

# InSpire

InSpire magazine - Issue 95 August 2025



See how the wild flowers grow! They don't work to earn, or craft their own clothes, but even King Solomon with all his wealth was not dressed as well as they are. Lk 12:27-28

**The monthly publication for the Parish of Capel & Ockley**  
**Free of charge - donations welcome in honesty box in wall**

## Welcome to our newly ordained Rev Gill

A heartfelt message from our newly ordained Rev Gill Christie. Congratulations and every blessing to Rev Gill!

### Heartfelt Thanks from a Deacon

To those who have prayed over the years,  
To those who listened to the early prayers and sermons,  
To those who supported the idea of a home-grown cleric,  
To those who caught the vision and the dream,  
To those who wrote references and were quizzed,  
To those who heard tales of essays and portfolios,  
To those who gave a beautiful green stole,  
To those who did battle with limited parking at the cathedral on a bright Sunday morning,  
To those who baked and prepared the party food and decorated tables,  
To those who set up and cleared up the parish lunch on 29<sup>th</sup> June,  
To those who joined in the celebration of my ordination,  
To the Living God who created us all, loves us all and is delighted to bless us all  
I offer my heartfelt thanks.

Rev. Gill Christie





## Contents:-

- 2 Thank you from Rev Gill
- 3 Contents & Church contacts
- 4 Services & Events
- 5 Rev Liz writes
- 6 News from the Pews
- 7 Café Church
- 8 Remembering Eric  
Transfiguration
- 9 Prayers, Prose and Poems
- 10 News pages
- 12 Andrew Forsyth's reply
- 13 News from the Belfry
- 14 Chapels of Abbotsbury, Dorset
- 15 The other vicar's letter—St  
James the Least of All
- 16 The Pavilion Café  
Murder Mystery play 2025
- 17 Reflectiong Faith: Saying  
Farewell  
Local Event: An Evening with  
Rob Parsons
- 18 Praying with Prayers of the  
Bible
- 19 Letter from the Editor
- 20 When I say I'm a Christian  
Laughter Lines
- 21 What's the Big Idea: Introduction  
to the books of the New  
Testament: 1 Corinthians  
Capel Church Tea dates 2025
- 22 The Nicene Creed Part 3
- 23 Christian Media owner calls  
on Elon Musk to be more  
accountable
- 24 The Vicar who won Wimbledon
- 25 Book Reviews
- 26 Dorking Foodbank: Donate 10
- 27 Puzzles
- 28 Capel Village Hall 100 Club
- 29 God in the Arts
- 30 Puzzle solutions
- 31 Junior InSpire
- 32 Café Church - August 2025

What we can know about God is so great and glorious that we can confidently trust what we do not know about Him. Our God is a good God.

- Frank Retief

## Would you prefer to receive InSpire online?

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

This month's issue is sponsored by

**Peter & Christine Bradley**

who are Celebrating their Golden Wedding  
Anniversary in August

Many congratulations to them both!

## Church Contacts:-

**Vicar - Rev Liz Richardson** The Vicarage, High Lea, 54 The Street, Capel. [vicar@capelandockleychurch.org.uk](mailto:vicar@capelandockleychurch.org.uk) 01306 711260

**Curate - Rev Gill Christie** [curate@capelandockleychurch.org.uk](mailto:curate@capelandockleychurch.org.uk) 01306 711917

**Parish Pastoral Assistant:** **Sylvie Beckett** 07711 849338

**Safeguarding Officer:** **Leigh Smith** 07732 825908  
[leighdesouza@yahoo.com](mailto:leighdesouza@yahoo.com)

**Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor:** **Jackie Broadfoot**  
07918 559387  
[safeguarding@cofeguildford.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@cofeguildford.org.uk)

See our **Safeguarding Notice** in 'News from the Pews' each month.

**Churchwardens** [churchwardens@capelandockleychurch.org.uk](mailto:churchwardens@capelandockleychurch.org.uk)

**Capel:** **Joy Harman** 01306 711482  
**Stuart Cole** 01306 711449  
[church.warden@ansford.me.uk](mailto:church.warden@ansford.me.uk)  
**Andy Carr (Deputy)** 01306 712524

**Ockley:** **James Lee-Steere**  
[jamesleesteere@javesestate.co.uk](mailto:jamesleesteere@javesestate.co.uk)

**Treasurer:**  
**Capel & Ockley** **Helen Burt**  
[helenmb0909@gmail.com](mailto:helenmb0909@gmail.com)  
01306 711671

**Capel Organist & Choir** **Anthea Smallwood** 01306 711883  
**Ockley Organist** **Andrew Collings** 01403 265794

**PCC Secretary** **Chev. Richard Winter-Stanbridge**  
[sirrichard@giganticworx.com](mailto:sirrichard@giganticworx.com)

**InSpire Editor** **Suzanne Cole** 01306 711449  
[inspire@capelandockleychurch.org.uk](mailto:inspire@capelandockleychurch.org.uk)

**Church website:** **www.capelandockleychurch.org.uk**  
**Webmaster** [webmaster@capelandockleychurch.org.uk](mailto:webmaster@capelandockleychurch.org.uk)

# CHURCH SERVICES AND EVENTS - AUGUST 2025

## at St John the Baptist, Capel & St Margaret's, Ockley

### AUGUST

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>3rd</b>	<b>Trinity 7</b>
	9.30am	Matins - Ockley
	10.30am	Family Communion - Capel
	3.00pm	Baptism - Ockley
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>9th</b>	<b>Trinity 8</b>
	10.30am	<b>Cafe Church at Okewood Marquee</b> - <i>no services in churches today</i> <i>join us with Okewood and Forest Green churches for our worship</i> <i>cafe church style in the Okewood Show Marquee on Okewood Hill</i> <i>Recreation Ground.</i>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>16th</b>	<b>CAPEL SHOW</b>
	12.00pm	Churchs' Burger stall - <i>come and say hello!</i>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>17th</b>	<b>Trinity 9</b>
	9.30am	Parish Communion BCP - Ockley with Dedication and Twinning of the loos!
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>23rd</b>	<b>Wedding</b>
	12.00pm	Wedding of Amy and Aaron - Capel
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>24th</b>	<b>Trinity 10</b>
	10.30am	Parish Worship - Capel
	3-5pm	Capel Church Teas
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>31st</b>	<b>Trinity 11</b>
	9.30am	Parish Communion CW - Ockley

### SEPTEMBER

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>7th</b>	<b>Trinity 12</b>
	9.30am	Matins - Ockley
	10.30am	Family Communion - Capel

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION AVAILABLE ON OUR CHURCH WEBSITE

Don't forget you can logon to our church website to see the Weekly notes that are published each week, together with our monthly magazine InSpire, OR you can subscribe online to receive any or all of the publications:-

<https://www.capelandockleychurch.org.uk/subscribe/>

# Rev Liz writes

## August's letter

Dear friends,

August - a time to take a breather perhaps? Schools out and for some it is holiday time. As I write I am preparing to take a trip to Portugal for a few days with my daughter and grand daughters which I am very much looking forward to. I like it that usually the pace can be a little more relaxed in August, church wise, and we can recharge our batteries for the start of the Autumn term. We have just held our final church club before the end of the summer term and it was a lovely opportunity to say goodbye to our older children who will be beginning at their new School - The Weald - in September. The school have not been informed of any decision as to the recent consultation so we know that Scott Broadwood will remain on site for the next two terms. Hopefully a decision will be made soon though so everyone can prepare for the future.

Whether the School remains in the village or a mile or so down the road, Scott Broadwood is a terrific place to begin a child's formal education. Everyone is so caring and wants the best for the children. We have thoroughly enjoyed running our weekly afterschool Church Club there and we told we are the most popular club. It has been such a joy to see the children learn and enthuse about the Bible stories they enact each week and to do a craft related to the topic of the day, along with an old-fashioned tea! We look forward to continuing our club next term.

Our newly ordained Revd Gill is enjoying her first weeks in ministry and it is lovely for me to be able to help and support her in her curacy. The ordination service was wonderful at the Cathedral and when each person's parish contingency stood up in the congregation, it seems Gill had the most supporters! Fantastic stuff and next year we do it all over again when Gill is ordained again - this time as a Priest! Then Gill will be able to preside at Holy Communion, give blessings and give the absolution for sins as well as conduct weddings and baptisms! All very exciting. Something else to look forward to is that as part of the Surrey Weald Team we will be participating in the appointment process for our new Team Rector at Newdigate, following Revd Andrew's recent retirement. So we are looking forward to welcoming the person who God is calling to our team.

This last month we also had a great weekend at the Capel Military Show raising a good amount of money which will help us to pay our Parish Share - more about that in the Autumn. We wish to thank the Military Show committee for giving us this annual opportunity. It really is a life saver for us. Now we are gearing ourselves up for the Capel Show where we will be running a Burger Stall. This was very popular last year so we aim to increase our stock to meet the hungry needs of our wonderful customers. We are always looking for volunteers so if you have always wanted to help on a burger stall now's your chance!

I hope you have a relaxing summer and can rest a while. Our Lord Jesus invites those who are weary and burdened to find rest in him. It is about surrendering one's worries and burdens to Jesus and experiencing his peace and comfort (Matthew 11.28-30). I pray that you may know his blessing.

With all my love and prayers as ever,

*Liz*

Revd Liz

Vicar St John the Baptist, Capel and St Margaret's, Ockley  
01306 711260

[vicar@capelandockleychurch.org.uk](mailto:vicar@capelandockleychurch.org.uk)

# NEWS from the Pews

## Capel Show

Volunteers needed for our next fundraising initiative at the Capel Show—Burgers and Hot Dog stall. Help is needed between 11am and 4.30pm, flipping burgers, frying onions, slicing tomatoes, shedding lettuce, topping up sauces, serving food and soft drinks, taking cash, cleaning up...and when its over, taking down the tents.

We also need able bodied volunteers to help put up our tent and set up tables etc the day before.



If you can help on ether day, please sign the sheet in the back of church or email Helen Burt on [helenmb0909@gmail.com](mailto:helenmb0909@gmail.com) or call/text on 07990597553.

Thank you!!

## PCC Members 2025

Vicar and Chair: Revd Liz Richardson (ex-officio)

### Churchwardens

Joy Harman (ex-officio) St John the Baptist  
Stuart Cole (ex-officio) St John the Baptist  
Andy Carr (ex-officio) Deputy Churchwarden, St John the Baptist  
James Lee-Steere (ex-officio) St Margaret's

### Deanery Synod:

Andy Carr (ex-officio) St John the Baptist  
Shirley Dean Webster (ex-officio) St Margaret's

### Elected members:

Helen Burt (Hon Treasurer)  
Gordon Lee Steere  
Gill Christie (Ordinand)  
Wendy Goddard  
Suzanne Cole  
Sarah Pusey  
David Silliman  
Jessie Sutcliffe  
Leigh Smith (Safeguarding Lead)

### Hon Secretary:

Sir Richard Winter- Stanbridge,

### Electoral Roll Officer:

Rosemary Relf

### Parish Safeguarding Officer:

Leigh Smith

## Parish Church Council (PCC) Meetings 2025

All in St John the Baptist, Capel

**29th September**

**24th November**

## SAFEGUARDING NOTICE

*This notice will appear each month in InSpire*

'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 732825908

[leighdesouza@yahoo.com](mailto:leighdesouza@yahoo.com)

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

Diocesan contact number for reporting safeguarding concerns: [safeguarding@cofeguildford.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@cofeguildford.org.uk)

**and the contact details for our Safeguarding Offier 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.**

# Café Church— AUGUST 2025

## Finding Your Way Home

The various stages of life seem to be defined by the gatherings and parties that we're invited to. Early life will be a series of birthday parties with school friends leading on to the parties with friends in our teens that our parents are most definitely not invited to! Our 20's and 30's will probably be punctuated by stag nights and hen do's prior to the wedding celebration that follows. (I remember this period as being particularly expensive as couples appeared to compete in Olympic-level contests each trying to outdo the other in exotic locations and costly stays in hotels.) These weddings will often be followed (some sooner than others) by invitations to christenings where we can "enjoy" an afternoon of complete mayhem surrounded by ever-increasing numbers of young children careering around church and village halls threatening the safety and well-being of the many elderly relatives present.

And so we reach the time of life that Judy & I now inhabit. In the past 2 months we have had four funerals to attend of very dear friends. Our senior years are in danger of robbing us of the happiness that we enjoyed when younger. We've lost some good people. Although when I say, "lost", that's not strictly accurate. "Lost" usually means that we've no idea where our glasses, mobile phones, car keys or other paraphernalia are. Three of the funerals were for friends who had a strong Christian faith and a very clear sense of where they would be going once their time here was over. So, I don't think of them as being lost but rather finding their way home. That deep sense of hope for what is to come gave each of them tremendous strength and courage.

What of the fourth friend, you may ask? Well, I never once had a conversation with him about anything spiritual. In fact, his sharp and often inappropriate humour, while leaving everyone in tears of laughter, would be the sort of thing that many in churches would assume made him ineligible for consideration for entry through the Pearly Gates. But there were 150 people at his funeral, many of whom spoke with real love and affection about a man who was something of a maverick but who touched their lives deeply and gave real support and encouragement to those he met - regardless of who they were or where they were from.

I know someone else who fits that description; someone who trod his own path while on this earth and met people from all walks of life, treating them equally regardless of race, creed, gender or personal relationships. This is what Paul wrote in the book of Romans Ch.8. *"For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."*

God looks on the heart and it is his desire that none should be lost. Jesus is God's love, grace and forgiveness in human form. Alison, Eric and Andy had all found that love; Eddie exhibited that love without necessarily knowing where that gift came from. Rest in eternal peace each one of you for none of us is separated or excluded from the *"the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."* It's just that life is so much richer and fulfilling if we enter into that relationship with Jesus while we're still here.

**Bob Cranham**



## Eric Sutcliffe

Eric meant the world to us — and we know he meant so much to so many. Following on from the huge turnout for his funeral, the family would still love to collect your memories, photos, and stories.

Please could you email a special address we have set up: [rememberingeric1932@gmail.com](mailto:rememberingeric1932@gmail.com). Whether it's a moment you shared, a word he said, or something he taught you — it will help us to remember the fullness of who he was.

With best wishes from  
Jessie and family



## Transfiguration

by Canon Paul Hardingham



'There Must Be More to Life Than This'. These words from Freddie Mercury of Queen will resonate with many of us, when we are looking to get more out of life, even as Christians. At a deeper level, we want to see and hear more clearly what God is doing in our circumstances. The Transfiguration of Jesus, which we remember this month, helps us to consider this issue (Luke 9:28-36).

Jesus was transfigured alongside Moses and Elijah, 'As He was praying, the appearance of His face changed, and His clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning.' (29). To understand our circumstances, firstly we need to see

Jesus as God wants us to see Him. The disciples' eyes were opened to see Jesus' divinity. The presence of Moses and Elijah confirmed Him as God's promised Messiah. By helping us the grasp who Jesus really is, this event powerfully calls us to entrust our lives into Jesus' hands to experience His presence and power.

Secondly, if we are to make sense of our circumstances, we need to hear what God says about His Son. A cloud covered them and 'a voice came from the cloud, saying, "This is my Son, whom I have chosen; listen to Him." (35). God affirmed His love and call on Jesus as His beloved and chosen Son. Do we hear God speaking these same words to us? When we know that we too are loved and accepted by God, this transforms our understanding of our lives.

Whatever our circumstances, they can be transformed by what we see and hear. Open your eyes to see a transfigured world. Open your ears to hear a transfiguring voice. Open your heart to become a transfigured life.

'No one who meets Jesus ever stays the same.' (Philip Yancey)



# PRAYERS, PROSE & POEMS

## A Celtic Prayer

### The Pilgrim's Aiding

God be with thee in every pass,  
Jesus be with thee on every hill,  
Spirit be with thee on every stream,  
Headland and ridge and lawn;

Each sea and land, each moor and meadow,  
Each lying down, each rising up,  
In the trough of the waves, on the crest of the  
billows,  
Each step of the journey thou goest.

*A Celtic prayer collected by Alexander Carmichael*

Be thou my vision,  
O Lord of my heart,  
Be all else but naught to me,  
Save that thou art;  
Be thou my best thought  
In the day and the night,  
Both waking and sleeping,  
Thy presence my light.

## The Divine Weaver

Man's life is laid in a loom of time to a pattern he does not see. While the weaver works and the shuttles fly till the end of eternity.

Some shuttles are filled with silver thread, and some with threads of gold; while often but the darker hue is all that they may hold! But the weaver watches with skilful eye each shuttle fly to and fro, and sees the pattern so deftly wrought as the loom works sure and slow.

God surely planned that pattern each thread—the dark and the fair—was chosen by his master skill and placed in the web with care. He only knows the beauty and guides the shuttles which hold the threads so unattractive as well as the threads of gold.

Not till the loom is silent. And the shuttles cease to fly shall God unveil the pattern and explain the reason why the dark threads are as needful in the weavers skilful hand, as the threads of gold and silver in the pattern he had planned.

*Poem card kindly loaned to the Editor by Sue Partridge.*

## A Strong Hold

Should I slip and lose the way  
The Lord will hold me fast,  
Should I chose to walk away  
I'm firmly in His grasp.

Though I walk through death's dark vale,  
His rod and staff are there  
I would not dare to walk this path  
Without His loving care.

Although my hold on Him is light  
His loving arms are wide,  
What He's begun He will fulfil  
Till I am safe on Canaan's side.

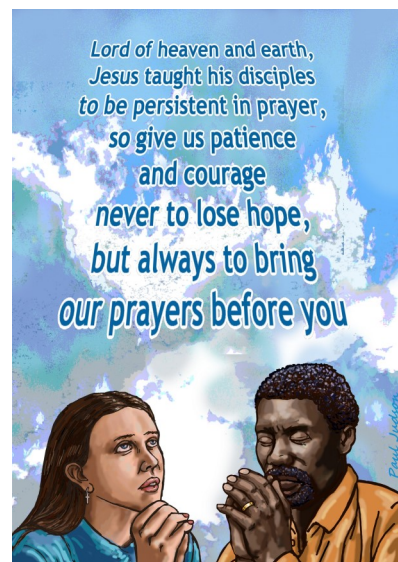
What God is this who loves us so?  
Our future He has planned,  
We're ever safe in His embrace  
And none can snatch us from His hand.

*By Megan Carter*

## A Blessing Before Summer Holidays

Take time to claim your strength; this is a gift from God. Take time to have fun; it is God's way of teaching you your strengths. Take time to grow yourself; only you can grow you. Take time to trust yourself; God trusts you. Take time to be self-reliant; it is better than being dependent. Take time to share with others; they will bless you and you will bless them. Take time to have hope; you are a child of God.

— Unknown





## New report highlights impact of Net Zero ambition

Churches across the country have reported saving money on their energy bills after making changes to their buildings to lower their carbon emissions, a recent new report has revealed.

The latest Net Zero Carbon 2030 Impact Report, which covers all of 2024, shares stories from parishes who installed solar panels, LED lighting, heat pumps and more - with many saying they have experienced unexpected lower energy bills and wider engagement with their local communities.

One church in Stroud slashed its heating bill by 80% after removing its gas boiler and switching to an all-electric heating system. A busy church in Tonbridge has saved over £2,500 on its energy bills in just four months since switching to LED lighting.

The Net Zero Programme was established after General Synod, in July 2020, voted for the whole of the Church of England to achieve net zero carbon by 2030. The programme aims to equip, resource and support all parts of the Church to reduce carbon emissions from the energy used in its buildings, schools and through work-related transport.

More than £30 million has been allocated so far to a series of grants and projects with a focus on reducing carbon emissions from the Church of England's highest emitting buildings.

Julian Atkins, Net Zero Programme Director, said: "We're delighted to publish our second Impact Report. We recognise that achieving net zero is a complex challenge and many churches are finding it harder to achieve for a whole host of reasons – that's why we have dedicated grants and support available to help them on this journey. We're so encouraged by what has been achieved so far and our hope is that readers of this new Impact Report will be encouraged and inspired too."

## Major investment in local churches and parish clergy as £1.6bn three-year national spending plans unveiled

The Church Commissioners' funding towards work of the church is set to leap by 36 per cent in the three-year period 2026-28, amounting to the biggest distribution in Church's history.

The C of E plans to invest more than £1.6 billion towards sharing the good news of Jesus Christ and serving local communities over the next three years. In total, it plans to invest £4.6 billion over the next nine years, from 2026 to 2034.

Also, the typical stipend is set to rise 10.7 per cent next year, under new proposals as clergy well-being put at centre of spending plans.

On top of that, the funding for churches in the lowest income communities will jump from £91 million spent in the last three years, to £133.5 million.

There will also be a major focus on safeguarding, for which £30 million has been allocated.

The **Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell**, said: "Parishes and clergy are at the heart of everything we do in the Church."

*Editor's Note: Please note that any 'News' items featured are obtained from a general News source via Parish Pump which is available to Church magazine editors. The content in no way reflects the Editor's own personal views, but is aiming to keep everyone informed of important issues and news, for you to then form your own opinions. I think it is very important that the magazine remains neutral and informative. Please always feel free to respond in future issues or if you have any views on any current Church news, please do email the Editor. Thank you. Suzanne Cole*

## **Abortion law changes: comment from the Bishop of London**

“Compassion and care is required,” said the Bishop of London, Sarah Mullally, following MPs’ recent vote to decriminalise abortion in England and Wales.

She went on: “Women facing unwanted pregnancies are confronted with the hardest of choices. Ultimately, they require compassion and care, to support them fully in the heart-wrenching decision they must take. They should not be prosecuted.

“However, decriminalising abortion can at the same time inadvertently undermine the value of unborn life. The amendment passed to the Crime and Policing Bill may not change the 24-week abortion limit, but it undoubtedly risks eroding the safeguards and enforcement of those legal limits. Women suffering from coercion, or those who are victims of sexual or domestic abuse, would be the most vulnerable to the proposed change, which does not consider improvements to abortion care, nor address the inadequacies of the ‘pills by post’ assessments. These concerns are well set out in the recent letter signed by over 200 clergy and published in the Telegraph.

“Considering any fundamental reform to this country’s abortion laws should not be done via an amendment to another Bill. There should be public consultation and robust Parliamentary process to ensure that every legal and moral aspect of this debate is carefully considered and scrutinised.

“We need a path that supports women, not one that puts them and their unborn children in the way of greater harm.”

### **“An unsafe and unworkable bill” – Bishop Sarah urged MPs to say no to assisted suicide**

The Bishop of London, Sarah Mullally, recently urged MPs to halt the passage of a bill to legalise assisted suicide in England and Wales.

Bishop Sarah – the former Chief Nursing Officer and the Church's Lead Bishop for Health and Social Care – called instead on parliamentarians to ask themselves some searching questions “about the kind of society we want to live in”, before the Third Reading vote in the Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill in the Commons took place.

She said: “MPs have the power to stop the passage of this Bill, in the face of serious concerns from the medical profession, palliative care specialists, and those facing the end of life.

“If enacted, this Bill would arrive amidst hugely inequitable access to palliative care and an NHS on life support. The potential for abuse and uninformed or coerced decisions is enormous.

“This is not about so-called progressivism v conservatism, or atheism v religion. This is about the kind of society we want to live in.

“The vision that this Bill presents is one in which the disabled and vulnerable are made to feel like they are a burden, as if their lives are worth less.

“This is, and has always been, an unsafe and unworkable bill. The promise that Committee stage would ‘iron out’ major concerns with the Bill has not been forthcoming. Instead, it has presented more unanswered questions, left more doubts, and seen so-called protections crumble away before even coming into law.

“I implore every Member of Parliament to ask themselves whether they truly believe assisted suicide is right for the society in which we want to live.”

Last month (July 2025 issue 94) the **News Pages** featured an article entitled 'Chilling Reading - Bishop Sarah responds to assisted dying impact assessments' and '11,000 People take part in consultations for the next Archbishop of Canterbury'.

The following is Andrew Forsyth's response to those articles.

### **THE RIGHT TO DECIDE – AN ALTERNATIVE VIEW**

In July's issue of Inspire on page 10, there is a sermon from Bishop Sarah Mullally – The Church of England's lead bishop for health and social care – concerning "assisted suicide (who determined this sensational derivation!) impact assessments" and identifying (under the auspices of) "chilling reading" and those specifically at risk. I'm not sure whether this is her own personal view, or underwritten by her status, or is now the Anglican Church's doctrine?

All of this, I presume refers, to the subject of Assisted Dying, but not actually stated.  
To be or not to be is not the issue here, it is a question of who decides the right to determine.  
A totally different legality.  
Should individuals, provided of sane mind, have the right to decide.  
The focus is based on the identification of "sane mind".

I do wonder how many people the bishop has spoken to who are, or have been, in a state of perplexity and anxiety! How many of those same people, if they had known the choice before being admitted/committed to survival (life!) in a care(!) home, would have decided on an alternative, if there had been one available. The other issues concerning finances / gifts / skills / family involvements etc. etc are of secondary nature. Assisted Dying, if ever actioned, would at least be an alternative to doing nothing. So all you, it is your right to decide – no more / no less. Each must exercise their feelings and make known, within the Anglican Church, otherwise we shall remain in the same old state!

### **CONSULTATIONS FOR THE NEXT ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY**

So far more than 11,000 people have contributed. Not many considering the size of members.  
From a personal point, I didn't even know this was the required situation!  
However, I can't believe(!) that, after all these years, the Synod does not know the requirements of this office of high command or perhaps it is trying to appease any wrong decision.  
Just get on with it (like Rome) and in Hope and Faith – probably more in Hope!  
Perhaps by the time the August edition is published we shall know! God willing.

Andrew Forsyth - Capel

### ***Read a book!***

This summer, why not encourage your children to read a book? A recent study has found that children who read for pleasure carry the benefits with them far into adulthood. And the most avid childhood readers score far higher on vocabulary tests, even 30 years later. As Marcel Proust the author once said, there are "no days of our childhood lived so fully as those spent with a favourite book."



*Editor's note: Apologies to Sue Dixon, this article should have gone into the June issue.*

## Quarter Peals

We rang a quarter peal at Newdigate last month to commemorate the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of V.E. Day and for Surrey Association's quarter peal month.



A peal consists of between 5000 and 5080 changes or permutations in the order in which the bells are rung and takes about 3 hours to ring. This number was originally arrived at by calculating the number of different rows in the order of bells in an eight bell tower. Assuming the last bell, the tenor always strikes last, often referred to as 'bonging at the back' this would give 5040 possible permutations of the bells 1 to 7,  $(1 \times 2 \times 3 \times 4 \times 5 \times 6 \times 7)$  or 7 factorial.

In 6 bell towers like Ockley, Capel and Newdigate the number of variations of 5 bells is 120  $(1 \times 2 \times 3 \times 4 \times 5)$  or 5 factorial. This is known as an extent and a peal would then be 42 extents to get the 5040 changes required. A quarter peal, as its name suggests, is a quarter of this, in which there are 1260 changes, (ten and a half extents) and takes about 45 minutes to complete. This is a more convenient length to ring in terms of effort and concentration as well as being kinder to the neighbours.

A method is a ringing pattern determined by the blue line in a diagram which everyone on an inside, or working bell, has to learn along with the rules to follow when a call is made. Ringing a plain course usually just takes a minute or so and varying this by calling a 'Bob' or 'Single' leads to the same work being repeated with some of the bells in a different order to eventually make the 1260 changes required.

This may seem like ringers need to be mathematicians but actually the hard work has already been done by composers who have created the variations in calling and tested them for falseness. Simple compilations are well known and others can be looked up and learnt by the conductor who then makes the calls while the band are ringing. The rest of the band only need to know what to do when the call is made and avoid making any mistakes.

Ringling is well within the capabilities of most people. Anyone who would like to come along and have a go, under supervision, or just to watch, would be most welcome. Practice nights are at St. Margaret's in Ockley, on Wednesdays from 7.45 to 9.15, except the first of the month when we usually visit St John's in Capel.

For more details call Sue on 01306 627168 or email [ockleybellringers@btinternet.com](mailto:ockleybellringers@btinternet.com)

## Chapels of Abbotsbury, Dorset

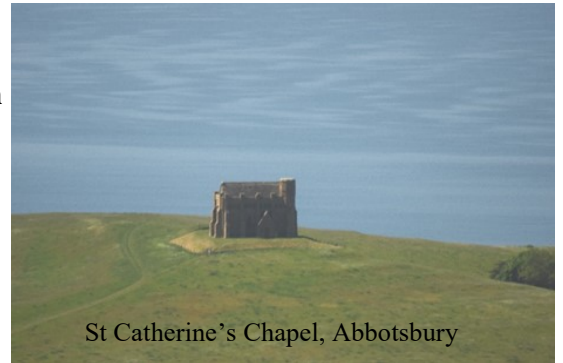
St Catherine's Chapel, Abbotsbury



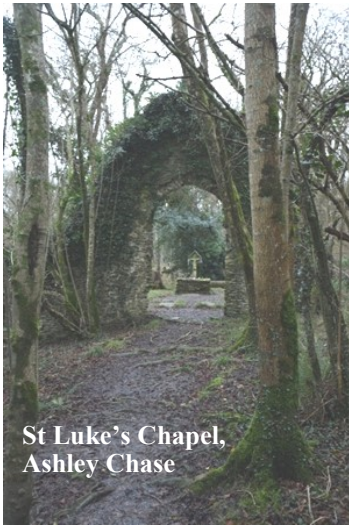
As a family we have been going to Abbotsbury in Dorset for over 25 years. Normally we make an annual journey there and stay in the same family run farm which is just off a long distance path about two miles from the coast. We spend our time there walking the local area.

Abbotsbury is known by tourists as the place of the swannery, tropical gardens and St Catherine's Chapel. St Catherine's is known to anyone that has ever visited the local area. It is on a high solitary hilltop 260 foot high overlooking Chesil Beach and the Isle of Portland and gives wonderful views of the surrounding area. It is a barrel-vaulted 14th century chapel built by the monks of the

Abbotsbury Abbey as a place of pilgrimage and retreat. They built it well to last with four foot thick walls and a roof and ceilings made of stone. The chapel is on its hilltop in isolation to all around. In the sixteenth century the abbey was destroyed during the dissolution of the monasteries. St Catherine's probably survived due to its usefulness as a beacon and a navigation mark for seafarers. The chapel was repaired in 1742 and again during the late 19<sup>th</sup> century and fortunately not restored by the Victorians. The local church holds occasional service there for anyone that is capable of climbing the not insignificant hill. St Catherine of Alexandria is the patron saint of spinsters and virgins and local women used to pray to St Catherine and ask her to find them a husband in what is known as 'wishing holes'.



St Catherine's Chapel, Abbotsbury



St Luke's Chapel,  
Ashley Chase

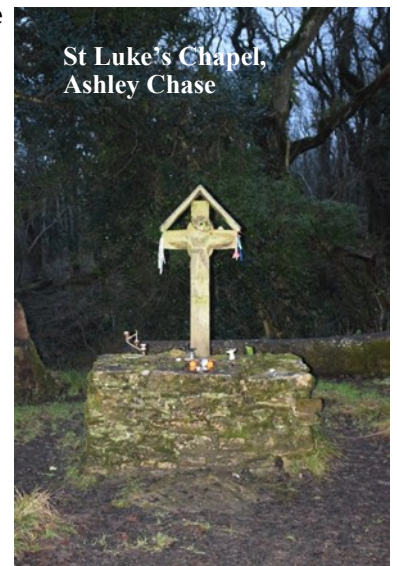
There is however another chapel which took us years to find, and is unknown of by most visitors to the village. It is marked on the Ordnance Survey maps and is accessible only by footpaths. This is St Luke's chapel of Ashley Chase. It is amongst some woods aptly named Chapel Coppice near Abbotsbury Iron Age fort. When we first found it, it was overgrown and easy to walk past, but due to ash dieback the area around has now largely been cleared and is more accessible. St Luke's predates St Catherine's and was built around 1246 by the monks of Netley Abbey on land given to them by William of Litton on condition for perpetual prayers. The monks were Cistercians founded in 1239 near Southampton who lived a simple life but were still dissolved by Henry VIII. It had parsons from 1240 until 1545 when it was so poor the living became vacant. From then on it decayed.

In the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, Sir David Milne-Watson and his wife, Olga, bought Ashley Chase estate on which the chapel stands. They decided to conserve what little then remained and

commissioned the addition of an altar and a cross. They are buried in the chapel and their memorial stones are on the west wall. On another memorial is this poem.



*The silent night  
The early dawn  
The badgers come  
And the birds do sing  
You were my everything*



St Luke's Chapel,  
Ashley Chase

## The other vicar's letter!

*Editor: The Revd Dr Gary Bowness continues his tongue-in-cheek letters from 'Uncle Eustace'... If you would like a copy of the published booklet of Uncle Eustace's letters, please email Parish Pump at: [enquiries@parishpump.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@parishpump.co.uk)*

### St James the Least of All

#### On the annual war of pumpkin-growing

From The Rectory  
St James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren

Anyone who thinks that the English are a peaceful race has obviously never organised the annual pumpkin growing competition. Very regrettably, one of the Pilgrim Fathers sent a handful of pumpkin seeds to a relation in this parish in the 17th century and ever since, the church has been obliged to hold an annual competition to see who can grow the largest. I suspect some of the original recipients of those seeds still compete. There is a certain irony that the church, which is supposed to promote peace and harmony, sponsors the most war-like activity in the annual calendar.

Mobilisation starts at the beginning of the year when seeds are planted. From that moment on, every other potential entrant is regarded as the Enemy. Once seedlings are planted out, then heavy armaments are placed at boundaries to deter possible invasion. By late Spring, paranoia has taken over and rumours begin to circulate of espionage and sinister undetectable herbicides. Anyone in the village with a beard is looked on with deep suspicion.

In the weeks before the competition, homes, partners and children are abandoned, as contestants talk to their pumpkins by day and snuggle up with them at night. Should bad weather arrive at this point, then I am blamed for not having prayed sufficiently fervently for sunshine and light rain. If only I had such influence.

On the day before the show, tables are put out and woe betide anyone who places their cake stand where Mrs Cholmondeley has put her tea urn for the past 25 years; she now believes she has squatters' rights to that place, and any challenge to her claim would probably result in litigation.

I find this competitive spirit a little bemusing, as for the last 25 years, the Earl of Stowe has always won first prize. That his mother, the Dowager Countess, is the judge, is, I am sure, pure coincidence. That she has arrived for the past three years with a white stick and accompanied by a golden Labrador does, however, raise doubts.

To award the Earl any prize at all does seem a little unfair, when the only time he ever gets mud on his boots is when he falls off his horse while hunting. I suspect he would be hard pressed to find where the kitchen garden is on his estate. But to give any credit to his gardening staff would be seen as bad form, so we all keep quiet.

It has been tentatively suggested that another judge should be appointed, but no one has so far had the courage to step forward. They may have the privilege of nominating the winner, but they would also have to face a 12 month period of hatred from all those who were not successful. Christmas card lists will be amended. Families may have sat next to them in church for generations, but would suddenly find it more congenial to worship in another part of the church. Letters would be strangely mis-delivered, and the butcher's boy would suddenly deliver lamb when pork had been ordered. Who could dare to take on such a poisoned chalice?

Your loving uncle,

Eustace



# The Pavilion Café

**Every Wednesday at Ockley Cricket Club Pavilion  
9 am until midday**

Come and enjoy a warm welcome and a delicious range of homemade cakes and savouries - including gluten/dairy free. Bacon butties every fourth Wednesday and freshly made teas and coffees.

The Pavilion Café was originally the idea of Kindred Spirits, the women's outreach group from Ockley, Okewood and Forest Green Parish, 11 years ago.

It is run by a team of volunteers in support of charities, local charitable causes and Ockley events.

If you would like to volunteer, please let Liz know on either 07951 710176 or [lizthorne2053@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:lizthorne2053@hotmail.co.uk)

## Murder Mystery returns to Capel and Ockley

The Harvest Supper entertainment this year will once again be a murder mystery play directed by Sylvie Beckett.

It will be performed by actors well known to you in Ockley Village Hall on **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October** and in Capel Memorial Hall on **Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> October**.

A two-course supper will be served on both evenings. Please put the dates in your diaries and keep the evenings free so that you can gather your teams together, or come and join others on the night, to solve the mystery of the murder.

Tickets will be on sale from **22<sup>nd</sup> September** and details of the box office will be available nearer the time.



*Editor: The Revd Dr Jo White considers ...*

## **Reflecting Faith: Saying 'Farewell'**

Last month we considered how we are welcomed at the beginning of a church service, as we come together to enter into the real presence of God.

This month let's consider how we say 'goodbye' at the end of the service.

For the leader of the service doesn't just say something like, "Thanks for coming, lovely to see you - have a great week." Rather, there's a promise and a blessing for each of us as we take what we have 'received' from the service into the world.

So the crunch question is: what do you get out of coming to a church service?

The ideal is: You have been met with a friendly welcome followed by music you love, played at the perfect speed with no squeaky singers in the congregation. Then, an inspiring sermon which gives you something to think about for the coming week. After that, prayers that speak of what is on your heart and what you have heard on the news that week. Finally, good fellowship and a cuppa after the service, where you can feel part of 'them', rather than ignored because you are only visiting.

Following all that good stuff, you go out of the church with a spring in your step!

Of course, in the real world not all those boxes get ticked.

But still we can go to church with hope, and ideally, we leave it in peace. The time that we spend together is the 'easy' bit. The real challenge begins when we go out the door and back into the daily round of home life and work. But we can be sure that we do not leave God at the church door. He always comes home with us, and He is there to help us throughout the coming week. That is why we can indeed 'go in peace'.

### ***This month***

When you next go to a church service take note of the leader's closing words and your expected responses to them. How heartily can you agree with them? How do they make you feel?

## **Local Event**

### **An Evening with Rob Parsons - Reflections on the journey**

In *An Evening with Rob Parsons*, we invite you to step into the untold stories from Rob's lifetime of overcoming obstacles, letting go of childhood labels and discovering that the past doesn't have to define us.

#### **You'll hear about ...**

- Building confidence to move past the labels others put on you
- Finding hope beyond shattered dreams
- Enduring the hard times you just can't fix
- Being inspired to take on new challenges
- Why tomorrow doesn't have to be like yesterday

See and hear Rob Parsons at **Kingdom Faith Church, Foundry Lane Horsham RH13 5PX Horsham on 4th November 2025.**

To book: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/an-evening-with-rob-parsons-horsham-tickets-1446916358779?aff=webpage>

## ***Praying with the Prayers Of The Bible - the Prayer from the Depth of Despair*** ***Read Jonah 2:2-9.***

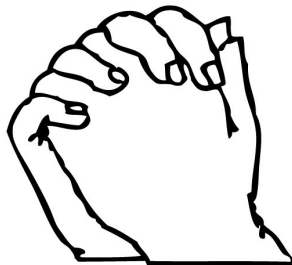
Twice in the Bible there is a record of prayers prayed in hell. In Jesus' parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus, the former prayed for both release from his torment and that a warning would be sent to his family (Luke 16:24-31).

Here in the book of Jonah this chapter opens with the words, 'Then Jonah prayed to the Lord his God' (v.1) The prophet prayed from what he described as 'the belly of hell' (KJV), or 'from the depth of Sheol' (v.2).

The first chapter of the book tells how Jonah was commissioned by God to go and preach in Ninevah, the capital city of the great Assyrian Empire. Instead, Jonah ran away from his home country, from (he thought) the presence of God and from hearing God's command. The Assyrians had long been the all-conquering enemies of Israel and Jonah was either afraid to go to Ninevah, or he did not want them to hear God's word – or both.

So, he ran away and took ship for Tarshish (i.e. Spain). During a violent storm he confessed to the sailors that he had disobeyed God and reluctantly they threw him overboard (1:12-14). The Lord had 'appointed a great fish' which swallowed the prophet and from deep inside its belly, he prayed to the Lord. God heard Jonah's prayer, the fish spewed him out and his life was spared (2:10).

Jonah's prayer, prayed when he was sure he was about to die, has much to reach us about praying. *First*, even in our disobedience, God hears us when we pray humbly and sincerely. Jonah's terrible calamity was directly the result of his running away from God. It wasn't because of circumstances, it wasn't inevitable, it wasn't fate or just 'one of those things;' it was his disobedience that brought about the disaster. How gracious God is! Even in our running away from Him, He still loves us and hears our prayers.



*Second*, we can pray anywhere. If Jonah could cry to the Lord when, in his own words, 'in the heart of the seas,' when 'all the waves and billows' passed over him (v.3), how many places may we not find to come before the Lord in prayer? There is the quiet time at the day's beginning, a moment of reflection in a busy schedule, between meetings, as we drive the car or travel in the bus, or plane or ship – so many places where we can 'lift up our hearts' to the Lord.

*Third*, no situation is too difficult for God. The God who 'hurled a great wind upon the sea' (1:4), who 'appointed a great fish to swallow up Jonah' (1:17); who prepared 'a plant' and 'a worm' to bring about His purposes (4:6,7), is the Sovereign Lord of earth and heaven. He can hear us and help us in our deepest distress, in the hours when life seems to be tumbling in all round us.

*Fourth*, the Lord can deliver! Jonah's prayer from the depth of hell ends with the ringing assurance, 'Deliverance belongs to the Lord' (2:9). We all need to hear that! Today, whatever our need, our pain, our disappointment, our fear, our weakness, our besetting sin – with the Lord there is deliverance.

*Dr Herbert McGonigle, now retired, was Senior Lecturer in Historical Theology & Church History, Nazarene Theological College, Manchester*

## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Dear friends,

Welcome to the August 2025 issue. We've been very busy as a church with the Military show refreshments stall which did incredibly well and left us with a profit of over £8,000.00! A huge thank you must go to those who organised our stall at the event and everyone that took part. Next stop is the burger stall at the Capel show on Saturday 16th August—do see more information from Helen Burt on page 6 'News in the Pews'. Before both of these two events, there was the celebration of Rev Gill Christie's ordination at Guildford cathedral on Sunday 29th June. Do see her note of thanks to everyone on page 2 of this issue. How lucky we are to add Gill to our clergy in the parish! If anyone has photos or memories of the event, please do send them on to me so I could include them in future issues. I'm pleased to say that we will be enjoying a regular contributions in InSpire magazine from our new Curate, Rev Gill, so do look out for her first one in the September issue!

You will see an Editor's note on page 10 of this issue where I point out that all content of these magazines is not necessarily my own opinion. However, as editor of this magazine, I feel it is important to share with you all the news items and other articles I am offered and to do so in a non-biased way. Everyone is free to respond to anything they take issue with as Andrew has done on page 12. Equally, if there are items of news (particularly church/faith based) that you would like to share with our readers, please do send it to me. I would love more input from InSpire's readers! Thank you.

I'm afraid there will not be an October 2025 issue. I will be 60 on 17th September and we are embarking on a long holiday to the USA to celebrate! We start in Boston, meander our way around parts of New England and the coast and then have a few days in New York. I'm sure many of you have been, but this is the first time for both of us and we are really looking forward to it! As we don't return until mid-October, I won't have time to do justice to a October issue. I hope everyone understands.

With my very best wishes,

*Suzanne*

inspire@capelandockleychurch.org.uk

### Appreciate yourself

*Everything God made was very good; that means you, too.  
Endeavour to see yourself as God sees you; he wants to change your  
self-image so you can appreciate your unique gifts and qualities.*

For further reflection: Genesis 1:31

Taken from God's Little Book of Hope  
Words of inspiration and encouragement  
By Richard Daly

*“With  
GOD  
All Things  
Are  
Possible!”*

## When I say I am a Christian

When I say, "I am a Christian," I'm not shouting, "I am saved!"  
I'm whispering, "I get lost; that is why I chose this way."

When I say, "I am a Christian," I don't speak of this with pride.  
I'm confessing that I stumble and need Someone to be my Guide.

When I say, "I am a Christian," I'm not bragging I am strong.  
I'm professing that I'm weak, and I pray for strength to carry on.

When I say, "I am a Christian," I'm not bragging of success.  
I'm admitting I have failed and cannot ever pay the debt.

When I say, "I am a Christian," I'm not claiming to be perfect.  
My flaws are all too visible, but God believes I'm worth it.

When I say, "I am a Christian," I still feel the sting of pain.  
I have my share of heartaches, which is why I cry His name.

When I say, "I am a Christian," I do not wish to judge.  
I have no authority; I only know I'm loved.

*Author unknown*

## Laughter lines



### Hymns for People Over 50

Give Me the Old Timers' Religion  
Precious Lord, Take My Hand, And Help Me Up  
Just a Slower Walk with Thee  
Go Tell It on the Mountain, But Speak Up  
Nobody Knows the Trouble I Have Seeing

### When young children begin to pray...

"Lead a snot into temptation."  
"And forgive us our trash baskets, as we forgive those who put trash in our baskets."  
"Give us this day our jelly bread."  
"Our Father, who art in heaven, how didja know my name?"



## **What's the Big Idea? An Introduction to the Books of the New Testament: 1 Corinthians**

*'When people become Christians, they don't at the same moment become nice. This always comes as something of a surprise' (Eugene Peterson).*

After founding the church in Corinth Paul spent a year and a half with them, showing them how to live out this new life as a community of believers. Corinth was a major commercial centre in Greece and a crossroads for travellers and traders across the Empire. Its people placed a high premium on wisdom, but Corinth was also known for its immorality. Little wonder that the church was plagued with so many problems! However, after Paul left the church factions developed, immorality was rife, and worship had become a selfish grabbing for the supernatural. Paul's letter, written around AD 55 in Ephesus, is a response to these problems.

It is clear that, although the church was gifted (1:4–7), it was immature and unspiritual (3:1–4). Paul's purpose for writing was to:

instruct and restore the church in its areas of weakness, correcting erroneous practices such as divisions (1:10—4:21), immorality (ch. 5; 6:12–20), litigation in pagan courts (6:1–8) and the abuse of the Lord's Supper (11:17–34).

correct false teaching concerning the resurrection (ch. 15).

This letter is very relevant for us today, as we are also powerfully influenced by our cultural environment. Many of the questions and problems that confronted the church at Corinth are still with us. Yet despite the problems, Paul's focus remained on knowing Christ in His life and trusting in the power of the cross: *'For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified.'* (2:2).

## **Capel Church Teas 2025**

**At St John the Baptist, Capel**

From 3:00 to 5:00 pm

**Sunday 24th August**

**Sunday 14th September**

**Sunday 5th October - Harvest**

**Sunday 2nd November - All Soul's Day**

Service at 3pm \* Teas start at 4pm

**Sunday 30th November**

First Sunday of Advent

in aid of The Friends of St John the Baptist, Capel

*Editor: Our series on the Nicene Creed continues this month. Canon Paul Hardingham considers a bedrock of our Christian belief: that Jesus is the Son of God. This series will run until the end of the year.*

### **The Nicene Creed part 3: The Incarnate Jesus**

*For us men and for our salvation He came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit*

*He became incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate; He suffered death and was buried.*

In this study we are looking at what the Nicene Creed says about the ministry of Jesus on earth.

*'For us men and for our salvation He came down from heaven':* Jesus came down to earth to save us all. Salvation involves healing and rescuing us from the wrong things in our lives, which result in death itself. The Creed demonstrates the importance of having a proper understanding of Christ that safeguards the gospel of salvation. *'For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.'* (Luke 19:10).

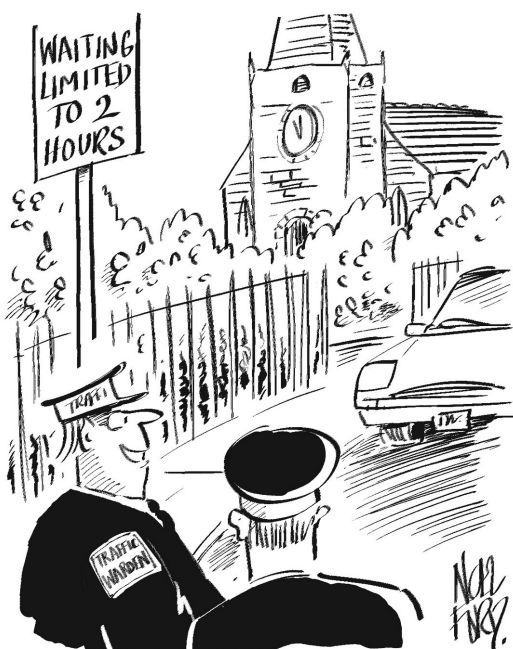
*'by the power of the Holy Spirit He became incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and was made man':*

Although the word 'incarnate' doesn't appear in the New Testament, it expresses the meaning of Jesus' birth. Heresies of the time included Adoptionism (i.e. Jesus became God's Son only at His baptism) and Docetism (i.e. Jesus appeared to be human, as a fully divine being). The incarnation affirms that the divine son, was conceived in Mary's womb by the power of the Spirit and born in time as a human being: *'The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy One to be born will be called the Son of God.'* (Luke 1:35). If Jesus was not conceived both fully divine and human, the Christian understanding of salvation is lost.

*'For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate; He suffered death and was buried':*

In the Creed we move straight from Jesus' birth to His death, which is the climax of His ministry. Jesus dying for our sins on the cross lies at the heart of God's plan of salvation. The mention of Pontius Pilate roots our faith in history and reminds us of the important part people played in God's plan. *'He himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by His wounds you have been healed.'* (1 Peter 2:24).

What is the place of the incarnation in your understanding of the Christian Faith?



"We've had a tip-off that the sermon is going to over-run again."



## Christian media owner calls on Elon Musk to become more accountable

by Peter Crumpler

Sir Paul Marshall, an evangelical Christian and prominent British media owner has called on Elon Musk and the bosses of other social media platforms to publish the algorithms that determine the visibility of posts – and to become more accountable.

Speaking in a lecture at Oxford University, Sir Paul, a leading investor in TV channel GB News, and owner of The Spectator magazine and UnHerd, the news and opinion website, called on the Big Tech platforms to make major changes to the way they operate.

He said, “Social media platforms like X, Bluesky or Meta should be required to publish all the algorithms that they use to analyse or influence our preferences. Elon Musk believes in open source and transparency for manufacturing. He should do the same for X.

“We should all be able to know how the algorithms work which place certain stories and characters in our timeline and not others.”

Sir Paul also called on the platforms to become more accountable. He explained, “Social media platforms should be regulated as common carriers. Under the current regulations, they are exempted from any of the responsibilities of a traditional publisher. They have power without responsibility. Effectively, those who post are treated as publishers.

“The platforms cannot be held to account for what is published, yet they still enjoy many of the powers of a publisher.

“This is wrong, and platforms need to have less power and more accountability. At the very least, there need to be constraints around them such as you would impose on a bank or a railway. They should not be allowed to refuse or suspend accounts or to actively demote the visibility of a post, unless it is in clear breach of the law.”

Sir Paul is a leading philanthropist, supporting a wide range of charities. He is known as a member and supporter of Holy Trinity Brompton Church, London, the home of the internationally successful Alpha Course.

He was giving a lecture hosted by The Pharos Foundation, an Oxford-based research institution and educational charity.

Sir Paul explained: “The key overriding principle for me is to ensure that there is a golden thread of responsibility and accountability running through everything, whether that be the platforms, the publishers or self-publishing individuals.”

### Golf

*There was a clergyman who was an avid golfer. One Sunday was a picture-perfect day for golf, and the minister could not resist the temptation. He rang his assistant and told him he was too ill to attend church. Then he packed up the car, drove 30 miles to a golf course, and began to play. But an angel watching the minister was quite perturbed. He went to God and said, “Look at the minister. He should be punished for what he's doing.”*

*God nodded in agreement as the minister teed up on the tenth hole. He swung, and the ball sailed effortlessly through the air and landed right in the cup, 350 yards away. A perfect hole-in-one. The minister was overjoyed. The angel turned to God and said: “Begging your pardon, but I thought You were going to punish him.” And God smiled. “Think about it; who can he tell?”*

*Editor: Tim Lenton looks back on an extraordinary clergyman ...*

## **The vicar who won Wimbledon**

Ninety years ago, on 21<sup>st</sup> August 1935, John Hartley, the British tennis player, died. He was the only clergyman ever to win Wimbledon and was World Number One in both 1879 and 1880 – winning Wimbledon both years.



The Revd John Thorneycroft Hartley was born in 1849 in Wolverhampton and was well connected: his parents were both from Staffordshire industrial business families, and he married Alice Lascelles Murray, daughter of the 4th Earl of Mansfield and a granddaughter of Henry Lascelles, 3rd Earl of Harewood. They had no children.

He won the 1879 Gentlemen's Singles title against Irish champion Vere St Leger Goold in three sets on 15<sup>th</sup> July, retaining his title the following year. But in attempting the hat-trick in 1881 he lost the shortest ever men's final, 0-6, 1-6, 1-6, in 37 minutes. He was said to have been ill at the time.

Hartley had become a priest in 1873. He was firstly curate of Christ Church, Southwark, and then became vicar of Burneston, a village in North Yorkshire, from 1874 to 1919. In 1891 he became Rural Dean of East Catterick, and later he was Honorary Canon of Ripon Cathedral.

As an amateur, he received no cash for his Wimbledon wins, and in the course of his first finals win he caught a train to Yorkshire so that he could do his duty and take his services at Burneston on the Sunday. Not only that, but he stayed with a dying parishioner until he passed away on the Monday – the day of the semi-finals. A rain delay helped him to get back to London in time.

At the Golden Jubilee Championships in 1926 he received a silver medal from Queen Mary as one of 34 surviving champions.

## **Miscellaneous observations on life**

More people fail for lack of encouragement than for any other reason. - *Anon*

Love looks through a telescope, envy through a microscope. - *John Billings*

Experience is the one thing you can't get for nothing. - *Oscar Wilde*

What we desire our children to be, we must endeavour to be before them. - *Andrew Combe*

Every child has a right to be both well fed and well led. - *Ruth Smelter*

Small opportunities are often the beginning of great enterprises. - *Demosthenes*

We should all swap problems; everyone knows how to solve the other guy's. - *Anon*

It is better to learn late than never. - *Publilius Syrus*



# Book Reviews

*For holiday reading, this month we are offering some novels, as well as some non-fiction...*

## **The Way of the Wicked** **By Mel Starr, SPCK £9.99**

Visit the world of 14<sup>th</sup> century England in this thrilling historical murder mystery, the 17<sup>th</sup> in the popular Chronicles of Hugh de Singleton  
Top of Form  
Bottom of Form

When Kendrick Wroe is found dead in the frozen Shill Brook, most suspect he has been poaching Lord Gilbert's fish, though Sir Hugh believes this may not be so. Then one of Kendrick's friends is slain; another seems to be in mortal peril, and Hugh's daughter Bessie is abducted. As the deaths rise and events begin to spiral out of control, it's all Hugh can do to master his anxiety and uncover the killer.

## **The Company of Heaven** **By Catherine Fox, SPCK £10.99**

Return to Lindchester once more with *The Company of Heaven*, perfect for fans of Anthony Trollope's Barchester Chronicles, Barbara Pym and BBC's Rev.

Valiantly written in real time in the midst of the pandemic, this entertaining book captures the difficulties of 2021 with heart, humour and insight. Perfect for Lindchester fans, it's also the ideal novel for anyone seeking comfort and a way of understanding all that has happened.

This new volume in the Lindchester Chronicles is contemporary Christian fiction at its finest. Sharp-eyed, witty and compassionate, Catherine Fox once again helps us make sense of real-life events and challenges, and leaves you with hope that grace can be found even in the darkest times.

## **The Crystal Crypt** **By Fiona Veitch Smith. SPCK £9.99**

Set in the 1920s, Reporter sleuth Poppy Denby is asked to investigate the mysterious death of an up-and-coming female scientist in an Oxford laboratory known as the Crystal Crypt. The official verdict is that Dr June Leighton died in a tragic accident, but Dr Leighton's lab assistant believes it was murder. However, when Poppy discovers that the colleague has spent time in a mental institution and has an unresolved murder in her own past, Poppy wonders if she is being misled. But then, another female academic is attacked, and Poppy herself becomes a target.

*Here are two non-fiction books to consider...*

## **Real Life Rev - a clergy survival guide** **By Martin Poole, Canterbury Press, £13.59**

Clergy life is full of surprises – and many of them don't come up in lectures at theological college. From tricky PCC meetings to unexpected pastoral situations to the quirks of church buildings, this honest and humorous guide dives into the messy, holy, and often unpredictable realities of parish ministry.

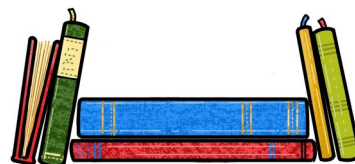
With warmth and wit, the book offers practical wisdom for navigating the everyday challenges of church leadership. Whether it's managing conflicting opinions, opening the church to a wider community, or simply deciding what to do when a lorry arrives with two tons of yogurt drink for your food bank, Martin Poole offers encouragement for those discovering that ministry is rarely tidy – but always full of grace.

## **Bewilderment - a Spiritual Guide** **By Robert Atwell, Canterbury Press £14.99**

In our bewildering age when the mental health of so many is fragile and people feel adrift and uncertain, the unlikely hero, Jonah, can offer surprising and much needed wisdom. We think of prophets as strong and confident figures, but the prophet Jonah is neither of these. In fact, he's barely taken seriously at all and is crowded out of his own story by the whale that swallowed him up.

Yet Robert Atwell finds that the book of Jonah offers a strikingly relevant theology for our time. It grapples with isolation, protest, anger, fear, and depression, all under the shadow of the divine presence in the midst of personal turmoil. So, for those of us who can feel unmoored, Jonah's story becomes a surprising source of consolation.

Ultimately, the book of Jonah maps the contours of grace - a grace that feels especially absent in today's world. Alone among the prophets, Jonah is named by Jesus and described as a 'sign'. In this short, deeply comforting book, Atwell explores how Jonah still speaks to us, offering insight and hope to a restless generation.



# Dorking Area Foodbank

has been operating for 10 years in June.

The Parish of Capel and Ockley  
are running a project to support this

## 'DONATE TEN'

Could you donate ten items to the Foodbank,  
or maybe make a direct debit for £10 each month or arrange  
a one-off donation?

*Thank you for the amazing response to Sylvie's recent appeals.*

Below is a list of items they would currently appreciate:-

**Plain flour**  
**Shaving foam**  
**Dried pulses**  
**Dog food**  
**Tinned fish**  
**Tinned meat**

**Do you have any plastic carrier bags you can spare?**

Please do continue to donate non-perishable food,  
personal hygiene including shampoo, body wash and disposable razors  
together with sanitary items, amongst other things.

**ALL items are gratefully received.**

If you would like to hear more regarding this project  
please contact: Revd Liz Richardson - 01306 711260  
or Pastoral Assistant Sylvie Beckett on 07711 849338



You may find the following links helpful:

<https://dorkingarea.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/> (shows a list)

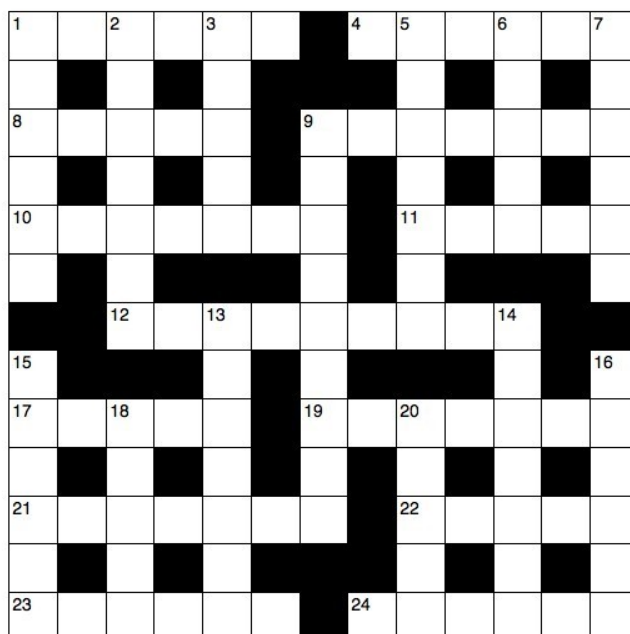
<https://dorkingarea.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-money/>

## Across

- 1 'The people were — at his teaching' (Mark 1:22) (6)
- 4 'He saved —; let him save himself' (Luke 23:35) (6)
- 8 He addressed the crowd in Jerusalem on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2:14) (5)
- 9 Father of James and John (Matthew 4:21) (7)
- 10 One who charges another with an offence (Job 31:35) (7)
- 11 ' — thy ministers with righteousness' (Book of Common Prayer) (5)
- 12 and 15 Down 'All — is God-breathed and is — for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness' (2 Timothy 3:16) (9,6)
- 17 'No — of the field had yet appeared on the earth and no plant of the field had yet sprung up' (Genesis 2:5) (5)
- 19 Made to feel embarrassed (Isaiah 24:23) (7)
- 21 This man built his house on sand (Matthew 7:26) (7)
- 22 David's hypocritical message to Joab on the death in battle of Uriah: 'Don't let this — you' (2 Samuel 11:25) (5)
- 23 Detest (Job 10:1) (6)
- 24 'God made two great lights, the greater light to govern the day and the — light to govern the night' (Genesis 1:16) (6)

## Down

- 1 To make a serious request (1 Corinthians 1:10) (6)
- 2 Launches an assault against (Genesis 32:8) (7)
- 3 'The wicked man — deceptive wages' (Proverbs 11:18) (5)
- 5 Tuba ale (anag.) (7)
- 6 'The day thou gavest, Lord, is — ' (5)
- 7 Old Testament measure of weight, equivalent to about 12 grammes (Exodus 30:13) (6)
- 9 Where Elijah restored life to the son of a widow with whom he lodged (1 Kings 17:10) (9)
- 13 Paul said of whatever was to his profit, 'I consider them — , that I may gain Christ and be found in him' (Philippians 3:8) (7)
- 14 City visited by Paul, described by the city clerk as 'the guardian of the temple of the great Artemis' (Acts 19:35) (7)
- 15 See 12 Across
- 16 Rioted (anag.) (6)
- 18 She had a surprise when she answered the door and found 8 Across outside (Acts 12:13) (5)
- 20 Maltreat (1 Chronicles 10:4) (5)



***Puzzle solutions on page 30***

## Capel Hall 100 Club



*You've got to be in it to win it!*

## Capel Hall 100 Club

Our Village Hall is a wonderful asset to our community and is well used regularly for a variety of adults and childrens social groups as well as being available for private hire. The costs of running the hall are considerable and extra funds are always needed. Please consider whether you could make a regular contribution through our 100 Club.

Since we launched the 100 Club we have seen the number of supporters grow steadily. In May this year we reached the magic 100 entries meaning we gave away the highest prize money yet. We can always welcome more entries as the prize money is always 40% of the monthly income. The remaining 60% is used to make financial contribution to improvements to our village hall.

Application forms are available on the Hall website (<https://capelmemorialhall.org.uk>) or from inside the Memorial Hall or by scanning this QR code.



For as little as just £3 per month (minimum) you will be allocated an entry number.

Numbers of entries are unlimited so you can buy as many as you wish.

The 100 Club is a private lottery and is open to all users and supporters of Capel Village Memorial Hall. Anyone aged 16 or over can join.

**Any questions, please contact George Ede – [george@nightlesscopse.co.uk](mailto:george@nightlesscopse.co.uk)**

### Easy Sodoku

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

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### Medium Sodoku

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

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## God in the Arts

*Editor: The Revd Michael Burgess surveys works of sacred art that can be found in various museums*

### **'He gave us eyes to see them': John Henry Newman**

In the 1830s a group of academics came together to promote a new identity for the Church of England. To them the church was not just a department of state for the government to control, but part of the one, holy, catholic and apostolic church.

Among that group in what became known as the Oxford Movement was John Henry Newman. In 1816, when he was 15, he had a profound religious conversion. Six years later he was elected a Fellow of Oriel College and after ordination became the Vicar of St Mary's, Oxford. When he was touring Italy and southern Europe in 1833, he wrote a poem, which became a popular hymn, 'Lead, kindly Light.' Newman was anxious to return home to do God's work for his church, and in this poem he prayed that he would be ready to follow that light of God, come what may.

But Newman realised that the more he defended the Church of England, the more he found himself drawn to become a Roman Catholic. He wrote about that struggle of conscience and mind in his 'Apologia.' In 1845 he was received into the Roman Catholic Church, and in 1879 was honoured as a cardinal. He died on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of this month in 1890.

In 1875 a visitor meeting Newman described him as 'very kindly, with a sort of grave simplicity which coming from so old a man, has in it something inexpressibly touching...He looks very aged, with an air of melancholy, as of one who has passed through terrible struggles, yet of serenity, as of one who has found peace.' There is a portrait of Newman in Manchester Art Gallery by W T Roden which captures something of the sadness and resignation that struggle had caused him, forcing him to leave friends and colleagues in the Church of England.

In the National Portrait Gallery in London there is a wonderful collection of paintings and photographs of Newman. The portraits of Newman range throughout his life culminating in a painting by his cousin, Emmeline Deane, of March 1889. It is a sensitive portrayal that invites the viewer to look beyond the scarlet robes and ring of the cardinal to the face of a pilgrim whose search for the light to guide and illuminate had taken him on what was a long and difficult path. There is a dignity and a gentleness there, but also strength and resolution.

When Newman died in the following year, his pall was embroidered with his motto, 'Cor ad cor loquitur': 'Heart speaks to heart'. The heart of God speaking to the human heart to bring guidance and light. Newman followed that voice and light throughout his life. It was a journey that led him from the shadows and images of this world into the radiance of God's eternal light. That thought was inscribed on his memorial tablet – a reminder that we are all called to journey like John Henry Newman, seeking the light to guide and following that light in faith and perseverance.



Image: John Henry Newman painted by Sir John Everett Millais, currently in the National Portrait Gallery, London



# Puzzle Solutions

**Sudoku Easy Solution**

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

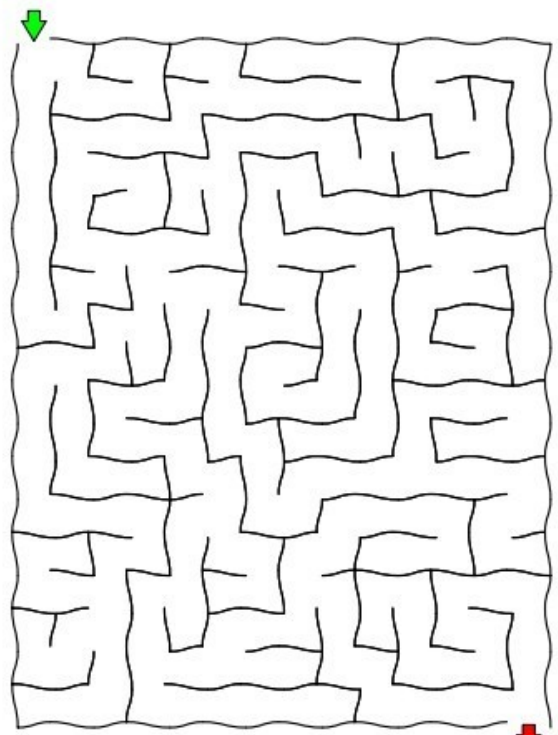
**Sudoku Medium solution**

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

**Crossword Solution**

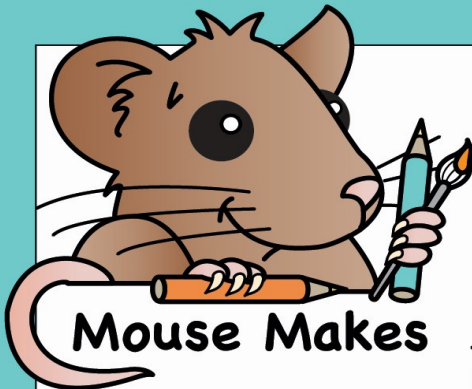
A	M	A	Z	E	D		O	T	H	E	R	S
P		T		A			A		N			H
P	E	T	E	R		Z	E	B	E	D	E	E
E		A		N		A		L		E		K
A	C	C	U	S	E	R		E	N	D	U	E
L		K				E		A				L
		S	C	R	I	P	T	U	R	E		
U				U		H				P		E
S	H	R	U	B		A	B	A	S	H	E	D
E		H		B		T		B		E		I
F	O	O	L	I	S	H		U	P	S	E	T
U		D		S				S		U		O
L	O	A	T	H	E		L	E	S	S	E	R

Can you find your way out of the maze?



August  
2025

# Junior InSpire



**Mouse Makes**

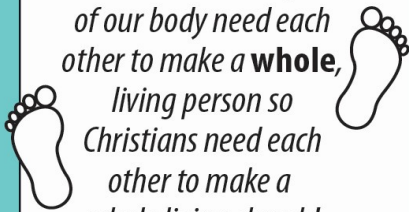
"Just as a **body**, though **one**, has **many** parts, but all its many **parts** form one body, so it is with **Christ**. For we were all baptised by one **Spirit** so as to form one body... Even so, the body is not made up of one part but of many...

...Now you are the body of Christ, and **each** one of you is part of it."

from 1 Corinthians 12:12-27



Just as the different parts of our body need each other to make a **whole**, living person so Christians need each other to make a whole living church!



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

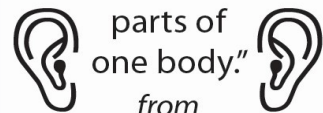
Look in the Bible verses for the words written in **bold** then look for these words too!

GOD • TOGETHER • EQUAL • ALL • EVERY  
HEAD • EYES • EARS • MOUTH • TONGUE  
TEETH • NOSE • ARMS • HANDS • FINGERS  
LEGS • KNEES • FEET • TOES • GIFTS



"Though we are many, we are one body in **union** with Christ, and we are **joined** to each other as **different** parts of one body."

from  
Romans 12:1-7







Café  
Church

Sunday  
10th  
August  
10.30

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