

# News & Views From St Mary's Church Ecclesfield



Church Magazine September 2017

[www.stmarysecclesfield.com](http://www.stmarysecclesfield.com)

*Price 60p*

# First Words

September always feels like the start of a new year to me, and for many people it is the start of a new school year. It also feels like the beginning of a breathless rush to Christmas! So my resolution for this month is to make sure that I find time for prayer in the midst of all the busyness.

In September the regular meetings and groups will re-commence.

On **Saturday 9th September at 9am** we will have a prayer breakfast in church. Time to meet together to pray for our parish and our nation and also time to listen for God. So many Christians have told me over the years that they would like to pray more and to deepen their experience of prayer - if you have never been along to the prayer breakfasts they are well worth getting up on a Saturday for!

In September we will be moving the **Time for God** evenings from Tuesdays to Wednesdays. The dates for September will be **Wednesday 13th & 27th from 7.30 - 9pm**. We gather in Church for worship, teaching and prayer. Themes to be announced.

The **Mission and Discipleship Committee** will be meeting on **Monday 18th Sept**. We will be looking at prayer ministry and the Alpha course.

Looking a little further ahead the **Emley Band** will be giving a concert in Church on **Saturday 21st October**. Tickets are available now - book the date in your diaries.

God bless,

Tim



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**Front Cover – Cyclamen purpurascens** (Alpine, European or purple cyclamen), native to central Europe, northern Italy, and Slovenia. It is a tuberous perennial with (usually) variegated heart shaped leaves, and deep pink flowers in summer. Source Wikipedia

**Back Cover – Emley Brass Band**

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# Thought for the Month

On Saturday 29th April the Wardens, PCC and other members of St Mary's met to begin to make plans for the next four to six years. As a church we have spent several months in prayer, seeking God's vision and direction, and the meeting in April was the culmination of that time of prayer.

We began by considering the purpose of the Church, reflecting on Jesus' Great Commandment and His commission to the Church:

"The first Commandment is, 'Hear, O Israel the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbour as Yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these." (Mark 12:29-31).

"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go and make disciples of all nation, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you, and I am with you always, to the end of time." (Matthew 28:18-20)

Then we began to think about what we believe God had been saying to us and started to think about our priorities under 5 headings.

Below are some of our thoughts:

## **1. "Love the Lord your God with all your heart" - Worship.**

Develop role of children/youth & families in 10am service. 2017/18

Look at developing an extra service - very different in style from our 10am service.

## **2. "Love your neighbour as yourself" - Ministry.**

Engage with the national research by Church of England into experiences at baptisms, Weddings & Funerals.

Review Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals.

Move most of Baptisms into 10am service starting in 2018.

"Serving and Loving our community" - what does this mean for us here & now?

### **3. “Go and make disciples” - Evangelism.**

Explore how we can implement Back to Church Sunday.

Establish a social media presence.

Research practicality & viability of a service in the community - Fresh expression - in Library or School.

Explore how the church can be open more during the week.

Holiday clubs? Develop links with local schools and Parent & Toddlers.

### **4. “Baptising them” - Fellowship**

Regular Songs of Praise service - perhaps 3 times a year; invite community groups to take part & tell us about themselves.

### **5. “Teaching them to obey” - Discipleship.**

Find ways of helping members of church to discern their gifts & callings: look at developing links with New Wine on enabling Christians to fulfil the calling; diocesan resources.

Alpha Course.

In addition we also felt strongly that St Mary’s would be a great place for a curate to train and so we will apply for a curate to start in 2018 or 2019. We also would like to explore having a Youth/Children’s Worker.

We looked at the development of our building, noting that the building itself is integral to our mission - it attracts thousands of visitors every year.

Disabled Access is a priority, as is enhancing our Audio visual provision.

Ideally we would like to have a second toilet and a Meeting Room at the back of the church. We would like to explore moving the font to the front of the church.

These results of our prayers and our planning will guide us over the next four to six years. We have already begun to put some parts of the plan in place.

More than anything else though we should plan to be open to the Holy Spirit and to make prayer and worship the foundation of everything that we do here at St Mary’s. We remember Jesus’ promise that when we gather in His name He is among us, and we pray that in everything that we do or attempt Jesus will be glorified.

God bless,

Tim

# Peter Haigh & Sons

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Welcome to St Mary's Parish Church, Ecclesfield

# St James the Least of All

## On plums, dull sermons, falling leaves and Harvest

The Rectory,  
St. James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren.

It is good to be back from my holidays – even if I discovered on arriving home that, as I motored back with my car full of my exchange colleague's plums in the boot, he was doing the same with my apples; I had expected better of him.

I was equally disappointed that he insisted on inviting parishioners back to the Rectory after Mattins for a sherry, as it creates a dangerous precedent. That he entertained them on my sherry was a step too far. I think a letter of reproach will be called for – or at least as soon as I feel he will have got over the discovery that I liberated the plums from his own orchard.

One of the main reasons I allowed him to come here was that I remembered his sermons being long and memorably dull. Sadly, he has had a conversion experience and they are now short and interesting, which was definitely not what I wanted. I am already making tentative plans to exchange with a colleague next year who has a heavy Welsh accent and speaks with a stutter.

You rather smugly commented that at least on the Norfolk coast I didn't have to worry about marauding pythons, as you did in your somewhat more exotic holiday. But had you had to deal with an irate dowager marchioness whose flower arrangement had been moved from the pulpit to the font without her permission, you would understand where real danger lurks. You can be inoculated before your holiday against typhoid; there is no known medical protection against a lady of substance in full charge.

So the Autumn round approaches. Afternoons are occupied in sweeping up leaves from the lawns and evenings, after dark, of tipping them over the wall into Colonel Adamson's garden. That will be an activity quite foreign to you, I know. Imagine your morning collection of discarded take-away containers dumped in your garden and you have a close parallel.

And then there is Harvest to prepare for. The plums that I brought back from my colleague's trees that remain uneaten should find a good home on the church window sills – which may almost compensate for the absence of the Rectory apples. They will sit, totally upstaged, alongside Miss Fanshawe's Harrod's hamper – which she always makes sure everyone knows she donated anonymously. Some, as they say, have their reward already.

Your loving uncle,  
Eustace

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# China opens its arms to the Bible

## With 30 years help from Bible Society

Just over 40 years ago, the Bible was a banned book in China. But today, in this largely atheist country, the Bible is a best seller. In China today, you will find churches so full that their congregants spill out on the pavement. Those in rural areas often walk for hours just to attend a service, while more and more city-dwellers can be found in churches – both underground and state-run – on a Sunday morning.

What's more, copies of the Bible – once a banned book in China – are now within reach through local churches and specially-licensed bookshops. And those Bibles are desperately needed. As one Chinese Christian explains: 'The fire of revival has been burning in China for 30 years. But if we want it to keep burning, we need to feed it with God's word.'

It's a remarkable story. And over the last 30 years, the Bible Society has been at the heart of it. Over decades, through working with the registered Church, they have carved out a unique ministry in China. For it was back in 1987, in response to requests from Chinese church leaders, that Bible Society helped to establish the Amity Printing Company. In 2008, it moved to a larger, upgraded facility, the size of 12 football pitches and with the capacity to print 20 million Bibles a year. It's now the world's biggest Bible printing factory!

Bible Society is still hard at work, printing and distributing Bibles across the country, helping to strengthen the roots of the Chinese Church, and to help new believers grow into mature followers of Jesus.

Here's just some of the numbers that describe the Bible Society's work in China:

- **68 million Chinese Bibles printed from its press since 1987**
- **55,000 local churches with whom it is connected**
- **77 distribution centres from which it bases itself**
- **48 Bible vans taking Bibles wherever they need to go**

*Editor:* China is governed by the Communist Party of China; following the suppression of religion during the Cultural Revolution (1966-1976) religious organisations were given more autonomy. The government now formally recognises five religions: Buddhism, Taoism, Islam, Protestantism, and Catholicism (though the Chinese Catholic Church is independent of the Catholic Church in Rome). In the early twenty-first century there has been increasing official recognition of Confucianism and Chinese folk religion as part of China's cultural inheritance. Out of a population of 1.379 billion some 2.5% or 34.5 million are Christian.

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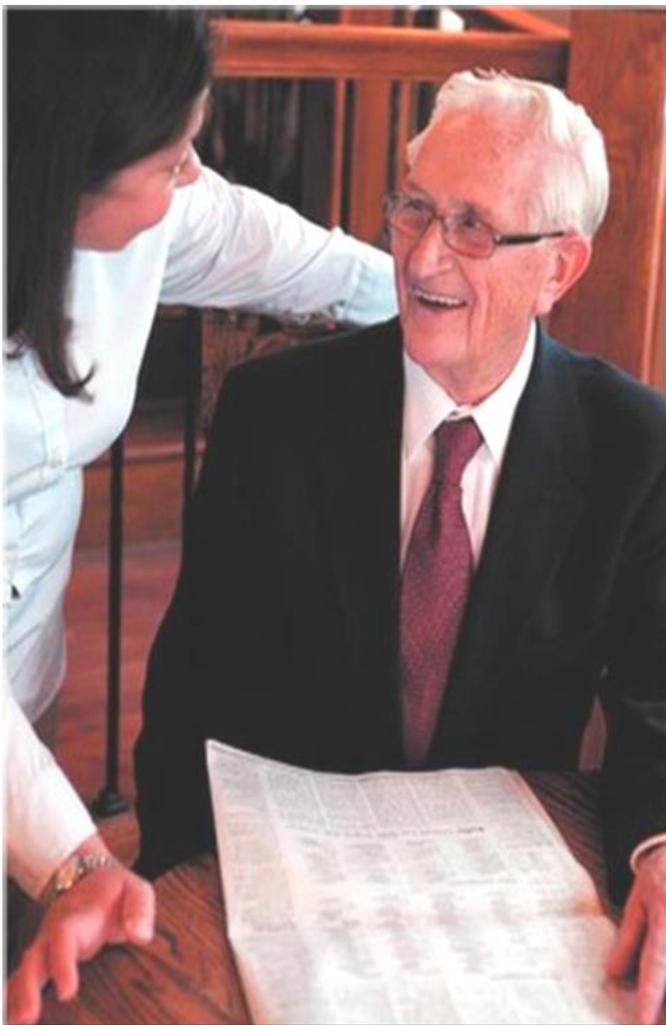
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# Will You Remember Them - Afghanistan

Leader: President Ashraf Ghani, Population: 34.2million

Main Religion: Islam (Thousands of Christians)

Government: Islamic republic. World Watch List Rank: 3

Source of Persecution: Islamic extremism / Ethnic antagonism

It is illegal for an Afghan person to be anything other than a Muslim

Afghanistan is a tribal society, and leaving Islam is seen as a betrayal of the tribe. Discovered believers will sometimes be sent to a mental hospital, as families believe no sane person would leave Islam. Baptism is a crime punishable by death; several believers were killed in 2016 when their faith was discovered. The Taliban, a radical Islamist group, remains active in Afghanistan and targets those who leave Islam.

**Persecution in Afghanistan** - Saif heard the gospel on a Christian radio programme. There are no churches and few indigenous believers in Afghanistan, so the fact that he was able to hear about Jesus was a miracle.

But the greatest miracle came when he brought an Injil, New Testament, to his home. "I have seven children. One of them was disabled and could not walk. When I brought the New Testament into my house, my daughter started to move. I began to read from the Bible and she started to walk!" However, Saif didn't know how to explain this to his neighbours. "I am so afraid," said Saif. "I believe in Jesus now, and my wife also, but I still go to the mosque to pray five times a day." Afghanistan is a tribal society, and loyalty to your family, clan and tribe are incredibly important. Leaving Islam is seen as treason, and Christianity is viewed as a Western religion which is hostile to Afghan culture and society. If a Christian is discovered, they may be compelled to return to Islam by their families and tribal leaders through occult practices, torture or even being sent to a mental hospital. These believers also face the added threat by extremists. Some militants have pledged allegiance to the self-proclaimed Islamic state.

Some converts will keep their faith completely secret - simply meeting in small groups can be dangerous, and even the internet is closely monitored. Just the suspicion that you may have converted can lead to your arrest or the destruction of your home or business. Saif was abducted by extremists who had somehow discovered his faith. "They wanted to kill me and my wife also. The men forced me into a car and we started driving. All of a sudden we ran into a soldier's patrol - then my kidnappers ran off. Despite these dangers, Saif and his wife continue to follow Jesus in secret. Only God knows how many secret believers like them are in Afghanistan.

## **Please Pray**

- For courage and protection for secret Afghan believers and all who support them.
- For change to take place within the country, and for openness to religions outside of Islam.
- For stability and peace in Afghanistan - **Amen**

*JD*



## September 29 Michael, Gabriel and Raphael

In the Bible, angels are messengers from God. The word 'angel' comes from the Greek word for a messenger and it appears hundreds of times in the Bible. But the only angels whose names we know are Michael, Gabriel and Raphael who are archangels, captains among the angels. Each of these three has a different task: Michael protects; Gabriel announces; Raphael guides.

In the New Testament, in the book of Revelation, Michael leads God's armies to final victory over the forces of evil and in the Old Testament he is in the book of Daniel, defending Israel against its enemies.

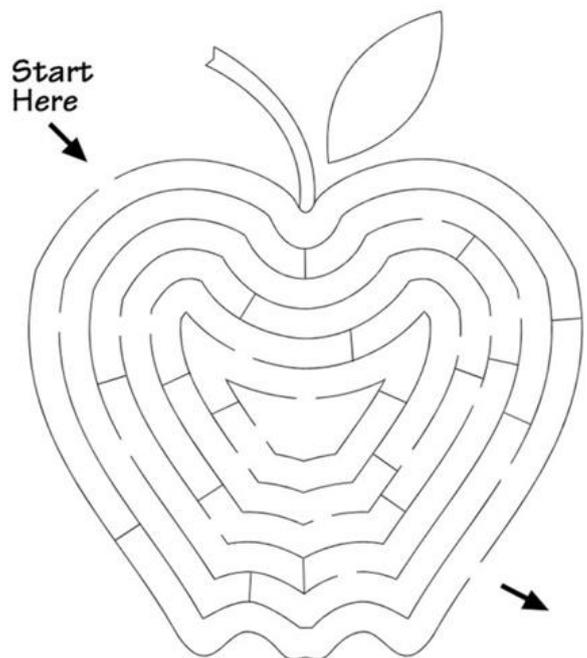
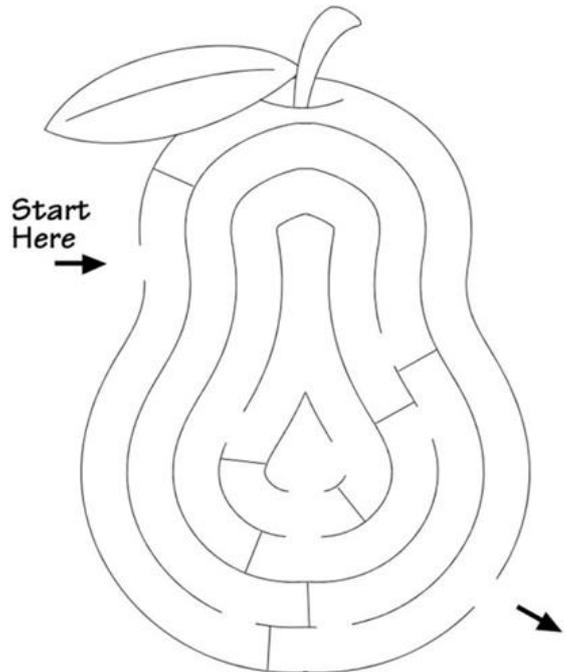


Gabriel is best known for his appearing to a young Jewish girl named Mary to tell her that she will give birth to Jesus.

Raphael is in the Old Testament story of Tobit where he guides Tobit's son Tobiah.

## HARVEST PUZZLE

Can you find your way through these 2 fruit mazes?



**What kind of nuts sneeze the most?**

Cashews.

**What's a vampire's favourite fruit?**

Nectarine.

# Prayer for the Month

## **The Lord's Prayer, Part 5: "Forgive us as we forgive."**

Forgiveness is at the heart of Jesus' ministry and so it is central to His prayer. When we ask to be forgiven we are seeking to be set free from our past; and when we forgive we set others free too.

To forgive rather than to extract revenge can, at first sight, seem to be weak; but in reality it is a sign of strength. Jesus words about forgiveness in His prayer are very challenging and demanding.

Jesus' teaching on forgiveness builds on and develops the teaching of the Old Testament. The Law of Moses famously limited revenge (Exodus 21, see Matthew 5:38): if you blind me I am allowed to blind you - but I can't kill you. It is an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth - but no more. This is a step away from unlimited revenge and vendetta, but Jesus' Gospel goes further than the Law.

To forgive a person is not to pretend that they didn't hurt us or that what they did does not matter. In that case there will be little or nothing to forgive. Nor is forgiveness the same as accepting excuses. If there is an excuse for a wrong done, a good reason for it, then there is nothing to forgive.

CS Lewis once said that too often when we think that we are seeking God's forgiveness what we are really doing is asking Him to accept our excuses!

To be forgiven is to be set free from the consequences of our actions and of our past. It points us towards a new future. When we forgive someone who has hurt us we are actually deciding not to let them have continuing control over our feelings or to have any influence on our actions - I refuse to allow those who have hurt me to make me hate.

To forgive someone is to be like Christ. At the heart of the Gospel is the Cross and at the heart of the Cross there is God in Jesus dying for us, dying in our place so that we can be forgiven and set free. As Christians we forgive because we have been forgiven. Our experience of God's mercy changes us. We who have experienced the liberating mercy of God forgive in turn.

There are times when we do not want to forgive the person who has harmed us. The first step to being able to forgive might be to ask God to help us to want to forgive them.

*Continues on page 24*

# St Mary's – Regular Services

**8.30 am Holy Communion (BCP)** - On 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month

## **10.00 am Services**

1st Sunday of the month - Parish Communion with organ and choir

2nd Sunday of the month - Service of the Word with music group

3rd Sunday of the month - Parish Communion with organ, choir and music group

4th Sunday of the month - Parish Communion with organ, choir and music group

5th Sunday of the month - Sunday Celebration Services

## **12:00 pm Baptism Service**

Baptism Service 1st Sunday of the month – (Except: August no baptisms)

## **4.00 pm Living Stones Service**

An interactive service for children and families 3rd Sunday of the month

## **6.30 pm Evening Service**

Except: 2nd Sunday of the month Holy Communion and 4th Sunday of the month Prayer and Praise

**Midweek Holy Communion** – Thursdays at 9.30 am

# St Mary's - Activities & Groups

## **Church Office Opening times**

Tuesday 9:30 am to 11:30 am

Wednesday 9:30 am to 11:30 am

Thursday 9.00 am to 12.00 pm

## **Coffee Shop**

Tuesday 10.00 am to 12.30 pm

Friday 10.00 am to 12.30 pm

## **Bell Ringers**

Tuesday 7.30 pm Bell ringing practice

Friday 7.30 pm Silent Bell ringing practice

## **Choir Practice**

Friday 7.30 pm Choir practice in choir vestry

## **Music Group Practice**

Thursday 7:30 pm Music group practice in church

# Church Diary Items to Note for September 2017

<b>Day and Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Item</b>
Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	12 noon	Baptism Service
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup>	7.30 pm	PCC in Church
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup>	1.30 pm	MU AGM in the Gatty Hall
	7.30 pm	Outreach Team meet in Church
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am	Prayer Meeting in Church
Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup>	9.00 am	Prayer Breakfast in Church
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup>	7.30 pm	Fabric Committee meet in Church
	7.30 pm	Discipleship Team meet in Church
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup>	5.00 pm	Feoffees meet in Church
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	2.00 pm	Vicar and Wardens meet
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup>		No Coffee Morning
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup>	6.30 pm	Prayer and Praise Service
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup>	7.30 pm	Ignatian Prayer in Church

## From the Registers

### Weddings

28 <sup>th</sup> July	Ryan Hodgkinson & Rachel Frances Hall
29 <sup>th</sup> July	Andrew Michael Carl & Sarah Emma Prince
5 <sup>th</sup> August	Andrew Mark Frost & Rachael Anne Yeardley
12 <sup>th</sup> August	Darren Steven Rennison & Rachel Hayward
20 <sup>th</sup> August	Lee Wayne Buttery & Lucy Jade Taylor
26 <sup>th</sup> August	Matthew David Brown & Emily Jade Ashman
27 <sup>th</sup> August	John Andrew Wright & Emma Louise Birch

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

## Flower Rota September 2017

3rd	P. Thomson	17th	N. Priest
10th	H. Rollins	24th	K & L Atkin

## Observations on life in the 21st century...

“What do we worship? I think future anthropologists will take a look at the books we read on self-help, self-realisation, self-esteem. They’ll look at the way we talk about morality as being true to oneself, the way we talk about politics as a matter of individual rights, and they’ll look at this wonderful new religious ritual we have created. You know the one? Called the ‘selfie.’ And I think they’ll conclude that what we worship in our time is the self, the me, the I.” **Rabbi Lord Sacks**

# Ecclesfield Cubs Outdoor Challenge Sleepover

Before cubs broke up for the summer the older cubs had a camping sleepover to complete their Outdoor Challenge Badge. They arrived at the scout hut on Saturday afternoon and put up their tents and then used their pioneering skills to build washing stands, bins, shoe racks and even attempted a small gate.

Another key part was for the Cubs to prepare their own meals. Splitting them into two groups they worked together to figure out a menu, made a shopping list and then we took them to the local supermarket to get the ingredients needed. When back at the scout hut they prepared their meals with a little guidance from the leaders and then tucked into their completed meals. Although the ice cream was a little melted by the time they had finished: not that they minded.

We made the most of the sunny light evening by doing some den building in their teams, which were then tested by the magic rain that arrived in buckets! The Cubs stayed rather dry showing the success of their den building skills.

As the light dimmed the Cubs built fires and sat toasting marshmallows chatting about their day until bedtime when they retired to their tents for the night going to sleep...eventually (some had to be reminded that it was time to sleep). In the morning they prepared their breakfast before sorting and putting away the equipment, followed by team games and learning some first aid skills.



The Cubs made their own sandwiches for lunch and then awaited their parents as they came to pick them up but much fun was had over the two days where the Cubs developed their independence, skills and confidence.

The Cubs really enjoy their adventures which wouldn't be possible without adult volunteers, which Ecclesfield Scout Group are in need of in all sections as Scouting becomes more popular.

If you feel you would like to contribute a small amount of your time to benefit the children in your community then don't hesitate to contact John Otter on 07484136148. No experience is necessary and training is provided.

# The Gardening Year – September 2017

## A Summary of the Month's Work

**Sweet Peas**, purchase seed for sowing next month. Include some of the old fashioned varieties to provide scent among the modern ones.

**Flowers from Seed** – remove faded annuals to make way for spring bedding. Sow the hardiest annuals to over-winter outdoors.

**Plant** - hardy biennials.

**Bulbs** – plant bulbs between shrubs or herbaceous plants on rock gardens or in lawns preferably in groups. Remove summer bedding as it fades and replace with bulbs. First plan the layout then plant from the centre outwards, where inter planting set the plants first and put in the bulbs afterwards.

**Alpines** – transplant any plants which need re-siting. Start making a new rockery: but first consider whether a raised alpine bed might not be better, choose an open well drained position away from trees. Allow several weeks to pass for soil and rocks to settle before planting.

**Greenhouse and Frames** – start giving artificial heat towards to end of the month. Sow annuals for a spring display in the greenhouse, potting the seedlings separately in three in. pots take cuttings of Fuchsia. Zonal Pelargoniums shading from the glass. Bring Primulas and other plants into the greenhouse from cold frames.

**Trees and Shrubs** – prepare ground for planting later in the month or in October. Start planting ever green shrubs during showery weather at the end of the month. Support standard shrubs with stakes until they become established. Water newly planted shrubs during dry weather and spray their foliage with water. Take hardwood and half-ripe cuttings of Berberis, juniper and privet, rooting them in sandy soil in a cold frame. Leave them to grow on in the frame during the winter.

**Rhododendrons and Azaleas** – during rainy weather transplant bushes which need moving, continue to increase stock by layering. Heel in new plants if the ground is not ready for planting, but do not allow them to become dry.

**Hedges** – clip new growth for the last time this season. Remove remaining weeds and compost them. Prepare sites for new hedges. Plant ever green hedges from Mid-September to Mid-October.

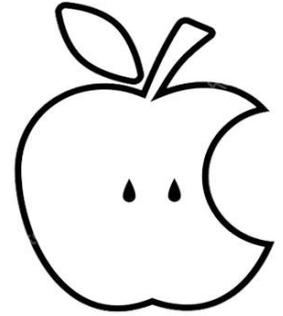
*Colin Williams*

# The Oldest Computer

The oldest computer can be traced back to Adam and Eve.

Not surprisingly, it was an Apple.

But it had an extremely limited memory:  
Just one byte and everything crashed.



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**LG**

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# Christmas Fayre

Saturday 25th November  
11am to 3.30pm  
In The Gatty Hall



Crossword Puzzle - Solution is here

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

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- Catering available on request in our own reception rooms or the venue of your choice.
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34 Housley Park  
Chapelton



Golden Charter  
Funeral Plans 



British Institute of Funeral Directors Eric Eyre National President  
1989 - 1990



## Saints of the Month – September

### **3rd - St Gregory the Great - the man who saved the ‘angels’**

Pope Gregory never called himself ‘the Great’, but instead ‘the Servant of the Servants of God’. Nevertheless, Gregory was one of the most important popes and influential writers of the Middle Ages. The son of a very rich Roman senator, he left the service of the State upon his conversion as a young man. Gregory then sold off his tremendous estates to found six monasteries in Sicily and a seventh in Rome, and gave generously to the poor. He became a monk and adopted an austere lifestyle. But he was destined to be a frustrated monk, because successive popes kept appointing him to jobs with major public responsibilities.

Christians in England owe him a great deal. When Gregory came across some English slaves for sale in Rome, he asked who they were, and was told, ‘They are Angles.’ Moved with compassion for these humiliated and despised men, he replied, ‘They are not Angles, but angels!’ He wanted to lead a band of missionaries to England to evangelise the Angles, but then plague broke out in Italy, and during this time he was elected Pope.

Reluctantly he accepted, and then sent to work to deal with the crises facing Christendom: plague, floods, famine, and a Lombard invasion. But busy though Gregory was, he did not forget the Angles. He sent Augustine to England, and so indirectly became the apostle of the English.

### **5th - Laurence Giustiniani - the saint who knew how to help a beggar**

You are walking down the road when a beggar approaches you for money. What do you do? If, instead of giving money, you buy him/her coffee or a meal, then you are in good company: you are following in the steps of the first ever Bishop of Venice.

Laurence Giustiniani (1381 – 1455) was born of a noble Venetian family, but chose the austerity of the Augustinian monastery of San Giorgio on island of Alga. He became a priest in 1406, prior in 1407, Bishop of Castello in 1433 and then in 1451 the first ever Bishop of Venice.

By then, Laurence had seen a lot of human nature, and was wise as well as good. Frugal in his private life, and happy to help the poor, he made sure that he gave wisely as well as generously. Hence the poor who came to him for help were given food and clothing - but only very occasionally small amounts of money. Bishop Laurence also devoted himself to peace-making and other pastoral work, for which his contemporaries held him in high esteem. As he lay dying on a bed of straw, very many clergy, laity, beggars and destitute folk came to grieve: he was greatly respected and loved. Wise giving and peace-making – Laurence’s example still shines true today.

## Prayer for the Month - *continued*

### The Lord's Prayer, Part 5: "Forgive us as we forgive."

Forgiveness is not a call to become a doormat; to forgive comes from a place of strength. There will be times when, even though we have forgiven someone and we absolutely refuse to hate them, yet we still seek justice - perhaps in order to protect others, perhaps in order to prevent others being harmed.

Finally Jesus calls us to forgive **as we have been forgiven**. God's forgiveness sets us free and it brings about change in us. When we seek God's forgiveness we are also seeking His transforming Spirit to change us into the image of Jesus. So when we forgive those who ask it of us we should also pray for the Spirit to re-make them.

As with the other parts of this prayer that Jesus gave us, the prayer of forgiveness leads us further down the path of discipleship. Praying and living this prayer will change us, and through us it can change the world.

God bless,  
Tim



The vicar's scheme to make the church more appealing to men seemed to be having a degree of success



# *Yorke Salon*

Ladies and Gents Hair Salon

And Now

Margaret would like to incorporate within her salon

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## *Coffee Shop* *at St Mary's Church*



*Every Tuesday and Friday 10.00 am to 12.30 pm*

*Luscious Cakes, Tea / Coffee*

*All Welcome – Free Internet Wi-Fi*

# Crossword Puzzle

## Clues Across

- 1 'A little later someone else saw Peter and said, "You — are one of them"' (Luke 22:58) (4)
- 3 Giving (1 Peter 2:5) (8)
- 9 They came to Jerusalem seeking an infant king (Matthew 2:7) (3,4)
- 10 'An athlete... does not receive the victor's crown unless he competes according to the — ' (2 Timothy 2:5) (5)
- 11 Pacifist, temperance advocate, open-air preacher, leading 20th- century Methodist, Donald — (5)
- 12 'Come quickly to — — , O Lord my Saviour' (Psalm 38:22) (4,2)
- 14 'The God of Abraham, — — — , the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus' (Acts 3:13) (5,3,5)
- 17 Sear by intense heat (Revelation 16:8) (6)
- 19 'It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust — — ' (Psalm 118:8) (2,3)
- 22 Goods (Nehemiah 13:15) (5)
- 23 i.e. train (anag.) (7)
- 24 Surrounding area (Luke 24:50) (8)
- 25 'Righteousness will be his — and faithfulness the sash round his waist' (Isaiah 11:5) (4)

## Clues Down

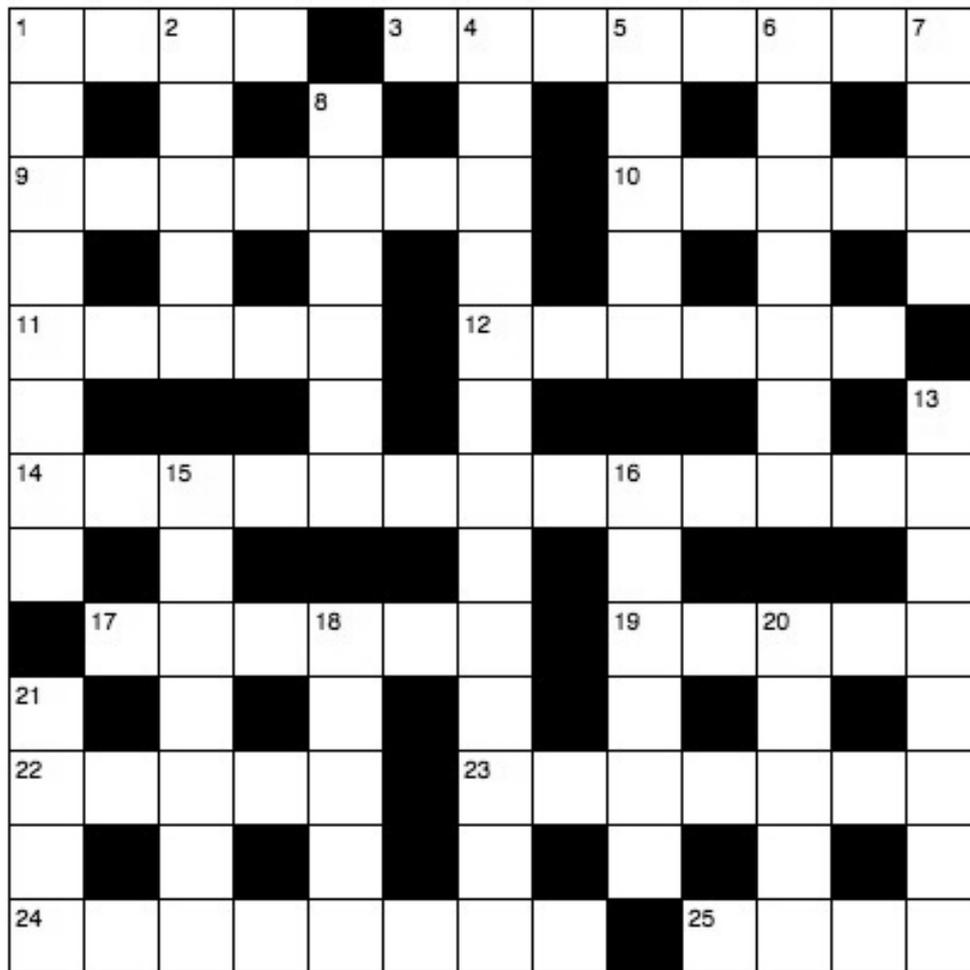
- 1 Elegant and creative (Exodus 31:4) (8)
- 2 'Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all — , but we will all be changed' (1 Corinthians 15:51) (5)
- 4 'I... delight to see how orderly you are and how firm your — — — is' (Colossians 2:5) (5,2,6)
- 5 Enlist (2 Samuel 24:2) (5)
- 6 Of the Muslim faith (7)
- 7 Sharp intake of breath (Job 11:20) (4)
- 8 Woven cloth (Ezekiel 16:13) (6)
- 13 Plentiful (Romans 5:17) (8)
- 15 CIA char (anag.) (7)
- 16 Paul and Silas stopped him committing suicide after an earthquake in Philippi (Acts 16:27–28) (6)

**18** One of the ingredients in the making of incense for the Lord (Exodus 30:34) (5)

**20** Episcopal headwear (5)

**21** Inhabitant of, say, Russia, Ukraine, Poland, Slovakia or Bulgaria (4)

Solution is on Page 20



## Who did it?

Three friends decided to go deer hunting together in Scotland. One was a solicitor, one a doctor, and the other a minister.

After many hours on the moorland, they found a stag and all three of them shot at it simultaneously. The stag dropped, and they rushed over to see it. To their surprise, instead of three bullet holes, there was only one. And so, a debate began as to whose bullet had shot the deer.

‘It was me,’ said the doctor. ‘It is very neat; there is little blood.’

‘No, it was me,’ said the solicitor, ‘it was a very complicated shot, with an expensive bullet.’

‘No,’ said the minister sadly, ‘I’m afraid it was me. Look – you can tell that the bullet went straight in one ear and straight out the other.’

# Prayers and Poems Page

## Prayer of thanks to our Faithful Father

Faithful Father,

Thank you for your presence with us, all the time. Thank you for your goodness towards us, all the time. Thank you for the forgiveness you offer when we put our trust in Jesus and what He did on the cross, so that not even the most desperate circumstances can cut us off from you. Thank you for the on-going possibility of a new start with bright hope for each tomorrow.

Thank you, thank you Lord,  
In Jesus' name. Amen.

*By Daphne Kitching*

## Be Thou Strong and Be Courageous

When the task ahead seems daunting  
When the road seems rough and steep  
When beset by demons, haunting  
Waking thee from restful sleep –  
Be thou strong and be courageous:  
What God promises, He'll keep!

Joshua, like us, was frightened  
By the job he had to do;  
But his faith in God was heightened  
By God's words both wise and true:  
"Be thou strong and be courageous  
"Have not I commanded you?"

God has said He'll stand beside you  
He will guide you by the hand  
He'll be there whate'er betide you  
'Gainst the pow'rs of Hell He'll stand  
Be thou strong and be courageous  
Till you reach the promised land.

*By Nigel Beeton*

## Thy Kingdom Come

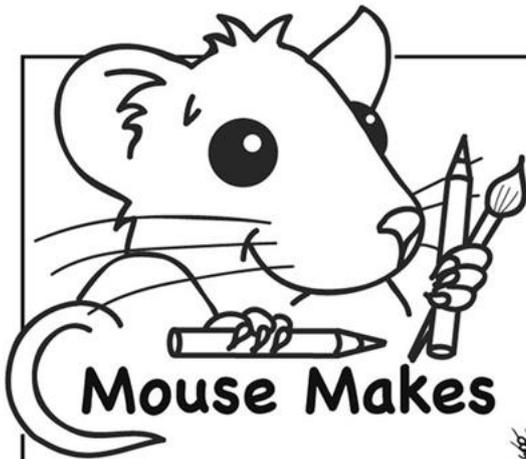
She wept as she lay the boy on the bier,  
First her husband, and now her son.  
Life had lost all meaning for her,  
She alone was left, all her family gone.

Among the mourners a Man appeared,  
He touched the bier and said 'Arise',  
The young man sat up at the Master's voice  
And the boy was returned to his mother's  
side.

Who is this who can do such things  
Defeating death and the grip of sin?  
The One who was promised long ago,  
Who came to bring God's kingdom in.

When all the kingdoms on earth have  
passed,  
God's kingdom then will come to birth,  
Reversing all that sin has spoilt,  
It really will be heaven on earth.

*By Megan Carter*



# Mouse Makes

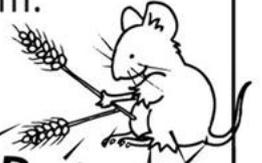
Can you find these harvest words in the hay bales?

- HARVEST
- THANKSGIVING
- PRAISE • GOD • BLESSED
- SEEDS • SOW • LAND
- PLOUGH • SCATTER
- SOIL • GROW
- CROPS • REAP



May all the peoples praise you, O God,  
 may all the peoples praise you!  
 The land has produced its harvest,  
 God, our God has blessed us.  
 God has blessed us, may all people  
 everywhere honour him.

Psalm 67:5-7



B A L E L B E R R I E S  
 O L T H A R V E S T G L  
 S C A T T E R E A P R A  
 U A T L O A F S O W A N  
 N O A T S D V I R I D  
 T H A N K S G I V I N G  
 S O I L S E E D S E S E U L

- WATER • RAIN • SUN
- AUTUMN • GATHER
- PICK • REAP • BALE
- TRACTOR • BARN • CART
- HAYSTACK • FOOD
- MOUSE • BREAD • LOAF
- GRAIN • CORN
- WHEAT • OATS
- RYE • BARLEY



W H E A T S W P I C K C  
 A P P L E R A P I N R O K  
 U R G P P T P E A R S  
 T O R L B L E S E D U  
 U B O U R O R Y E P O G  
 M O W M O U S E R T A  
 N U T S S G R A P E S  
 O G O D E H S C R O P S

- OLIVES • GRAPES • PIPS
- PEARS • PLUMS • APPLE
- BERRIES • NUTS • VINE
- FIGS • BEANS • PEAS
- POTATOES • FLOUR
- ONIONS
- PARSNIPS
- RICE • SUGAR



G H A Y S T A C K E R P  
 A F C A R T R A C T O R  
 T O N I O N S F I G S A  
 H O P O T A T O E S B I  
 E D E I F L O U R A S  
 R P A R S N I P S O R E  
 T O S B E A N S U N R  
 B A R L E Y O L I V E S

## Contact Numbers for Local Groups ☎

### Ecclesfield Rainbows

Gatty Hall  
Tuesday 5.00 pm to 6.15 pm  
Leader - Debbie  
Tel: 07860 471793

### 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  
Ladycroft bridge/stream and Bowling  
greens. Open Wednesday + Saturday  
10 am to 12 noon  
Tel : Angela 0114 2461095

### Friends of Ecclesfield Library

Run by the community for the  
community.  
Volunteer helpers always needed.  
Tel: 0114 246 3651  
email: ecclesfieldlib@gmail.com

### Ecclesfield Cubs

Scout Hut (off Yew lane)  
Wednesday 4:45 pm to 6:15 pm  
2<sup>nd</sup> 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 - Bryony Hemming  
Tel. 07983 719155  
Group Scout Leader  
John Otter Tel. 0114 246 1752

### The Grenoside Singers

Practice Monday in St Mark's  
Church Hall at 7:30 pm  
Secretary: Judith Gill Tel: 07824 112584  
[www.grenosidesingers.co.uk](http://www.grenosidesingers.co.uk)

### Whitley Hall Cricket Club

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Please contact Steve Fletcher if you wish  
to play or learn.  
Manager – Steve Fletcher 245 2406  
Secretary – Joe Webster 245 2518  
[www.whitleyhallcricketclub.co.uk](http://www.whitleyhallcricketclub.co.uk)

If you would like your local group  
advertised please contact:  
Mrs P Blackburn ☎ 0114 246 8453





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Live at St Mary's – Ecclesfield

Saturday 21st October 2017

On Stage at 7.00 pm

Ticket Price £8.00

Light refreshments included during the interval

## Trafalgar Day Concert 'Last Night at The Proms'

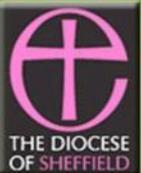
Admission by ticket only

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Melanie Sidy ☎ 0114 246 9411

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[www.stmarysecclesfield.com](http://www.stmarysecclesfield.com)



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