

THE PARISH CHURCH OF

ST JOHN



THE DIVINE

BROOKLANDS • SALE



50p

October 2019

From the Editor

Welcome to the October online edition of the magazine and your look at St John's and the wider Christian community.

Richard reminds us of the need for generosity as we respond at Harvest to God's generosity towards us. Our Harvest offering this year will be sent to the Wythenshawe Food Bank. Many people support this regularly and I'm sure share my sadness that such operations are a necessity. There are also pieces that remind us too of how privileged we are that we can worship openly with a suggestion of how you might help support one initiative.

We have another hymn, which might or might not have been sung recently, with a really interesting back story. Plus the usual reports, funnies and a Saint for October. Oh yes, and Llew has found another Friendless Church.

Finally there is a report on the installation of our friend, Rev. Stephen Edwards, as a Residentiary Canon at Worcester Cathedral. As part of the service the hymn 'Praise to the Lord' was sung including a verse which was new to me but, given the turmoil we find ourselves in as a country, resonated.

*Praise to the Lord, who when tempests their warfare are waging,
who, when the elements madly around thee are raging,
biddeth them cease,
turneth their fury to peace,
whirlwinds and waters assuaging.*

Peace and Blessings

The Editor

(brooklandsmag@gmail.com)

Deadline for November edition 14 October.

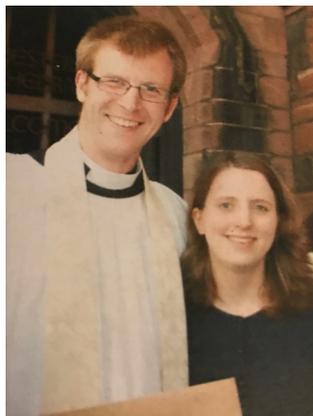
Richard writes...

My love for the psalms began when I discovered that in ancient Israel there was an Autumn festival celebrating the kingship of God through complex rituals and liturgy. We'll look more at this on the 27th October as part of our sermon series on the psalms which began last month!

Whilst Autumn festivals have a long history, the Harvest festival we know and love is quite a recent innovation, beginning in the Victorian period, when the local church and community would gather and celebrate all God had provided. Churches, especially those in rural communities, were and still are, richly decorated with the fruit of God's creation.

Our Harvest festival will be held on 6th October and our local Scouting groups have been invited to lead the 10.30 service. We shall also be holding a Messy Harvest at 4.30pm with a variety of crafts and activities followed by a light tea. Our annual harvest celebration provides us with a fresh opportunity to think about our response to God's generous love. It also reminds us of our need to follow Jesus in our response to a society wherein many are less fortunate than ourselves. We'll be collecting food items for our local Food Bank based in Wythenshawe this year.

The abundance of creation celebrated at Harvest expresses the generous love of God, yet the clearest expression of God's love for us is found upon the cross of Christ, where Jesus died for us. Our response to this is gratitude and thankfulness which expresses itself in generosity. God's generosity towards us gives rise to our generous response to others as we join in with God's mission and seeing the kingdom of God grow in our hearts, lives and in our local community. In his hymn *Once Again*, the song writer Chris Tomlin expresses it perfectly:



*And once again I look upon the cross where You died
I'm humbled by Your mercy and I'm broken inside
Once again I thank You
Once again I pour out my life*

May I invite you to make these words your own as we respond to God's generous love this Harvest time.

Richard



A thank you from Llew

I thought those of you who contributed most generously to my retirement cheque might be interested to know how I spent the money. As a result of watching a TV programme about disused railway lines I discovered that a luxury hotel had been opened near to Barmouth's famous railway bridge. On closer enquiry it turned out to be in the extensive grounds of the iconic Clock House on the banks of the River Mawddach. My friend's mother had been the housekeeper of the property and we were free to roam and explore the spacious surroundings .

It was a real treat to go back there, enjoy the delightful food and the ambiance of the hotel and entertain Ros with some tales of our wild exploits in the neighborhood. The holiday started with a visit to a church in the village of Brithdir, cared for by the organisation Friends of Friendless Churches, which our esteemed editor reminded us about, after his recent visit, and which Ros was keen to see. All in all a most enjoyable mini break, so very many thanks to you all.

PS having been made aware of Friends of Friendless Churches, we have now discovered another, the Church of Saint Baglan, Llanfaglan, which has been a sacred site for more than 1500 years. It is situated in a delightful position with views of the Menai Straits and the Snowdonia range. It is well worth a visit if you are in the Caernarfon area.

Saint Baglan Church



Continuing the Harvest Celebration!

On 13-20th October this year many people around the world will be celebrating the Jewish festival of Tabernacles, or Sukkot. They will celebrate the Harvest, and also remember God bringing the Israelites out of Egypt and through 40 years in the desert.

The biblical book of Deuteronomy contains a description of what Tabernacles should have been like back then. “Celebrate... for seven days. Be joyful... you, your sons and daughters, your male and female servants, and the Levites, the foreigners, the fatherless and the widows who live in your towns.”

These festivals were not just a celebration, but also an expression of gratitude to God: “celebrate the festival to the Lord your God... For the Lord your God will bless you in all your harvest and in all the work of your hands, and your joy will be complete.” Tabernacles was a proper holiday, with two whole days off normal work and seven days of feasting.

Farming looks very different today. Very few of us have had to sweat long hours over crops, so we’re not as ready for (or deserving of) a rest and a party as our ancestors were at this time of year. That might be even more the case in future, as the agri-tech revolution unfolds. For example, small autonomous tractors are already becoming available that do less damage to the soil and make better use of steep or oddly shaped fields.

Many arable farms already hire contractors to do the routine work with large specialist GPS-equipped machinery. In future years those people might find themselves using very different kinds of high-tech kit, acting more as land-management advisors, helping farmers to gather data and to find ways of improving soil quality, biodiversity and the water cycle.

I’m very grateful for the food that arrives on my shelves. Instead of worrying about whether or not we earned it, our modern-day Tabernacles or Harvest celebration could include ways of encouraging those involved in agriculture and developing new agricultural technologies, as well as enjoying how we can learn about and benefit from God’s creation through Science.

So, after you celebrate Harvest at church, why not follow it up with a trip to a local farm this month? Why not learn from the ancient Israelites, and follow it up with a meal together? It stands to reason that those of us who live in countries where food is plentiful and cheap could do with being proportionately more generous in our gratitude and giving. Should we throw better parties? Probably!

Dr Ruth Bancewicz, The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion, Cambridge

Installation of Canon Stephen Edwards

A small group from St John's joined larger parties from the Wythenshawe Parish, along with many others of his family and friends, to witness Rev. Stephen Edward's installation as a Residentiary Canon at Worcester Cathedral.

The service was, as might be expected, full of pomp and ceremony with the Mayor of Worcester and Deputy Lord-Lieutenant of the County in attendance but, despite the legal niceties, was full of warmth and humour. Appointment as a Canon is in the gift of the Queen and required the formal reading of various decrees and a presentation to the Dean of the Cathedral. The Bishop of Worcester, bishop John, conducted the ceremony, at one point doing a double act with our own bishop David, who gave a fulsome testimonial to Stephen's talents. The service also included a full choral Evensong in the best cathedral traditions. Sparkling wine and a buffet followed.

Part of the service involved bishop John saying:

"As we proceed to the institution and installation of Stephen to the place and dignity of a canon of the cathedral, let us offer our prayers to God our Father, that God will bless and help his servant Stephen in all his work,"

Amen to that.



Christians now under threat in 143 countries

Christians face harassment in 143 countries, according to major new research. The latest Annual Pew* Report on Religious Restrictions uncovers a record increase in restrictions on religion imposed by many governments around the world. It also finds violence and harassment against religious groups are on the rise. Release International, which supports persecuted Christians around the world, has welcomed the report, but adds that the Pew Report has omitted North Korea, and also that it is behind the times on China where persecution is intensifying.

The Bishop of Truro's Review for the Foreign & Commonwealth Office (FCO) found that Christians were the most persecuted religious group in the world today. In contrast, the annual Pew Report is wider in its focus, looking at restrictions on all religions. It states: 'Religious restrictions have been rising around the world for the past decade.' 52 governments, including China, Indonesia and Russia, are now imposing high or very high levels of restrictions on religion.

The Pew Report notes that by 2017 the Chinese government had 'ramped up' efforts to arrest and deport Christian missionaries. Also that China is restricting the number of religious groups who can register with the government to hold worship services. Release International adds: 'But since 2017, there have been increasing reports that even registered Chinese Christian churches are being shut down by the government.'

The Pew Report states that since 2015, Islam has been the most common state religion around the world. In the Middle East and North Africa, most governments favour Islam over other faiths. It is here where growing numbers of countries are restricting religion. According to the Pew Report in the worst offending countries hostility has risen by almost 50 per cent.'

Among the most populous countries in the world, Egypt, India, Russia, Pakistan and Indonesia have the highest restrictions on religion, according to the report. Another region to experience 'a sharp rise in government laws and policies restricting religious freedom' is Sub-Saharan Africa. The report singles out Nigeria as a country with one of the largest increases in religious violence by organised groups since 2007.

In Central Asia, Turkmenistan continues to deny visas to foreigners suspected of missionary work. Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan have all imposed restrictions on Christian literature. And in the Asia-Pacific region, according to the Report, 86 per cent of countries' governments were found to be intimidating religious groups in the region.

**Pew is an independent US based research group.*

And something we can all do to help

The Bible Society is hard at work in Algeria, even though some of its staff could be arrested and imprisoned at any time. But they are willing to take the risk, in order to support the besieged church there, which is begging for as many as 50 Bibles every week. As a Bible Society spokesman explains: "Our office remains the only place in Algeria where you can be sure to get a Bible."

The Church in Algeria lives under pressure and suspicion, in a country rocked by political instability. But when church buildings are forced to close, the Christians simply put up tents and meet there instead.

It costs £5 to provide a Bible to believers in Algeria. If you can help, please go to <https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/>

Refugees

This poem by Brian Bilston was read at the Lymm Festival Poetry Evening and was printed in the St Werburgh, Warburton Parish Magazine. It should be read top to bottom and then bottom to top.

*They have no need of our help
So do not tell me
These haggard faces could belong to you or me
Should life have doubt a different hand
We need to see them for who they really are
Chancers and scroungers
Layabouts and loungers
With bombs up their sleeves
Cut-throats and thieves
They are not
Welcome here
We should make them
Go back to where they came from
They cannot
Share our food
Share our homes
Share our countries
Instead let us
Build a wall to keep them out
it is not OK to say
These are people just like us
A place should only belong to those who were born there
Do not be so stupid as to think
The world can be looked at another way*

Hymns We've Sung Recently: 'Dear Lord and Father of Mankind'

This much loved hymn was written by an American poet, John Greenleaf Whittier. Whittier began his life in humble surroundings but rose to become a prominent poet, writer and editor. He was a staunch supporter of the abolition of slavery in the US. He supported this cause all his life but it took a heavy toll of him physically as he was vilified and assaulted and suffered a nervous breakdown as he travelled the US speaking out against slavery.

The hymn, 'Dear Lord and Father' comes from a very strange poem called 'The Brewing of Soma'. This odd piece of writing referred to a practice of the drinking of soma, a sort of hallucinogenic, by primitive peoples as an aid to experience divinity. Whittier goes on to liken this to some church practices and concludes by saying that the only way to experience this is through quiet reflection. The hymn is actually the last few verses of the poem. Whittier was a Quaker and so opposed any singing in church but did eventually allow his verses to be set to music. The tune we use in the UK is 'Repton' by Hubert Parry but this was not the original and we tend now not to sing all the verses.

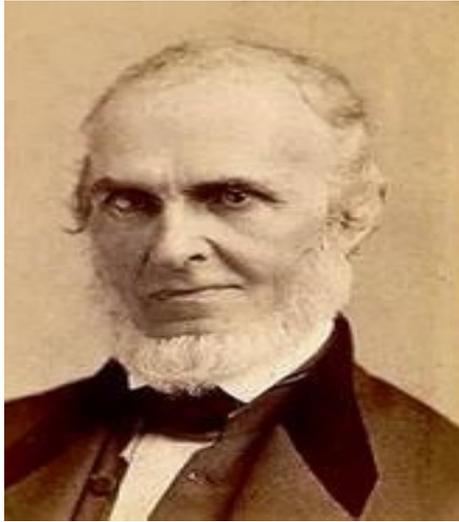
*Dear Lord and Father of
mankind,
Forgive our foolish ways!
Reclothe us in our rightful
mind,
In purer lives Thy service
find,
In deeper reverence, praise.*

*O Sabbath rest by Galilee!
O calm of hills above,
Where Jesus knelt to share
with Thee
The silence of eternity
Interpreted by love!*

*Drop Thy still dews of quietness,
Till all our strivings cease;
Take from our souls the strain and
stress,
And let our ordered lives confess
The beauty of Thy peace.*

*Breathe through the heats of our
desire
Thy coolness and Thy balm;
Let sense be dumb, let flesh
retire;
Speak through the earthquake,
wind, and fire,
O still, small voice of calm.*

The hymn was sung at Peter Short's funeral in August. Peter was a great servant of St John's and a faithful Christian. We thank him for his long service and commend him to God's loving care.



John Greenleaf Whittier



Church Flowers

If you would like to make a donation for church flowers in memory of a loved one, a birthday or an anniversary, please contact Ruth Shaw on 973 9255 or Lynda Tattersall on 973 7140. A typical donation would be the equivalent cost of a bouquet delivered to someone's home.

Mary Webster Writes

Hello everyone, my apologies for not getting my act together for the September issue of the Magazine. No excuses but a feeling that my summer break was somewhat extended due to me being dilatory.

Casting my mind back to June, we welcomed Sue Wildman whom I am sure most of you will know. She had a tale to tell of the life of Annie Kenney who was a working-class woman, born 13 September 1879 in Oldham, who went on to become an extraordinary part of the Suffragette Movement.

We listened transfixed as we heard that at 10 years of age, she worked part time in the cotton mill and attended school the rest of the day. She then began full time work in the mill at the age of 14 years.

Her first encounter with the Pankhurst's was at a meeting in 1905 where Emeline Parkhurst was speaking about voting rights for women and so began a long association with them, the Suffragette Movement and the Women's Social and Political Union.

I believe that Annie was imprisoned a total of 13 times and took part in the hunger strikes which affected her health considerably. Sometimes I think of myself as a bit militant, but I know I would not have had the courage to endure what Annie and the other Suffragettes had to endure. My admiration for them knows no bounds.

She married James Taylor in 1920 and they had son in 1921. Her memoirs of life as a Suffragette, 'Memories of a Militant', were published in 1924. She died on 9 July 1953 in Hitchin. I haven't yet found a copy of her memoirs but it's on my to-do list. Rant over for now, but I do get a bit passionate about some things

In August we had a quiz and our AGM is on 25 September.

Looking forward, we will be entertained by Sale Hand Bell Ringers on 23 October and 27 November sees us having fun crafting something towards Christmas.

Remember ladies, you can join us for a mere £17.50 per year or visit us by paying £2 when you attend each meeting.

In praise of grandparents!

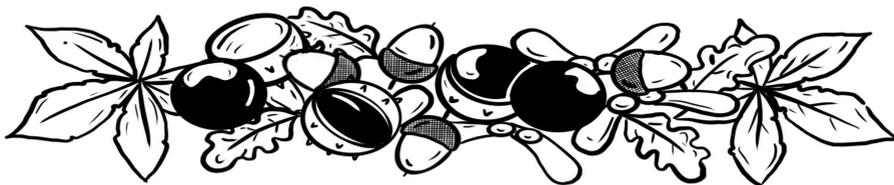
6th October is 'Grandparents Day'. Grandparents in the UK number about 17 million, or more than one in four of the adult population. Grandparents average out at 68 years of age, have four grandchildren who live 10 miles away, and who spend five hours per visit.

Grandparents have multiple roles as their grandchildren grow up: playmates, teachers, confidants, spiritual guides, mentors, role models and nurturers, as well as pray-ers. They also can keep children's milestones, family history and family events alive. Grandchildren will often discuss their personal concerns with a trusted grandparent.

Grandparents are also important for the UK economy! Nine million of them looked after their grandchildren in 2017. On average they did so for eight hours a week, and 96% received no payment.

Research has found that if grandparents go to church regularly, 60% of their grandchildren are likely to go to church also. Grandparental example is followed!

Grandparents' Day in the UK is the first Sunday in October. Should we put that day in our church diary for a special celebration of our grandparents?



October Baptismal Anniversaries

Freddie James Parkinson

Sam Mark Harvey Rose

Maisie Mae Plant



God in the Arts

The National Gallery at Trafalgar Square in London houses one of the finest collections of European paintings in the world, with some 2,300 works spanning the centuries. During this year we are journeying through the gallery to explore one of those treasures each month. By the Revd Michael Burgess.

He gave us eyes to see them: 'A Basket of Roses' by Fantin-Latour

Thomas Moore wrote a haunting, melancholy song called 'The Last Rose of Summer.' It is about love and friendships passing as the blossom wilts and summer turns to autumn. Perhaps we know that feeling as we see the leaves falling and the nights drawing in. But autumn is also the season of harvest celebrations when we rejoice in the goodness of Creation. The last rose of summer may die, but there is still much for which to give thanks to God.

We sense that in the bountiful array of roses that is this month's painting in the National Gallery. Fantin-Latour, a French artist who died in 1904, was famous for the beauty and realism of his paintings of flowers. Here in 'A Basket of Roses' of 1890, the flowers tumble onto the table, a rich gathering of white, cream, apricot and pink blossom.

Roses are traditionally signs of love, and that is at the heart of Thomas Moore's song. White roses stand for the purity of love, red for its sorrow, and gold for its glory. Other poets may come to mind as we think of roses: the author of the Song of Solomon or Robert Burns. This painting has its own poetry. The roses have been brought into a Victorian drawing room, but their perfume and beauty call us back into the garden where they grew in all their magnificence and splendour.

Each harvest we gather flowers, fruits and vegetables from our gardens and fields to proclaim the goodness and generosity of God. In the same century as the artist Fantin-Latour, Fr Faber wrote over 150 hymns praising the God of creation and the God of our salvation. One hymn has the verse:



'How wonderful creation is,
The work that Thou didst bless;
And, oh! what then must Thou be like,
Eternal loveliness!'

That is our theme as we ponder these roses and think of the Harvest Thanksgivings we shall offer in church this autumn.



From Around St John's



Many greetings to all. I hope you are well and enjoying the autumn colours. Our meeting in September, saw us entertained by Canon Adrian Rhodes, Manchester Cathedral's beekeeper. He gave us an entertaining account of the life of bees. We discovered that much of the work is done by the females, the worker bees. It was once thought they had a King Bee and the hive resembled society, with all the bees working for him. It is of course the Queen who has this role.

Our next meeting is our October bring and buy on the ninth. Do come along and enjoy some company and refreshment

Sharon



Saint Theresa of Lisieux

Theresa was one of four sisters who all joined the Carmelite nuns at Lisieux. Theresa, along with her family had moved to Lisieux and after her mother's death, she joined aged 15. Although not a fully fledged nun, Theresa performed elements of the austere Carmelite regime very well, and became assistant novice, to a mistress.

In 1895 she experienced a haemorrhage, the first sign of the tuberculosis, which was to kill her. She suffered for the rest of her short life, mostly in silence. Following her death, in 1897, a cult grew up around her and many miracles and favours were recorded. Theresa wrote an autobiography *L'histoire d'une ame*, which was translated into several languages.

She was canonised in 1927. Feast day 1 October

And in case you thought there were no funnies...

Church bulletin board

The following appeared in church bulletins
or were announced at church services.

The sermon this morning: 'Jesus Walks on the Water.' The sermon tonight: 'Searching for Jesus.'

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

Don't let worry kill you off – let the Church help.

Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I will not pass this way again', giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

The Rector will preach his farewell message, after which the choir will sing 'Break Forth Into Joy'.

Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

Potluck supper Sunday at 5pm – prayer and medication to follow.

The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility.

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be 'What is Hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practice.

The ladies of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.

This evening at 7pm there will be hymn singing in the park across from the Church. Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.

Low Self-Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7pm. Please use the back door.

The Associate Minister unveiled the church's new tithing campaign slogan last Sunday: 'I Upped My Pledge – Up Yours.'

This being Easter Sunday, we will ask Mrs Lewis to come forward and lay an egg on the altar.

Compiled by Max Bowen

Sent in by Hazel Brady.

October Prayer List

1st	That as we enter a difficult month for our country that our leaders have the courage to act in the best interests of all rather than of the few.
2nd	For Richard and Suzanne (and not forgetting William!)
3rd	For those who run our 'Seconds to Spare' that they may be supported in this major outreach activity.
4th	That the Alpha Courses and prayer group will help people discover the love of Jesus.
5th	For all Grandparents for the love and support they give to their families.
6th	For those participating in Messy Harvest and the wonderful organisers.
7th	As we think of Harvest pray for all those involved in food production and distribution.
8th	For those who attend the Bumps and Babies Group that they will find support and love.
9th	For all those on our Parish Prayer list that they may feel God's love and comfort.
10th	On World Mental Health Day we pray for those suffering and thank God for the care and compassion of those called to support them.
11th	For those, such as refuse collectors, who go unrecognised yet make our lives easier.
12th	For those Christians who are persecuted for their faith and that they may find strength from the Lord in their struggle.
13th	Thank you God that you do not call us without equipping us. Give us the courage and faith to walk forward into your plans and purposes today.
14th	For those who attend the Mothers' Union and Womens' Fellowship that they may be strengthened in their faith through fellowship.
15th	That 'Greater Together Manchester' will have enough volunteers to support the Winter Shelter programme.
16th	Those who work as volunteers in our community supporting people around us.
17th	On International Eradication of Poverty Day we ask that the world's resources be shared fairly so that none may be in need.
18th	The work of Betel as they support those who are lost in coming to Christ.
19th	That the Games Evening will be a source of fellowship and fun.
20th	For those called to support our young people in their groups.
21st	On Trafalgar Day we pray for all mariners that they will be kept safe.
22nd	For Prison Fellowship as it starts a new course at HMP Styal that the women involved will be touched by the Holy Spirit.
23rd	That the Bible Society will have a good response to its campaign to provide Bibles in Algeria. (And don't just pray if you can contribute financially!)
24th	On United Nations Day we pray for the work of the UN that it may bring about peace and world order.
25th	For all those who attend Crafty Chat and particularly the creative organisers.
26th	For those churches where there is division and discord. Though we are many, we are one body because we all share in one bread.
27th	For the men attending the Greater Together Manchester shelters that they quickly find a permanent solution to their problems.
28th	As we enter Autumn we thank God for the seasons and see his glory in the beauty of autumnal colours.
29th	Thank God for those who volunteer to lead our uniformed groups.
30th	For all those who support our ministry by making and serving refreshments after Sunday Service.
31st	That the Pumpkin Party will be a source of fun for the young (and not so young) people involved.

Prayer List PS

If there is something that you would like to see included in the Prayer List please forward it to the Editor (brooklandsmag@gmail.com) or leave in the red folder at the back of church. It can be something that you want to say thank you to God for; a request for help; or to mark some significant day.

From the Archive

As we think of harvest and God's bounty it is almost inevitable that we also consider those who do not have a fair share. Reverend Buckley in his October 1969 newsletter makes reference to a request to UK churches that they sign a petition to the government to increase financial aid to developing countries and improve trade conditions for them. He commented on the fact that Christians have taken a lead role through voluntary efforts but there is a need for governments to also act. The petition was to ask the government to allocate 1% of gross national product to help those less well off in the world to get on their feet and it pointed out that in the preceding decade aid had actually fallen. The issue of whether or not this was a matter for churches was something he asked and I believe is something that we should still be asking. His final paragraph said:

What are we to do? Shall we at Saint John's throw our hat into the ring? Are we prepared to stand up and be counted? Or shall we let the suggestion lie on the table? Is this "meddling with politics" or is it "doing something positive"? Is it the churches "waking up" or is it the churches "overstepping the mark"? Would you feel the church was doing what it ought to do, or would you do as one gentleman did when he read something critical of South Africa in the magazine inset and cancel your subscription?

Editors note: the UK has, since 2015, chosen to legally obligate itself to pay 0.7% of GDP as aid. This is a generally accepted target. Only five other countries have achieved it although in this country there is considerable press and political opposition to our maintaining it. Something else to add to the prayer list.

Café Church with a difference...

Whilst on holiday, I always enjoy visiting the ‘local church’ in the places I pass through. On this occasion, I wasn’t quite prepared for what I experienced. In August, Sue and I spent a short time in Glasgow, a city close to my heart, en route to Oban. Near Queen Street Station, in Nelson Mandela Place, we discovered the Wild Olive Tree Café, offering a warm welcome and home-made cakes! Obviously, we couldn’t pass by!

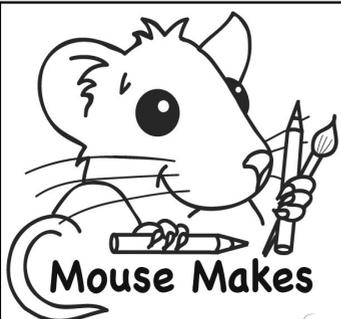
As we walked through the doors, we found ourselves in the sanctuary of St George’s Tron - Church of Scotland, in an oasis of calm and beauty. The church family here describe themselves as “...a Christian community, right at the heart of the busy city centre, growing together in our walk with God, in discipleship with each other, and with a deliberate focus on mission to the world around us. As a church we are grounded in God’s Word, looking to discover and hear and be like Jesus in an ever changing world.” (Ed note: Google ‘St George’s Tron keeps the faith in Glasgow City Centre’ for an amazing back story.)

The Wild Olive Tree is a social enterprise café, started in 2015 as a ministry of St. George’s Tron. The church building has been opened up to create a place of meeting and rest, sanctuary and provision, but with a particular heart for those who are in need. Any profits made by the café are donated to two charity partners, Glasgow City Mission and Bethany Christian Trust, to support their ongoing work with some of the city’s most vulnerable people. Free meals and hot drinks are offered every day to people who are homeless, destitute or otherwise unable to pay.

The Café Chaplain is available during café hours, to offer a friendly chat, a listening ear or prayer for those who need it. Paintings around the walls provide an opportunity for quiet contemplation. Each portrait is a modern interpretation of a passage in the Gospel of Luke painted by Scottish artist Iain Campbell, artist-in residence at St George’s Tron from 2016-2019. Three services are held each week; the 12.30pm Café Church service on Sundays begins with everyone having lunch together. Now, we liked that idea! Our visit to the Wild Olive Café was a moving and inspiring experience. I would highly recommend it to anyone visiting Glasgow.

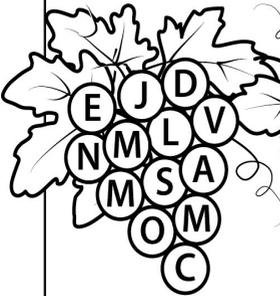
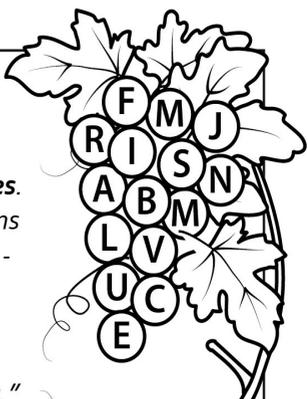
I must add that at 10.30am on our Thursday in Oban, there was the weekly coffee morning in the Church of St John the Divine, the Cathedral Church of the Diocese of Argyll and The Isles. Of course, we had to go! And yes ..we told them all about our ‘Good-as - New’.

Isabel



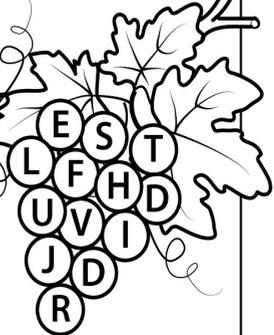
THE TRUE VINE
 Jesus said:
 "I am the **vine**;
 you are the **branches**.
 The one who remains
 in me -and I in him -
 bears much **fruit**,
 because apart
 from me you can
 accomplish nothing."

John 15:5



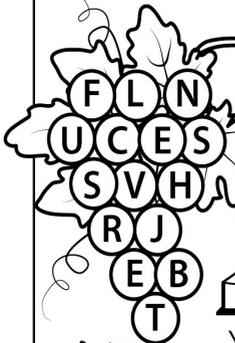
"My **commandment** is this -
 to love one another just
 as I have loved you."

John 15:12



"No one has greater
love than this -
 that one lays down
 his life for his friends."

John 15:13

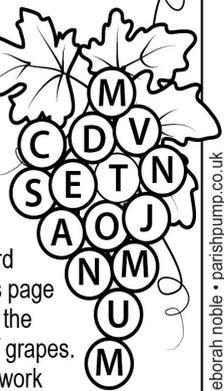


You can read
 Jesus' teaching on
 The True Vine in:
 John 15:1-17



Each of the word
 in **bold** on this page
 is hidden in the
 bunches of grapes.
 Can you work
 out which bunch
 each word is in?

How many other
 words can you make from:
 THE TRUE VINE



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STOP PRESS!!! Microsoft have now removed support for all Windows XP systems, which could affect the security of your software. If you are using XP, do give me a call for FREE & independent advice.

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Crafty Chat Club

If you like to make things & enjoy getting to know others, this is the afternoon for you.

Bring along your own craft project, use materials provided or simply watch & chat.

No previous skills are needed. The chat is as important as the craft.



Everyone is welcome.

St John's Church Hall, Brooklands Road, Sale.

**EVERY 1ST & 3RD WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH.
2.00 – 4.00PM.**

**£1.00 PER MEETING
INCLUDES TEA / COFFEE & BISCUITS**



Sanctuary Guild

Volunteers in the Sanctuary Guild take turns to clean the brasses in church, such as the altar cross, candlesticks, offertory plates and lecterns.



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11th
25th

Mrs L. Vickers
Mrs D. Ellerton

Mrs C. Parry
Mrs Z. Spark



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The previous month's Harvest Festival donation from the Genetic Modification research laboratory was proving to be a useful stop-gap until the steeple restoration fund reached its target

Parish Diary October 2019

6 th	<i>16th Sunday after Trinity</i>	9.00 Holy Communion
		10.30 Harvest Festival (Parade)
		4.30 Café Alpha
		6.30 Evensong
9 th		2.00 Craft Chat
13 th	<i>17th Sunday after Trinity</i>	9.00 Holy Communion
		10.30 All Ages Together (Marathon)
		4.30 Café Alpha
16 th		10.00 Midweek Communion
		2.30 Mothers' Union
20 th	<i>18th Trinity after Sunday</i>	9.00 Holy Communion
		10.30 Family Communion
		4.30 Café Alpha
23 rd		2.00 Crafty Chat
27 th	<i>The Last Sunday after Trinity</i>	9.00 Holy Communion
		10.30 Family Communion
		4.30 Café Alpha
30 th		7.30 Evening Prayer and Women's Fellowship

Online Version

The online version has full colour and some added content. Do take a look and please pass on the link to friends and family via whatever social media you use. It can be found on the Church website.

Stjohnsbrooklands.org.uk and click on the magazine tab at the top.

The Parish Church of *St. John the Divine, Brooklands*

*In the Deanery of Withington, In the Diocese of Manchester,
In the Province of York*

Website: www.stjohnsbrooklands.org.uk

SUNDAY SERVICES

8.30am Holy Communion
10.30 am Family Communion
(Second Sunday of the Month All -Age Worship)
5.30pm Choral Evensong

Holy Communion is celebrated on Holy Days and Saints Days as announced.

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**The Lord is my light
and my salvation. Ps 27:1**

**Send me Your light
and truth. They will
guide me. Ps 43:3**

**Your word is a lamp
for my feet, a light for
my path. Ps 119:105**

**Our Lord and God, You
are my lamp. You turn
darkness to light.**

2 Sam 22:29