

News & Views From St Mary's Church Ecclesfield



Church Magazine February 2019

www.stmarysecclesfield.com

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First Words

February is probably my least favourite month. It is dark, cold and wet, and I don't even have Christmas to look forward to!

There are a few special events at St Mary's this month as well as the regulars.

On Monday 4th Feb at 7.30pm the PCC are meeting in church as usual. If you anything to raise please contact Tim or one of the wardens. On Tuesday the 5th we have a meeting with the architect scheduled to finalise the plans for disabled access via the West Door. This is a key part of our plans for St Mary's. We want to be able to welcome all people into our beautiful Church, because a part of outrage calling is to extend the Father's welcome to all.

On Wednesday 6th Feb Bishop Pete is visiting the deanery. The clergy chapter will be visiting St Mary's between 4.30 and 6.30pm for refreshments before going on to Shirecliffe for the Deanery Synod.

On Saturday the 9th at 9am it is our monthly Prayer Breakfast. Someone, I can't remember who, once said that "Churches get what they pray for." I don't know if that is true, but we are entrusted by Jesus with the mission of His Church here in Ecclesfield, and prayer is how we begin, continue and end our work in His name. Prayer keeps our focus on Christ and keeps us depending on the Holy Spirit. Prayer and worship are the most important things we do as a church. If you have never been to the prayer breakfast, or if you've not been for a while, come along in February. **You are invited!**

On Monday 11th at 6pm we welcome the Ecclesfield Beavers group working on their faith badge.

On Monday 18th at 1pm there is the opportunity to receive basic Safeguarding training. If you are not sure if you need this training speak to Tim or Andrea, to book in see Andrea. On Sunday 24th at 5.15 our Youth Fellowship meet in Church, we will be starting the Youth Alpha course. If anyone is interested in coming along, see Tim. At 6.30pm also on the 24th we have our monthly Prayer & Praise, again you are invited.

Finally, every month we have the opportunity to welcome into St Mary's two groups of people. Once a month we have baptisms (this month they will be on Sunday 3rd Feb at 12 noon); once a month, on the third Sunday at 10am we welcome families who have recently been bereaved.

As a Church we are not simply a club for members, we are here for all people whoever they may be. We hold this church on trust for God and for the community. It is our privilege to be able to welcome people at significant times in their lives, times of joy and of sorrow Visitors often comment on the friendly welcome that they receive at St Mary's. Thank you and keep up the good work!

God bless,
Tim



Front Cover – Peace or Call Lily - Several species are popular indoor houseplants. It lives best in shade and needs little sunlight to thrive, it is watered approximately once a week. The soil is best left moist but only needs watering if the soil is dry. The NASA Clean Air Study found that these lilies help clean indoor air of certain environmental contaminants, including benzene and formaldehyde

Back Cover – EPPIC Theatre Poster

Thought for the month

I read in a recent interview with the leader of a very different church from St Mary's – that:

Most of the members of the church are in their 20s and 30s. There isn't a 'proper church building' - they meet in a coffee shop on Sunday mornings, the shop owned and run by the church leaders. Their worship is modern and informal, most of the church members are converts with no previous experience of church life. But something that the leader said in the interview struck a chord with me.

She said that the city centre location, the vibe that they had created, the coffee shop itself and the hospitality are all good, but they are not mission. None of those things make disciples.

Although our situation here in Ecclesfield is very different, we have a traditional Church building whose beauty and history attracts many people. We welcome people into church for coffee, for concerts and for the pastoral offices of Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals. There is a prayerful and welcoming ambience at St Mary's that visitors appreciate and comment on.

But none of that is the same as making disciples.

Before returning to the Father, Jesus said to the apostles: "Go ... And make disciples of all nations, baptise them ... And teach them to obey all that I have commanded you. And I am with you always, to the end of time." (Matthew 28:19-20)

We are called to love and serve and welcome all people. We are also called to make disciples. Not so that we can feel good about being part of a thriving church, but so that they can know the presence and the power and the love of Christ for themselves.

The driving force of Jesus' mission was the Father's love - God loved the world so much that He sent his Son (John 3:16). And Jesus calls and then sends disciples today for the same reason: His love for all people.

The only motivation for sharing our faith with another person, speaking of what Christ means to us, of what faith means in our lives, what God has done for us, is love. Love for Christ who has died for us and for the world, and love for the person that we are speaking to. To share faith with another is an expression of our love and concern for them. It is to want the very best for them.

Continues on page 6

God and The Arts

Editor: The National Gallery at Trafalgar Square in London houses one of the finest collections of European paintings in the world. It is home to 2,300 works spanning the centuries of artistic creation. During this year we shall be journeying through the gallery to explore one of those treasures each month. By the Rev Michael Burgess.

‘The Presentation in the Temple’ by Guercino

This month of February opens with the celebration of Candlemas. On the 2nd we recall that special moment of enlightenment when Mary and Joseph bring Jesus to the temple. They meet Simeon, who represents the waiting people of Israel – a nation looking for a better world now that the holy city was in the hands of Roman invaders.

Simeon clung to the hope that God would come to bring freedom and a new life. When it came, there was no fanfare, no warning. St Luke in his Gospel tells us of an ordinary family from faraway Nazareth who go to Jerusalem to perform the religious duties for the firstborn son. But in their encounter with Simeon we see and hear something extraordinary.



The scene is captured in this beautiful painting of 1623 that hangs in the National Gallery: ‘The Presentation in the Temple’ by Guercino. The artist Giovanni Barbieri had the curious nickname Guercino which means ‘Squinty.’ Why squinty, we are not sure, for all is clear and lyrical in this work.

At the base of the canvas we see the turtle doves with two ducks, but the heart of the scene focuses on Mary, Joseph and Simeon linked by the Christ-Child. Notice the gentle hands of Mary, the strong, supportive hands of Joseph, and the outstretched, waiting hands of Simeon. He may be an old man, but he is ready to welcome the babe, who is offered as a sign of hope and light for the future. A candle burns at the right side to emphasise the light shed by this meeting of infancy and old age.

St Luke by tradition was an artist himself, depicting the stories of his gospel with the deft strokes of a painter. In this scene the words of the evangelist and the skill of a 17th century Italian artist tell us that, at whatever age we are, we can also find light and hope as we offer our hands and our hearts to welcome the Christ-Child.

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St James the Least of All

On how to survive a parish retreat

The Rectory,
St. James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren.

We have just returned from our annual parish three-day silent retreat at St Epiphanius' Priory. We had the usual attendees: those husbands who see it as an opportunity to stop their wives talking, however briefly; those wives who can keep their husbands temporarily from the 19th hole at the golf club; and those who want to see if it might be a suitable home in which to park an inconvenient relative.



It can come as quite a shock for first-timers: the ladies are appalled to discover that there is neither coffee shop nor hairdressers, and the men that there is no bar or billiards table. The resident community certainly frowned on the four men among us who were discovered silently pushing a car down the drive late one evening before starting it at the main gates as they escaped to the nearest pub. Those of us who are older hands know to bring our own supplies – carefully wrapped, so that the clinking of bottles is not too obvious as one ascends the main staircase. The near universal retreat to bedrooms before dinner is less an opportunity for quiet reflection and more one for a restorative sherry.

The more experienced also know that temperatures in the house are Siberian. All the movement and hand waving during Services is less charismatic enthusiasm and more an attempt to maintain blood flow to the extremities. The series of addresses were given by an aged member of the community. That some of our party fell asleep during the addresses was excusable; that the person giving them also occasionally did so, was not.

During one stroll round the gardens, I noticed clouds of smoke coming from behind the hedges near the chapel. My hope that it was parishioners experimenting with incense to be used in church on our return was soon crushed when I found it was a group of hardened parishioners topping up their nicotine levels. Seeing them nervously huddled in the shrubbery made one think of schools and bike sheds. I now find it difficult not to picture them all in short trousers and wearing caps.

And so we return, knowing that we have done our bit once again for the spiritual vigour of the parish, and also that three days of vegetarian cooking will mean a long queue at the village butchers tomorrow morning.

Your loving uncle,
Eustace

Thought for the month - *continued*

We are not all evangelists that is a particular gift of the Holy Spirit. We are all witnesses. We can simply speak, truthfully and simply of what we know of Christ. If no one is prepared to speak, how will others hear, how will they respond to God's amazing love?

The first step for us is prayer.

It is to ask God to give us opportunities to share our faith with others. God always calls some, He has called us, for the sake of others, so that through us He may reach out to others with His love and His mercy, with the promise of His eternal kingdom.

May we continue to be a church of welcome and of prayer, and also a church where disciples are called and made.

Tim

Mothers' Union

It was business time for the members, and we welcomed the Vicar to Chair the meeting. We had last year's report and then the Secretary gave her report outlining the activities over the year.

We had many interesting speakers from Medical Detection dogs to Air Ambulance to Mary's Meals an organisation which provides meals for school children in some of the poorest places in Africa. We celebrated quite a few 80th and 90th birthdays and supported many fundraising activities for the work of the Mothers' Union around the world in 84 countries.

We joined in Diocesan meetings - prayer days, services, council meetings and a brilliant Fun Day for families at Doncaster. Visits were made to those who were sick with a card and flowers.

The vicar then spoke to us about his vision with the Prayer 2019 leaflet he had produced, encouraging us to use the leaflet and to understand we cannot hide from the message contained in John's Gospel chapt. 15. How we need to be effective and to stay connected to Jesus by praying, reading and worshipping. Hopefully this will lead to renewal of us and the church.

An excellent message with which to start the New Year - ***NP***

Andrew Jones

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Ecclesfield Priory Players

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Will You Remember Them – February 2019

Answers to Prayer

A new dairy farm is bringing hope to Peter, a displaced Christian in Syria, thanks to the prayers and gifts of Open Doors supporters. The farm, built in northeast Syria with the support of Open Doors partners is providing work and an income to ten displaced Syrians, including a vet and a technician.

“I am responsible for my parents, my wife, and my son,” shares Peter who is one of the farms new employees. “without this job, I wouldn’t be able to maintain my family. “

The management team was able to buy some very good cows, cattle feed and a milking machine. At that time, about 400 Christians were forced to leave their houses in the area by Kurdish militia. “We were able to offer these people milk and yoghurt during the week. This was a real miracle for us and for them. Without that food they would have gone hungry.” The new farm already has contracts with several shops where they deliver milk and yoghurt. We are very happy with the support we received to build this farm.

Thank you for your efforts to help the church and our suffering people.

JD

Holocaust Memorial Day



Six hundred candles in the shape of the Star of David were lit at York Minster on Thursday 24 January in memory of more than 6 million Jewish people murdered by the Nazis in the Second World War.

The act of commemoration was part of a week-long programme of events in York to mark international Holocaust Memorial Day, which takes place on the 27 January each year.

The date marks the anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp – the largest Nazi death camp - in 1945

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Saturday 23rd February 10am – 3pm

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Saturday 2nd March 10.30am – 11.30am

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The charge is £1.50 per child towards keeping our library open and running more of these events.

To book your place or for more information about these or any future events please either call into the library, phone us on 0114 2463615, email us at ecclesfieldlib@gmail.com or follow us on Facebook and Twitter

Prayer for The Month - A prayer for St Mary's for 2019

*Heavenly Father,
Your son Jesus Christ has called us into His Church here at St Mary's.
Pour out upon us your Holy Spirit:
that we may worship you with all our hearts and minds;
that we may love one another as Christ has loved us;
and that we may be fruitful in your service.
Help us to grow as a Church in faith, in hope and in love;
and add to our number those whom you are calling,
that as a bigger Church we may do bigger work for your glory.
Amen*

I wrote this prayer because I felt that God was calling us as His church to grow. Of course, God calls every Church to grow, but I felt that this should be a particular focus for 2019.

As I prayed about this coming year I was drawn to the later chapters of John's Gospel; to Jesus' farewell in chapters 14 to 17. Jesus is speaking to the disciples just before His arrest and Crucifixion. What He wants to convey to them (and through them to us) is important to Him. It is almost Jesus' "last will and testament" to the church.

The main points in these chapters are that Jesus calls His church to grow by staying close to Him, by being in the Vine. He calls us to love the Father and to love one another just as He has loved us. And He tells the Church that we will only be able to grow if we have the Holy Spirit.

So, in response to Jesus words, we pray and we dedicate ourselves to grow as a church.

To grow in faith. To trust Jesus with our lives and with the future of our Church. It His church and His mission. Our part is to discover what Jesus is doing, where He is present and active and to work alongside Him. In all that we do we entrust ourselves to Christ's love and care.

We pray also that we may grow in hope. The Church in the Britain today is poor and weak, we feel marginal. But we know that nothing is impossible with God. There is no opposition, no problem, no setback that is greater than God.

Continues on page 15

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 - February 2019

February 2019	Time	Item
Sunday 3 rd	10:00am	Baptism Service
Monday 4 th	10:00am	Beginners Photography Course
	7:30pm	PCC Meeting
Tuesday 5 th	10:00am	Meeting with Architect
Wednesday 6 th	4:30pm	Deanery Chapter Meeting
Thursday 7 th	10:00am	Visiting bell ringers
Saturday 9 th	9:00am	Prayer Breakfast
Monday 11 th	10:00am	Beginners Photography Course
	10:00am	Safeguarding Training - Wardens & Safeguarding Officers
Monday 18 th	1:00pm	Foundation Safeguarding Training
Friday 22 nd	6:30pm	Wedding Rehearsal
Wednesday 27 th	7:30pm	Finance Team Meeting

From the Registers

Baptisms

9 th December	Dorothy Janet Radford-Black
9 th December	Elainer Mae Radford -Black
9 th December	Sophia Constance Frost
13 th January	Lissie Jayne Wiggett
13 th January	Hettie Grace Pryor

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

Funerals

13th December	Irene Rigg	86
31st December	Donald Marriott	80
4th January	Alison Elizabeth Butler	55
10th January	Joyce Hall	98
17th January	Barbara May Hutchinson	85
21st January	Elwyn Philip Nuttall	88
22nd January	Alfred Crofts	87
25th January	Deidre Margaret McManus	75

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

Flower Rota February 2019

3 rd	S. Pratt & K. Bailey
10 th	P. Hawley & J. Hawksworth
17 th	Vacant
24 th	J. Sutton & S. Johns

Prayer for The Month - A prayer for St Mary's for 2019

Continued

God's love in Christ is the greatest power in the universe. It is because of this that we are a people of hope.

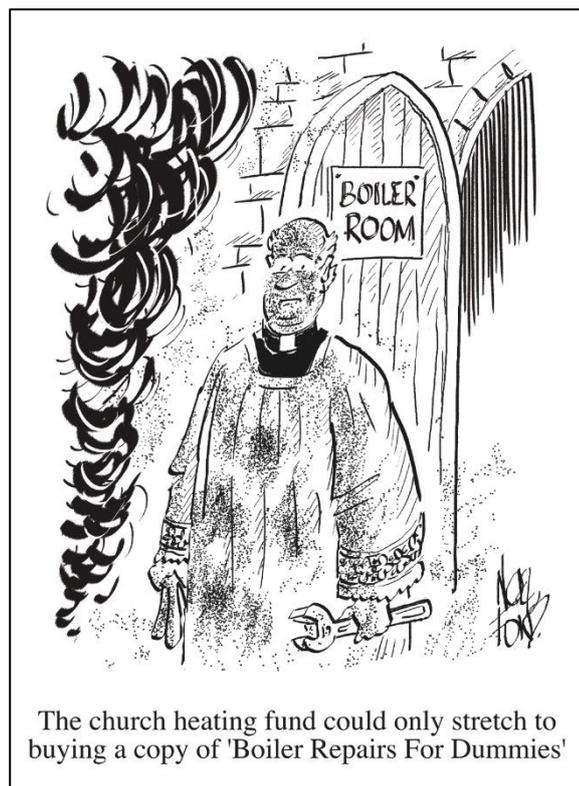
We also pray that we may grow in love: love for God expressed in making worship and prayer a priority; love for one another expressed in practical ways and in being faithful in fellowship; and love for 'the world' the people that God created, the people that He loves, the people that Jesus died for. We show our love for others in practical ways, in being a welcoming church and in helping them to come into a life-giving, life-changing relationship with Jesus for themselves.

We also pray that we may grow in number. That God will call many people, into His kingdom. We pray for renewal in the church, and an awakening in society. That a bigger church may do a bigger work for Christ.

We live in a society that is divided and ill at ease with itself. Part of our calling is to bring healing to our land and its people, and to pray that God will raise up leaders of vision and integrity.

Please pray for St Mary's in 2019.

God bless,
Tim



Recipe of the Month - Steak Chilli Con Carne - Serves 4

Sounds expensive but it isn't if you buy the right cut of steak.

- **Flat Iron Steak** (US) - **Butlers' Steak** (UK) - a cut of steak cut with the grain from the shoulder of the animal, this produces a flavour packed steak.
- **Denver Steak** - tender and full of beefy flavour, cut from the chuck shoulder clod, a meaty muscle.
- **Bavette Steak** - the French name for flank steak, this is a loose textured, highly flavoured flat cut that was largely forgotten as supermarkets took over from traditional butchers.

The bigger supermarkets are now stocking these cheaper steak cuts once again.

Ingredients for the Steak Chilli Con Carne

2 tbsp good Olive Oil

450g Steak - Bavette Steak, Denver Steak or Flat Iron Steak – sliced into thin strips

1 Large Onion - diced

2 Cloves Garlic - peeled and finely sliced (optional)

1 Green Chilli - deseeded and diced

1 or 2 Bay Leaves

1 or 2 tsp Ground Cumin

1 tbsp Tomato Purée

400g can Chopped Tomatoes

½ can of Water (250ml)

400g can Red Kidney Beans in water - drained and rinsed

Method

Add 1 tbsp olive oil to a large pan and heat over a high heat until smoking hot. Add the steak (in batches if necessary) and brown all over - remove the meat to a bowl.

Add a little water to the pan to deglaze it and tip the juices and bits into the bowl of meat so none of the flavour is lost.

Return the pan to the heat and turn down to medium - add the remaining olive oil, onions and cook until the onions begin to colour, add the garlic, green chilli and ground cumin and cook for another 2-3 minutes.

Add the tomato purée, browned steak and juices and cook for another 2-3 minutes.

Add the canned tomatoes, water and bay leaves and bring to a boil - turn down the heat and simmer covered over a low heat for at least 1½ hours or until the meat is tender and the sauce has reduced to a thick consistency. Add more water during cooking if needed.

Stir in the red kidney beans, season with salt and freshly ground black pepper and cook for a further ½ hour – then serve.

To Garnish - 60g grated cheese - Cheddar, Pecorino, Parmesan or Manchego

To serve – Tortillas, Rice, Lebanese Flat Breads or Jacket Potatoes

The Gardening Year – February 2019

Preparation of the ground for spring planting can be carried out in February whenever the weather permits. The Greatest possible use should be made of any available glass cover, making sure that the glass is clean, so that it admits the maximum possible light.

Glossary of gardening terms

PH level – a scale of values against which soil acidity or alkalinity is measured. The neutral point on the scale is PH 7.0. Reading above this denotes an alkaline soil: below it the soil is acid.

Annual – a plant that germinates, grows, produces seeds and dies in a single season. Lettuce and radishes are Annuals. So are a number of Herbs, including Borage, Chervil and Dill.

Half-Hardy Annuals – such as sweet corn, cannot withstand frost.

Hardy Annuals – which include many varieties of lettuce, are unharmed by frost.

Tender Annuals – such as aubergines, do best when grown under glass throughout the season, though some succeed in a sheltered spot outdoors.

Biennials – a plant that requires two seasons to complete its life cycle. Cabbages and other members of the cabbage family are biennials because they do not as a rule produce flowers and form seeds until their second year, though the crop is normally harvested before this occurs.

Biennial Bearing – is a term used for fruit trees, especially apples that tend to carry substantial crops only in alternative years.

Catch-Crop – a quick maturing crop grown on the interval between harvesting one crop and sowing or planting another. Lettuce, Kohl-Rabi, radishes and turnips make good catch-crops.

Colin Williams

Eat the Seasons - Seasonal food for February

Vegetables - Brussels Sprouts, Cauliflower, Celeriac, Chicory, Jerusalem Artichoke, Kale, Kohlrabi, Leeks, Parsnips, Potatoes (Maincrop), Purple Sprouting Broccoli, Salsify, Shallots, Swede, Truffles (Black), Turnips

Fruit - Bananas (Windward), Blood Oranges, Clementines, Kiwi Fruit, Lemons, Oranges, Passion Fruit, Pineapple, Pomegranate, Rhubarb

Meat - Guinea Fowl, Hare, Partridge, Turkey, Venison

Fish - Clams, Cockles, Dab, Dover Sole, Gurnard, Haddock, Halibut, Hake, Langoustine, Lemon Sole, Lobster, Mackerel, Mussels, Oysters, Red Mullet, Salmon, Scallops (Queen), Skate, Turbot, Winkles

Visit - www.eattheseasons.co.uk

With Valentine's Day and Love in mind:

“Love is the greatest refreshment in life.” – *Pablo Picasso, Artist*

“Men should keep their eyes wide open before marriage, and half shut afterward.” -
Madame Scuderi

“Two souls with but a single thought, two hearts that beat as one.” – *E F J von Munch-Bellinghausen*

“The Christian is supposed to love his neighbour, and since his wife is his nearest neighbour, she should be his deepest love.” – *Martin Luther*

“One of the best legacies a father can leave his children is to love their mother.” - *C Neil Strait*

“A successful marriage requires falling in love many times, always with the same person.” – *Mignon McLaughlin, Journalist*

“Love doesn't make the world go round. Love is what makes the ride worthwhile.”
– *Franklin P. Jones, Engineer*

“Grow old with me! The best is yet to be.” – *Robert Browning, Poet*

“It is astonishing how little one feels alone when one loves.” – *John Bulwer, Physician*

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Heaven's reward

A taxi driver and a minister from the same village died and went to heaven. St Peter met them at the gate. He gave a kindly smile to the minister, but threw his arms around the taxi driver, and several angels rushed out to carry the taxi driver in triumph through the pearly gates.

The minister was miffed. He wanted to know why his welcome was so much less, considering he had spent his life working for the Kingdom of Heaven. 'Indeed, you did,' said St Peter soothingly, 'and you did a good job. But sadly, you came nowhere near to what this taxi driver achieved for us up here in Heaven.

'But – but – he has never preached even once,' protested the minister.

'True, but while over the years your ministry inspired about 30 people to pray with real fervour, this taxi driver inspired thousands. Anyone, in fact, who got into the back of his taxi for a drive.'

Sign seen in a restaurant

One of the greatest mysteries of life is how the idiot your daughter married can be the father of the most beautiful and intelligent grandchildren in the world.

Crossword Puzzle - Solution is here

W	A	G	E		C	L	E	A	N	S	E	D
I		U		B		A		P		E		A
P	L	A	T	E	A	U		R	E	A	D	Y
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I	S	N	O	T		O	V	E	R	R	A	N
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ERIC EYRE

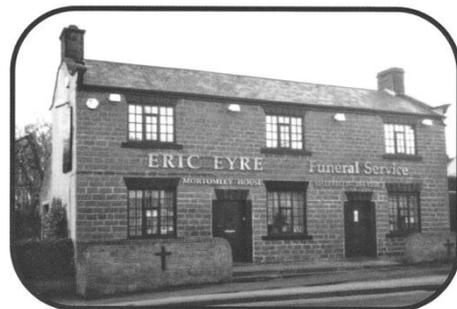
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Saint of the Month - 27 February

George Herbert: priest and poet – 1593 to 1633

If we were to name someone prominent from the 17th century, we might mention Rembrandt or Shakespeare. It is unlikely we would remember George Herbert. However, he was a prolific writer, a gifted speaker and musician. His hymns are still sung today.

Herbert was born into a wealthy family in Mid-Wales on 3rd April 1593. His father was a Member of Parliament who died when Herbert was 3 years old. His mother moved her large family to London where, aged 12, Herbert entered Westminster School. In 1609, his mother remarried, and Herbert left home to be a student at Trinity College, Cambridge.

By the age of 23, Herbert had graduated with two degrees. He was fluent in Latin and Greek and in 1620 was elected as the University's Public Orator. He held this position for seven years, and for a short time was MP in his home town in Wales.

Although Herbert was securing an illustrious future and his speeches had gained the attention of King James 1, he was restless. He felt God was calling him to the priesthood and much of Herbert's poetry expressed his inner spiritual conflicts.

When the King died in 1625, and two influential patrons also died at about the same time, Herbert responded to God's call on his life and gave up his secular ambitions. He married in 1629, and became a priest in a small Anglican church in Bemerton in Wiltshire.

Here he found inner peace at last, serving God in the local community. His poetic talent continued to flourish along with his musicianship as a skilled lutenist. After only three years as a priest, he died of tuberculosis on 1st March 1633. He was 39.

Some ninety of Herbert's poems have been set to music by such composers as Ralph Vaughan Williams and Benjamin Britten. His most well-known hymns are *Teach me my God and King*, *Let all the world in every corner sing* and *King of glory, king of peace*.

A number of artistic commemorations of Herbert exists in several churches and cathedrals including a stained-glass window in Westminster Abbey and a statue at the front of Salisbury Cathedral.

Poem - The Windows

Lord, how can man preach thy eternall word?
He is a brittle crazie glasse:
Yet in thy temple thou dost him afford
This glorious and transcendent place,
To be a window, through thy grace.

But when thou dost anneal in glasse thy storie,
Making thy life to shine within
The holy Preachers; then the light and glorie
More rev'rend grows, & more doth win:
Which else shows watrish, bleak, & thin.

Doctrine and life, colours and light, in one
When they combine and mingle, bring
A strong regard and aw: but speech alone
Doth vanish like a flaring thing,
And in the eare, not conscience ring.

George Herbert.

Hymn - The God of Love My Shepherd Is - *Psalm 23*

George Herbert – Tune: University Composer (attributed to): Charles Collignon

1 The God of love my shepherd is,
and he that doth me feed;
while he is mine and I am his,
what can I want or need?

2 He leads me to the tender grass,
where I both feed and rest;
then to the streams that gently pass:
in both I have the best.

3 Or if I stray, he doth convert,
and bring my mind in frame,
and all this not for my desert,
but for his holy name.

4 Yea, in death's shady black abode
well may I walk, not fear;
for thou art with me, and thy rod
to guide, thy staff to bear.

5 Surely thy sweet and wondrous
love
shall measure all my days;
and, as it never shall remove,
so neither shall my praise.

*Source: Ancient and Modern:
hymns and songs for refreshing
worship #792*

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Crossword Puzzle

Clues Across

- 1 Salary (Isaiah 19:10) (4)
- 3 Question Jesus asked of those healed of leprosy, 'Were not all ten — ?' (Luke 17:17) (8)
- 9 Wide, elevated level area of land (Joshua 13:9) (7)
- 10 'So you also must be —, because the Son of Man will come... when you do not expect him' (Matthew 24:44) (5)
- 11 '[He] said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." He — —, and his hand was completely restored' (Luke 6:10) (3,2)
- 12 'Who has gathered up the wind in the — of his hand?' (Proverbs 30:4) (6)
- 14 Not born again (13)
- 17 'Again and again he — the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins' (Hebrews 10:11) (6)
- 19 Mails (anag.) (5)
- 22 'He — — here; he has risen' (Matthew 28:6) (2,3)
- 23 Defeated (Judges 20:43) (7)
- 24 Soldiers' quarters (Acts 21:34) (8)
- 25 'Pillars of marble' were how the Beloved described those of her Lover (Song of Songs 5:15) (4)

Clues Down

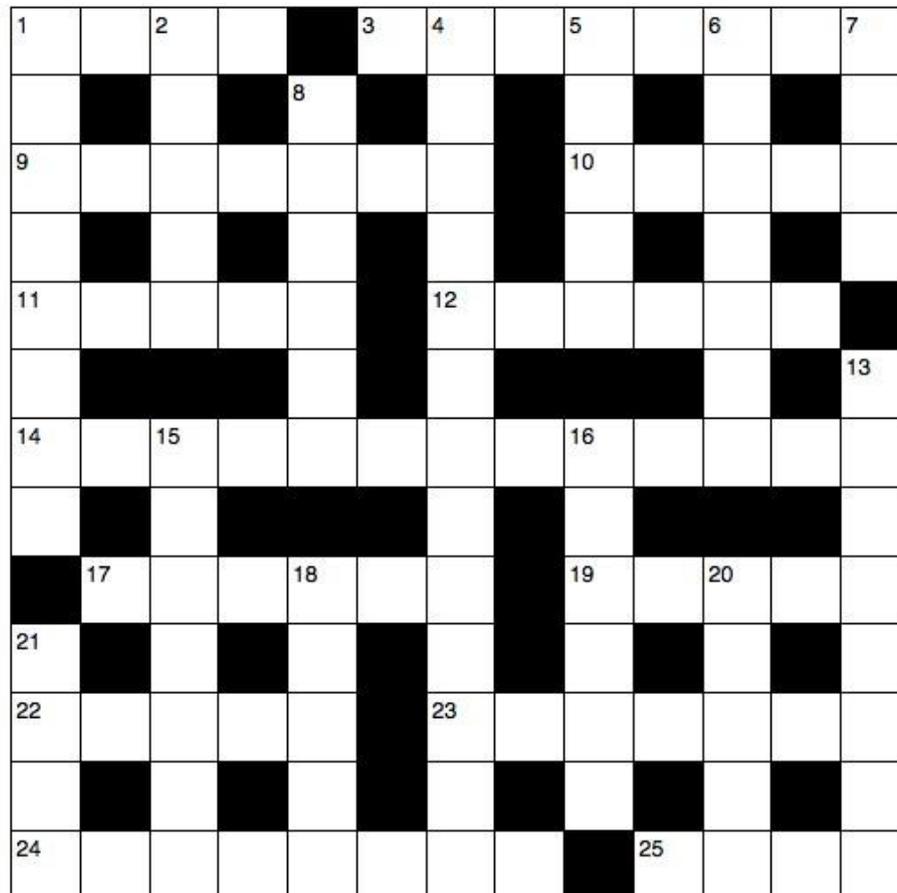
- 1 Totally destroyed (Genesis 7:23) (5,3)
- 2 What the Philippian jailer was told to do with his prisoners Paul and Silas (Acts 16:23) (5)
- 4 Object of ridicule (Job 12:4) (8-5)
- 5 In most years, the month in which Easter falls (5)
- 6 For example, Caesarea, Joppa, Tyre, Sidon (7)
- 7 '[Jesus] was in the desert for forty —, being tempted by Satan' (Mark 1:13) (4)
- 8 'Hallelujah! Salvation and glory and power — to our God' (Revelation 19:1) (6)
- 13 Mend dots (anag.) (8)
- 15 Purifier (Malachi 3:3) (7)
- 16 Attacked (1 Samuel 27:8) (6)

18 The good Samaritan to the innkeeper: ‘When I return, I will reimburse you for any — expense you may have’ (Luke 10:35) (5)

20 How Matthew described the crowds who followed Jesus (Matthew 4:25) (5)

21 For example, one of 25 Across (Judges 19:29) (4)

Solution is on Page 20



Humour

Sin

A young minister, serving his first church, noticed that one of his flock had been absent from services several Sundays in a row, so he decided to see her and ask the reason. The old woman shook her head and looked at him pityingly. “Son,” she said, “you can’t help me. You are not old enough to have sinned enough to have repented enough to be able to preach about it.”

Good take

A minister in a little church announced: ‘Before we pass the collection plate, I would like to request that the person who stole the chickens from Brother Martin’s hen house please refrain from giving any money to the Lord. The Lord doesn’t want money from a thief!’ The collection plate was passed around, and for the first time in months everybody gave.

Prayers and Poems Page

Prayer for revelation

Heavenly Father,
Thank You for loving us.
Thank You for sending Jesus and for the work of Your Holy Spirit in opening people's eyes to recognise Him.
Please open our eyes and hearts afresh to Him.
Help us to truly trust Him and to be aware of the price He paid so that we can know Your peace and live with You forever.
Amen.

by Daphne Kitching

Consider the Birds

Consider the birds of the air
They do not store up what they eat
They need not to worry or care
Or tweet with a worry-filled tweet.

God looks after them, O it's true!
He grants them their insects and grains
He gives all their feathers their hue;
And shelters them all from the rain.

But at certain times of the year,
When birds have to eat, or they freeze –
Though God clearly holds them all dear,
Assistance from us will Him please.

So think of the birds of the air,
And, after your breakfast is chewed,
Get up, get a coat, get out there
And give the poor darlings some food!

By Nigel Beeton

Zacchaeus

A chap named Zacchaeus was short
Too short to see Jesus, so thought
In order to see,
He'd climb up a tree
And in Jesus' sight he was caught.

'Zacchaeus! Come down from your tree!
I'm coming to dinner, you see!'
He went for His dinner
To the home of a sinner!
(A sinner like you and like me.)

Zacchaeus, the worst of the worst,
To such as him Jesus came first
The sinner lamented
And then he repented,
And so he was no longer cursed!

By Nigel Beeton

Never be weary of doing good

You are never tired, O Lord, of doing us good; let us never be weary of doing You service. But as You have pleasure in the well-being of Your servants, let us take pleasure in the service of our Lord, and abound in Your work and in Your love and praise evermore.

A prayer of John Wesley

The Churchyard - Issue 1 - First Published July 1961

During the early summer of 1959 members of the CEMS (Church of England Men's Society) members commenced a clearance of the churchyard, revealing for the first time in years stones that had become covered with grass. With the passage of time and exposure to weather, the engraving of stones becomes faint and disappears: There were no plans of the Ana and no records giving the position of the graves. In an effort to preserve and record of what is left I have commenced to draw a plan and record the inscriptions. The work is, as yet only half done.

Taken as a whole the stones tell a story not only of the history of the Parish of Ecclesfield but touch on the history of England.

They give a very revealing picture of the struggle for life in the years gone by before we were blest with the wonderful medical knowledge and care that we enjoy today. In a series of articles I hope to relate some of the interesting features that I have found. It may be a place for the burial of the dead, but it is far from morbid, and with a little imagination, can be a very lively subject.

The original area, dating back at least 650 years, perhaps covered all except that to the west of a line extended from the boundary wall at the side of the property in Church Street opposite The Black Bull – Public house., across to the garden of the Old Hall. The westward extension was added in 1842 when the Duke of Norfolk gave an area of 1,379 yards and the cost of enclosing, sowing, compensating the occupiers, and building a new hearse house, amounted to £410.

According to Eastwood, the historian of Ecclesfield, at the time trade was very bad and £100 was granted from the National Fund raised for the Relief of Distress in the Manufacturing Districts, and it was computed that 950 persons were relieved through the employment found on this occasion. Further to raise money the Feoffees gave £40 and the proceeds of a bazaar raised £410 which was no mean effort at that time. Even with the extension the yard was quickly filled, for on the 7th of May 1858 an order was issued by Her Majesty in Council that no further burials should take place within three yards of all dwellings house, in the ancient part of the churchyard except in family vaults and graves, and in ground that can be opened without disturbing human remains. Further burial space was, provided when land was obtained on the opposite side of what we now call Priory Road, Burial still take place in the churchyard, but they are in a strip of ground on the north-west which was added later.

F. S. Hague

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: Robert 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

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