Issue 55 - October 2021 FREE of charge - Please take a copy! The monthly publication for the Parish of Capel and Ockley

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"Do not measure success by today's harvest. Measure success by the seeds you plant today." Robert Louis Stevenson

Congratulations to Rev Liz on her tenth anniversary of joining us in Capel!

Capel Christmas Fair

A NEW CHARITY FAIRS ASSOCIATION FAIR ... Raising funds for Capel & Ockley Parish Churches and The Motor Neurone Disease Association



Come and join us on Saturday 20th November 2021 12 noon until 4.00 pm for the first Capel Christmas Fair in aid of two charities - our two Parish churches in Capel and Ockley, together with the Motor Neurone Disease Association (MNDA). Introducing a new 'go to' for your Christmas shopping inspiration and a chance to buy direct from small suppliers - many of them local to Surrey. Entrance: £3 to include a tea/coffee! Children go FREE!

We have lots of wonderful stalls and refreshments lined up for you ...

* Loungers clothing * Wicked London * Chilcott UK * Christmas decorations * Christmas puddings * * WI Desserts to take home * Sweets * Chukka Belts * Box o Sox * Annie with Alex bags * * MNDA Christmas cards * Image Thirst Photography with a special Fair offer! * Body Shop *

* Olka Craft cards * Tracey's Jewellery * Helen Moore's Fanx Fur accessories at Country Bride * * Olivia Rose Jewellery * Parkgate Pottery *

Together with some wonderful food and drink from local suppliers to enjoy on the day and take home

* Charlie Cha Teas * Silent Pool Distillery - will be offering mulled gin! * Dorking Brewery * * Martin King with Seasonal Ice creams and waffles! * Hill House Farm, based in Capel with a range of their burgers and sausages to eat at the Fair! * Libby's Larder of Capel with their cream and cream teas! * Surrey Hills café with a range of pastries and other snacks *

IMPORTANT

For latest updates on the Fair status and any current Government Covid-19 restrictions and guidelines, please do look at our website. Any important updates or changes will be posted there and on social media.

For more information on our new Fair, go to social media:

@capelchristmasfair () capelchristmasfair

Also: www.capelchristmasfair.co.uk

Organisers: Suzanne Cole & Debbie von Bergen info@capelchristmasfair.co.uk or call: 07774 784008 Debbie 07923 517202 Suzanne

Taking place at Capel's Parish & Memorial Halls, 55 The Street, Capel, Dorking, Surrey.

Postcode for Satnav: RH5 5LD Parking along the main street in Capel and signposted venues.

Please park respectfully for our residents and neighbours. Thank you!



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Harvest 2021

"Courage is fear that has said its prayers"

Anon

Don't want a paper copy ...

You can register to receive InSpire via email each month OR download individual issues! www.capelandockleychurch.org.uk/inspire-magazine

This issue is kindly sponsored by

David Silliman

Thank you David for your sponsorship and all that you do for our church.

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Rev Liz writes

Dear all,

I probably say this every year but I do love the Autumn! The changing colours, the trees and bushes just letting in that much more light as the leaves begin to fall. This year, in fact this month I will have been here in Capel as your vicar for ten years! Hard to believe as time has generally flown in this amazing role. I can recall how when we first moved into Capel we were struck by how dark the village was at night with very few street lights. A torch was a very necessary piece of equipment to guard us from falling down the ditch along the street having picked up fish and chips from the van at the village hall! We were warmly welcomed by you all and I could trade for quite a while on the fact that I was the 'new vicar'. I think I have earned my stripes now so sadly I cannot use that excuse anymore!



Serving in rural or semi-rural ministry is such a joy and it is lovely to be able to belong and be part of these communities. It is a huge privilege. It has also been so

interesting to watch many of the children grow up from 5 year olds to teens in one of the best parts of my job which is to be involved with our village school. Then of course there have been the wonderful (I think!) Vicarage Fetes in our back garden. A childhood dream come true! And what a garden it is. Norman and Margaret Greenwood have helped us to look after it for a number of years now. Without them it would be something of a jungle I fear. It has been so special to have welcomed everyone into this lovely garden and especially the children from our schools to entertain us with country dancing and musical performances. Great team work beforehand and on the day ensured that these 'fetes' arrived and left as if by magic!

And so, what a joy it is to have such beautiful ancient churches to worship and preside in. Both St John the Baptist and St Margaret's have stood the test of time with faithful worshippers and supporters over the year which continues to this day. However, I guess what we all fear is who will carry the baton on when numbers quite naturally will decline in the coming years? I have three years left in Capel and Ockley before age means I shall have to retire from full time ministry. How amazing would it be then, if by October 2024 we found those people who would carry on that baton?

These churches are here for all children, young people and adults of all ages. You have continued to welcome us in your lives over these last ten years. Let us continue in welcoming you too, by helping you discover the sacred in this ever-changing world. Perhaps you will be one of those who will help us build on the strength and faithfulness of the past? A past which has given life and solace to so many in our communities as they discovered the God who never changes but always meets us where we are.

With my love and prayers,

Revol Liz

Revd Liz Richardson <u>liz@hostmyserver.co.uk</u> 01306 711260 Vicar St John the Baptist Capel and St Margaret's Ockley

Thanking You for Your Service to Our Parish



Editor: As Liz celebrates her ten years with us, let us celebrate her service to our Parish with a couple of prayers. Thank you Liz!

Your holy service to the Lord touches so many hearts And inspires so many lives.

God bless you with peace and joy As you celebrate your anniversary with us and another year of faithful service in Christ.

In appreciation for all you have done in our Parish, May God continue to bless you for your faithful ministry.

CHURCH SERVICES AND EVENTS FOR THE PARISH OF CAPEL AND OCKLEY - OCTOBER 2021

OCTOBER			Pa
SUNDAY	3rd 9.30 am 10.30 am 2.30 pm 3-5 pm	TRINITY 18 Matins at St Margaret's Ockley Harvest Festival at St John's Capel Holy Baptism at St Margaret's Ockley Harvest Teas at St John's Capel	
SUNDAY	10th 9.30 am 10.30 am	TRINITY 19 Holy Communion CW at St Margaret's Ockley Cafe Church at The Crown Capel	
SUNDAY	17th 9.30 am 10.30 am	TRINITY 20 Matins at St Margaret's Ockley Songs of Praise at St John's Capel	
SUNDAY	24th 9.30 am 10.30 am 3-5 pm	TRINITY 21 Holy Communion BCP at St Margaret's Ockley Morning Worship at St John's Capel Capel Teas at St John the Baptist Capel	
SATURDAY	30th 10.30 am	ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CAPEL Memorial Service for Ian Rankin	
SUNDAY	31st 9.30 am 3.00 pm	ALL SAINTS AND ALL SOULS Parish joint service of Holy Communion CW at St Margaret's Ockley Service of Remembrance for the Bereaved at St John's Capel followed by Capel Teas	
<u>NOVEMBER</u> SUNDAY	7th 9.30am 10.30am	THIRD SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT Matins at St Margaret's Ockley Family Communion at St John's Capel	
SATURDAY	20th	First CAPEL CHRISTMAS FAIR in aid of our churches and MNDA	

12–4 Capel's Parish & Memorial Halls

Updated guidelines as agreed at PCC 26th July 2021 following the relaxation of legal restrictions

At both churches:

- We encourage all our congregations to wear masks during our services, if they can, and to maintain appropriate distance from each other
- Hand sanitiser will be available for use by the entrance door.
- Holy communion will for the moment continue in one kind only.

At Capel:

- We have designated the front pews for those who would like to sing during the service. These pews will have hymn books and kneelers available. Please leave the hymn books in the pew when you leave.
- Please continue to wear your masks when singing.
- The back pews are available for those who would prefer not to sing and maintain more social distance.
- One of the hymns will be designated as an offertory hymn. The bag will be passed round by the sidesperson but should not be handled by others.

At Ockley:

- We have taken the decision to have no congregational singing at present, this will be reviewed in September.
- Prayer books will be available, please leave them in the pews at the end of the service.
- The collection plate will be on the table at the back of the church for donations.

Please also note that St John's is open during the week and at weekends but St Margaret's is only open at weekends.



Your life is not about you; you are about life!

It occurred to me as I sat down to write this month's Café Church column for the local magazines that, for many people reading it, the concept of a relationship with God is either a mystery or even nonsensical! (If it were that obvious and attractive our church would be filled to overflowing very week - which it isn't!) So, I'm going to leave it to Franciscan priest and scholar, Richard Rohr, to give an insight into what this "God thing" is all about. It will only take a minute of your time to see what he has to say......

Before conversion, we tend to think that God is *out* there. After transformation, God is not out there and we don't look at reality. We look from reality. We're in the middle of it now; we're a part of it. This whole thing is what I call the mystery of participation. Paul (the writer of much of the New Testament) is obsessed by the idea that we're all already participating in something. I'm not writing the story by myself. I'm a character inside of a story that is being written in cooperation with God and the rest of humanity. This changes everything about how we see our lives. If we're writing the story on our own, we think we've got to write it right. We've got to be clever; we've got to figure it out. If anything goes wrong, we've only got ourselves to blame. That's a terrible way to live, even though a high degree of Christians do. And I would call that had news.

The good news is a completely different experience of life. A participatory theology says, "I am being used, I am actively being chosen, I am being led." It is not about joining a new denomination or having an ecstatic moment. After authentic conversion, you know that your life is not about you; you are about life! You're an instance in this agony and ecstasy of God that is already happening inside you, and all you can do is say yes to it. That's all. That's conversion and it changes everything.

(Richard Rohr's Daily Meditation - 5th Sept 2021.)

Café Church meets at The Crown, Capel on **Sunday 10th October at 10.30am** when **David Grant** will be leading the service.

Free coffee & croissants, a band, possibly some poetry, definitely lots of laughter and, hopefully, plenty to think about!

Could you sponsor an issue of InSpire in 2022?

Our thanks to all our Sponsors in 2021 for their generosity and support. This enables us to keep the magazine free of charge to the readers and limit costs for the church.

Sadly, it's already that time again and we are seeking Sponsors for 2022. If you are able to Gift Aid your donation, the approximate cost is £66-£70 currently. However, we are beginning to do larger print runs as more copies are being taken which is great!

If you have any questions, please speak to:

Debbie von Bergen or Suzanne.

(contact details at the front of this issue in the 'Contacts' box).

<u> TANANANANANANANANANANANA</u>

Thank you!

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Bob Cranham

Miscellaneous observations on Christian life

Plan ahead -- It wasn't raining when Noah built the ark. - Anon

Though the Lord is out of sight, we are not out of His. - *M Henry*

We may ignore, but we cannot evade, the presence of God. The world is crowded with Him. - *C S Lewis*

Man does what he can, and God what He will. - John Ray

The gospel is good news. But Jesus never said it was easy news. - Charles Colson

History is a story written by the finger of God. - C S Lewis

Whatever we part with for God's sake shall be made up to us in kind or kindness. - *Matthew Henry*

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PARAPROSDOKIANS...

(Winston Churchill loved them) are figures of speech in which the latter part of a sentence or phrase is surprising or unexpected; frequently humorous.

Could you invent one? Please send your entry to the magazine editor and we will feature it in a future issue!

- 1. Where there's a will, I want to be in it.
- 2. The last thing I want to do is hurt you, but it's still on my list.
- 3. Since light travels faster than sound, some people appear bright until you hear them speak.
- 4. If I agreed with you, we'd both be wrong.
- 5. We never really grow up; we only learn how to act in public.
- 6. War does not determine who is right only who is left.
- 7. They begin the evening news with 'Good Evening,' then proceed to tell you why it isn't.
- 8. To steal ideas from one person is plagiarism. To steal from many is research.
- 9. Buses stop in bus stations. Trains stop in train stations. On my desk is a work station.
- 10. I thought I wanted a career. Turns out I just wanted the pay cheques.



After his induction, Harry met the leaders of the other denominations

FROM THE REGISTERS Capel and Ockley



Holy Baptism

We welcome into the family of the Church

Hector George Montagu Everill 19th September 2021 St Margaret's Ockley

Holy Matrimony

We celebrate the marriage of

Thomas James Henry Davey and Gabriella Alice May Robinson on 12th September 2021 St Margaret's Church Ockley

and

Michael Anthony Jay and Corinne Aisha Wood on 18th September 2021 St John the Baptist Capel

In Memoriam

We mourn the loss of

David Howard 4th July 2021

Mary Teresa Clement 12th July 2021

> Michael George 8th August 2021

NEWS from the Pews



Church Mailing List

Do you know of anyone who would like to be added to the Church mailing list? This would ensure they received the weekly notice sheets and readings, amongst other things.

If so, please get in touch with Debbie von Bergen:debbievonbergen@icloud.com

We must have their permission before adding them to the list. Thank you.

STAMPS AND OLD PRINTER CARTRIDGES

Don't forget that you can drop off your used printer cartridges in the box in the church porch at Capel. These are sent to a recycling firm who give a small amount towards our church funds.

Also, don't forget to keep bringing your used stamps to church - again a box is in the porch at Capel. Thank you

SAFEGUARDING NOTICE

'The care and protection of children, young people and adults involved in Church activities is the responsibility of everyone who participates in the life of the church. If you are concerned that someone you know is at risk of, or is being abused, or presents a risk to others, please seek advice from a Safeguarding Adviser or if necessary report the matter to the Local Authority Social Care Services or the Police without delay.'

If you have any concerns contact our Safeguarding Officer Leigh Smith 07732825908 <u>leighdesouza@yahoo.com</u> or Revd Liz Richardson 01306 711260 liz@hostmyserver.co.uk

This notice will appear each month in InSpire and the contact details for our Safeguarding Offier and the Diocescan Safeguarding Advisor Jackie Broadfoot will be published in our weekly pew sheets as well as in the Church Contacts section in each issue of Inspire.



PRAYER DIARY

OCTOBER 2021

Compiled by Belinda Kerry

'He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart.' Psalm 91:4

HARVEST continued from last month FRIDAY 1st

Almighty God, for the promise of harvest contained within a seed, we thank You. For the bread within a grain, for the apple within a pip, we thank You, God of Seed and Harvest. And we pray that the love that created this world might be expressed through our lives and be a blessing to others.

SATURDAY 2nd

Dear Lord, as we celebrate this season, we give thanks for the provisions of food and nourishment. Come sow a seed of hope within our souls we pray, that we might yield goodness, patience and kindness in abundance.

SUNDAY 3rd

Loving Father, at this harvest time we thank You for all the good things You give us. As we thank You for our food, we remember all those who do not have enough for even one proper meal each day.

ANXIETY

'Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.' 1 Peter 5:7

MONDAY 4th

Dear God, help us to appreciate and enjoy today without fretting. With You all things are possible and when we find it hard to banish the stranglehold of anxiety by ourselves, help us to free our hearts and minds and turn to focus on You instead.

TUESDAY 5th

God of Wisdom, You know our every thought. Nothing is hidden from You. When we are tested with the challenges of life, You see the anxious thoughts that consume us. Help us to overcome the anxiety that controls us and that keeps us from enjoying life and from worshipping You as we should.

WEDNESDAY 6th

Merciful Father, thank You for the many blessings in our lives and for Your constant love. You are the One True God, worthy of eternal praise. You are beside us through these anxious times. We pray for those who are currently struggling with anxiety today and ask You to bring them Your comfort and Your peace.

THURSDAY 7th

God of Truth, You sent Your Apostles into the world without food, clothing or shelter, and they trusted You. We pray to have that same trust. Help us to stop worrying about having enough. Help us to realise that earthly possessions may distract us from following You.

FRIDAY 8th

God of Love, You will not forsake us and You will always provide. Help us to trust in Your goodness so that we can focus on following Your will. Help us to focus on loving others, to shine Your light for those around us and to live as an example of Your amazing grace and love.

SATURDAY 9th

God of Power, You have given us such beautiful examples in nature of the way You provide for Your creation. Help us to learn by the examples You've put in front of us and when we let anxiety take hold, remind us that You provide for the wildflowers and the birds and that we should not doubt that You will provide for us.

SUNDAY 10th

God of Hope, hear the cry of those praying for the easing of their anxieties. May they feel the peace that the Holy Spirit provides. May they feel Your love surrounding them. Give them hope and ease the anxiety that is gripping their mind. Give them the strength to leave the anxiety at Your feet so they are able to live their life according to Your Holy will.

GOD'S GLORY

"For I consider the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us." –Romans 8:18

MONDAY 11th

Loving Father, we pray that Your glory will be revealed to us and in us. We pray that we may experience Your glory and when we pray may miracles, signs and wonders occur in the Church and in our own personal lives.

TUESDAY 12th

Lord, thank You that Your glory appeared in the upper room on the Day of Pentecost, and sat on the head of each person there. When we pray together in the Spirit, we pray for Your glory to be revealed to us too so that we may be obedient to Your word.

WEDNESDAY 13th

Servant God, thank You for giving us the ability to manifest Your glory here on earth. Help us to believe when we pray. May we remember that Jesus told Martha that if she would believe, she would see the glory of God.

THURSDAY 14th

Father God, we pray that we will come to know the hope of Your calling, which is the hope of Your glory. We pray that we will understand the riches of Your glory and to understand what it means to walk in Your glory.

FRIDAY 15th Loving Father, help us to prepare our spirit to receive Your glory. Take away strife, worry and division and help us to increase the love in our hearts so that Your glory will increase in us as our love increases.

SATURDAY 16th

Father God, Your glory looks for a dwelling place and the Holy Spirit builds a temple in every believer. We thank You for the promise that we are Your temple from where we can proclaim the Good News to all who listen.

SUNDAY 17th

Loving Father, we pray to know and understand Your glory. We pray for Your glory to be in us and for us to walk in Your glory. May we honour and welcome others for Your glory as You have welcomed us and as we eat, drink and go about our daily lives, may we glorify You for all things.

TRUST

'Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding' Proverbs 3:5

MONDAY 18th

Dear Lord, teach us to trust in You and to be patient. If our faith is struggling and we feel far from You, help us to find strength and encouragement from Your promise to 'soar on wings like angels', to 'run and not grow weary' and to 'walk and not be faint.' **TUESDAY 19th**

Merciful Father, help us to be people who stand firm and trust in You wholeheartedly. Help us to be unshakable and resilient by depending on You and trusting You. We pray for You to develop that deeper trust in us.

WEDNESDAY 20th

Lord our Provider, help us to do what the Bible says, to cast all our burdens on You and to let You be our full sufficiency. In times of trouble, help us to trust You with our whole heart and not lean on our own understanding, or rely on ourselves.

THURSDAY 21st

Dear Lord, You are the God of peace and love in Whom we place our trust. Give us a peaceful heart that rests in You and a loving spirit that pours fourth Your love to others.

FRIDAY 22nd

Loving Father, You are the God of hope and joy in Whom we stand secure. Give us a spirit of devotion that worships only You so that we may be a worthy witness that points to Jesus, for in Him is all peace, comfort, rest, hope, joy and love. Lord, we place our trust in You.

SATURDAY 23rd

Saviour God, in Your Word we are upheld and in Your arms we find safety and protection. When the world seems to press into our lives harder than we can bear, we know we are never holding on alone. You remind us to be strong and courageous, to rely on You for strength, and not to fear.

SUNDAY 24th

Heavenly Father, we thank You for Your strength. You are all powerful, all knowing, all present. When we face changes in our lives, we pray that You would always be two steps ahead, preparing the way, showing us the doors that are open. We pray that You would be always near.

MENTAL HEALTH

'I remember my affliction and my wandering, the bitterness and the gall....Yet this I call to mind and therefore I have hope: because of the Lord's great love, we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail.' Lamentations 3:19, 21-22

MONDAY 25th

Tender God, Your gentle and kind-hearted love waits for us in the darkness and shields us from the light when it feels too overwhelming. We remember today all those who live in the depths of depression. Continue to cherish us all when we find it so difficult to cherish ourselves.

TUESDAY 26th

Dear Lord, for those whose lives are strained and stressed and whose hold on life is fragile, hear our prayer and pour out Your peace. For those whose families struggle to understand them, hear our prayer and pour out Your peace.

WEDNESDAY 27th

Loving Father, we pray for families and friends, nurses, doctors and therapists and all who seek to walk alongside the stressed and strained, the vulnerable and the fragile. Grant them patience and courage, we pray.

THURSDAY 28th

Almighty and Forgiving God, if we have judged those who struggle with mental illness, we have judged because we do not understand. Forgive us for making assumptions and forgive us for our impatience and indifference.

FRIDAY 29th

Dear Lord, comfort and relieve those who are troubled in mind and spirit. Bring them hope, peace and the consolation of a loving community. Protect and defend those living with mental illness from exploitation, addictions and abuse.

SATURDAY 30th

Precious Saviour, help us to identify mental illness as the disease it is, that we might have courage and wisdom in the face of ignorance and stigma. Inspire us as we seek to overcome fear, acquire knowledge, and advocate for compassionate and enlightened treatment and services.

SUNDAY 31st

Gracious Lord, You are always near to us, especially when we are weak, suffering and vulnerable. Reach out to those who experience mental illness. We pray especially for young people who are suffering at this difficult time. Lift their burdens, calm their anxiety, and quiet their fears. Surround them with Your healing presence that they may know that they are not alone.



New network launched to support ordinands from minority ethnic backgrounds Page 12

An independent network for people training for ordained ministry in the Church of England who are from minority ethnic backgrounds has been launched.

The UKME (UK Minority Ethnic) Ordinands and Curates group hopes to meet every three months to provide a voice and support for a growing number of UKME ordinands and curates.

The group has been set up by former junior doctor Angela Sheard, who is training at Queen's Foundation theological education institution in Birmingham and former biomedical scientist Tariro Matsveru, who was ordained in June and is now a curate in King's Heath, Birmingham.

Revd Tariro, who was born in Zimbabwe and trained at Cranmer Hall in Durham, said: "We want to encourage and support the vocations of ordinands and curates of UKME/Global Majority Heritage in the Church of England within dioceses and theological colleges."

The group has been set up as the proportion of people from UKME backgrounds starting training for ordained ministry in the Church of England rose last year to 10.9%. A total of 8.9% of stipendiary clergy ordained last year were from a UKME background. This compares to 4.1% of the current pool of stipendiary clergy.

In a pre-recorded message, The Bishop of Dover, Rose Hudson-Wilkin, welcomed the launch of the group. "I am encouraged by the number of us who are knocking on the door, but sometimes we have to push the door. We are not guests to be welcomed, we belong, it is our church and we are here to stay."

New Chair for Christian Aid

The Rt Revd & Rt Hon Dr John Sentamu, the former Archbishop of York, will be the next Chair of the board of international development agency Christian Aid.

Dr Sentamu – who has been outspoken on issues of poverty and justice in the UK and globally for many years served as the Archbishop of York from 2005 until 2020. He was created by Her Majesty the Queen, Baron of Lindisfarne in the County of Northumberland and Masooli in the Republic of Uganda. He is a member of the UK Parliament, in the House of Lords.

Born in Kampala, Uganda, Dr Sentamu will be the first person of African descent to take up the position of Chair in Christian Aid's 75-year history.

Dr Rowan Williams, former Archbishop of Canterbury and current Chair, will stand down at Christian Aid's Annual General Meeting (AGM) in November, having served two full terms of office.

Announcing the appointment today, Christian Aid's CEO Amanda Khozi Mukwashi said: "This is wonderful news for Christian Aid. Dr Sentamu brings with him a passion and energy for global justice, a deep love of the Church and a profound theological understanding that will be able to speak into the crises of climate change, Covid, conflict and debt that are affecting the world's poorest communities. We look forward to welcoming him to the Christian Aid family."

Please help victims of Haiti's earthquake

The Methodist Church in Britain and All We Can have launched a joint appeal in response to the powerful earthquake that recently struck Haiti's Southern Peninsula.

More than 2,000 people were crushed to death in the terrible quake. Thousands more are destitute, their homes destroyed.

"As the Methodist Church in Britain and All We Can stand together to bring hope, we invite you to stand with those affected in Haiti," says the appeal. If you can help, please go to: <u>www.allwecan.org.uk/haiti</u>



All above articles ©Parish Pump

Letter from the Editor

Dear Readers,

We find ourselves moving from Summer into Autumn and as I write, the temperature has gone down considerably after the storms last evening. I know this month sees Rev Liz celebrate her birthday (Happy Birthday Liz from us all!) and as she mentions in her letter, it is ten years since her Licensing in St John the Baptist. We join together to thank Liz for her ministry and friendship to us all and pray that God will bless her future years with us.

Debbie and I are getting busier and busier as we approach the first Capel Christmas Fair! Suddenly, it's all hands on deck as we move towards the final preparations. We very much hope that this will be a superb fundraiser and a great day out for those attending. Our sincere thanks to those who have already offered help - we do appreciate it! Please see page 21 for further details of help we would welcome. If you haven't already put it in your diary, please do and help us make this very first Capel Christmas Fair a success!

We have all the regular items and features, together with lots more! See details of October's Café church on 10th October on page 6 **"Your life is not about you; you are about life!".** My thanks to Peter Bradley for his article **'Never say never again'** on page 14 on once more becoming a Churchwarden! On the same page there is an amusing article on why being a Christian can be **'Like a Pumpkin'**! In the News on page 15, there are articles on the **'Persecution of Christians set to rise in Afghanistan'** and **'Wake up world!' – Bishop calls for action after climate report.** Both are pertinent articles at the moment. Also my thanks to Stuart for his article on **Anthony Ashley-Cooper, the 7th Earl of Shaftesbury**, also known as the 'Poor Man's Earl' on page 23. Just like William Wilberforce, he dedicated his life to social reform and sought to change much of the injustice in Victorian society.

On 24th October, we mark **'Bible Sunday'** and there is more information on page 25. "This special Sunday in the church's calendar is an opportunity to stop and consider the enormous blessing that the Bible has brought to people down the centuries. Without it, we would know nothing about God our Father, Jesus Christ, or the Holy Spirit. It is God-breathed – full of His love and guidance to us. World history would have been radically different without it." The Revd Michael Burgess continues his series on **God in the Arts** on page 27 with a wood engraving of The Feast of Tabernacles, one of several 'Illustrations of Jewish Customs' by Simeon Solomon.

Stuart and I are going to take our **Traidcraft** stock to church on **Sunday 3rd October to Capel and Sunday 31st October to the joint parish service in Ockley**. We have a basic stock and are hoping to have the new Autumn/Winter catalogue available for you by then! If anyone would like anything specific ordered in the meantime, please do let us know!

I always love the cartoons that are available for me to use from Parish Pump and I particularly like the one below! I can't say whether or not our lovely Vicar would do this, but I can say for certain that if the local church magazine editor had turned up she would almost certainly have done this! (I am not referring to Corinne who edits the village magazine but your very own editor who has a penchant for all things chocolate ...!)

We have much to celebrate in church this month with Rev Liz's birthday and anniversary of her Licensing in Capel, together with our Harvest festival this weekend. I look forward to seeing many of you in church this month!

With my very best wishes,

Suzanne editor@capelandockleychurch.org.uk



"But, Mum, if the vicar wasn't coming here Trick-Or-Treating, why did she still take the chocolates I gave her?"

Page 14

Never say never again! By Peter Bradley

Many of you in Capel will remember me for being heavily involved in village life, in particular many years serving the church as Treasurer and for 6 years up to when I left the village as Churchwarden. I was also a school governor for 12 years and indeed Chair for 4 years. I also have vivid and happy memories organising several village fetes and being an active participant in the Capel Mens group. So, you may think that on leaving for pastures new in Mannings Heath (some 8 years ago now) that maybe I deserved a quieter life; yes, I had done my bit!

However, I soon found out that the church In Nuthurst and Mannings Heath was not running smoothly. Having served one 4 year term on the PCC I realised that there were many long running divisions and that the incumbent of the day had his own personal agenda which was not helping to bring people together. Since his departure some 3 years ago things did not take a turn for the better and finally the Diocese stepped in and asked the remaining Churchwarden and PCC members to stand down. A few of us parishioners however stepped up to the plate to try and keep services running and of course attend to the continuing maintenance issues. These efforts persuaded the Diocese that we could proceed with re-electing new Churchwardens and a PCC in April this year.

During the months that proceeded that APCM I was approached several times to stand as Churchwarden and my standard reply was that I had promised myself "never again". However as time passed I realised the need was greater than my strong reservations and I was persuaded eventually by the line that as a relative newcomer I was not tainted by any of the past troubles and divisions. I could maybe make a difference. So here I am once again Churchwarden and with no fresh incumbent in sight or likely in the next 12 months I am dealing with many new issues not faced before in Capel such as how to deal with requests to reserve graves.

One thing I have quickly learnt was how blessed I was serving in Capel all those years, what pleasure it gave me and continues to give me when I still attend services there from time to time. I continue to pray that in years to come I may see church life return to some form of normality here in Mannings Heath. Will I regret breaking my "never again" rule?

Like a pumpkin

A lady had recently become a Christian and been baptised. Curious, one of her colleagues at work asked her what it was like to be a Christian.

The lady was caught off guard and didn't know how to answer. Then she saw the office 'jack-o'-lantern' on a nearby desk and blurted: "Well, it's like being a pumpkin."



Her colleague asked her to explain that one. So she said: "Well, God picks you up out of the patch and brings you in and washes off all the dirt on the outside that you got from being around all the other pumpkins.

"Then He cuts off the top and takes all the yucky stuff out from inside you. He removes all those seeds of doubt, hate, greed, etc. Then He carves you a new smiling face and puts His light inside of you to shine for all to see.

"It is our choice to either stay outside and rot on the vine, or come inside and be something new and bright."

Are you something new and bright? Will you be smiling today, and shining with His light?



Persecution of Christians set to rise in Afghanistan

As the Taliban tighten their grip on Afghanistan, Release International has warned that attacks on Christians are likely to rise across the region.

One church leader in Afghanistan said Christians were living in great fear. Some who worked for the government now face reprisals, and any identified as Christians could be killed. Christians risk betrayal, even from their own family members.

A Christian contact of one Release International partner describes the situation as 'dire.' Says 'Micah': "Our brothers and sisters in Christ are telling us how afraid they are. In the areas that the Taliban now control girls are not allowed to go to school and women are not allowed to leave their homes without a male companion."

The church in Afghanistan already faced sharp persecution, even before the Taliban advance. That church is invisible and must operate underground in this land where Muslims who change their faith are breaking the law and considered to have betrayed their communities.

To be exposed as a Christian is to risk being charged with apostasy, which is punishable by death or imprisonment. There have also been honour killings of Christians by their families.

One of the communities worst affected by the Taliban is the Shia Hazara minority, which has been especially responsive to the Christian message.

In May 2021, the Taliban bombed the Sayed Ul-Shuhada High School in Kabul, killing at least 85, mainly schoolgirls. The previous year the Taliban staged a shooting at a maternity clinic, killing women, children, and babies.

It was the Pakistan Taliban who shot 15-year-old Malala Yousafzai for going to school and telling the world about it in a blog.

Thousands of Afghans, including Christians, are now seeking refuge in neighbouring Pakistan. But the Taliban are growing in influence there, too. Before the Afghan president fled, he accused Pakistan of permitting thousands of jihadi fighters to cross its border to support the Taliban.

Through its international network of missions, Release International is active in some 25 countries around the world, supporting pastors, Christian prisoners and their families.

'Wake up world!' - Bishop calls for action after climate report

The Bishop of Norwich, Graham Usher, has called for immediate action on climate change, following the publication of the major UN scientific report.

He said: "The message of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's Sixth Assessment Report is loud and clear: 'Wake up world!'

"It is time to stop playing political games and take action now. We are already seeing the effects of the climate emergency around the world - and it is the world's economically poorest people who are already suffering the most.

"So it is our moral duty, and a Christian calling to do all we can to try to turn the tide. At COP26 there will be an opportunity to act, our leaders must seize this moment and deliver real and impactful change for the future of God's creation.

"We don't have a spare Earth."

Time to reclaim the sabbath, says new report

Editor: By the Revd Peter Crumpler, a Church of England priest in St Albans, Herts, and a former communications director for the C of E. This article considers an issue facing most of us every day of the week.

Home working, zero hours contracts, the switch to home deliveries and online retailing, and an 'always on' culture - the world of work is changing fast and massively, and the Covid pandemic has accelerated the upheaval.

Now faith-based think tank Theos has come up with key proposals aimed at helping modern-day workers survive and thrive despite both the current changes – and the major challenges coming down the track. One proposal suggests 'recovering the sabbath.'

In a new report, 'Just Work: humanising the labour market in a changing world', Theos identifies three 'great disruptions' facing the world of work. They highlight: the technological - Artificial Intelligence, machine learning, and automation; the ecological - climate change and loss of biodiversity; and human vulnerability, as seen through the pandemic, mass migration and declining birth rates.

Paul Bickley, one of the report's authors, explains: "The issue is not work itself, but rather what happens when we make *work*, rather than *the people who do it*, our focus. We are disconnected from a healthy sense of work, and severing the needed boundaries between work and rest has set us adrift. The biblical idea of Sabbath is an ancient answer to modern anxieties. It's time to rediscover it."

During the pandemic, increasing numbers of people have shifted to working from home, from in-person shopping to ordering online, having take-aways delivered, and watching streaming services instead of going to the cinema.

But people working from home or in the 'gig economy' delivering food or online orders, have discovered they are being watched - and watched closely. Software fitted to home computers or installed in vehicles is monitoring when and how people are working. The move to home working has meant an increased erosion of defined working hours, with 'the boss' able to make demands round-the-clock.

In response, Theos makes three key proposals:

1. First, a focus on a full work, rather than full employment economy.

Paid employment is the main – but not the only – form of work, and unpaid labour, such as caring responsibilities and volunteer work, need greater esteem and focus from a policy perspective.

2. Recognition of the human person as central to any healthy understanding of work.

Investors, and first and foremost church investors, have achieved tangible changes through activism in areas such as climate change and governance. They should add clear requirements on the fair handling of wages, benefits, agency work, outsourcing and employee surveillance to the social criteria they look at within environmental, social and governance investing.

3. Recovery of shared practices of rest to counter our culture of overwork.

Dissolving boundaries between our employment and our leisure – exacerbated during the pandemic – have negatively affected many workers. Overwork is literally killing people. For many, a combination of technology and the pandemic have broken the link between work and particular places and times – leading to an expectation, even if it is only an expectation of ourselves, that we will always be available.



31st October: All Hallows Eve - or Holy Evening

Modern Halloween celebrations have their roots with the Celtic peoples of pre-Christian times.

In those long-ago days, on the last night of October, the Celts celebrated the Festival of Samhain, or 'Summer's End'. The priests, or Druids, performed ceremonies to thank and honour the sun. For there was a very dark side to all this: Samhain also signalled the onset of winter, a time when it was feared that unfriendly ghosts, nature-spirits, and witches roamed the earth, creating mischief. So the Druid priests lit great bonfires and performed magic rites to ward off or appease these dark supernatural powers.

Then the Romans arrived, and brought their Harvest Festival which honoured the Goddess Pomona with gifts of apples and nuts. The two festivals slowly merged.

When Christianity arrived still later, it began to replace the Roman and Druid religions. 1st November - All Saints' Day - was dedicated to all Christian Martyrs and Saints who had died. It was called 'All Hallows' Day'. The evening before became an evening of prayer and preparation and was called 'All Hallows' Eve', The Holy Evening, later shortened to 'Halloween'.

For many centuries, however, fear of the supernatural remained strong. During the Middle Ages, animal costumes and frightening masks were worn to ward off the evil spirits of darkness on Halloween. Magic words and charms were used to keep away bad luck, and everybody believed that witches ride about on broomsticks. Fortune telling was popular, and predicting the future by the use of nuts and apples was so popular that Halloween is still sometimes known as Nutcrack Night or Snap-Apple Night.

Today, Christians have learned to turn to prayer instead of charms to overcome the powers of darkness. And the deeper, true meaning of All Hallows' Eve, should not be forgotten. As Christians, we all draw closer to Christ when we remember and give thanks for our loved ones and for others who have gone before us through the gates of death.



Items for Reflection

Editor: Canon Paul Hardingham considers Jesus' encouragement to pray.

The Friend at Midnight

This month we are looking at the Parable of the Friend at Midnight (Luke 11:5-8). It is found in a passage where Jesus is teaching His disciples to pray.

Pray Shamelessly:

The parable concerns a man coming to his friend at midnight and asking '*Friend, lend me three loaves, for a friend of mine has arrived on a journey, and I have nothing to set before him*' (5-6). Despite the hour, the rules of hospitality would mean this was not an unreasonable request.

But the friend refuses to help because everyone in his house is asleep. Jesus adds, 'though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, yet because of the man's boldness he will rise and give him whatever he needs'. Jesus uses this parable to encourage us to come in shameless boldness to our heavenly Father with our needs. In contrast to the parable, God is not slow in responding to us. It's not God who is reluctant to answer, but we to ask. Do we pray with shameless boldness?

Pray Persistently:

Such confidence is the basis for persistent prayer: '*Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.*' All three verbs indicate a continual habit: '*Keep on asking...seeking...knocking*'. We will not be content simply to ask once and then move on. Jesus tells us to bring our prayers to God persistently. Do we give up too easily in prayer?

Pray Expectantly:

'For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened.' Do we pray expectantly, believing that God delights in answering your prayers? Why not begin this adventure of prayer today!

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Christian Aid's emergency appeal for Haiti

Following the devastating earthquake that hit Haiti in August, Christian Aid has launched an emergency appeal to help people that have been affected.

The nation - which is still recovering from the 2010 earthquake that killed 300,000 people and Hurricane Matthew in 2016, and more recently dealing with Covid and the aftermath of the assassination of its president – has now been struck another blow.

Figures of those killed or impacted are still uncertain. Houses have been destroyed, roads are cut off due to landslides, power lines and communications have been damaged. People have lost their homes, belongings and means to make a living.

People will need emergency shelter, food, drinking water, access to healthcare and protection assistance, but in the long-term they will need housing, livelihood and psychological support.

Marc Pascal Desmornes, Regional Programme Manager for Christian Aid in Haiti said: "We see families moving to wherever they can to stay safe with nothing but the clothes on their backs. Swaths of Haitians are facing growing hunger and healthcare services are already overwhelmed by Covid-19."





Help!

Debbie and I are working hard to put this new fundraising Fair together and suddenly it's only a matter of weeks' away! Please rest assured that we will follow any Government advice regarding Covid-19 at the time as we try to keep everyone attending safe including those who kindly help us!

We are currently looking for the following:-

HELPERS ON THE DAY! Could you spare an hour to help at the Fair? We will need help on the front desk and raffle, directing traffic and helping set up and dismantle the Fair. We are able to start on the Friday so will begin preparations then.

RAFFLE PRIZES We are particularly after experiences if possible such as a meal at a pub, a round of golf or something similar. Do you know anyone that could help with such prizes? Alternatively, we are aiming to make up a couple of Hampers, so any items that could go in those would be VERY welcome!

PRE-LIT CHRISTMAS TREES We are really wanting to create a Festive atmosphere with several Christmas trees. Does anyone have a pre-lit one that we can borrow? It would mean less cables across floors etc and make life a little easier!

CHOCOLATE STALL We have been unable to source a stall selling chocolate and if anyone knows someone that does artisan/handmade chocolate, please do ask them to get in touch with us? Thank you.

This is a first time Fair and we really want it go smoothly and build a reputation as a place to go to start your Christmas shopping ... but we can't do it alone so your help would be gratefully received! We've had a tough year with Covid and non-attendance at church due to restrictions has meant that giving is down significantly. This Fair is raising money for our two Parish churches as well as the Motor Neurone Disease Association.

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Thank you! Suzanne Cole & Debbie von Bergen www.capelchristmasfair.co.uk Page 20
Editor: Here are some more real-life extracts from church bulletins and notices that didn't come out quite in the way intended!
The church will host an evening of fine dining, superb entertainment, and gracious hostility.
Harvest Supper Friday at 6pm. Prayer and medication to follow.
The Men's group will meet at 6pm. Steak, mashed potatoes, green beans, wine and dessert will be served for a nominal feel.
Jumble sale: The ladies of our church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.
Low Self Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7pm. Please use the back door.
For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.
At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be 'What is Hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practice.
© Parish Pump

70 Years of Zebra Crossings

Editor: by Tim Lenton

Zebra crossings - saving lives for 70 years

Seventy years ago, on 31st October 1951, zebra crossings were introduced officially in the UK. The first one was in Slough, Berkshire.

The crossings had been trialled over two years at 1000 experimental sites, but in 1951 the black and white striped pedestrian crossings were approved, with their flashing Belisha beacons, and all drivers were required by law to stop as soon as a pedestrian set foot on them.

The crossings were the brainchild of Yorkshireman and traffic engineer George 'Dr Zebra' Charlesworth, a physicist who had worked on the Barnes Wallis-designed bouncing bomb during the war. His zebra crossings were certainly responsible for saving many lives.

The Belisha beacons, an integral part of the crossing but used since 1934, were introduced by Leslie Hore-Belisha, who served as Minister of Transport at the time.

Zebra crossings were adopted throughout the world, from continental Europe to North America, Singapore and Australia. They have now been superseded to some extent in the UK by pelican crossings, which are controlled by lights. These were introduced in 1969. While zebras were named because of their appearance, a pelican crossing (originally pelicon) is so named as a contraction of the phrase 'pedestrian light controlled'.

Anthony Ashley-Cooper - 7th Earl of Shaftesbury by Stuart Cole

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Editor's note: Anthony Ashley-Cooper is honoured on 1st October each year with a Saint's Day dedicated to him. He was the 7th Earl of Shaftesbury - also known as 'the Poor Man's Earl'

In the centre of Piccadilly Circus there is a memorial to one of the greatest Christians of the Victorian age. It is in memory of Anthony Ashley-Cooper the 'best man of the age' who 'lived for the oppressed' and was 'a moral anchor in a drifting generation'. The statue is known as Eros, but it is actually a statue of Eros's brother Anteros, the god of selfless love.

Lord Shaftesbury was born in London in April 1801. He came from an extremely well connected family with his father being the 6th Earl and his mother the daughter of the Duke of Marlborough. Their country seat was at St Giles in Dorset from where he was sent to boarding school at the age of seven and later to Harrow and Christ Church Oxford where he studied classics. At the age of 29 he married Lady Emily Cowper, who's stepfather was to become Lord Palmerston a future Prime Minister. They had ten children.

He was elected an MP for Woodstock (not much of an election as Woodstock was a 'pocket' constituency controlled by his family) at the age of 25 although later represented both Dorchester and Bath. Despite not having to do anything to retain his position, he relentlessly fought to make major improvements to the injustice in Victorian society. He was particularly interested in mental illness, the treatment of factory workers, employment in the mines and the housing.

Rather than accept the opportunity to hold office he preferred



to use his connections and influence to bring about change. His first major campaign was for the care of the mentally ill. At the time they were housed in degrading conditions, often chained and poorly fed in lunatic asylums where they were treated as outcasts. He became chairman of the Lunacy Commissioners and by 1845 had changed the law for them to be treated as being ill rather than sub human.

Soon after entering parliament he read a report on child labour in factories that left him 'astonished and disgusted'. Within a short time he was leading a movement to reform the working hours of women and children in factories and textile mills and these were eventually cut to 10 hours per day in 1847. This was despite strong opposition from other MPs who accused him of ignorance on the subject. Despite changing the law he found that in 1863 children as young as four were still working in factories illegally from 6am to 10pm. He likewise brought about changes in mines and collieries by helping set up the Children's Employment Commission in 1840. He introduced an Act in 1842 which banned all women and children under 10 from working underground. Probably the most famous change he made was to chimney sweeps where he managed to ban climbing boys being sent up chimneys in 1875. All these were achieved without government support.

In the mid 1840 he had a short time outside parliament and this time he spent researching housing and schooling. He was the chairman of the Ragged Schools Union which aimed to provide free schooling to working class and destitute children and helped well over a quarter of a million. For him schooling was also linked to housing and the poor state of lodging houses. In 1851 he succeeded in the licensing and inspection of lodgings, something that Charles Dickens said was 'the best piece of legislation that ever proceeded from the English parliament'. At the same time he set up a sanitary commission for the Crimean War which helped save soldiers lives and he also sought government support for cheaper housing. There were others pursuing similar reforms such as George Peabody who pioneered social housing in London and Lord Shaftesbury laid the foundation stones for many of Peabody's public buildings in what is known as the Shaftesbury Estate in Battersea.

Shaftesbury believed that God had called him to labour among the poor. He was president of the Bible Society for more than 30 years, supported the Young Men's Christian Association and Christian missionaries. He was also an early supporter of the movement to establish a homeland for Jewish people in Palestine. He died at the age of 84 and thousands of the poor turned out to see his coffin on his way to be buried in Westminster Abbey.

High Days & Holy Days - October

* NEW 11th October James the Deacon

James the Deacon is the saint for any lay person who has stepped in to lead their church when the clergy are far away.

In fact, an historian has called James the Deacon 'the one heroic figure' in the Roman mission to Northumbria. No wonder – in a time of political chaos, with the king murdered and even the bishop fleeing for safety, James the Deacon stood firm.

It had begun when Pope Gregory the Great sent Paulinus, Bishop of York, to take Roman Christianity to Northumbria. James the Deacon, almost certainly an Italian, was among those who went with Paulinus.

The mission began well, and Edwin the king of Northumbria was converted. Roman Christianity in Northumbria took root and began to grow. But then in 633 Edwin fell in battle with Penda, the ruthless pagan king of Mercia. A pagan backlash began. The queen and her son fled for Kent, with the bishop Paulinus going south with them.

All that was left of Roman Christianity in Northumbria was James, now a solitary deacon.

But James was made of stern stuff, and despite the danger from Penda, James stayed on at a village near Catterick, often risking his life as he cared for the Christians, and continued to preach the gospel.

His success was discovered when the Northumbrian mission returned five to ten years later, and found an active Christian community still in Northumbria. James had been a faithful servant.

After Penda died, and Christian rule was re-established in Northumbria, James turned to teaching music, especially Gregorian Chant, to the fledgling churches in the region. Bede praised him for his honour and integrity. James was present at the Synod of Whitby in 664, which met to discuss the differences between the Celtic Northumbrian Church of the North, and the Roman Church of the South.

When James died sometime after 671, he was deeply mourned by the ordinary Christians of Northumbria, both Celtic and Roman. He had never deserted them.

26th October: Alfred the Great, King of the West Saxons

Can you think of a politician who deserves to be called a saint? If no one currently living politician comes to mind, never mind – there is always King Alfred of Wessex (871-99).

This remarkable and best known of all the Anglo-Saxon rulers may have dozed off and let some cakes burn while a peasant woman was hiding him from the Vikings, but he did so much else which was of lasting good for the Anglo-Saxon people.

It was a desperate time for the Anglo-Saxons – the kingdoms of Northumbria, East Anglia and Mercia had fallen to the Vikings. Only Alfred's province remained free. Through some inspired military maneuvering, Alfred managed to keep them at bay. As a Christian, he became the defender of all Christian Anglo-Saxons against the pagan Vikings. (His son and grandsons went on to conquer the Vikings, and thus ensured the future unity of England.)

Alfred was also a scholar, and was admired certain writings which had laid down models of ideal Christian kingship. He tried to put these principles into practise, such as producing a law-code. Alfred believed strongly that anyone in authority should have to study in order to learn how to govern. Not such a bad idea for leaders today!

Alfred was never canonised by the Church, but his translation of Consolation of Philosophy by Boethius is often thought to be a fitting epitaph: *I desired to live worthily as long as I lived, and to leave after my life, to the men who should come after me, the memory of me in good works.*

Bible Sunday - 24th October



This special Sunday in the church's calendar is an opportunity to stop and consider the enormous blessing that the Bible has brought to people down the centuries. Without it, we would know nothing about God our Father, Jesus Christ, or the Holy Spirit. It is God-breathed – full of His love and guidance to us. World history would have been radically different without it.

Whether or not you are able to get to church on 24th October, Bible Society has some excellent resources on Bible Sunday at

https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/get-involved/bible-sunday/

How to read the Bible

Reading the Bible is much easier if you follow some simple steps and get prepared. And, as you delve into it, you might find that you are more familiar with the Bible than you expected: it crops up in everything from Shakespeare to Hollywood movies; it's inspired musicians, historical figures down the centuries, and campaigners.

The Bible is complex. It's not one book but a collection of 66 books, split into two sections: the Old Testament and the New Testament. Each one of these books are divided into chapters and verses. People often find it easier to begin at the opening of the New Testament, which starts about three-quarters of the way through.

The New Testament begins with four accounts of the life of Jesus Christ, the founder of Christianity, known as the Son of God. These accounts are known as the gospels. They include eye-witness reports of what happened. Matthew and John were among Jesus' 12 closest followers. Here you can read about what Jesus did and said – His profound teaching, how He healed people of sickness and how He challenged the authorities. The Gospels also tell us about His death by crucifixion and how He came back to life and then returned to heaven.

The first Gospel, Matthew, opens with the story of Jesus' birth (the event which is celebrated at Christmas) and then jumps forward 30 years to when Jesus began travelling around what is now Israel and the Palestinian territories telling people about God. Starting with a Gospel introduces you to the person of Jesus and the basics of Christian belief.

Early Christian teaching

A good next step is to read some of the teaching given to the early Christian Church. Much of the New Testament is a series of letters written by early Christian leaders such as Paul. He travelled around the lands of the eastern Mediterranean, telling people about Jesus. He then wrote to the various newly-established churches and individuals to encourage them in their beliefs. Letters such as Philippians or Colossians are short, bite-sized letters full of advice about how to live a Christian life.

Getting to grips with the whole Bible takes some time, but it is worth the effort. In his second letter to a young leader called Timothy, Paul says the Bible is *"inspired by God and useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness".*

How reading notes can help

Many people find it helpful to find a quiet and comfortable place to sit and read the Bible and make sure that they read it every day. Take time to digest what it says. You could say a quick prayer – asking God to help you understand what you are reading and its relevance to you.



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It can be read in the Bible in Mark 6:17-28, Matthew 14:1-11 A short story from the Bible

After Herod Antipator died, the Romans allowed his son Herod Antipas to rule Galilee and Peraea. He was hated by the Jews



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Why not colour in the Autumn mice



Reflected Faith Series: Sacred Things

Last month we thought about the bread we share at the Communion table. But what about any bread that is left over – regardless of the type of bread or wafer used?

During the service the bread and the wine are 'consecrated'. That is, they are set aside for a specific purpose, in this case to be the body and blood of Christ. Because to Christians this is so very special, indeed 'sacred', we treat the unused bread and wine with special care.

No-one leaves very precious things lying around in case of theft, damage, or misuse. And so it is the same with the consecrated elements of bread and wine. When they have not all been consumed by the congregation, it is important that the surplus is dealt with in ways that honour the meaning that we give and receive from them. In most denominations they are consumed immediately, in others they are returned to the earth or given back to nature.

Sometimes, at the end of a service, you will see that some bread and wine has been deliberately kept aside to take out to those who are sick, or for use at a service where no priest will be present, and this then must be stored. So, the question arises – what vessels will be used?

The 'pyx' – literally a box – is the name for the container for the consecrated bread. Its size depends on the amount that it needs to contain; for taking to individuals in their own homes it is usually small enough to fit in the palm of a hand.

Although these can be especially bought from church suppliers, made in a variety of metals with embellishments, precious stones, enamel work and so on, you can actually use any container that fits the purpose.

This month

Have a look around your house and ask yourself, 'What container would I use for a pyx?' And thinking of containers, how about yourself? Do you and your life need a bit of cleaning and polishing to hold the bread? Are you aware how precious you are in God's eyes as you receive the bread? The Bible says that we are the temple of the Holy Spirit – an awesome, sacred calling.

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Editor: Tim Lenton looks back on 20 years.

The UK and US in Afghanistan

Twenty years ago, on 7th October 2001, the first US and British forces arrived in Afghanistan to launch a massive military offensive following the 9/11 terrorist attack on the United States.

The aim of the offensive was to find and neutralise the al-Qaeda militants under Osama bin Laden who had planned the aerial terror attack with support from the Taliban, killing nearly 3000 people. The Taliban had at that time been in power over most of Afghanistan for five years, tightening the screw with their own strict interpretation of sharia law.

The decision to send forces into Afghanistan – Operation Enduring Freedom – was made by President George W Bush, supported by British Prime Minister Tony Blair, and was initially successful, with support from Northern Afghan forces, taking the final Taliban stronghold of Kandahar in December the same year. But the Taliban never went away, regrouping in the mountains and in neighbouring Pakistan.

Some 456 Britons lost their lives in Afghanistan in the 20-year conflict, and there were many other fatalities, including 2,448 American soldiers, 66,000 Afghan national military and police, 3,846 US contractors, 1,144 NATO allies, 444 aid workers, 72 journalists and 47,245 Afghan civilians.

God in the Arts

Editor: The Revd Michael Burgess continues his series on God in the Arts with a wood engraving of The Feast of Tabernacles, one of several 'Illustrations of Jewish Customs' by Simeon Solomon.

'Spread over us the tabernacle of your peace, O God'

For nine days at the end of September Jewish families will have gathered to celebrate the festival of Tabernacles. It is always a happy season as adults and children alike join for their Harvest feast. Many churches will be having their own Harvest Thanksgivings at the beginning of this month. We know this was a custom revived by Parson Hawker in the Victorian period, but its roots lie in that Jewish feast which Jesus Himself knew and celebrated.

Each family erects a tabernacle or tent in the garden or back yard. They will have their meals and spend time there, relaxing with one another. The roof of each tabernacle might have branches of trees covering it, hung with fruits and fragrant flowers. The children decorate the tent with drawings and pictures.

Because it is only a temporary building for that time of the year, and because the roof is fragile, it is a reminder of the journeying of the Israelites in the wilderness when their safety rested on the goodness of God. It was God who watched over the people then. It is God who watches over them now and watches over the earth, so that it is fruitful, providing food for their health and happiness.

This feast is the subject of this month's picture by Simeon Solomon. He was a Jewish artist, born in London in 1840 into a family of artists. He made his own reputation through meeting the Pre-Raphaelites and the poet, Swinburne. Solomon was a colourful character of that period, whose life sadly ended in poverty and alcoholism. But this wood engraving was made early on in his life in 1866. It is part of a series illustrating Jewish customs, which Solomon provided for 'Leisure Hour.'

We see an elderly person on the left making his way into the tent, and at the other side a mother leading her children. The walls outside are adorned with palm branches and inside the tent a feast of fruits and food await them. The young boy seems hesitant, wondering what he will find and clinging to the hand of his mother. But all is well, for inside other members of the family are there to welcome them.

Solomon conveys the domesticity of this feast, and the young boy outside reminds us that Jesus Himself would have celebrated this feast with Mary and Joseph. They would also have gone up to Jerusalem to join the thousands of pilgrims there, as Jesus was to do later in His adult ministry. Each pilgrim would carry a branch of myrtle, palm and willow in one hand and a citrus fruit in the other, symbols of the fruits of the promised land. The air would be full of hosannas and praises to God.

Like the Jewish families at the Feast of Tabernacles, we shall gather for our Harvest Thanksgivings. Like them, we shall thank God for His faithful goodness in the past. Like them, we shall look ahead to the coming of God's kingdom, where God who feeds us now in food and drink will nourish us eternally. Like them, we shall proclaim, 'O taste and see how gracious the Lord is: blessed is the one who trusts in Him.'



You can see a copy of the illustration at <u>https://victorianweb.org/art/illustration/ssolomon/24.html</u> Scanned by Simon Cooke, <u>https://victorianweb.org/art/illustration/ssolomon/24.html</u>



Wordsearch Clues

HARVEST

October brings us Harvest Thanksgiving, when we thank God for all the bounty of Creation. If you ever doubt God's generosity towards us, just stroll down the aisles of your local supermarket: they are groaning with food of a vast variety, of every colour, texture and taste that you can imagine. Our God is a hedonist when it comes to food - He could have provided just a few basic edible things for us to eat; instead, the choice seems endless. But in the midst of all this bounty, take time to remember all the millions of people worldwide who are starving this month, desperate for any kind of food. Before God in prayer, decide how much you can give this month to one of the many charities who are trying to help people in need, and be generous.

October Harvest Thanksgiving Bounty God	Creation Generosity Supermarket Food Vast	Variety Edible Choice Endless Millions	Starving Pray Give Charities Eat	Help Desperate
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Across

- 1 'Those who were standing near Paul said, "You to insult God's high priest?"' (Acts 23:4) (4)
- 3 They were assigned to guard the tree of life (Genesis 3:24) (8)
- 9 'Elkanah son of Jeroham, the son of Elihu, the of -, the son of Zuph, an Ephraimite' (1 Samuel 1:1) (3,4)
- 10 Surrender (Joshua 24:23) (5)
- 11 Where American livestock can be reared (5)
- 12 Listen (anag.) (6)
- 14 Alternative name for Kiriath Jearim (2 Samuel 6:2) (6,2,5)
- 17 He founded Westminster Abbey, the Confessor (6)
- 19 Hebrew word for the place of the dead (5)
- 22 Allies of Persia in the fifth century BC (Esther 1:3) (5)
- 23 Where John Wesley was forced to preach a lot (4,3)
- 24 Rebellion against God; abandonment of religious belief (8)
- 25 Note (anag.) (4)



Down

- 1 Give an account of (Mark 4:30) (8)
- 2 'I — the path of your commands, for you have set my heart free' (Psalm 119:32) (3,2)
- 4 'He took the ephod, the other — and the carved image' (Judges 18:20) (9,4)
- 5 'You are a chosen people, a priesthood' (1 Peter 2:9) (5)
- 6 The meek, the merciful and the mourners are all this (Matthew 5:4–5, 7) (7)
- 7 Musical Instrument Digital Interface (1,1,1,1)
- 8 He was the son of Nun (Deuteronomy 34:9) (6)
- 13 'Let the little come to me' (Matthew 19:14) (8)
- 15 'About three thousand were — their number that day' (Acts 2:41) (5,2)
- 16 In John's vision, the wall of the new Jerusalem was made of this (Revelation 21:18) (6)
- 18 'Our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly a Saviour from there, the Lord Jesus Christ' (Philippians 3:20) (5)
- 20 'Glorify the Lord with me: let us his name together' (Psalm 34:3) (5)
- 21 Young Men's Christian Association (1,1,1,1)

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Puzzle Solutions

Page 30

Word Search solution



Crossword solution



Easy Soduko solution

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Junior Inspire Wordsearch



Medium Soduku solution

FOCUS ON TWO STALLHOLDERS AT THE CHRISTMAS FAIR on 20th November 2021

Wicked London specialise in hand crafted fragranced candles, reed diffusers and stunning lanterns. Their luxury scented candles are individually hand poured and made from 100% natural soy wax and the highest quality fragrance oils.



They use natural reeds in our fragrance diffusers for a more even distribution of scent. They also offer reed diffuser refills for a luxury, eco-friendly option.



All of our products come in our four 'signature' home fragrances – *Black Pomegranate, Grapefruit & Basil, Velvet Peony & Oud and Muguet & Honeysuckle* – luxury blends of fragrance oils to bring warm and inviting scents to your home.

Editor's note: Debbie and I have met Wicked London at Fairs and bought their lovely products ourselves! We are delighted that they can join us at the Fair!

Tiffany Budd BA (Hons) is a British established fine artist, specialising in acrylic painting, coloured pencil and pastel drawing. She studied at Wimbledon School of Art and the University of Plymouth, gaining a degree in Textile Design. The course included Business Studies and Fine Art. After a career in Textile design and then Interior Design, the demand for her artwork increased so much that she became a full time artist.



Tiffany's subjects vary due to the requirements of her clients, but her main subjects are florals with collage

combined, fractured paintings, and coloured pencil realism. She has paintings published all over the world and has worked with Marks and Spencers UK on their new Wall Art collection, as well as having her paintings reproduced onto ceramic tiles by Fiesta Collectables, and has been commissioned by Wetherspoons to create two paintings for their new pub 'The Beehive' at Gatwick Airport. She also works with Image By Design which licenses' her work throughout the world. Other clients include, Derwent Pencil Company and in 2008 became published with Bentley Publishing which sells prints all over the world.



She has won awards for her work and exhibited all over the UK, including Scotland, and St Ives. In 2005 she was a finalist in the New Artists Competition which was run by DeMontfort Fine Art. Tiffany exhibited at the Autumn Fair at the NEC, Birmingham.

In 2010 Derwent used one of her Fractured drawings for the front of their new formulation Pastel tins- 'St Pauls Cathedral' and has her work on the new Coloursoft collection packaging. Tiffany demonstrates and holds workshops for art societies and is a Professional member of

The Society for all Artists, and Signature member of The UK Coloured Pencil Society and The Fine Art Trade Guild. She has been entered into this years edition of Who's Who in Art.



Tiffany is a local artist and we look forward to welcoming her and Wicked London to our NEW Fair in November!



CAPEL Christmas Fair



Saturday 20th November 2021 12 —4 pm Capel Parish & Memorial Halls,

Capel, RH5 5LD

LOTS OF EXCITING STALLS with Christmas gift ideas galore! Also joining us ... Dorking Brewery, Silent Pool Gin, Hill House Farm amongst many others! REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT THE FAIR!

> £3 entry to include free hot drink! Under 12's FREE

www.capelchristmasfair.co.uk

& on social media



NEW

In aid of The Parish churches of Capel & Ockley AND The Motor Neurone Disease Assocation (MNDA)



Your contributions would be most welcome and any copy for this publication should be sent to Suzanne Cole <u>editor@capelandockleychurch.org.uk</u> **By 25th of each month please**. If you would like to receive *InSpire* by email, you can subscribe to InSpire via the church website:www.capelandockleychurch.org.uk/inspire-magazine