

News & Views From St Mary's Church Ecclesfield



Church Magazine for August 2013

Price 60p

www.stmarysecclesfield.com

First Words...

- **Rest And Refreshment – A Time To Take Stock**

Many people will enjoy their summer holidays in August. Try and take stock of where you are in your spiritual life and see if God is calling you to something new. He may be calling you into new avenues of ministry. He may even be calling you to the ordained life. Sometimes God calls us to face daunting challenges, but he always promises to walk alongside us wherever we are sent.

- **Pray For Your Bishops**

I'd like to invite everyone to pray for their bishops. In this Diocese we are blessed by the episcopal ministry of Bishop Steven of Sheffield, Bishop Peter of Doncaster and Bishop Glyn of Beverley. They are called to lead us in the faith and need our constant prayer to equip them in this task. In the Church of England today we are governed by the various synods that meet, but let us make no mistake – we are led by our bishops.

Daniel Hartley



Prayer for August

Lord, as we approach summer holidays of various kinds, we pray for ourselves and
for our world.

We thank you for the luxury of holiday, for refreshment and rest from work.

We pray for those whose lives are made harder and busier by long summer breaks,
and we pray for those without the luxury of a holiday.

May your peace be known in their daily life.

We pray for health, for all whose holiday is an escape from over-busy or unfulfilled
lives.

We pray for justice and fairness for those in our world who make a living from the
tourist industry.

Lord God of Sabbath rest,
make yourself known to us afresh,
that all our days may become holy days,
to the glory of your name.

Amen

Front Cover – St Marys – Lytch Gate - Wedding

Back Cover – Alison Hancock & Pupil

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Mrs Ann Hackett (0114) 246 7159

The Vicars' Letter - Solid foundations

This time last year we were enjoying the Olympic Games. Our nation was buoyed by the spectacle and by the achievements of the British competitors. When it had finished, we asked ourselves about “sustainability”. What would become of the legacy. Whilst it’s too early to give a full answer to this, we can certainly see a nation that continues to enjoy sporting success. In tennis, Andy Murray has won his first Wimbledon. In rugby, the British Lions have triumphed over the Australians. In cycling, Chris Froome has repeated the successes of Bradley Wiggins in the *Tour de France*. In cricket, England are 2-0 up in the Ashes series. If you like your sport then it’s certainly a good time to be British.

We’ve also been buoyed up by news of the royal birth. A true time of rejoicing! Our thoughts and prayers are with the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge as they begin their journey into parenthood.

Yet as a nation we still face many challenges in our short to medium term. Those longed for “green shoots” of economic recovery are starting to appear, but it is a long road ahead. Cabinet Secretary Sir Jeremy Heywood has recently suggested that we face a twenty year battle to rebalance the economy away from financial services towards manufacturing.

I am no economist, but it would appear that the recent recession has been particularly devastating for countries that lack a solid manufacturing base, a solid foundation upon which economic life is built. It’s almost like an economic parable of the wise and foolish builder. An economy built upon weak foundations runs along nicely until problems occur, but an economy based upon strong foundations can weather the storm. When foundations are weak, there are no “quick-fix” solutions.

As Christians we are called to build our faith upon a solid foundation. In fact we are called to allow God to build our faith upon a solid foundation. If our faith lacks this depth then we may be able to patch it up from time to time, but when the storm comes it will be washed away.

So now is a time to check our foundations. As our nation seeks to rebuild its economic foundation, so we too must review our spiritual foundation. In the words of St Paul in the Letter to the Romans:

For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Daniel Hartley

Open Day – Community Garden

The Ecclesfield Park Community Garden Group hosted their 'Open Garden' event on 14 July. It was a glorious sunny day and the plants in the garden were at their peak. Around 100 people attended the event, a third of which were children.

Visitors had the opportunity to look around the garden and see the various fruit, flowers and vegetables that were growing. In addition, there was the opportunity to plant a Cress head plant pot, put French beans in an observational beaker to watch how the roots grow, and buy fresh produce from the raised beds.

Representation from the In Bloom Group, Conservation & Local History Group and the 'Street Dusters' (formerly Ecclesfield Scrubbers) were also on site giving information to visitors.

Refreshments went down well, especially the Strawberries and Cream.

The Community Garden group extend their welcome to anyone who would like to learn more about gardening, or are able to share their gardening knowledge/skills with others, or anyone who just wants come and meet new friends.

During the summer months the Community Garden is open every Wednesday and Saturday between 10am to 12 noon. Just bring yourself as all tools etc., are provided. The Community Garden is located in Ecclesfield Park, between Ladycroft stream/bridge and the back of the Bowling Greens.

We look forward to seeing new members of any age or ability.

For more info contact Angela on 0114 2461095.



An Experience of God

A few months ago, we asked if anyone would like to share any experiences or stories of their walk with God. Recently, Kathy Bailey had a beautiful experience which was so exciting she wanted to share it. I was privileged to spend some time with Kathy so her story can be shared with you. One thing I noticed was the joy in heart when she shared the experience with me. Her whole face lit up as she remembered. This is Kathy's story.

It was after a service during Holy Week, she got up to leave and experienced a strong fragrance of flowers, roses in fact. This happened three times over the next few minutes. As was Lent, there were no flowers in church, but more remarkably due to Kathy's Parkinson's disease she has had no sense of smell for a number of years. She felt both very excited and confused by the experience.

Kathy finds Holy Week a difficult time, remembering the pain of Jesus on the cross. But as she went home, she felt a deep inner peace, such that she had not experience before.

The following day, she went to a Mother's Union service on the theme of 'Flowers from Heaven' and as part of the service ladies went up to the Altar to plant red roses. This somehow, confirmed the experience.

She gives thanks and praise to God for this special gift from God at a time when she was feeling rather low – it lifted her mood and anxieties and helped her self-esteem. She felt that God was asking her to read parts of the Old Testament, Ruth, Esther, Isaiah and the Psalms. She just wants to read more of the Old Testament and listen more attentively to God in the midst of all the busy-ness. She feels she is now able to find a quiet space so she can be close to God. She added that she has never felt as close to God as she does now and it makes her thirst more for God's word. In this time she gets a great sense of tranquillity and peace. Kathy also mentioned those beautiful words in Psalm 139:

'For you created my inmost being;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.
I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made;
your works are wonderful, I know that full well.'

These have been of great help to her. She feels more comfortable in who she is and her relationship with God.

Thank you Kathy for sharing this with us, I know every time you think about it you still feel excited. It has been a joy and encouragement to me and hopefully everyone who reads about it. We give thanks with you.

Katharine Lonsborough



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The Bishop's Letter – August 2013

'Refreshment and Renewal'

Jane and I recently went on a short retreat to El Palmeral a retreat and holiday centre in Spain. It was a relaxing week in the sun with time to reflect, pray and listen to God. It was also an opportunity to relax and recharge the batteries. During the summer months many of you will, I hope, have an opportunity to take time out and live life at a different pace either through a holiday, retreat or simply by slowing down a bit. All of us need these times if we're to maintain a healthy and balanced physical, psychological and spiritual life style.



The biblical theme of refreshing has a variety of physical and spiritual meanings. In scripture we read of refreshment by resting on the Sabbath, a regular plan for humanity to find rest each week, with cool water following physical activity, by soothing music and with encouraging fellowship. Peter describes a time of spiritual renewal and refreshment at Pentecost, Acts 3:19 "Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord".

Taking time out doesn't come easy for many people. It's a constant theme in Ministerial Development Reviews. God desires rest for us because it doesn't come naturally to many. To rest means that we have to trust in God to care of things. The trouble is that we think we have to be in control of every aspect of our lives and activities. If one definition of relaxing is to "be less firm" then relaxing the grip on our own lives and giving them over to God in faith is one of the best ways to relax and be refreshed. For Christians, the ultimate rest is found in Jesus. He invites all who are "weary and burdened" to come to him and cast their cares on him (Matt 11:28). It's only in him that we find our complete rest. In Christ we can experience a time of refreshing and renewal simply by quieting our hearts in a time of devotion and prayer and the study of scripture. When we spend time with Jesus we experience his peace that passes all understanding, we receive his joy which renews our spirit.

So whatever you're doing this summer I hope you will not only find physical and psychological renewal and refreshment but also time to be with Christ and in him find the deep peace of God.

+Peter

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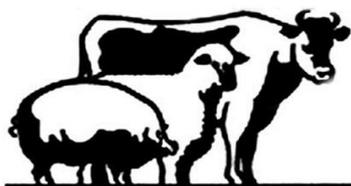


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Will You Remember Them - August 2013

Christian who runs homeless shelter in Belarus facing jail for praying.

A young Christian man who has turned his home into a shelter for the homeless is facing up to two years imprisonment after being accused of leading an unregistered religious organisation. Aleksei Scherzo (28) is being investigated on criminal charges following police raids on the shelter in the village of Aleksandrova, Grodno Region, earlier this year.

The authorities have taken issue with a prayer room, which is used by residents and local villagers, at the site, but Aleksei insists that he is running a charity, not a religious organisation.

He said: "I am a Christian and I started to help those in need. I give them food, a bed, a bath and clothes and I pray together with them"

Aleksei set up the shelter in Dec. 2011 and estimates that he has since helped almost 100 people. He is being investigated under Criminal Code Article 193--1, which punishes "organisation of or participation in activity by an unregistered political party, civil or religious organisation". Violators face a fine or up to two years imprisonment.

The code article has been severely criticised by Belarusian and international human rights defenders. The Belarusian authorities are hostile to public faith-based social justice initiatives.

Please Pray

That this young man's work to help the needy may continue without any further threat or hindrance from the authorities.

May he be a blessing to all those who he ministers to in the name of Christ.

Amen.

JD

A response to a growing need – Food Banks

Recently there has been a lot of coverage about food banks. It is easy, though, to think it isn't our concern. Did you know that within the Ecclesfield Deanery there are three food banks in operation. One in Fir Vale, one in Parson Cross and one in High Green. They have all been set up or have strong links with Christian churches and communities in those areas.

Recently, I had the opportunity to visit the food bank in Parson Cross. It is run out of Mount Tabor Methodist Church. I have to confess being a little nervous about going, I guess I was worried that I would feel guilty about being so fortunate. I was however, with someone much wiser than me who told me not to feel guilty – help those people you can. I was very warmly received by both those running the food bank and their clients. I was truly humbled listening to people's experiences of how they came to need this service. Most were people who have been truly let down by the 'system' and ended up in need of food through no fault of their own. Perhaps losing their jobs, or their business or through a relationship breakdown. Some felt ashamed to have to come. There was a warm welcome for clients – tea and coffee was served by previous clients who have been helped and are now back on their feet. I heard wonderful stories about some people who have very little themselves coming in, to donate a tin of food for others. A true demonstration of the widow's mite! People are referred for help through GPs, the Advice Services, housing associations etc. Some people literally have had nothing to eat for days. The food bank is also trying to set up a link with the Credit Union to help people see there are other alternatives to 'doorstep lenders'.

Bishop Steven feels it is important to raise awareness of the issues surrounding food banks as his Presidential Address to Diocesan Synod was about this very subject. He said: 'The growing need for food banks shows us how vital that part of our strategy is for the church and for the region. But Salt and Light encourages us to go further than simple practical support, vital though that is.

We need to pray and think and reflect about what is happening. We need to reflect on what this change says about the society and the world we live in. We need to be challenged ourselves and we need to challenge others. What does it mean that some neighbours are in need of food aid in our own society and our own towns and city? How can we not only serve our neighbours but work for change in this area?

Jesus gives his disciples a prayer. We call it the Lord's Prayer. We use it every time we gather. We know it by heart. We pray it from childhood to old age. It is the most profound and wonderful prayer ever composed.

In the very centre of the Lord's Prayer we find a prayer centred on food. Give us this day our daily bread. It is a prayer asking for the basic necessities of life. Yes, of course, bread is much more than food. We are asking for spiritual nourishment as well as physical food. But it is a prayer for physical food. *Continued on Page 23*

Ladies Group Visit Wentworth -Woodhouse.

On an incredibly beautiful evening on Thursday 11th July the Ladies Group and one or two Husbands were privileged to tour the Big House at Wentworth. For years it has been closed to the public, but after the Newbould family purchased it in 1999 it was their wish to make it available to the public and to extensively improve the house and Gardens. This is an immense project which will take years to fulfil.

We entered by the front entrance (east) the facade of which is 600 feet in width, into the Pillared Hall, a Palladian space with rows of Tuscan Columns supporting the floor of the Saloon above. First we were shown into three Ground floor rooms, The Ship Room, The Painted Drawing Room which depicts wall paintings of the five senses and are original works by Jean Francois Clermont or Andein de Clermont also family paintings of the 1st and 2nd Marquis' of Rockingham. The Low Drawing Room is very much a 'work in progress' with attractive carvings of the mantel piece and two corner niches.

Moving along the South Corridor with its wood panelling we come to the Chapel built in 1734, this has 12 portraits of the Apostles. From here we reach the Neoclassical Staircase designed by John Carr, with stone steps, elaborate wrought ironwork it risers majestically to a statue of Ceres the Goddess of agriculture, grain crops and fertility, thought to be over 2000 years old. The staircase is complete with a lovely domed glass ceiling letting in the light and other statues in their niches.

From this we enter the Saloon through double doors and find this vast Hall 60 feet square and 40 feet high. The ceiling plasterwork by Jonathan and Joseph Rose is reflected in the design on the marble floor this is incredible and was used by the College for badminton the statues in the surrounding niches were protected by a curtain of parachute silk. It has a Gallery supported by 18 Ionic fluted pillars scagliola... Leading off the Hall is the Van Dyke Room which has a beautiful oval Ceiling, and sometime in the future paintings which resided in this room may be returned for a special period of time.

The Whistlejacket Room is dedicated to the famous racehorse of that name belonging to the 2nd Marquis of Rockingham there is a copy of the painting of the horse. The last room is the State Dining Room the walls and ceiling are richly decorated , the centre piece is the long Dining Table with a dinner service in white and gold displayed upon it. Wentworth Woodhouse is a step back in time and well worth a visit.

We finished the evening off with a lovely meal at the Thorncliffe Arms, Warren.

PB



View of Wentworth Woodhouse showing the 600 foot wide east façade which is believed to be the longest of any European mansion house



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BARTIMAEUS

Who? To the people of Jericho who walked past him every day while he sat begging for the smallest coin, he was 'that blind beggar' sitting by the roadside. And there he sat until one special day when Jesus was leaving Jericho, surrounded by the usual crowd. We can imagine Bartimaeus tugging at someone's robe and asking 'What's going on, who is it?' and the answer coming back 'It's that preacher, Jesus of Nazareth'.

But Bartimaeus knew that Jesus was special, was more than just a preacher from Nazareth. He called out, he carried on calling even when the crowd told him not to - and Jesus stopped. Bartimaeus threw off his beggar's cloak and came to Jesus, asking to be able to see. And Jesus gave him the gift of sight; his eyes were opened. Just imagine - the first thing that Bartimaeus saw was Jesus' face. He saw the Light, the Light of the World, and left the roadside to follow Jesus (St Mark's Gospel, chapter 10, verses 46-52).

BIBLE EYES

Every one of these answers is a person or thing in the Bible which are all something to do with eyes.

1. He went blind on the road to Damascus (Acts 9:8).
2. Was blinded in Gaza and pulled down a building (Judges 16:29).
3. What Jesus put on the blind man's eyes (John 9:6).
4. Was a beggar in Jericho before meeting Jesus (Matthew 10:46).
5. Helped Paul regain his sight (Acts 9:17).
6. The boy Samuel ministered to him because his eyesight was going dim (1Samuel 3).



Have your eyes ever been checked?

No, they've always been this colour.

Optician: what can you see out of that window?

Patient: only the sun.

Optician: how far do you want to see, then?



Answers: 1.Saul, afterward Paul 2. Samson 3.mud 4.Bartimaeus 5.Ananias 6.Eli

Diary for the Month of August 2013

| | | |
|-------------------------------|----------|--|
| Thursday 1 st | 9.30 am | Holy Communion |
| | 10.30 am | Prayer Meeting in Church |
| Saturday 3 rd | 10.00 am | Reader / Intercessor Training |
| Sunday 4th | | The Tenth Sunday after Trinity |
| | 10.00 am | Parish Communion |
| | 6.30 pm | Evening Service |
| Wednesday 7 th | 10.30 am | Service at Eva Ratcliffe House |
| Thursday 8 th | 9.30 am | Holy Communion |
| | 2.30 pm | Service at Hartwell House |
| Sunday 11th | | The Eleventh Sunday after Trinity |
| | 8.30 am | Holy Communion |
| | 10.00 am | Parish Communion |
| | 6.30 pm | Holy Communion |
| Wednesday 14 th | 10.30 am | Service at Eva Ratcliffe House |
| Thursday 15 th | 9.30 am | Holy Communion |
| Sunday 18th | | The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity |
| | 10.00 am | Parish Communion |
| | 6.30 pm | Evening Service |
| Monday 19 th | 7.30 pm | Outreach Team Meeting |
| Wednesday 21 st | 10.30 am | Service at Eva Ratcliffe House |
| Thursday 22 nd | 9.30 am | Holy Communion |
| Sunday 25th | | The Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity |
| | 8.30 am | Holy Communion |
| | 10.00 am | Parish Communion |
| | 6.30 pm | Evening Service |
| Wednesday 28 th | 10.30 am | Service at Eva Ratcliffe House |
| Thursday 29 th | 9.30 am | Holy Communion |
| | 7.30 pm | Finance Team Meeting |

From the Registers

Baptisms

| | |
|----------|----------------------------|
| 7th July | Lilianna Scarlett Mae Hill |
| 7th July | Frank John Hinchliffe |
| 7th July | Tabitha Rose Tennant |

*May they know the love of God in their lives and may all thing
of the Spirit live and grow in them.*

Weddings

| | |
|-----------|------------------------------------|
| 29th June | Fraser Bower and Marcelle Anderson |
| 20th July | Richard Pym and Claire Mellors |
| 20th July | Marc Speight and Elizabeth Andrew |

*May each be to the other strength in need a comfort in sorrow
and a companion in joy.*

Funerals

| | | |
|-----------|---------------------------|----|
| 15th July | Mark Christopher Trippett | 39 |
| 25th July | Saidley Roy Clarke | 63 |

Grant them, O Lord, refreshment, light and peace

Flower Rota

| | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 4 th August | W. Brunt & V. Brunt |
| 11 th August | K & L Atkin |
| 18 th August | Vicki & Michael Grey |
| 25 th August | Vacant |



Following three successful summer concerts in Grenoside, Ecclesfield and Middleton, near Manchester, the choir is now enjoying a well-earned summer break. However, this is not preventing us from singing at two weddings during August.

The choir has more than 50 members now but we continue to welcome new members, especially men and even more especially, tenors. Rehearsals resume on September 2nd when any guests or those interested in singing with us will be most welcome.

Website <http://www.grenosidesingers.co.uk>

ACR

The Gardening Year - August 2013

Lawns – continue to apply weed killers during good growing weather. **Roses** – remove blooms as they fade, blooms required for home decoration should be cut as short as possible. Do not apply rose fertilisers after the end of July as they would encourage late soft growth that would not mature before winter, if greenfly appear spray with a systemic rose insecticide with the appropriate fungicide against black spot and rust. **Hardy Herbaceous Plants** – continue dead heading consider whether the plant will look less unsightly if left alone because plants flowering after July are unlikely to flower a second time if cut back. Most kinds will show new growth at ground level even while still in flower and these do not need cutting back. Anemis, gaillardia and a few more kinds however, are weakened by their profusion of flowers and make little or no new basal growth as flowering comes to an end so cut them hard back after flowering. Remove the supports from the plants which have finished flowering and cut off the weak stems. **Dahlias** – inspect the plants for mottling or discolouration of the foliage. This may indicate the presence of virus disease especially if the plants growth is stunted, mark any suspected plants so they can be destroyed in the Autumn and not kept for producing cuttings the next year such cuttings would themselves be affected by disease, feed with liquid fertiliser and keep the plants carefully tied to avoid wind damage. **Chrysanthemums** – buds form very rapidly during this month on outdoor flowering varieties if large blooms are required disbud the plant to one flower per stem. Disbudding is sometimes called securing the bud or taking the buds it entails removing the side shoots which appear where each leaf joins the stem, they appear at the same time as a bud forms at the tip of the stem, allow the shoot to grow about $\frac{3}{4}$ in. long before removing them otherwise the main stem will be damaged causing malformation of the flower when it opens, remove the unwanted shoots with a sharp sideways pull, do not pinch them out with your finger nails or break them off with a downward pull. Complete the disbudding of outdoor flowering varieties by August 21st to ensure blooming before autumn is too far advanced. When the buds have been secured apply fertiliser to help fatten them up, do not apply fertiliser after the buds show colour. **Fruit** – watch early maturing varieties carefully and pick them while slightly under ripe because they retain their best flavour for only a short period. Test fruit for near ripeness by lifting and twisting gently, when it is ready it parts easily from the spur. **Vegetables** – spring cabbage can be sown this month also lettuce for cutting in late summer. Every four years chives need dividing, lift the clumps and cut into segments with a sharp knife taking care that each segment retains a number of roots and plant out in 12in. apart.

Colin Williams

Whitley Hall Cricket Club



The 1st XI went into July unbeaten in the league and just one point behind leaders Wickersley. However, their continued struggle to bowl the opposition out followed by a comprehensive defeat at Wickersley resulted in a slide to ten points behind the leaders, just one point ahead of third placed team, Hallam. Batting first against Hallam on 20th July, Jaco Castle gave a batting masterclass after the team made a bad start to achieve a total of 200 runs. This proved too much for the opposition who were beaten and bowled out. This leaves the team in a strong 2nd place but with 10 points to catch up.

The 2nd XI is in mid-table but excelled themselves when they won the President's Trophy on 21st July with a defeat of Rotherham Phoenix at Aston Hall. 28th July sees the final of the Whitworth Cup when the 1st XI will have played against Hallam at Elsecar (after print deadline).

Contacts:

Joe Webster, Secretary: 0114 245 2518

Steve Fletcher, Director of Cricket: 0114 245 2406

Andrew Robinson, Publicity and Fundraising: 0114 246 3646

Website: www.whitleyhall.play-cricket.com

Senior matches at Cinder Hill Lane

| | | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| 27 th July | 2 nd XI | v | Rotherham Phoenix |
| 28 th July | Whitworth Cup Final | v | Against Hallam at Elsecar Ground |
| 3 rd August | 1 st XI | v | Houghton |
| 10 th August | 2 nd XI | v | Oughtibridge 1 st XI |
| 17 th August | 1 st XI | v | Aston Hall |
| 24 th August | 2 nd XI | v | Elsecar |
| 31 st August | 1 st XI | v | Whiston |

ACR



Ian Smith ATT Anne Smith BA (Hons)

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The saint who couldn't forgive himself

Laurence Loricatus – Saints day 11th August

Have you done something bad which haunts you? Does the memory of it still follow you through each day – and keep you awake at night? If so, then Laurence Loricatus (c. 1190 – 1243) is the saint for you. He was born at Facciolo (Apulia) and as a youth he killed a man.

After that, life changed forever for Laurence. His guilt overwhelmed him, and he decided to expiate for it. He made the long and difficult pilgrimage to Compostella, but found no relief. So he became a hermit at Subiaco – cutting himself off from all the comforts of normal life. But he found no relief. So then he began to wear not a hairshirt, but a coat of chainmail next to his skin. It was a heavy, unyielding weight which bruised and rubbed his skin raw.

Laurence hated himself and would not forgive himself, though God had forgiven him years before. He is a caution to anyone in the same situation today. His continued 'penance' did no one any good. The suffering absorbed hours of his attention, and got him nowhere.

When we do something we regret, of course God wants us to repent of it. But then he wants us to put it behind us. Our bad deed needs to be quarantined and left behind in our lives. If we won't put it down, our life becomes focused on our hatred of ourselves, instead of on God's love for us. It took the Pope years to get Laurence to take off that chain-shirt.



Crossword Puzzle - Solution is here

ACROSS: 8, Prince of Peace. 9, INF. 10, Unmarried. 11, Gulag. 13, Treason. 16, In aid of. 19, Arena. 22, Calvinist. 24, Pad. 25, Moses and Aaron.

DOWN: 1, Spring. 2, Sinful. 3, Scourged. 4, Commit. 5, Spur. 6, Mats. 7, Feed on. 12, Urn. 14, Erastian. 15, Own. 16, Income. 17, At last. 18, Friend. 20, Empire. 21, Adding. 23, Inst.

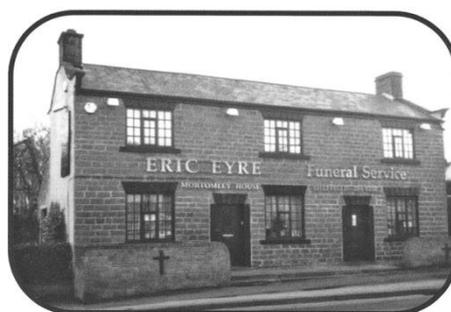
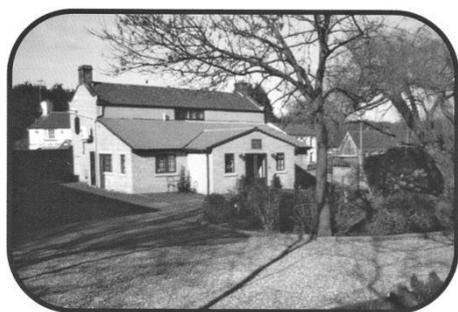
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A response to a growing need – Food Banks - continued

I've come to realize that one of the reasons the Lord gives us this line of the prayer is to teach us to be content with enough.

The Church needs to proclaim a different message, to sing a different song. The message that wealth and possessions bring happiness is, simply, a lie. Christ's love sets us free from the chains of our own greed and slavery to possessions. "Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing?" (Matthew 6.25) The Christian Way is about learning to be content with enough. Give us this day our daily bread. We learn to see in ordinary things the surpassing generosity of God.

That message in turn liberates us and sets us free to be generous: to share with others what God has given us. The message creates in us as Christians a strong desire for justice. We do not see why we should live in an unequal world.

The message drives us to campaign for an end to world hunger. World hunger is created and sustained by institutionalized greed. There is enough food for everyone but some are denied because of the greed of others to consume. The Enough Food/IF campaign this year has argued for serious structural change to help the world's poorest people – those who are starving and malnourished in the very poorest countries. Christians and Christian aid agencies have been in the forefront of that campaign.'

It is a real challenge to us to respond to the human need, to pray and campaign for a fairer world. Two campaign websites mentioned by the Bishop.

<http://www.christianaid.org.uk/ActNow/if-enough-food/if.aspx>

<http://www.lovefoodhatewaste.com>

He concluded his address: 'I want to thank God for all the churches across this diocese who are involved in helping the hungry, through food banks, collection and distribution of food, soup runs, homeless shelters, through collecting for Christian Aid, through joining the IF campaign, through allotment projects, through teaching people about growing food or food preparation, through food festivals. There is a growing need around us. There is plenty of scope for more churches and people to be involved.'

In all of these ways, we bear witness to the love of Christ and we are salt and light in our communities. Give us this day our daily bread.

I would commend you to read the full address on the Diocesan website.

Katharine Lonsborough

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Prayers and Poems Page

Heart

I take my heart in my hand,
O my God, O my God,
My broken heart in my hand:
Thou hast seen, judge thou.
My hope was written on sand,
O my God, O my God:
Now let thy judgement stand –
Yea, judge me now.

From 'Twice' by Christina Rossetti

Out of the Depths

“John was seven years old when his mother died, and 11 when his father took him to sea. John soon became a hardened blaspheming seaman, and slave trading became a way of life. One day a tremendous storm arose. John in fear calling to God for mercy was miraculously saved from the deep. So chastened and reformed was John that on his return to England he gave his life to God, becoming ordained in the Church of England and a curate in 1764. He joined forces with William Wilberforce campaigning for the abolition of slavery. This is John Newton’s testimony.”

John Newton wrote:
Amazing grace! how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost but now I’m found
Was blind but now I see

*A true short story, in 100 words,
by Megan Carter*

Praise

When light creeps in through the chinks of
the door
When the mist ascends from the mountain
floor,
When the ocean shimmers like burnished ore,
Let me give the praise.

O God of the morning, Christ of the hills,
O Spirit who all the firmament fills,
O Trinity blest who all goodness wills,
Keep us all our days.

From 'Morning', an ancient Celtic poem

Nigel Beeton writes: Have you ever tried walking along a so-called 'byway open to all traffic?' Just after it's been raining over a bank holiday weekend and the petrol-heads have been out in their 4X4s and off-road motorbikes?

Byway Open to All Traffic

“All traffic may use this byway.”
They wouldn’t if I had my way!
“All traffic” may sound well and good –
But what of those who go on foot?

With motor bike or 4X4
As they enjoy their country tour
They roar along without a care –
As if the ramblers were not there!

Engines screaming, petrol burning
Wheels the grass to mud are churning
“All traffic?” Guess who’s needs are last!
With mud so deep you can’t get past!

If should come a happy hour
When the ramblers have some power
I’ve a manifesto planned
4X4’s from green lanes – BANNED!

Crossword Puzzle

Clues Across

- 8** One of the titles given to the Messiah in Isaiah's prediction (Isaiah 9:6) (6,2,5)
- 9** International Nepal Fellowship (1,1,1)
- 10** Single (1Corinthians7:27) (9)
- 11** Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn's seminal book about Soviet prison camps, The — Archipelago (5)
- 13** Treachery (2Kings11:14) (7)
- 16** Of India (anag.) (2,3,2)
- 19** 'God has put us apostles on display at the end of the procession, like men condemned to die in the — ' (1 Corinthians 4:9) (5)
- 22** Follower of a theological system characterized by a strong belief in predestination (9)
- 24** 'Put these old rags and worn-out clothes under your arms to— the ropes' (Jeremiah 38:12) (3)
- 25** They brought together all the elders of the Israelites in Egypt (Exodus 4:29) (5,3,5)

Clues Down

- 1** The season when kings 'go off to war' (2 Samuel 11:1) (6)
- 2** Simon Peter's response to Jesus by the Sea of Galilee: 'Go away from me, Lord; I am a — man' (Luke 5:8) (6)
- 3** Beaten with whips (1 Kings12:11) (8)
- 4** 'You shall not — adultery' (Exodus 20:14) (6)
- 5** Encourage (Hebrews 10:24) (4)
- 6** Service of morning prayer in the Church of England (6)
- 7** 'Take and eat this in remembrance that Christ died for you, and — — him in your heart by faith with thanksgiving' (4,2)
- 12** Run (anag.)(3)
- 14** Member of 17th-century party that denied the right of autonomy to the Church (8)
- 15** 'We will triumph with our tongues; we—our lips' (Psalm12:4) (3)
- 16** Earnings (1Corinthians16:2) (6)

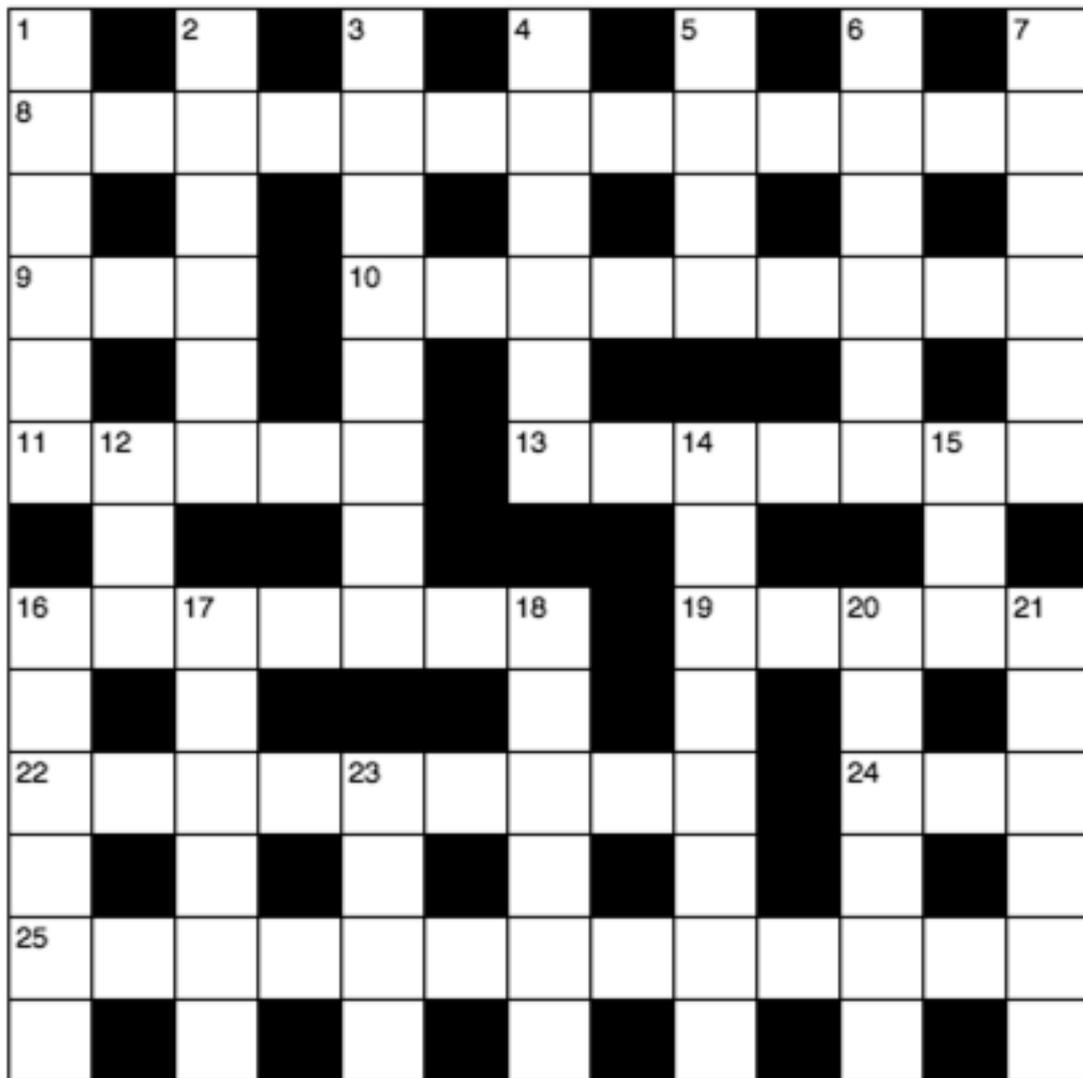
17 'I rejoice greatly in the Lord that—you have renewed your concern for me' (Philippians 4:10) (2,4)

18 How Paul described Philemon (Philemon 1) (6)

20 Multiple territories under the rule of a single state (Daniel 11:4) (6)

21 'You have been unfaithful; you have married foreign women,—to Israel's guilt' (Ezra 10:10) (6)

23 This month (abbrev.) (4)



Crossword Puzzle - Solution is on page 21

August is for Unwinding and Recharging ourselves...

My soul
Smoothed itself out – a long-cramped scroll
Freshening and fluttering in the wind.

By Robert Browning – from 'The Last Ride Together' 1842

Saint of the Month - Clare of Assisi - 11th August

Choosing the riches of poverty

In the year 1212 Clare, the 18 year old daughter of a local Count, heard a young preacher called Francis. A few years earlier he had caused a sensation in the centre of the town where they both lived, Assisi in Italy, by stripping himself of his wealthy clothes and declaring that from now on he would live the life of a peasant. This, he said, was in obedience to the call of Christ, for whom the poor were 'blessed' and the rich were in peril of judgment. He gathered a group of seven men prepared to embrace what he called 'joyful poverty' for Christ's sake, but that day he was to enlist a female disciple. 'You are a chosen soul from God', he told Clare, when she expressed her eagerness to embrace the same strict rule as his male followers.

In due course, after a period in a Benedictine convent, Clare and her sister Agnes moved into the church of St Damiano, which Francis and his friends had restored, and gathered there a group of like-minded women. Eventually Francis made Clare the abbess of a religious Order, at first called the 'Order of Poor Ladies', eventually, and universally, to be known as the 'Poor Clares'. Unable to operate an itinerant ministry like the men, Clare's sisters concentrated on a life of prayer and simplicity. In fact, their dedication to poverty was such that it affected the health of many of them.

Francis and Clare remained friends and colleagues over the next 14 years in this remarkable movement of renewal and mission. During the preceding century (as we can learn from Chaucer, among others) the religious Orders had in many cases substituted indulgence for discipline. Francis and Clare found this scandalous, and despite opposition from high places, set out to demonstrate that an effective Christian message required an appropriate Christian life-style. For them, poverty was not a burden but a joy - a release from the delusions of power and ambition. Their witness made an enormous impact on the poor people of Umbria and beyond, who saw an authenticity in their lives which spoke as eloquently as their words.

Clare helped to nurse Francis through his final illness, which lasted several years. She lived for 27 years after his death, like him suffering from the effects of long years of strict austerity. She died in 1253 and was canonised two years later. She is buried in the basilica of St Clare in Assisi, a few hundred yards from the basilica of St Francis. In life they proclaimed the same message of sacrificial love and service, and in their deaths they were not divided.

David Winter

A Profile of Alison Hancock - Piano Teacher.

Alison was born in Ecclesfield to Pauline and Roy Marsland in 1966 and her brother Andrew came along in 1968. Alison went to Ecclesfield Infant and Junior School and then on to Colley school. When she became interested in music, she started learning to play the Piano at age eleven, and also the clarinet and saxophone, Alison enjoyed the lessons at Colley her favourite subject was Science as she hoped to work with animals in the future.

The family had always been interested in Scouting, Mum became a Cub leader in High Green and then in Ecclesfield and Alison used to tag along with Mum and Andrew when it was Cub Pack night just to help out you see as girls hadn't been admitted into Scouting at that time, however she was thrilled to be able to join the 231st Brook Venture Scouts and loved camping, canoeing and climbing along with the Woodseats Venture Scout Group.

Continues on back page



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Contact Dawn Johnson 2463986 or Alwyne Hill 2469154

Contact Numbers for Local Groups

Ecclesfield Rainbows

Gatty Hall
Tuesday 4.45 pm to 6.00 pm
Leader - Mrs B Travis
Tel: 0114 245 3504

Ecclesfield Brownies

Gatty Hall
Monday 5.00 pm to 6.30 pm
Leader - Mrs J Hutchinson
Tel: 0114 257 8609

Ecclesfield Brownies

Gatty Hall
Tuesday 6.15 pm to 7.45 pm
Leader - Mrs A. Kendall
Tel: 0114 246 8866

Ecclesfield Guides

Gatty Hall
Thursday 6.30 pm to 8.30 pm
Leader - Mrs C Topham
Tel: 0114 246 1289

Ecclesfield Priory Players

EPPIC Theatre
Monday 7.30 pm to 10.00 pm
Wednesday 7.30 pm to 10.00 pm
Secretary –Carol Travis

Ecclesfield Community Garden

Ecclesfield Park,
off Mill Lane - Church Street
Summer opening times
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Saturdays 10.00 am to 12.00 pm.
Tel: 0795 706 6404
email: rose@rosetanner.plus.com

Ecclesfield Cubs

Scout Hut (off Yew lane)
Wednesday 4:45 pm to 6:15 pm
2nd Pack 6.30 pm to 8.0 pm
Leader - Mrs A Hancock
Tel: 0114 245 2780

Ecclesfield Beavers

Scout Hut (off Yew lane)
Monday 6.00 pm to 7.15 pm
Leader - Mrs J Steel
0114 246 0218
Thursday 6.00 -7.15 pm
Rachael Otter 0114 246 1752

Ecclesfield Scouts

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Leader - Mr E. Buttimer
Tel: 0114 258 6935
Group Scout Leader
Rob Kirk Tel. 0114 220 9212

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Mrs P Blackburn  0114 246 8453

A Profile of Alison Hancock - continued

Alison has many pupils now including adults, her pupils can learn Piano up to Grade 7 and Theory to Grade 5, also children who play another instrument e.g. Trumpet need to have theory to be able to take Grade 5, so she often teaches Theory on its own. Alison also belongs to Thorpe Hesley Brass Band playing the Cornet and they have just finished a concert for MacMillan making £800 for the charity. At Christmas time the Band play at the Bay Horse, in Scholes Village.

Today Alison takes the two Ecclesfield Cub Packs on Wednesday night assisted by her daughter Charlotte who leads the later Pack and younger Daughter Emily who helps out with both packs. Not to be outdone son Joshua helps leader Rachel Otter with Beavers on Thursday nights.

Ecclesfield Cubs have just been to a week-end camp at Hesley Wood Scout Activity Centre taking part in Canoeing and Archery. It is clear Alison enjoys being with children and playing her musical instruments - she also loves riding her motor bike, now that's another story!

PB

