

APRIL 2020



SERVING THE PARISHES OF

ALL SAINTS'
Baschurch

HOLY TRINITY
Weston Lullingfields

ST MARY'S
Hordley

50p
Per issue

Dear readers,

In these very uncertain times it is difficult to know what to include in this magazine. What seems appropriate one day has been superseded the next. It has, however, become clear that established events are being cancelled or postponed all over the world, so a few local cancellations are just part of a much bigger picture. We will just have to wait to see what can be reinstated when the world returns to some measure of normality. If your regular communal activity is not advertised you may need to ask locally if it is still going ahead. The grass will not stop growing, so gardens, verges and churchyards will still need to be mown.

As so often happens on such occasions these difficulties bring out the best in many people. Voluntary groups are being set up to help the elderly and less able people with such basic necessities as essential shopping. As someone who is well into the age group for self-isolation I can understand the anxieties of others similarly placed. I consider myself to be quite fit for my age and regularly go for a country walk of an hour or so, remembering to keep a good distance from anyone I may encounter. We are fortunate in living in the country where such activities are possible; it would be quite different living in a densely populated city.

People have been asking: "What can I do when I am self-isolating?" We need to be aware of our mental health so it might be a good idea to dig out that half-finished project that was shelved years ago; finally tackle that outside painting that we have been putting off; get the garden looking its best for the coming summer or even go out into the country and enjoy the wonders of nature, but **keep your distance from other people.**

Andrew Thomson

Editor CFN

(Believed to be correct at the time of printing)

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SUBMISSIONS FOR MAY MAGAZINE

Please send your stories, pictures or notices for the next issue by

15th April 2020

to: **churchfamilynews@gmail.com**

I am assuming that the mechanism for producing and distributing the magazine will still operate, but who knows?

Front cover: A picture to bring us joy in these difficult times.

THE ASSOCIATE MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

As I write this letter, the world is in turmoil as each country strives to contain the Covid-19 virus. There is panic as supermarket shelves are being emptied as soon as they are filled, gatherings are being cancelled and people are self isolating. Fear and anxiety is creeping into peoples' lives which is causing mayhem everywhere.

Wherever there is uncertainty, wherever there are situations which seem out of our control, whenever things happen which appear to dash our hopes for the future and our lives are turned upside down, there is fear.

The disciples and followers of Jesus were no different. As Jesus spoke to them, preparing them for what was to happen – that he would be arrested and killed, they were filled with horror. Jesus, whom they loved and trusted, the One who they believed to be the long awaited Messiah, was deliberately heading towards Jerusalem where he would be taken from them and killed. That surely can't be right. They were frightened – frightened for Jesus and fearful for themselves.

When we get to Holy Week, we are reminded how the disciples deserted Jesus when He was arrested, and Peter denied that he was ever with Jesus, despite assuring Jesus that he would never do that. They were afraid; and when Jesus was crucified, they stood at a distance, and when Jesus died, they went into the city and stayed behind barred doors, full of fear.

Yet, throughout the Bible God's message to his people is "Do not be afraid!" Whether it was the Assyrian army besieging Jerusalem, or the exiles contemplating their future, the message from Isaiah is the same: "Fear not, *for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine....*"
Isaiah 43:1-3

When the angel Gabriel appears to Mary to tell her she would be the mother of God's Son, his first words are: "Fear not!" To the terrified disciples amid the storm on Lake Galilee, Jesus says: "Be not afraid!". In the Garden of Gethsemane, as he approached death, Jesus himself was terrified and begged his Father to save him from the horrific death that awaited Him:

“Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me; yet not my will but yours be done. Then an angel from heaven appeared to Him and gave Him strength... (Luke22.42-44)

Jesus was able to face His fears because He knew that His Father would not leave Him, He knew that all He needed to do was to surrender Himself into God’s loving care, trusting implicitly that God would not let Him down.

In the face of fear what should we do?

First of all, it is good to acknowledge that we are afraid, to name our fear, even to tell a friend, or to tell God that we are frightened.

Then, there may be practical steps we can take to diminish that fear.

But the key to deep peace of mind is to put the situation and our future into the hands of our Father in heaven, as Jesus did. When we face surgery, we may well be fearful, but the way through is to entrust ourselves to the skill and care of the surgeon and their team. In the same way, when we are fearful, learn to entrust ourselves to our Father in heaven; for as we begin to let go, he gives us a deep peace, even in the most testing situations.

Nor is Easter without fear, because what had happened was so awesome, so strange, so impossible – an empty tomb, the huge stone rolled away, and no body. No wonder that the women who came to the tomb were afraid. Then suddenly Jesus appears and says: *“Don’t be afraid!”* He was dead, but is now alive – forever!

Easter is the end of darkness, the coming into light.

We stay with our Lord through the joy of the Last Supper and into the betrayal and the trial.

We struggle with him on Good Friday as He goes to the Cross and into darkness.

We wait....and on EASTER DAY we rejoice – HE IS ALIVE, HE IS RISEN, ALLELUIA!

May you all have a joyful and happy Easter-tide.

Deborah

They stayed together

At the time of writing, it is not clear how far the Coronavirus will spread, nor how seriously it will impact upon our lives. Undoubtedly, it presents us with a serious challenge, in terms both of public health and of the ways in which we relate to one another. However, it is much less deadly than the plagues which affected our country in past centuries, most famously the Great Plague of 1665.

At that time, Eyam in Derbyshire lay within the Diocese of Lichfield. That beautiful village played a famously heroic part in combating the spread of the plague, which had been unwittingly introduced to the community through infected samples of cloth brought from London by a travelling tailor. Led by their vicar William Mompesson, the villagers took the selfless decision to 'self-isolate' for more than a year, avoiding all contact with neighbouring villages, their food supplies left at and collected from the parish boundaries. The cost in human lives was heavy, but the result of containment was entirely successful.

Mompesson worked in close collaboration with one of his predecessors and potential rivals, the Nonconformist minister Thomas Stanley, who had been ejected from his living for his Puritan beliefs. In a display of ecumenical unity utterly remarkable for its time, the two clergy sustained the morale, strengthened the will, and re-established the unity of the community through their ministry, gathering their people together in open air services.

Eyam today is a very moving place, with no sites more evocative than its burying places, including the graveyard with the table tomb of William Mompesson's wife Catherine, who died towards the end of the outbreak. It is deservedly a place popular with visitors, and forms the far end of the Peak Pilgrimage Trail which begins in Ilam, still in our diocese in the Staffordshire Peak.

But this is not a site of historical interest only. Eyam is a striking example of the church's calling to bring unity in a society faced with forces which could pull it apart. Faced with the mortal peril of the plague, it would have been easy for the villagers of Eyam to divide and scatter; but thanks to the Christian message of faith, hope and love at the heart of

their community, they stayed together. We in our time face challenges which could pull us apart - whether those be the threat of pandemic, the political divisions created and exposed in the long arguments over Brexit, the growing contrasts in wealth and health in our society, or whatever. But as then, so now, our churches are at the heart of our local communities with a message of hope grounded in the reality of what God has done in raising Jesus Christ from the dead. This Easter, it is my hope and prayer that, like the Christians of Eyam, we can do our part in bringing together a divided society.

*+Michael Ipgrave
Bishop of Shrewsbury*

HORDLEY NEWS

You may remember that bulbs and primroses were planted in the churchyard last year by Linda and members of the congregation, including two year old Francesca, and photographs of the work appeared in the December/January magazine. They are now bearing fruit, well flowers! and are looking really lovely. With no services at present they may not be much appreciated so if you are passing on a sunny day you might like to take a walk up the path and sit on the seat for a few minutes.

A meeting took place on 26th February to plan this year's social events. A Pimms and Puddings Party was planned for Friday 12th June at The Village Hall that will probably now have to be postponed. The Harvest Lunch is booked for Sunday 1st November, also in The Village Hall; let us hope that by then all will have returned to normal.

The winner of the Hordley Lottery Draw in March was Hilary James with number 42.

All Saints' 100 Club winners

February	No 4	Mrs S Heard	March	No 111	Mrs J Bensley
	No 6	Mrs A Whittall		No 118	Mr P Smart
	No 13	Mr M Smith			

Readings for May and June

Readings can be found online at Biblegateway.com – they can be read in whichever version you prefer, just type in the bible passage.

Mothering Sunday – 22nd March

1 Samuel 1: 20-end / John 19: 25b-27

Sunday 29th March

Romans 8: 6-11 / John 11: 1-45

Palm Sunday – 5th April

Matthew 21: 1-11

Holy Week 6th April – 10th April

Make space each day and read the Passion Narrative

Matthew 26: v14 – end of Chap 27

Good Friday – 10th April

I will post some reflections online

Easter Day – 12th April

Acts 10: 34-43 / Matthew 28: 1-10

Sunday 19th April

Acts 2: 14a, 22-32 / John 20: 19-end

Sunday 26th April

Acts 2: 14a, 36 – 41 / Luke 24: 13-35

Sunday 3rd May

Acts 2: 42-end / John 10: 1-10

Sunday 10th May

Acts 7: 55-end / John 14: 1-14

Sunday 17th May

Acts 17: 22-31 / John 14: 15-21

Thursday 21st May – Ascension Day

Acts 1: 1-11 / Luke 24: 44-end

Sunday 24th May

1 Peter 4: 12-14; 5:6-11 / John 17: 1-11

Pentecost – Sunday 31st May

Acts 2: 1-21 / John 20: 19-23

Trinity Sunday – 7th June

2 Corinthians 13:11-13 / Matthew 28:16-20

Sunday 14th June

Romans 5: 1-8 / Matthew 9: 35 – chap 10:8

Sunday 21st June

Romans 6: 1b – 11 / Matthew 10: 24-39

Sunday 28th June

Romans 6: 12-end / Matthew 10: 40-end

CHURCH SERVICES

Due to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic

THE ARCHBISHOPS OF CANTERBURY AND YORK HAVE ANNOUNCED THE FORMAL SUSPENSION OF ALL PUBLIC WORSHIP UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

All Saints' Baschurch will be left open during the day, as we are allowed to do, so that people may visit on their own to pray.

We still do not know what will happen with weddings and funerals, that is more complicated, and we are awaiting further guidance.

Obviously this is a distressing time for all, so please try to keep praying.

I will be announcing measures so that we can all still pray at the same time. Resources will also be available online and on a new Facebook page for each church; do search for it and share it and encourage others to look for it. These resources will be updated regularly.

Also, please send me your name and telephone number if you are willing and able to help people in the community, either with fetching stuff for people or just offering a phone call to those who are alone (something those over 70 can do safely). I am compiling a list and will encourage people to ring me and I will contact whoever is available or can take part.

Sent with prayers for each one of you.

This article is taken from emails sent by Rev Linda Cox



Prayers

A Prayer for those affected by Corona virus:

God of healing and hope, in Jesus you meet us in our places of pain and fear.

Look with mercy on those who have contracted the new virus, on any who are vulnerable, and on all who feel in danger. Through this time of global concern, by your Holy Spirit bring out the best not the worst in us. Make us more aware of our interdependence on each other, and of the strength that comes from being one body in you.

Through Christ our wounded healer. Amen.

(Rev. Dr. Sam Wells)



My Lighthouse

I won't fear what tomorrow brings
With each morning I'll rise and sing
My God's love will lead me through
You are the peace in my troubled sea
You are the peace in my troubled sea
My lighthouse, my lighthouse
Shining in the darkness, I will follow you
My lighthouse, my lighthouse
I will trust the promise
You will carry me safe to shore.

A Prayer for Hospital Staff and Medical Researchers

Gracious God, give skill, sympathy and resilience to all who are caring for the sick, and your wisdom to those searching for a cure.
Strengthen them with your Spirit, that through their work many will be restored to health;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Morning Prayer

You may wish to light a candle and have some reflective music playing in the background.

The Lord is good, a strong refuge when trouble comes. God is close to those who trust in him. *Nahum 1.7*

Opening Sentences

O Lord, open our lips

and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us; let us pray with one heart and mind.

Pause for reflection as you offer the day to God.

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day, so may the light of your presence, O God, set our hearts on fire with love for you; now and for ever. **Amen.**

You may wish to say Psalm 23 or another psalm here, such as Psalm 16 or Psalm 139.

Bible Reading

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; therefore can I lack nothing.

He makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.

He shall refresh my soul and guide me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil;

for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You spread a table before me
in the presence of those who trouble me;

you have anointed my head with oil and my cup shall be
full.

Surely goodness and loving mercy shall follow me all the
days of my life,

and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

**Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy
Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for
ever. Amen.**

*You may wish to use the weekly pattern of short readings given
below, or choose a passage of your own.*

Sunday Morning

But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he
who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed
you;

I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass
through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers,
they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you
shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For
I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour.

Isaiah 43.1-3a

Monday Morning

‘Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe
also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling-
places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to pre-
pare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you,
I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I

am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.’ Thomas said to him, ‘Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?’ Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. *John 14.1-6*

Tuesday Morning

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

Philippians 4.8-9

Wednesday Morning

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Colossians 3.16,17

Thursday Morning

You are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling-place for God. *Ephesians 2.19-22*

Friday Morning

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honour. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. *Romans 19.9-12*

Saturday Morning

He said to his disciples, 'Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat, or about your body, what you will wear. For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? If then you are not able to do so small a thing as that, why do you worry about the rest? Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you—you of little faith! And do not keep striving for what you are to eat and what you are to drink, and do not keep worrying. For it is the nations of the world that strive after all these things, and your Father knows that you need them. Instead, strive for his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well. *Luke 12.22-31*

Prayers – including your own prayers

Almighty and everlasting God,
we thank you that you have brought us safely to the beginning
of this day.

Keep us from falling into sin
or running into danger;
order us in all our doings
and guide us to do always
what is righteous in your sight;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Keep us, good Lord,
under the shadow of your mercy
in this time of uncertainty and distress.
Sustain and support the anxious and fearful,
and lift up all who are brought low;
that we may rejoice in your comfort
knowing that nothing can separate us from your love in Christ
Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in
heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us
our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against
us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from
evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Conclusion

The Lord bless us, and preserve us from all evil, and keep us
in eternal life. **Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Night Prayer

You may wish to light a candle and have some reflective music playing in the background.

The eternal God is your refuge,
and underneath are the everlasting arms. *Deuteronomy 33.27*

Opening Sentences

The Lord almighty grant us a quiet night and a perfect end. **Amen.**

Our help is in the name of the Lord

who made heaven and earth.

Pause and reflect on the day that is past.

Save us, O Lord, while waking, and guard us while sleeping, that awake we may watch with Christ and asleep may rest in peace.

Bible Reading

You may wish to say here the psalm given below, or Psalm 27, or another chosen psalm.

Psalm 91

Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High and abides under the shadow of the Almighty,

Shall say to the Lord, 'My refuge and my stronghold, my God, in whom I put my trust.'

For he shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence.

He shall cover you with his wings and you shall be safe under his feathers; his faithfulness shall be your shield and buckler.

You shall not be afraid of any terror by night, nor of the arrow that flies by day;

Of the pestilence that stalks in darkness, nor of the sickness that destroys at noonday.

Though a thousand fall at your side and ten thousand at your right hand, yet it shall not come near you.

Your eyes have only to behold to see the reward of the wicked.

Because you have made the Lord your refuge and the Most High your stronghold,

There shall no evil happen to you, neither shall any plague come near your tent.

For he shall give his angels charge over you, to keep you in all your ways.

They shall bear you in their hands, lest you dash your foot against a stone.

You shall tread upon the lion and adder; the young lion and the serpent you shall trample underfoot.

Because they have set their love upon me, therefore will I deliver them; I will lift them up, because they know my name.

They will call upon me and I will answer them; I am with them in trouble, I will deliver them and bring them to honour.

With long life will I satisfy them and show them my salvation.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. Amen.

You may wish to use one of the following short readings or choose a passage of your own.

Sunday Evening

You, O Lord, are in the midst of us, and we are called by your name; leave us not, O Lord our God. *Jeremiah 14.9*

Monday Evening

Thus said the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel: In returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and in trust shall be your strength. *Isaiah 30.15*

Tuesday Evening

Jesus said, 'Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light. *Matthew 11.28-end*

Wednesday Evening

Humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. *1 Peter 5.6,7*

Thursday Evening

Jesus said, 'I have said this to you, so that in me you may have peace. In the world you face persecution. But take courage; I have conquered the world!' *John 16.33*

Friday Evening

God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. *1 Thesalonians 5.9,10*

Saturday Evening

Jesus said, 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.' *John 8.12*

Prayers – including your own

Merciful God, we entrust to your unfailing and tender care this night those who are ill or in pain, knowing that whenever danger threatens your everlasting arms are there to hold us safe. Comfort and heal them, and restore them to health and strength; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Be present, O merciful God, and protect us through the silent hours of this night, so that we who are wearied by the changes and chances of this fleeting world, may rest upon your eternal changelessness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Visit this place, O Lord, we pray, and drive far from it the snares of the enemy; may your holy angels dwell with us in peace, and may your blessing be always upon us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Conclusion

In peace we will lie down and sleep;

for you alone, Lord, make us dwell in safety.

The Lord bless us and watch over us;

The Lord make his face to shine upon us and be gracious to us; The Lord look kindly upon us and give us peace. **Amen.**

WESTON NEWS AND DIARY DATES

Please make a note of the corrected dates in your diaries.

MAY 17	SPRING LUNCH WITH BASCHURCH	EVENT CANCELLED
JULY 18	A SUMMER NIGHT OF LIVE MUSIC WITH THE JAMES BROTHERS. BURGER SUPPER	7.00
SEPT 5	TREASURE HUNT AND BBQ POP UP PUB	PM - times TBC
SEPT 27	HARVEST LUNCH WITH BASCHURCH	12.30 FOR 1.00pm
OCT 4	HARVEST BRUNCH	After Harvest service at 9.30
NOV 28	CHRISTMAS CAFÉ AND CRAFTERNOON Lunches and Teas	12.00 – 4.30

PLEASE NOTE – CORRECTION TO DATES

Huge apologies for the error last month. The Harvest Brunch date was incorrect. It is of course on October 4th to follow Weston's harvest service.

Anita Weeks

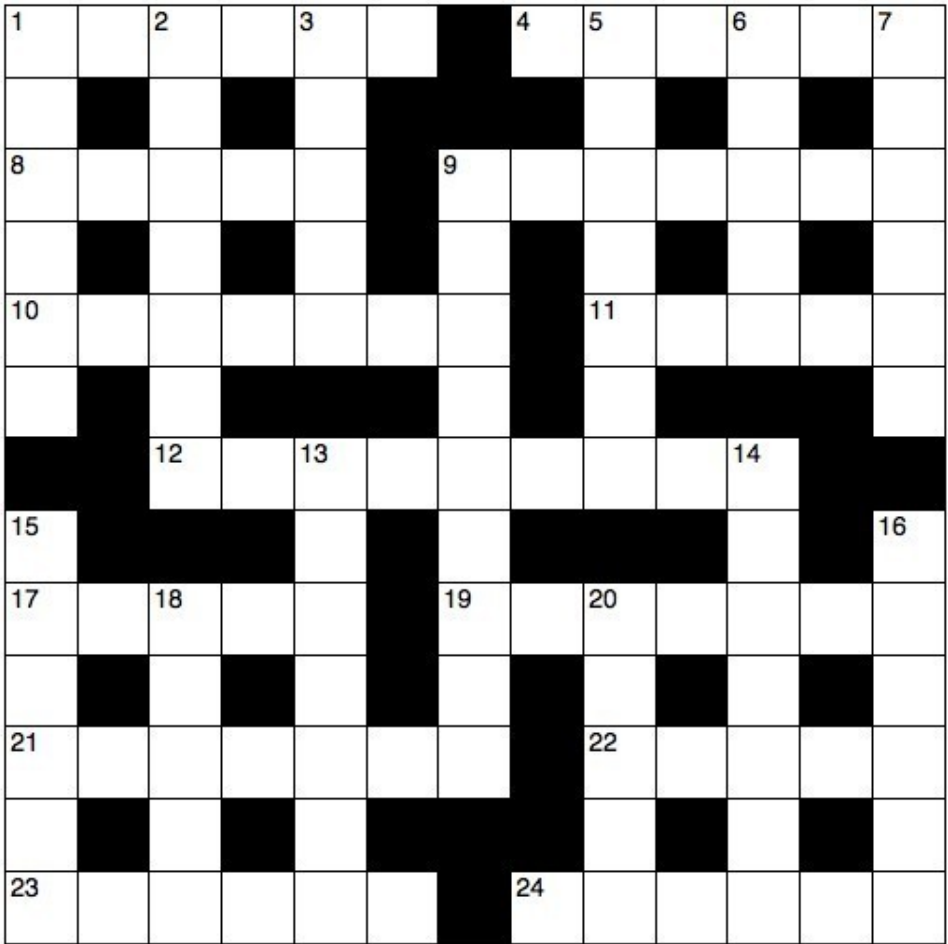
FROM THE REGISTERS

Funerals:

Frank Owen – aged 83 – Funeral 28th February at All Saints', Baschurch

Rex Howells – aged 86 – Funeral 3rd March at All Saints' Baschurch

Eric Edwards – aged 89 – Funeral 4th March at All Saints', Baschurch



Across

- 1 Relating to the whole universe (6)
- 4 The disciple who made the remark in 8 Across (John 20:24) (6)
- 8 'Unless I see the nail marks — — hands, I will not believe it' (John 20:25) (2,3)
- 9 He urged King Jehoiakim not to burn the scroll containing Jeremiah's message (Jeremiah 36:25) (7)
- 10 Baptist minister and controversial founder of America's Moral Majority, Jerry — (7)
- 11 'Look, here is — . Why shouldn't I be baptized?' (Acts 8:36) (5)

- 12 Repossessed (Genesis 14:16) (9)
- 17 Port from which Paul sailed on his last journey to Rome (Acts 27:3–4) (5)
- 19 ‘Moses was not aware that his face was — because he had spoken with the Lord’ (Exodus 34:29) (7)
- 21 Roonwit, C.S. Lewis’s half-man, half-horse (7)
- 22 Grill (Luke 24:42) (5)
- 23 ‘The lot fell to Matthias; so he was added to the—apostles’ (Acts 1:26) (6)
- 24 ‘I was sick and you looked after me, I was in — and you came to visit me’ (Matthew 25:36) (6)

Down

- 1 Coastal rock faces (Psalm 141:6) (6)
- 2 Academic (1 Corinthians 1:20) (7)
- 3 Publish (Daniel 6:26) (5)
- 5 For example, the Crusades (4,3)
- 6 11 Across is certainly this (5)
- 7 He reps (anag.) (6)
- 9 Liberator (Psalm 18:2) (9)
- 13 Man who asked the question in 11 Across was in charge of all her treasury (Acts 8:27) (7)
- 14 They must be ‘worthy of respect, sincere, not indulging in much wine’ (1 Timothy 3:8) (7)
- 15 The human mind or soul (6)
- 16 ‘O Lord, while precious children starve, the tools of war increase; their bread is — ’ (Graham Kendrick) (6)
- 18 ‘We played the flute for you, and you did not — ’ (Matthew 11:17) (5)
- 20 Bared (anag.) (5)

(Solutions on page 26)

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Crossword answers

ACROSS: 1, Cosmic. 4, Thomas. 8, In his. 9, Delaiah. 10, Falwell.
11, Water. 12, Recovered. 17, Sidon. 19, Radiant. 21, Centaur.
22, Broil. 23, Eleven. 24, Prison.

DOWN: 1, Cliffs. 2, Scholar. 3, Issue. 5, Holy war. 6, Moist.
7, Sphere. 9, Deliverer. 13, Candace. 14, Deacons. 15, Psyche.
16, Stolen. 18, Dance. 20, Debar.

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I thought we must have something to smile about: Ed

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Cowslip or Cow Slop?

The name cowslip is believed to be a mispronunciation of cow slop, so named because the flowers are traditionally found near cow pats in pastures! It is a widespread plant of grassland, not to be confused with the primrose which is more of a woodland plant. Cowslip can grow in many soils but really thrives in limestone and chalk grassland. It is an important nectar source for insects including bees, beetles and butterflies as it flowers early and can carpet an area where conditions are suitable. Look out for the yellow brimstone butterfly, which is on the wing early in the year, this may be feeding on cowslip flowers.

Like many wildflowers, cowslip has been part of the herbalists' collection for centuries. It has a sedative quality so is used to treat sleep problems whilst the citrusy flavoured flowers can help with coughs. Cowslip flowers were also used to flavour wine and can be found in traditional Spanish recipes.

Also known as St Peter's Keys or Keys of Heaven, cowslips were believed to have grown where St Peter dropped the Key to Earth. You may have cowslips in your churchyard grassland, if so try and leave the areas where it occurs uncut until the flowers have finished and set seed. Cowslip does not grow high so perhaps you could set your mower blade at 10cm so that the leaves are not shredded by subsequent mows.

All the best

Harriet Carty,

Diocesan Churchyard Environmental Advisor, harriet@cfga.org.uk

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Images of the village of Eyam in the Derbyshire Peak District.

See page 6

