishes until Easter Day. The 'Lent Fast' was widely and strictly observed. The food in the larder wouldn't keep for six weeks so it had to be eaten. With all these rich foods no wonder the French call it 'Fatty Tuesday' – Mardi Gras.

So, what have pancake races got to do with all this solemnity? 'Shrove' is an old word for 'forgiven' and in those days to prepare for the rigours of Lent people would want to confess and seek forgiveness – not quite what you want at a party. The answer is quite simply enjoying yourself while you can! So, on Shrove Tuesday this year let's have some fun and make it last as long as possible.

The most convincing (and amusing) of the explanations of pancake races is of outwitting the Sexton who rang the curfew bell that marked the start of Lent. He was reluctant to do it while the race was unfinished. So, the revelry caused by dropped pancakes, postponed the inevitable.

Since the Reformation it has not been so rigorously observed in Britain, but still people will resolve to 'give up something for Lent'. Six weeks is about right as a duration and Sunday has always been exempt but make the most of those pancakes. They may well not reappear until April 12<sup>th</sup>!

## **26 February - Ash Wednesday: a good time to admit you are sorry**

Have you done something which haunts you? Which makes you feel restless and defensive, every time you think of it? Why not deal with it this month, and put it behind you? Whatever your mistake has been, consider what the Bible has to say to you:

'I have not come to call the virtuous but sinners to repentance' (said Jesus). (Luke 5.32)

'Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and He will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon. (Isaiah 55.7)

'Yet even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing.' (Joel 2:12-13)

God is inviting you to come to Him this Ash Wednesday. What a wonderful offer! Make the most of it and remember how the prodigal son was welcomed back by his compassionate father.



Prayer is one of the most intimate and beautiful activities in which human beings can engage, whether alone or with others. Prayer is how we establish our true identity, as individuals and as the church. In prayer our identity is changed, to be more aligned with the identity of God – the identity that in love we are called towards. As Mother Teresa said: “Prayer enlarges the heart until it is capable of containing God’s gift of himself.”

When we pray, we participate in the most dramatic partnership of creation and recreation. The partnership with God that involves gazing on his creation – on the events of the world he has made – and seeking that they be conformed to his likeness and image. We are changed, and the world is changed, as God allows us, through prayer, to share in his making of the world. We are his partners in making the world, in prayer.

Jean Vanier, who founded the L’Arche communities, said: “To pray is essentially to come to Jesus and to drink.”

We all have encounters with people who have a profound effect on us. I’ve met two or three people over my life where one meeting altered my entire perspective on what life should be about. Prayer begins with an encounter with a person: an opening of ourselves to be with the person who is three persons in one: God, who comes to be with us, through Jesus by his Spirit, and being with us changes us.



Too often, in the way that we all talk of prayer, and especially in the way we teach about prayer, we become mechanical and manipulative. It’s as though there is a technique that makes a difference: press the buttons in the right order and everything will work.

But just as we can’t manoeuvre our way into friendships, it’s the same with prayer. Prayer has at its centre a relationship with God in Jesus Christ. We are not praying to placate or please God: we’re praying to relish and rejoice in Him. Relationships are not built on process, but on partnerships. Prayer is about sharing every part of yourself and your life with God.

So the good news, in one sense, is that you don’t have to do something to get there. God doesn’t say, ‘press these buttons in the right order’ and live a suitably good life. He just says, ‘come and be with me’. It’s an invitation. Partnership with Jesus Christ in prayer is risky because it’s deeply costly. When we accept the invitation of Jesus to be with him, it will mean putting ourselves in places that are tough. Pushing ourselves to limits that are very demanding. So prayer is apparently, looking at it from outside, a fearful thing, and deeply risky.

The reality, of course, is that the risk is nothing: it’s a zero. To cast yourself into the hands of one who loves you immeasurably and perfectly is fairly obviously not much of a risk. Not to do so is really the risk. But it feels like a risk because in prayer that is a partnership with God, everything is on the table – we hold nothing back. Not praying is a guarantee of a quiet life. It may be an unpleasant life. It may be a very tedious life. It may be an exceptionally depressing life. It may be a despairing life – but it will at least be a quiet life, if you like that kind of thing.

Prayer causes huge collateral damage to all our vanity and our ambition, and our hopes of self-advancement and self-centeredness. Being in partnership with God reveals to us our true identity. Not the bad things that many of us feel about ourselves, but the sheer beauty that is what God feels about us, because of what he did on the cross. And it reveals God to us in his true identity – and we can never be the same again afterwards.

There has never been a renewal of the spiritual life of the church – which means all Christians, you and me – without a renewal of prayer. That’s why I’ve made it the highest priority of my ministry.

*in Christ  
+ Tasha*

## ***With Lent in mind***

Man, in his fallen nature, is a dissatisfied and frustrated rainbow-chaser. - *Anon*

Whatever else is or is not true, this one thing is certain – man is not what he was meant to be. - *G K Chesterton*

The hearer of God's Word ought to be like those animals that chew the cud; he ought not only to feed upon it, but to ruminate upon it. - *Augustine*

Poverty of spirit is the bag into which Christ puts the riches of His grace. - *Rowland Hill*

Grace is especially associated with men in their sins: mercy is usually associated with men in their misery. - *Anon*

Civilised man is psychologically sick, and the more cultured and civilised he becomes, the more sick he will be, for modern man is seeking to feel at home in the world without any reference to God. - *Akbar Abdul-Haqq*

The true holy water is not that which the pope sprinkles, but is distilled from the penitent eye. - *Thomas Watson*

To get to heaven, turn right and keep going straight. - *Anon*

Regret is an appalling waste of energy; you can't build on it; it's only good for wallowing in. - *Katherine Mansfield*.

He who wants Lent to seem short should contract a debt to be repaid at Easter. - *Italian Proverb*

Life is too short for us to do everything we want to do; but it is long enough for us to do everything God wants us to do. - *Anon*

### **Adam and Eve**

Adam and Eve had an ideal marriage. He didn't have to hear about all the men she could have married, and she didn't have to hear about the way his mother cooked.

### **Take me out**

An elderly single woman died last month. She requested no male pallbearers. In her handwritten instructions for her memorial service, she explained: "They wouldn't take me out while I was alive, so I don't want them to take me out when I'm dead."

### **Love in a bag**

I asked my nephew whether he bought his wife anything for Valentine's Day, and he said he had bought her a belt and a bag. When I commented that I am sure she would appreciate them, he agreed: "Yes, and hopefully the vacuum cleaner will work better now."

Laughter  
is God's  
blessing.

- Joseph Prince

Sermon Quotes

Editor: The Rev Michael Burgess begins a series on animals and birds as seen in art and scripture... this will run throughout 2020 and we will feature them in InSpire when we can.

## 'He gave us eyes to see them': William Blake's engravings of Job

The canticle we call the Benedicite began its life as the *Song of the Three Holy Children*. In the midst of their terrifying ordeal in the burning fiery furnace, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego praise God. They call on the sky above, the seasons, and all that grows and moves on the earth to join them. Their song invites the whales in the sea, the birds of the air and all creatures to echo their praise. Finally, they ask all people who are holy and humble in heart to bless God the creator of all that is.

During this year we are exploring the glory and wonder of creation, especially animals and birds. The song of the Benedicite praising that creation is born of pain and testing. That ordeal is the theme of another book in the Old Testament - Job. We are told that he was an upright, blameless man, but he suffered. That pain tested his faith and he demanded an explanation from God.

The book of Job inspired the visionary work of the poet and painter, William Blake. In 1823 he began creating a series of 22 engravings illustrating Job which were based on earlier water-colours. Plate 13 depicts God answering Job out of the whirlwind. We can read of this in chapters 39-41. God asks Job if he was present at creation. Indeed, can he even begin to understand the marvels of this world - the mountain goat giving birth, a horse running through a meadow, or the eagle soaring in the sky. They praise God like the creatures in the Benedicite by their very being. And finally, God points to Behemoth and Leviathan - the hippopotamus and the crocodile - who are symbols of power and brute strength. They are shown in Plate 15 and fill the orb of the world, just as they dominate creation.

God answers Job with this catalogue of wonders to assure him that He is the Creator, but He does respond to the cry of humanity. Job may not understand the stars above nor the earth beneath his feet, but through meeting God, his life has gained meaning and value. His fortunes are restored, and he ends his days as one of the holy and humble of heart who praise God in the Benedicite. The Three Children of the fiery furnace and Job - they assure us that this world is full of wonders and glory that show the handiwork of God. When we realise that, we will join them in singing hymns of praise and thanksgiving.



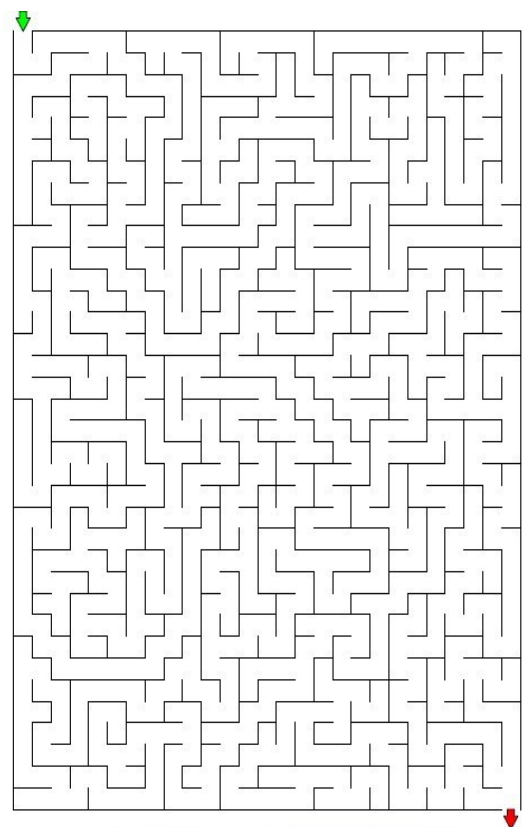
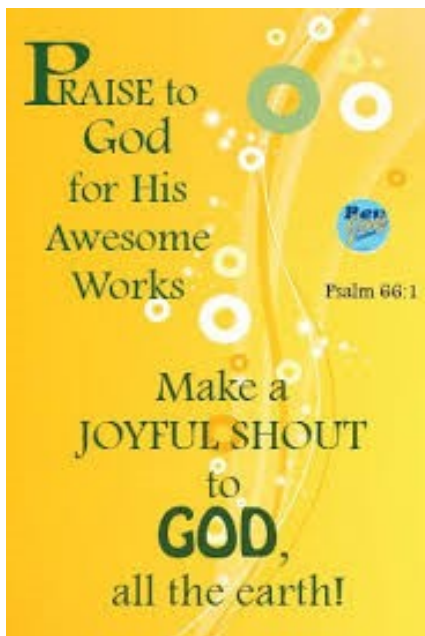
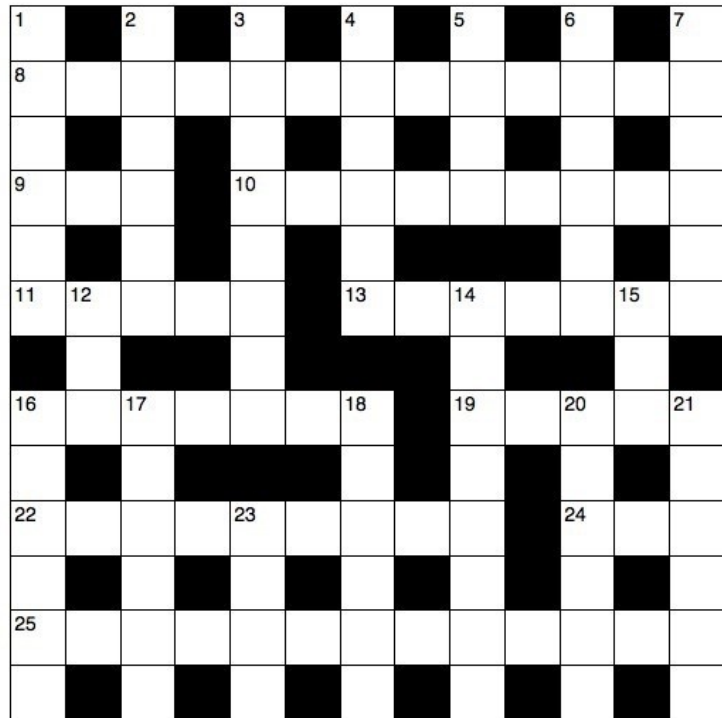
## Crossword Clues & Answers

### Across

- 8 Interrogated (Acts 12:19) (5-8)
- 9 'Burn it in a wood fire on the — heap' (Leviticus 4:12) (3)
- 10 Tobit, Judith, Baruch and the books of Esdras and the Maccabees are part of it (9)
- 11 Science fiction (abbrev.) (3-2)
- 13 Clay pit (anag.) (7)
- 16 Went to (John 4:46) (7)
- 19 'Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to — your bodies as living sacrifices' (Romans 12:1) (5)
- 22 David's plea to God concerning those referred to in 14 Down: 'On — — let them escape' (Psalm 56:7) (2,7)
- 24 Royal Automobile Club (1,1,1)
- 25 How the book of Ezekiel refers to God more than 200 times (Ezekiel 2:4) (9,4)

### Down

- 1 Seas (Proverbs 8:24) (6)
- 2 One of the sons of Eli the priest, killed in battle by the Philistines (1 Samuel 4:11) (6)
- 3 Specialist in the study of the Muslim religion (8)
- 4 'Do not rebuke an older man harshly, but — him as if he were your father' (1 Timothy 5:1) (6)
- 5 One of Esau's grandsons (Genesis 36:11) (4)
- 6 Taking a chance (colloq.) (2,4)
- 7 God's instructions to the Israelites concerning grain offerings: ' — salt to — your offerings' (Leviticus 2:13) (3,3)
- 12 Confederation of British Industry (1,1,1)
- 14 'All day long they twist my words; they are always — to harm me' (Psalm 56:5) (8)
- 15 The crowd's reaction to Jesus bringing back to life a widow's son in Nain (Luke 7:16) (3)
- 16 Disappear (Psalm 104:35) (6)
- 17 How Jeremiah was likely to die if he wasn't rescued from the cistern where he was imprisoned (Jeremiah 38:9) (8)
- 18 What the prophets do to a wall, with whitewash (Ezekiel 13:10, RSV) (4,2)
- 20 Made by a plough (Job 39:10) (6)
- 21 Noah was relieved when the flood waters continued to — (Genesis 8:5) (6)
- 23 Jesus gave the Twelve the power and authority to do this to diseases (Luke 9:1) (4)





In New Testament times 40 days old was an important age for a baby boy: it was when they made their first 'public appearance'. Mary, like all good Jewish mothers, went to the Temple with Jesus, her first male child - to 'present him to the Lord'. At the same time, she, as a new mother, was 'purified'. Thus we have the Festival of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple, 40 days after Christmas. Jesus is described in the Bible as the Light of the World, and so early Christians developed the tradition of lighting many candles in celebration of this day. The Church also fell into the custom of blessing the year's supply of candles for the church on this day - hence the name, Candlemas. The story can be found in Luke 2:22-40. Simeon's great declaration of faith and recognition of who Jesus was is of course found in the Nunc Dimittis, which is embedded in the Office of Evening Prayer in the West.

- |        |            |          |              |          |
|--------|------------|----------|--------------|----------|
| Forty  | Appearance | Jesus    | Presentation | Nunc     |
| Days   | Mary       | Purified | Light        | Dimittis |
| Baby   | Jewish     | Present  | World        | Office   |
| Boy    | Mothers    | Lord     | Candlemas    | Evening  |
| Public | Temple     | Festival | Simeon       | Prayer   |
|        |            |          |              | West     |

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

### Wordsearch

### Medium Level Sudoku

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

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# Puzzle Solutions

**ACROSS:**

8, Cross-examined. 9, Ash. 10, Apocrypha. 11, Sci-fi. 13, Typical. 16, Visited. 19, Offer. 22, No account. 24, RAC. 25, Sovereign Lord.

**DOWN:**

1, Oceans. 2, Hophni. 3, Islamist. 4, Exhort. 5, Omar. 6, On spec. 7, Add all. 12, CBI. 14, Plotting. 15, Awe. 16, Vanish. 17, Starve. 18, Daub it. 20, Furrow. 21, Recede. 23, Cure.

**Wordsearch solution**

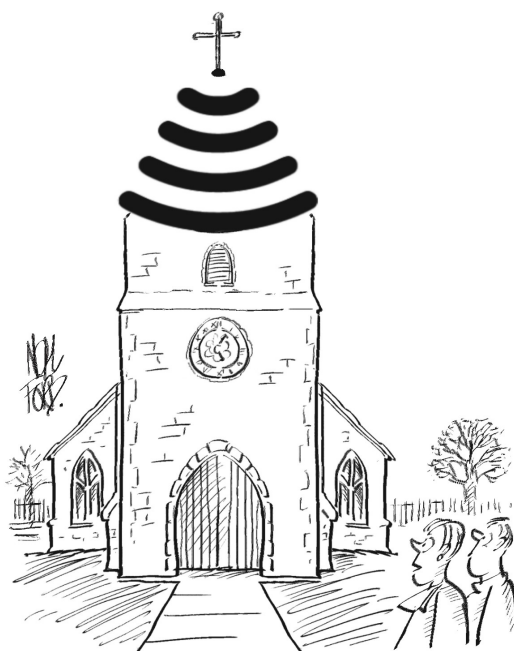


**Crossword solution**



**Medium Soduku solution**

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



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