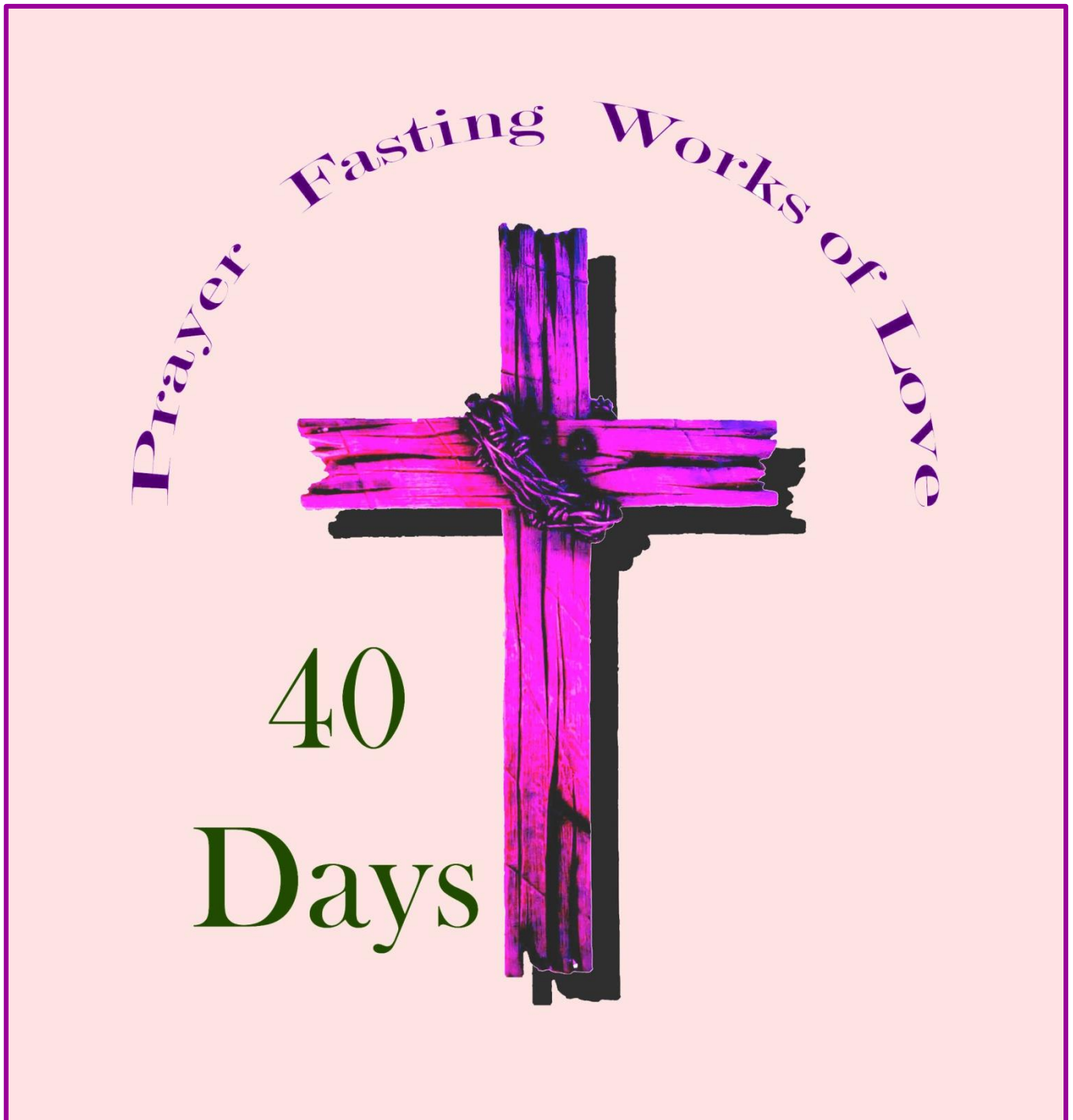


News & Views From St Mary's Church Ecclesfield



Church Magazine for March 2015

www.stmarysecclesfield.com

Price 60p

First Words...

- **Mothering Sunday** – Mothering Sunday this year falls on Sunday 15th March. Please join us for our 10 o'clock Service of the Word on that day.
- **Lent** – Lent is a time for reflection. Please make that extra effort during the season to attend worship and to deepen your relationship with Christ.
- **Annual Meeting** – This year's Annual Parish Meeting will take place after the 10 o'clock Service on Sunday 22nd March. Please come along.

Daniel Hartley



Prayer for Month

A Prayer for the General Election

Heavenly Father
source of all truth and wisdom,
who knows and loves the whole creation,
watch over our nation at election time:
that truth may prevail over distortion,
wisdom triumph over recklessness
and the concerns of every person be heard.
Amen.

Thy counting day

O thou King of the blood loyal and true,
Exclude me not from thy covenant new,
For my unjust misdeeds make me not pay,
Overlook me not in thy counting day,
Overlook me not in thy counting day.

From an old Celtic prayer

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The Vicars' Letter - Election Fever

What does it mean to put the person of Jesus Christ at the heart of our lives? There will be as many answers to this question as there are people doing the answering. For some it will be a life of prayer and quiet contemplation. For some it will be a life filled with lively and transformative worship. For some it will be a diligent study of Scripture. For some it will be a call to social action.

What then, does it mean to put the person of Jesus Christ at the heart of our voting intentions at this year's General Election? Again, I'm sure that there will be as many answers to this question as there are people doing the answering.

The Bishops of the Church of England have written a Pastoral Letter entitled *Who is my neighbour? A Letter from the House of Bishops to the People and Parishes of the Church of England for the General Election 2015*. This letter can be found online at: <https://churchofengland.org/media/2170230/whoismyneighbour-pages.pdf>

The letter offers interesting and thoughtful reflections on the state of our nation today. I'm afraid that the letter has been caricatured in parts of the national media as being pro-Labour and anti-Conservative. I do not find it do be so. It calls on all political leaders to seek to cultivate "values" rather than to simply rely on the intractable mechanism of either the state or the free market.

In the conclusion to the letter, the following two paragraphs appear:

This letter is about building a vision of a better kind of world, a better society and better politics. Underlying those ideas is the concept of virtue – what it means to be a good person, a good politician, a good neighbour or a good community. Virtues are nourished, not by atomised individualism, but in strong communities which relate honestly and respectfully to other groups and communities which make up this nation.

Strong communities are schools of virtue – they are the places where we learn how to be good, how to live well and how to make relationships flourish. They build on the traditions through which each generation learns its national, local and family identity. Virtues are ways of living that can be learned, but which too many trends in recent decades have eroded.

These important reflections apply regardless of one's political colours. To put Christ at the heart of our voting intentions and our political thinking means to allow the language of value and virtue to shine through. I'd urge you all to read the Bishop's Letter and to make up your own minds.

Daniel Hartley

On the perils of parking near church

The Rectory
St. James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren

I cannot be wholly sympathetic because your church car park is now inadequate, only having space for 100 cars. Your solution of advising members of the congregation to park in the adjoining supermarket car park may not have been wise. The maximum time people can stop there is 90 minutes, and as your sermons alone often reach that length, returning to find their cars clamped may not make you universally popular – although it may give your congregation the opportunity of practising Christian forgiveness.



Since the medieval architect who built St. James the Least was not overly concerned with car parking, the only space we have is along the road by the church. Inevitably, it gets blocked, which causes us all immense satisfaction when those not attending church but intending to have a morning shopping, find themselves unable to get out of the village until Matins is over.

I did once encourage people to walk to church across the fields, but when the present Earl of Stowe started to get his staff to lay waterproof sheeting along the paths so he could avoid getting mud on his shoes, I decided the idea was best dropped.

For most, the inconvenience of parking only makes attending church more of a pleasurable challenge; we so enjoy having something to complain about. Major Hastings, however, who has complained endlessly about parking problems, made a point last Christmas by leaving his car in the middle of the vicarage lawn. I was so pleased he happened to park just where I had had a garden pond filled in only the previous week. He returned to find that the car had sunk up the windscreen and needed a crane to remove it. And it would have made a charming garden feature; I could even picture it with garden gnomes on its roof.

For weddings, a farmer allows us to use the field adjoining the church. While he rarely attends church on Sundays, he is always there the week before – I suspect praying for heavy rain, so he can make a fortune charging to tow out with his tractor those who have got stuck. Perhaps the greatest act of witness your church could perform would be to get everyone attending church to park on the ring road, bringing the entire town to a halt until your three hour Sunday morning Service is over.

Your loving uncle,
Eustace

Ecclesfield Civil Parish Past & Present Archiving Project

Ecclesfield Parish Council's *Past & Present Archiving Project* is running until the end of October 2016. Funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF), it will create an on-line easily accessible collection of material (a digital archive and website). A project co-ordinator, Christine Handley, has been appointed to oversee the project. She is working with the local history groups across the area (Chapelton, Ecclesfield, Grenoside and High Green) who are helping to guide and contribute to the project.

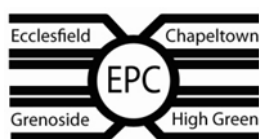
The archive will also be a resource for schools, other groups and individuals to both share information and learn more about the parish's local history. There will be plenty of opportunities over the next two years for everyone to get involved. Christine will be:

- helping to gather local history material which will be sorted, catalogued, indexed and digitised to create the archive;
- running skills training courses on collecting and using local history material for archives; and in interviewing and recording memories;
- supporting young and older people to interview and record residents talking about their life experiences in the local area; and
- organising family workshops, drop-in activities, exhibitions and displays to publicise the project and local history.

You don't have to be a history expert to take part. Young or old, everyone has a story to tell and a photograph or memory to share. The aim of the project is to capture our rich and varied local history from across the parish. Public launch events will be happening over the next couple of months. The first of these will on 25th April at Chapelton Library starting at 10.30am.

For more details of events and training sessions, and to get involved, please contact, Christine, at the Council Offices, Mortomley Lane, High Green, Sheffield S35 3HS; telephone: 0114 2845095; email: Christine.handley@ecclesfield-pc.gov.uk or see the events page on the Parish Council website www.ecclesfield-pc.gov.uk/

Christine Handley - Project Co-ordinator



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Bishop's Letter - March 2015

The Good Samaritan and Climate Change

How should a Christian think and speak about climate change?

Climate change is a present reality not a future threat. It's a present reality for millions of the poorest people in the world who are affected today by rising sea levels, by changing weather patterns, by water shortages and violent storms.

On Saturday, Hope for the Future offered a training day in Sheffield for Climate Change ambassadors. It was a privilege to be there. Hope for the Future is an ecumenical, nationwide campaign to encourage and equip individuals, churches and groups to lobby their MP on climate change. Further details are here: www.hftf.org.uk



2015 is a key year for Climate Change campaigners. Action to prevent climate change has to be global to make a difference. This year, there are a series of key international conferences and meetings. The UK has the potential to play a leading role in all of these, whatever government is in power. Now is the time for the churches to speak out.

The different aid agencies and charities have formed the Climate Coalition (www.theclimatecoalition.org). Pope Francis is to issue a major encyclical later in the year. Christian Aid, Tear Fund, CAFOD and others are all mobilizing their supporters.

But what will move us to take action? One of the most helpful stories to reflect on the Good Samaritan (Luke 10). Almost everyone knows it. A man is travelling down from Jerusalem to Jericho. He is set upon by robbers and left for dead. Over 66% of the people who travel down the Jericho Road that day see the problem but they do nothing about it. They pass by on the other side.

The Samaritan is different. He sees and is moved with compassion. Compassion moves him to action. That is exactly the journey many of us need to take in respect of climate change. We need to see what is happening and its consequences. We need to be moved with compassion.

We need to take action: in campaigning for change, in changing our habits and in encouraging others to do the same.

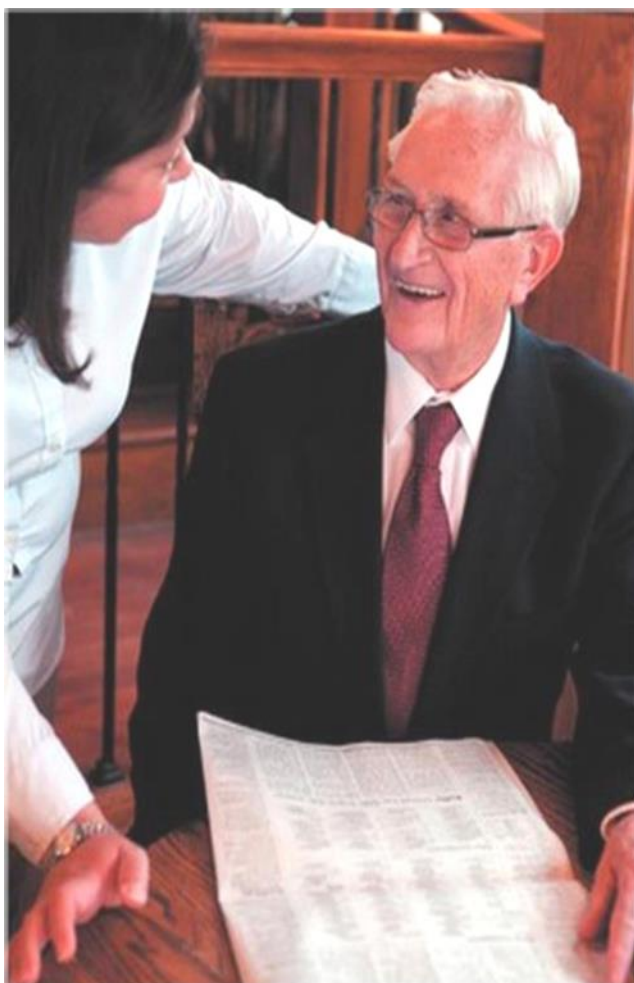
What helps people to make that change? Jesus tells the parable to answer a lawyer's question: who is my neighbour?

Think about it. People in the Philippines, in Bangladesh, in Bolivia, in Malawi, affected by climate change today are my neighbours. The generation now being born, who will live through enormous climate trauma if we do nothing are my neighbours. To love them means to take action, to do something.

+ *Steven*

My full reflection on the Good Samaritan is available here.

www.sheffield.anglican.org/UserFiles/File/Bishop_Steven/150131_And_who_i_s_my_neighbour.pdf



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Will You Remember Them – March 2015

“We must speak out for religious freedom” Justin Welby

The Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby has called on politicians, the church and the media to speak out against the “creeping climate of fear and animosity” at the launch of a new partnership to address the growing problem of violence against Christians.

The Religious Liberty Commission (RLC) ¹ has been launched at Westminster and is calling on the British government to intervene to prevent religious cleansing. The Archbishop gave the keynote address at the launch of the RLC at the Palace of Westminster. Highlighting the persecution of Christians in the Middle East, Saudi Arabia and Pakistan, attacks against Jews in Europe and the firebombing of mosques, he told an audience of parliamentarians and church leaders: “That quiet creeping removals of freedom that create a climate of fear and animosity is why we must speak out in solidarity. Silence is not an option. Treasuring the dignity of each and every human must mean that we treasure their right to religious belief --- even when we profoundly disagree with them.”

The RLC is a commission of the Evangelical Alliance, comprising Christian Solidarity Worldwide, Open Doors UK and Release International. These groups, which have been working for decades to raise awareness of persecution issues, will be collaborating under the banner:

“One Voice for the Persecuted Church”

The RLC is pressing the Department for International Development to make religious freedom a strategic priority. It is calling for a special envoy on Freedom of Religion or Belief within the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) to report back on persecution worldwide. The Archbishop said he welcomed the coordination of voices speaking out against persecution under the one banner of the RLC, adding: “I echo warmly the RLC’s encouragement for religious and political leaders to speak out in unison against any violation of freedom of religion.”

Please Pray

- That the work of the religious liberty commission will amplify the cries of the persecuted so the world can no longer ignore them.

JD

Ref: 1

RLC see - www.eauk.org/church/networks/religious-liberty-commission

Love in the air at Ecclesfield Library

Young visitors to Ecclesfield Library on Saturday 14th received a 'hearty' welcome as they counted all the paper hearts hidden around the building. They were awarded with hearts of the chocolate kind.

Older visitors had a go at a special Valentine's quiz while enjoying refreshments. Friends of Ecclesfield Library aim to make the library on High Street a real community hub and have been organising a variety of events since taking over the running of the service in October. They have had a talk entitled 'A walk through Local History' an introduction to the delights and challenges of examining our past' by Christine Handley.

Christine is the co-ordinator for the Ecclesfield Civil Parish Past and Present Project, funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund. It will be of interest to anybody who would like to find out more about researching and recording the history of their area. The archiving project will be officially launched in April – watch this space for more details. Anyone who would like to be involved in the project can contact Christine at <mailto:christine.handley@ecclesfield-pc.gov.uk>

Come and join in the fun at our

Annual Easter-Egg Hunt

Includes making Easter crafts



Tuesday 31st March - 1pm to 3pm

Cost £1 per child

Includes Egg Hunt/prize, craft activities, drink and snack



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Additional refreshments will also be on sale

We look forward to seeing you all

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Revitalising Ecclesfield Park & Pavilion Group

Woodbine Willie - 8th March

Bringing love with cigarettes and the Bible

Here's a 'saint' that the Church of England remembers from the 1st World War - the Rev. Geoffrey Studdert Kennedy, MC, or 'Woodbine Willie', as everyone knew this popular, much-loved army chaplain on the Western Front.

Studdert Kennedy (27 June 1883 – 8 March 1929) had been born in Leeds as the seventh of nine children. After reading divinity and classics at Trinity College Dublin, he'd studied for ordination at Ripon Clergy College, and served his curacy at Rugby. By the time war broke out in 1914, Studdert Kennedy was vicar of St Paul's Worcester. He soon volunteered to go to the Western Front as a chaplain to the army. Life on the front line in the trenches was a desperate affair, but soon Studdert Kennedy had hit on a way of bringing a few moments of relief to the stressed out soldiers: as well as good cheer he gave out copious amounts of 'Woodbines', the most popular cheap cigarette of the time.

One colleague remembered Kennedy: "he'd come down into the trenches and say prayers with the men, have a cuppa out of a dirty tin mug and tell a joke as good as any of us. He was a chain smoker and always carried a packet of Woodbine cigarettes that he would give out in handfuls to us lads. That's how he got his nickname. He came down the trench one day to cheer us up. Had his Bible with him as usual. Well, I'd been there for weeks, unable to write home, of course, we were going over the top later that day. I asked him if he would write to my sweetheart at home, tell her I was still alive and, so far, in one piece... years later, after the war, she showed me the letter he'd sent, very nice it was. A lovely letter. My wife kept it until she died."

Kennedy was devoted to his men, so much so that in 1917 he was awarded the Military Cross at Messines Ridge, after running into no man's land in order to help the wounded during an attack on the German frontline.

During the war, Kennedy supported the British military effort with enthusiasm, but soon after the war, he turned to Christian socialism and pacifism. He was given charge of St Edmunds in Lombard St, London, and took to writing a number of poems about his war experiences: *Rough Rhymes of a Padre* (1918) and *More Rough Rhymes* (1919). He went on to work for the Industrial Christian Fellowship, for whom he did speaking tours. It was on one of these tours that he was taken ill, and died in Liverpool in 1929. He was only 46.

His compassion and generosity in the face of the horrors of the Western Front was immortalised in the song 'Absent Friends': "Woodbine Willie couldn't rest until he'd/given every bloke a final smoke/before the killing." He himself had once described his chaplain's ministry as taking "a box of fags in your haversack, and a great deal of love in your heart."

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St ANGELA

It is not that long ago that most girls never had the chance to be educated. But one determined woman started the process, and her name was Angela Merici. She was born in Italy on 24 March 1474. Both her parents died when she was only 10, and then when Angela was 13 her elder sister died too, which led her to dedicate her life to God. When she was only 22 she started a school for young girls in her home town and this was so successful that she was invited to start schools in other places. Her faith led her to make pilgrimages to the Holy Land and to Rome.

It was when she was in Rome in 1524 that she suddenly lost her sight. Pope Clement VII asked her to stay in Rome to take charge of an order of nursing nuns but she refused and went home to Brescia. When she was almost 60 she started the Order of St Ursula, which is still involved in teaching today. Even though she was blind, St Angela Merici had a vision of what was possible with God's help.

SCHOOL SUBJECTS

This timetable has the lessons scrambled up – can you unravel the school subjects? Answers below.

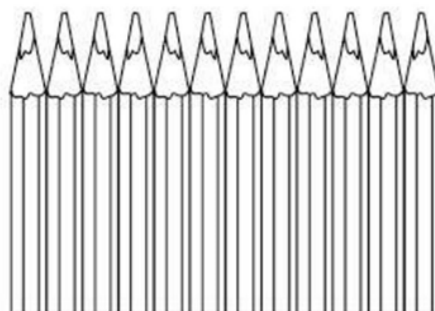
Period 1	CATESTHAMIM
Period 2	ROYTHIS
Period 3	GHELSIN
Period 4	CHNFER
LUNCH	
Period 5	RAT
Period 6	MYITCHERS
Period 7	MESAG

What did I get for my history test?

Well, first the good news – you spelled your name correctly.

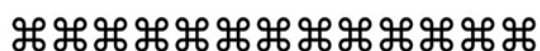
Teacher: You missed school yesterday, didn't you?

Pupil: Not really.



What do elves learn in school?

The elf-abet.



Answers: 1.Mathematics 2.History
3.English 4.French 5.Art 6.Chemistry
7.Games

Diary for the Month of March

Sunday 1st

The Second Sunday of Lent

- 10.00 am Parish Communion
- 12 noon Baptism Service
- 6.30 pm Evening Service
- 7.30 pm PCC meets in Church
- 7.30 pm Bell Ringing Practice
- 10.30 am Service at Eva Ratcliffe House
- 1.00 pm Mothers' Union meet in the Gatty Hall /
'Tricia – Street Pastors
- 7.30 pm Lent Reflection
- 9.30 am Holy Communion
- 7.30 pm Ladies' Group meet in the Gatty Hall /
Coffee Evening
- 7.30 pm Bell Ringing Practice (Silent Ringing)
- 10.00 am Mothers' Union Coffee Morning in Church/
Make a Mothers' Day

Monday 2nd

Tuesday 3rd

Wednesday 4th

Thursday 5th

Friday 6th

Saturday 7th

Sunday 8th

The Third Sunday of Lent

- 8.30 am Holy Communion
- 10.00 am Parish Communion
- 6.30 pm Evening Service
- 7.30 pm Bell Ringing Practice
- 7.30 pm Prayer Meeting in Church
- 10.30 am Service at Eva Ratcliffe House
- 7.30 pm Lent Reflection
- 9.30 am Holy Communion
- 2.00 pm Service at Hartwell House
- 7.30 pm Ladies' Group meet in the Gatty Hall/
James – 'My Adventure'
- 7.30 pm Bell Ringing Practice (Silent Ringing)

Tuesday 10th

Wednesday 11th

Thursday 12th

Friday 13th

Sunday 15th

The Fourth Sunday of Lent/Mothering Sunday

- 10.00 am Service of the Word
- 6.30 pm Holy Communion
- 7.30 pm Mission Team meet in Church
- 7.30 pm Bell Ringing Practice
- 10.30 am Service at Eva Ratcliffe House
- 7.30 pm Lent Reflection

Monday 16th

Tuesday 17th

Wednesday 18th

Thursday 19 th	9.30 am Holy Communion
	7.30 pm Ladies' Group Annual Dinner
Friday 20 th	7.30 pm Bell Ringing Practice (Silent Ringing)
Sunday 22nd	The Fifth Sunday of Lent
	8.30 am Holy Communion
	10.00 am Parish Communion
	6.30 pm Prayer and Praise Service
Monday 23 rd	7.30 pm Ignatian Prayer in Church
Tuesday 24 th	7.30 pm Bell Ringing Practice
Wednesday 25 th	10.30 am Service at Eva Ratcliffe House
	7.30 pm Lent Reflection
Thursday 26 th	9.30 am Holy Communion
	7.30 pm Ladies' Group meet in the Gatty Hall / Coffee Evening
Friday 27 th	7.30 pm Bell Ringing Practice (Silent Ringing)
Sunday 29th	Palm Sunday
	10.00 am Palm Sunday Liturgy
	6.30 pm Palm Sunday Crucifixion
Monday 30 th	7.30 pm Holy Communion
Tuesday 31 st	7.30 pm Holy Communion

From the Registers

Baptisms

1 st February	Aaron Joshua Wilson
1 st February	Marcy Mae Culverwell
1 st February	Teddy Bove Harrison

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

Funerals

2nd February	Charles Terence Jarvis	80
23rd February	Carol McCambridge	

Grant them, O Lord, refreshment, light and peace.

Flower Rota March 2015

Lent – No Flowers

The Gardening Year March 2015

The main subject I am writing about this year will be **Herbs**. Most varieties can be grown from seed or you can buy them from a nursery or supermarket. I shall write about them in alphabetical order.

Angelica – this flowering herb makes an imposing display at the back of a flower bed. The plant has always been surrounded with superstition and credited with having magical and medicinal powers. It takes its name from the archangel Michael – partly because it was thought to bloom each year on May 8th, the day he is said to have appeared in a vision in the 14th century to say that the herb would cure the plague. Angelica is a biennial that dies after it has produced seeds. However, if the stems are cut back before they flower it can be kept alive for several years. The young stems and side growths can be candied; the stems and leaves may be cooked with apples and rhubarb, while infused leaves – fresh or dry – make a refreshing drink. Angelica does best in deep rich moist soil in a sunny or partly shaded position. One or two plants will provide enough angelica for the family.

Balm – the Lemon scented balm, a hardy perennial, has been credited with curing stomach ailments, improving the memory, healing wounds and even of being a source of ever-lasting life. Nowadays however, it is generally grown for the more realistic purpose of flavouring salads, soups, sauces and cold drinks. Balm is a good herb to grow near fruit trees, because it attracts bees which help pollination.

Basil – an annual herb is used to give a clove like flavour to soups, sauces and salads. The chopped leaves go particularly well with tomatoes. The herb is related to Balm, and in common with other plants in this family it is attractive to bees. There are two species – sweet Basil and the compact bush Basil. Both can be grown from seed either from indoor sowings during early march or from outdoor sowings made during May. Four plants of either type should provide plenty of fresh leaves from July to September, as well as sufficient dried leaves for us in winter.

Bay – the sweet bay is grown for its aromatic leaves which are used to flavour fish dishes, soups and sauces. Although native to countries around the Mediterranean the bay survives as a heady shrub in all but the harshest of British winters. If protected from cold north and east winds it will flourish in northern areas. Bay is best grown in a tub and its growth restricted by pruning. A single bush even when dwarfed by pruning should provide more than enough leaves for a family throughout the year.

A summary of the months' work – Lawns – re seed worn areas, aerate with a wire rake, apply spring fertiliser. **Roses** – prune hybrid teas, floribundas, climbers and shrubs, cut out diseased or frost damaged wood.

Gladioli – plant gladioli corm in colonies for decorative mixed borders. Plant a succession to provide a continuous supply of blooms. **Vegetables** – sow seeds for main crop Brussels sprouts, parsnips, early peas and leeks. If the weather is good plant onion sets, also later in the month plant early potatoes.

Colin Williams

Mothers Union

Our speaker for February was Nikki, she is a Radiotherapist at Weston Park Hospital Radiotherapy Department. Nikki's job is to spread the word about the Department and the use of Radiotherapy in the treatment of cancer. It was an enlightening and interesting talk.

Radiotherapy was invented by a German Professor and has been around for many years. The Department is one of three in the country and has eight machines of the most up to date models which cost around one million pounds each and are far more effective than the previous machines. Radiation is directed to the area of the cancer (which has previously been marked) to kill off the cancer cells, but can also affect Normal cells in that area which can recover. The treatment is carefully planned beforehand by a team of Consultant Oncologists – Doctors who specialise in cancer treatment, plus Physicists, technicians and radiotherapists, so as to give the patient the maximum benefit. The treatment is completely painless and just takes a short time. Radiotherapists are not nurses but need to have a Degree and be trained in this job.

The hospital also has a Cancer Support Centre which is open Monday to Friday 9.00.a.m. to 4.00.p.m. drop-in information, therapies, welfare advice, and including a support programme group, carers support, bereavement support, pampering workshop, Craft sessions, Wills and Power of Attorney, support groups. A Coffee Morning is held on the first Tuesday of the month 10.00am to 12 noon which is open to everyone.

Research is always ongoing and Weston Park Hospital has a Cancer Charity which has enabled the hospital to open the new Clinical Research Unit. Donations and any fundraising are much appreciated.

HR

Mother Union Dates for your Diary.

March 6th - Woman's World Day of Prayer

Prepared by the women of the Bahamas - 11.00am Sheffield Cathedral.

March 7th - Coffee Morning 10.00am to 12.30pm in Church.

In aid of "Make a Mother's Day" - Please join us and help transform lives around the world. All are welcome.

March 13th - Cathedral Coffee Morning – 10.30am to 12 noon.



Ian Smith ATT Anne Smith BA (Hons)

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ideas for life

With Lent and spiritual self-examination in mind...

Some people think reconciliation is a soft option, that it means papering over the cracks. But the biblical meaning means looking facts in the face, and it can be very costly; it cost God the death of his own son.

Archbishop Desmond Tutu

Those that take Christ for their King must lay their all under his feet. Hosanna signifies, "Save now, we beseech thee! Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord!" But of how little value is the applause of the people! The changing multitude joins the cry of the day, whether it be 'Hosanna' or 'Crucify Him'. Multitudes often seem to approve the gospel, but few become consistent disciples.

Matthew Henry

It's hard to remember that Jesus did not come to make us safe, but rather to make us disciples, citizens of God's new age, a kingdom of surprise.

S Hauerwas

Suffering is the true badge of discipleship. The disciple is not above his master.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Give me, good Lord, a humble, lowly, quiet, peaceable, patient, charitable, kind, tender and pitiful mind; with all my works and all my words and all my thoughts to have a taste of the holy blessed spirit.

Sir Thomas More



Crossword Puzzle - Solution is here

P	L	A	N	E	T		R	U	G	G	E	D	
A		D			R		I		U		X		
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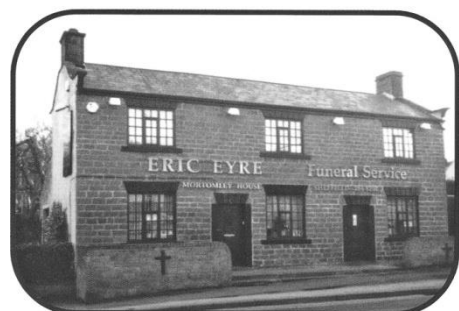
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Stainer's Crucifixion

This is a traditional oratorio performed by musicians and singers during the period of Christ's passion. It was composed, as many of you will know, by John Stainer in 1887 and the score is for SATB choir and organ. The work was dedicated to W. Hodge, a pupil and friend of Stainer, and also the choir at Marylebone who first performed the work on the 24th of February 1887, the day after Ash Wednesday.

What many people may not know is that the text was written by W.J. Sparrow Simpson, who was also the Librettist of two of Stainer's earlier works: The Daughter of Jarius and Mary Magdalene.

W.J. Sparrow Simpson was born in 1859, the son of an Anglican Minister. In 1878, as an undergraduate of Trinity College Cambridge, he was awarded the Chancellor's prize for English verse, judged by Robert Browning. In 1904 he became Chaplain to the Alms houses, a position he held until his death in 1919, aged 92 years. He became a Doctor of Divinity in 1911. He was also made an honorary Canon of Chelmsford in 1919.

The work contains five hymns:

1. All for Jesus.
2. Jesus the crucified prays.
3. Cross of Jesus, cross of shame.
4. Holy Jesus by thy passion.
5. I adore thee, I adore thee.

The work also contains "God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that who so believeth in Him shall have eternal life," from John 3.16. This is set to a lovely melody in the work.

As for John Stainer, he was a brilliant organist and composed music which in the day was being compared to composers such as Stanford and Hubert Parry.

So do come along on Palm Sunday and let the Ecclesfield church choir's performance of Crucifixion inspire you as we follow the journey of our Lord and Saviour's Passion.

James Kay

Listen to St Pauls Cathedral Choir rendition of God So Loved The World by John Stainer at: www.youtube.com/watch?v=X5Akz6J8Rw0



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Crossword Puzzle (Solution is on page 21)

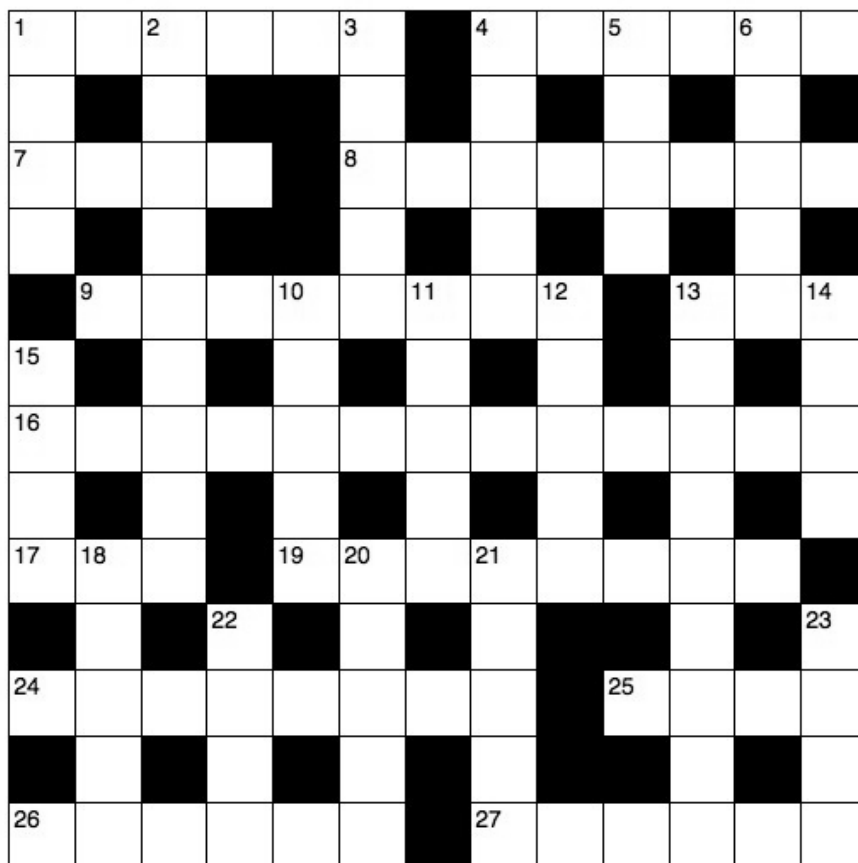
Clues Across

- 1 The earth is one (6)
- 4 'On a hill far away stood an old — cross' (6)
- 7 'I am the — vine and my Father is the gardener' (John 15:1) (4)
- 8 The Caesar who was Roman Emperor at the time of Jesus' birth (Luke 2:1) (8)
- 9 'Your — should be the same as that of Christ Jesus' (Philippians 2:5) (8)
- 13 Jesus said that no one would put a lighted lamp under this (Luke 8:16) (3)
- 16 Involvement (1 Corinthians 10:16) (13)
- 17 Armed conflict (2 Chronicles 15:19) (3)
- 19 Where the Gaderene pigs were feeding (Mark 5:11) (8)
- 24 What jeering youths called Elisha on the road to Bethel (2 Kings 2:23) (8)
- 25 The Venerable — , eighth-century Jarrow ecclesiastical scholar (4)
- 26 8 Across issued a decree that this should take place (Luke 2:1) (6)
- 27 Come into prominence (Deuteronomy 13:13) (6)

Clues Down

- 1 Where some of the seed scattered by the sower fell (Matthew 13:4) (4)
- 2 Sexually immoral person whom God will judge (Hebrews 13:4) (9)
- 3 Gospel leaflet (5)
- 4 Physical state of the boy brought to Jesus for healing (Mark 9:18)
- 5 Tugs (anag.) (4)
- 6 To put forth (5)
- 10 Nationality associated with St Patrick (5)
- 11 Leader of the descendants of Kohath (1 Chronicles 15:5) (5)
- 12 'After this, his brother came out, with his hand grasping — heel' (Genesis 25:26) (5)
- 13 At Dothan the Lord struck the Arameans with — at Elisha's request (2 Kings 6:18) (9)
- 14 'Peter, before the cock crows today, you will — three times that you know me' (Luke 22:34) (4)
- 15 Spit out (Psalm 59:7) (4)
- 18 'When I — , I am still with you' (Psalm 139:18) (5)

- 20 Concepts (Acts 17:20) (5)
 21 Thyatira's dealer in purple cloth (Acts 16:14) (5)
 22 Does (anag.) (4)
 23 The second set of seven cows in Pharaoh's dream were this (Genesis 41:19) (4)



Palm Sunday

March 29th at 6:30pm

In St. Mary's Church, Ecclesfield

St. Mary's Choir and friends will sing the Lenten Cantata

"The Crucifixion"

By John Stainer

Principals:

Gary Baldwin – Tenor & Roger Nichols - Bass

Includes congregational hymns to meditate on Christ's sacrifice

Please come along and bring your friends

Prayers and Poems Page

Thy counting day

O thou King of the blood loyal and true,
Exclude me not from thy covenant new,
For my unjust misdeeds make me not pay,
Overlook me not in thy counting day,
Overlook me not in thy counting day.

From an old Celtic prayer

Two Seats

Sometimes I climb aboard a train
And find it quite hard to refrain
From criticising people who...
Have bought one seat, but take up TWO.

They take a seat beside the aisle
And sit, with a triumphant smile
For no-one, standing, wants to dare
To challenge that forbidding stare!

They fill the vacant window seat
With luggage, junk, or just their feet
My sense of humour gets a lift -
When some brave soul gets them to shift!

By Nigel Beeton

Spring

I look out from my cosy sitting room
At the gloomy wild and rainy day
And I see before me the start of Spring
Wet warm windy and full of promise.

Burgeoning plants growing through damp soil
Pushing their way sturdily through
With strong stems of brilliant green
Forcing their way up to reach the light.

I see brown bare branches of skeletal trees
Awaiting the rise of life-giving sap
To begin again the start of growth
A vital part of forthcoming Spring.

Robins and blackbirds herald the season
With bright noisy courting calls
Whilst gathering worms seeds and nuts
From the remnants of last year's harvest.

Voles mice and hedgehogs scrounge around
For forage left by uncaring humans
Who need not harvest through winter's freeze
As food is plentiful here in today's stores.

What joy awaits us when Springtime comes
Bringing with it colour life and energy
Flora fauna and humankind alike
Begin the circle of life once more.

The loud noises of young birds calling
For food from harassed parent birds
Who dash back and forth with frantic flight
To fill hungry infant mouths.

Colourful flowers begin to bloom
In ground softened by constant rain
Old brown leaves blown away to leave room
For new green shoots to grow.

Rich brown earth with its moist fungal smell
Giving back the urge to plant and maintain
A garden full of colour and variety
One with a harvest of food and flowers.

What a season to look forward to
With all its propensity of future joy
New life for flora and fauna alike
What more could man desire?

Sheila Johns

Saint of the Month - St Joseph the Carpenter - 19th March

Gracious descendant of King David

By David Winter

Many people know that Joseph was the father of probably the most famous man who ever lived, but beyond that we know very little about him. The Gospels name him as the 'father' of Jesus, while also asserting that the child was born of a virgin. Even if he wasn't what we call the 'biological' father, it was important to them that he was a distant descendant of the great king David - a necessary qualification for the messiah. It's obvious that Joseph (usually described as a 'carpenter') was poor, because he was allowed to offer the poor man's sacrifice of two pigeons or turtle doves at the presentation of his infant son. No one expected eloquence or wisdom from this man's son. Jesus was born into a poor family, with a doubtless hard-working artisan as his father. There would have been few luxuries in that little home at Nazareth.

Matthew begins his birth narrative with the bald statement that Mary was engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together she became pregnant 'with child from the Holy Spirit'. Joseph was not apparently privy to the divine intervention in her life, and drew the obvious conclusion: it was another man's child. However, he was not the sort of man who wished to disgrace her publicly, so he resolved to 'dismiss her quietly' - end their engagement without fuss, we might say.

However, at that point Joseph had a dream in which he was told by 'an angel of the Lord' not to hesitate to take Mary as his wife, because the child conceived in her was 'from the Holy Spirit', and that the baby was to be named 'Jesus' ('saviour') because he will 'save his people from their sins'. On waking, Joseph did as he had been instructed and took Mary as his wife.

So far as Joseph himself is concerned we can be pretty sure of a few things. In human legal terms he was the father of Jesus, he was a carpenter and he had probably died before Jesus began his public ministry. The little we are told suggests a devout, decent and sensitive man, one who shared Mary's anxiety when the twelve year old Jesus went missing in Jerusalem and who presumably taught his son the trade of a carpenter.

Joseph has become an icon of the working man - there are many churches nowadays dedicated to 'Joseph the Worker'. He can stand in the calendar of saints for the 'ordinary' person, a straight-forward craftsman who never expected or chose to be in the spotlight of history. He did what he could, and he was obedient to everything that he believed God required of him. To do the 'ordinary' thing well, to be kind, caring and open to guidance: these are great gifts, and Joseph seems to have had them in abundance.

Contact Numbers for Local Groups ☎

Ecclesfield Rainbows

Gatty Hall
Tuesday 4.45 pm to 6.00 pm
Leader - Mrs B Travis
Tel: TBA

Ecclesfield Brownies

Gatty Hall
Monday 5.30 pm to 6.45 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
Theatre Tel No. 0114 240 2624

Ecclesfield Community Garden

Ecclesfield Park - Located between
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email: ecclesfieldlib@gmail.com

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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

Scout Hut (off Yew Lane)
Tuesday 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm
Leader - Mr E. Buttimer
Tel: 0114 258 6935
Group Scout Leader
John Otter Tel. 0114 246 1752

The Grenoside Singers

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Secretary – Joe Webster 245 2518
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Useful Contacts



<u>Vicar</u>	Revd. Daniel Hartley	257 0002
<u>Churchwardens:</u>	Mrs Irene Proctor	246 0373
	Mr Tommy Proctor	246 0373
	Mr Andrew Robinson	246 3646
	Mr Michael Waldron	246 3091
<u>Readers:</u>	Mrs Pat Clarke	257 7191
	Mrs Stephanie Dale	245 2392
<u>Pastoral Workers:</u>	Mrs Pat Wood	246 5086
<u>Church Office:</u>		
Tuesday - Wednesday 9:30 am to 11:30 am		
Thursday 9.00 am to 12.00 pm		245 0106
Church Choir Practice in Church		
Friday 7:30 pm - Contact: Don Knott		246 8430
Music Group Practice in Church		
Thursday 7:30 pm - Contact: Andrea Whittaker		246 0746
Mother's Union in Gatty Hall		
1st Wednesday of month 1:00 pm		
Contact: Maureen Lambert		246 9690
Ecclesfield Ladies Group in Gatty Hall		
Thursday 7.30 pm - Contact: Anne Rostron		245 5492
Bell Ringers meet in Church Belfry		
Tuesday 7:30 pm Contact: Mr Phil Hirst		286 2766
Gatty Hall Bookings,		
Contact: Mrs Margaret Roberts		246 3993
Baptisms: Contact – Revd. Daniel Hartley		257 0002
Weddings: Contact - Revd. Daniel Hartley		257 0002
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Slips can be obtained from the church or downloaded at our web site:

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See our Forthcoming Events page.



Welcome to St Mary's Parish Church, Ecclesfield