

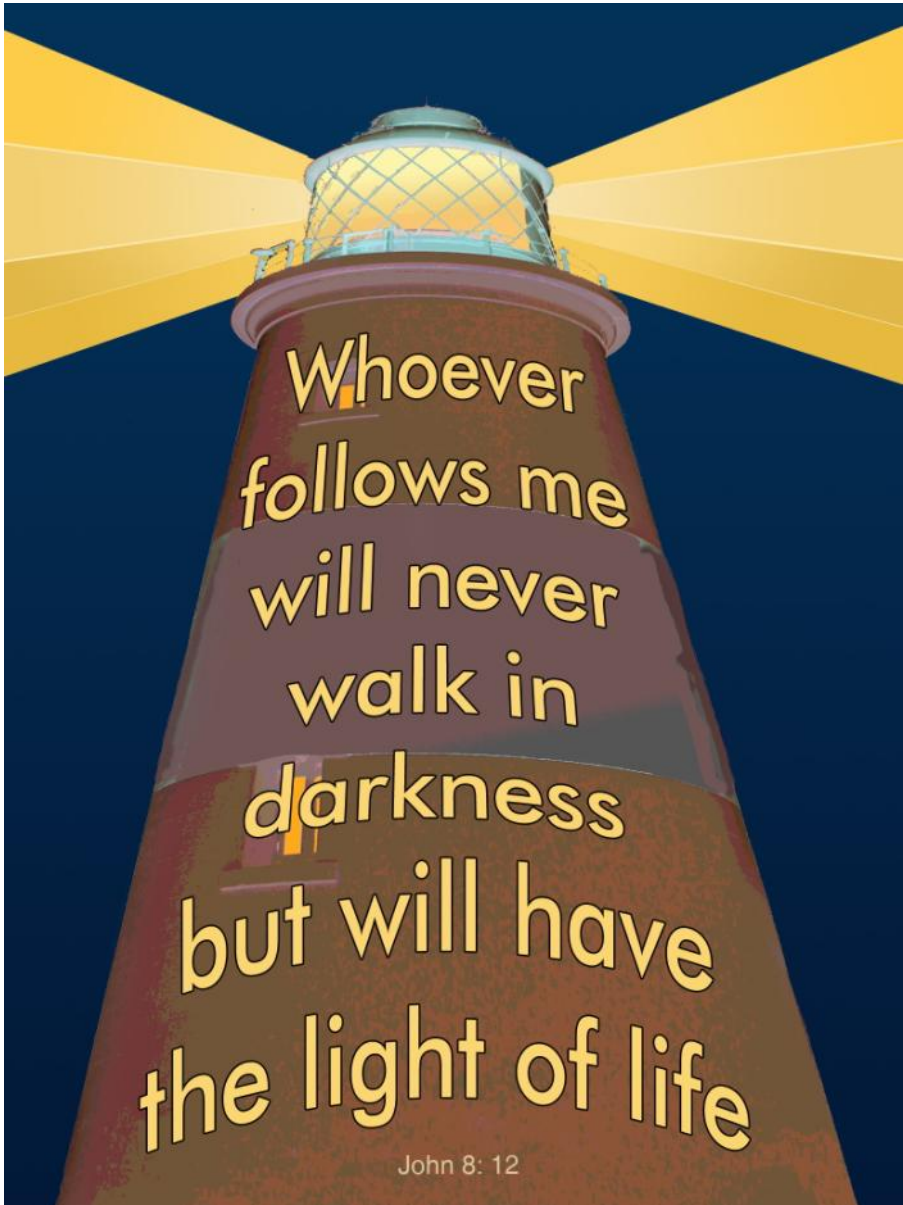


# CROSSROADS

*The Family Magazine of St Hilda's, Ashford, Middlesex*

No. 707 March 2020

*Free - but donations welcome!*



The Parish of **St Hilda, Ashford** in the Diocese of London  
Charity Reg. No. 1134119

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crossroads\_ashford@hotmail.com

*An item submitted after the deadline  
may be accepted for inclusion IF the  
Editor has been informed by the dead-  
line that the item is on its way.*

**When is the Vicar not available  
in March?**

Every Saturday: day off

Fr. Joseph asked me to write a piece for Cross-roads and the subject was to be Lent. Well, I thought, we all know what Lent is so what can I say that's not already been said? It's the forty days before Easter Sunday when we give up something.



That's the simplified version, but as we all know it's so much more than that. On looking up the meaning of Lent it said:

Lent is a solemn religious observation of the Christian liturgical calendar that begins on Ash Wednesday and ends approximately six weeks later on Holy Saturday, the day before Easter Sunday. The purpose of Lent is the preparation of the believer for Easter through prayer, doing penance, mortifying the flesh, repentance of sins, alms giving and denial of ego.

Pretty serious stuff especially the mortifying the flesh part. People approach the period of Lent in different ways. Many Christians take Lent extremely seriously and use it as a time of study and reflection.

And yes, some of us decide to give up something. Give up some time each day to read the bible or pray. Or give up things such as chocolate, biscuits or coffee, usually something we really like. Then tell our friends about how much we are struggling to do without our favourite food and feeling quite good about it if we manage the whole six weeks.

But Lent is so much more than that. It's a time of preparation, the time when Christians replicate the forty days that Jesus spent alone in the wilderness, being tempted not to take the path that the Lord had chosen for him.

We hear all the time that Jesus gave up his life for us. Jesus didn't give up his life for us, he **gave** his life for us. So maybe this year we should try changing the way we look at Lent; our focus should be not so much on giving something up but on giving something.

Give ten minutes a day to sit quietly and listen to the Lord, give ten minutes a day to read the Bible, give some time to call in on a neighbour, or phone someone you know is alone and in need of someone to talk to. If you have a daily coffee from a coffee shop, maybe don't have a coffee every day and give the money you would usually spend over the six weeks to a charity.

A suggestion I saw online was to get a black sack and each day of Lent put into it a piece of clothing that you don't wear and at the end of Lent you will have donated 40 items of clothing to charity.

There are many ways that we could mark the period of Lent but whether we

choose to give up a favourite food, fast or do something else we should remember the words in Matthew 6: 16-18.

When you fast, do not look sombre as the hypocrites do, for they disfigure their faces to show others they are fasting, truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that it will not be obvious to others that you are fasting, but only to your Father, who is unseen; and your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.

*Bobbie Bedford*  
Church Warden



## **SAYING YES TO LIFE**

This year's Lent Study course will use the book which the Archbishop of Canterbury commissioned for this Lent: *Saying Yes to Life* by Ruth Valerio.



Where: St. Hilda's church

When: Wednesday evenings 4th March - 8th April  
at 7pm

4th March: Let there be light

11th March: Let the waters be separated

18th March: Let the land produce vegetation

25th March: Let there be lights in the sky

1st April: Let the waters teem with living creatures and let birds fly

8th April: Let the land produce living creatures and let us make humankind in our image

If there is enough demand there may be a daytime session too - see in church for further details.

This will tie in with the Church of England's Lent campaign for 2020 - #LiveLent: Care for God's Creation. Resources for this, including an app for Android and iOS and the opportunity to sign up for daily reflections by e-mail, are available from the web site <https://www.churchofengland.org/more/church-resources/lent-2020-church-resources>

*Rosemary Greenwood*

# NOTICES

## CHILDREN'S SOCIETY COLLECTING BOXES

If you have a Children's Society Collecting Box, please bring it to Church during March for the contents to be emptied, counted and banked.

Please leave your box on the table at the back of Church (Woodthorpe Road side). It can then be emptied during the week and returned to the table for you to collect the following week. Thank you for your donations and support.

*Chris Davenport*

## LENT SMARTIES CHALLENGE

As I write I am stockpiling tubes of Smarties which I plan to give away at the beginning of Lent. Should you accept the challenge you are obliged to eat the smarties or find a willing volunteer to do this – children are usually good for this. **DO NOT THROW AWAY THE TUBE** but fill it with coins and bring it back to Church at Easter.

This year we are raising funds for the Angola, London, Mozambique Association (ALMA) supported by the dioceses. This year the appeal "Wheels for Climate Change Emergencies" is aiming to buy new trucks for the four overseas dioceses in order to move necessary supplies – water, charcoal, building materials, etc to those in need. In Angola there are 2.3 million people identified in need due to drought caused by below average, erratic rainfall. In Mozambique, cyclones Idai and Kenneth caused widespread flooding pushing people to their limits putting an estimated 1.84 million people in crisis.

Will you accept the Challenge?

*Christine Taylor*

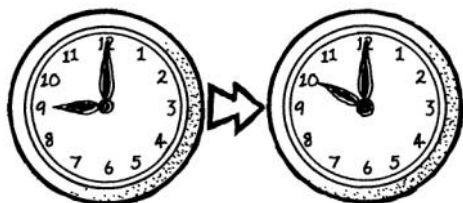
1st Thursday each month at 2pm in church.



- |                       |                             |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| 5 <sup>th</sup> Mar   | Pick and Mix                |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> April | Whose Bible is it?          |
| 7 <sup>th</sup> May   | Dead Sea Scrolls and Qumran |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> June  | Prayer and Praying          |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> July  | Popes                       |

# WHAT'S ON in MARCH 2020

<b>SUNDAY</b>		
1st }		1st Sunday in Lent
8th }	8am Said Eucharist (BCP)	2nd Sunday in Lent
15th }	9.30am Eucharist and Junior Church	3rd Sunday in Lent
22nd }	11am Confirmation Preparation	Mothering Sunday
29th }		5th Sunday in Lent
29th	6pm iPray: choral evensong	
<b>MONDAY:</b>		
9th	6.45 for 7pm	PCC meeting in church
<b>TUESDAY</b>		
Every Tuesday	9.45am	<b>Eucharist</b> ; 3rd is MU Corporate Communion
10th	12.45	Mothers' Union Lunch in Small Hall: <i>Reflections for Lent</i> by David Mitchell
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>		
Every Wednesday	7pm	Lent Bible Study Group in Church (see page 4)
<b>THURSDAY</b>		
5th	2.30pm	<b>Feed My Sheep</b> in church: <i>Pick and Mix</i>
<b>FRIDAY</b>		
Every Friday	7pm	<b>Choir Practice</b> in church
6th, 20th	8.15pm	<b>Community Singing</b> in church - all welcome
<b>SATURDAY</b>		
Every Saturday	9.30am-noon	<b>Church Open</b> , refreshments available; Knitting Project for the Upper Room
7th	6.30 for 7pm	Charity Quiz night in St. Hilda's Church Hall (see page 14)
14th	2pm	Jumble Sale in Church Hall (see page ??)



*Sunday morning 29th March:  
clocks go forward!*

Hatton Musical  
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Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March  
Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March

at 7.30pm with a  
Saturday matinee  
at 2.30pm

Tickets:  
£14 in advance  
£15 on the door

Box Office:  
07591 600666



ST. HILDA'S  
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proudly present their  
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**Now We  
Are 60**

a selection of  
Short Plays and Sketches

at St Hilda's Hall

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May  
at 7.45pm, and

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May  
at 7.00pm

Tickets: £10  
(concessions £8)

Special Saturday  
Matinee at 2.30pm  
with afternoon tea

Tickets: £15  
(concessions £13)

Box Office  
07894 490640

## STAND TOGETHER

On Monday 27<sup>th</sup> January Mariane and I were privileged to attend The Holocaust Memorial Day to commemorate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz Birkenau, held at the Spelthorne Borough Council Chamber at Knowle Green.

The Theme of the Memorial Day was Stand Together. This was reflected in the multi faith speakers who each lit a candle; some gave a short reflection prior to lighting their candles.

Cllr Ian Harvey gave the opening speech. He then introduced Marion Strehlow who herself was a Holocaust Survivor, who shared her experiences as a child in the camp and later the problems she encountered in life due to the treatment she received. Many a tear was shed on listening to what she endured.

Marion's memories were followed by a prayer by Rabbi Claude Vecht-Wolf.

There was a moment of reflection when we listened to music played by Sam Slatcher, a curator of *Stories of Sanctuary*, and Raghad Haddad from the National Syrian Orchestra. *Stories of Sanctuary* is a choir of Syrian refugees now resident in County Durham along with other residents living in Durham.

The music was accompanied by harrowing film shots from both the concentration camps and present-day atrocities from around the world.

A Prayer was then said by Mr Leslie Fellman followed by a song from Sam Slatcher, entitled *Let us Be Together*.

To end the evening a moving poem was recited by Mr Alfred Friday, written by a Lutheran Pastor Martin Niemoller.

### First they Came

First they came for the Communists  
And I did not speak out  
Because I was not a Communist  
Then they came for the Socialist  
And I did not speak out  
Because I was not a Socialist  
Then they came for the Trade Unionists  
And I did not speak out  
Because I was not a Trade Unionist  
Then they came for the Jews  
And I did not speak out  
Because I was not a Jew  
Then they came for me  
And there was no one left  
To speak out for me.

Would you be brave enough to speak out?

*Bobbie Bedford and Mariane Tank*



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Every Friday Morning 9.00  
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The class is followed by a **FREE WEEKLY WALK** at 10:15  
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Please call first as spaces are limited! **07506001406 Richard**

## St Hilda's Church Hall

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*Planning a celebration, party or  
meeting?*

*Need a venue for a function?*

The Main and Small Halls at  
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Rates start from  
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For details and availability, contact  
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Chris Davenport 01784 252170

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## **JUMBLE SALE & AUCTION**

on Saturday

**14<sup>th</sup> March**

in St Hilda's Hall

Opens 2.00pm

Admission 50p

Goods to the Hall  
from 10.00am

Phone 01784 252170  
for collection

## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - ESPECIALLY DRIVERS!**

### **Ashford Helping Hands**

is a voluntary organisation which provides help to people in the TW15 postal area. They can always use more volunteers and at the moment are particularly short of drivers to take people to medical appointments etc.

If you can help, please phone

**Olive on 01784 245203**

If you need help, phone  
the AHH Duty Officer on

**07754 083502**

between 10am and noon

Monday - Friday

For more information see:

[www.ashfordhelpinghands.btck.co.uk](http://www.ashfordhelpinghands.btck.co.uk)



### **Our Mission Prayer:**

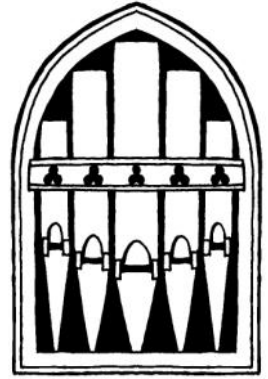
*Bless our Community.  
Make its people;  
Strong in Faith,  
Steadfast in Hope,  
And Generous in Love.  
Amen.*

## MUSICAL VIGNETTES AND ST. HILDA'S

Rereading a beautifully written article by Rosemary Field, Deputy Director, The Royal School of Church Music (RSCM); entitled 'Balancing Act - Accessible and/or Inspiring?' (Church Music Quarterly (CMQ) December 2017); I thought I would share some of her words of wisdom. Rosemary is a renowned, former cathedral musician with a life-time's vocation in teaching church music at a parish level and her insights are certainly relevant today.

St. Hilda's has been affiliated to RSCM since about 1954! Many Choir members have been accredited with RSCM 'Voice for All' and other music learning programmes over the years.

Rosemary reflects on how church musicians face possibly difficult choices selecting music in support of the worship of God. It is a debate that many may know, or have been involved with from time to time. Am I brave to write about it in my first input to Crossroads? Is it a worthy topic for St Hilda's, among other churches, requiring profound thought and reflection? Well, I am quoting from a professional and expert, higher authority throughout – so here goes!



Three difficulties initially mentioned are:

- the wider Church, often heroically, struggles to facilitate music while contending with patchy attendance, differing literacy levels, no funds and sometimes difficult or dangerous locations.

The opposite is true of music teams endowed with guaranteed funding and congregations of higher ability and skill levels. Thence their ministers, quite correctly, require better standards and results. Everything in between is where most musicians and choirs operate. However, resourcing and funding is generally an issue, so sometimes barely adequate results can still be considered a triumph.

- that inevitably the function and purpose of music in worship is discussed everywhere. Considerations reference personal taste, local experiences and varied cherished moments. Rosemary concludes that a 'tacit (mis-)understanding exists in that whatever "goes down well is, ergo, good!"' Thus 'popularity' can be confused with worth. Infinitely true of many things, not just music. For it matters not how worthy any message is 'once people have stopped listening, thus, no-one is hearing it!' Especially true in modern western environs where 'people like to be liked' so may be unduly influenced. Some may also surmise a systemic judgement that 'the customer is king.' Oh, have we not encountered this in the UK media and, indeed, politics - but not to digress.
- in our considering the church atmosphere today, and/or that we have experienced over years of attendance. Most church worshippers possibly desire an

atmosphere similar to that suggested in the Temple of Solomon, where the first set of prayers were offered. Or maybe not? Perhaps it is the familiar and friendly, 'easy to live with' jolly atmosphere that is preferred? Accidentally obstacles are sometimes created by 'church' vocabulary and/or a ritualistic style that may concern the unchurched majority, and the regularly attending minority; though probably differently. Thus, when choosing music, musicians aim not to make God seem more remote but to encourage, with relevant seasonal choices, the 'soul to sing,' so to speak. Church musicians similarly observe that 'unfamiliar sounds can attract the listener,' despite the potential clamour for the familiar and/or music that we love so much.

Music sits equally between physically stirring our emotions and the desire to experience (hear or sing) what we like and want. Hence a creative tension exists between the science and art of music. So what effect can, and does, it have on us? How do church musicians try to achieve, and/or share, it with all?

Therefore, at St Hilda's much thought goes into choosing music every week. Just as Ludwig van Beethoven (among other wonderful composers and musicians) surely did when developing awesome musical vignettes in the 18<sup>th</sup> century and later. Interestingly 2020 is the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Beethoven's birth in Bonn, Germany.

So, now my thoughts are stimulated, I will reflect and continue to choose St Hilda's music diligently and thoughtfully. Likewise providing more musical insights here next time. A useful quotation for all as March moves forwards towards Easter.

"Think like a wise man but communicate in the language of the people!"

*William Butler Yates.*

Blessings to all.

*Christina A Veasey  
Music Director & Organist*



## MISCELLANEOUS QUOTATIONS

Faith, to put it simply, is the conviction that God does not tell lies. - *Frank Retief*

A child, like your stomach, doesn't need all you can afford to give it. - *Frank A Clark*

There is none more lonely than the man who loves only himself. - *Abraham Ibn Esra*

Nearly all men can stand adversity, but if you want to test a man's character, give him power. - *Abraham Lincoln*

Sign in school hallway:

Free Monday through Friday: knowledge. Bring your own container.

If you would like to live a quiet, peaceful, uneventful life, you are living at the wrong time.

# CHARITY QUIZ NIGHT

**ST. HILDA'S CHURCH HALL  
STANWELL RD, ASHFORD TW15 3QL  
SATURDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2020  
7PM – 10PM (ARRIVE 6:30 FOR 7PM START)  
IN AID OF THE FUTURE SENSE FOUNDATION**

Snacks and drinks permitted.

Teams up to 8 people, £3 per person

Other activities include:

- Raffle!
- Heads or Tails coin flip with cash prize!

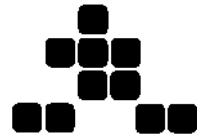
Contact here to book a table:

Email: [emilymanly12@gmail.com](mailto:emilymanly12@gmail.com)

Phone: 07752251744

# lockwood

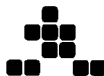
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# MISCELLANY

*from Parish Pump*

## **REAL EASTER EGGS CELEBRATE THEIR 10<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY!**

The Real Easter Egg campaign has been running since 2010 and involves thousands of churches, schools and groups. It crosses all denominations and offers individuals a simple way to share the Easter Story while supporting Fairtrade and charitable projects.

The idea began in 2008 when I was given a chocolate Easter Egg. On the side of the box it read: 'Easter is the festival of chocolate and loveliness'. I began to wonder – was it right for the manufacturer of an Easter egg to change the meaning of a religious festival in this way? Imagine the outcry if this had been done to Christmas.

I searched for an Easter egg which mentioned the Christian story of Easter. It became clear that out of the 80 million eggs on sale there was not a single manufacturer who was willing to mention the religious aspects of the festival. So, I started The Meaningful Chocolate Company to manufacture the UK's first 'Real Easter Egg'.

For it to be a 'Real Easter Egg', it had to reflect the Easter themes of hope and new life and do three things – have a copy of the Easter story in the box, be made from Fairtrade chocolate and support charitable causes.

The Real Easter Egg was launched in 2010. It was a struggle, as the supermarkets turned down the idea. It was left to churches and schools to place orders and fund the making of The Real Easter Egg.

Ten years on, more than a million eggs have been sold, with over 750,000 eggs sent through the post directly to customers. The rest have been sold through retailers and supermarkets.

Nearly £275,000 has been donated to charitable projects with Fairtrade Premium fees paid to farmers allowing them to buy everything from school-books and solar panels to providing fresh water.

For Easter 2020, there are five types of Real Easter Eggs available, all with new content. Each egg has an edition of the Easter story included. There is a new 24-page version in the Original and Dark eggs with activities, biblical text and a prize competition worth £200. There is a poster activity version of the Easter story in the Sharing Box and Fun Pack and a simple guide version in the Special Edition. Both the Original and Dark 2020 eggs are plastic-free and all our chocolate is Palm Oil free.

This year churches are encouraged to read more or order at [www.realeasteregg.co.uk](http://www.realeasteregg.co.uk)

*David Marshall*

The web site includes an option to donate an egg directly to a food bank. *Ed*

## THE COURAGE OF OSCAR ROMERO

An Archbishop was presiding at Mass when a hired gunman shot him in the back. That was 40 years ago this month. Archbishop Oscar Romero was the Roman Catholic primate of San Salvador, the capital of El Salvador: a small, populous country in South America with a history of political intrigue, violence and corruption. The assassin, a professional hitman who has never been caught, was working for an extreme right-wing junta and its supporters, who felt threatened by Romero's sermons and his hugely popular radio broadcasts.

Oscar Romero was not a natural agitator. The emphasis of his ministry had been on personal holiness and he had been slow to draw attention to the unscrupulousness which pervaded his country, but when a socially active priest-friend was murdered, he felt he had to follow the same path. He highlighted the torture of prisoners, the censorship of the press, closure of schools and the plight of the poor.

In 1980 he criticised the United States for their support of the junta. In a sermon on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 1980 he ordered the army to stop killing people: "In the name of God, and in the name of this suffering people whose cries rise to heaven more loudly each day, I beg you, I implore you, I order you, in the name of God, stop the repression!" That was his death warrant.

The next evening, at Mass in a hospital chapel, Romero had finished his sermon and moved to the altar when a car stopped outside the open door. A gunman got out, aimed his rifle and fired. Romero died instantly. He had said, "As a Christian I do not believe in death without resurrection. If they kill me, I shall arise in the Salvadoran people."

Oscar Romero is commemorated as one of 10 Christian martyrs whose statues adorn the West front of Westminster Abbey. The day of his martyrdom, 30<sup>th</sup> March is remembered annually in the Anglican Lectionary, and by the United Nations because of its significance for human rights. In 1997 the Roman Catholic Church made him a Saint.

Did Oscar Romero mix religion with politics? He said, "I want to reaffirm that my sermons are not political. Naturally, they touch on politics, and they touch on the reality of the people, but their aim is to shed light and to tell you what it is that God wants."

*The Ven John Barton*

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## EATING DISORDERS AWARENESS WEEK - 2<sup>nd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> March

A staggering 1.25 million people in the UK are living with an eating disorder. And every one of them is affecting other people by that disorder. In fact, it is reckoned that as many as five million of us in the UK are struggling to help someone whom we care about, who has an eating disorder.

If you know anyone with an eating disorder, or if you have an eating disorder, there is a website may help: <https://www.beateatingdisorders.org.uk/edaw>

## **GANDHI'S SALT MARCH AGAINST THE BRITISH**

It was 90 years ago, on 12<sup>th</sup> March 1930, that Indian political and spiritual leader Mahatma Gandhi led 78 activists and followers on a 23-day “salt march” to protest against a British tax on salt and a ban on Indians collecting or selling it. On 5<sup>th</sup> April he reached the sea and made salt, breaking British law. On 4<sup>th</sup> May he was arrested and imprisoned.

Thousands of Indians followed Gandhi from his religious retreat near Ahmedabad to the Arabian Sea coast, a distance of about 240 miles. The march resulted in the arrest of nearly 60,000 people, including Gandhi himself.

Gandhi said his resistance to British salt policies would be the unifying theme for his campaign of *satyagraha*, or mass civil disobedience. The word means ‘truth with insistence’ in Sanskrit.

During the salt march – which Gandhi described as a *padyatra* (a long spiritual march) – he made many speeches on the injustices of the Indian caste system, which labelled the lowest classes ‘untouchable’.

17 days after Gandhi’s arrest, the poet Sarojini Naidu led 2,500 marchers on the Dharasana Salt Works, north of Bombay. They were beaten viciously by police, which prompted an international outcry. India was granted its independence in 1947.

*Tim Lenton*

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## **THE MAN WHO INVENTED SELF-RAISING FLOUR**

Henry Jones, a baker from Bristol, was granted a patent for his invention of self-raising flour 175 years ago, on 17<sup>th</sup> March 1845.

Jones was born in Monmouth, Wales, but he established a bakery in Broadmead, Bristol. His formula for making self-raising flour – essentially a process of baking without yeast – was granted a patent in 1845, and by the end of 1846 it was a runaway success, and he was soon supplying patent flour and biscuits to Queen Victoria.

He was granted a patent in the USA in 1849, and in 1852 the first gold medal for the new flour was issued to a Chicago firm using the Bristol formula, but his greatest opponent was the British Admiralty. Jones pointed out in detail and at length the benefits to seamen of using the new flour instead of the hard biscuits they were used to, and he received a great deal of support from individual captains and many prominent people.

But it was not until 1855, when his flour was used in the Crimean War – partly at the request of Florence Nightingale – and was so effective in saving lives and improving food supplies, that it got the grudging acceptance of the Admiralty.

*Tim Lenton*

# BEYOND THE PARISH

*from Parish Pump*

## AL SHABAAB MURDERS THREE CHRISTIAN TEACHERS IN KENYAN SCHOOL

“The eye of the storm is on us,” said a Barnabas Fund contact after three Christian teachers, all in their 20s, were murdered in an attack by Al Shabaab jihadists on a primary school compound in Kenya on 13<sup>th</sup> January.

Another teacher was shot twice in the leg, and a fifth managed to escape when the militants struck the school’s staff quarters at 2am in Kamuthe, about 30km from Garissa town, on the Somali border.

The terrorist spared a female Christian teacher and a nurse with an infant child, but then looted the dispensary, burned down the nearby police post and bombed a telecommunications mast in the marketplace.

The Al Shabaab raid was the fourth in the area in less than two weeks, claiming a total of ten lives including 4 children. “The intensity of the attacks is terrifying,” said our contact. “We appeal to the security agents to double their efforts and devise a security strategy to protect Christians and local Somalis in the region.”

One of those killed, Titus, was at the school only because the headmaster was away. The previous day, Titus had played keyboard during a Sunday service at his local church. Anxious because of the recent spate of attacks, he had asked for prayers for safety before leaving for the school. At 11pm on Sunday, he spoke on the phone to his wife Ruth, a teacher at Garissa Academy, and his son, Baraka, wishing them good night. He died three hours later.

### **Capital Vision Prayer**

Generous God, You have called us to be salt and light in this great city;  
Guide us by your Holy Spirit to discern your will for your Church  
as we seek to follow your Son Jesus Christ  
in loving and serving our neighbours.

Give us the wisdom and strength to fulfil the vision you put before us  
and help us to play our part in transforming our earthly city into a sign of  
the Heavenly Jerusalem where you live and reign,

Father, Son and Holy Spirit, One God now and for ever. *Amen*

## COE LAUNCHES ENERGY RATING TOOL FOR CHURCHES

The Church of England is launching an energy rating system similar to those used for household appliances. The aim is to help monitor the carbon footprint of its almost 40,000 buildings, as General Synod has recently voted on a major new proposal to reach ‘net zero’ CO2 emissions.



The hope is for all parts of the Church of England, from parishes to national bodies, to aim for ambitious year-on-year reductions in emissions to reach ‘net zero’ by 2045 at the latest.

In a first step, parishes are being offered a new rating tool, which calculates their energy consumption. It will take into account factors including the type of power they use, whether they are on ‘green’ tariffs, the size of the building and usage.

The Bishop of Salisbury, Nicholas Holtam, the Church of England’s lead bishop for Environmental Affairs, said: “The Church of England has buildings in every architectural style and material from the past 1,500 years, posing some unique challenges when it comes to energy efficiency.

“However, churches are not museums; they are living buildings which serve their communities every day of the week, and being greener isn’t about doing less, it’s about equipping parishes to get smarter about energy consumption.

“Christians are called to safeguard God’s creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth. Faced with the reality of catastrophic climate change, which will affect the world’s most vulnerable people the soonest, radical and immediate action is our only option.”

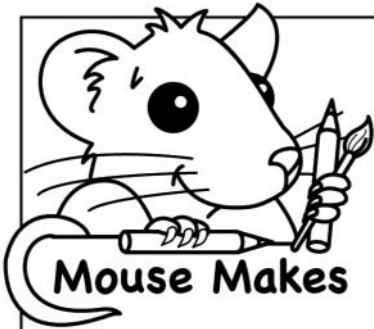
A paper sent to Synod members before February’s General Synod also outlined the potential impacts of climate change directly affecting the Church. It warned parishes that, as impacts start to accelerate, more churches will need to be prepared to play missional roles in their communities, including offering sanctuary in extreme weather events, as was seen at the church of St Cuthbert, Fishlake, following flooding of the River Don last year.



## WORLD WATER DAY – 22<sup>nd</sup> March

This year, it is all about water and climate change – and how the two are linked.

There is a website offering good ideas and resources if you would like to join in:  
<https://www.worldwaterday.org/>



Jesus, his disciples and his mother Mary had been invited to a wedding. The wedding was to last a week, but too soon the wine had all been drunk.

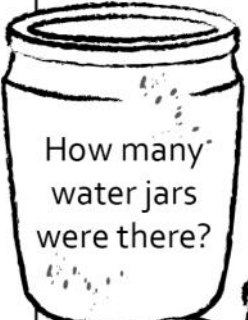
READ *John 2:1-11* to find out what happened.



Where was the wedding?



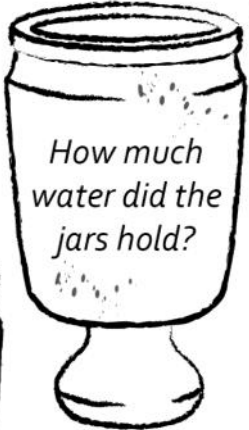
What were the water jars for?



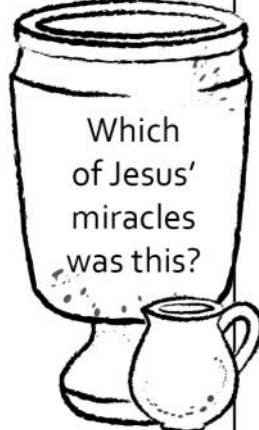
How many water jars were there?



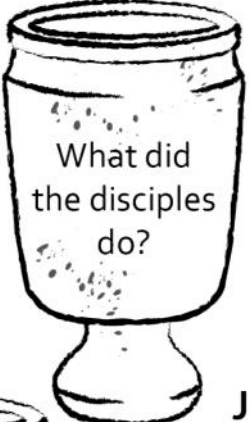
What were the water jars made of?



How much water did the jars hold?



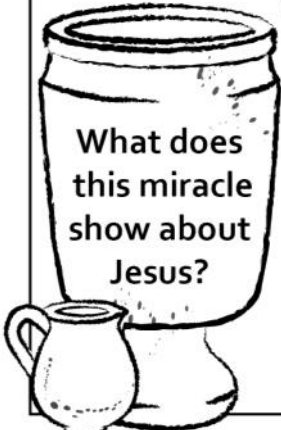
Which of Jesus' miracles was this?



What did the disciples do?

What had happened to the water when it was taken out?

What did the steward tell the bridegroom?



What does this miracle show about Jesus?

J G A L I L E E W A W  
 J A D I S C I P L E S A  
 W S E R V A N T S O O D T T  
 I T S S C A N A X U M D O E  
 M O U I F I R S T T A I N R  
 E P S X I T A T T U R N E D  
 F I L L W I N E X T Y G E T

WEDDING • CANA • GALILEE • JESUS • MARY • DISCIPLES  
SERVANTS • RAN • OUT • SIX • STONE • WATER • JARS  
FILL • TOP • TASTE • TURNED • WINE • FIRST

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