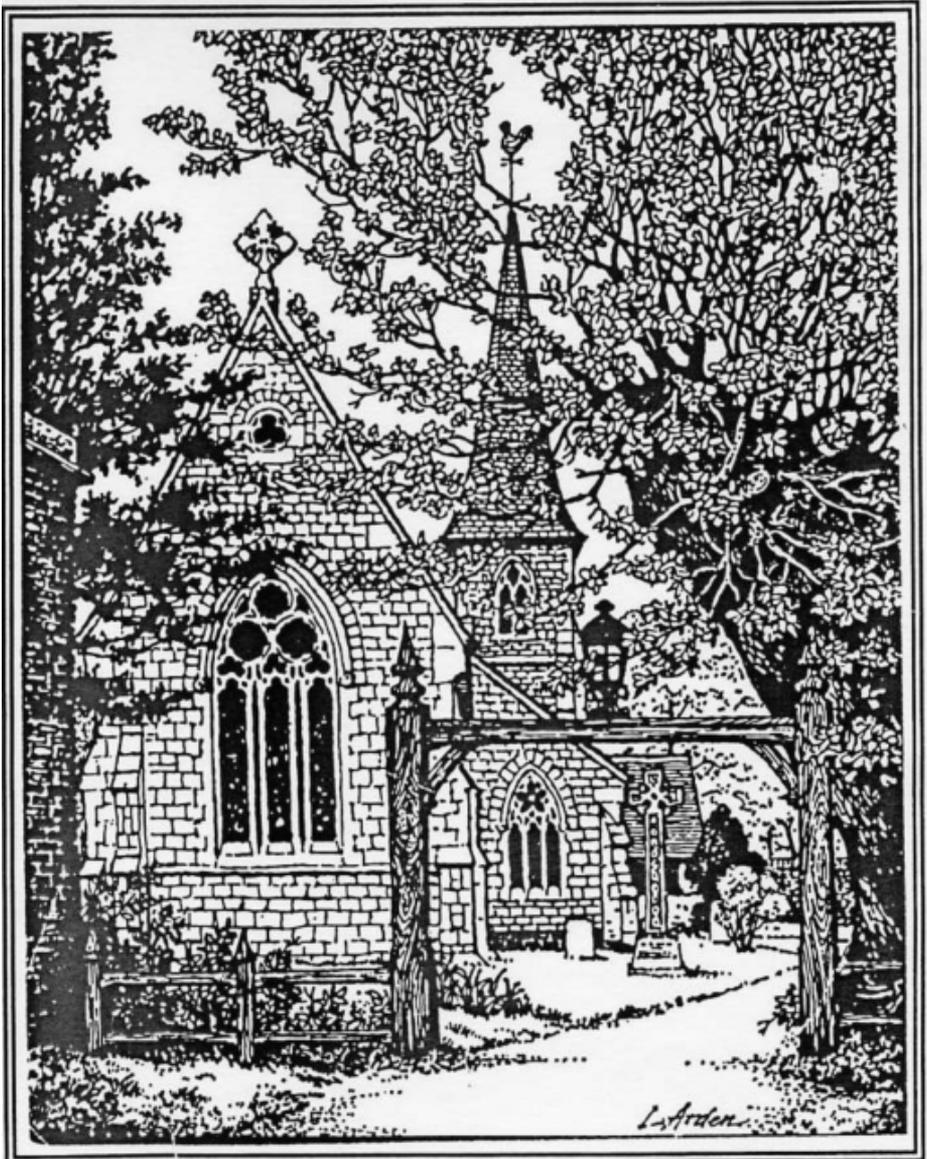


**The Parish Church of
*St. James, North Cray***

**50p
*August, 2019***

(Part of the Bexley Team Ministry)



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Magazine Editor: Steve Blake
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St James Sunday Service

9.30am

Holy Communion

(All age service with Uniformed Organisations on second Sunday)

TEAM RECTOR'S LETTER

AUGUST 2019



Identity is a curious thing

On one hand, people in modern western society talk a LOT about 'being true to myself', 'being my own person', 'getting in touch with my true feelings'... It's all about self-discovery. Individualism. My style, my way...

And yet, on the other hand, many people slavishly follow the herd instinct of social media, where everyone is meant to be excited about the same things, and follow the latest 'trend'. There is a constant need to be affirmed by others, demonstrated by the fact that someone 'Likes' what you have posted on-line. There is some overwhelming need to look good, never to appear in the same outfit twice, and to appear to be having a wonderful, amazing, brilliant life. We present a Life-style to the world hoping to be envied for what we are doing and what fun we are having,

All this creates pressure on people to keep up appearances, and it feeds a sense of inadequacy. There is now huge compulsion for young people to be perfect in all areas of life – education, work, looks and relationships – and to present that perfect image on social media. If you're not following the latest 'trending' box-set, you won't be able to join in the conversations at work tomorrow morning. If you're not interested, you're going to get left on the sidelines.

No wonder we're all feeling tired!

And then there is our increasingly confused national identity.

We seem to have lost our way here too. We seem to be in danger of becoming a divided and angry nation, and are trapped into an 'us' versus 'them' mentality, unsure of who we really are and what we really need.

In the Bible, in the Second Letter to the church at Corinth, the writer, whose name was Paul, showed how Christians have a God-given

‘Ministry of Reconciliation’, entrusted to us by a loving and reconciling God. It’s about bringing together differences, not creating uniformity. So how do we exercise this Ministry of Reconciliation in our everyday lives?

It really isn’t that complicated! We can refuse to engage in divisive discussions on social media, or to pass scathing comments about others. We can always seek to understand opposing viewpoints and be respectful even if other people’s opinions differ from our own. We can be careful about offering more ‘Thank You’s’ than carping criticisms. We can value the contributions of each person for the common good. In this way we can be bringing people together, building each other up, knowing that we are All One in Christ Jesus.

Reverend Ren Harding (Team Rector)

contact me at Joydens Wood Vicarage,

6 Tile Kiln Lane, Joydens Wood, Bexley, DA5 2BB

01322-528923

renharding@hotmail.co.uk

Quiet Peace

O Lord, my heart is all a prayer,
But it is silent unto thee;
I am too tired to look for words,
I rest upon thy sympathy
To understand when I am dumb;
And well I know thou hearest me.

I know thou hearest me because
A quiet peace comes down to me,
And fills the places where before
Weak thoughts were wandering wearily;
And deep within me it is calm,
Though waves are tossing outwardly.

By Amy Carmichael (1867 – 1951)

The Beatitudes: 'Blessed are the merciful'

By The Rev Paul Hardingham

'One difference between grace and mercy is that grace is getting what we don't deserve (favour), and mercy is not getting what we do deserve (justice).'' (R.T. Kendall). Jesus calls us to show mercy in our everyday relationships: *'Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.'* (Matthew 5:7).

How are we to show mercy to others?

Firstly, we are to ***be merciful to those in need***, as illustrated by the parable of the Good Samaritan. Jesus uses this parable to challenge the lawyer about who showed mercy to the man, who was mugged on the road. *'The expert in the law replied, 'The one who had mercy on him.'* Jesus told him, *'Go and do likewise.'* (Luke 10:37). Our mercy will be demonstrated as we look out for those who are hungry, sick, outcast or lonely and show them practical love in meeting their needs.

Secondly, we are to ***be merciful to those who have wronged us***. The natural response, when somebody upsets or hurts us, is to get our own back and seek revenge. We feel justified when we see things going wrong in their lives. However, we are called to demonstrate the same mercy and compassion that God shows us, leaving the situation in his hands: *'Do not take revenge, my dear friends...if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink.'* (Romans 12:19,20).

The promise of this beatitude is that those who show mercy who will also receive mercy, for it is a divine quality of God himself.

'The quality of mercy is not strain'd. It droppeth as the gentle rain from heaven Upon the place beneath: it is twice bless'd...it is an attribute to God Himself' (William Shakespeare: The Merchant of Venice).

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHWARDENS



Melodies for Midsummer

The sound of music filled St James Church on Thursday 20th June, as we presented our contribution to the Churches Together in Old Bexley Music Festival, with an evening of Melodies for Midsummer.

The church was full and the audience enjoyed a varied programme of music ranging from English folksong to Elton John, The Beatles, Oasis and Labi Siffre, to Rodgers & Hart and the Hallelujah Chorus from Handel's Messiah, performed by The Choir School and The Choir School Teens, Soul Train, guitarist and singer Ian Booth, saxophonist Paul Garrard, and our own St James Music Group – there was something for everyone.

During the interval in The Bothy we enjoyed refreshments of cheese and wine and soft drinks organised by our fundraising committee.

The evening was a huge success and our thanks go not just to the performers but to everyone who kindly gave their time to support the event both in Church and The Bothy. Although there was no charge for tickets, the audience kindly left donations which will go towards the upkeep of St James.

The Churches Together in Old Bexley Music Festival is held every year over a fortnight in June and July, and this year there were eleven free concerts to choose from. To bring the festival to a close there was an Open-Air Songs of Praise held in the grounds of Old Bexley Church of England Primary School.

We look forward to participating in next year's Music Festival and hope to see you there. Thanks again for your support.

Maxine & Suzy, Churchwardens



Friends of Kent Churches Annual Bike Ride

Saturday 14th September 2019

The Friends of Kent Churches Sponsored Ride and Stride takes place on the second Saturday in September each year with 740 churches participating.

A cycle or horse ride, walk or even a drive for the less hardy around Kent churches – a chance to see inside them, and help raise money for your local church by obtaining some sponsorship.

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Every little helps! Your sponsorship money is split equally between a church or chapel of your choice and the charity itself, **Friends of Kent Churches**, helping to save churches in Kent.

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As walkers, cyclists or sponsors, help to make this a successful community event. Last year alone, Churches in Kent raised £119,000!

We can beat that!

Interested? Contact your local organiser, Maxine Heath on 020 8468 7895; pierreappleby@go-plus.net on 020 8467 9368; or the Event Co-ordinator Roland Niblett on 01892 722506, or email rideandstride@friendsofkentchurches.co.uk

See our website:
www.friendsofkentchurches.co.uk

Saintly Fifth Columnists?

The Ven John Barton

A Fifth Column is 'any group of people who undermine a larger group from within, usually in favour of an enemy group or nation'. You can hardly accuse Christians of being Fifth Columnists, for we are urged to respect and pray for those in authority and St Paul claimed: "we give no offence in anything, that our ministry may not be blamed". Yet the Lord's Prayer itself is surely subversive. It commits us to pray that God's Kingdom will displace the kingdoms of the world.

Intercessions - for nations, communities and individuals - express the same desire, which is for God to disrupt the status quo. They are all prayers for change. You could call them interventions, for intercessors face God and 'intervene' on behalf of others, combining a concern for their welfare with a desire for God's will to be fulfilled.

Interceding is one of the functions of the 'royal priesthood' in the New Testament. In the Old Testament, the priesthood was limited to a small number of males of the Levitical tribe, who faced God on behalf of all the people of Israel. In the New Testament that concept of priesthood is subsumed by Christ Himself, enlarged to encompass the world and shared, collectively, with the whole body of Christians. When Christians are at prayer, we join with Jesus in representing the whole of humanity before God. He is the High Priest who is always interceding for us. So praying is a bit like stepping on to an escalator, which is already moving in the right direction.

If you belong to a small Christian community in your neighbourhood, your role is all the more vital. Like a gram of yeast in kilo of flour, your influence can be out of all proportion to your size. When everyone else is dismal or rudderless, you offer hope and purpose. You think, speak and act as a member of the congregation of Resurrection-believers.

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News and Issues



Children with mental health issues turned away

Children and young people with mental health issues are being turned away from NHS services and up to 110,000 are missing out on treatment in a year, according to new figures by The Children's Society. The report, 'Finding Help – Children, Young People and Families Navigating the System' is based on Freedom of Information responses from 26 mental health trusts across England. It estimates that up to 110,000 10-to-17-year-olds seeking help are being turned away because their problems were not deemed 'serious' enough. Worryingly, it means that due to high treatment thresholds many young people may never have their needs addressed and are more likely to reach crisis point.

For those children with the most serious need NHS waiting times remain stubbornly high with children waiting the equivalent of a school term, an average 12 weeks (or 83 days), from referral to treatment when the current waiting time standard is four weeks. The report found that in some areas, children experiencing issues such as anxiety, depression and self-harm are having to wait much longer - up to 364 days from referral to first treatment.

The Children's Society is urging the government to make it a mandatory requirement for Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) to provide mental health support in every school and college in the country for children with low to moderate mental health needs, as well as support within the community through services like open access hubs and digital offers, to ensure young people are able to access support at an early stage.

National Lottery funding for churches

Churches and cathedrals will be able to bid for a share of a £100-million pot of National Lottery funding for large-scale heritage projects over the next three years. And the grants are not just aimed at restoration schemes, but also ideas that benefit communities. The bids will need to demonstrate 'real ambition to deliver positive change within the communities they serve and put diversity and inclusion at the centre of their plans.' More info at: www.heritagefund.org.uk

Bishop welcomes Government's commitment to 'net zero' by 2050

The Church of England's lead bishop on the environment has welcomed the news that the Government has set a stricter target on climate change. The Rt Rev Nicholas Holtam, Bishop of Salisbury said: "The UK can be proud to be setting an example by making this commitment to address the global climate emergency. But commitment alone is meaningless unless it is backed up by relentless action, which must remain our priority in the coming decades.



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Too high a price?

Tony Horsfall

In June of this year we commemorated the 75th Anniversary of the D-Day landings in the knowledge that many of the veterans would not see another major celebration of that remarkable event. That brought an added poignancy to the proceedings.

I'm sure that, like me, you were touched by what many of the veterans had to say. 'We're not the heroes,' they said, 'the heroes are those who died or were terribly injured. We survived and have had another 70 years. We are not the heroes.'

No one watching the TV coverage or reading the media could fail to be moved, however, by the stories of sacrifice and bravery they had to tell, a generation of men and women for whom sacrifice and duty were instinctive. I was asked recently, 'Do you think the present generation would respond in the same way, with such self-sacrifice?'

I guess no-one can answer that question, but it did make me think about the costly call to discipleship that is at the heart of Christianity. We follow one who freely laid down His life to save us from our sin. 'No-one takes my life from me,' Jesus said, 'but I lay it down of my own accord.' (John 10:18). The Saviour calls us to a similar costly obedience: 'Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow Me.' (Mark 8:34)

Sacrifice is central to Christian devotion. We may not be asked to literally lay down our lives (although some are in other parts of the world) but we are asked to give God priority in our lives and to put His will before our own. This too can be very challenging and costly. Are we willing to pay the price?

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MEETINGS and Events 2019

Sunday 18th August

2pm-4pm

Open church at St James, North Cray with Cream Teas in the Bothy, St James Churchyard.

Saturday 7th September

2pm to register for 2.30pm start

Paws in the Parish, Companion Dog Show

Saturday 28th September

The Annual Bexley Cricket Festival

Details to follow.

* * * * *

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From The Meadows

It's amazing how quickly the grasses grow on the meadows.

We are fast approaching August and already the river is cocooned by a screen of different greens. The islands too have, at last , begun to offer some security and shelter for the wildlife and their young.

Over the past 4 weeks we have seen the four cygnets grow stronger and more confident. With ever watchful parents by their side we look forward to seeing them mature and flourish over the summer.

The Five Arches Bridge tends to be the place where everyone congregates for picnics. The last few weeks have been a popular time. Most weekends see families and friends enjoying the warm days and glorious surroundings. However when they leave many areas are scarred by rubbish. The Borough is striving to place more bins around the meadows. Some visitors do bag up their rubbish but they leave it by the bins and our fox population view this as their local take away, scattering the rubbish in their efforts to find food.

Please can we ask all users of the meadows to take their rubbish home with them (many of you already do this). If you are able, you could help the Friends of Footscray Meadows with their regular litter picking or as one local 6 year old and his gran do - take a plastic bag and a grabber then have some fun litter collecting which helps keep our meadows beautiful and safe !

THE BOTHY

Are you looking for a small hall for a function?

**The Bothy (in St James Church Grounds) has all the facilities
you need and can seat 35 people.**

If you need further information please contact

Lynne Meads on 07966 315518

SERVICES AND EVENTS FOR AUGUST 2019

Thursday 1st August

10am

Daytime Housegroup at Vicarage

Saturday 3rd August

9.30am

Barney's Cafe Prayers in HP Hall at St Barnabas

SUNDAY 4th August

9.30am

Holy Communion

2-4pm

Open Afternoon at St Mary's, Bexley

Monday 5th August

1.30pm

FunMonday Holiday Club at St Barnabas

Wednesday 7th August

12noon

Gentlemen's Lunch at the Three Blackbirds Bexley

Friday 9th August

Mothers' Union Pilgrimage to Rochester. See Barbara Hicks to book.

SUNDAY 11th August

9.30am

All Age Worship

2-4pm

Open Afternoon at St Barnabas, Joydens Wood

Monday 12th August

1.30pm

FunMonday Holiday Club at St Barnabas

Wednesday 14th August

Local group having tour of the church building.

Thursday 15th August

10.00am

House Communion at 53 Woodlands Park, Joydens Wood

SUNDAY 18th August

9.30am

Holy Communion

12 for 12.30pm

Team Lunch at the King's Head Bexley (book with Ren)

2-4pm

Open Afternoon at St James, North Cray

Monday 19th August

1.30pm

FunMonday Holiday Club at
St Barnabas

SUNDAY 25th August

9.30am

Holy Communion

2-4pm

Open Afternoon at St John's Bexley

4.00pm

Sunday @ 4 Service for all ages at
St Barnabas

SUNDAY 1st September

10.45am

Holy Communion

Bexley Team Gentleman's Lunch on the first Wednesday of the month at 12.30pm at The Anchor, Bridgen Road, Bexley

Further details, Julia Wickham, St John's Bexley, 01322 556686



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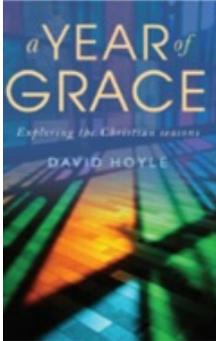
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The advertisement features a large blue flame graphic on the right side. At the bottom, there is a blue banner containing the phone number and website. A small 'safe' logo is also present in the bottom left corner of the banner.



Book Mark

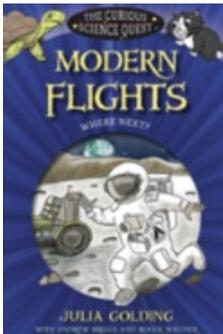


A Year of Grace – exploring the Christian seasons

By David Hoyle, Canterbury Press, £14.99

Using the pattern of the church year, this book looks at the building blocks of Christian theology, and what each one means for how we live. The book covers God as ruler and judge (Advent), the incarnation (Christmas), forgiveness, (Ash Wednesday), Redemption (Good Friday), Resurrection (Easter), the Holy Spirit (Pentecost), and so on. It is a helpful guide to anyone wanting

to better understand what they say in church during the Apostles' Creed each Sunday.



Modern Flights – where next?

By Julia Golding & others, Lion Children, £5.99

Join Harriet, Darwin's pet tortoise, and Milton, Schrodinger's indecisive cat on a time-travelling quest of discovery, unravelling scientific exploration and religious beliefs and how they fit together. How did the universe start? Is there a God behind it all? Take to the skies in this adventure and zoom off into space.

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ALL IN THE MONTH OF AUGUST

250 years ago, on 15th August 1769 Napoleon Bonaparte, Emperor of France (1804-14, 1815) was born.

200 years ago, on 19th August 1819 James Watt, the Scottish inventor, died. His refinement of the steam engine was fundamental to the Industrial Revolution.

80 years ago, on 2nd August 1939 physicists Albert Einstein and Leo Szilard wrote a letter to US President Franklin D Roosevelt explaining the dangers of Germany building an atomic bomb before the USA, and urging the creation of an atomic weapons research programme.

Also 80 years ago, on 30th August 1939 during WW2 the evacuation of children from British cities began, in anticipation of war breaking out.

Also 80 years ago, on 31st August 1939 Adolf Hitler, leader of Nazi Germany, signed an order to attack Poland. German troops invaded Poland the following day, and WW2 began.

75 years ago, on 1st August 1944 15-year-old Jewish diarist Anne Frank made the last entry in her famous diary. On 4th August she and her family were arrested in Amsterdam where they had been hiding, and were taken to Auschwitz concentration camp.

Also 75 years ago, on 25th August 1944 Paris was liberated after French and US troops forced the German occupiers to surrender. The Germans had occupied the city for four years.

70 years ago, on 24th August 1949 the North Atlantic Treaty came into effect, establishing NATO.

25 years ago, on 31st August 1994 the IRA agreed to a complete ceasefire after 25 years.

Mothers' Union – changing women's lives for the better

By Canon *David Winter*

Most people have heard of the Mothers' Union, though it's not quite the force it was in its heyday of 70 years ago. This month the church celebrates its founder, Mary Sumner on 5th August, and it would be a pity if we forgot her contribution to the social wellbeing of women.

She was a vicar's wife in Hampshire in the late Victorian period. A young woman herself, she saw the emotional and practical burdens borne by most of her contemporaries. Before the widespread introduction of medical care during pregnancy and childbirth, natal mortality was high and for those who survived into childhood common but deadly diseases – measles and scarlet fever, for example, brought tragedy to many homes.

These childhood illnesses partly rose from poor living conditions. Life itself was often hard, in cramped homes and without the amenities we take for granted like piped water, electricity, sewage disposal.

Mary Sumner created a simple support group for these women where they could share their experience, support one another and learn the essentials, as she saw it, of a Christian home. The idea caught on, and by the beginning of the century there were many similar groups in various parts of Britain. By 1921 the Mothers' Union existed as a national and international resource for young mothers.

My own mother was a keen member in the 1930's. Of course, lifestyles change and today most women have a job, once their children start school. Churches tend to support families through mum and toddler groups with much the same agenda, but in a less formal style.

And so the Mothers' Union has effectively become a modern Grandmothers Union, which is fair enough in view of the active role of modern grandparents in childcare. In those ways, at least, the vision of Mary Sumner long ago is still fulfilled.

WORDSEARCH



Clare of Assisi - prayer and simplicity

Clare	Count	Damiano	Order
Assisi	Renounce	Restored	Itinerant
Prayer	Wealth	delusion	Poverty
Simplicity	Agnes	Poor	Burden
Francis	Church	Religious	Joy

(Solutions on page 27)



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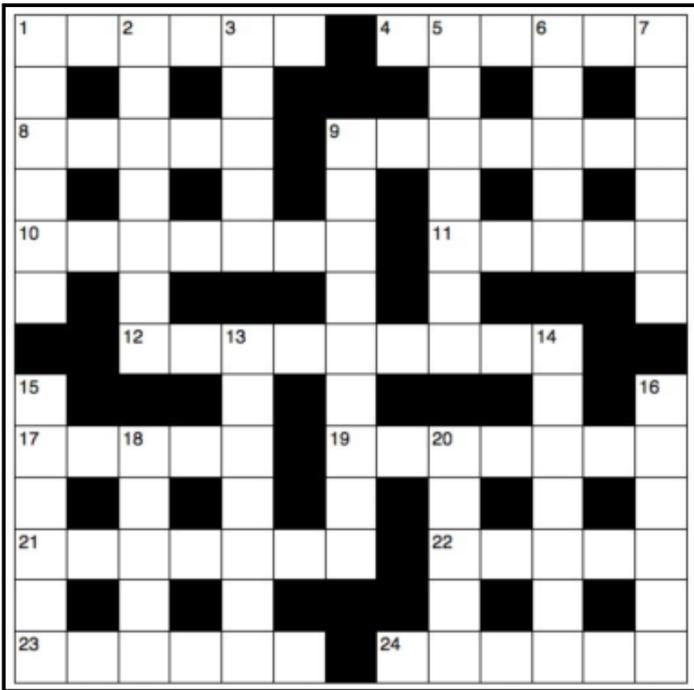
AUGUST CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Across

- 1 'The people were — at his teaching' (Mark 1:22) (6)
- 4 'He saved —; let him save himself' (Luke 23:35) (6)
- 8 He addressed the crowd in Jerusalem on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2:14) (5)
- 9 Father of James and John (Matthew 4:21) (7)
- 10 ' — thy ministers with righteousness' (Book of Common Prayer) (5)
- 12 and 15 Down 'All — is God-breathed and is — for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness' (2 Timothy 3:16) (9,6)
- 17 'No — of the field had yet appeared on the earth and no plant of the field had yet sprung up' (Genesis 2:5) (5)
- 19 Made to feel embarrassed (Isaiah 24:23) (7)
- 21 This man built his house on sand (Matthew 7:26) (7)
- 22 David's hypocritical message to Joab on the death in battle of Uriah: 'Don't let this — you' (2 Samuel 11:25) (5)
- 23 Detest (Job 10:1) (6)
- 24 'God made two great lights, the greater light to govern the day and the — light to govern the night' (Genesis 1:16) (6)

Down

- 1 To make a serious request (1 Corinthians 1:10) (6)
- 2 Launches an assault against (Genesis 32:8) (7)
- 3 'The wicked man — deceptive wages' (Proverbs 11:18) (5)
- 5 Tuba ale (anag.) (7)
- 6 'The day thou gavest, Lord, is — ' (5)
- 7 Old Testament measure of weight, equivalent to about 12 grammes (Exodus 30:13) (6)
- 9 Where Elijah restored life to the son of a widow with whom he lodged (1 Kings 17:10) (9)
- 13 Paul said of whatever was to his profit, 'I consider them — , that I may gain Christ and be found in him' (Philippians 3:8) (7)
- 14 City visited by Paul, described by the city clerk as 'the guardian of the temple of the great Artemis' (Acts 19:35) (7)
- 15 See 12 Across



- 16 Rioted (anag.) (6)
 18 She had a surprise when she answered the door and found 8
 Across outside (Acts 12:13) (5)
 20 Maltreat (1 Chronicles 10:4) (5)

(Solutions on page 28)

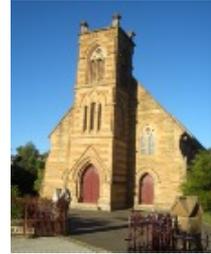
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ST JAMES THE LEAST OF ALL

Letter from St James the Least of All –

On the hazards of the church committee

The Rectory
St. James the Least



My dear Nephew Darren

I was delighted to hear that you have been made chairman of the Missionary sub-committee; it should help you to hone your skills in appearing to encourage committee members to contribute while ensuring that they only say the things you want to hear. It is a skill that needs not a little practice; democracy only works if all the important decisions have been made beforehand.

However, do remember that sub-committees are only formed in order either to kill an idea stone dead, or to give the chairman of the main committee some time to decide what he wants, since he isn't sure how to handle the issue at that particular moment.

I formed a sub-committee in 1999 to discuss Miss Fothergill's suggestion of creating a "water feature" on the Rector's Glebe land, as a way of celebrating the Millennium - I noted at the time that no one wanted the thing on their own land. It's significant that whenever people suggest some imposing edifice, they always think it will be most appropriate either in the Rector's garden, or in some public place which is out of sight of their own homes.

While this particular group has been working away tirelessly, and endless masons and architects have been approached, a suitable design has yet to be presented. It looks as if a suggestion will eventually be considered by my hundredth successor as we enter the third Millennium. That is the customary rate of progress for St. James the Least which I find entirely satisfactory.

The procedure for decision-making is always the same: after

enormous effort, the sub-committee will produce a carefully worded report, which will be circulated round all members of the church council. At the next meeting, they will be thanked profusely for all their hard work and the matter will be discussed at great length. It will then be proposed that the final decision will be taken at the next meeting, after everyone has had time to consider the matter more thoroughly. Come the next meeting, the item will somehow fail to appear on the agenda, and when it is raised in Any Other Business, it will be pointed out that it is now far too late in the evening to tackle such an important issue. From then on, you can be assured, it will sink without trace. Always remember the golden rule: a church committee meeting consists of a body of people waiting to go home.

Your loving uncle,
Eustace

From the Notices:
ORGANIST REQUIRED
Small but trying priest and congregation



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GOD AND THE ARTS

By the Rev Michael Burgess

He gave us eyes to see them: 'The Ambassadors' by Hans Holbein

'We can never know the secret of great art or music until we have learned to look and listen with a self-oblivious reverence.' Those



words of Evelyn Underhill remind us that when we visit an art gallery, we are tempted to cram as much as we can into the experience. But then the value of what we see can easily remain at a superficial level.

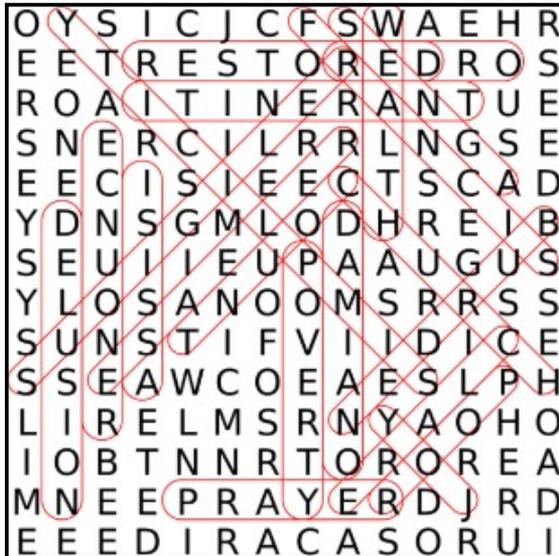
This month's painting in the National Gallery is a famous work by Hans Holbein: 'The Ambassadors' of 1533. Holbein was born in Germany, and then with the help of Erasmus gained the patronage of Henry VIII. Holbein

has portrayed two young men: the one on the left wears sumptuous clothes, and the scholar on the right has become a bishop at just 25 years of age.

They are both learned men for we can see a variety of books and instruments between them. The upper table holds a celestial globe, a sundial and a quadrant to study the heavens above. On the lower table we see signs of this world – a globe, a hymn book, lute and flutes. All are beautifully portrayed against a background of rich damask. The two ambassadors are masters of heavenly and worldly knowledge: figures of wealth, education and authority.

But we need to look more closely. One of the strings on the lute is broken, and the strange shape at the front viewed at an angle is a skull. We see signs of life, but also signs of death. And then, just visible on the top left hand side, is a crucifix. It is virtually hidden and unseen, but with the eyes of faith a sign that gives meaning to the realities of life and death that dominate the canvas. The two globes turn on their pivots, and Holbein is perhaps saying that the lives of these two men move on the pivots of growth, achievement and death. And to what end? The crucifix proclaims an eternal life and salvation for all who look and see their Lord and Saviour.

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BRANCHES IN SOUTH-EAST LONDON, PETTS WOOD AND
BIGGIN HILL

1st Ethelwold - the Wessex saint who founded the first monastic cathedral

St Ethelwold (c.912 - 84) did great things for the church at Winchester, which in those days was the principle town of Wessex. He began as a simple monk, eager to restore the Rule of Benedictine in England, a major



reform for the church of the time. So, after serving at the abbey in Glastonbury, he was sent on to restore the old abbey at Abingdon. The king thought highly of him, and used him to teach his son, the future king, Edgar.

When in 963 Ethelwold became Bishop of Winchester, he replaced the cathedral canons with monks, thus founding the first monastic cathedral in the land. This was a uniquely English institution, which remained until the Reformation. The monastic reform quickly gained momentum: with the King's support, Ethelwold restored old monasteries such as Milton (Dorset), New Minster and Nunnaminster in Winchester, while new monasteries were founded and richly endowed at

Peterborough (966), Ely (970) and Thorney (972).

Ethelwold was austere, able and dynamic. Under his leadership, the monks excelled at music, illumination and writing. When Ethelwold set the monks to work with the masons in the cathedral at Winchester, he built the most powerful organ of its time in England: it was played by two monks, and had 400 pipes and 36 bellows. In music, Ethelwold's Winchester had the distinction of producing the first English polyphony in the Winchester Troper.

Ethelwold's monasteries also produced a surpassing new style of illumination, and his school of vernacular writing was the most important of its time: with accurate, linguistically significant translations. A major event of his episcopate was the consecration of Winchester Cathedral in 980.

SOLUTIONS TO CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS: 1, Amazed. 4, Others. 8, Peter. 9, Zebedee. 10, Accuser. 11, Endue. 12, Scripture. 17, Shrub. 19, Abashed. 21, Foolish 22, Upset. 23, Loathe. 24, Lesser.

DOWN: 1, Appeal. 2, Attacks. 3, Earns. 5, Tableau. 6, Ended. 7, Shekel. 9, Zarephath. 13, Rubbish. 14, Ephesus. 15, Useful. 16, Editor. 18, Rhoda. 20, Abuse.



TELEVISION

When did television start? I bet you didn't know that it started on 22nd August 1932 when the British Broadcasting Corporation introduced its first regular TV service in the London area. By the summer of 1949 television began to be available outside London and 1954 saw the first daily news bulletins and weather forecasts. Colour pictures arrived at the end of 1969.

Lots of people moan about what is on television and what a waste of time it is, but there are good things to say for it too. Without the news reports of famine in Africa would we have had Live Aid? And what about Comic Relief and Children in Need?

TV entertains and educates. It helps us to relax, and it can also help us to pray by showing us the world. We see the natural disasters of weather like tsunamis and hurricanes. We see people hurt and made homeless by war. And we turn to God and ask him to help those who suffer and we pray for them, remembering that we are God's hands here on earth.

EYE SEE YOU

1. What is the name of the village where Jesus healed a blind man? (Luke, chapter 8)
2. What eye can a camel go through more easily than a rich man? (Matthew, chapter 19)
3. Joseph talks about his eyes and the eyes of which one of his brothers? (Genesis, chapter 45)
4. What did Moses see in the desert at Horeb? (Exodus, chapter 3)
5. Where did Jesus send the blind man to wash his eyes? (John, chapter 9)
6. What are the eyes like of the one who rides a white horse? (Revelation, chapter 19)



Why do beavers spend a fortune on the internet?

They never want to log off.



How do you stop the batteries in your Play Station running out?

Hide their trainers.



Answers: 1. Bethesda 2. The eye of a needle 3. Benjamin 4. A burning bush 5. The pool of Siloam 6. Like a flame of fire

FROM THE REGISTERS

Baptisms

-

Funerals

-

Interment of Ashes

-

Year's mind for August 2018

Take – and receive

Take, Lord, and receive all my freedom, my memory, my intelligence and my will – all that I have and possess. You, Lord, have given those things to me. I now give them back to you, Lord. All belongs to you. Dispose of these gifts according to your will. I ask only for your love and your grace, for they are enough for me.

A prayer of Ignatius of Loyala (1491 – 1556) founder of the

ACCESSIBILITY NEEDS

If you are going to attend our church and you have accessibility needs please let us know and we will be happy to make arrangements for you. There is level access to the church and the Bothy and we have a sound loop system and large print orders of service. Please feel free to telephone the Team Vicar Rev Ren Harding who will be happy to discuss the matter with you.

THE BEXLEY TEAM CLERGY - POINTS OF CONTACT

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07836644782

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Reverend Sue Twynam (from 19 January)

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website www.stjamesnorthcray.org.uk/

CONTACT the Team Rector

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Advertisers and readers should be aware that an advertisement in this magazine does not imply the Church recommends or endorses the services being advertised.

Articles for publication to be submitted by 2nd Sunday of each month. Please note that for reasons of copyright, poems and articles obtained from the Internet or published sources cannot be printed in the magazine.

The North Cray Neighbourhood Centre



Youth Action Diversity Trust proudly manage the North Cray Neighbourhood Centre in Sidcup where we focus on encouraging youth and family engagement and participation in activities and learning, whilst ensuring that everything we do is inclusive and a whole lot of fun! Our activities cost £3 for young people and between £3 and £5 for adults! We look forward to welcoming you and your family soon!

Play Rangers for 5 to 7 years

Mondays
4pm to 5pm
'High 5 Activity Club'
Wednesdays
4pm to 5pm
'ADHD Social Club'

Youth Inclusion for 8 to 11 years

Mondays
5pm to 6pm
'Girls Social Club'
Wednesdays
5:30pm to 6:30pm
'ADHD Social Club'

For Adults

Tuesdays
11am to 12:30pm
Adult Coffee Club
Wednesdays
10:30am to 12noon
Adult Drama Players
Fridays
11am to 1pm
Kingfisher Social Club

YADT Behavioural Support Service

Living in today's world is challenging, and we understand that some young people need extra support to help them get a positive start in life or overcome obstacles along the way. We aim to help young people with the issues that affect them. These can be issues such as anger management, social anxiety, improving confidence and dealing with stress. The one-to-one support service gives young people the freedom and safety to explore issues that affect them. This service is for 8 to 17 year olds. Contact us for more information and fees.

YADT are delighted to be able to offer the Care for the Family Courses under our Behavioural Support Service. These courses are run by our behavioural team who have extensive experience working with families and young people with diverse needs. Courses run throughout the year and include 'Handling Anger in the Family' 'Children with Special Needs - ADHD' and 'Children with Special Needs - Autism'. Courses cost £50 per person or £80 for a couple. Contact us for more information.

Visit our website: www.YouthActionDiversityTrust.co.uk
call us on 0208 308 3862 or email yadt@sky.com