

**FEBRUARY 2021**



**SERVING THE PARISHES OF**

**ALL SAINTS'**  
Baschurch

**HOLY TRINITY**  
Weston Lullingfields

**ST MARY'S**  
Hordley

**50p**  
Per issue



The call came just after 9:00am. Could we go to the Orthopaedic Hospital for our coronavirus jabs some time today? “Yes, any time” I replied. “How about 6:10 this evening?” “Yes”. Since I am just three months older than Mary we could go together on one appointment.

This was confirmed by email, which included various instructions and a ticket that I could keep on my smart phone to be scanned when we got there. We should also take our NHS numbers and wear a mask.

We got to the hospital about ten minutes early and were told to go straight in. Everything was well signed and there were guides where needed. On entering the building we were told to take off our masks, sanitize our hands and take a new mask from the dispenser. A nurse then took us to an open alcove off the corridor where we found two men sitting at desks. One was at a computer taking details, the other was preparing syringes. We were not asked for our NHS numbers or the ticket carefully stored on my phone. We were identified by date of birth and first line of our address. We had taken care to wear clothing which made it easy to roll our sleeves up to the tops of our arms. The jabs were quickly given (Pfizer vaccine) and we were shown to a waiting area where we sat for fifteen minutes for any adverse reactions to show. None did and we were given cards telling us that our second jabs would be given on 10 April. We then drove home, arriving just one hour after we left. The whole process was very smooth and efficient.

**Andrew Thomson**

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## SUBMISSIONS FOR MARCH MAGAZINE

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

**15th FEBRUARY 2021**

to: **churchfamilynews@gmail.com**

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*Front cover:* Coronavirus vaccinations being administered in Lichfield Cathedral. The picture inside the front cover was taken in the cathedral.

# Thank You

I would like to thank everyone, on behalf of the ministry team, for the good wishes, cards and gifts that we received at Christmas. We hope that you all had a good Christmas despite it being a very different one and that it won't be too long before we are able to gather with loved ones again.

I would also like to thank the Churchwardens and others who have undertaken the extra work in this last year to ensure our churches have been safe to open. Without their hard work and commitment it would not have been possible and this will be ongoing for some time, so do thank them, and if you are able to help in any small way let them know.

Thank you to those who decorated our churches and churchyards and those who did Advent windows in Baschurch, it all brought much needed colour and joy to people.

Finally, thank you to everyone who has supported our churches in the last year. Particular thanks go to those who have been able to offer financial help, either through regular giving or through the Christmas goodies, raffle tickets or sponsorship. Without such help our churches would be unable to pay the ongoing costs that happen whether open or not, so thank you.

*Linda*

## Services in Church

It was with sadness that we closed the churches again in January, but after careful consideration and conversation with the Bishop and then an email to the PCCs it was felt the safest option. Whilst our churches remained as Covid secure as we could make them, the number of people in the area testing positive was rising, which meant we were all more at risk. On top of this the number of people available to safely open and undertake all the jobs necessary for your safety were getting fewer.

We will review the situation at the end of the month but we have currently been given permission to remain online until the end of March. This seems the sensible thing to do especially given that as clergy we have to travel between churches and are also mixing (albeit as socially distanced as we can)

at funerals. All churches have been asked to review and update all risk assessments either before they return to in-building worship or immediately if they are continuing to meet at the current time.

As always please check emails, posters and the website and Facebook pages for all up-to-date information. We will reopen as soon as we can safely do so. In the meantime if anyone feels the need to go into one of our churches for some quiet time or to pray then please contact me and we will arrange for that to happen.

## **READINGS FOR FEBRUARY**

### **Sun 7<sup>th</sup> February** (2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday before Lent)

Proverbs 8: 1, 22-31 or Colossians 1: 15-20

Gospel: John 1: 1-14

### **Sun 14<sup>th</sup> February** (Sunday next before Lent)

2 Kings 2: 1-12 or 2 Corinthians 4: 3-6

Gospel: Mark 9: 2-9

### **Ash Wednesday – 17<sup>th</sup> February**

Isaiah 58: 1-12 & Matthew 6: 1-6, 16-21

### **Sun 21<sup>st</sup> February** (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent)

Genesis 9: 8-17 or 1 Peter 3: 18-end

Gospel: Mark 1: 9-15

### **Sun 28<sup>th</sup> February** (2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent)

Genesis 17: 1-7, 15-16 or Romans 4: 13-end

Gospel: Mark 8: 31-end

## **Unfinished Lent Course from 2020 – Broken**

I am aware due to the disruption of Covid and the first lockdown the Lent Course in 2020 did not come to a conclusion. As we are now much more secure in our use of technology, there is if people would like, the opportunity for us to finish that course.

For those who attended last year if you would let Linda know, then between those who wish to do so we can work out times and days.

### **Ash Wednesday**

Ash Wednesday falls this year on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> February. In non-pandemic times there is usually the opportunity for people to attend a service of Holy Communion with Ashing at Weston Lullingfields or Baschurch, sadly this is looking unlikely this year. However, there will be a service online that day at 7.30pm, this is to allow for those who are at work during the day. Further details will be emailed out.

Resources for Ash Wednesday and Lent are coming, so look out for those.

### **Contact Details**

If you are reading this magazine and are not getting the weekly service and reflection please let Linda know. If you have an email address they can be emailed out, if you don't but would like a paper copy they can be posted to you in advance of the day.

### **Website**

If you use a computer then please check the website regularly as it is updated.

New resources will be going on for those who like to say morning and evening prayer, which we are hoping to change with the church year.

*Linda*

## LENT COURSE

This year's Lent course is called:

### 'A Beautiful Friendship'

It is based on the film Casablanca, which I'm sure many of you will have seen. If you've got the film at home then dig it out and watch again. If you haven't seen it then let Linda know, the sooner the better.

It will run for 5 weeks on a Monday evening via Zoom. Apologies for those who find zoom hard work but sadly it is the only way we can do this at present.

However, if you have the film at home and would like the notes for each session sent to you so you can think about them on your own, then let me know. Any questions that arise could then be emailed back or spoken about over the phone.

The first session will be on **Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February** 7.15pm for a **7.30pm start** (this will allow people a few minutes to chat before we start). Each session will finish at 9pm.

The 5 sessions are:

Waiting in the wilderness

Lamenting and lost love

Seeing God's bigger picture

Standing up for our beliefs

The power of self-sacrificial love

Sessions on: 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb, 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> March

Each week notes will be sent in advance of the session. If you cannot make all the sessions that isn't a problem.

Please let me know if you would like to take part in this year's Lent Group, session notes and the zoom link will then be sent out to you.

*Linda*

## **Different life, different church, different worship.**

### **Zoe Corney finds some have welcomed the changes to church life brought about by the pandemic.**

2020... the year that churches all over the country had to close the doors on its buildings. But 2020 was also the year that we were introduced to new ways to worship, with the surge in the provision of online and telephone services. For many who find leaving the house difficult due to poor physical or mental health, this abundance of new services has meant less isolation in a time when many others were, for the first time, feeling cut off from the rest of their world.

As one in the Enabling Church network in the diocese said recently:

“The availability of online prayer, worship and study has been life-changing for me and no doubt thousands of housebound people like me. I've been able to join morning prayer, evening prayer and Sunday worship once again, and am also a member of an online Christian discussion group. I'm sure that they have helped me overcome feelings of isolation and estrangement, connecting me once again with the church community which I've missed and within which I can fulfil our purpose and give and receive love.”

In a year that was different from any other, life was different, church was different, worship was different. Although the physical doors on our church buildings were shut for many months, for many Christians new doors were opening as much of the church's life moved online; many people who are housebound, both recently and more long term, have been delighted to have access to the worship and community of the Church again. Much energy from ministers has been put into establishing practices, developing resources and raising skill levels; and in some churches, new volunteers have come forward to resource online worship and ministry. Virtual worship has worked well for many Christians, with statistics showing that one quarter of the UK population has taken part in online worship during the last year.



A survey in our own diocese in the middle of last year showed that over 60% of parishes were able to make provision for online worship during the first lockdown. And our own cathedral in Lichfield is now live-streaming services three times per day, and regularly has online congregations at morning prayer that are up to ten times the number that used to attend in person.

For many, the lockdown and the provision of online prayer and worship which have come out of it have been a major boost to spiritual life. Of course, virtual church will never replace Church but the two do sit side by side.

It's good for the church that we now know that online discipleship and fellowship is part of our life. It's good for the church that we can again reach people that we had too easily let go of. Perhaps the challenge posed is not one of inclusion but of integration: how will our online and offline lives fit together?

*Zoe Corney is part of the diocesan Enabling Church team, who also lives with ME. The Enabling Church team is part of Transforming Communities Together, a charity formed and supported by Lichfield Diocese and Church Urban Fund, delegated to support people and communities to thrive and flourish [tctogether.org.uk](http://tctogether.org.uk)*



"Don't worry, I'm not getting Covid - I didn't realise the sign meant a low door..."

In view of the current difficulties we shall be asking readers to pay their subscription for 2021 in March. The price continues at £5 for the ten copies issued each year.

Thank you.

Andrew Thomson, CFN Editor

## **Lockdown, wilderness and lent – Steve Alston**

As I write, we have just entered lockdown three, which the government is saying will last for around forty days; one of my sons is ill with COVID-19 and a close relative has just entered hospital. Pandemic life seems to be going on for ever and it is easy to feel like the world is a wilderness where the things that give life and hope are few and far between. The world is not as it should be, and faith and hope are being tested for many of us. What is good to know is that wilderness experiences and testing times are not alien to God. He understands and knows what we feel and agrees with us that the world is not as it should be.

The point of Jesus coming was to put right the things that are wrong in this broken world. God loves us so much that he could not stay away and in thirty odd years of human life the God man - Jesus - certainly, experienced wilderness times. The period of Lent starts towards the end of February and reminds us of another forty days: those that Jesus spent in the wilderness following his baptism. So how did he deal with such times? Is there an example to follow?

Luke chapter four describes three temptations that came during Jesus' time in the wilderness. They were hunger (making meeting physical desires his top priority), idol worship (putting other things in God's place) and putting God to the test (failure to trust God's plan). They are the same ones that the nation of Israel failed to resist during their forty years in the wilderness. Jesus' response to these temptations is worth looking at - Luke four is an informative read.

How are we to respond when our physical needs are not being met? Perhaps in lockdown the key need is human contact. The temptation is to make physical needs our top priority and use all our power to get what we want. To do our own thing with no reference to God or others. However, Jesus is clear, while physical needs are very important, we will only find true life and fulfilment in relationship to God. Similarly, Jesus notes that we will only find our true identity when we get rid of idols and make the focus of our lives the God who loves us and designed us. Finally, in wilderness times, Jesus tells us to trust God. To hold on to the hope that he is with us, loves us and is at work even when it feels as if he is not. Trust like this is a choice, sometimes a difficult choice, but it is one he asks us to make.

I remember another 'wilderness' time in my life when for some years God seemed so distant that I questioned if he was there. It was hard, but I made the choice to trust him in the middle of this period of doubt and difficulty. Eventually, though, God did meet me (on a Skegness beach of all places!). This extract from my diary describes the moment.

*'Suddenly He was there, the presence of Jesus surrounded me. It was as though His peace and love flooded into me. It was one of the most unexpected and 'real' experiences I have ever had, it was 'irrefutable'. In God's presence I started to cry, I felt His deep pleasure with me for trusting Him. I realised that God loves us so much that he takes our prayers seriously. He is willing to take us through struggles, even if there is risk of us quitting, because he so wants us to get 'bigger', more like Jesus. God had heard my prayers to be changed by Him and was working on me; he was putting strength in me, growing me up.'*

Wilderness times are certainly not always God's will or plan, often they are just the result of the brokenness of the world. There is still much wrong with the world and I am sure the current pandemic causes God deep sadness, but God is at work. As Jesus said immediately after he left the wilderness:

*'The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.'*  
(Luke 4.18-19)

Jesus is still working today, by his Holy Spirit and through his people, to fulfil this mission even in the wilderness times. He asks us to make our relationship with him the priority of our lives and to allow him to work in and through us in our community. We are to trust that he is at work and that one day he will return and fulfil the words of Revelation twenty-one: *'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.'*

So, in what for many of us may feel like a wilderness at the moment, let us use the period of Lent to give God space in our lives so that we may follow Jesus' example. Let us choose to trust God and join in with his amazing mission of hope and love in Baschurch, Weston Lullingfields and Hordley.

# Hordley News

So we are all back in lockdown, with all that that means! No services in our churches, no visiting our friends (unless they are in our bubble) and no travelling more than short distances to take exercise. However, now that vaccinations have begun and the infection rate is reducing, we can look forward to an easing of restrictions hopefully in the spring.

Meanwhile we can report a delightful achievement in the form of a carol service held in Edward Jones's grain store on 22 December. Thirty-three people attended, the large space easily allowing a four metre social distance to be kept. Seasonal readings and poetry added to the festive mood. See photographs on page 36.

Now for a request: do any of you have photos of past events in Hordley that could be used in a church scrapbook? It would be good to have a record of events such as social occasions, work in the churchyard, painting the railings, visit of the bishop etc. Now would be a good time to take advantage of a wet day to rummage in those drawers full of old photos! Please date any findings and send or deliver your offerings to Andrew or Mary Thomson with instructions if you would like them to be copied and returned. Tel: 01691 622198.

Thank you to all those who have renewed their participation in the Hordley Lottery draw, and those joining for the first time. We must also thank Brian Sinker who has been running this reliable fund-raiser ever since its inception in 2004. In 2020 the church benefitted to the tune of £330 as a result of this scheme.

The winner in January was Peter Woolley with number 37.

## Mary Thomson

### From the Registers

#### Baschurch

Gordon Menhinick died 9<sup>th</sup> December 2020, aged 87.

Alwyn Quest died 30<sup>th</sup> December 2020, aged 94.

# Weston Lullingfields

Well, Christmas was certainly different with no travel and no family visits. It was the first time in 45 years of marriage that we had Christmas lunch *a deux*. Our family sent us some imaginative presents, including gifts to charity. And we received lots of cards from friends and family, with handwritten messages and photos. We made more telephone calls, had Zoom and Skype meetings. As a family we met online over the Christmas period with silly Christmas jokes, quizzes, stories and poems. All our grandchildren entertained us with musical performances on the various instruments they play - as well as chatting.

We joined in the online church services and greatly appreciated the Advent booklet which Linda provided for the benefice. We walked around the lanes and we visited Attingham Park, witnessing some glorious sunrises and clouds, flooding after all the rain and close up views of the Attingham Fallow Deer. It has been especially busy at Attingham over the Christmas break and it was obvious that we were not the only ones who enjoyed it.

While walking the local lanes we have enjoyed exchanging Season's greetings with friends and neighbours on foot, with dogs, on bikes and on horseback. Hearing other people's Christmas plans impressed us with the level of responsible compliance with Covid advice and rules. Clearly we all need to keep this up, for others as much as for ourselves.

Our Christmas scarecrow competition was small but very worthwhile. We were grateful to all those who entered – the winners were the Fairy on Petton Lane and the flower pot Father Christmas on the main road. Thanks also to Jane Ing for the handmade Mary, Joseph and baby Jesus. A big thank you goes as well to Barney Ing for constructing a beautiful crib to put them in. It was good to have cover for the figures, given the volume of rain which poured down.

Last but not least, a huge thank you to everyone who bought raffle tickets. Selling raffle tickets when social distancing was a challenge, but posting books of raffle tickets and raffle leaflets in blank envelopes meant that we didn't have to knock on doors, and everyone was free to post back money and ticket stubs through our door. We are amazed at the result. The total raised (which included some generous donations) comes to a grand total of just over £733.00.

# Baschurch News

Many thanks to all who supported our fund-raising effort on behalf of All Saints'. We were overwhelmed by the response - both the orders and the kind comments we received. It was truly heart-warming to receive such support from our community and as a result we raised the grand total of £3435. Apologies to those people who we could not supply and thank you for being so understanding. With all our usual fund-raising still on hold and given the success of this venture we will be looking to do something similar in the future. So as they say.....watch this space!!

## **The winners of the Hamper Raffle were:**

Drinks Hamper	Carol Finney
Food Hamper	David Coulson
Food Hamper	Georgina Balmer
Christmas Cake	Gwen and Roger Dix

*(Donated by Hunkington House Kitchen)*

Christmas Wreath	Ruth Hodson Walker
Chocolate Hamper	Richard Newman
Food Hamper	Julie Birtles
Christmas Cake	Claire Edgley
Fairtrade Hamper	Katy Whitall
Pamper Hamper	Linda Gordon
Chocolate Hamper	Barbara Price
Beauty Voucher	Andrew Balmer

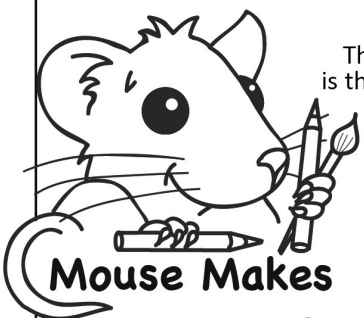
*( donated by Hayley)*

## **All Saints "100 Club" Winners**

Dec 2020	No 12	Fenella Nicholas	Jan 2021	No 38	Mrs B Jones
	No 91	Barbara Price		No 110	Sophie Gasser
	No 93	Gary Harper		No 102	Barbara Davies
				No 103	Andrew Downton
				No 120	Faye Dickson
				No 129	January Incles

**Pat Davies**

# Mouse Makes



## WHAT AM I?

The last letter of one word is the first letter of the next ...

E \_ \_ \_ H

• What two things did God create first?  
Genesis 1:1

\_ \_ S \_ \_

E \_ \_ \_  
• What was the Earth without? Genesis 1:2  
• What came before morning? Gen 1:5

\_ \_ \_ \_ G

• Who is the creator? Genesis 1:1  
• What was separated from light? Gen 1:4

\_ \_ \_ \_ D

\_ \_ \_ \_

S \_ \_ \_  
• Which day did God finish work? Gen 2:2  
• Who was created God's image? Gen 1:27

\_ \_ \_ \_ H

• Who moved over the water? Gen 1:2

I \_ \_ \_ \_ S



By the **seventh** day God finished the work He had been doing. God *blessed* the seventh day and made it *holy*. When God gave Moses the Ten Commandments the **forth commandment** said to *remember* the seventh Sabbath day, to *keep it holy* and set apart for God.



## DID YOU KNOW?

The first word of the Old Testament in Hebrew is **bereshith** which means "in the beginning". The Greeks translated this word as **GENESIS** which means *creation, origin and generation*



## FIND THE CREATION PAIRS

from Genesis 1 and 2

- |         |         |
|---------|---------|
| EARTH   | MORNING |
| LIGHT   | FRUIT   |
| DAYS    | SEA     |
| TREES   | NIGHT   |
| LAND    | FISH    |
| EVENING | YEARS   |
| ADAM    | HEAVENS |
| DAY     | DARK    |
| BIRDS   | WATER   |
| SKY     | EVE     |

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

Can you find these words in the word search?  
GOD • HEAVEN • SPIRIT  
FLY • DEEP • EARTH  
DARK • DAY • LIGHT  
NIGHT • STARS • SKY  
SEA • LAND • BIRD  
CREATURE • HUMAN  
TREE • PLANT • SEEDS  
FRUIT • GOOD • TWO

# On why our church does not need health or safety...

The Rectory, St James the Least of All

My dear Nephew Darren

I appreciated your recent concern when you heard one of our parishioners had slipped on a gravestone. Your desire to help was entirely commendable, and I do know that sending your own church's health and safety officer to give us some advice was kindly meant. But the 200-page report was not welcome. If we implemented even half of your officer's suggestions, life would become unbearably safe.

St James the Least of All has survived perfectly well for the last 600 years without gutter cleaning inspections, path degreasing and electrical safety certificates, so I think we may survive a little longer without them. As far as I am aware, the only disaster to hit us was when Cromwell's soldiers stabled their horses in the nave – which I suspect a few of our oldest members still clearly remember.

The shock the sidesmen sometimes get when switching on the lights occurs only occasionally, is relatively mild and soon over – and if it happens when preparing for the 8am service, helps to wake them up. The weight of the Duke of Clumber's marble sarcophagus *is* slowly detaching the south aisle from the rest of the church, but it is very slow – and the pews in that area are used only once a year when his relations visit from America to commemorate his death at Agincourt – which is probably just beyond remembrance of the oldest of our congregation.

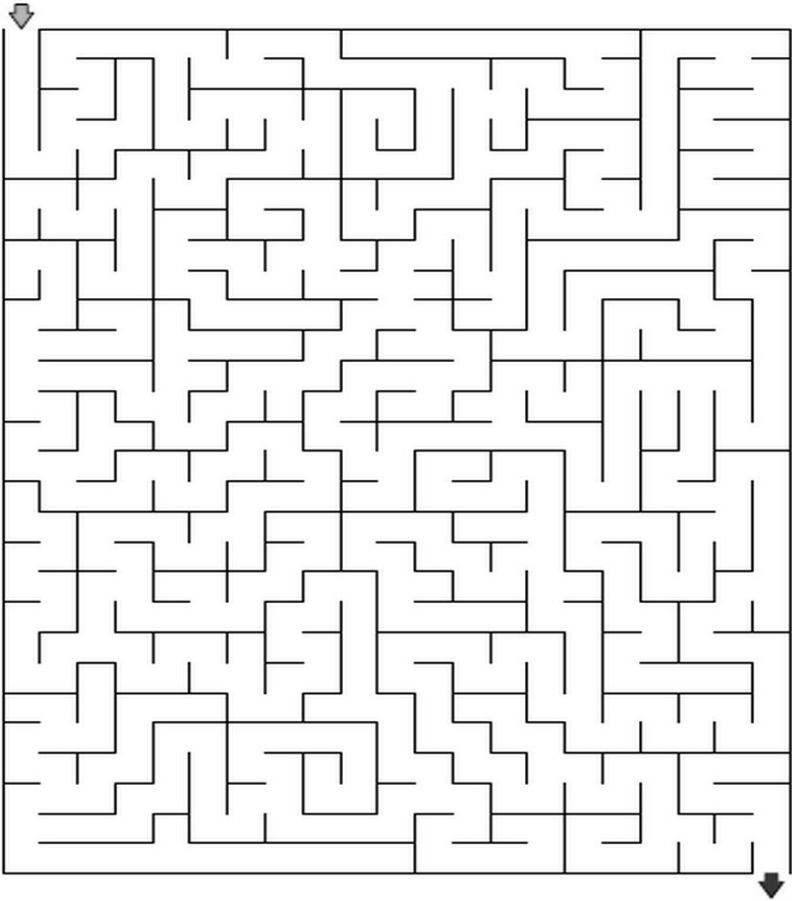
Leaks from the ceiling in the north aisle are solved with a row of buckets – and even you must concede that the fungi on the oak beams look really rather attractive when the sun catches them. The sapling growing out of the spire is certainly an issue – although it looks so attractive in Spring when in blossom. As for our fire extinguishers, they were serviced when my predecessor-but-two was in office, and I have the certificate to prove it.



So, do thank your health and safety officer for all his work and tell him we will bear his recommendations in mind. Also tell him I was so sorry he slipped and broke his leg in our choir stalls while he was with us. But that bit of floor has been out of alignment since 1748, and it seems a shame to disturb it now. If only he had arrived encased in bubble wrap, it would never have happened. Perhaps you could put that on the agenda of your next health and safety meeting.

Your loving uncle,

Eustace



Can you find your way through this maze?

## Footprints in the Sand

One night I dreamed a dream.  
As I was walking along the beach with my Lord.  
Across the dark sky flashed scenes from my life.  
For each scene, I noticed two sets of footprints in the sand,  
One belonging to me and one to my Lord.

After the last scene of my life flashed before me,  
I looked back at the footprints in the sand.  
I noticed that at many times along the path of my life,  
especially at the very lowest and saddest times,  
there was only one set of footprints.

This really troubled me, so I asked the Lord about it.  
"Lord, you said once I decided to follow you,  
You'd walk with me all the way.  
But I noticed that during the saddest and most troublesome times of my  
life, there was only one set of footprints.  
I don't understand why, when I needed You the most,  
You would leave me."

He whispered, "My precious child, I love you and will never leave you  
Never, ever, during your trials and testings.  
When you saw only one set of footprints,  
It was then that I carried you."

**Author unknown.**

*I recently heard this poem at a funeral  
and thought that some readers may be  
touched by it, as I was.*

*Ed.*



## COMMUNITY LUNCH

All Saints' Church , Baschurch

In 'normal' times volunteers provide a weekly Community lunch at All Saints' on Thursday. Obviously, in the light of the Covid situation, the lunch is postponed but we hope to resume once the present crisis is over.

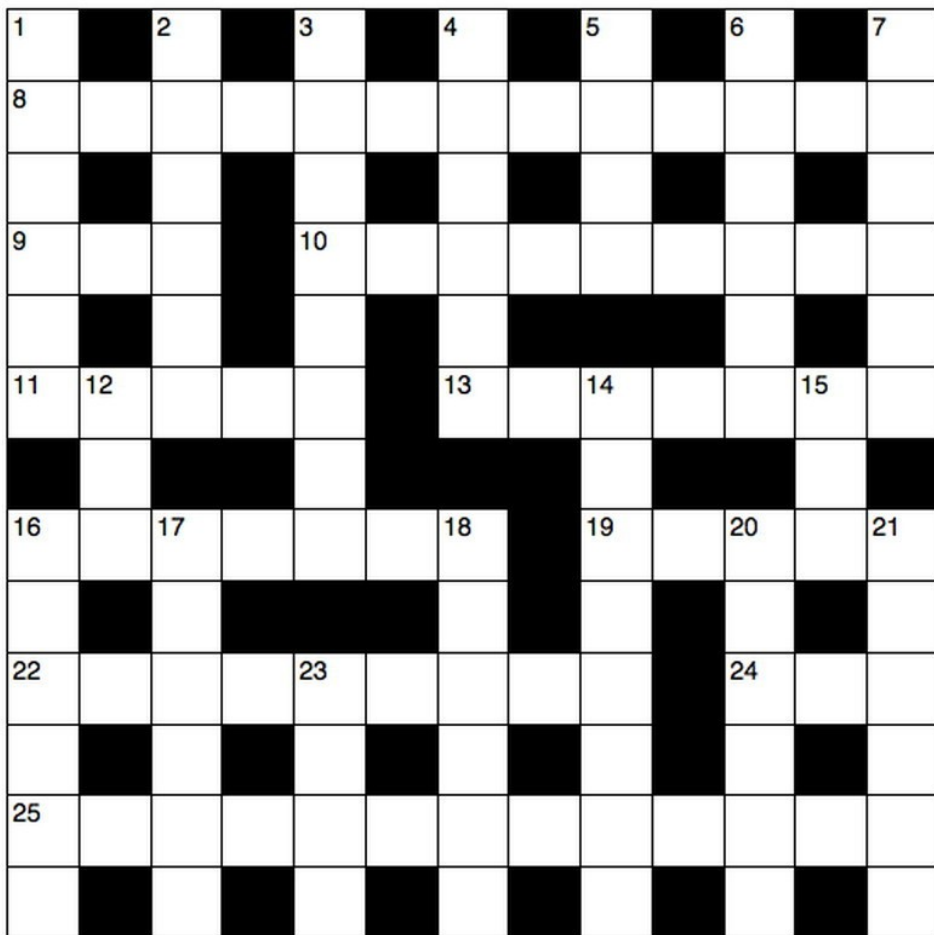
The lunch is open to anyone from the surrounding area who wishes to come along for good food, a chat and usually a good laugh. This is a community venture. ***Neither volunteers nor those lunching with us need to be members of the church.***

The food is provided and brought to the church by the volunteers on duty that particular week and consists of soup, cheese and biscuits, often fruit, cake and tea or coffee.

We have a varying number of people attend from 10 to 25 each week and the lunch is free although most people give a donation towards the cost of the food. Any monies taken go towards reimbursing the volunteers for the food provided and any left over goes into church funds.

At present each pair of volunteers provides the lunch on a rota every 6 weeks. We would love to be able to have more volunteers, which obviously would reduce the frequency for everyone. *If you feel able to volunteer, we would be delighted to hear from you.*

If you think you can help or need any additional information please ring **Lynne Siviter on 01939 262654.**



**Across**

8 Interrogated (Acts 12:19) (5-8)

9 'Burn it in a wood fire on the — heap' (Leviticus 4:12) (3)

10 Tobit, Judith, Baruch and the books of Esdras and the Maccabees are part of it (9)

11 Science fiction (abbrev.) (3-2)

13 Clay pit (anag.) (7)

16 Went to (John 4:46) (7)

19 'Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to — your bodies as living sacrifices' (Romans 12:1) (5)

- 22 David's plea to God concerning those referred to in 14 Down: 'On — — let them escape' (Psalm 56:7) (2,7)
- 24 Royal Automobile Club (1,1,1)
- 25 How the book of Ezekiel refers to God more than 200 times (Ezekiel 2:4) (9,4)

## Down

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

*(Answers on page 25)*



In 2020 we were not able to get together, so we are very much looking forward to hearing about how you are celebrating churchyards in 2021. For several years we have been running a dedicated celebratory week highlighting the wildlife, heritage and history that they contain and every bit as importantly, the fantastic people who look after them. This takes place in the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of June, taking in the weekend at either end. In 2021 it's **Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> till Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> June**.

The week started off as Cherishing Churchyards Week, but many cemetery Friends groups contacted us to ask if they might join in, so we changed the name to Love Your Burial Ground Week, making it clear that they could. Now we're expanding, in partnership with the **Church of England** and **A Rocha**, to include **Churches Count on Nature**.

Together we are asking that churches use **Love Your Burial Ground Week** as a springboard to start recording the wildlife within their churchyards. So, if you fancy running a wildlife spotting event then please join in.

### **So, what type of event should we run?**

That is completely up to you, it could be a children's activity looking at leaves or bugs, a couple of birdwatchers seeing what they can spot, or a large event, with experts helping to reveal the hidden wonders of nature within your churchyard. A few years ago we ran an event of this type at St Michael's in Lichfield and as a result of this, and other surveys they now have a list of over 1,000 species found within that churchyard.

### **What shall we do with the lists of things we see?**

Please send them to us. You can put them straight onto our iRecord system, send them by email or put a list in the post. Just make sure you get them to us somehow!

Please register your interest now at [www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk/expression-of-interest-in-churches-count-on-nature-2021/](http://www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk/expression-of-interest-in-churches-count-on-nature-2021/). If you want advice or some financial support we may be able to help, so once you have an outline plan, get in touch.

All the best, Harriet Carty

[Diocesan Churchyard Environmental Advisor, harriet@cfga.org.uk](mailto:harriet@cfga.org.uk)

## Ordinary Time

Following the season of Epiphany, the Church enters a period of what is known as 'Ordinary Time'. So what is meant by Ordinary Time? Well, there are two periods in the Church's Liturgical calendar when there are no major seasons such as Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent or Easter. The first is from The Presentation of Christ in the Temple on 2<sup>nd</sup> February (Candlemas) until Ash Wednesday. The second begins on the Monday following the Day of Pentecost (Whitsun) and continues until the Saturday before the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent. The number of weeks in this period varies with the number of Sundays after Trinity. The Liturgical colour of Ordinary Time is green. The following is rather an amusing and perhaps a little irreverent extract from a poem called 'After Trinity' by the novelist and poet John Meade Falkner (1858-1922). He was Librarian to the Dean and Chapter of Durham Cathedral. It refers particularly to the second period of Ordinary Time.

We have done with dogma and divinity

Easter and Whitsun past.

The long, long Sundays after Trinity

Are with us at last;

The passionless Sundays after Trinity,

Neither feast day nor fast.

Christmas comes with plenty,

Lent spreads out its pall.

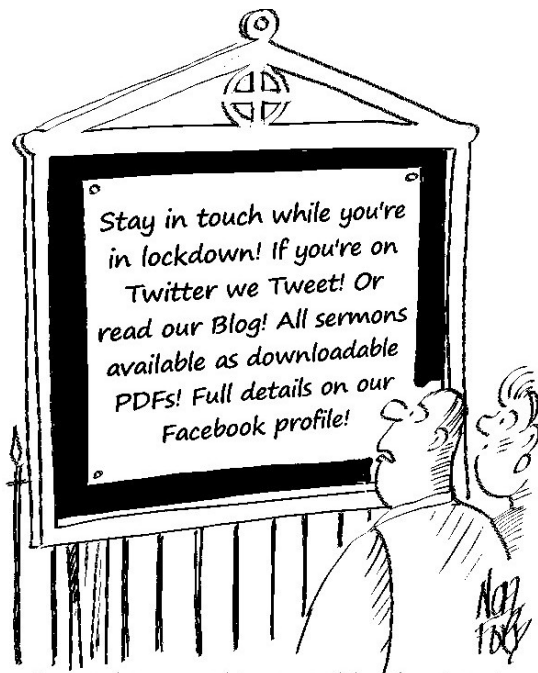
But these are five and twenty,

The longest Sundays of all;

The placid Sundays after Trinity,

Wheat-harvest, fruit harvest. Fall.

**David Morgan.**



"...and we used to grumble about not understanding archaic church language!"

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### CROSSWORD ANSWERS

#### ACROSS:

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

#### DOWN:

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

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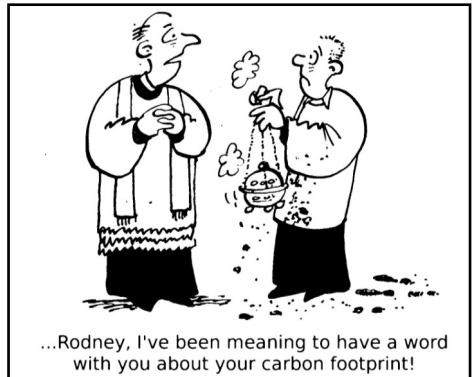
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