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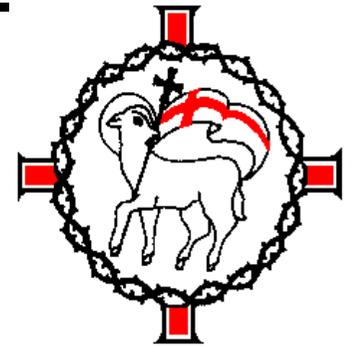
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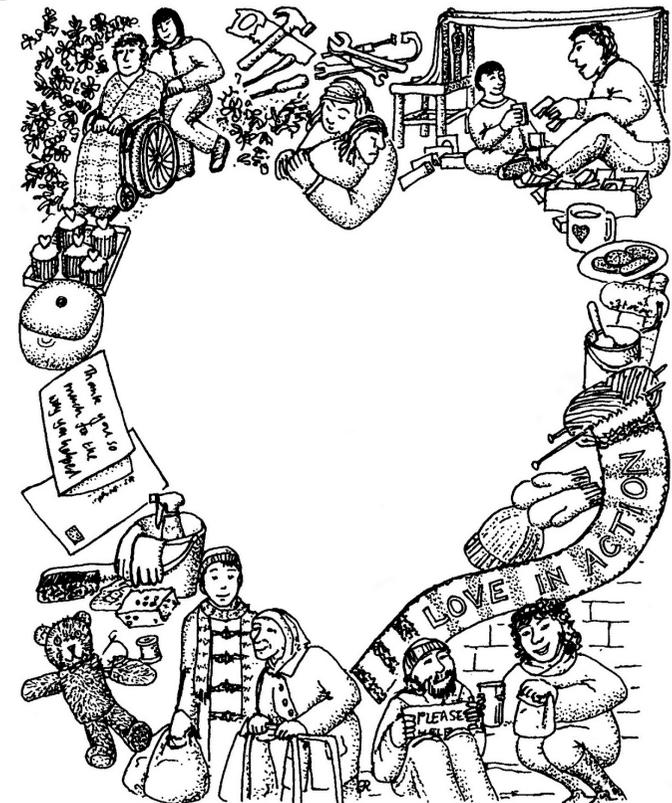
St George's Parish Church Stalybridge



Diocese of Manchester

 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

35p



February 2015

St George's Church Stalybridge

Clergy

Priest-in-Charge Revd Philip Brierley 0161 338 2368

Associate Priest Revd Doreen Broadbent 0161 330 9085

Wardens Mrs Gillian Cotton 0161 303 2787

Mr Derek Redeyoff 0161 338 4779

Asst Warden Mrs Rose Hayward 0161 303 1731

P.C.C. Secretary Mrs Chris Crabtree 0161 285 1775

Treasurer Mr Michael Davies 0161 338 5998

Magazine Editor Mrs Linda Hurst 0161 330 0518

Room Hire Mrs Janet Vidler 0161 303 7689
email: stgwarden@hotmail.co.uk

Worship

Sunday

8.30 a.m. Holy Communion (2nd & 4th Sundays)

10.30 a.m. Sung Communion and Junior Church
(4th Sunday – Family Service)

18.00 p.m. Occasional Special Services as
announced

Tuesday

10.30 a.m. Holy Communion

To receive Communion at home when you are sick or housebound, or to have the name of a departed friend or relation entered in the Book of Remembrance, please contact one of the clergy or Wardens.

For Baptisms, Marriages or Funerals please phone Philip (Priest-in-Charge) on 0161 338 2368. Baptisms are usually conducted at 12.30 pm on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month.

From Our Book of Remembrance

1 Feb	Ernest Albert Whitehead	2000	20 Feb	John Sedgwick	1964
2 Feb	Vera Hadfield	2005		Clara Brown	2009
	Carl Stephen Morrison	2013		Nellie Allcock	2011
4 Feb	Mary Priestley	1994		Sylvia Wilson	2014
	Margaret Longmate	2011	22 Feb	Frederick James Eldridge	1989
	Peter Andrew Diamond	2013		Joan Wykes	2001
6 Feb	James Howarth	1993	24 Feb	Mary Theresa Brierley	2004
	Albert Livsey	1993	25 Feb	Philip Grocott	1975
7 Feb	Annie Howard	1981		Harry Nuttall	1992
	Adam Constantine	2004		Leslie Barber	2006
8 Feb	Edith Harriet Turner	1991	26 Feb	Herbert Newton	1971
	David Brian Bardsley	2011		George Henry Maddock	1983
9 Feb	Ada Alice Cooper	1970		Edward Cooper	1986
	Rose Pamela Gudgeon	2010		Francis Frederick Lawes	1999
10 Feb	Donald Joseph Sidebottom	1992		Lucy Wilson	2011
	Colin Birch	2001	27 Feb	Winifred Ada Christian	1968
11 Feb	Harold Lee	1961		Maud Green	1986
	Iris Wilson	1975		Clara Wardle	1987
	Ada Stephenson	1983		Elsie Violet Shaw	2000
	Mary Skelton	2012		Jessie Birch	2011
12 Feb	Mary Pollitt	1987	28 Feb	Samuel Terence Broadbent	1990
14 Feb	John Devlin	1973		Robert Fowden	1982
16 Feb	Kenneth Shaw	2003		Elsie Hopwood	2006
17 Feb	Gertrude Fitchett	1984		Agnes Goodwin	1996
18 Feb	Annie Revell	1986	29 Feb	Ollerenshaw	
19 Feb	James Harrison	1963			
	Rowbottom				



BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

To have the name of a loved one entered into this special book, and remembered in our intercessions for their anniversary please have a word with one of the wardens or one of the clergy.

The cost for the special inscription is £10 per entry

From the Registers

Baptisms

We welcome into the Lord's family

4 January

Ellis Peter Joseph Rayson, Rayners Close, Stalybridge

18 January

Ella Summer Watts, Astley Grove, Stalybridge

Mia Grace Watts, Astley Grove, Stalybridge

Funerals

Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord

5 January

Patricia Dores (age 80 years) Droomer Drive, Windermere

12 January

William Walker (age 85 years) Springs lane, Stalybridge

13 January

Elsie Gresty (age 90 years) Bardsley Gate Avenue, Stalybridge

14 January

Catherine Billington (age 80 years) Carlisle Crescent, Ashton-under-Lyne

19 January

Walter Saville (age 94 years) Holme Lea Nursing Home , formerly of Glent View Stalybridge

21 January

Lewis Winterbottom (age 86 years) Churchbank, Stalybridge

22 January

Anthony Patrick Welsh (age 74 years) Garden Walk, Ashton-under-Lyne

27 January

Phyllis Hallworth (age 83 years) Bardsley Gate Avenue, Stalybridge

28 January

James Raymond Carrington (age 91 years) Broadhill Road, Stalybridge

Our Journey Towards Easter



On 18th February, the Church starts its journey towards Easter, with the day of Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent. This season became the principal occasion for baptism preparation and for the reconciliation of those who had been excluded from the Church's fellowship for refusing to accept religious belief or for other serious faults.

This was the final part of the preparation of the candidates before their initiation into the Church during the Easter liturgy, but it was not long before the Church realised the benefit to all Christians of extending this practice by encouraging everyone to engage in a season of penitence by a process of study, prayer and fasting.

The popular idea of 'giving things up' in Lent, has its liturgical expression in the stark simplicity of Lenten worship. In part, this is to express a spirit of penitence, but it is also in order to provide striking contrast with the joyful celebration of Easter. This 'giving up' traditionally includes the omission of the *Gloria in Excelsis* at the Eucharist, the absence of flowers from the church, the careful selection of hymns and prayers so as to avoid the use of the word 'Alleluia' and other similar expressions of joy, which will greet the resurrection on Easter Day. The Fourth Sunday of Lent (*Laetare* or Refreshment Sunday) was allowed as a day of relief from the rigour of Lent, likewise the Feast of the Annunciation, which almost always falls in Lent. These breaks from austerity allow more freedom of worship and are the background to our modern observance of Mothering Sunday.

The calculation of the forty days of Lent has varied considerably in Christian history. It is now usual in the West to count them continuously to the end of Holy Week (not including Sundays), so beginning Lent on the sixth Wednesday before Easter, Ash Wednesday.

There has also grown a custom of 'veiling' crosses (and, in some churches, statues also) either for the whole of Lent or from Palm Sunday. In part this development has been a misunderstanding of an early custom. What was being veiled was not the cross, but the splendour of rich and jewelled metalwork. To obscure the cross in



If anyone would like to take up the bread and wine at the offertory—to celebrate a special occasion, in memory of a loved one or just to take part, please have a word with one of the wardens or clergy for any Sunday this year.

Lent and Holy Week is totally misplaced, though the substitution of a simple wooden cross or crucifix for a more colourful or expensive one, helps to bring the season into focus.

Our liturgy at 8.00 p.m. on Ash Wednesday seeks to provide a service characterised by silence, reflection, and penitence. It is designed not only to mark a special day, but to start the local Christian congregation, all of them, not just the few, off on a path that can be seen to be leading to the Good Friday desolation and Easter celebrations. From the Middle Ages, it became the custom to begin Lent by being marked with the sign of a cross in ash on the forehead, and this will again be part of our service on Ash Wednesday. The ash is made from the palm crosses of the previous year, and I would be grateful if you could bring your old palm crosses to church on the Sunday (15th February) before Ash Wednesday so that they can be used for this purpose.

As is usual, there will be a course of Lenten study which will run for four or five sessions and I am hoping that some of you will feel able to commit to attending this opportunity for sharing and discussion.

I pray that we, as a whole church together, may enter more deeply into this season of Lent so that we may experience more fully the joy of Easter.

Philip

+++++

Count your blessings instead of your crosses;
Count your gains instead of your losses.

Count your joys instead of your woes;
Count your friends instead of your foes.

Count your smiles instead of your tears;
Count your courage instead of your fears.

Count your full years instead of your lean;
Count your kind deeds instead of your mean.

Count your health instead of your wealth;
Count on God instead of yourself.

--Anonymous

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ST GEORGE'S CHURCH 175th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

As you may be aware 2015 sees the 175th Anniversary of St George's Church. We are all users of this beautiful building, both for the worship of Our Lord and for community events and meetings. To celebrate this momentous event we are asking you to take part in a year long celebration.

Launching on 1st January we are inviting you to collect 175 coins for the 175 years which St George's has been here to host your memorable occasions. That's just one coin every other day of the year (with a fortnight's holiday!)

It is entirely up to you what denomination of coins you collect e.g. 175 ten pences = £17.50; 175 fifty pences = £87.50; dare we say 175 £2 coins = £350!!

What we ARE asking you to do is to pledge your support for this momentous occasion by letting us know firstly that we can rely on your support and secondly to give us an idea of how many people are taking part. Thirdly of course to remind you to pop that coin into your jar every other day! Please complete the form below.

YES I would like to wish St George's a very Happy Birthday by pledging:-

	Denomina- tion	Total	Please tick
175	£2.00	£350	
175	£1.00	£175	
175	50p	£87.50	
175	20p	£35	
175	10p	£17.50	
175	5p	£8.75	
175	2p	£3.50	
175	1p	£1.75	
175	Assorted	?????	

SignedDate

Need some odd jobs doing?
Can't get round to finishing the decorating?



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Brian Allsopp
on
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Mobile: 07961 583 668



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"Next Sunday I think I'll do a new take
on the Parable of the Virgins and the Oil."

CHURCH FINANCES

December 2014 Weekly Giving

Date	Sunday	Open Plate	Envelopes	Total	Monthly Shortfall
4 Jan 2015	Epiphany	£23.40	£309.00	£332.40	
11 Jan 2015	Baptism of Christ	£65.55	£232.50	£298.05	
18 Jan 2015	Epiphany 2	£26.50	£289.50	£316.00	
14 Dec 2014	Advent 3	£34.00	£531.50	£565.50	
25 Jan 2015	Conversion of Paul	£89.05	£450.50	£539.55	
	Standing Orders etc		£864.00	£864.00	
	Monthly Total			£2,350.00	-£2,051.00

* Assuming £10 per adult per week needed for running the church
this means we need £4,401 per month

+++++

200 CLUB

The 200 Club winners for December are:

1st Prize	£30	104	Mavis Russell
2nd Prize	£15	10	Michael Davies
3rd Prize	£ 5	105	Michael Davies

The 200 Club winners for January are:

1st Prize	£30	106	Heather Lees
2nd Prize	£15	73	Mike Vidler
3rd Prize	£ 5		Freda Taylor

We are now collecting for 2015. The cost is £12 per year per number. There are still some spare numbers and new members are always welcome—remember the more members we have the more money is raised for Church Funds.

If you would like to join please see Rose Hayward or ring 303 1731.

+++++



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NEW! NEW! NEW! NEW!



*Now open Willow Wood's new Coffee Shop is situated at
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*Cappuccinos, lattes and even just a good old cup of tea
are all available together with biscuits, home made cakes
and scones.*



*Why not call in for a cuppa and a light snack and
pick up a bargain at the same time?!*
Open 10.00am—3.30pm Monday—Saturday

Readings and Psalms for February 2015

Sun 1 st	Presentation of Christ in the Temple - <i>Candlemas</i> 10.30 Malachi 3.1-5; Psalm 24.7-end; Hebrews 2.14-end; Luke 2.22-40
Tues 3 rd	10.30 Hebrews 12.1-4; Psalm 22.25b-end; Mark 5.21-end
Sun 8 th	2nd Sunday before Lent 8.30 Proverbs 8.1,22-31; John 1.1-14 10.30 Proverbs 8.1,22-31; Psalm 104.26-end; Colossians 1.15-20; John 1.1-14
Tues 10 th	10.30 Genesis 1.20-2.4a; Psalm 8; Mark 7.1-13
Sun 15 th	Sunday next before Lent 10.30 2 Kings 2.1-12; Psalm 50.1-6; 2 Corinthians 4.3-6; Mark -2-9
Tues 17 th	10.30 Genesis 6.5-8;7.1-5,10; Psalm 29; Mark 8.14-21
Wed 18 th	Ash Wednesday 20.00 Isaiah 58.1-12; Psalm 51.1-18; 2 Corinthians 5.20b- 6.10; Matthew 6.1-6,16-21
Sun 22 nd	1st Sunday of Lent 8.30 Genesis 9.8-17; Mark 1.9-15 10.30 Genesis 9.8-17; Mark 1.9-15 Worship For All
Tues 24 th	10.30 Isaiah 55.10-11; Psalm 34.4-6,21-22; Matthew 6.7-15

January Crossword Solution

ACROSS: 1, Cock. 3, Shackles. 8, Play. 9, Paradise. 11, Faithfully. 14, Enmesh.
15, Unseen. 17, Armageddon. 20, Benjamin. 21, Beri. 22, Capitals.
23, USPG.

DOWN: 1, Cup of tea. 2, Charisma. 4, Heap up. 5, Challenged. 6, Lois. 7, Slew.
10, The Servant. 12, Lewdness. 13, Unending. 16, Daniel. 18, BBFC.
19, Snap.

St George's 175th Anniversary

As part of our 175th anniversary celebrations I am looking to make a display of St. George's over the years.

If you have any photos you are willing for me to include in the display, please can you let me have them and I will scan them and give them back.

The pictures can be from either new or old St. George's.

Janet Vidler

AN AFTERNOON AT THE PROMS

(or a Good Old afternoon sing song!)



Willow Wood Hospice will be holding this event performed by THE YORKSHIRE VOLUNTEERS BAND at Albion Church on Sunday 22nd February.

Tickets are £10 each (sorry there are no concessions).

Join us for all the songs you would associate with a Last Night of the Proms event, including Jerusalem, Pomp & Circumstance and many more.

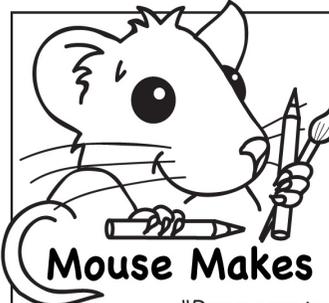
Union flags will be available to purchase for the finale!!

Doors open at 1.30pm for a 2.00pm start.

Ring 0161 330 7788 for tickets

or see Chris Crabtree 07714 235 736

Children's page



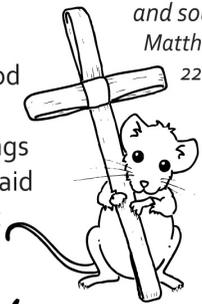
Mouse Makes

"Draw near to God"
James 4:8



The first day of Lent is ASH WEDNESDAY

It is a day of **repentance**, a day for saying **sorry** to God for any wrong things you have said or thought or done.




During Lent **pray** for someone, **encourage** someone and **tell** someone about Jesus

The 40 days before Easter are called **LENT**. Lent is a time for Christians to pray, read the bible and turn to God.



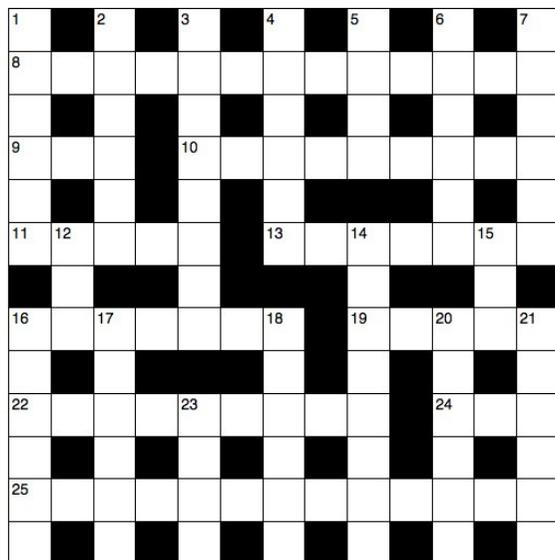
During Lent read *Matthew's Gospel*

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
ASH WEDNESDAY									
20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11
21	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12
22	21	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13
23	22	21	20	19	18	17	16	15	14
24	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	16	15
25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	16
26	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	17
27	26	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18
28	27	26	25	24	23	22	21	20	19
29	28	27	26	25	24	23	22	21	20
30	29	28	27	26	25	24	23	22	21
31	30	29	28	27	26	25	24	23	22
32	31	30	29	28	27	26	25	24	23
33	32	31	30	29	28	27	26	25	24
34	33	32	31	30	29	28	27	26	25
35	34	33	32	31	30	29	28	27	26
36	35	34	33	32	31	30	29	28	27
37	36	35	34	33	32	31	30	29	28
38	37	36	35	34	33	32	31	30	29
39	38	37	36	35	34	33	32	31	30
Tuesday	Monday	40	39						
		PALM SUNDAY							
Wednesday	Thursday	GOOD FRIDAY		Saturday					
				EASTER SUNDAY					

The Lord is here,
His spirit is with us

ALLELUIA!

February Crossword



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)

Some dates for your diary - February 2015

Sun	1st	Presentation of Christ in the Temple - (Candlemas)
		10.30a.m. Parish Eucharist & Junior Church
		12.30p.m. Holy Baptism x 8
Tues	3rd	10.30a.m. Holy Communion
Thurs	5th	9.30a.m. Time 4 Fun 0 - 5yrs
		7.30p.m. Tameside Community Voices Practice
Fri	6th	1.00p.m. Wedding of Kevin and Georgia
Sun	8th	Second Sunday Before Lent
		8.30a.m. Holy Communion
		10.30a.m. Parish Eucharist & Junior Church
		1.30p.m. Anniversary Celebration Lunch
Tues	10th	10.30a.m. Holy Communion
Thurs	12th	9.30a.m. Time 4 Fun 0 - 5yrs
		7.30p.m. Tameside Community Voices Practice
Sun	15th	Sunday Next Before Lent
		10.30a.m. Parish Eucharist & Junior Church
Tues	17th	10.30a.m. Holy Communion
		8.00p.m. Parochial Church Council
Wed	18th	ASH WEDNESDAY
		8.00p.m. The Imposition of Ashes & Eucharist
Thurs	19th	Half Term No Time 4 Fun Meeting
Sat	21st	2.00 - 4.00p.m. Fair Trade Tea
Sun	22nd	First Sunday of Lent
		8.30a.m. Holy Eucharist
		10.30a.m. Worship For All
Tues	24th	10.30a.m. Holy Communion
		8.00p.m. Social and Fund Raising Meeting
Wed	25th	7.30p.m. Deanery Synod at Christ Church, Denton
Thurs	26th	9.30a.m. Time 4 Fun 0 - 5yrs
		7.30p.m. Tameside Community Voices Practice

For more information please go to our website www.stg.org.uk



Saint of the Month

14 February
Valentine, Martyr at Rome, c.269

The commemoration and celebration of Valentine has nothing to do with lovers, doves or Roman courting rituals. However, it has much to do with two separate people both called Valentine, two separate basilicas and a single road – the Flaminian Way.

Valentine of Terni was a bishop in the third century who was taken to Rome and martyred in 273. His remains were taken back to Terni, about 65 miles north of Rome, for his burial. An eighth-century basilica named after him is found on the Flaminian Way, a road linking Rome and Terni.

Valentine of Rome was a priest who was also martyred in the middle of the third century but under the authority of Claudius II. His death occurred on the Flaminian Way. A basilica bearing his name is also found on this road. This basilica was completed by Pope Theodosius between 642 and 649.

The two stories have understandably become confused over time, and, whereas some have even suggested that the two Valentines are in fact one person, one source even suggests that three individuals may have been conflated. There has been much speculation and misunderstanding surrounding these martyrs. Indeed, the Church of England's *Common Worship's* choice of c.269 as the date of death is, at best, highly speculative since the Valentine commemorated today is most probably Valentine of Terni. The two events have become in effect one commemoration amidst confusion caused by the paucity of historical information.

Although few facts can be gleaned for either Valentine, it can be said that truth exists in both stories. Both Valentines serve as a reminder of the difficulty of living as a Christian in an era of persecution.

The present-day 'retail custom' of sending cards and flowers

declaring love only clouds the commemoration and may owe its existence to John Donne (31 March). Donne wrote a marriage song for Princess Elizabeth, the daughter of James I who married Frederick V, Elector Palatine on St Valentine's Day in 1632. His marriage song merged the religious commemoration of Valentine with fertility symbolism. The spring mating rituals of birds and possibly the pagan Lupercalia festival also add flavour to the reasons behind the current celebration of the day.

Be that as it may, if you want to send your true love a card, then don't let this stop you!

+++++

How do you define love?

A group of 4 to 8 year-olds was once asked: 'What does love mean?' The answers they gave were surprising for their depth of insight...

~ "When my grandmother got arthritis, she couldn't bend over and paint her toenails anymore. So my grandfather does it for her all the time, even when his hands got arthritis too. That's love." Rebecca - age 8

~ "When someone loves you, the way they say your name is different. You just know that your name is safe in their mouth." Billy - age 4

~ "Love is when a girl puts on perfume and a boy puts on shaving cologne and they go out and smell each other." Karl - age 5

~ "Love is when you go out to eat and give somebody most of your chips, without making them give you any of theirs." Chrissy - age 6

~ "Love is what makes you smile when you're tired." Terri - age 4

~ "Love is when mum makes coffee for my dad and she takes a sip before giving it to him, to make sure the taste is OK." Danny - age 7

~ "Love is when you kiss all the time. Then when you get tired of kissing, you still want to be together and you talk more. My Mum and Dad are like that. They look gross when they kiss." Emily - age 8

~ "If you want to learn to love better, you should start with a friend who you hate." Nikka - age 6 (We need a few million more Nikka's on this planet)