All Saints Parish Church Thornton Hough

The Magazine



April – May 2020

Coronavirus (COVID-19) and All Saints

In light of the Government guidance around nonessential contact, the Archbishops of Canterbury and York have issued advice that public worship is suspended until further notice.



There will, therefore, be no church services at All Saints for the time being.

Following the Government's announcement on Monday 23rd March the church will be closed until further notice. We shall announce when it is reopened on the website.

There will be **no events in the Parish Hall** until further notice and at present we are not making our regular visits to the nursing homes.

There are no details of forthcoming service and events in this edition of The Magazine: at the time of publication it is unclear when services and events can restart.

Our **website** <u>www.allsaintsth.org.uk</u> will be kept up to date and we shall make any pertinent announcements there. Please visit the website to keep up to date with church and parish matters.

We are using **our contact list** to send interested people regular updates about what we are doing at All Saints by email. You can join this contact list by following the link from the home page of the website or you can send a request to join the list to <u>office@allsaintsth.org.uk</u>. This list is operated in accordance with our <u>Data Privacy policy</u> and is not shared with any third party. (The contact list uses a service provided by an organisation called *Mailchimp*.)

The **Annual Parish Meetings** have been postponed until later in the year; the requirement to hold them by the end of April has been relaxed by the Diocese of Chester.

We are including material on the website **to help nurture our spiritual needs.** Some of this material is produced within the parish and some by others. The material is being updated and refreshed a few times each week helping us move through the Church's year with seasonal material. As we approach Holy Week, Good Friday and Easter Day with no public services in churches, we hope this material will provide support to all. We are including in this edition of *The Magazine* some prayers provided by the Church of England for people to use at home. We hope these will be particularly helpful for those who do not make use of the Internet.

From the Vicar...

Easter People

I planted up some daffodil bulbs in pots back at the start of Advent. I used one of these pots in a sermon to illustrate the theme of waiting. My horticultural efforts did not meet with great approval: a ten-inch pot rather hastily filled with compost was not the greatest start for the half-a-dozen bulbs I'd tucked away inside.



For weeks on end, it looked as if those sceptics were right. Nothing happened. No green shoots poking from the soil as the weather gradually warmed. The plant pot was saturated and wind-blown in successive storms, and still the dark compost glared back as a reproach.

The temptation was to give up, to tip out the mess and blame squirrels or my incorrect use of compost.

But one afternoon I noticed a single tiny grey-green snout poking out from the dark loam. One small glimmer of hope. One little sign of success, even if it just came up as a few leaves and never offered a flower.

However, over the next few weeks an amazing thing happened: eight daffodil shoots came peering out, and as they grew taller, they showed off fat buds as a



promise of splashes of colour to come.

The first daffodil warmed itself in the sunshine, and the golden petals burst out like a streetlamp.

From the waiting of Advent through the long waiting of a hard Lent, the little daffodil bulbs had been quietly busy under the surface, setting down roots, pushing up shoots and finally coming out. What seemed like an impossibility was a reality.

This season of Lent in 2020 has been made more challenging by the outbreak of the Coronavirus. Our public services in church have had to be cancelled, our routines of gathering for spiritual

and social refreshment have been set on hold. Our lives look and feel very

different. Our celebrations in church for the most special day in the Christian calendar have been curtailed.

Yet there is a promise of new life: but we have to wait for it, and are surprised by it and the way it springs out to greet us. That is what happened when Jesus burst from the tomb, which had been blocked up with a huge, heavy bolder. The two Marys (Mary Magdalene and Mary, the wife of Clopas) who came to the tomb at dawn on that first day of the new week were met with the angel's words: "He is not here; he has risen, just as he said." (Matthew 28: 6)

We grieve for the situation in which we find ourselves, but we have the promise of new life, springing from apparent defeat and disgrace. Jesus' rising from the dead is the promise that whatever happens in these uncertain times, we can trust him completely. We have to wait expectantly, earnestly and in a way which supports others.

And that promise is one which can be a beacon of hope and joy for all of us. We can be Easter People in different ways throughout the year: coming together to support one another in the parish, making new and closer friendships. We can resolve to treat our world more gently in future, making and buying things more locally and sustainably, taking time to appreciate all the beauty and joy around us. We have a lasting hope.

We are not alone, for Jesus promises: "And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

He is risen! He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

With love and blessings

Vicky

A prayer for the outbreak

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.

Living together apart

Life may seem a little strange at the moment. We are encouraged not to meet together as a church or within the community. Shop shelves are empty of food and essential household items. Many of those we know are encouraged to hibernate away from social



contact or are in self-isolation following advice from the government. Now more than ever we need to think about how we can support each other and build neighbourly connections.

There are lots of ideas about how we can support each other without having to be face-to-face. Here are just a few:

- Do you have your neighbour's phone number? If so could you give them a call to let them know you are there for them if they need you?
- If you are not in hibernation or self-isolation could you pop a card or note through their door letting them know how they can contact you and whether you could talk on the phone, get them essential supplies, collect their paper, help them with Internet shopping or anything else you can do safely to help?
- Could you arrange to watch the same programme on television, read the same book or listen to the same radio programme and then phone each other afterwards to discuss it?
- Could you play a community game together? Some popular games have on-line multiuser versions or a game of battleships over the phone.
- Could you share a cup of tea and a chat over the phone, text, email or using Social Media? We will have many shared fears and concerns but we don't have to keep them to ourselves.
- Could you use video-calling (Skype or FaceTime) to keep in touch with friends and family?
- Could you wave and smile at each other through the window just to let them know someone is there?
- If you feel lonely or frightened please let someone know and reach out to others. If you or your neighbours would like someone to pray for or with them we would like to offer to be there.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) – The Archbishops' letter

In light of the Government guidance around non-essential contact, the Archbishops of Canterbury and York have issued advice that public worship is suspended until further notice. There will, therefore, be no church services at All Saints for the time being.

In their letter the Archbishops wrote:

"Being a part of the Church of England is going to look very different in the days ahead.

"Our life is going to be less characterised by attendance at church on Sunday, and more characterised by the prayer and service we offer each day.



"We may not be able to pray with

people in the ways that we are used to, but we can certainly pray for people. And we can certainly offer practical care and support.



"Please do carry on supporting the local foodbank and buy extra provisions for it. Ensure the night shelters wherever possible are kept open. There are many very encouraging schemes happening right across our country in communities to focus on caring for the most vulnerable and do continue to play your part in those.

"Then by our service, and by our love, Jesus Christ will be made known, and the hope of the gospel – a hope that can counter fear and

isolation - will spread across our land."

They added: "This is a defining moment for the Church of England. Are we truly a church for all, or just the church for ourselves.

"We urge you sisters and brothers to become a different sort of church in these coming months: hopeful and rooted in the offering of prayer and praise and overflowing in service to the world."

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Notes on the PCC meetings held on 3rd February and 9th March

Pew Bibles. The PCC compared extracts from the New International Version (NIVUK) and Anglicised New Revised Standard Version (NRSVA) translations of

the Bible. These, along with the King James Version are the ones recommended for use in churches by the Church of England. One member of the PCC made a plea for the preservation of the King James Version in church. It was agreed that it has a place but, as a pew Bible, it is not as welcoming and accessible. Vicky said that she supports the use of different translations for study purposes.

After some discussion the PCC decided that we should go ahead with the NIVUK version. Vicky got samples of the Bible in different covers and different print sizes for the congregation to see and comment on. In the March meeting we decided that we should buy the 'blue bubbly' Bibles and also some larger print Bibles



The new hymn book has been used in church and favourable comments have been received. A 'Sing In' was planned which would be a chance for people to get to know it better- to learn new hymns and request old favourites. It was intended as a social event and not a fundraiser. This has now happened and was enjoyed by all.

The Treasurer had prepared the *End of Year Financial Statements* for the year ending 31st December 2019 and these were approved by the PCC in the February meeting. Our external examiner, Rod Backhouse, is not well enough to examine the accounts and the PCC needed to find someone else to look at them. Scirard Lancelyn Green has agreed to examine them for this year. The accounts need to be examined, not audited; Scirard is not on the PCC and fulfils the requirements laid down by the Charity Commission. The PCC is very grateful to Scirard for stepping in at such short notice to undertake this important task. Our thanks go to Rod for all that he has done over many years and we send him our best wishes.

In both the February and the March meetings the Treasurer reported that the amount of **money received from our investments** is falling. The financial markets are reflecting these times of uncertainty. Our overall income is dropping, and the PCC is concerned that if people are not coming to church because of the Coronavirus this will cause our income to drop further. This is a

challenging time for us. The PCC are very grateful to have received some legacies recently which will go some way to helping us 'ride the storm'.

Safeguarding. Linda Arch attended part of the March meeting to talk about Safeguarding. The Church of England has just completed *a Past Cases Review (PCR2)* - parishes were required to respond by checking records and reporting to the review all known cases of concern about the behaviour of clergy and church officers towards children and vulnerable adults. Minutes have been gone through, records have been scrutinised, information has been requested from congregations, and past incumbents and the Families Worker contacted. We are pleased to say that nothing came to light and Vicky was able to submit the return to this effect, as requested.

Linda described the **Safeguarding courses** that are now available and which some of our leadership team are required to complete. There are three online courses:

- a basic course which is recommended for anyone in the church
- a foundation course which the cots2tots secretary should do
- a Leadership Course which the cots2tots leader and the Director of Music should do. Alice Arch will also do this course.

In addition, there is a course *Safeguarding Training: Raising Awareness of Domestic Violence and Abuse* which the Vicar and the Safeguarding Officer will do.

The Annual Report was approved by the PCC at the March meeting. This will be circulated prior to the Annual Meetings. Vicky thanked the PCC Secretary and all the people who had contributed to the Annual Report.

Since the PCC meetings we have learnt that the Annual meetings in April have been cancelled and will be held later in the year. A date will be arranged when it is safe to do so. Until then the churchwardens, the officers and the PCC will continue to serve. The Deanery Synod elections will be held later this year.

The Fabric Team have several projects on the go.

The handrails for the steps in both churchyards need replacing. The original contractor they approached is unable to fit the work in and another one is being sought.

A letter box for the Parish Office has been bought and is waiting to be fitted.

The Parish Hall window. Quotes have been sought to repair one of the windows in the Parish Hall. This is specialist work and is very expensive. In the March meeting it was decided to put this on hold until after the Quinquennial inspection which is due in May.

Replacement noticeboard. The Fabric Team have been looking at replacing the noticeboard and brought a possible design to the PCC meetings. It was envisaged that there would be sections which allowed us to display changeable posters and service times. The ensuing discussions covered the size of it, the colour (blue is the Chester Diocese colour), access, the necessity to get both a faculty and planning permission.

The installation of a new noticeboard may have an impact on the yew trees along the front wall. Advice from an arboriculturalist suggest that the yews are becoming overcrowded. It is important to avoid damage to the wall. The Fabric Team continually monitor the state of the walls around the churchyard.

Some of the guards on the openings of **the church tower** need to be replaced. A large number of rooks have been regularly seen around the top of the tower. The inside of the tower has been inspected. Although there is a large quantity of twigs in the top chamber of the tower, the rooks have not actually built nests there. Subject to a Health and Safety assessment it is hoped that we are able to clear this ourselves.

At the time of the meeting on 9th March it appeared that some people might have to self-isolate due to Covid-19. This is now government advice for many people along with social distancing for the rest of the population. The PCC members were encouraged to use the phone, ring people up and don't let them be *out of sight, out of mind*. We should all look at what we can do to support each other in what could be difficult days ahead for some.

Three Churches Together. The Lent meditations started on March 3rd. These were led by Vicky and were most thought provoking. Unfortunately, the final sessions have had to be cancelled; the materials are available on the website.

Three Churches Together were due to meet again on 25th March and were planning another coffee morning on Saturday 4th April in the WI Hall, in aid of the Wirral Food Bank. These have also had to be cancelled. The food banks are still trying to provide a (reduced) service but are short of food at the moment. While other people stockpile, it would be good to remember people who need our help and donate either in the supermarkets or online (wirral.foodbank.org.uk).

World Day of Prayer. This was a lovely occasion. It was good to welcome people from churches in the area to All Saints. Thank you to all the people that made them feel so welcome. Over £200 was donated to support the work of the church in Zimbabwe and other World Day of Prayer charities.

The last **Deanery Synod** meeting was on March 5th 2020 in All Saints' Parish Hall. Rev'd Steve Clapham spoke about "How to minister where there are new estates".

He emphasised that we should meet people where they are, we should be for and with the people, not creating a 'tug of war'. Vicky and the churchwardens provided the hospitality and reported that our hall was the envy of the other churches in the Deanery Synod. We are very fortunate to have it. Since these two PCC meetings all church services and meetings have stopped because of the Covid-19 pandemic. The Standing Committee have met to discuss our **continuity plans**. As a church we were very sad that we were unable to meet together on Mothering Sunday and that we will be unable to celebrate Easter together. We discussed how as a church we could keep in touch with each other. During the interregnum we established a contact list with email addresses, and this is now proving to be very useful as an instant means of communicating with many people. Please see the article on page 2 of this edition of The Magazine to see how you can receive the emails if you are not already on the list.

Income will potentially drop over the next months and all non-essential work has had to be put on hold. If we are not in church then we will potentially lose the open plate giving, lose hall rental fees etc., at least in the short term. We still need to pay our Parish Share which pays the stipends of the vicars and supports the Diocese. We are asking those who give using the envelopes or through the open plate to consider making their gifts by standing order (See page 12). A church is more than just a building: it is the people and the love they show for each other. We pray that God will strengthen us in the weeks that come, that we can reach out and support all in our church community and that we can grow stronger in adversity.

> Sue Stinson PCC Secretary

Donations for new pew Bibles

You are invited to consider donating one or more pew Bibles to All Saints. The Bibles may be given in memory of a loved one and the name of the loved one will be inscribed in the new Bible. As well as buying Bibles for our use at All Saints, we hope members of the congregation will also include a donation which will be forwarded to The Bible Society to help provide Bibles for those who can't buy them for themselves both in the UK and overseas. A donation of £12 will be sufficient for a "normal print size" Bible and a donation of £22 will allow us to buy a larger print Bible. Forms to complete to donate a Bible or Bibles will be available (again) once "services" are resumed.

Giving to support the work of All Saints

Like many organisations, All Saints will have to deal with the financial impact of the coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic.

We have regular outgoings for utilities, ground maintenance, council tax, staff salaries, etc. and our Parish Share (which meets the costs of providing clergy and supporting the Diocese and the wider church). In *normal times*, meeting these expenses is a challenge and a matter of serious concern to the PCC.

With services being suspended for the moment, financial gifts made through the open plate collections and through the weekly envelope scheme will not reach us. This income represents around 40% of the *giving income*. As our Parish Hall is closed we shall not be getting income from hiring this out, and we expect fees from occasional services (weddings and funerals) to be reduced in-line with the scaling back of these services to "the basics".

We shall probably still receive our *giving income* which is made by standing orders directly to our bank account. However, we have a real concern about our cash flow and about the longer term impact this expected reduction in income will have on our financial position.

It may be that some who give by using weekly envelopes or who give by placing money on the open plate might consider switch to making their gift by standing order instead. Others may decide that they want to make a one off donation by either a direct bank transfer to All Saints or by sending a donation by cheque (payable to All Saints PCC) to the Parish Office. This would be tremendously helpful for both the short-term cash flow at All Saints and for the longer term financial stability of the Church.

If you use online banking, then you can set up a setting order in favour of All Saints yourself by using your online banking app (or the bank's website). Alternatively you could to go into your bank and give them details of the Standing Order you wish to set up. You need to decide how much you wish to give and how frequently (most people give monthly).

Details for setting up a standing order in favour of All Saints				
Sort code	40 34 06			
Account number	60649163			
Account name	PCC All Saints Church Thornton Hough			
Reference	Use your surname as the reference			

You can cancel or change a standing order at any time using your online banking app or by contacting your bank.

If you wish to make a gift directly to All Saints the details you need are given below. Please note that these are different from the details for setting up a regular standing order.

Details for making a gift directly to All Saints				
Sort code	40 52 40			
Account number	00020545			
Account name	All Saints PCC			
ReferenceUse your surname as the reference				

If you need any clarification on these matters, then please contact me directly. A final point. If you are taking your exercise and visit church you can put in in the wall safe on the west wall of the church. Please do not leave you gift on the plate at the back of church.

> lain Stinson PCC Treasurer

Safety in the Graveyards

We strive to keep our two graveyards in good condition, with regard to the environment and their safety. Recent inspections have revealed a significant amount of settlement over quite a few graves, in both graveyards. This could give rise to a trip hazard to those persons walking amongst the graves. In order to minimise the risk presented by this hazard it has been decided that the building up of the worst settled areas should be undertaken. This work will be undertaken by working parties of volunteers and will be carried out in a respectful manner.

It was planned that this work will be commenced in May 2020 but this is likely to be delayed because of the current situation. Please do not be alarmed if you see people wielding spades in the graveyards. Also, if you hear others, who may not be associated with All Saints, commenting about this activity please reassure them that it is being carried out with full authority and respect.

If you regularly visit a grave in one of our graveyards and have noticed settlement at the grave which you visit please mention it to Vicky, or one of the Churchwardens. This would enable us to contact you if/when we plan to carry out remedial work at that particular grave.

Peter Arch



"It wasn't who did it but how they did it".

On Wednesday February 12^{th,} twenty members attended our meeting to hear a very interesting and informative talk given by Dr Ian Cubbin on the theme of Agatha Christie "It wasn't who did it but how they did it".

Ian is a Botanical Pharmacist who started the talk by explaining that he has a bizarre interest in Agatha Christie. Following a detailed insight into Agatha Christie's life and the many novels she wrote he went onto explain that of all the victims in her stories over 80 of them were poisoned!! An interesting fact about Agatha Christie is that she trained as an Apothecary's Assistant and would therefore have a detailed knowledge of anything botanical including poisons and how to obtain them. She also knew how to disguise their taste so victims were unaware that they were being poisoned often over a period of time!!

Ian then took us through some of the poisons used and how they could be administered to unsuspecting victims.

Examples included the following:

- Strychnine (present in small amounts in tonics in days gone by) in "The Mysterious Affair at Styles"
- > Digitoxin (from digitalis in foxglove plant) in "Appointment with Death"
- Taxanes (from Yew) in "A Pocketful of Rye"
- Nicotine (many people already smoked) in "Three Act Tragedy"
- Cocaine in "The Affair at Victory Ball"
- Opium in "The Lost Mine"
- Castor Oil Seeds (Ricin) in "The House of Lurking Death"
- > Atropine (from Belladonna) in "The Tuesday Club Murders"
- > Thallium (metallic poison used in soap or face cream) in "The Pale Horse"

There were plenty of questions after the talk followed by a welcome cup of tea and biscuit (hopefully without anything added!)

Helen Tankard

Wirral Youth for Christ

On Wednesday 11th March, fifteen ACF members attended our monthly meeting to listen to an interesting talk and presentation given by James Hennessey, Director of Wirral Youth for Christ.

The talk was entitled "It's all going according to plan, it's just not mine" where James highlighted how the story of Gideon's meeting with an angel was his inspiration in implementing change and updating the Charity. Although James has only been Director for 18 months the charity has been running for over thirty years.

Wirral Youth for Christ is a charity that works with young people to share the Good News of Jesus across Wirral and works with local schools and churches to achieve this. A team of staff and volunteers work with 11 schools across the Wirral to run RE and PSHE lessons, Assemblies, Mentoring and Pulse Groups in order to deliver top quality Christian teachings into Wirral schools. They also work in Partnership with fourteen local Churches out of a total of one hundred and forty; their aim is to partner with every local Church in the region. The charity would also like to be more involved in the overall Christian life of young people through youth work and a wide range of groups and societies.

Following a lively discussion with many interesting and varied questions we stopped for refreshments which gave people the opportunity to speak directly to James with any thoughts or ideas they may have.

Helen Tankard

Calendar 2021 and photograph competition

Once again we hope to be able to produce a calendar which we are going sell in aid of All Saints. The calendar will feature photographs taken in the parish. We are inviting local businesses to sponsor a month for a very reasonable £50.



We are again holding a competition to select the photographs which will be included in the calendar. The "winning" photographs will be selected by a panel of judges and the prize for winning will be having your photograph included in the calendar and receive a copy of the calendar.

Everyone is invited to enter any number of photographs. Photographs should be taken

around Thornton Hough, Raby, Raby Mere and Brimstage. If possible we want photographs which cover all the seasons of the year so that the illustrations for each month can be appropriate to the season. Any people included on the photograph must not be identifiable. The photograph should be well composed and suitable for hanging on someone else's wall!

The photographs must be in landscape perspective (longest edge horizontal).

You may have photographs you have taken in the last few years which you want to enter and this is perfectly acceptable.

The photograph must have been taken by the entrant. The entrant can retain the copyright to the image but in entering the image into the competition must agree that All Saints Thornton Hough may use the image without any charge in its publications or on its website providing copyright is acknowledged.

Digital photographs taken on most modern phones, tablets and digital cameras will be suitable. Black and white photographs as well as coloured photographs will be accepted. [For the technically minded: the photographs should be a minimum size of 2500 x 3500 pixels (6 MP). The photographs should be submitted in JPEG or TIFF format, with no or minimal compression to preserve image quality. Digital manipulation should be limited to minor adjustments and cropping.] Prints from film cameras may also be submitted; they must be at least 8 x 6 inches (203 x 154 mm) and unmounted.

The deadline for entries into the competition is **31**st **July 2020.** This will allow sufficient time for the calendar to be created and printed and we would expect the calendar to be on sale towards the end of September. The "winners" will be notified as soon as possible.

How to submit you entry

By email: Send the image as a JPEG (jpg) attachment to

photos@allsaintsth.org.uk; you should include your name and contact details in the email message. We shall send you an acknowledgement to say that we have received your entry. Most smart phones include facilities to allow you to do this. *Always select the maximum file size* (highest quality option) that you are given when sending directly from your phone or tablet.

On a memory stick: put the image as a JPEG or TIFF file on an otherwise empty USB memory stick; write your name and contact details on a piece of paper and place this along with the memory stick in a sealed envelope and hand it to one of The Magazine editorial team. Your entry will be copied from the memory stick and the memory stick returned to you.

Prints from film cameras: Place the photograph in a suitable envelope, include a piece of paper with your name and contact details in the envelope and pass the sealed envelope to one of The Magazine editorial team. Your entry will be scanned and the original photograph returned to you.

An Easter Quiz



- 1. Who plays Hannah Brown in the 1948 American musical film *Easter Parade*?
- 2. Where is the venue of the most famous Easter egg roll in Lancashire?
- 3. Easter Island belongs to which country?
- 4. What name is given to the Sunday before Easter?
- 5. In 1873, which company introduced the first chocolate Easter egg in Britain?
- 6. How many hours did the darkness last when Jesus was on the cross?
- Which poet wrote the poem *Easter, 1916*? (It describes the poet's emotions regarding the events of the Easter Rising in Ireland against British rule in 1916.)
- 8. Which light fruit cake, with two layers of almond paste or marzipan, is traditionally eaten during the Easter period?
- 9. What was the name of the hill where Jesus was crucified?
- 10. Which item of clothing is particularly associated with Easter parades?
- 11. In the Eastern Orthodox Church, the Saturday before Palm Sunday is named after which biblical character?
- 12. At the Last Supper, which food did Jesus liken to his body?
- 13. Which Russian jewellery firm is famed for designing elaborate jewelencrusted eggs?
- 14. On what day are hot cross buns traditionally eaten?
- 15. How many pieces of silver did Judas trade the life of Jesus for?
- 16. What was Simon of Cyrene made to do by the Romans?
- 17. Who directed the 2004 American biblical drama The Passion of the Christ?
- 18. Nick Easter is a former professional sportsman in which sport?
- 19. What is the name of the prisoner who was released instead of Jesus?
- 20. In which Beatles song will you find the lines "I am the egg man, they are the egg men"?
- 21. Before they were renamed with the 'Cadbury' branding in 1971, under which name had 'creme eggs' been available previously?
- 22. According to Guinness World Records, how tall (in metres) was the tallest chocolate Easter egg ever made and where was it made?

Answers on page 25

Cathedral Wordsearch and identification

2020 is an important year for pilgrimage in England, marking 850 years since the murder of Thomas Becket at Canterbury Cathedral on 29 December 1170, and 800 years since the translation of his body to Trinity Chapel on 7 July 1220.

Many of our cathedrals are encouraging people to make a pilgrimage to them this year as a way of marking this anniversary.

Whilst we may not be able to "go on pilgrimage" because of the present situation, we may instead go on a virtual pilgrimage and find the names of twenty-two cathedrals in England and Wales hidden in the wordsearch grid below. How many can you find?

The hidden word can be positioned in all directions, written from left to right from right to left, horizontally, vertically and diagonally, but is always on one straight line.

Ν	R	Е	Т	S	Е	С	R	0	W	W	Κ	D	К
А	Ν	D	R	R	L	G	Е	L	Т	А	Q	С	R
С	W	L	U	Ε	Т	L	G	Q	Е	Ι	D	А	0
В	Н	Е	R	Т	S	А	L	Ι	S	В	U	R	Y
Μ	Ρ	I	0	S	А	С	0	В	G	С	R	L	L
R	А	F	С	Е	С	0	U	L	U	Н	Н	I	L
Ι	S	Η	G	Η	W	А	С	0	Ι	Е	А	S	А
Ρ	А	С	G	С	Ε	С	Е	0	L	R	Μ	L	Ν
Ρ	Т	I	Е	Ν	Ν	S	S	Ρ	D	Е	U	Е	D
0	S	L	L	А	I	L	Т	R	F	F	F	Y	А
Ν	Н	S	J	Μ	L	Μ	Е	Е	0	0	А	W	F
W	L	Е	Х	Е	Т	Е	R	V	R	R	Μ	Т	F
Ν	Q	L	W	Н	Ζ	F	Е	Ι	D	D	D	Q	А
S	Ν	R	U	В	Κ	С	А	L	В	R	0	V	S

Once you've found the names of the twenty-two cathedrals see how many of them can you identify from the thumbnail photographs which follow – there are images to two cathedrals which are not in the wordsearch grid!







Thornton Hough WI

At our February meeting Jill McKeen's topic was 'Living in a hostile environment'. She spoke about Army medical men and women working in dangerous conditions such as Afghanistan. As she said "You don't see these pictures on TV." Working in primitive conditions, in very high temperatures – sand and wind - they battle to help their injured patients. It was a very good talk.

Our WI took part in the Cheshire WI Quiz on Tuesday, 18 February, when we came sixth out of 15 competing WIs.

Ladies Who Lunch had an excellent lunch at the Red Fox during February. On Wednesday, 18 March, the group will lunch at the Wheatsheaf at 12.30. You are always welcome to join in these monthly lunches.

In a change to our speaker in March, Stephen Shakeshaft gave another of his engaging talks about 'Hidden Chester'.

On Tuesday, 10 March, two of our members went to Winsford for the Cheshire Federation Annual Meeting. It is always good to hear about the many activities of other WIs. The highlight of the evening was listening to the Guest Speaker, Annabel Tiffin, of North West News – a very interesting person.

Our Birthday meal was held on Tuesday, 17 March, at Prenton Golf Club. This was, as usual, an enjoyable social occasion.

The planned Coffee Morning to be run by Churches Together at the WI Hall for the Food Bank is presently on hold.

Future WI meetings are also presently suspended due to the Coronavirus pandemic. We look forward to the time when we shall all be able to meet once more.

Ann McTigue

Bible Reading Notes

Following the closure of the Christian Bookshop in Birkenhead, those who would like to buy Bible Reading Fellowship notes are asked to either send email to <u>enquiries@brf.org.uk</u> or write to BRF,15, The Chambers, Vineyard, Abingdon, OX14 3FE.

The Bible Reading Fellowship website, <u>www.brf.org.uk</u>, has details of a wide range of materials available to help us read the Bible.

Poetry Corner

The Windhover To Christ Our Lord



I caught this morning morning's minion, kingdom of daylight's dauphin, dapple-dawn-drawn Falcon, in his riding Of the rolling level underneath him steady air, and striding High there, how he rung upon the rein of a wimpling wing In his ecstasy! then off, off forth on swing, As a skate's heel sweeps smooth on a bow-bend: the hurl and gliding Rebuffed the big wind. My heart in hiding Stirred for a bird, – the achieve of, the mastery of the thing. Brute beauty and valour and act, oh, air, pride, plume, here Buckle! AND the fire that breaks from thee then, a billion Times told lovelier, more dangerous, O my chevalier! No wonder of it: shéer plód makes plough down sillion Shine, and blue-bleak embers, ah my dear, Fall, gall themselves, and gash gold-vermilion.







Poetry can say more than one thing at a time, by means of metaphor, and Gerard Manley Hopkins (1884 –1889) takes full advantage by using unusual words with multiple meanings. For example wimpling means both veiling and rippling, so the bird's flight suggests both a nun's habit and a flowing stream. He loads the common kestrel with multiple personae: a court favourite (minion) a crown prince (dauphin) a hiker (striding) a skater (on a bow bend) and he is so thrilled by its display that his deadened heart (in hiding) seems to lurch with the hurl and gliding, and rekindle to life. It is a religious moment: his memory of the ordinary animal (thing ..brute) in his ecstasy makes him contemplate the extraordinary accomplishment of Christ Our Lord, the crown prince of heaven, who stooped from heavenly majesty to earth to save us by his blood.

Changing from past to present tense, Hopkins collects his observations into the explosive word buckle. It has many meanings: arm, clasp, crumple, attack, join. A medieval knight arming for battle is suggested by valour, plume and chevalier : fall, gall and gash gold-vermilion suggest the blood of Christ crumpled on the cross, (gall means both bitterness and injury). Perhaps the kestrel stooped to its prey, perhaps Hopkins sank to his knees, literally or metaphorically. Buckle can also mean engage with a foe, as Our Lord fights evil, with the Holy Spirit.

The colours of a kestrel's wings and back are blue-grey and reddish brown, and Hopkins is reminded of the way grey ashes can produce red embers if they are stirred (as his heart has been by the bird). Sillion is the Anglo-Saxon form of selion, the strip of land between two furrows, here the shiny blue-grey clay soil ridge caused by plodding horse and ploughman. George Herbert explains sheer plod: "Who sweeps a room, as for Thy laws, Makes that and the action fine".

Vermilion is the brilliant scarlet red of sealing wax. Hopkins loves the sounds of words, especially obscure ones, and he's more interested in rhymes, pararhymes and alliteration than regular meters, calling his pentameter "sprung rhythm". This famous poem is not easy to understand, but every line is packed with religious fervour and images appropriate for Lent.



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Answers to the Easter Quiz on page 17

- 1. Judy Garland
- 2. Preston or Ramsbottom
- 3. Chile
- 4. Palm Sunday
- 5. J.S. Fry & Sons
- 6. 3 hours
- 7. W. B. Yeats
- 8. Simnel cake

Birmingham (1)

- Golgotha / Calvary
- 10. Ladies hat
- 11. Lazarus Saturday
- 12. Bread

9.

13. Faberge

Guildford (19)

- 14. Good Friday
- 15. 30 pieces of silver
- 16. Carry the cross for Jesus

- 17. Mel Gibson
- 18. Rugby

Salisbury (14)

- 19. Barabbas
- 20. I AM the Walrus
- 21. Fry's Cream Eggs
- 22. 10.39m (34.09ft) Tosca, Italy.

Answers to the Wordsearch on page 18

Blackburn (12) Hereford (23) St Asaph (7) Carlisle (2) Lichfield (6) Truro (17) Chester (24) Liverpool (10) Wells (16) Chichester (5) Llandaff (11) Worcester (20) Durham (4) Manchester (15) York (9) Exeter (3) Newcastle (18) Gloucester (8) Ripon (13) The two cathedrals not in the word search grid are Canterbury (23) and Liverpool

Metropolitan (21).

Trade Directory

Trade / Business name	Name	Contact	telephone numbers
Gardener	Nick Holden	364 0592	07547 341175
Greenhills Garden Services	Will	336 5167	07754 411693
Joiner	Paul Whitehead	353 0493	07762 637374
Painter & decorator	A. Forshaw	327 4788	07979 233422
Health & wellness / Pilates	Peter Heath	644 9279	07808 920813
PAT testing	Joey Farrell		07723 997434
Gas service	Mike Jones	342 5805	07813 137134
ACG General Maintenance	Andrew Glover		07384 466414
Bookkeeping	Russ Smith	208 7126	07463 669 418

Following a suggestion from readers, we have compiled the above list based on their recommendations. If you know of anybody else who would like to be included and who you can recommend to others then please inform any of the editorial team. **Disclaimer** "The above are not recommendations of the editorial team; neither All Saints PCC nor the editorial team can accept any liability resulting from using these organisations / trades people."

Cookery Corner

Sausage and Bean Chowder

2 Carrots peeled and sliced
1 large onion peeled and sliced
tablespoons oil
I can baked beans in tomato sauce
¾pint beef stock
1 level tablespoon tomato purée
1 level teaspoon demerara sugar
½ teaspoon strong made mustard
Salt and pepper
2 or 3 frankfurters, sliced diagonally

3 or 4 slices salami sausage, cut in half

Method

- 1. Fry the carrot and onion till golden.
- 2. Add the beans, stock, tomato purée, sugar and mustard.
- 3. Bring to the boil and season.
- 4. Cover and simmer 30mins.
- 5. Add the sausage pieces and heat through thoroughly.

Patsy Baker

My Mum's Bread Pudding Recipe (written on the back of an envelope!)

Around 8 oz. (225g) stale bread – any type, cut into chunks, placed in a mixing bowl and soaked in water overnight. Cover with a tea towel. You can keep crusts **on** with this longer soak.

6 oz. (175g) flour

6 oz. sugar – preferably Demerara or other

darker variety

¼lb. (100g) suet

1 level tsp. ground mixed spice

6 oz. (175g) dried mixed fruit





Method

- 1. Preheat the oven to 170° (gas mark 4) (Mum says "slow oven").
- 2. Add in all the dried ingredients to the soaked bread and mix together into a spicy, fruity, gooey dough.
- Grease a rectangular baking dish or tin a lasagne dish works well- around 10 x 8" with a depth of around 2".
- 4. Put the dough into the dish and bake for $1\frac{1}{2}$ -2 hours until firm and browned on top.
- 5. Serve hot with custard or cold with a little castor sugar sprinkled on top if liked.

This will freeze or keep wrapped in tinfoil or in an airtight container.

Vicky Barrett



Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. (Matthew 11:28)

Prayers to use at home during the Coronavirus Pandemic

Prayers are taken from Common Worship and Church of England website. © The Archbishops' Council. 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. Lord Jesus Christ, you taught us to love our neighbour, and to care for those in need as if we were caring for you. In this time of anxiety, give us strength to comfort the fearful, to tend the sick, and to assure the isolated of our love, and your love, for your name's sake. Amen. God of compassion, be close to those who are ill, afraid or in isolation. In their loneliness, be their consolation; in their anxiety, be their hope; in their darkness, be their light; through him who suffered alone on the cross, but reigns with you in glory, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. For those who are ill Merciful God, we entrust to your tender care those who are ill or in pain, knowing that whenever danger threatens your everlasting arms are there to hold them safe. Comfort and heal them, and restore them to health and strength; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. 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.

From one who is ill or isolated

O God, help me to trust you, help me to know that you are with me, help me to believe that nothing can separate me from your love revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For the Christian community

We are not people of fear: we are people of courage. We are not people who protect our own safety: we are people who protect our neighbours' safety. We are not people of greed: we are people of generosity. We are your people God, giving and loving, wherever we are, whatever it costs For as long as it takes wherever you call us.

Barbara Glasson, President of the Methodist Conference

Personal prayers

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your disciples, 'I am with you always'. Be with me today, as I offer myself to you. Hear my prayers for others and for myself, and keep me in your care. Christ be with me, Christ within me, Christ behind me, Christ before me, Christ beside me, Christ before me, Christ to comfort and restore me. Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ in quiet, Christ in danger, Christ in hearts of all that love me, Christ in mouth of friend and stranger.

from St Patrick's Breastplate

Church of South India

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal that we lose not our hold on things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Be with us, Lord, in all our prayers, and direct our way toward the attainment of salvation, that among the changes and chances of this mortal life, we may always be defended by your gracious help, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

O gracious and holy Father, give us wisdom to perceive you, diligence to seek you, patience to wait for you, eyes to behold you, a heart to meditate upon you, and a life to proclaim you, through the power of the spirit of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Before going to sleep

God our Father, by whose mercy the world turns safely into darkness and returns again to light: we place in your hands our unfinished tasks, our unsolved problems, and our unfulfilled hopes, knowing that only what you bless will prosper. To your love and protection we commit each other and all those we love, knowing that you alone are our sure defender, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Common Worship

The Jesus Prayer

Common Worship

St Benedict

Register of births, marriages and burials

Extract from the Church Registers February 2020

Joan Ann HOWARD aged 79 cremated remains buried 23rd February 2020

Who to contact about our groups

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The Magazine

Thank you to all those who have contributed articles, photographs and ideas for this edition of *The Magazine*. Contributions for future editions of *The Magazine* are very welcome. Please contact any member of the editorial team with your ideas and articles. Articles may be submitted in any reasonable format and should not be subject to any copyright restrictions.

The deadline for submission of materials for the next edition is Saturday 16th May 2020.

Who's who at All Saints

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