

# InSpire

*"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."*

Christingle Service at Capel  
Sunday 30th January 2022 at 10.30am  
In aid of The Children's Society  
We'd love to see you there!

Issue 57 - January 2022 FREE of charge - please take a copy!  
The monthly publication for the Parish of Capel and Ockley

Jesus said: "I am the  
**LIGHT OF THE WORLD**  
whoever follows me will  
never walk in darkness"

Candlemas Sunday 30th  
January 2022

All are welcome!



Come and join us for the traditional  
Christingle service starting at 10.30am at  
St John the Baptist, Capel.

All proceeds will be donated to The Children's Society.

### **Kindred Spirits**

Kindred Spirits was formed in 2012 by a group of women all of whom worshipped at the churches in the old parish of Forest Green, Okewood and Ockley. Starting up the group was the idea of Jenny Reed who has since moved from the parish. She was inspired by a visit to Spring Harvest, a Christian conference, where she attended a seminar on outreach. She had already set up breakfast meetings for women in the parish and used to do all the work herself – booking the speaker, advertising the event, providing and cooking the food. When Kindred Spirits was formed, we all took on various duties for the breakfasts and started up the café in the Pavilion on Ockley Green in September 2012. The café is still going strong with many people dropping in each week. After expenses, we donate all the money to our churches and to charities both local and national. The women's breakfasts stopped at the start of the pandemic.

Our sincere thanks to Kindred Spirits for their sponsorship of this issue. The Editor

# Issue 57 - January 2022

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### As for the future....

O my Father, my God, I am in Your hand;  
and may I rejoice above all things in being so.  
Do with me what seems good in Your sight;  
only let me love you with all mind, soul and strength.

By John Wesley

### **Don't want a paper copy ...**

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[www.capelandockleychurch.org.uk/inspire-magazine](http://www.capelandockleychurch.org.uk/inspire-magazine)

This issue is kindly sponsored by

**Kindred Spirits**

To celebrate 10 years!

Thank you for your sponsorship

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*Dear all,*

As I trudge along walking the dog I have realised that I spend most of the time with my head down looking at the ground!! I am of course looking where I am going in all this mud and slush that wintertime seems to bring these days, but it also is a bit of a habit. It reminds me of the wonderful people that LS Lowry the artist painted, as many of his figures seemed to be bowed, their bodies leaning forward into the bleak greyness of the industrial landscapes. The thing is when you are perhaps deep in thought studying the ground you miss what is going on around you, particularly in the countryside!



It pays to look up doesn't it and some people who did exactly that are the magi, those wise men who travelled in search of the Christ child. They had observed his star at its rising and followed it to Bethlehem where they were rewarded by the sight before them. All of our texts during this season of Epiphany in January tell of how different people recognised who Jesus was. The culmination of all this is marked by the Feast of the Presentation at the Temple otherwise known by us as Candlemas. This is the feast day at which we traditionally hold our annual Christingle service at Capel. It is a very special time when we are reminded once more before we start our journey towards the season of Lent, that Jesus is the light of the world for all peoples. This is symbolised by the candle on the Christingle orange along with the sweeties and fruits which we all enjoy. All proceeds go to The Children's Society who help bring hope to many children and young people across the country.

The work and research that The Children's Society does is very interesting. Recently I along with other clergy in our diocese heard the CEO of The Children's Society speak. The society has recently published 'The Good Childhood Report' which has found that modern life continues to erode the happiness of young people, worried about school, friendships and how they look. It was also alarming to hear that there are more children in poverty in the 21st century than in the 19th century. This statement is borne out by the great need we discovered last month as we prepared Christmas goodie bags and hampers for families in need.

It would be easy to feel downhearted about all these things, to look down as we each trudge along through January, what with Covid variants, bleak weather and the good old January blues! But do what I intend to do which is to stop looking down, try looking up. Yes we will notice things that challenge but also lots that will bring us much needed joy. Let's help bring some light to shine in difficult places; you can contribute to the work of The Children's Society by joining us at Candlemas or contact me separately to donate. Wishing you and yours a very happy new year and keep looking up!

With my love and prayers,  
*Revd Liz*

**Revd Liz Richardson**

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Vicar St John the Baptist Capel and St Margaret's Ockley



# CHURCH SERVICES AND EVENTS FOR THE PARISH OF CAPEL AND OCKLEY JANUARY 2022

<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>2nd</b> 9.30am 10.30am	<b>Second Sunday of Christmas</b> Matins at St Margaret's Ockley Family Communion at St John's Capel
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>9th</b> 9.30am 10.30am	<b>First Sunday after Epiphany</b> Holy Communion CW at St Margaret's Ockley Cafe Church at St John's Capel
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>16th</b> 9.30am 10.30am	<b>Second Sunday after Epiphany</b> Matins at St Margaret's Ockley Family Communion at St John's Capel
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>23rd</b> 9.30am 10.30am	<b>Third Sunday after Epiphany</b> Holy Communion BCP at St Margaret's Ockley Morning Worship CW at St John's Capel
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>30th</b> 9.30am 10.30am	<b>Candlemas</b> Matins at St Margaret's Ockley Christingle Service at St John's Capel in aid of The Children's Society
<b>February</b>		
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>6th</b> 9.30am 10.30am	<b>Fourth Sunday before Lent</b> Matins at St Margaret's Ockley Family Communion at St John's Capel



BCP - service is from The Book of Common Prayer 1662  
CW - service is from Common Worship 2005

## Our current PCC guidelines:-

### **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.

## Capel Christmas Fair

We are delighted to tell you that we have raised just over £3,200 and over £1,600 went to both the Parish of Capel & Ockley and the Motor Neurone Disease Association. Thank you to everyone who supported us with this new event.

Best wishes,

Suzanne Cole & Debbie von Bergen  
[www.capelchristmasfair.co.uk](http://www.capelchristmasfair.co.uk)



Thank you for your support over the last year. We are pleased to report that we have been able to give £170.00 to our Parish churches, which is 10% of sales.

We hope to continue being able to sell in church again during 2022 and will announce the dates beforehand.

### FROM THE REGISTERS Capel and Ockley

#### Holy Baptism

We welcome into the family of the Church

**Harper Sienna Tessa Thompson**

4th December 2021

St Margaret's Ockley

#### In Memoriam

We mourn the loss of

**Gillian Dawn Fairs**

27th November 2021

**Maureen Elizabeth June White**

16th November 2021



### Franklin Graham tour coming to the UK

Franklin Graham, the son of the late US evangelist Billy Graham, is to come to the UK this year for his *God Loves You* mission. It was due to be held last year, but got postponed by the pandemic.

The *God Loves You Tour UK* will visit

Liverpool Exhibition Centre on 14<sup>th</sup> May,

The ICC Wales on 21<sup>st</sup> May,

The Sheffield Arena on 25<sup>th</sup> May,

The London ExCel Centre on 16<sup>th</sup> July.



"We're looking for something to help us survive our church's early morning Winter services"

Don't forget you can order at any time! To see what's available please see the online catalogue: <https://www.traidcraftshop.co.uk/traidcraft-catalogue>

*Please note that we have not been able to acquire any current brochures to put in church due to a national shortage.*

We will happily order for you! You can reach us on 01306 711449 or email: [traidcraft@ansford.me.uk](mailto:traidcraft@ansford.me.uk)

Thank you  
Suzanne & Stuart Cole

**DON'T FORGET 10% goes to our Parish Churches!**



## The Pavilion Café

We are open every Wednesday morning from 9 to 12 in the Cricket Pavilion on the green in Ockley.



We serve homemade cakes and savouries and offer a range of teas and fresh coffee. On the last Wednesday of the month we also serve bacon butties which are very popular. We ask for donations and, after expenses, the money goes to charity. We like to donate to our local churches, local amenities and charities and also national ones. We have become very popular over the years and there is plenty of parking and disabled access to the building.

The cafe was started in 2012 by a team of local church-going women called 'Kindred Spirits'.

**Editor:** We are delighted to say that this issue of InSpire is kindly sponsored by Kindred Spirits. Thank you to them for their support.

### 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](mailto:debbievonbergen@icloud.com)

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

**Don't forget to recycle your CHRISTMAS STAMPS!**

**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 please contact our Safeguarding Officer Leigh Smith 07732825908 [leighdesouza@yahoo.com](mailto:leighdesouza@yahoo.com)

or Revd Liz Richardson 01306 711260 [liz@hostmyserver.co.uk](mailto:liz@hostmyserver.co.uk)

***This notice will appear each month in InSpire and the contact details for our Safeguarding Officer and the Diocesan 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.***

The current state of the Church of England – and its future – was the subject of the joint presidential address to the recent General Synod, delivered by both the Archbishops of Canterbury and York.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, considered the historical context: “Numerically, the number of regular church goers has shrunk in absolute terms every year since around 1952, 70 years next year. As a percentage of the population of England, the Church of England was at its high point, when there were accurate records, in the 1851 census when we were about 20% of the population. We are today a little less than 2% of the population.”

But the picture is not entirely bleak. “The reality is that a huge amount of work is being done at every point of this extraordinary Church for England ... People talk too easily of decline but miss the energy that is spurring us on.

“Internally, we will be looking at reforms and changes aimed at focussing resources where they are most needed, at enabling support for anywhere and everywhere that shows signs of the blessing of the Holy Spirit...

“We have gone through the greatest peacetime challenge in 400 years and emerged forging ahead. Effectiveness is being transformed, training is being rethought to work well in the very different patterns of population that we see today, and even more different that we see in the future.

“The way in which dioceses work together and share resources is being challenged, and will change slowly and gently and consensually.

“Our failures in safeguarding, in racism, in the way we treat those with disabilities ... are being tackled... We are a church that can admit it is wrong, say sorry and try – at least try – to do better.”

As for externally the church is not only still educating a million young people across the UK, it is also planting churches in new places, and putting fresh resources into traditional parishes.

The Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell, continued the theme.

“Our vision and strategy is for growth. It is not about managing decline gracefully. We want the Church of England to grow. Let us declare the good news of what God has done for us in Jesus Christ and do everything we can to align all of our resources, to make that happen in our local churches, whatever that local church is.

### Have you ever wondered where the name 'Jesus' comes from?

The name Jesus is a transliteration of a name that occurs in several languages. It is of Hebrew origin, 'Yehosua', or Joshua. There is also the Hebrew-Aramaic form, 'Yesua'. In Greek, it became 'Ἰησοῦς' (*Iēsoûs*), and in Latin it became 'Iesus'.

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

Copyright: Parish Pump





## *Happy New Year?*

It's a given that writing for magazines is something you always do ahead of events. As I sit here typing out a few words for the January 2022 issue of this esteemed publication, Christmas is still a fortnight away but as with so much of the past couple of years it's by no means certain that we will have enjoyed a happy Christmas. COVID seems to be on the rise, international travel is facing restrictions and yet more lockdowns are being spoken of. The only thing we know for sure is that nothing is certain! That's not a very comfortable place to be as we enter a new year. I don't know about you but I like to be able to look forward at the start of each January to fresh opportunities, new adventures and a sense of certainty that all is well in my world.

To make matters worse I've just been reading about Blue Monday. Claimed to be the most depressing day of the year, I am cheerily informed that 17<sup>th</sup> January 2022 has been earmarked as being the date with the "highest depression factor" on the diary. Now I'm really worried. What if they've got their calculations wrong and, having bravely faced 17<sup>th</sup> January, I discover that Monday 24<sup>th</sup> will be even worse! Nothing is certain.

As someone who likes to plan ahead all of this is most unsettling. But we can't live today without thinking about tomorrow. Plans *do* have to be made. Life *does* have to be lived. Where can I find certainty in such changeable times? Perhaps I should hold onto the things that I *do* know will happen. It won't be long before the first bulbs of Spring poke their heads out of the cold soil. I know that because it happens every year - without fail. Soon the bright green of fresh leaves will be seen on the bare branches that have endured the Winter weather. It happens every year - without fail. And before I know it the Springtime blossom will have matured into Autumn fruits that I will be gleefully picking from the trees in the garden. I do it every year - without fail. And I see all of these things (and so much more) as being the provision of a Creator God who has promised to be there and provide for my needs whatever the circumstances might be. *"I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for good and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope."* is what I read in the book of Jeremiah.

Happy New Year? Absolutely! The current situation will not be around for ever but the love and provision of a caring God *will* be - not just for this year but for all time - without fail.

So - Happy New Year!

**Bob Cranham**

Café Church this month meets inside St. John's, Capel. It's a relaxed, welcoming get together for anyone and everyone. The band will play; songs will be sung; poems will be read; there will be laughter; there will be plenty to think about AND there will be refreshments!

**SUNDAY 9th January at 10.30am  
at St John's, Capel**

## Looking to the New Year

The month of January is named after the Roman god Janus, who is depicted as having two faces. As we look back on a difficult year dominated by the pandemic, how should we look forward to 2022 with fresh hope? The apostle Paul writes: *'But one thing I do: forgetting what is behind and straining towards what is ahead, I press on towards the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenwards in Christ Jesus.'* (Philippians 3:13,14).

Firstly, to make a new start, you need to **forget the things which are behind**. Paul saw himself as an athlete running for Christ and purposely not looking back. He refused to allow his past sins and difficulties to define who he was. By God's grace, he no longer saw himself that way. The same can be true of ourselves, as we confess our sins and failures to receive God's forgiveness and new life.

Secondly, we need to **focus on the things that lie ahead**. The athlete is entirely focused on winning the race and gaining the prize. Like Paul, we have to be single-minded in making Jesus the focus of everything we do. How can we go deeper in our prayer life and Bible reading this year? What will it mean to better serve Christ in our workplace and neighbourhood, or family and children?

Paul looked forward to the day when he would stand before God, who would say *'well done, good and faithful servant'*. In light of all that Jesus had done for him, Paul wanted to give his very best to Jesus. As we stand at the beginning of this New Year, let's ask ourselves, *'What can I do this year that will help me bring glory and honour to God?'*



Editor: The Rev Dr Jo White continues her walk through the church year.

## Reflected Faith Series - Taking Down Christmas

Happy New Year!

January is, of course, the time to take down the decorations and put them away for next year. In many churches however, the Crib scene is left up until the beginning of February - the Feast of Candlemas. That celebrates the Presentation of Christ in the Temple.

It's yet another moment of 'illumination,' and has a number of meanings.

The date 'set' for Candlemas is the 2<sup>nd</sup> February each year and it marks the midpoint of winter, halfway between the shortest day and the spring equinox. So, from that date onwards the days begin to get longer and the nights shorter.

It's the day when we celebrate Mary and Joseph taking their baby, Jesus, to the Temple. The custom was set down in Leviticus chapter 12, where the parents presented the child to the Lord, and received a blessing from the priests. It was a picture of the sacrifice of the first-born son, giving him to the Lord.

Any ideas on a third meaning? *(Answer next month.)*

As you take down your decorations, think about where you will store them ready for use next Christmas – and also, how carefully you will put them away.

Will the string of lights be a tangled mess of knots when you take them out of their wrappings or will you be able to hang them straight on the tree? One of the biggest concerns is where to put the figure of baby Jesus. It's usually so small in a Crib Set that it is easily lost and then the Crib Set rather loses its meaning!

### *This month*

Have a think about where you put Jesus after Christmas. Not the figure but the 'real' person. He's easily left in a virtual crib as a baby in our minds, just like the wooden or plastic figure in our attics or under the stairs. If we keep Him as that lovely sweet-smelling-cute baby we miss out on His teaching and miracles, we will fail to understand and engage with His massive love and compassion for each of us on the cross – and most importantly His resurrection. Death is not the end.

Not for Him.

Not for us.

And not for our loved ones.

© Parish Pump

Reflections from Bishop Jo on why they chose this image for their Christmas card.

## **Taken from Parish Brief 21st December 2021**

This picture has shaped my thoughts and prayers these past few weeks of Advent. Before you read on, dwell on it for a moment: I wonder if and how it speaks to you?

It was a very simple brief that Bishop Andrew and I proposed for our Christmas card this year - 'a refugee mother and child' - and we had no idea what would come back! But we were agreed this was a good risk to take, not least given that the art class which runs weekly at HMP Send (thanks to the Michael Varah Foundation and Watts Gallery) seemed to welcome our commission. It was Deborah who stepped up, researched the Afghan crisis and then painted this, inspired by and adapted from one particular photograph she found.



Covid has thus far prevented the chance to meet Deborah, though we have exchanged messages. I declare her a theologian, instinctively even if unconsciously so! This Madonna captures the burden of responsibility, the marvel at a gift and the fragility of new life all at once - much as I recall for myself as a new parent. But this image then stretches me further, to relate to some of the dangers and horrors of the (Afghan) context: and even there, to glimpse beauty and to risk hope.

'So who is God? And what is God like?' I'm sometimes asked. The incarnation offers a particular 'photograph' of God, that is utterly definitive yet as shocking to people today as 2000 years ago. Surprising expectation, God came as a child - powerless, dependent and vulnerable. There were the pains of child birth, the threats of abused power, and the dangers of red-zone travel. How come that the everlasting peace (of which the angels sang) could rest on so many uncertainties - today as 2000 years ago?

Glimpsing beauty and risking hope are choices we take, not only in worship at Christmas, but in the struggles of our world today. But the uncertainty is over: God is with us in the birth of Emmanuel. Happy Christmas!

**Bishop Jo**



# PRAYER DIARY

## JANUARY 2022

Compiled by Belinda Kerry

Page 12

'And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was on him.' Luke 2:10

### THE NEW YEAR

#### SATURDAY 1st

Heavenly Father, we pray for Your blessings to cover us in this new year. We pray that You will help our world to prosper. We confess our need for You fresh and new and we pray for Your wisdom and strength to guide us each day.

#### SUNDAY 2nd

Dear God, this year, may we reflect Your hope and Your peace to a world that so desperately needs Your presence and Your healing.

#### EPIPHANY

'After me comes the one more powerful than I, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I baptise you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.' Mark 1:7-8

#### MONDAY 3rd

Lord Jesus, come freshly to us now and, as we offer our lives to You, renew us in Your gifts; the gold of our potential, the incense of our prayers and aspirations, the myrrh of healing for our pain.

#### TUESDAY 4th

God of Wisdom, feed us and nourish us that we may grow in the life of Christ; fill us with Your Spirit that we may overflow with Your love and transform the world with Your Glory.

#### WEDNESDAY 5th

Merciful Father, we thank You for Your love for us. Help us to take this truth into our post-Christmas break and into the rest of our lives.

#### THURSDAY 6th

God of Truth, we thank You that You want to be with us all the time. Help us to be still for a while each day after the busyness of the Christmas holiday and let God love us.

#### FRIDAY 5th

Loving Father, as Jesus came into the world to offer Himself as a sacrifice for us, so may we offer ourselves in His service, put our energy alongside His energy to proclaim the Kingdom of God to others.

#### SATURDAY 8th

Heavenly Father, as we ponder the events in the Christmas story, may we marvel that the shepherds were chosen to be the first witnesses to Jesus' birth. May we remember to value others, especially those on the edges of society.

#### SUNDAY 9th

The Light of the World has come! May we be set free from the fear of death and destruction that covers our world. Recall us to the great commandment to love You with our whole heart, our mind, our soul and our strength.

#### HEALTH AND HEALING

'If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer.' Matthew 21:22

#### MONDAY 10th

Almighty God, be with those who are still suffering from the effects of long covid. Bring them comfort and relief from their pains and struggles with breathing.

#### TUESDAY 11th

Father, we thank You for the miracles of healing You still perform today. This day, we ask for Your healing over..... We believe in the healing power of faith and prayer and ask You to begin Your mighty work in the life of .....

#### WEDNESDAY 12th

Heavenly Father, we pray to You this day to strengthen and heal all those who suffer with mental illness. Release them we pray, from the bonds that bind them to fear, anxiety, anger or sadness. May they find refuge and rest with You and enjoy Your peace.

#### THURSDAY 13th

God of compassion, pour Your blessings on all who are sick and on those who minister to them. Guide the hands of all medical practitioners and bring them comfort in the knowledge that You are there beside them.

#### FRIDAY 14th

Lord Jesus, You administered to all who came to You for help. Look with compassion on all who have lost their health and freedom through addiction. Strengthen them through the journey of their recovery and bless all those You have brought to help them.

#### SATURDAY 15th

Merciful Father, bring comfort and peace to all those who have had to wait for a much needed operation. We pray too for medical practitioners who daily have to make difficult decisions about treatments.

#### SUNDAY 16th

Dear God our Father, bless our Health Service and all hospitals around the world to thrive, prosper and to heal. We lift up to You all the wards and departments in each hospital and pray that there are beds for all who need them.

**WINTER**

'Keep me safe, my God, for in you I take refuge.'  
Psalm 16:1

**MONDAY 17th**

Loving Father, in the midst of Winter, on very cold days, remind us of the warmth of Your love. During the short, dark days and in gloomy weather, remind us that, in darkness, Your light shines.

**TUESDAY 18th**

Gentle Jesus, we pray for those who suffer from seasonal despair at this time of year when setbacks, sorrows, illnesses seem overwhelming. May the promise of Your salvation and Your grace be the comfort that warms our hearts.

**WEDNESDAY 19th**

Father, we pray for those who are homeless this Winter. We pray for their safety and hope that You will bring loving, caring people to help them find shelter and warmth.

**THURSDAY 20th**

Merciful God, during this Winter, make us thankful for the gifts You have given us in Creation; the glimpse of the sun, the promise of Spring, the first flowers showing new life and the beauty of our countryside.

**FRIDAY 21st**

We pray, Father, that You send comfort and help those who are struggling this winter. Calm those who are fearful, protect those who are weak, provide for those who are in need, heal those who are sick and bring all who do not know You into knowledge of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**SATURDAY 22nd**

Heavenly Father, protect those who work outside in the cold months of the year. Keep safe those who have to travel on the roads in icy conditions

**SUNDAY 23rd**

Lord of all, for all of us who are able to warm our homes and eat good, hot food this Winter, we give You thanks. May we lift up to You in prayer, those who are unable to afford to warm their homes or put hot food on their tables. Bring comfort and Your loving peace, we pray.

**CHANGE**

'Submit yourselves then to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Come near to God and he will come near to you., James 4:7-8

**MONDAY 24th**

Father, help us not to fear any changes in our lives. In these difficult years past, there have been many changes. Help us to face them with peace and calm. We pray especially for those who have had to deal with changes in their working life, that they may know Your loving, guiding presence.

**TUESDAY 25th**

Holy Spirit, if changes in our lives baffle and confound us, help us to be still and remember that You are always with us. Give us the strength, we pray, to rise above conflicts and overcome difficulties.

**WEDNESDAY 26th**

Holy Spirit, help us to examine our thoughts and our hearts and to acknowledge that we need to make changes in our lives. We pray that You will help us to process our thoughts and desires in accordance with Your Way. Guide us and awaken us to the depths of Your love.

**THURSDAY 27th**

Precious Lord, we pray for families whose lives have changed for the worst during the pandemic. Where there is division, conflict or sorrow, restore families to love and peace and reunite them with the comforting knowledge of Your love.

**FRIDAY 28th**

Loving Father, we thank You for being with us during the changes in our lives. Help us to trust You and to know that Your plans for us are to prosper us and not to harm us.

**SATURDAY 29th**

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

**SUNDAY 30th**

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

**FAITH**

'If you do not stand firm in your faith, you will not stand at all.' Isaiah 7:9

**MONDAY 31st**

Loving Father, we thank You for our Church leaders. We pray for encouragement in their faith and ministry and that You will always guard them from anything that brings them doubt or stands in the way of their devotions.



*Editor: This series is about encouragement. Each month Dr Herbert McGonigle will take a Bible event and a historical anecdote to bring us a word of help and support in these difficult days. This is the first in the series, which will run for most of this year.*

## **There's more with us than with them!!**

We begin the New Year with a Bible event from 2 Kings and an anecdote from Birmingham.

For a number of years, the king of Syria had tried to capture the prophet Elisha. (The story is found in 2 Kings 6:11-19). Elisha always knew what the Syrians were planning, and revealed their plans before they could be carried out. Finally, the Syrian armies surrounded Elisha in Dothan.

When Gehazi, Elisha's servant, woke up and saw the encircling Syrian armies, he was terrified. But Elisha prayed, 'Lord, open his eyes.' When Gehazi looked again, he could hardly believe what he saw. All round them were horses and chariots of fire. The armies of heaven were protecting them! And Elisha encouraged him. "Don't fear, there's more with us than with them!" Immediately the Syrians were struck with blindness and Elisha and Gehazi escaped.

Often, we need to ask the Lord to *open our eyes*. When our strength has failed and faith is weak, we're apt to think that God has forgotten us. But He hasn't! He is near and only our dimness of vision prevents us from seeing His great presence and power and provision. Fear not! Trust God! Believe His Word! There's more with us than with our enemy!

In the early 1950s a well-known department store in Birmingham, England, wanted to extend its premises. Close at hand was an ideal site but it belonged to the Quakers whose Meeting House had been there for well over 200 years. The department store wrote to the Quakers, offering to buy the site. They said, "We will give you a very good price for the land. In fact, we'll send you a blank cheque. Please fill in whatever sum of money you think appropriate, and we will honour it." Four weeks passed and there was no reply, then five weeks, then six weeks.

Finally, a letter arrived from the Quakers. It thanked the department store for their generous offer but declined to accept it. "Our Meeting House has been here for almost 250 years," they explained, "much longer than your store. We have no wish to sell our property. However, if you would agree to sell your site to us, we are very interested in buying it. We will give you a very good price for it. Just state your selling price and we will honour it." The letter was signed 'Cadburys.' The department store thought they were dealing with a small congregation of Quakers. Instead, they were dealing with the Cadburys' empire. Cadburys could have bought the department store twenty times over!

When our enemy the devil attacks us, by ourselves we are weak and feeble. But when Christ dwells in us by His Spirit, we are mighty! The devil is no longer attacking us; he is attacking the Captain of our salvation – and the devil cannot win! There's more with us than with him! As we go through 2022, be *encouraged*. With Christ we are more than conquerors!

*The Revd Dr Herbert McGonigle is a former Senior Lecturer in Historical Theology and Church History at Nazarene Theological College, Manchester, England.*

Dear Readers,

***“Saying goodbye to an old year and welcoming in a new one isn’t always easy. What lies ahead of us might seem rather overwhelming, and what’s behind us might still linger on leaving feelings of confusion, uncertainty, even resentment.***

***We have this need to see the whole picture, to understand everything. Well, we can’t, but that’s not up to us.***

***Step forward positively, trusting that everything is seen and understood. Greet the New Year with the words of Dag Hammarskjöld: “For all that has been, thanks. For all that will be, yes.” (taken from The Friendship Book 2011).***

As I write, it is that time between Christmas and the New Year. A confusing time where it is easy to lose track of time and which day it is! But how nice that these days give us time with family and a chance to wind down a little, if only for just for a few days! Our eldest son James declared yesterday ... “I’ve met my sleep goal for the fourth night running”! This of course was based on the information from his smart watch that records everything from the steps he takes daily to the amount of sleep he gets! However, the positive aspect of this is the fact that he has had four nights of decent sleep, which in our very busy lives is often hard to come by!

Tomorrow, sadly, my sister and I will be supporting our mother as she says her final farewell to her best friend. They had rekindled their friendship forty years ago when bumping into one another through their daughters! We played tennis at the local club and when my sister and I asked if our friends could come over one day, the Mums immediately recognised one another! They had known one another through an organisation they both belonged to in New Malden many years before. Now their daughters had got to know one another through another club! A happy coincidence or maybe pre-ordained? Who knows but it led to a close friendship which blossomed even more after my father died and both ladies were alone. They were in contact virtually every day, whether by texts or phone calls. I know how much my Mum will miss this contact with the sharing of thoughts, opinions and most importantly laughter with her friend. It makes you think on what friendship means to us all and where our lives would be without those who walk through life with us. There is no doubt that it would be infinitely poorer. ***“We are each of us angels with only one wing, and we can fly only by embracing each other”*** - Luciano de Crescenzo.

So we begin a new year with a fair amount of uncertainty still surrounding us all. Let us hope that the initial findings regarding Omicron are that it is indeed a milder disease and less likely to lead to hospitalisations and serious illness. However, the biggest problem currently is the fact that so many NHS workers have it themselves not surprisingly, leading to low staff levels. Let us hope that the majority of people continue to act with a level of caution, thus protecting themselves and others. One light shining in the darkness of Covid has surely been the vaccination centres and the numbers of people who have offered their time to help, even over the Christmas period. In bleak times, goodness can still shine through.

We can hopefully look forward to a lot of things going on in 2022 including our regular Church teas - the timetable is on page 35 so you can make a note of the dates in your diaries! We have Christingle to look forward to on 30th January, our annual Candlemas service where we donate the proceeds to The Children’s Society. Later in the year, hopefully we can recommence our annual Vicarage Fete and much later still the Christmas Fair. I believe the church will also be working with the Capel WI to provide refreshments at the Military show in the summer too. But we will see! Covid has held up normal life as we know it for nearly two years now. Maybe 2022 will see the dawning of a new post-Covid era, or perhaps one where we continue to take a few simple precautions such as mask wearing to help stem the spread.

I hope you enjoy this issue and my thanks again to Belinda Kerry and all at Kindred Spirits who have sponsored it. I wish you all a happy, healthy and faithful 2022.

***“The little tree, while yet so small,  
Withstands the winter’s blast,  
For though it bends beneath the storm  
It’s roots hold firm and fast.  
So like that tree, let’s try our best  
To root in all that’s strong,  
For love and truth can hold us safe  
Throughout our whole life long”.***

Written by Margaret Inghall

Suzanne editor@capelandockleychurch.org.uk

## **Church carbon footprint tool data update**

One in 14 Church of England churches are now reporting 'net zero' carbon emissions, according to the latest data from the Energy Footprint Toolkit (EFT).

The number of churches edged upwards from four per cent to seven per cent between 2019 and 2020.

General Synod has committed the Church to achieving net zero carbon emissions by 2030. The scope of this aim was detailed in 2020, and the EFT enables measuring the emissions of all buildings in scope.

Dr John Thompson, Bishop of Selby and chair of the Net Zero Carbon Sub-committee group, said:

"The rise in numbers of net zero churches reflects that more and more parishes are utilising pre-approved renewable suppliers and addressing the big and small measures which can be taken to reduce carbon impacts.

"This is a positive early step in our ambitious journey to a wholly net zero carbon Church by 2030.

Among the churches with net zero carbon, just under 80 per cent were using wholly renewable electricity tariffs.

## **Synod calls on politicians to reduce wealth gap between the rich and the poor**

The General Synod has recently called for the Government to reduce the gap between rich and poor after members heard of the 'scandal' of inequality.

The Church of England's national assembly approved a Leeds Diocesan Motion calling on all political parties to adopt an 'explicit policy' of reducing the gap between rich and poor.

Synod members further voted to redouble efforts by the Church of England both at national and local level to respond to need through social action and to tackle 'unjust structures' that contribute to the wealth gap.

Speaking to the General Synod, Father Paul Cartwright, from the Diocese of Leeds, said living costs were rising and real terms disposable income decreasing for the poorest families.

"We cannot expect to be able to write social or fiscal policy on behalf of Her Majesty's Government, or even eradicate the wealth gap," he said. "But what we can be is that genuine voice which speaks about the injustice of such a gap, a gap that leads to reduced opportunity for so many in our country."

The Leeds Diocesan Motion was approved by 342 members with three recorded abstentions and two objections.

## **General Synod backs moves to allow dioceses more freedom to share historic wealth with poorer dioceses**

The General Synod has voted to back moves to lift a restriction on allowing wealthier dioceses to share their historic wealth with poorer dioceses after hearing about inequalities in finances within the Church of England.

Members approved a request to begin the process of drawing up legislation that would give dioceses more freedom to be generous with historic wealth held in Diocesan Stipend Funds (DSF) to help other less well-off dioceses.

Currently, dioceses can only use the funds for certain specified purposes within their dioceses.

The Bishop of Sheffield, Pete Wilcox, Chair of the Church of England's Mutuality in Finances Group, described the move as the 'first step' towards a conversation about the full extent of the inequalities in financial resources between dioceses.

He said: "The legislation we are proposing today would remove an existing restriction on how particular historical endowments in dioceses can be used, giving dioceses more ability, but no obligation, to be generous."



## **Nearly 400 ordinands on course to take up stipendiary curacy posts in 2022**

Nearly 400 ordinands completing theological training next year are on course to take up stipendiary curacy posts in the Church of England after extra funds were allocated.

The Church of England has confirmed that 400 stipendiary curacy posts – both full and part time – will be available for ordinands expecting to take up stipendiary title posts from 2022 after leaving theological training.

Of these, 290 posts are fully funded by the dioceses while the Strategic Ministry Fund (SMF), administered by the Strategic Ministry Board, will support an additional 110 posts.

The SMF was set up in 2019 to help ensure that dioceses are able to support additional curate numbers as part of the drive to increase the number of candidates for ordained ministry.

The Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich, Martin Seeley, who is Chair of the Ministry Council, said: “Stipendiary ministry remains core to the work of the Church of England and our Vision and Strategy for the future.

“Once again, we are confident that in spite of the difficulties caused by the pandemic, there is capacity to ensure that those people who are offering themselves for stipendiary ordained ministry will be able to serve their curacy in a paid post.”

The announcement of the funding for stipendiary posts comes after new figures were released showing that 501 people were recommended for training for ordained ministry this year.

Of these, 11.4% are people of UKME heritage, up from 10.9% last year, while once again, 54% are female. A growing number are young, with 26% of all recommended candidates aged under 32, up from 24% last year.

## **New job for founder of Messy Church**

The founder of Messy Church, Lucy Moore, has been appointed the first head of the C of E’s Growing Faith Foundation. The Foundation will seek to promote partnerships between schools, churches and households, “to encourage and nurture Christian faith in those of all ages within those communities.”

Lucy Moore first launched Messy Church in 2004, originally as a Fresh Expression in a church near Portsmouth. Messy Church is now found in more than 3,500 settings, in more than 30 countries.

## **Crimes against church buildings**

The number of crimes committed in churches and on religious premises over the past year has fallen, though there were still more than 4,000 offences.

Incidents include theft, vandalism, arson, violence, sexual assault, stalking, malicious communications, hate crime and drug possession.

The figures were obtained by the Countryside Alliance through Freedom of Information requests to Britain’s 45 territorial police forces.

As one researcher said: “We are presented with a grim reality that many churches and places of worship are being treated as easy targets by criminals. We know that police forces take the protection of our heritage very seriously, and hope that where counties have seen a drop in crime, it is because of greater public vigilance and a large police presence in and around these precious places.”

## 11<sup>th</sup> January: Mary Slessor of Calabar

***Courage, vision and leadership are found in the most unlikely of places.***

Mary Slessor was born in December 1848 into a wretchedly poor family. Her father was an alcoholic who lost his job as a shoemaker. Mary was the second of seven children, and in 1859 they moved from Aberdeen into the fetid slums of Dundee. Her father and mother worked in the mills, and Mary joined them there when she turned 11.

When Mary's father and both brothers died of pneumonia, Mary's mother struggled on to keep Mary and her two sisters alive. By the time Mary was 14 she was doing a 12-hour day as a jute maker.

But life was not all drudgery. Mary's mother was a devout Christian who read the family Bible to her daughters, and also the *Missionary Record*, a monthly publication from the United Presbyterian Church. The stories of the missionaries captivated Mary. When she heard that David Livingstone, the great missionary explorer, had died, she decided that she would follow in his footsteps. She wanted to devote her life to taking the gospel to Africa. She was 25.

In August 1876 the Presbyterians sent her out to Calabar, Nigeria, an area where no European had ever yet set foot. With her red hair and blue eyes, Mary grabbed attention wherever she went, but despite recurring illness and constant danger, Mary settled happily among the tribes. She learned their traditions, quickly becoming fluent in their language, Efik. Soon she won the confidence of their tribal leaders. She taught their children and was soon determined to put an end to some of their barbaric practises, such as the killing of twins (whom they thought were evil).

Over the years Mary put an end to many witchcraft practises, and she adopted every twin child she found abandoned. And she talked endlessly about Jesus Christ, the passion of her life.

Mary was tough – she made long trips through the jungles and took canoes up remote rivers. When her shoes gave out, she went barefoot. Her great passion was to go to 'the regions beyond' with the Gospel. She thrived in places and among people who would have terrified most women in her day.

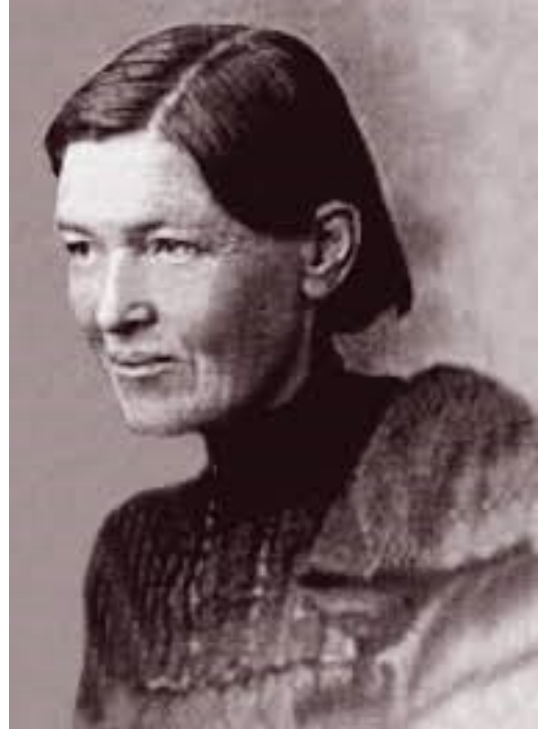
It has been written of her: "Practically singlehanded she tamed and transformed three pagan communities in succession. It is a question if the career of any other woman missionary has been marked by so many strange adventures, daring feats, signal providences, and wonderful achievements." (Dr Robert H. Glover, *The Progress of World-Wide Missions*.)

When in 1901 Southern Nigeria became a British Protectorate, Mary was appointed the first ever female Magistrate in the British Empire. She became a skilful diplomatic emissary.

She was known for saying: "It is not Mary Slessor, but God and our united prayers that have brought the blessings to Calabar. Christ shall have all the honour and glory for the multitudes saved."

When she finally died of fever in January 1915 the native Christian girls and women wept bitterly: "Our mother is dead. Everybody's mother has left us."

Mary Slessor once wrote to a friend who had long prayed for her: "I have always said that I have no idea how or why God has carried me over so many funny and hard places, and made these hordes of people submit to me, or why the Government should have given me the privilege of a Magistrate among them, except in answer to prayer made at home for me. It is all beyond my comprehension."



## NEW 19<sup>th</sup> January: Wulfstan, Bishop of Worcester 1095

Wulfstan, Bishop of Worcester from 1062 to 1095, occupies a unique place in British church history.

He was the last surviving pre-Conquest bishop, the first bishop to pay homage to William the Conqueror after the battle of Hastings, and one of the few Saxons to keep high office to the end of William's reign. On top of that, he seems to have been a truly good and holy man.

Wulfstan was born about 1008 at Long Itchington, Warwickshire. His uncle was Archbishop of York, and through his help, Wulfstan studied at the monasteries of Evesham and in Peterborough. Because of his Christian dedication, his superiors recommended him for the priesthood. Wulfstan was ordained in 1038 and joined a Benedictine monastery at Worcester.

Wulfstan was appointed prior of the monastery and from 1034 also served as the parish priest of Hawkesbury, Gloucestershire. He was made bishop of Worcester in 1062.

As a bishop, Wulfstan made some significant contributions to the English church. He had a passion for pastoral care and was the first English bishop to be known to have made a complete visitation of his diocese. He was a gifted administrator, increasing the effectiveness of his archdeacons.

He was highly influential in monastic reform, overseeing laws and canons to reform the role of the clergy.

He was a powerful preacher – with a great gift for explaining the teaching of Christianity. He encouraged a wider understanding of public penitence and taught against the many pagan customs throughout the land.

He had a strong social conscience, and soon became a bitter opponent of the slave trade. Together with Lanfranc, Wulfstan was mainly responsible for ending the slave trade in Bristol, and also for abolishing the slave trade between Worcester diocese and Ireland.

He had a passion for buildings, and founded Great Malvern Priory, as well as overseeing the large-scale rebuilding of Worcester Cathedral, Hereford Cathedral, and Tewkesbury Abbey.

Wulfstan died in January 1095, apparently during his daily ritual of washing the feet of 12 of his parishioners.



# Items for Reflection

Editor: Paul Hardingham begins a year-long series on the very foundations of our Christian faith.

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## Christian Basics No 1: God the Creator

For many today the universe began with a big bang, in which a lump of matter, smaller than a pinhead, exploded 15 billion years ago. It's a story that defines who we are and where we come from. However, the Bible gives us another perspective on this event, revealing God as Creator: *'By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible'* (Hebrews 11:3). What does Genesis 1 say about God as Creator?

### *'In the beginning, God'*

Whereas science can offer answers about the **how** of creation, the Bible tells us about the **why** i.e. the purpose of the Creator! Creation reflects the character and glory of God, inviting a response of dependence and praise!

### *'God created the heavens and the earth'*

God shaped the universe, as expressed in the *'6 days'* of creation. They speak of an ordered and purposeful universe that expresses God's will: He spoke and it was done! An alternative translation is *'God began creating'*, reminding us that creation is also an ongoing process, where the Holy Spirit is still at work in our lives and world.

### *'God created man in His own image'*

In the account, human beings are presented as the climax and crown of creation. We share the sixth day of creation with other creatures, as well as 95% of the same DNA. However, we are distinctively made in the **image of God**, created for relationship with God, with a responsibility to care for the created order.

### *'And God saw that it was good'*

Like an artist, God described His work as *good*. We should always approach this story with wonder, enjoying God's world and affirming creativity in ourselves and others.

Editor: The Rev Dr Herbert McGonigle looks to Psalm 23 as the New Year begins....

## The reality of faith in God

As we enter this New Year of 2022 even the most devoted Christians can't ignore the uncertainties we face. The whole world was caught up in the persistent spread of Coronavirus. It is shaking national economies and causing untold stress and harm. Many people fear that their lives and families will never be the same again.

Almost daily the news has been gloomy and economic experts say the situation is the worst in living memory. How do we, as Christians, react to all this? What do we trust in? Has God something to say to us in these days?

An answer may be found in a well-loved passage from the Bible – Psalm 23: *'The Lord is my shepherd ...He restores my soul ...he leads me ...I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.'*

But in the middle of this lovely psalm there are three reminders that Christians are NOT exempt from the realities of life. The psalmist speaks of *'the paths of righteousness'*, *'the valley of the shadow'* and *'the presence of my enemies.'*

The mention of *'the paths of righteousness'* is a reminder that we are called to love the Lord and live our lives in *righteousness*. The wonderful promises in this psalm come with a condition; they are given to those who determine by God's grace to live righteously. And that must be our first resolution for 2022.

The *'valley of the shadow'* may refer to death, but generally the reference here is wider. It means all those occasions when fear and sorrow and heartbreak and loss come to even the best Christians.

Then there are our *'enemies.'* Originally that probably meant those wanting to kill the psalmist. For us it may be the seduction of old temptations, the fears that paralyse us and the memories of sins that still haunt us.

The psalmist is a realist! As Christians we live our lives in the real world! We are not floating on cloud nine; we are rooted in a fallen world and surrounded by temptations and sins and infirmities. Any day, pain, an incurable disease, even death itself, may come to us or to those we love. How do we face these realities?

Psalm 23 has the answer. If we, by God's grace, will walk in *'the paths of righteousness,'* then all the promises are ours! The Lord will be our Shepherd. He will lead us by the still waters; He will restore our souls, prepare a table for us in the wilderness, protect and guide us with His rod and staff and, at the end, bring us into the house of the Lord forever. Let's make Psalm 23 our charter of faith for 2022!

*Dr Herbert McGonigle is a former Senior Lecturer in Historical Theology, Church History and Wesley Studies in Nazarene Theological College, Manchester, England.*

## Remembering Ralph Vaughan Williams

One hundred years ago, on 16<sup>th</sup> January 1922, Ralph Vaughan Williams' *A Pastoral Symphony* was performed for the first time, in London.

Later designated Symphony No. 3, it was said to be inspired by the composer hearing a bugler practising and is frequently thought of as a memorial for the fallen of the First World War, many of whom Vaughan Williams knew. He later said he saw music as an antidote to a war-torn world.

He had been born in 1872: his father was vicar at Down Ampney in Gloucestershire, but he died two years later. His mother, an evangelical Christian, was also the niece of Charles Darwin. This combination of events may have led to his uncertainty in questions of faith: his second wife Ursula said he "drifted into a cheerful agnosticism, but he was never a professing Christian".

Nevertheless, Vaughan Williams frequently attended church, where he found musical inspiration. His first job after graduation was as a church organist, and he wrote many compositions for the Anglican Church, including well known hymn tunes. He edited *The English Hymnal* in 1904 and wrote an opera of *The Pilgrim's Progress*. But he said there was "no reason why an atheist could not write a good Mass".

*A Pastoral Symphony* received some criticism at first but was later regarded as stunningly beautiful, combining the grace of the wildly popular *The Lark Ascending* with the deep sadness of war.

## 80 years of Desert Island Discs

Some 80 years ago, on 29<sup>th</sup> January 1942, the BBC radio show *Desert Island Discs* was first broadcast. It is Britain's longest running radio show, and the world's longest running weekly factual radio programme.

Devised and originally presented by Roy Plomley, it was first broadcast on the BBC Forces Programme, but later switched to Radio 4. Each week a guest 'castaway' has to choose eight recordings, a book and a luxury item they would take with them if they were stranded on a desert island. In discussing this, they also reveal hopefully offbeat elements of their life. Past presenters have included Michael Parkinson, Sue Lawley and Kirsty Young, but the show is now fronted by Lauren Laverne.

More than 3000 episodes have been broadcast, with some guests appearing more than once. In the early 1970s, Roy Plomley interviewed Alistair MacLean, who turned out not to be the famous author but someone else with the same name, and the programme was never broadcast.

Very few episodes from the first 20 years of the show have survived; the earliest known to exist was broadcast in 1951 and features actress Margaret Lockwood.

All participants are allowed to take a Bible and copy of Shakespeare: needless to say, the National Secular Society has called for the Bible to be dropped, but known atheists such as Philip Pullman have wanted to keep it. A recent poll suggested that 56% of people questioned would not choose to take a Bible, and another 13% were unsure.

Both articles by Tim Lenton  
© Parish Pump



*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.*

## **‘Truth is under attack’ BBC chief tells church service**

Truth is under attack like never before, BBC director general Tim Davie told a special church service in London, attended by the Duchess of Cornwall.

Speaking at the annual commemorative service for journalists, held at St Bride’s, Fleet Street – the journalists’ church – Tim Davie declared: “In the disinformation age, truth is under assault like never before. Those who stand up for it most strongly have never been more targeted.”

He welcomed the recent award of the Nobel Peace Prize to journalists, Maria Ressa and Dmitry Muratov, “for their fight for freedom of expression” in the Philippines and Russia.

Mr Davie explained: “We know that the physical risks faced by journalists no longer come solely from the front line. Reporters all around the world face escalating dangers, increasing levels of harassment, and ever more subtle modes of intimidation.”

He said that in March, the BBC’s Beijing correspondent, John Sudworth, had been forced to leave China as “a result of pressure and threats from the authorities.” Over the summer, the BBC’s Moscow correspondent, Sarah Rainsford, had been expelled from Russia after more than 20 years of reporting. These moves, he said, “were almost unthinkable just a few years ago.”

Tim Davie told the service that journalists share key beliefs: “that truth is the foundation of democracy, that power must be held to account, that those who abuse that power must be exposed, and those who are the victims of that abuse must be given a voice.”

He added: “More than anything else, what truly brings us together as a family is the compassion and care we have for our colleagues in peril right around the world, and for their families.”

Canon Alison Joyce, Rector of St Bride’s said: “The world has never been in greater need of good journalism, and we have never had more occasion to be reminded of the human cost of good journalism than we have today.

“It is our privilege to honour the memories of all those journalists; photographers; film crew; and their support staff, and all who work freelance in the industry, who have lost their lives this past year and to remember in our prayers those who continue to work in situations of immense personal risk in the pursuit of truth.

## **Sitting down in church**

Did you ever wonder how our churches first acquired pews? Dr Nicholas Orme, Emeritus Professor of History at Exeter University, has written a book, *Going to Church in Medieval England* (Yale University Press), in which he points out that “no medieval church pronouncement ordered the provision of seating in churches other than for the clergy. General seating was a lay invention.”

It is easy to understand those laity of long ago: the services could go on for hours. And so, as Dr Orme explains, general seating “seems to have begun with the nobility and gentry who wished for comfort .... The desire spread downwards to the congregation during the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> centuries.”

## **The young pray and worship more than you think**

More than half of adults (51 per cent) who are aged under 35 pray at least once a month, while almost as many (49 per cent) make a monthly visit to some place of worship.

In contrast, of adults aged over 55, only a quarter (24 per cent) pray, and only one fifth (16 per cent) attend a place of worship.

The survey was done by Savanta ComRes, and included Christians, Hindus, Jews and Muslims. It was commissioned by the organisers of the Eternal Wall of Prayer, which is being built near Birmingham. The monument’s creator, Richard Gamble, is a former chaplain of Leicester City FC, who says: “Many are now discovering that prayer is not a response of the last resort.”

## Week of Prayer for Christian Unity – 18<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> January

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is traditionally observed from the 18th to 25th January – the octave of St Peter and St Paul.

This year, the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity has been prepared by the churches of the Middle East. The Christians of the Middle East say that they offer these resources “conscious that the world shares many of the travails and much of the difficulties that it experiences”, and that it also “yearns for a light to lead the way to the Saviour who is the light that overcomes darkness.”

More at: <https://ctbi.org.uk/week-of-prayer-for-christian-unity-2022/>

*Editor: by Tim Lenton, our community reporter*

### Remembering Sir Ernest Shackleton

One hundred years ago, on 5<sup>th</sup> January 1922, Sir Ernest Shackleton, the Irish-born British Antarctic explorer, died of a heart attack in his bunk in South Georgia. He had led three British expeditions to the Antarctic. He was 47.

It is now believed he may have had a hole in his heart. His feats of bravery and endurance were mixed with sudden illness, but he was never willing to have his heart properly examined.

He set a Furthest South record when he commanded the Nimrod expedition in 1907-09. On that occasion he showed acclaimed leadership by refusing to try for the Pole because of the likelihood that he and his men would die on the return journey.

But his greatest achievement was to enable the rescue of his crew after the Endurance became trapped and then crushed by ice in the Weddell Sea in 1915. A long trek, hauling lifeboats over ice, was followed by Shackleton and two companions reaching South Georgia in a small boat – followed by a trek over mountains and glaciers to a whaling station, from where a rescue ship was launched to bring home the remainder.

This has been described as “an utterly unbelievable story of bravery, heroism and endurance”. Shackleton was not known to be a Christian, but he and his men said they felt Providence was guiding them, especially during the 36-hour march across South Georgia, when all three said they felt sure there were four of them, and not three, making the journey.



### Excerpt from 'The Glory in the Grey'

Almighty God, Redeemer...  
 Sunshine and storm, mist and greyness  
 Eddy round our inner lives.  
 But as we trace the pattern, looking back,  
 We know that both darkness and light have been of thine ordaining,  
 For our own soul's health.  
 Thy constant care in all, and everywhere,  
 Is manifest.

*By George MacLeod, founder of the Iona Community*

*Editor: David Pickup, a solicitor, considers the year ahead.*

### A New Year's Resolution from Micah

*Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousand rivers of olive oil? Shall I offer my firstborn for my transgression...? He has shown you, O mortal, what is good, and what does the Lord require of you: To act justly and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God. (Micah 6:7-8)*

I quite like olive oil; not the Popeye character but the cooking ingredient. Although I am not sure what I would do with even one river of oil, and I have nowhere to put a ram.

Still, this is one of my favourite Bible passages, and it is an ideal one for lawyers. It sums up in a very simple but helpful way what true religion should be. That makes it a good verse to start the year. The message is simple: God does not want empty promises or lip service, but our real devotion, from our heart.

What does it mean for us?

**Do justly** - Be honest and open in our dealings with others this year. Be dependable. We should say when things are going wrong and be appreciative when they go well. Be fair in our dealings, whether at home or at work or in church. Keep confidences and never pass on gossip.

**Love mercy** - Give people the benefit of doubt, do not take advantage of others and do not always criticise or complain. Accept apologies and explanations where we can, and be generous.

**Walk humbly** - Quietly get on with things. Do not make a big show of what we do.

Lastly, we are *required* to do these things. They are not options or choices but requirements. Like many requirements in the Bible, they are simple to understand, but not always simple to do. Happy New Year.





**25<sup>th</sup> January:****St Paul, the first Christian intellectual**

This month, on 25<sup>th</sup> January, the Church celebrates probably the most famous conversion of all. At least, what happened to a young man called Saul on the road to Damascus has become a byword for all instant conversions - what is known as a 'damascene' moment. Saul was a devout Jew, a Pharisee, a student of Gamaliel and a fierce critic of the followers of Jesus, then a very new sect on the religious scene.

On his way to Damascus to start a purge of Christians in that city, he was blinded by a bright light and heard a voice saying, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?' He asked the identity of the voice, and was told: 'Jesus, whom you are persecuting'. Stunned by the experience, he followed further instructions which led him to a Christian man in Damascus, who prayed with him. As he did, Saul's sight was restored.

The experience convinced Paul that Jesus - crucified in Jerusalem four or five years earlier - was in fact the Messiah and had risen from the dead. After a period of instruction, Saul was baptised and took the name Paul. At first, some Christians were wary about the reality of his conversion, but over a period of time he was accepted and indeed eventually recognised as an 'apostle', a 'special messenger' of Jesus Christ.

His intellectual stature and leadership gifts quickly marked him out, and within a few years he became a leading figure in the emerging Christian Church, preaching and founding churches all over the Middle East, largely of Gentile converts. He was eventually martyred in Rome, probably in 65AD.

Paul was the first intellectual of the Christian Church, the man who was able to set the events of the life and teaching of Jesus, and especially His death and resurrection, into a coherent theology, with its roots very clearly in the Jewish faith of his own upbringing.

Many people think of Paul as a rather negative, narrow misogynist, but even a quick reading of his letters actually reveals a person of great warmth, who evoked enormous affection and devotion from others. 'You would have plucked out your eyes and given them to me!' he writes to the Christians at Galatia. As for the charge that Paul disliked women, even a quick read of his letters will reveal how large a role women played in his churches. In terms of the first century, St Paul was a dangerous liberal! So, all in all, the amazing Paul of Tarsus deserves a bit of celebrating on 25<sup>th</sup> January.



Read the story in Matthew Chapter 2 verses 1-12 and then colour in these images! Have fun!

## Epiphany

SIGNS, VISITORS, GIFTS AND KINGS



© deborah noble



## The History of Christingles

The idea of Christingles came from a Moravian Church in Germany in 1747. The minister, John de Watteville, gave children at the service a lighted candle with a red ribbon around it. This represented Jesus being the light of the world and the final prayer of that first service was "Lord Jesus, kindle a flame in these children's hearts, that theirs like Thine become". The custom went around the world with the church. Missionaries brought the Moravian Church to England in the late 1700s. In Moravian churches, the Christingle Service is usually held on the Sunday before Christmas or on Christmas Eve.

Over the years the symbolism of the Christingle grew into what's known as a Christingle today. Here's what the different parts of the Christingle represent:



- The orange is round like the world.
- The candle stands tall and straight and gives light in the dark like the love of God.
- The red ribbon goes all around the 'world' and is a symbol of the blood Jesus shed when he died for us. (Sometimes in Moravian Churches a white ribbon is used, to represent the purity of Jesus.)
- The four sticks point in all directions and symbolise North, South, East and West - they also represent the four seasons.
- The fruit and nuts (or sometimes sweets!) represent the fruits of the earth, nurtured by the sunshine and the rain.

The word Christingle could have come from several sources. It might be an 'English' version of 'Christkindl' (meaning little Christ child), the present bringer in some parts of Germany and other European countries, who represents the baby Jesus. It could be a the putting together of the words 'Christmas' and 'ingle'. Ingle is an old Scots word for fire and so that would make it mean the 'Christ Light'. As Christingles originally came from Germany, the first theory is more likely.

Christingles became widely known in England by [The Children's Society \(one of the earliest children's charities in the UK and it has strong connections with the Church of England\)](#). The first Christingle service held in the Church of England by The Children's Society was in 1968 (although some services seem to have been held earlier in at least one Church of England church, as a visitor to the site went to one!).

The idea came from John Pensom who was also known as "Mr Christingle"! People didn't think the service would work as making the Christingles would be too complicated - but they were wrong! The custom has spread through to all kinds of churches and is one of the most common and popular Christmas services in the UK, especially among children. Christingles services still normally raise money for children's charities.

For this article and more go to: <https://www.whychristmas.com/customs/christingles.shtml>

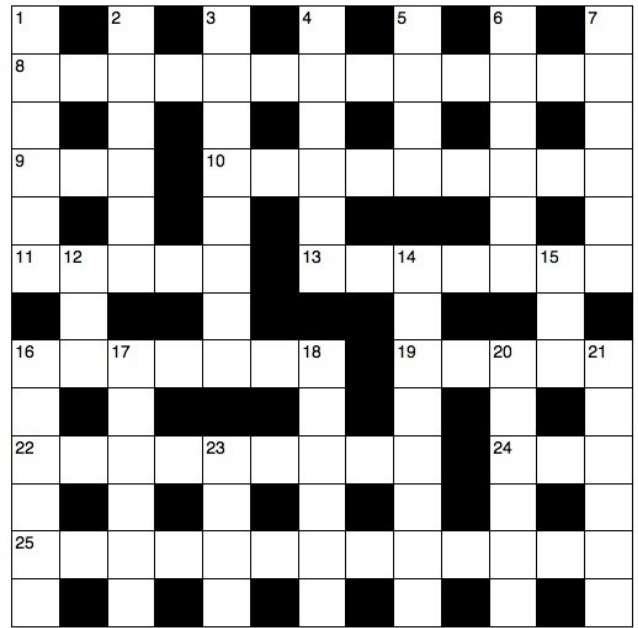
## Crossword Clues

### Across

- 8 How the Abyss (NIV) is described in the Authorized Version (Revelation 9:1) (10,3)
- 9 Frozen water (Ezekiel 1:22) (3)
- 10 The Ten Commandments (9)
- 11 In Roman Catholic theology, neither heaven nor hell (5)
- 13 Des cons (anag.) (7)
- 16 'Though [your sins] are red as — , they shall be like wool' (Isaiah 1:18) (7)
- 19 Keen (Romans 1:15) (5)
- 22 Repugnant, loathsome (Jeremiah 24:9) (9)
- 24 Drink like an animal (Judges 7:5) (3)
- 25 First and last (Revelation 22:13) (5,3,5)

### Down

- 1 Father of Ahi, a Gadite (1 Chronicles 5:15) (6)
- 2 Where David found the stone with which he killed Goliath (1 Samuel 17:40) (6)
- 3 'Hour by hour fresh lips are making thy — doings heard on high' (8)
- 4 'And there were shepherds living out in the fields near by, keeping watch over their — at night' (Luke 2:8) (6)
- 5 United Society for Christian Literature (1,1,1,1)
- 6 'If he refuses to listen even to the church, treat him as you would — — or a tax collector' (Matthew 18:17) (1,5)
- 7 Where Paul was taken when things became difficult for him in Berea (Acts 17:15) (6)
- 12 Istituto per le Opere di Religione (Vatican Bank) (1,1,1)
- 14 'Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new — ; the old has gone, the new has come!' (2 Corinthians 5:17) (8)
- 15 Used to colour ram skins red for use in the tabernacle (Exodus 25:5) (3)
- 16 Vat car (anag.) (6)
- 17 'Be joyful — — , patient in affliction, faithful in prayer' (Romans 12:12) (6)
- 18 'The parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty, while our presentable parts — — special treatment' (1 Corinthians 12:23) (4,2)
- 20 Ancient rowing boat (Isaiah 33:21) (6)
- 21 Say again (2 Corinthians 11:16) (6)
- 23 What Jesus did in the synagogue in Nazareth after he stood up (Luke 4:16) (4)



### Easy Level Sudoku

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

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### Medium Level Sudoku

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

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**Puzzle Solutions on page 34**

## **So Loved – 26 words that can change your life**

**By Martin Salter, IVP £5.99**

Here's an astonishing claim. John 3:16 appears on everything from fridge magnets to sports stars' faces. But what does it actually mean? And how does it relate to you and me?

With warmth, personal stories and humour, the author explains God's love, His Son, His sacrifice, and the all-important connection with us today. This is an invitation for anyone to dive straight in and take the first step in an exciting, life-transforming journey of faith.

## **A Little Bit of Faith – hopeful affirmations for every day of the year**

**By Katie Piper, SPCK, £11.99**

Much loved TV presenter and charity campaigner Katie Piper offers hopeful and encouraging daily affirmations for the entire year, showing that *A Little Bit of Faith* can take you a long way.

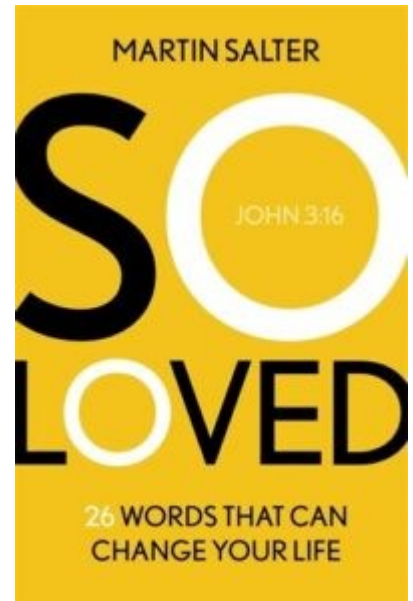
Katie Piper encourages us to see that heartbreak and hardship can become fuel for your fight. Whatever life has thrown at you lately, you can fall countless times and still get back up again – all you need is a little bit of faith.

Full of hope and warmth, this lovely daily devotional draws on Katie's own faith to show how spirituality has brought greater confidence and meaning to her life.

## **The BRF Book of 365 Bible Reflections**

**Compiled by Karen Laister and Olivia Warburton, BRF, £14.99**

This special anniversary collection is a celebration of the Bible for BRF's centenary year of 2022. Bringing together a fantastically wide-ranging writing team of authors, supporters and well-wishers from all areas of BRF's work, this resource is designed to help us go deeper into the story of the Bible and reflect on how we can share it in our everyday lives.



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## **Help your garden, help your planet**

The Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) has launched a modern-day 'Dig for Victory' campaign to help tackle climate change.

It is asking the UK's 30 million gardeners to consider digging up their garden paving and instead to plant trees, grass and bee-friendly flora, to help nature survive.

The RHS has calculated that if every gardener in the UK grew at least one medium-sized tree in their garden, then that would be the equivalent of storing the carbon produced from driving 11 million times around the planet.

Further research from a YouGov survey has found that only 19 per cent of gardeners say that they have adopted sustainable gardening practices.

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## Things to make you smile

### With Epiphany in mind...

I was telling my three boys the story of the Nativity and how the Wise Men brought gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh for the infant Jesus. Clearly giving it a lot of thought, my six-year-old observed, "Mum, a Wise Woman would have brought nappies."

### Spotted on a church notice board:

When you were born, your mother brought you here.  
When you were married, your partner brought you here.  
When you die, your family will bring you here.  
In the meantime, why not try coming on your own sometimes?

### Chocolate

When I look at chocolate, I hear two voices in my head. The first one says, 'You need to eat the chocolate.' The second one says, 'You heard. Eat the chocolate.'

### Moses revisited

Nine-year-old Joseph was asked by his mother what he had learned in Sunday school. "Well, Mum, our teacher told us how God sent Moses behind enemy lines on a rescue mission to lead the Israelites out of Egypt. When he got to the Red Sea, he had his engineers build a pontoon bridge and all the people walked across safely. Then he radioed headquarters for reinforcements. They sent bombers to blow up the bridge and all the Israelites were saved."

"Now, Joseph, is that really what your teacher taught you?" his mother asked, somewhat alarmed.

"Well, no, Mum. But if I told it the way the teacher did, you'd never believe it!"

### God's Aid

God to enfold,  
God to surround,  
God in speech-told,  
God my thought-bound.

God when I sleep,  
God when I wake,  
God my watch-keep,  
God my hope-sake.

God my life-whole,  
God lips apart,  
God in my soul,  
God in my heart.

God Wine and Bread,  
God is my death,  
God my soul-thread,  
God ever breath.

*Ancient Celtic Prayer*

### What children have to say about angels



It's not easy to become an angel! First, you die. Then you go to Heaven, and then there's still the flight training to go through. And then you have to agree to wear those angel clothes. -Matthew, age 9

Angels work for God and watch over kids when God has to do something else. - Mitchell, age 7

My guardian angel helps me with maths, but he's not much good for science. - Henry, age 8

© Parish Pump

Hope means expectancy when things are otherwise hopeless. - *GK Chesterton*

God looks at the clean hands, not the full ones. - *Pubilius Syrus*

Do not pray for easy lives. Pray to be stronger men. - *John F Kennedy*

Grief drives men into the habits of serious reflection, sharpens the understanding and softens the heart. - *John Adams*

Many come to bring their clothes to church rather than themselves. - *Anon*

Churches in cities are most wonderful solitudes. - *Thomas Merton*

Remember that Triumph is just a little 'umph' added to 'try.' - *Anon*

Good judgment comes from experience. Unfortunately, the experience usually comes from bad judgment. - *Anon*

There are decades when nothing happens: and there are weeks when decades happen. - *Vladimir Ilyich Lenin*

Not everything that is faced can be changed, but nothing can be changed, until it is faced. - *James Baldwin*

Hope smiles from the threshold of the year to come, whispering 'it will be happier' - *Alfred Lord Tennyson*

Be at war with your vices, at peace with your neighbours, and let every new year find you a better man. - *Benjamin Franklin*

## Bible verses of hope as a New Year begins

***You are a new creation:*** Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.' (2 Corinthians 5:17)

***You can have a new heart:*** I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. (Ezekiel 36:26)

***Good new things can happen:*** Behold, I will do a new thing, now it shall spring forth; shall you not know it? I will even make a road in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. (Isaiah 43:19)

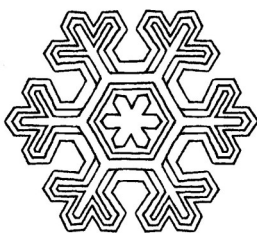
***God is looking out for you:*** For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope. (Jeremiah 29:11)

***You need not worry:*** Do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? (Matthew 6:25)

***Do not be afraid:*** For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind. (2 Timothy 1:7)

***Feel free to always ask for help:*** Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God. (Philippians 4:6)

***Look forwards:*** But one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead. (Philippians 3:13)



January  
2022



## The music you love best – and when you love it

If you enjoy listening to music, ever notice how the kind of music that you like changes throughout the day? According to research published in the journal *Royal Society Open Science*, our tastes over just one day will vary in preference to a perceived tempo, loudness, bounciness, and danceability.

In late morning, we tend to go for loudness and energy in our music. By afternoon, the tempo begins to increase, and the beat and danceability also increase.

The highest tempo is preferred in the evening, between 8pm and 11pm. After that, we tend to prefer softer, slower music. But by 4am, the picture is muddled, as “the handful of people awake at this hour are often up to very different activities.”

## A Brief History of Hymns

By Simon Lole

Songs of Praise conductor, composer, arranger and organist

For almost two thousand years, Christians have used music as a way to worship. In the Bible the Apostle Paul writes: “Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs.”

The word “hymn” comes from the Greek word “hymnos” which means “a song of praise”. Originally these would have been written in honour of the Gods. Hymnody (the singing or composition of hymns) has evolved and changed over the centuries and been affected by new thinking and developing religious beliefs: throughout the history of the church, whenever there has been renewal, revival or restoration, new songs of worship have appeared.

During the Middle Ages hymnody developed in the form of Gregorian chant or ‘plainsong’. It was sung in Latin and most often by monastic choirs. But in the 16th century, church goers were given much greater access to hymns as a result of the invention of the printing press and the influential German theologian, Martin Luther, who began encouraging people to sing together in congregations.

In England the non-conformist minister Isaac Watts (1674-1748) began a transformation of congregational singing. Watts believed strongly that hymns should express the religious feelings of the people and he became a prolific writer, creating hundreds of new hymns. Watts has been described as “the liberator of English hymnody” as his hymns moved people away from simply singing Old Testament psalms, inspiring people to sing from the heart, with great faith and understanding.

In the same period, another significant movement affected the hymns of the church: the Methodist movement, led by John Wesley. Wesley and especially his brother Charles used simple rhythms and sing-able melodies to help congregational singing. They wrote many of our most well-known hymns that are still very popular today.

In the late 19th Century a new style of hymnody known as “gospel” emerged. These songs were usually characterised by a strong lead vocal and exciting harmonies, and were a great influence on later contemporary worship worldwide.

The twentieth and twenty first centuries have seen an explosion of new hymn writers and approaches. Old texts have been refreshed by new tunes and lots more contemporary hymns have sprung up. In the non-traditional church movement there has been a move away from the previous style of congregational singing to worship led by one singer or a worship band. Instrumentation has become more popular and musical styles have become much freer. The church today is richer than ever in musical resources and continues to bring congregations together through song.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/4vMxs6kctQgkwkgQbJTXDk/a-brief-history-of-hymns>



Editor: When InSpire launched in February 2017 we sought to share one another's favourite hymns. This article featured in the March 2017 issue. Please do share your favourite hymn or Bible passage with us and tell us why it means so much to you?

If you would like to do this, please email the editor, Suzanne: [editor@capelandockleychurch.org.uk](mailto:editor@capelandockleychurch.org.uk)  
Thank you.

## My Favourite ....

This month's contributor is .... Dik Hoogmoed

From a young age I have always liked the melody. The music is identical in Dutch and the translated words carry similar meaning. However the English original hits home for me: more grounded and to the point. Especially the 4th verse (actually the 5th - One verse appears to be often omitted).

For me verse 4 sums up everything we are here for on Earth: To live in and for God's glory, which is our single most important purpose. Everything else we do in this life flows (or should flow) from that.

Just 23 words and they say it all.

*How sweet the Name of Jesus sounds  
in a believer's ear!  
It soothes his sorrows, heals his wounds,  
and drives away his fear.*

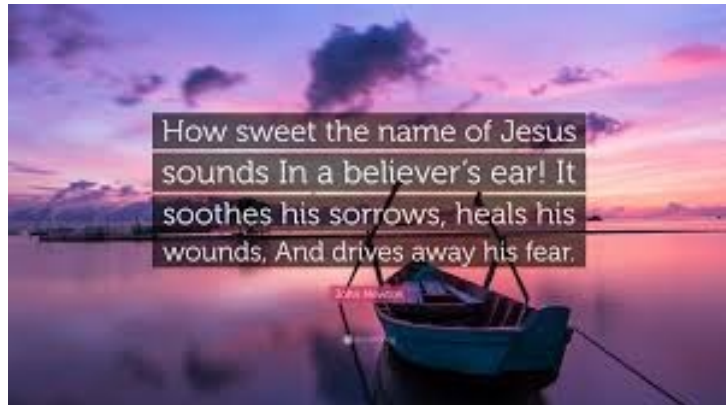
*It makes the wounded spirit whole,  
and calms the troubled breast;  
'tis manna to the hungry soul,  
and to the weary, rest.*

*Dear Name, the rock on which I build,  
my shield and hiding-place,  
my never-failing treasury, filled  
with boundless stores of grace!*

*Jesus! my Shepherd, Brother, Friend,  
my Prophet, Priest and King,  
my Lord, my Life, my Way, my End,  
accept the praise I bring.*

*Weak is the effort of my heart,  
and cold my warmest thought;  
but when I see thee as thou art,  
I'll praise thee as I ought.*

*Till then I would thy love proclaim  
with every fleeting breath;  
and may the music of thy Name  
refresh my soul in death!*



Our thanks to Dik for sharing this with us. We all worship together regularly but how much do we really know about one another and our individual faiths? I hope that this regular feature will bring joy to us all as we discover more about one another and how God speaks to each of us through hymns, scripture or poetry. Or maybe Art? If you have a favourite painting or other piece of Artwork that brings you closer to God, would you share that with us? I look forward to lots more contributions in the future to share with you all. The Editor.

It was to celebrate the wonderful name of Jesus that John Newton wrote a hymn called *How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds*. The idea for the hymn came from the comment of a Shulamite maiden who says of King Solomon, her betrothed, "Your name is like perfume poured out" (S.S. 1:3, *NIV*). Pastor Newton applied that to the name of Jesus, and wrote of what that wonderful name meant to him.

<https://wordwisehymns.com/2018/05/16/how-sweet-the-name-of-jesus-sounds-2/>

# Puzzle Solutions

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

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

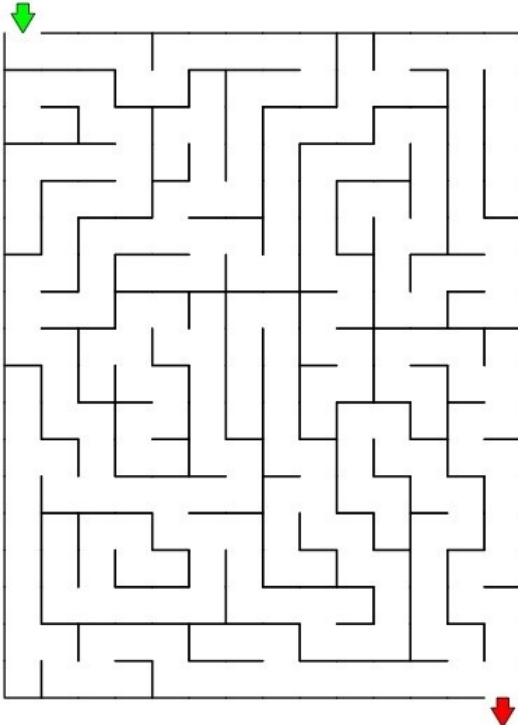
## Easy Soduko solution

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

## Crossword solution

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

## January's Maze



## Medium Soduko solution

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

# CAPEL CHURCH TEAS FOR 2022

All 3.00—5.00 pm unless marked otherwise

27th March	Mothering Sunday
15th April	Good Friday 4.00—5.00 pm
17th April	Easter Day
18th April	Easter Monday
2nd May	Monday May Day holiday
15th May	Sunday
2nd June	Thursday - Jubilee (Provisional)
6th June	Monday - Jubilee (Provisional)
19th June	Father's Day
5th July	Sunday
17th July	Sunday
31st July	Sunday
14th August	Sunday
28th August	Sunday
29th August	Monday - Late Summer Bank holiday
11th September	Sunday
25th September	Sunday (Provisional)
2nd October	Harvest Sunday
16th October	Sunday
6th November	All Souls 4.00— 5.00 pm
19th November	Saturday - Capel Christmas Fair
27th November	Sunday
11th December	Sunday





*The angel of the Lord came down,  
And glory shone around.  
"Fear not," said he,  
for mighty dread  
Had seized their troubled mind;  
"Glad tidings of great joy I bring  
To you and all mankind."*

*The Nativity scene outside the Vicarage in Capel*



Your contributions would be most welcome and any copy for this publication should be sent to  
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