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SAINTS ALIVE



ALL SAINTS

The Parish Magazine
of All Saints' Parish Church,
Cheadle Hulme

Our Regular Weekly Services

At the moment these are, until further notice:

Sunday at 10.00am Parish Communion. At 6.30pm Choral Evensong on the 2nd Sunday of each month and Said Evensong on the 4th Sunday. On Wednesdays the church is open for private prayer at 12.00 noon, followed by Holy Communion at 12.30pm, after which everyone is welcome to stay for a chat and to share a bring-your-own-lunch.

Arrangements for baptisms, banns and weddings, confession and spiritual counselling is by arrangement with the Clergy.

We understand that for many this is still a difficult period. If you would like prayers or simply a conversation please contact me: Rev Sarah on 0161 485 3455, or email: @allsaintschadlehulme.org.uk. Alternatively, call one of our wonderful Churchwardens, John Ackerley 0161 486 1419 and Janet Ashman on 0161 485 7969.



Presentation of Jesus at the Temple (detail), Andrea Mantegna, c. 1455





VICAR'S LETTER

Dear friends,

The in-between times. The time where one thing ends, and you are waiting for the next thing. In the church calendar we have had Christmas finish and the season of Epiphany has just finished. Epiphany is the revelation of Christ to everyone in the example of the Magi visiting Jesus, the season culminates in the presentation of Christ in the temple, also known as Candlemas. But the next part of the church's calendar of Lent doesn't start for a few weeks. The period in between those times is called ordinary time. A time which at first can conjure up the image of boring, mundane, nothing exciting happening at all.



Ordinary time in the church calendar allows us time to explore other readings in the Bible that aren't just focussed on festivals or periods of reflection in the church calendar. A time to delve into the gospel readings set that year and to learn more about the life of Jesus, as well as numerous Old Testament passages. In the ordinary time of church, we can sometimes encounter the extra-ordinary. It gives us space to think and wrestle with the bible. It gives us time also to reflect on what has been and prepare for what is to come.

The journey of faith is not one where you leap from one mountain top celebration to another. The journey of coming back down the mountain, walking through the valley and starting up the next time gives us time to rest, to recoup and get ready for the next bit.

We can get frustrated at the in-between times, we may become restless, but these times allow us space to think, to pray, to discover, to rest. You may find yourself in an 'in-between' stage in your life and I invite you to take time to pray, to speak to God, and to rest.

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, 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." Matthew 11:28-29

God bless,

Rev Sarah Hancock

**COPY DEADLINE FOR MARCH - FEBRUARY 6TH
ALL COPY TO THE EDITOR PLEASE**



Frances Pickett, who leads our Flower Group, writes...

The All Saints Flower Group is responsible for arranging flowers in the Porch, Nave, Cloister and on the Altar each week (except the weeks of Lent). We also decorate the church for all major festivals – Christmas, Easter, Harvest Thanksgiving and Remembrance Sunday. We make up bunches of daffodils for distribution on Mothering Sunday and are happy to decorate the church for special occasions such as Weddings, Funerals, Baptisms etc.

We are a lovely group to belong to, we have fun and we enjoy what we do. But we could do with more help.

If you love flowers and have a little time to spare, please join us. You will be given help and advice (whether you want it or not!) We have great coffee and are known for our quality biscuits!

Responsibilities for the purchase, arrangement and care of the flowers are shared each month. Even if you don't want to be involved at the sharp end we would appreciate a hand with the midweek watering and tidying and clearing up after festivals.

Gentlemen, please do not think this is an appeal just to the ladies, we have had and still have some excellent gentlemen arrangers and would welcome more.

If you, ladies or gentlemen, could help in any way please contact me, Frances Pickett by email on 0161 439 8890.

Cyril and Methodius, helping the Slavs

Cyril and Methodius whose feast days are celebrated on the 14th of this month, are saints for anyone with good secular qualifications, who now suspects that God may be calling them to use those skills in His service.

Cyril and Methodius were brothers, born into a wealthy family in Thessalonica, in 826 and 815 respectively. Their upbringing destined them for lives of respect and influence. Methodius, the elder brother, was appointed governor in a Slav province of the Roman Empire, although within a few years he became a monk on Mount Olympus in Asia Minor. Meanwhile his younger brother, Cyril, went into academia in Constantinople, becoming a lecturer in philosophy and librarian. But then, in 863, the ruler of Moravia, Rostislav, asked the emperor to send him some Christian teachers who could conduct services and teach his people in the Slavonic tongue. Emperor Michael III chose Cyril and Methodius. It was a daunting task, for the Slavonic language had not yet been written down. But nonetheless, the brothers set about their great work.

Cyril used his academic ability to create an alphabet for the Moravians, which eventually became the Cyrillic alphabet. The brothers then used this written language to teach Christianity in Slavonic, and to provide a way for the Moravians to worship in their own language. The brothers translated much of the liturgy and the gospels to this form. During their time in Moravia, the brothers faced opposition from missionaries of the German Church, who believed that the official languages of the church should only be Hebrew, Greek or Latin. But the Pope pronounced that both brothers were orthodox, and made them both bishops, with Methodius ending up as Archbishop of Rastislav and Svatopluk.

Cyril and Methodius have been held in high honour, as men who pioneered the use of the vernacular language in church services. Cyril would have been astonished if he had known the eventual consequences of his hard work. For not only did the Slavonic language spread quickly, with him becoming known as the Father of Slavonic Literature, but it went on to become the language of the Liturgy in the 9th century Russian Church.



Statistics for Mission 2020

The Church of England's Statistics for Mission 2020 report has recently been published. Figures show that more than 9,000 churches offered 'Church at Home' worship, such as online or dial-in services, during the March-July 2020 lockdown. Attendance figures for services were, as expected, significantly lower than usual, amid legal restrictions because of the Covid-19 pandemic.



Most of the figures are based on an annual snapshot taken in October 2020, which fell just before the second full national lockdown in England, when adult average weekly attendance was 57% lower than 2019. Despite the restrictions, the figures were still collected by the Church of England Research and Statistics Unit to record and recognise those things that churches were able to do in such difficult circumstances.

Eight in 10 parishes offered 'Church at Home' online, via email, post and telephone during the first lockdown, which helped sustain parish life when it was badly needed.

Supporting those parishes who are resettling refugees

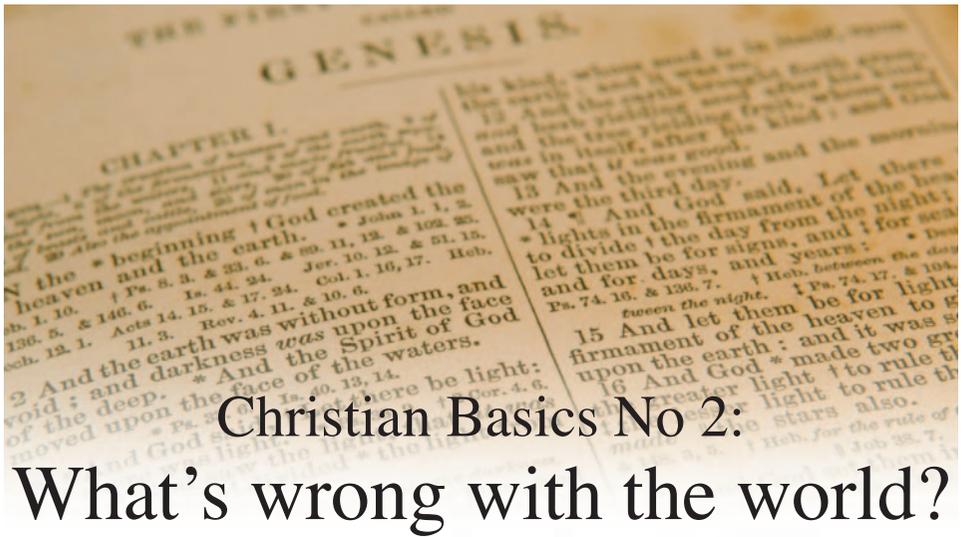
The Church of England is setting up a new group to support local churches who are resettling refugees in partnership with the Home Office.

The initiative will support parishes and dioceses who have begun working closely with local authorities and other community partners, to provide practical resources for the resettlement of vulnerable refugees. Since 2015, dozens of parishes have taken part in community sponsorship and welcomed families from Syria, with at least 20 serving as lead sponsor.

The Church's first National Representatives for Community Sponsorship, Domenica Pecoraro and Canon Gareth Jones, are looking forward to their new role, as they "seek to make a difference in the lives of some of the world's most vulnerable people."

Domenica Pecoraro said: "My hope is to help as many people as possible find safety in the UK through Community Sponsorship, and at the same time, help our parishes, our agents of Love and Grace, to experience and be renewed by these encounters."

The recent events in Afghanistan have challenged the churches to increase their support for refugees.



Christian Basics No 2: What's wrong with the world?

'How can a God of love allow suffering?' Many people struggle with such questions, however the Bible helps us to understand how sin affects both our own lives and the world.

Genesis provides us with a picture of how sin entered the world. In Genesis 2:16-17, God gave Adam and Eve both permission ('You are free to eat from any tree in the garden') and a prohibition ('But you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil'), alongside warning them of the consequences of disobedience ('For when you eat of it you will surely die').

In Genesis 3, they broke God's law by eating fruit from the forbidden tree. As a result, their eyes were opened to the nature of sin (they knew shame) and their relationship with God was broken (they hid from Him). As a consequence, death entered their lives. This story reminds us that God gives us free will (an essential aspect of being human) to choose whether God will be at the centre of our lives or not.

The Bible offers different ways of describing how sin:

- a spirit of independence: we don't want God to interfere with our lives, preferring our own ideas, plans and ways of behaviour.
- ignoring the Maker's instructions: if you ignore user instructions, you only have yourself to blame when things go wrong! God created us to function with Him at the centre of our lives.
- missing the mark: we fail an exam even when we miss the pass mark by one mark: 'All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God' (Romans 3:23).

In a famous correspondence in The Times under the title 'What's wrong with the world?' GK Chesterton's letter simply said: 'Dear Sir, I am.'

Loved nonetheless



Here is a thought on a verse of Scripture from the encounter of Jesus with a man described as a ‘rich, young ruler’.

This man was keen to follow Jesus, but when told he must share his wealth with the poor decided it was too much to ask, and he went away sorrowful. In this context we read that, “Jesus, looking at him loved him (Mark 10:21).”

This is a remarkable statement about Jesus, and the nature of divine love, a love that doesn’t alter despite the ups and downs of our behaviour. It is constant and unchanging, truly without condition, and unshaken by the unpredictability of human response.

We might have expected to hear Jesus say, ‘You foolish man’ or ‘You stupid boy’, but there is no such rebuke, only love. Jesus might have been annoyed, disappointed exasperated, alarmed, shocked, but all we feel is His love for someone who has missed a great opportunity.

What a joy it is to know that Jesus loves us exactly as we are. When He looks at us, nothing is hidden from His gaze.

He sees through all our pretence, all our subterfuge, all our attempts to put on a

brave front. He knows who I am, completely. And yet He loves me unreservedly and without reservation. Amazing. Why walk away from a love like that?



Rabbula of Edessa was a leading figure in the 5th century Syrian Church who translated the New Testament into his native tongue. He wrote this prayer for penitents to use.

You are rich, Lord, in grace and mercy, willing to cleanse all sinners from their guilt. Cleanse me with hyssop, have pity on me. In your mercy spare me, as you spared the publican and the prodigal son. You take the sinfulness from sinners, O Christ, and when we repent you make us welcome beside you. Redeemer of the human race, in your mercy, have pity on me.

My sins have bowed me to the ground. I could not have done more to achieve my own ruin if I had rushed over a precipice. Who but you can restore me to the beauty in which you created me? Who but you can remake me in the image of yourself? In your mercy, Lord, deliver me; have pity on me. Grant me the dew of your grace, Lord. Forgive my sins. But above all, may the glory belong to you.

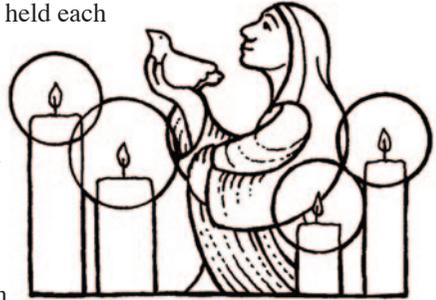


Reflected Faith Series: Candlemas

There are three reasons for this festival, which is held each year on the second of February.

Firstly, it's the halfway point between the shortest day and the Spring Equinox, so from that date on the daylight hours get longer. In pre-Christian times, this day was known as the 'Feast of Lights' and celebrated the increase strength of the life-giving sun as Winter gave way to Spring.

Secondly, it's when we remember Mary and Joseph taking their baby Jesus, to the Temple forty days after His birth.



And the third reason? It's directly linked to the name of the feast – Candlemas. It was so named because on that day each year all the candles for the coming year were brought into the church to be blessed at a 'mass'. Remember that candles were important in those days, not only because there were no electric lights; people thought they gave protection against plague and illness and famine.

In many churches on this feast there will be a procession of the whole congregation with lighted candles – often inside the whole building, going into every 'dark' corner. Everyone carries their own lighted candle, which they are encouraged to take home and light there also. One of the prayers that may be used is this:

Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe.

You make our darkness to be light.

*For with You is the well of life
and in Your light shall we see light.*



This month, Christ is often called the 'Light of the World' who came to bring light, hope, and peace into our darkness. Have a think about those places that are dark for you and perhaps you do not like going there or will not go there.

Perhaps they are too painful or scary.

Just pause for a short time with a lit candle and imagine Jesus going there for you or with you. Lighting your way. Making it safe. He came to give us life – and life to the full – even in those dark places.

More than conquerors: In the depth of the sea!

The Bible is very expressive when it comes to speaking about how God can forgive our sins. It uses many descriptions to tell us how our sins are both forgiven and forgotten. Here is a sample of these great promises. Our sins are ‘forgiven,’ (Ps. 32:5); ‘washed thoroughly’ and ‘blotted out’ (Ps. 51:2, 9); ‘forgiven and covered’ (Ps. 85:2); ‘washed whiter than snow’ (Is. 1:18); ‘taken away’ (Is. 6:7); ‘put behind His back’ (Is. 38:17); ‘laid on Him’ (Is. 53:6); ‘remembered no more’ (Jer. 31:34); ‘pardoned’ (Jer. 33:8); ‘destroyed’ (Rom. 6:6); ‘purged’ (Heb. 1:3) ‘borne for us’ (1 Pet. 2:24); ‘washed away’ (Rev. 1:5). What glorious news this is! In Christ we are truly forgiven! Our sins are cancelled! God will not hold our guilty past against us!

The prophet Micah has a very dramatic way of telling us this. He says that God has cast our sins ‘into the depths of the sea’ (7:19). So how deep is the sea? Far out in the Western Pacific Ocean, two hundred miles from the island of Guam, lies the deepest part of the earth’s oceans. It is called the Mariana Trench. It is more than 1500 miles long and over 40 miles wide but it is its depth that is awesome. It plunges down into the ocean bed for some 35,800 feet. By comparison, Everest, the world’s highest mountain, is 29,000 feet in height. That means that the Mariana Trench goes lower into the ocean bed than the peak of Everest stretches up to the clouds. At that frightening depth the pressure from the waters above is more than eight tons to the square inch!

While these facts and figures compel our attention, the theology of our forgiveness is even more wonderful! When we are ‘in Christ’ as His redeemed people, our sins are truly forgiven. God has thrown them into the depth of the sea, never to be resurrected! They are buried forever in the vast abyss of God’s unfathomable love and mercy. What great, good news the gospel brings! Our guilty past is both forgiven and forgotten! A few months after his evangelical conversion in May 1738, John Wesley went to Herrnhut in Germany. He met the Moravian hymn writer Johann Andreas Rothe. Wesley had learned German and enjoyed singing the Moravian hymns. He translated many of them into English, including one of Rothe’s great hymns that includes the lines:

*O Love, Thou bottomless abyss
My sins are swallowed up in Thee
Covered is my unrighteousness
Nor spot of guilt remains on me.
While Jesu’s blood through earth and skies
Mercy, free boundless mercy, cries.*

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





Famous quotes from Desmond Tutu

The recent death of Archbishop Desmond Tutu was mourned around the world. Here are five of his more famous quotes, which show why he was so especially honoured for his justice and reconciliation work in South Africa.

“Do your little bit of good where you are; it’s those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world.”

“If you are neutral in situations of injustice, you have chosen the side of the oppressor. If an elephant has its foot on the tail of a mouse, and you say that you are neutral, the mouse will not appreciate your neutrality.”

“Don’t raise your voice, improve your argument. Good sense does not always lie with the loudest shouters, nor can we say that a large, unruly crowd is always the best arbiter of what is right.”

“Forgiving is not forgetting; it’s actually remembering – remembering and not using your right to hit back. It’s a second chance for a new beginning. And the remembering part is particularly important. Especially if you don’t want to repeat what happened.”

“Differences are not intended to separate, to alienate. We are different precisely in order to realise our need of one another.”



A Light Within

I once heard a speaker describe each one of us having a “light within”. Sometimes, only a spark, but often something much brighter. She went on to tell us about her own son. He is a talented musician, who studied at college and had before him a promising career. But after a trip abroad with a group of aid workers, he decided to take a different direction. He now lives and works with sick and needy children in poor countries around the world. His musical skills, though, will never be wasted and he uses them whenever possible to help the young. He gave up his home, money and comfort to care for others and yet, as his mother told us, his light grows brighter each time she sees him. May it continue to shine as a beacon of love.



Global food crisis worsens



An estimated billion people worldwide are facing malnutrition as the global food crisis worsens, with 45 million already on the brink of famine. Of these billion people, 239 million are African. Countries such as Madagascar, Mozambique and Zimbabwe are among the worst affected.

Recent studies also show that, globally, 22% of children under the age of five are

‘stunted’ due to lack of nourishment, and that many of these – an estimated 14 million babies and young children, are suffering acute and severe malnutrition.

Nearly a third of the world’s population, more than two and a half billion people, lack an adequate supply of food. Millions of people are going to bed hungry, every single day.

In Madagascar famine has followed years of drought and other environmental disasters. Many people have been reduced to trying to eat bark from trees or cactus leaves, and many have already died.

While famine is an issue that affects all people, Christians who are already persecuted and impoverished are often among the worst affected. Reports also indicate that famine



and food insecurity only increases the likelihood of violence and conflict, which includes the anti-Christian violence experienced by believers across Asia, Africa and the Middle East. To try and help, Barnabas Fund has launched a new initiative, food.gives/. If you would like to join others who are filling up their food boxes in their homes and churches, please visit: www.food.gives/

Love

He held her close in his arms' embrace,
Their eyes and their lips did meet,
He looked down into her lovely face,
And her heart did faster beat...
They went to the kirk an it came the day,
And the book the priest did take;
He in his kilt was so bright and gay
As his promise he did make.
She stood at his side so white and fair,
Her white fingers fair to give,
The priest handfasted them then and there,
And he blessed them long to live.
O God give the joy and God the love
To those who are lovers true,
Shed down benediction from above
As in one are joined the two.

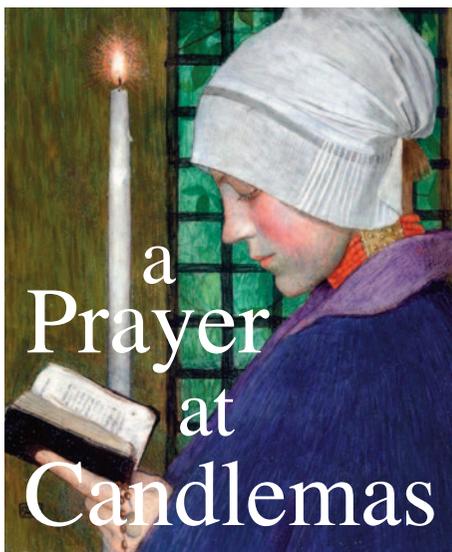
from Prayers of the Western Highlanders



He Prayeth Well

He prayeth well, who loveth well
Both man and bird and beast,
He prayeth best, who loveth best
All things both great and small;
For the dear God who loveth us,
He made and loveth all.

Samuel Taylor Coleridge



Dear Lord God,
February can be a difficult, cold month, and this year there is much to be concerned about, with the pandemic still affecting our lives in so many ways. But thank you, Lord, that February can also be a month of wonderful signs of hope. Help us, when we look down, to see the snowdrops, sometimes known as Candlemas Bells, and other bulbs pushing through the dark earth, showing the promise of Spring and brighter days ahead. And then, help us to look up, to see the light of Jesus, Your revelation to all the world, in that baby who grew and died and rose again to offer salvation, hope and life to all who put their trust in Him. Thank you, Father, for Jesus and that, because of Him, nothing – no pandemic, no circumstance – can ever separate us from You.

Thank you for Your Holy Spirit, living in all who trust in You, giving us strength for each new day of this and every month.

In Jesus name, Amen. *Daphne Kitching*



Dozens of Dead Sea Scroll Fragments Found in Israeli Cave

For the first time in 60 years, archaeologists in Israel have discovered new fragments of a Dead Sea Scroll. Numbering in the dozens, the pieces of parchment were likely hidden in a desert cave between 132 and 136 AD, during the Jewish people's failed Bar Kokhba revolt against the Romans. The 80 or so fragments are inscribed with Greek translations of verses from the biblical books of Zechariah and Nahum. Researchers with the Israel Antiquities Authority (IAA) found the nearly 2,000-year-old scrolls in the Cave of Horror, a site in the Judean Desert that derives its name from the 40 skeletons discovered there during excavations in the 1960s.

The Dead Sea Scrolls, a collection of Jewish manuscripts penned between the 3rd century BC and the 1st century AD, include the oldest known fragments of the Hebrew Bible. Modern researchers first learned of the texts' existence in the 1940s, when local Bedouin shepherds happened upon a set of the scrolls in the Qumran Caves.

Most of the Dead Sea Scrolls, discovered in caves along the coast of the Dead Sea in what's now Israel and the West Bank, date to between the 2nd century BC and 2nd century AD. The Leon Levy Dead Sea Scrolls Digital Library, the scrolls have helped scholars understand different Jewish sects that were active during that period.

As Andrew Lawler reported for Smithsonian magazine in 2010, researchers found around 15,000 scroll fragments between the late 1940s and early 1960s. Some of the scrolls include texts that are remarkably similar to later versions of biblical books, but with some subtle differences and additional material. Others set out regulations, forming the basis for legal commentaries in the Talmud. *(Continued on page 13)*

(Continued from page 12) The newly discovered bits of parchment appear to be missing sections of a scroll found in the Cave of Horror in 1952. Like the fragments, that scroll bears lines from the Twelve, a book of the Hebrew Bible that contains the writings of 12 minor prophets. Aside from the name of God, which appears in Hebrew, the new scroll fragments are written entirely in Greek. Scholars say the find sheds light on the evolution of biblical texts from their earliest forms. “When we think about the biblical text, we think about something very static. It wasn’t static. There are slight differences and some of those differences are important,” said Joe Uziel, head of the IAA’s Dead Sea Scrolls unit. “Every little piece of information that we can add, we can understand a little bit better.”

The discovery was part of an Israeli government project launched in 2017 to survey the caves of the Judean Desert and recover artifacts before looters could steal them. Researchers had to rappel down a sheer cliff to reach the Cave of Horror, which is surrounded by gorges and located some 260 feet below a cliff top. “The desert team showed exceptional courage, dedication and devotion, rappelling down to the caves located between heaven and earth, digging and sifting through them, enduring thick and suffocating dust, and returning with gifts of immeasurable worth for mankind,” said IAA Director Israel Hasson. As part of the new research, archaeologists explored a number of desert caves in the area. In addition to the scroll fragments, they found an array of artifacts dated to the Bar Kokhba revolt, which saw Jewish rebels using the caves as hideouts. Highlights of the discovery include a cache of coins bearing Jewish symbols like a harp and a date palm, arrowheads and spear tips, sandals, fabric, and lice combs. The team found far older items, too. Youth volunteers participating in the exploration of one of the Muraba’at Caves, discovered a huge, 24 to 26 gallon basket made 10,500 years ago. Experts think the woven vessel is the oldest of its kind found to date.



Patricia's quiet, hidden ministry

Recently, I decided to tell our 8.00am congregation the story of the first time I went to church. And how it might well have also been the last, if it hadn't been for one woman's quiet kindness. It's not the story of a "successful" church": maybe a dozen people, all aged over 70. One day, an unaccompanied 14-year-old showed up at this little church (me!).



Whoever was at the door gave me a pile of books and papers, and told me to sit wherever I liked. So, I slipped in at the back and was totally baffled. The vicar tried his best to help: "We're on page three of the order of service." But what is an order of service? "We sing hymn number 63 in the green book." Locate green book. Turn to page 63. Nope, that's not what they're singing. By the end, I had decided that this church thing wasn't for me. It didn't make sense, I hadn't got anything out of it, and I wouldn't be going back.

That might have been the end of the story, if it weren't for Patricia. Patricia was in her eighties, and she was not a likely evangelist, to put it mildly. I think that she found the idea of talking about God quite embarrassing. Nor was she one of those stalwarts of the church keeping things running. I don't think she was even on any rotas.

But it was Patricia who said: "Hello, dear, you're new, aren't you? I'm sorry, I didn't see you come in, or I would have asked you to sit with me. Would you like to sit with me next week?" And, being a well-brought-up girl who didn't like to disappoint old ladies, I said "Yes."

And, because I said I'd sit with Patricia next week, I felt obliged to go back to church. So, I turned up again the next week, and the next, and the next. And Patricia sat beside me, pointing out what page we were on, and telling me when to stand up and sit down. And I wonder if, in all our talk of church-growth strategies and mixed ecologies, we are valuing the wrong things, looking in the wrong places. What would happen if we were more attentive to people like Patricia? If we valued the unremarkable life of the church more?

It seems to me that Jesus, again and again, calls our attention to the small and the ordinary: the mustard seed, the yeast, the widow's mite (which is why I was talking about Patricia in the first place). And yet we persist in celebrating and aiming for the big and spectacular. Anyway, all this is to say: don't underestimate the Patricias in your congregations (and every congregation has them). Pray for them, and thank God for their quiet, hidden ministry and faithfulness — even if neither you nor they will ever see the fruit of it.

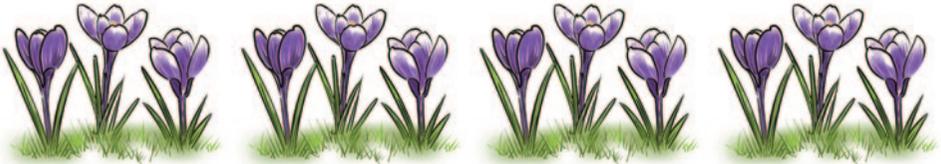
*The Revd Ruth Harley is Assistant Curate in the Watling Valley
Ecumenical Partnership, in Oxford diocese*

In praise of plodders

I've been pondering the words of the apostle Paul where he says, 'I press on towards the goal' (Philippians 3:14). It suggests to me taking one step at a time, and simply keeping moving in the right direction with discipline and determination.

This reminds me of the great Bible translator William Carey who said of himself, "If he gives me credit for being a plodder, he will describe me justly. Anything beyond that will be too much. I can plod. I can persevere in any definite pursuit. To this I owe everything."

Christian discipleship is not always exciting, glamorous, or even enjoyable. Sometimes it is a matter of quietly getting on with it, with our eyes fixed on Jesus.



What Psalm 23 is REALLY all about

The Lord is my Shepherd - THAT'S RELATIONSHIP!

I shall not want - THAT'S SUPPLY!

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures - THAT'S REST!

He leadeth me beside still waters - THAT'S REFRESHMENT!

He restoreth my soul - THAT'S HEALING!

He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness - THAT'S GUIDANCE!

For his name sake - THAT'S PURPOSE!

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death - THAT'S TESTING!

I will fear no evil - THAT'S PROTECTION!

For thou art with me - THAT'S FAITHFULNESS!

Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me - THAT'S DISCIPLINE!

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies - THAT'S HOPE!

Thou anointest my head with oil - THAT'S CONSECRATION!

My cup runneth over - THAT'S ABUNDANCE!

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life - THAT'S BLESSING!

And I will dwell in the house of the Lord - THAT'S SECURITY!

Forever - THAT'S ETERNITY!



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Good Neighbour

Would you like to be the perfect “Good Neighbour”? This verse tells you exactly how!

*Good neighbours are the sunshine of the morning,
The comfort in the ordinary days.
Not the kind who are intrusive or demanding,
Just there to share your life in quiet ways.
Ready with a smile or friendly greeting,
A little gossip or some sweet surprises,
or therein lies the joy of daily living,
Good neighbours, near at hand when need arises.*

Anonymous

Friendship's a flower for all seasons, it never will fade away,
Lasting with loyalty growing, bringing a joy to each day.
Friendship's a gift to be given, for then, you'll find - and it's true
By passing it round, there's a promise, very soon, it will come back to you!

Elizabeth Gozney



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ALL SAINTS CRAFT GROUP

The Craft Group meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 2.30pm in the Church Meeting Room. We learn new skills and practise old ones. Tea/coffee, biscuits and good company are always on offer. **Please join us when meetings begin again.**

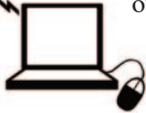
All are welcome. For further details please contact Frances Pickett on 0161 439 8890.



All Saints' Website and Facebook



Keep up to date with news and events on the All Saints' website. Find out about our charity work, community groups and listen to recent sermons.



Please contact Sarah Ball on: comms@allsaintsheadleholme.org.uk with any stories and updates.

Find All Saints' on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/AllSaintsCH/> and "Like" us to get notifications about our news and events.



Church Open

**Saturday Coffee Mornings have been postponed
for the immediate future.**



MEN'S SOCIETY

Monthly meetings on the first Thursday, September to May, at 7.30pm in the Meeting Room (unless otherwise stated). After the talk there is a short question and answer session followed by tea, coffee and biscuits.

Due to the implementation of measures to combat the Coronavirus pandemic all meetings have been cancelled. Further details will be posted when available.

Although this group is attended by men, if you are interested in hearing any of the speakers you will be most welcome to come along.

Chairman: Bradley Torbitt (0161 486 9387)

Secretary: Mike Parry (0161 485 7886)

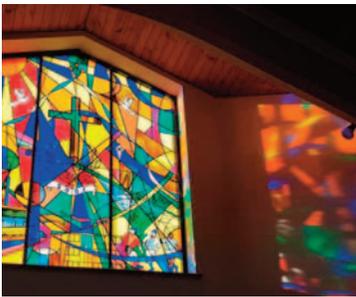


Dioceses to receive nearly £5 million to reach more people with Christian message

A community choir, a church in a working men's club and ministry with children and young people are among projects to receive funding as part of a drive by the Church of England to spread the Christian message to younger and more diverse groups.

Coventry Diocese is to receive £1.25 million in Strategic Development Funding (SDF) for outreach work in parishes serving estates and suburban areas.

The aim is to create 150 new worshipping communities in the diocese by 2030. The funding will support activities such as a community choir, holiday and lunch clubs, pastoral support and Christian enquiry courses.



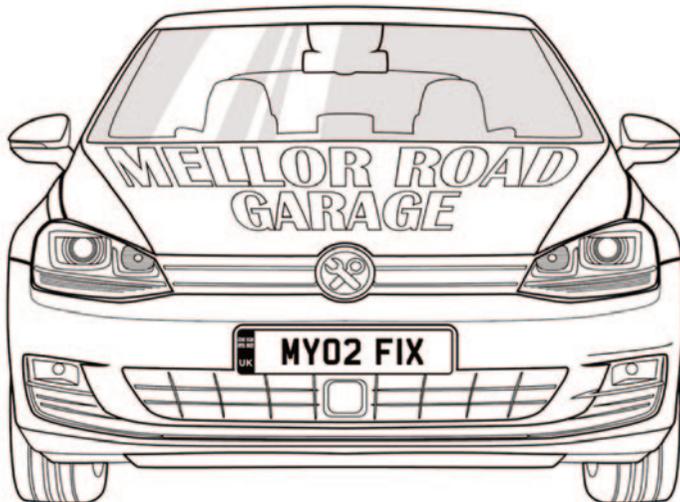
Separately, a £3.5 million grant has been awarded to Southwell and Nottingham diocese for work to support 40 churches reach children, families and young people over the next five years.

The grants have been awarded as the Church of England outlines priorities in its Vision and Strategy for the future. This includes a goal of doubling the number of children and young people in churches and attracting more diverse congregations.

Ten Ways to Love

1. LISTEN without interrupting. (Proverbs 18)
2. SPEAK without accusing. (James 1:19)
3. GIVE without sparing. (Proverbs 21:26)
4. PRAY without ceasing. (Colossians 1:9)
5. ANSWER without arguing. (Proverbs 17:1)
6. SHARE without pretending. (Ephesians 4:15)
7. ENJOY without complaint. (Philippians 2:14)
8. TRUST without wavering. (Corinthians 13:7)
9. FORGIVE without punishing. (Colossians 3:13)
10. PROMISE without forgetting. (Proverbs 13:12)





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Contact: Michelle Statham, Parish Rooms Supervisor

Telephone: 07871 435747

Churches prepare Platinum Jubilee plans

Churches, Christian charities and youth organisations are working together to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee over the four-day Bank Holiday from 2nd to 5th June. A new website has been created – www.theplatinumjubilee.com – to provide ideas and resources for communities to celebrate the Queen's 70 years of faith and service.

The UK and Commonwealth will celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee with a four-day Bank Holiday from 2nd to 5th June 2022.

HOPE Together is working with a wide range of partners to help churches around the Commonwealth to mark this special occasion and, in particular, to celebrate the Queen's 70 years of faith and service. As with the Queen's 90th birthday celebrations, HOPE Together and partners will provide a range of ideas and resources for communities, schools, churches and youth organisations.

Dr Rachel Jordan-Wolf, HOPE's executive director, says, "Churches are in an ideal place to bring communities together for these national celebrations."

HOPE's Platinum Jubilee Highlights will include:

Our Faithful Queen – a gift book using rarely-seen prayers the Queen prayed as she prepared for the Coronation, will be published by HOPE Together and Biblica in January 2022 to buy and give away.

A Happylands animation and book 'The Girl Who Grew Up To Be Queen' for under-5s is to be published by HOPE Together in partnership with The Entertainer and Hope for Every Home.

A new anthem 'Rise Up and Serve' has been commissioned by HOPE Together and written by contemporary hymn writers Graham Kendrick, Mal Pope and Rend Collective for choirs to sing as part of the celebrations.

70 Acts of Service – an invitation to communities to celebrate by serving others with 70 community service ideas drawing on Stewardship's 40 Acts.

On Her Majesty's Service for 11-14s – youth organisations, schools and uniformed organisations are involved (Pais, CofE, Youth For Christ, YouthScape, The Message, Prayer Spaces In Schools, Girls Brigade and Boys Brigade). Resources include ideas for action and videos to use.

As the four-day Bank Holiday ends at Pentecost, our partners Thy Kingdom Come are also providing a Cheeky Pandas film, song and book for primary school children – with resource packs for home/church/school and community events.





"The knitting circle are playing their part in our heating efficiency programme."



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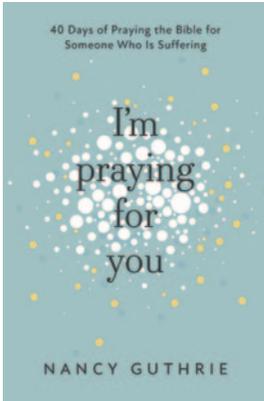
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Good Reads



I'm Praying for You – 40 days of praying the Bible for someone who is suffering

By Nancy Guthrie, 10Publishing, £6.99

When we hear that a friend is struggling, it can be easy to say, 'I'm praying for you', but harder to know what you can actually pray!

Through forty carefully chosen Scripture passages, Nancy Guthrie opens up the wealth of scripture to teach us how to pray for those who are hurting. She shows us how the Bible provides us with a vocabulary for prayer that enables us to ask God to achieve what He intends in and through suffering. Nancy teaches us to see how God's purposes are

revealed even in our darkest days, and encourages us to pray for His will to be done in difficult situations. Each chapter includes a passage, a short explanation, and a prayer for your friend. Using the QR code at the end of each prayer, you'll be able to load and send a personal text message to the person you're praying for so that he or she will know not only that you are praying, but exactly what you are praying.

The White Stone – the art of letting go

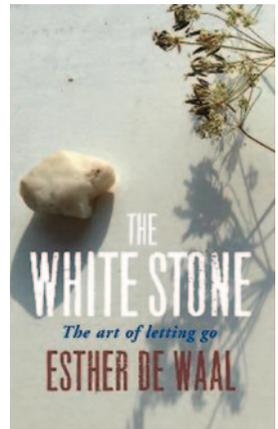
By Esther De Waal, Canterbury Press, £12.99

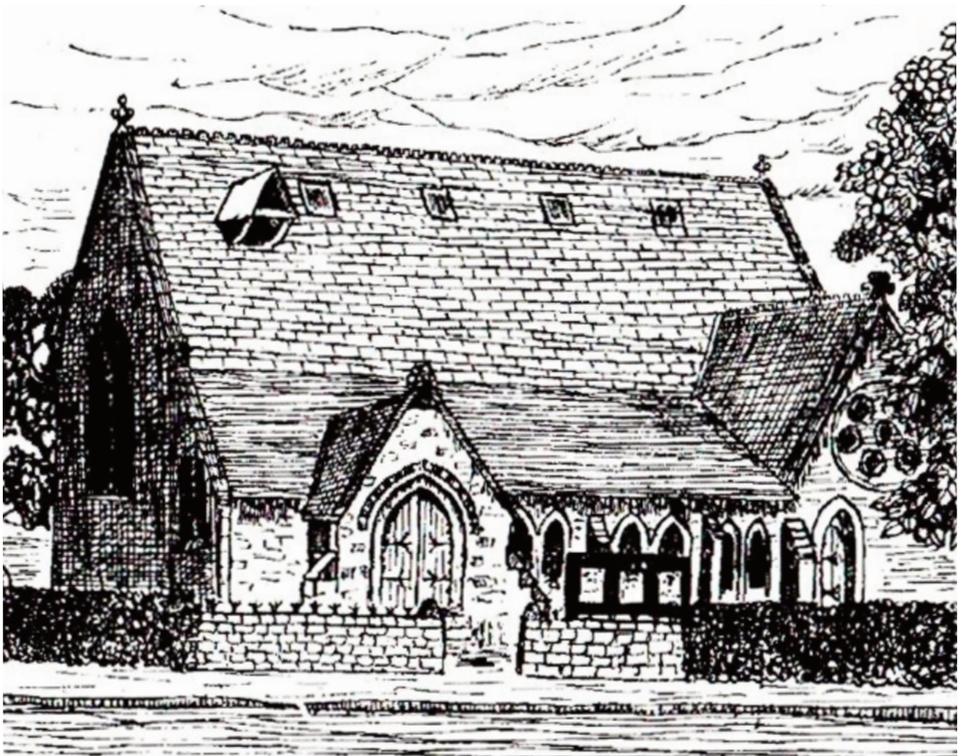
Esther de Waal is one of today's most beloved spiritual writers. In *The White Stone*, she reflects on the changes and losses that come with growing older.

Esther reflects on solitude and, following a period of illness, saying goodbye to a family home and the Welsh border landscape she had known for decades which inspired some of her greatest writing, and adjusting to a new city environment.

In her characteristic style, she sees everything as a portal into a deeper spiritual understanding. She draws on the wealth of the Christian tradition, especially scripture and the monastic and Celtic spiritualities she knows so well, to help her navigate her way through not only the inevitable sense of loss that accompanies such change, but also to embrace the new possibilities it brings.

The white stone of the title refers to a small pebble from the river that ran through her garden that she keeps in her pocket, but also strikes a note of hope referring to the new identity promised by God (Revelation 2.17). This is a book of simple, profound wisdom that will speak to many coping with change in their own lives.





Christian Stewardship

The Parish practises the principles of Christian Stewardship in its giving for the work of God. If you are interested to learn more about it please contact the Recorder, Kate Hughes (485 1010), the Vicar or the Churchwardens. The giving of time and talents is encouraged, If you wish to help in some capacity in the Church services or organisations, in improving or maintaining the Church fabric or grounds, or in visiting and helping the sick or housebound, please speak to the Clergy or the Churchwardens.



All Saints Cheadle Hulme

PARISH DIRECTORY

Clergy: *The Rev'd Sarah Hancock, All Saints Vicarage, 27 Church Road SK8 7JL (485 3455)
The Rev'd Janet Owens (Retired) (312 4683)

Readers: Mrs Pat Yates (485 4546)
Mr Michael Aiers (439 7692)

Church Wardens: *Mrs Janet Ashman (485 7969)
*Mr John Ackerley (486 1419)

Deputy Wardens: *Mrs Julia Ball (440 8647)
*Ms Sarah Ball (07966 146746)

Organist: Miss Trevlyn Thomas (485 8026)

Sacristan: *Mrs Janet Valentine (439 8203)

P.C.C. Vice Chairman and Treasurer: *Mr Jeremy Valentine (439 8203)

P.C.C. Secretary: *Mrs Linda Ackerley (486 1419)

Planned Giving and Gift Aid Secretary: *Mrs Kate Hughes (485 1010)

Mainly Music Co-ordinator and Child Protection Officer: *Mrs Clare Russell (486 9304)

Church Room Bookings: Mr Neville Ashman (485 7969)

Parish Rooms Bookings: Michelle Statham, Parish Rooms Supervisor (07871 435747)

Email: parishrooms@allsaintsheadleulme.org.uk

Electoral Roll Officer: Dr David Jones (01625 850997)

Parish Magazine Editor: Mr Rhys Davenport (485 6772) Email: seed.design@mail.com

Website and Social Media: *Ms Sarah Ball Email: comms@allsaintsheadleulme.org.uk

Parish Magazine Secretary and Treasurer:
Mrs Chris Spencer (485 8282)

Deanery Synod Representatives: *Mrs Julia Ball (440 8647)

*Miss Irene Walton (439 6096)

P.C.C. Members are marked* Other members

Mesdames: L. Bacon, M. Epps, C. Jones, L. Karuku, F. Pickett, S. Stone