

News & Views From St Mary's Church Ecclesfield



Church Magazine March 2018

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First Words

There are two things which are the main focus of events in Church for March.

Firstly, the work on the roof will begin on the **28th of February** and will continue for at least twenty weeks. There will be disruption and we will be asking for help in tidying up before the weddings, funerals and Sunday services which will be continuing during the period of the works.

We have planned a celebration service on **Sunday 23rd September** at 6.30pm to give thanks for the work on the roof and the grants that have made it possible. The service will be led by our new Diocesan Bishop Pete Wilcox and we will be inviting the architect, representatives of Heritage Lottery and the contractors who worked on our roof. Put the date in your diary!

The other significant event in March is of course Lent and Holy Week.

I am encouraging everyone at St Mary's to read through Mark's Gospel. There is a Lent course every **Wednesday evening at 7.30pm** in Church looking at themes in Mark's Gospel:

21st Feb, Introducing Mark and his Gospel.

28th Feb, Following Jesus: Peter and the Disciples in Mark.

7th March, "Who then is this?" Jesus' miracles in Mark.

14th March, Parables of Kingdom and conflict.

21st March, "Who do you say that I am?"

28th March, The Cross and Passion of the Son of God.

If you can't make every session don't worry - just come along to the ones that you can make.

Holy Week begins with **Palm Sunday (25th March)**. In the evening there is a special choir event featuring great hymns by Watts, Wesley, Moody and Sankey. Look out for more information.

On **Maundy Thursday (29th March)** there will be a Eucharist at 7pm to mark Jesus last supper, followed by a prayer vigil. On **Good Friday (30th March)** we will keep Three Hours at the Cross from 12 noon to 3pm. Our **Easter Day** celebration is on **Sunday 1st April**.

One other event to highlight in March is that on **Saturday 17th March** there is a Prayer Ministry training day' 9.30am-4pm at Wadsley Parish Church, led by John and Anne Coles of New Wine. It is highly recommended. If you would like to go, please contact Wadsley Church.

God bless, Tim



Front Cover – A Wild Rabbit – 'Wild? It was absolutely livid!' image © Joshua Davis, jdavis.info.

Back Cover – Easter Crafts Poster

Thought for the Month

Lent has begun, and we are on our journey towards Holy week and Easter. I have begun my usual practice of giving up a few things - mainly chocolate and alcohol. As usual I have also taken on a few things - some extra reading on prayer and reading through Mark's Gospel with everyone else at St Mary's (if you haven't got your copy of "Lent with Mark" pick one up from Church).

But what is the point of it all? What is Lent all about? It is simply a religiously sanctioned diet to burn off the extra Christmas calories, or is something else?

For me Lent is about re-setting my focus on what really matters. As we go through life with all of its busyness and complexities it is so easy to forget what is most important. Lent is about finding space and time to remind ourselves of that.

As I read the Bible, particularly the Gospels, what I find there is that what matters most, what is most important in life is love. Jesus tells us to love God, to love one another, to love our neighbours and to love our enemies. In that list is there anyone at all who is left out, anyone that we are not called to love?

In Lent I remind myself of my primary calling in Christ - to love. I ask where I fail in this calling, as I always do. I ask how I can be more faithful to Jesus, specifically how in practical terms can I love God and neighbour, my brothers and sisters and even my enemies? As always asking Christ this question comes with a warning - if we ask then Jesus will show us, and then we have to do something about it!

So, my focus on prayer in Lent is about worship - loving God; my re-reading of the Gospel reminds me of the extent of Jesus love and of the call to follow Him - to love as Jesus loves.

In many ways the giving up of a few luxuries is the least important part of Lent - except that the money saved can be used to show practical love to another person or group. It can be given to a charity or spent on items for a food bank. It could be used to give a treat to someone.

Also, the discipline of self-denial, of saying 'No' to ourselves is not a bad idea. It is something that increasingly goes against the grain of our society which more and more encourages us to put ourselves and our desires first. Saying 'No' to self might be a significant step in saying 'Yes' to God.

**Whatever you do God bless you this Lent,
Tim**

The Church Roof Project



LOTTERY FUNDED



When the architect inspected the church in 2015, we received a shock as much of the waterproof metal on the roof had deteriorated very quickly and had become brittle requiring urgent attention. The church does not have the funds to pay for such a large project, so this meant that there had to be fundraising and an early application was made to the Heritage Lottery Fund for a grant. This resulted in an early grant of up to £17k towards the cost of employing experts to look at the roofs in 2017, decide what had contributed to the early failure and design a solution.

Following this, the work was put out to tender and a further application was then made to pay for the work to be carried out. The good news is that the church was advised just before Christmas that we had been successful in receiving a Heritage Lottery Fund grant for major repairs which will start at the end of February.

Continues on page 28

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St James the Least of All

On the perils of ladies cleaning the church

The Rectory,
St. James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren.

I must begin with a confession. I know it is wrong of me, but last Wednesday I coveted your modern, purpose-built, user-friendly worship centre. Your concrete cube may have all the aesthetic charm of a suburban bus shelter, but it is clean, bright and does not have the propensity for sheltering dead animals in dark corners.

March at St. James the Least brings an annual event I dread: the Boon Day. There is a certain irony in the ladies of the parish – who without exception employ dailies to do all their domestic cleaning and dusting – getting together to wash, polish and scrape 12 months-worth of accumulated dirt from the church interior.

Having very obviously put in hours of thought about correct dress – not looking as if they're set for drinks at the golf club, but equally not giving the impression that wielding a mop and bucket comes naturally to them – they arrive equipped with the Cartier equivalents of bleach and dusters. I am slightly surprised Admiral Wetherspoon's wife knows which end of a brush should be held.

Miss Pemberton's over-enthusiastic use of bleach for cleaning the sanctuary floor in the Lady Chapel makes one feel one is entering a public lavatory rather than a house of God. Books, service sheets and collection plates have all been so efficiently tidied away that it will take months before anyone can find anything. Lost coins are placed in the collection box, long-forgotten gloves and scarves put out for the next jumble sale, and dead pigeons and mice placed on the compost heap.

Just as archaeologists date various layers of a dig from the artefacts they recover, the ladies cleaning the choir stalls have determined precisely when the tenors changed from spearmint to peppermint chews during the sermon, as they shovelled through 52 Sundays-worth of lost mints.

Our great moment of crisis came when Lady Dawes decided to clean the statue of St. James the Least, standing in his niche above the high altar. An eight foot, 50 year-old step ladder and an 18 stone seventy year-old dowager are not an ideal combination. St. James had stood on his plinth, unmolested, for the best part of 500 years, two fingers held in a sign of blessing. Until last Wednesday.

Continues on page 7

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St James the Least of All - continued

For Lady D's last flourish, removing the cobwebs from St. James' head, caused her to lose her balance. She grasped for something for support, failed, and hit the floor still holding one of our saint's two fingers. He now stands – admittedly very clean – but with only one finger raised to the congregation in a far from saintly gesture. A little judicious application of glue will be necessary before he makes his true intentions clear.

And so we now live in a state of uninhabitable order and hygiene. Within a month, the skills of mice and men should hopefully return us to our preferred ambience for Christian worship.

Your loving uncle,
Eustace



LOTTERY FUNDED

Would you like to be a church guide?

St. Mary's Church, Ecclesfield, is about to start a Heritage Lottery funded project to repair our roof. The grant includes funding to improve the experience for our visitors.

We are looking for people who would like to volunteer a few hours from time to time to be a church guide at this Grade 1 listed building. Full training will be given at no charge. If you are interested and would like to know more, please contact either Michael or Andrew.

Michael Waldron Tel: 0114 246 3091 Email: waldronm@sky.com

Andrew Robinson Tel: 0114 246 3646 Email: andrew.c.robinson@btinternet.com

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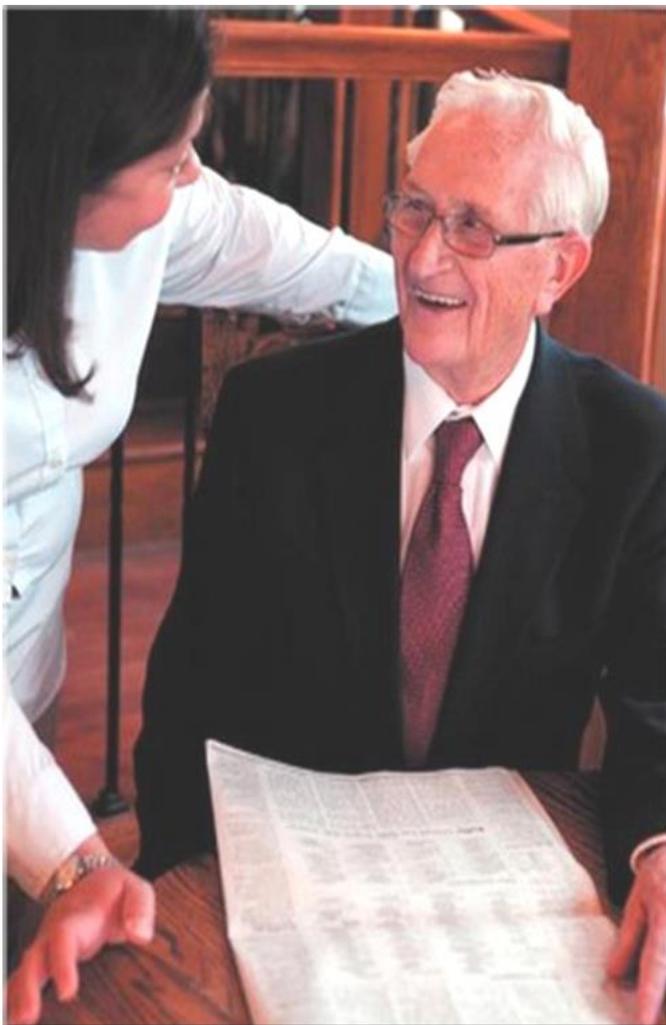
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Will You Remember Them – India

Indian Pastor's Suicide Actually Murder Say Church Congregation

Pastor Daniel was found dead in his church building in Kanchipuram District, Tamil Nadu, India on February 1st 2018

The police declared it a suicide. But his relatives and church members are convinced that he was murdered. 'He had been threatened several times by Hindu extremists before to not continue with ministry, we are sure they killed him,' one of his relatives said.

The roof of the church hall had previously been destroyed by Hindu extremists and the water and electricity supply had been cut off. No action was taken when the Pastor complained against those known to be responsible. He received continuous threats since making the complaints. His body was discovered hanging from the roof in a room adjoining the church, which he used as his living quarters.

His body was taken to a hospital for a post mortem where hanging was deemed to be the cause of death and the incident was declared a suicide. Members of the church and other local Christians gathered in front of the hospital to condemn the police and the negligence of the local authorities. A funeral has been held for Pastor Daniel who had ministered in the area for ten years. His church had a congregation of around 100 believers.

Please Pray

- For justice for Pastor Daniel
- For comfort and strength for his family, friends and church congregation.

Amen

JD

Editor: Anti-Christian violence in India refers to religiously-motivated violence against Christians in India. Violence against Christians has been seen by Human Rights organizations as a tactic used to meet political ends. The acts of violence include arson of churches, conversion of Christians by force and threats of physical violence, sexual assaults, murder of Christian priests and destruction of Christian schools, colleges, and cemeteries.

In August 2017, the US Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF) ranked India's persecution severity at "Tier 2" along with Iraq and Afghanistan. In the past six years, India has risen from No. 31 to No. 11 on Open Doors' World Watch List, ranking just behind Iran in persecution severity.

Make a Mother's Day Coffee Morning

Saturday 10th March 2018 - 10 am to 12 noon

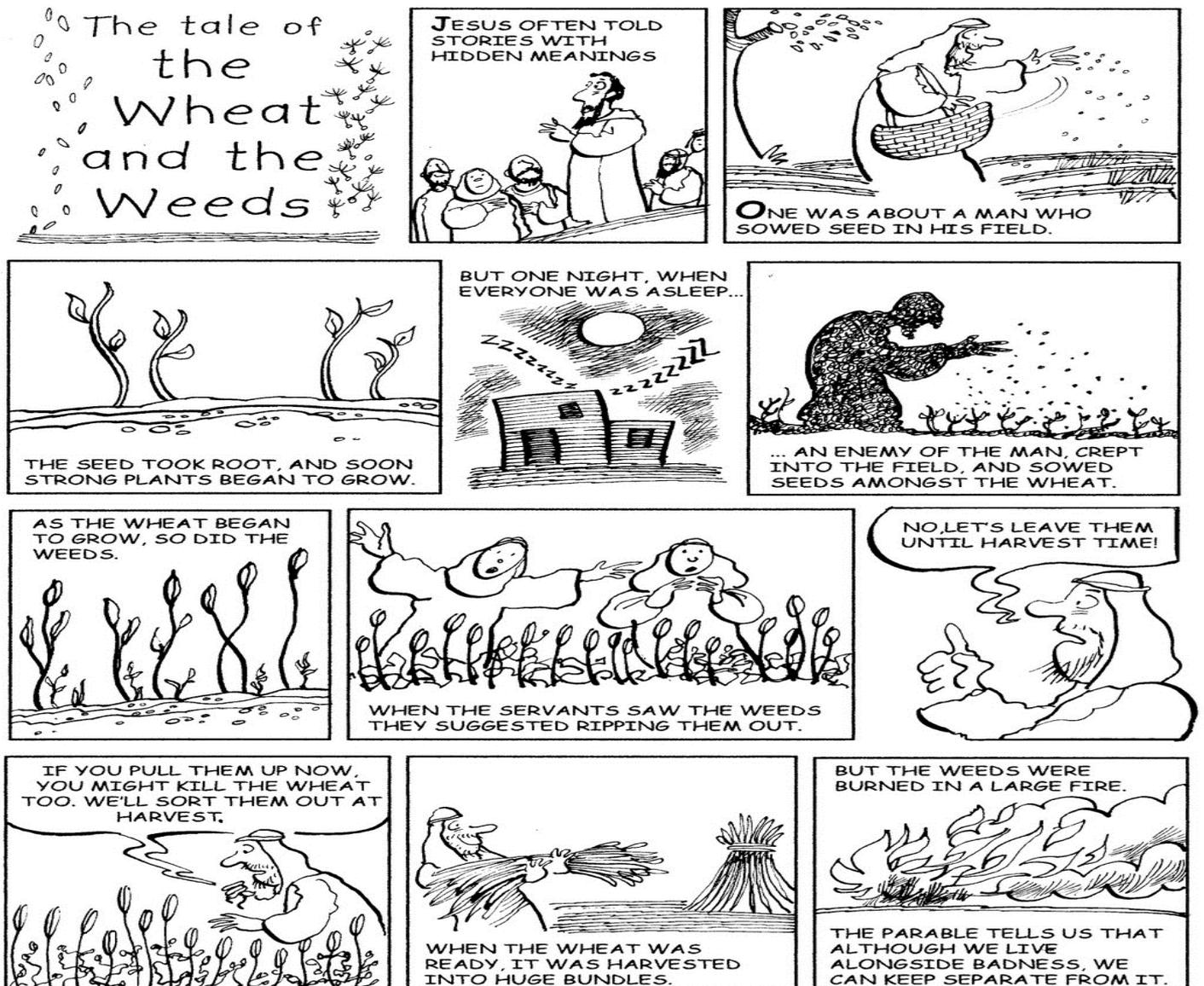
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Prayer for the Month

“My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”

According to Mark this cry was Jesus last prayer, gasped out in agony from the cross (Mark 15:34). As Jesus' prayer from Calvary it is important, so important that Mark records the words in Aramaic, the language of Jesus and the disciples.

It isn't the final prayer that we expect from Jesus. It isn't filled with confidence and hope. Jesus' words are from the beginning of Psalm 22, the prayer of an innocent sufferer. Commentators sometimes point out that this Psalm begins in despair but ends in hope. When He speaks those words is Jesus perhaps referencing the whole of the Psalm?

I don't think so. I believe that Jesus was in such agony and desolation at this point that He simply spoke from the heart to the Father, even though He believed that He had been abandoned by the same Father. The words of the psalms came to Him because He was so familiar with them; the psalms were Jesus prayer book.

The words seem to be a cry of defeat and despair. But they take us to the heart of the Cross and its meaning for us. What we must not lose sight of as we read Jesus' prayer is who it is who prays these words. It is Jesus, the Beloved Son of the Father; the one who is God with us and God for us.

In this prayer we see what it means to be 'God with us;' we see that Jesus is God with us in the depths of pain and despair. We see that in those moments of life when we feel abandoned even by God, that God in Jesus is with us. Jesus is the crucified God; the God who knows from the inside what it is to feel abandoned and deserted by the Father. In Jesus God becomes abandoned and forsaken to reach the abandoned and forsaken

Jesus' prayer shows us the cost of His love for us. It also encourages us to know that there is nothing at all that can ever separate us from the love of God. In Jesus God suffered death and hell and loss and abandonment for us. This is how much we are loved by God. This is the meaning of Good Friday and Easter Day. A love that is with us in the depths; a love that is stronger than death itself. This is the Father's love for us seen in Jesus.

Amen.

Mark 15:34 New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised (NRSVA)

At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, 'Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?' which means, 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?'

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)

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

Time for God – Wednesday at 7.30pm

Every 2nd & 4th Wednesday during school term time

A time for worship, teaching and prayer

St Mary's - Activities & Groups

Church Office Opening times

Tuesday 9:00 am to 1.00 pm

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 - March 2018

Day and Date	Time	Item
Monday 5 th	7.30 pm	PCC meets in Church
Tuesday 6 th	7.30 pm	Prayer Meeting in Church
Wednesday 7 th	1.00 pm	others' Union meet in the Gatty Hall
	7.30 pm	Lent Meeting in Church
Saturday 10 th	10.00 am	Mothers' Union coffee morning in Church proceeds to Make a Mothers' Day
Monday 12 th	7.30 pm	Baptism Preparation in Church
Wednesday 14 th	7.30 pm	Lent Meeting in Church
Monday 19 th	7.30 pm	Fabric Committee meet in Church
Tuesday 20 th	6.30 pm	Feoffees meet in Church
Wednesday 21 st	7.30 pm	Lent Meeting in Church
Sunday 25 th	2.00 pm	Children's Easter Crafts
	6.30 pm	Prayer and Praise Service
Wednesday 28 th	7.30 pm	Lent Meeting in Church
Thursday 29 th	10.30 am	Prayer Meeting in Church
Friday 30 th	12 noon	3 Hours at the Cross

From the Registers

Baptisms

11th February Ellie-Mae Elizabeth Glossop

May she know the love of God in her life and may all things of the Spirit live and grow in her.

Funerals

7th February	Michael Chafer	70
26th February	Edwin Ogden	82

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

Flower Rota March 2018

4th March	Lent - No Flowers
11th March	Lent - No Flowers
18th March	Lent - No Flowers
25th March	No Flowers – Palm Sunday

Mother's Union 7th February 2018

Our Treasurer, Jennifer Armeson, brought the annual audited accounts for our acceptance and we offered her our gratitude for all her efficiency, competence and hard work.

Our speaker was Tim, our Vicar and he had us enthralled from the moment he began to speak. Encouraging us all to read Mark's gospel during lent, following the pattern he has devised for the church, Tim gave us a whistle stop tour through Mark.

Firstly, he explained that Mark's gospel was the first to be written and that Mark possibly knew Jesus personally. It is recognised that Mark was a close associate of Paul and Peter and was, within his gospel, through recollections of Peter, making every attempt to help those reading it to see just who Jesus is. There is no physical description of Jesus anywhere in the bible, but Mark offers us a window into Jesus' character and nature.

Mark moves at breakneck speed through the gospel, beginning with a quote from Isaiah about God himself coming to rescue his people. We move quickly on to the call of the disciples, not the usual way of disciples choosing who they will follow, but Jesus calling them to himself, even though they were perhaps not well educated or well off, some were even people normally unacceptable in their society.

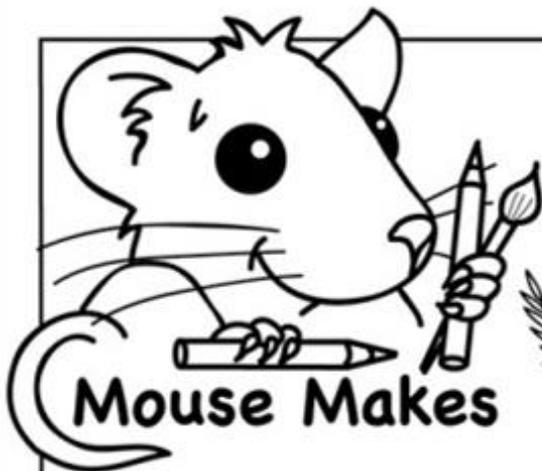
We see the compassion of Jesus at work in the many healings he performed, touching lives with the love of God and behaving in new ways of acceptance and forgiveness of those lost and left behind. Behaviour unseen and unknown before. Noticeably, Jesus' challenge for the religious leaders of his time as he brings God's rule in in unexpected ways, is underlying so much of the gospel.

There are miracles of nature, causing even his disciples to ask, 'Who is this?' as he overturns the expected norms. He constantly calls for people to hear the good news of the Kingdom of God and we see God's rule approaching. God's kingdom in our world, calling us all to change direction and walk towards it, are a theme throughout the gospel. Jesus message of servanthood; of giving his life, speaks of a different kingdom, of a different rule; his words to his heavenly father in Gethsemane as he faced crucifixion 'Not my will but yours'; his words from the cross; and yet throughout the gospel we see his joy, humour and love shine through; his compassion, his humility; all speak of a man who has such power and authority and yet looks at people in such a new and different way.

Mark wants us to see that Jesus is God among us. Showing us that God is Christ like. So that in our seeing Jesus character and nature we can perhaps begin to understand God.

If your appetite has been whetted by all this and you haven't already been following the weekly Lent Groups in church on Weds evenings, then do come and join us. You will not be disappointed.

JF



Mouse Makes



Journey to the Cross

Read the Bible - find the answers

READ Matthew 21:1-11

Where did Jesus stop on his journey? vs 1

What did Jesus send his disciples to get? vs 2

What did the crowd spread on the road in front of Jesus? vs 8

What did the people shout? vs 9

What city was Jesus going to? vs 10

READ Matthew 26:17-75

What festival did the disciples celebrate? vs 17

Which disciple denied Jesus? vs 34

Which disciple betrayed Jesus? vs 47

READ Matthew 27

When Jesus was taken to be crucified, what did the soldiers put on him? vs 28-29

What time did Jesus die? vs 45

Whose tomb was Jesus buried in? vs 57

READ Matthew 28

On the third day who rolled away the stone covering the tomb? vs 2

What had happened to Jesus? vs 6,7



The Gardening Year March 2018

No book on gardening can provide a rigid formula for success. Part of the fascination of food growing is that the gardener must make his own judgements about the state of the soil and the progress of the seasons. The times given for such routine tasks as sowing, planting and pruning are based upon 'an average' year in the South of England. In such seasons gardeners living in the North of England say the Sheffield area, must start two weeks later than the South.

Vegetables – onion sets can be planted this month red or white, leave at least 6in. between the sets so you can hoe between them without disturbing them. Also, garlic, radish and seed potatoes, shallots can also be planted in March. The best variety of seed potato for early sowing if you are growing in growbags or pots is a variety called 'Swift', as this variety does not have large tops. When planting seed potatoes whether earlies or lates, rub out all but two 'eyes' or you will get a lot of small potatoes. If the weather is fine you can plant early carrots and parsnips, also broad beans and early Brussel Sprouts.

Pests – to watch out for in March,

Aphids known by various names – blackfly, greenfly, cabbage aphids etc., they cause much damage by feeding on the sap of young shoots. Many species transmit viruses. Symptoms clusters of small variously coloured, round bodied insects on leaves and stems. Distortion of young growth: gall or sticky honeydew on foliage. Treatment, spray with systemic insecticides. Kill over wintering eggs on dormant fruit trees with insecticides.

Colin Williams

On Palm Sunday

At 6.30pm there will be a service using hymns from the Pens of: -

Isaac's Watts 1674-1748 **Charles Wesley** 1707-1788 **James Montgomery** 1771-1854 **Dwight Moody** 1837-1899 **Ira Sankey** 1840-1908

There will be a short commentary on the hymns and you will be asked to join in and Swell the Songs and enjoy these wonderful hymns.

It was once said that hymns were prayers set to music and many can remember hymns they heard in their youth which they just can't forget.



Retired Gentlemen Wanted!

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Beautiful

The English test had only one question: 'Write an essay on "The Most Beautiful Thing I Ever Saw."' One of the students finished his essay in less than a minute.

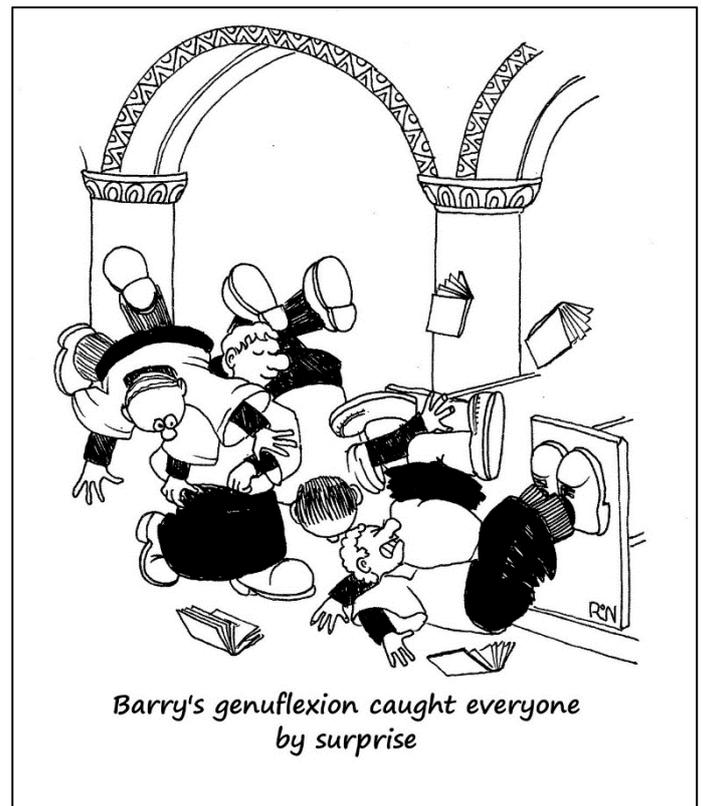
It read in its entirety:

"The most beautiful thing I ever saw was just too beautiful for words."

He got the only A in the class.

Crossword Puzzle - Solution is here

A	W	A	K	E	N		Q	U	E	N	C	H	
G		T		J				N		O		A	
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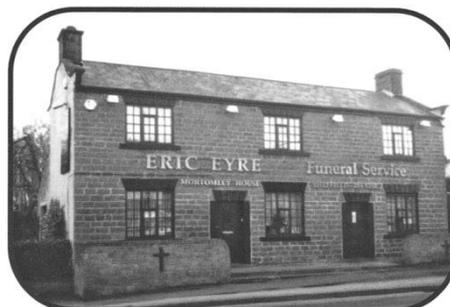
The Funeral Home

Mortomley House
2 & 4 Mortomley Lane
High Green

☎ 0114 284 8202

826 Barnsley Road
Sheffield Lane Top
☎ 0114 327 1720

34 Housley Park
Chapelton



Golden Charter
Funeral Plans 



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



Saint of the Month – 5th March

Eusebius: friend of St. Jerome

Eusebius is the saint for you if you believe in the Bible, and in providing hospitality. He was born of a good family in Cremona, Italy, in the fourth century, and felt called to become a monk. As Eusebius was ascetic by nature, he sought out St Jerome in Rome, who advocated an austere lifestyle for monks. They became life-long friends. At that time, Jerome was secretary to Pope Damasus, who commissioned him to produce for the Western church a translation of the Bible in Latin.

It was a time when Christian theologians were defending the faith from various heresies which had arisen concerning the nature of God. Eusebius was a loyal friend of Jerome and became involved in Jerome's theological disputes against various heresies.

When the Pope died in 384, Jerome decided to leave for the Holy Land. Eusebius begged to accompany him. At Antioch, they were joined by two female friends of Jerome's and together they made a pilgrimage to all the places connected with the earthly life of Jesus. Later, they decided to make their home in Bethlehem, where Jerome continued with writing, studying, and overseeing a monastery.

Jerome noticed that the vast number of pilgrims to Bethlehem were extremely poor, so he decided to build a hostel for them. Eusebius was sent to Croatia and Italy to raise money for the building project. He even sold his own property at Cremona to help with finances.

Meanwhile, the theological disputes continued, and it seems that Jerome next sent Eusebius to Rome, to support Pope Anastasius I.

In 400 AD, Eusebius may have returned to his native Cremona, or else to Bethlehem to become the abbot of the church there. One (unproven) tradition credits him with founding the abbey of Guadalupe in Spain. Another late tradition credits him with raising three men from the dead - an event painted twice by Italian Renaissance painter Raphael Sanzio.

Wherever Eusebius spent his last years, he continued to support Jerome's interests, and they regularly corresponded on theology. Eusebius died in 423 and it is thought he is buried alongside Jerome in Bethlehem.

Pianist required

Please can you or anybody you know help Ecclesfield Guides, Brownies & Rainbows?

We are in search of a committed pianist to volunteer their skills for our 2018 May Queen show. This person will be required to join us on 13th May (dress rehearsal), 17th, 18th & 19th May & also for some practices during the unit meetings from Easter onwards.

The show involves around 100 Girlguiding members of all ages performing songs, dances & sketches concluding in a more formal 2nd half where uniforms are worn & flags are paraded.

This event has taken place each year since 1945. It would be wonderful if you could join in with the fun by helping us to carry on this tradition in the village.

Ecclesfield is very special in the history of Guiding as 'The Brownie Story' was written there by Juliana Ewing, the daughter of Dr Alfred Gatty who was the vicar of St Marys Church for 64 years. This story is still told to all Brownies around the world.

This year is very special to us as our Guide unit will be celebrating its 100th birthday.

If you would like any further information or feel that you could help, please email ecclesfieldguides@gmail.com or contact Julie on 07712807974



Thank you

Annual Easter Egg Hunt + Multi Sports Activities Come and join in the fun

Ecclesfield Park Tuesday 3rd April 1pm to 3pm

£1 per participating child

Meet at the Bowling Pavilion - Refreshments will also be on sale

We look forward to seeing you

Organised by the Friends of Ecclesfield Park

Yorke Salon

Ladies and Gents Hair Salon

And Now

Margaret would like to incorporate within her salon

Carol McNally

Beauty Therapist & Electrologist (Hair Removal)

With Over 20 Years' Experience

Telephone: **0754 392 1476**

Dawn McCurdy

Reflexology / Hypnotherapy

Pain Relief Acupuncture

Ear Acupuncture

Telephone: **0795 792 3988**

315 High Street Ecclesfield S35 9NB

Salon Telephone: **0114 246 7762**

Wheel Chair Access



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 Arouse (Song of Songs 2:7) (6)
- 4 Extinguish (Isaiah 1:31) (6)
- 8 ““They — — ,” you will say, “but I’m not hurt!”” (Proverbs 23:35) (3,2)
- 9 Unhappiness (Nehemiah 2:2) (7)
- 10 Jewish (7)
- 11 Dirge (anag.) (5)
- 12 ‘A truthful witness gives honest — , but a false witness tells lies’ (Proverbs 12:17) (9)
- 17 Paul quoted from the second one in his address in the synagogue at Pisidian Antioch (Acts 13:33) (5)
- 19 ‘Do not use your freedom to — the sinful nature’ (Galatians 5:13) (7)
- 21 ‘As you can see, he has done nothing to — death’ (Luke 23:15) (7)
- 22 Name applied by Isaiah to Jerusalem (Isaiah 29:1) (5)
- 23 ‘All the people — — one man, saying, “None of us will go home”’ (Judges 20:8) (4,2)
- 24 Lazarus, who was carried by angels to Abraham’s side when he died, was one (Luke 16:20) (6)

Clues Down

- 1 Appalled (Job 26:11) (6)
- 2 ‘In an — to escape from the ship, the sailors let the lifeboat down into the sea’ (Acts 27:30) (7)
- 3 Expel (Acts 18:16) (5)
- 5 ‘But I have a baptism to — , and how distressed I am until it is completed!’ (Luke 12:50) (7)
- 6 ‘Of the increase of his government and peace there will be — — ’ (Isaiah 9:7) (2,3)
- 7 Hurry (Psalm 119:60) (6)
- 9 ‘For I desire mercy, not — , and acknowledgement of God rather than burnt offerings’ (Hosea 6:6) (9)
- 13 One of its towns was Sychar, where Jesus met a woman at Jacob’s well (John 4:5) (7)

14 Shouting (Acts 7:57) (7)

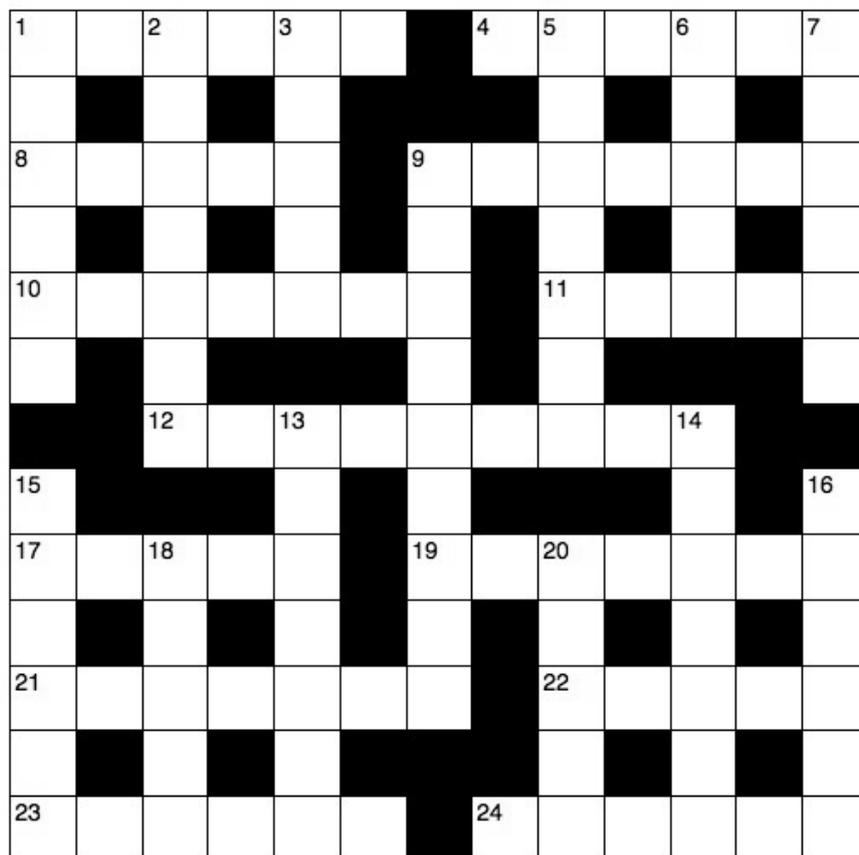
15 Arachnid (Isaiah 59:5) (6)

16 One of Paul's first converts in Philippi was Lydia, a — in purple cloth (Acts 16:14) (6)

18 Donkeys (5)

20 Raked (anag.) (5)

Solution is on Page 20



Hymns we sing?

The Laodicean church is described in the Bible in the book of The Revelation as being lukewarm. If the Laodiceans were to have a hymnal, suitable for their conviction, here's a list of some of the hymns it may contain:

Just as I Am, with Lots of Excuses
Make Suggestions to Me, My God and King
My Hope Is Built on Nothing Much
Not My Life - Let Me Be
O Come, All Ye Wishy Washy
O Come Let Us Ignore Him.
Oh, for a Couple of Tongues to Sing
Part of the Way with Jesus
Pillow of Ages, Fluffed for Me

Prayers and Poems Page

Easter prayer

Almighty Father,

When life is difficult and the way seems too hard, help us to remember the reality of Easter; of the resurrection of Jesus; of His wonderful saving work on the cross, overcoming death to offer us life for all eternity with you.

There is so much we don't understand, Lord, but you know everything, you are in charge and we can trust you even when we can't work things out.

Thank you for the hope, peace and joy that you alone can give - and all because of the resurrection of Jesus. Thank you that He is alive today and able to help us whatever our situation. Help us to be your Easter People, reaching out with your love and life.

In Jesus name, **Amen.**

By Daphne Kitching

Behold the Man

He stands condemned, speaks not a word
The crowds resolve that He should die,
Forgetting all His miracles
Hosannas turn to 'Crucify'.

They haul Him to the judgement seat,
Pilate and Herod now become friends,
Enemies no more but one in mind
Together involved in Messiah's end.

Herod mocks Him as a king
Pilate washes his hands of blame,
The crowd now shout out for His death
But He knows it is for this He came.

'It is finished' is the cry,
The curtain rent, a way made in
Upon the Cross the victory won
Behold the Man - it's Christ our King.

By Megan Carter

That daffodil time of year

O how I love, as poets do
That time when skies turn deeper blue,
And all can know the vernal thrills
Of landscapes filled with daffodils.

I love to spend a pleasing hour
Admiring nature's golden flower;
That trumpet shape, enhanced by dew
That vibrant, cheering yellow hue!

No better herald of the spring
No flower can more pleasure bring;
And spirits crushed by winter's ills
Are lifted by the daffodils!

By Nigel Beeton

The Church Roof Project - *continued*

The grant of £168k goes towards a £207k project which will result in new wood and roof metal on the Nave and South Aisle with improved ventilation and insulation plus major improvements to the security systems and improvements to the visitor experience.

A further project to restore the North Aisle roof will take place at a later date when funds can be raised. The key stages of the work are: -

- Up-grading the alarm and security systems – w/c 12th March
- Work on the Nave – 26th March to May
- Work on the South Aisle - April to July
- Design of visitor information, training of guides – February to July
- Provisional - further work to North Aisle – June to September

Possible Disruption and Scaffolding

There will be some limited exterior scaffolding at the front of the building from late March and as the work progresses to the South Aisle, there will be more external scaffolding plus internal scaffolding down the South Aisle inside the church; we will not be able to use the pews while the scaffolding is in place. If further work goes ahead on the North Aisle, there will be internal scaffolding there and we will not be using those pews while the scaffolding is in place.

As part of improving the experience for visitors after the work is completed, there will be improved visual aids and guide literature and we are looking for people who would like to volunteer a few hours from time to time to be a church guide at this Grade 1 listed building. Full training will be given at no charge. If you are interested and would like to know more, please contact Tim Gill, Michael Waldron or Andrew Robinson (contact details at back of magazine)

Smile

Critics - People like criticism - just keep it positive and flattering.

Worry - Worry kills more people than work because more people worry than work.

Song - He often simply broke into song, because he couldn't find the key.

TV - Your mind is like a television; when it goes blank, it's a good idea to turn off the sound

Petrol - You know it will be a bad day when it costs more to fill up your car than it did to buy it.

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
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 - 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

Whitley Hall Cricket Club

Matches every Saturday and some
Sundays and weekdays.
Please contact Steve Fletcher if you
wish to play or learn.
Secretary – Steve Fletcher 245 2406
e-mail – fletcher177@hotmail.com
www.whitleyhallcricketclub.co.uk

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



Easter Crafts for Children

For Primary School Children

At St. Mary's Church
Ecclesfield

Easter Crafts for Children 2.00 pm - 3.30 pm

On Palm Sunday - 25th March 2018

£2.00 per child.

Please complete a slip and bring it with you to the church if you wish to come to the craft session.

Slips can be obtained from the church or downloaded at our web site:

www.stmarysecclesfield.com

See our Forthcoming Events page.



Welcome to St Mary's Parish Church, Ecclesfield