

# News & Views From St Mary's Church Ecclesfield



Church Magazine August 2020

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

~~Price 60p~~

## First Words

First the good news: we will be open for public worship on **Sunday 2nd August at 10am**. Praise God! The service will be a simple service of Holy Communion. We have done all the necessary risk assessments and we have proper measures in place to keep everyone safe. If you are planning to join us, please wear a face covering if you can. For those who are not able at the moment to come along in person we will broadcast the service on Facebook and on the Church website.

Starting on **Thursday 6th August**, the feast of the Transfiguration, we will be open every Thursday at **9.30am** for a Morning Prayer. Again, for those not able to be present the service will be on Facebook and the parish website.

As you will expect most of the weddings this summer have been moved to 2021 & 2022. I hope that there will be a few taking place from September onwards; there is a **Chapeltown wedding** taking place on **Saturday 22nd August at 2pm**.

On **Monday 17th August at 3pm** in Church there will be a meeting of the wardens and ministry team.

We hope to have a meeting of the PCC early in September and the AGM will take place in November.

Another piece of good news - the final revised plans for the Disabled Access have been given final approval. The cost of the access will be around £80,000 of which we have so far raised around £40,000. We hope to be able to secure a loan to cover this so that the work can be done during the summer, but we will have to raise the funds to repay it. Once the access is sorted, we will need to work with the local authority to have the path made safer.

If you would like to contribute to the cost of the disabled access or the path, or if you would like to discuss how you can help to raise funds, please speak to Tim or one of the wardens.

Tim



**Clicking on images in the magazine may tell you more...**

**Front Cover** – Raindrops on a courgette flower see page 23

**Back Cover** – View through St. Mary's lych gate  
*To donate online click anywhere on the back page*

# Social Distancing Guidelines

## Keep Apart



We have a social distancing programme in place, please respect this and adhere to the signage on the premises

***Be socially safe***

- When entering you may be asked to take a nominated place in a pew
  - If you are not taking communion you may be asked to sit in an inside pew seat
  - Each pew will be marked with dedicated seating positions
  - When queuing to take communion please follow social distancing guidelines, any floor markings, and please respect other peoples' space
  - If you wish to speak to Tim Gill after the service, please remain seated in the pew and he will join you socially distanced after the service
- 
- When leaving you may be asked to leave in aisle order, please do so without encroaching on other peoples' space
  - You must not gather in socially distanced groups inside the church
  - However - You may gather in a socially distanced groups outside the church – but please keep well away from the church entrances

## **NHS** Test and Trace

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# Andrew Jones

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# Thought for the Month

*Surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you.* [Jeremiah 29:11-12](#)

You may remember that at the start of this year I wrote a prayer and chose a text of Scripture for St Mary's to focus our thoughts and our prayers during the course of this year. Both the prayer and the text point us to the future and the hope that we have in God; but now as we begin to move slowly and hesitantly out of lockdown we all wonder what the future will hold.

Like most Churches in the UK, St Mary's has for many years depended upon the generation of people who are now in their 70s and 80s. We have depended on this generation's generosity in sacrificial giving to support the Church. We have depended on their generous giving of their time and their talents for the mission to which God calls us. This is a generation that has done so much for Christ and for his Church over the years; without them we would be in a far weaker position than we are in now. So, if you are part of this amazing generation - Thank You!

Like many churches in the UK we have begun to start planning for our future after Covid 19; not just for the short-term, but for the long-term. The fact is that St Mary's needs to grow in number and we need to grow younger, not only to sustain what we are doing, but so that we better reflect the parish in which we are set and which we are called to serve.

We have to build on our relationships with people and families, with groups and organisations in the Parish. We must begin to invite people to services and events. to help them to come to a deeper relationship with Christ and to take their place in Christ's Church.

Inevitably this will bring changes to our worship and our life, and change is not always welcome. We will have to do new things, if we continue to do what we have always done then we will get the same results.

When the PCC next meet we will be looking at some detailed plans to further our mission and outreach to our parish, and our thoughts and decisions will be shared with the whole Church, for we are all entrusted by Christ with His great Commission to make and nurture new Christians (see [Matthew 28:16-20](#)).

We will not be able to do this without the support and the help of every member of St Mary's, to welcome, support and nurture the new Christians that we hope to see.

I vividly remember the people who helped me in my first years as a follower of Jesus: there was a retired schoolteacher and someone who worked for the local authority as well as our parish priest.

I thank God for all of them. Who helped you when you were a new Christian? And more importantly who will you help to grow in faith?

I truly believe that we can face the future with hope and confidence because of the God who meets us in Jesus and who fills us with His Holy Spirit. Please pray for the leadership of St Mary's and for the PCC, that God will show us His vision for our future.

God bless,  
Tim.

*Heavenly Father,  
thank you for the Christian community  
that you have sustained in Ecclesfield over the centuries. Thank you for those who  
helped us to grow in faith.*

*Help us to trust that You have a plan and purpose for St Mary's future.*

*Guide us as we go forward to the future that you call us to. Give us your vision for the  
mission of Your Church. Help us to be faithful witnesses of your grace and love to all  
who do not know you.*

*We ask this through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.*

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# God and The Arts

*The Rev Michael Burgess considers 'The Transfiguration' by Fra Angelico.*

## The Transfiguration – beholding the Glory

TQ – Tingle Quotient – is the name given to those things that can produce a tingle down the spine or a frisson of excitement. It could be a piece of music or the sight of an evening sunset at sea. We look, we hear, and our sense of wonder as something sublime unfolds before us produces delight and awe. We see a hint of glory that can even lead us to worship.



I think the monk who lived in cell no 6 at the Dominican convent of San Marco in Florence must have felt that when he entered his room and saw for the first time the fresco of the Transfiguration that Fra Angelico had painted. I am sure the sight would have stopped him in his tracks, just as Peter, James and John were stopped in their tracks as they beheld their Lord transfigured before them on the mount.

From 1436 Fra Angelico painted a whole series of frescoes for the convent from the High Altar to the Chapter House to the cells of the monks. Here in cell no 6 there is a restrained simplicity and directness about the Transfiguration. One of the three disciples looks out towards us, while the other two are caught up in wonder and awe as they look on Jesus with the faces of Moses and Elijah on either side.

Here Fra Angelico is not seeking to impress a wealthy patron: he is providing a focus for devotion and prayer for the monks of his community. The scene speaks to us of that sense of awe and reverence.

On August 6 we celebrate the feast of the Transfiguration. The Gospel accounts relate that special moment of revelation to the inner group of disciples. The glory shown to them evoked a sense of wonder and marvel, but also a sense of loss. For the glory proved elusive and just out of human reach. The moment of revelation passed, and the disciples had to go down the mount again to meet the crying needs of the world, all but forgotten when they were with their Lord on the mountain top.

The monk in his cell would ponder the glory of Fra Angelico's fresco, knowing that he would be called from his cell to take up his monastic duties. But the painting would go with him to sustain and nurture his life. It is the same with us: we have moments of glory. But they pass, and we must return to our daily lives. As we look on this month's painting, we sense that glory and wonder which can sustain us through life. As Thomas Jones says in his poem on this episode:

*Like a pearl we hold  
Close to our hearts  
what we have heard and seen.*

# ECCLESFIELD LIBRARY

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For more information please email us at [ecclesfieldlib@gmail.com](mailto:ecclesfieldlib@gmail.com)

# St James the Least of All

## On the perils of leaving the pulpit

The Rectory  
St. James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren.

When the churches reopen for public worship (whenever that is!) I hope you will come and take Evensong one Sunday. But, thinking of your visit last August, I would prefer you used the pulpit when preaching. How could Colonel Brockle complete 'The Times' crossword and Miss Balmer her knitting with you constantly walking up and down in front of them? They found it most disconcerting, as out of politeness, they were obliged to listen to you. It was a unique experience they do not wish to repeat.

Those few who defy Anglican tradition and sit at the front of the church were also placed in the dilemma of trying to decide whether they should keep turning in their pews as you paraded down the nave and then rotating back to the front as you re-emerged up the side aisle. It did Lady Plumtree's vertigo no good at all. It also allowed people to see that you were wearing suede shoes. For many of our worshippers, the most appalling of heresies are as nothing when compared to brown shoes under a cassock.

I appreciate you made heroic efforts and got your sermon down to 30 minutes, but that is still 20 minutes longer than they anticipated and 29 minutes longer than their attention span.

No, use the pulpit in future; that is the reason why stonemasons 600 years ago put twenty tons of marble in our church in the first place and it would be a shame to disappoint them. It also means that from a distance of 100 yards and a height of 20 feet, no one can tell that the glass of water I use liberally while preaching is in fact a gin and tonic.

I concede that our pulpit has its dangers. I have known several bishops come to grief as their robes wrap themselves around the newel post as they ascend the steps. One, unable to untangle himself, was obliged to preach while half-way up the steps and with his back to the congregation, while our verger was dispatched to find a pair of scissors.

Perhaps, before your next visit, we may install a mechanical floor in the pulpit, so that after 10 minutes, it slowly lowers you into the crypt while the congregation can get on with singing the last hymn before getting home in decent time.

Your loving uncle,  
Eustace

# Covid-19, Foodbanks, Popcorn, Red Salmon, and me

As many of you know, I have been worshipping on Sunday mornings at St Paul's Wordsworth Avenue for just over a year. It has been a real culture shock for me and a real contrast to St Mary's. I have been asked to many different things over that year which have challenged me, but during this time my faith has been growing all the time. I never expected to be doing live reflections on Facebook, to be delivering food from the local shop MJs to vulnerable people in Parson Cross, to be helping lead Alpha courses or to be leading services on Zoom.

The biggest challenge I think is the opening of a temporary foodbank at St Paul's. I am not sure if you are aware, but at the beginning of lockdown, the foodbank at Mount Tabor had to temporarily close because they both ran out of food and because the majority of their volunteers were in a vulnerable group.

St Paul's was approached by [S6 Foodbank](#) to open an emergency foodbank out of the church hall. The week before it opened, we went in to clean the hall. The following Wednesday the first delivery of food arrived. I was around, because for the first couple of weeks of lockdown I was working from home but only between 6 – 8am and 6pm – 8pm due to pressure on the network and my job not being business critical.

To be honest it was a bit bewildering to see what arrived – a plethora of things that were in short supply, tinned tomatoes, baked beans, and toilet rolls. I was there to receive donations and was humbled by the generosity. The first Friday we were open was, quite frankly, organised chaos. We were packing the bags as fast as people were arriving. The people organising the foodbank were focussed very much on having minimum volunteers so we could observe strict social distancing. The safety measures were important with masks, gloves, and regular handwashing. It was a completely different experience for the clients using the foodbank. Instead of having a chat with someone about their needs they were being given a prepacked bag. We all had to get used to the social distancing rules (clients and volunteers) which made it quite a difficult session.

The next week, we started to get into a rhythm – Wednesday was packing up day, a few of us went down to pack 30 large bags, 30 medium bags and 30 small bags. It was tough, we were worried about what we were putting into each bag because the clients would not get a say as to what they received. Before we start packing, we spend time praying and one of our heartfelt prayers was that the right food went into the right bags so those bags could be a blessing to those who received them.

We have had to have people queuing up outside and a table outside to sort out the distribution of the food – fortunately, most weeks it has been fine, but having a gazebo up in the wind and rain has been interesting! It is not the hospitality we would want to offer.

Each Wednesday, we get a delivery from the S6 Foodbank – sometimes it is very random things, one which sticks in the mind was about 10 5kg bags of popcorn. Obviously, the cinemas were closed, and it was going to go outside it's sell by date – so it was donated to the foodbank. We joked that we wouldn't be able to get rid of it. It was all gone that week – we have boxes outside where all the near sell by date food products and random things are put so the clients can choose to take them.

One day, we had a solitary can of red salmon amongst tins and tins of tuna. Michael always joked he went through the box at St Mary's to look for red salmon. It made me laugh and I told the others the story.

It is difficult, but slowly, we are trying to build relationships with the people who come. We now have a few socially distanced chairs outside so people can sit and chat and some sort of community is emerging. Hopefully, from next week we will be able to serve tea and coffee and at least try to offer more of the hospitality that we have lacked. Some of the clients find the social aspect nearly as important than receiving the food.

It has certainly helped me during lockdown, to think I am helping people a lot less fortunate than me and I looked forward to seeing people in the flesh on Wednesdays. One thing is certain, you can't be involved in something like foodbanks and not be changed by the experience. It made me reflect on what the need for foodbanks says about the society and the world we live in. I understand that over a million people in the UK used foodbanks in 2019.

We need to be challenged ourselves and we need to challenge others. What does it mean that some are needing food aid in our own society and our own city? How can we not only serve our neighbours but work for change in this area? Speaking to those who run foodbanks, the COVID-19 pandemic has made them challenge how we fill this need in future. I personally, think it is a disgrace that we need foodbanks at all – but I believe the government are relying on the voluntary sector to fill the gap and the mouths where their policies are failing. I am not expecting any change from government any time soon!

Over the past few weeks, whilst Andy, St Paul's vicar, has been away on holiday, I have been spending the whole of Friday morning at the foodbank. I went down to working four days a week in February and I certainly did not expect to be delivering food, volunteering at the foodbank and shopping for people on Fridays when I don't work. But it has been an experience which will have a real affect on how I view community, government policy and the poverty gap. The Covid-19 crisis has disproportionately adversely affected those who are already disadvantaged in our society. As a Christian I long for a just society.

[Continues on page 22](#)

# Help needed in the church garden

If you can, mow, weed, strim, sweep, pickup sticks, rake leaves or drive a sit on mower, we need you. If you can spare just one or two hours a week it would be a great help. Not only will the church look good, but you might even feel your spiritual and physical well-being improve and in our small way help the environment. We come to the churchyard every Tuesday and Friday afternoon (weather permitting) followed by a drinks and biscuits, sometimes even a cake.  
Any help most welcome. Thank you. Pat Wood

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# Prayer for the Month

A Prayer of Alcuin of York.

*Eternal light, shine into our hearts,  
eternal goodness, deliver us from evil,  
eternal power, be our support, eternal wisdom, scatter the darkness of our ignorance,  
eternal pity, have mercy upon us;  
that with all our heart and mind and soul and strength  
we may seek your face and be brought by your infinite mercy to your holy presence;  
through Jesus Christ our lord. Amen.*

[Alcuin](#) was an abbot and scholar from York who died on the 9th May 804 AD. I became familiar with this prayer through the office of midday prayer that I often say at lunchtime on weekdays.

During the present global pandemic I have found this prayer to be a source of strength and comfort. It reminds me of two very important things: the eternity of God; and the infinite power and compassion of God.

As we live through the present epidemic it is good to remind ourselves that plagues and viruses, many of them far worse than the current one, have been visited upon humanity throughout history. And, with the grace and help of God, we have not been defeated; and with the help of God we will not be defeated this time!

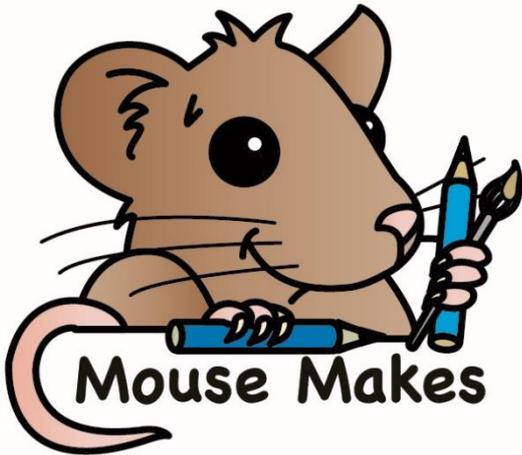
The prayer also reminds me that the love of God in Christ is the greatest power in all of creation (see [Romans 8:31-39](#)). The love and power of God, revealed supremely in Jesus Cross and Resurrection are greater than any force of evil, any chaos, any illness or plague that we will ever face. Alcuin's prayer reminds me that as Christians we are a people of hope.

Hope is not simply optimism, it is much more than looking on the bright side. Our hope is in God and in Christ, who will never leave us or desert us. The god in whose hands we are eternally secure.

Whatever happens in the next weeks and months; whatever we or those we love face during these uncertain days, we stand on the firm foundation of the love of God; and God will keep us secure, whether in health or in sickness, in life or in death.

As those whose hope is in Christ we keep the faith and we serve Him in those we meet each day. That is how the Church and Christians have responded to illnesses, wars, and natural disasters throughout the ages. Alcuin certainly knew this, and his great prayer reminds me of this truth.

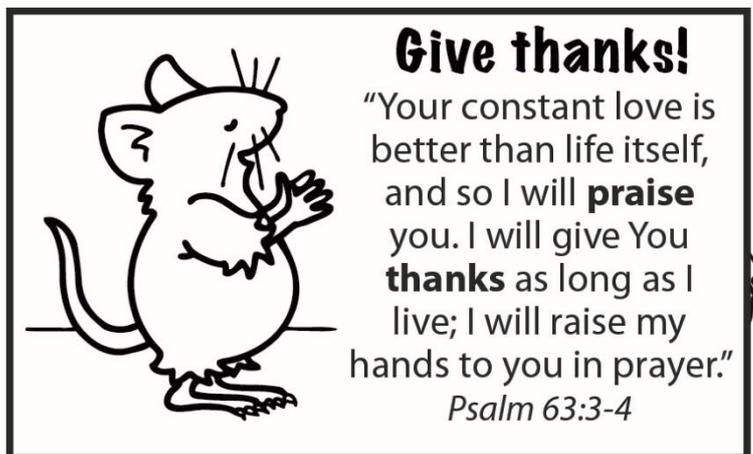
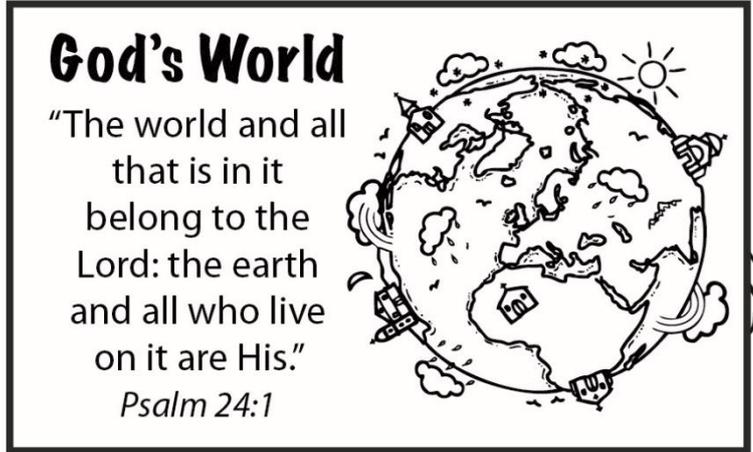
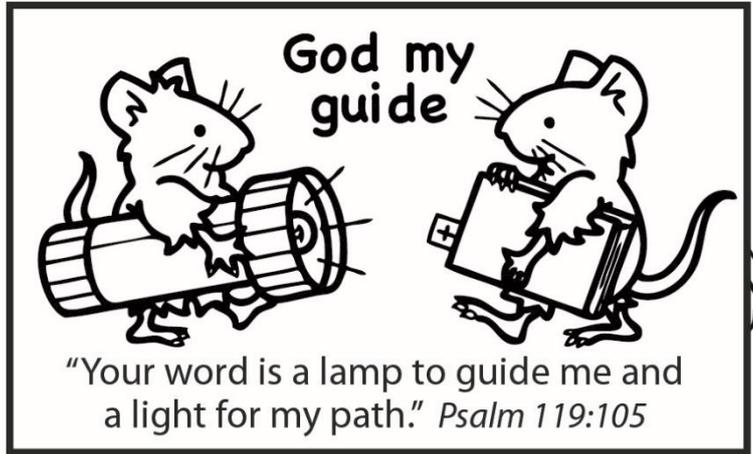
God be with you and bless you and all for whom you pray,  
Tim.



The **PSALMS** are hymns of **PRAYER** and **PRAISE** to God.  
*"I will proclaim your greatness, my God and king; I will thank you: I will praise you for ever and ever."*  
 Psalm 145:1-2



Cut out and colour these cards to help you to **thank** and **praise** God.



# Grace to Persevere

Strangely the other day I had an 'ear worm' (in other words a song going through my head which I couldn't get rid of). It was simply two lines of a very old hymn. I couldn't call the rest of the hymn to mind, just these two lines which sang in my head all day.

*Multiply our graces, chiefly love and fear,  
And of all the chiefest, grace to persevere.*



Old fashioned words – love needs no explanation, for fear we would probably use the word awe or worship today but then that word persevere? What does that word mean to you? I pondered as you can imagine. There is a lot in life for all of us just now calling for us to do just that. Not to give in.

Persevere. The word sounded hard and gritty and full of relentless things which needed to be dealt with. Who wants things like that in their life which need such determination? The dictionary describes the word persevere in the following terms 'continue in a course of action in spite of difficulty or lack of success'. Why on earth had these old hymn words taken over my thoughts?

It wasn't long before the 'phone rang and those words, old though they were, were just the right words in someone's life. God's grace to persevere in their present situation. They didn't recognize the words or the tune (my singing maybe!) though some of you would I'm sure, but they did recognize, as I do, and perhaps you do too, the need for perseverance. Not just self-driven, determined perseverance but perseverance with God's grace, God's loving presence at the heart of it. Grace to persevere puts a very different perspective on that word.

Jesus' own life had a loving perseverance at its heart, however he was treated; however his message of the Kingdom was misunderstood and reviled by the religious leaders of his day he carried on. Persevering, with God's loving presence guiding him to those who would listen, so then taking those people who so responded to him into a whole new relationship with his Heavenly Father. His Heavenly Father and ours. Jesus carried on right to the cross – and beyond - leaving his Holy Spirit to continue his work of grace in every generation. How can we undergird our perseverance in life, whatever situations are uppermost, with God's loving grace and leading?

The first of the two lines tell us all we need to know. 'Multiply our graces, chiefly love and fear'. Don't we all need more love in our lives to be given and received?

Don't we all need to rely on God for that love? Through awe, through worship, through just spending time with him. The Holy Spirit gives us his grace to worship God through Jesus which then fills our lives with his loving grace. Grace to live our lives as fully as humanly possible, whatever the present circumstances.

*Jeni Fryer*

## Hymn: Jesu gentlest Saviour, thou art in us now

Tune: EUCHARISTICUS [John Stainer](#)

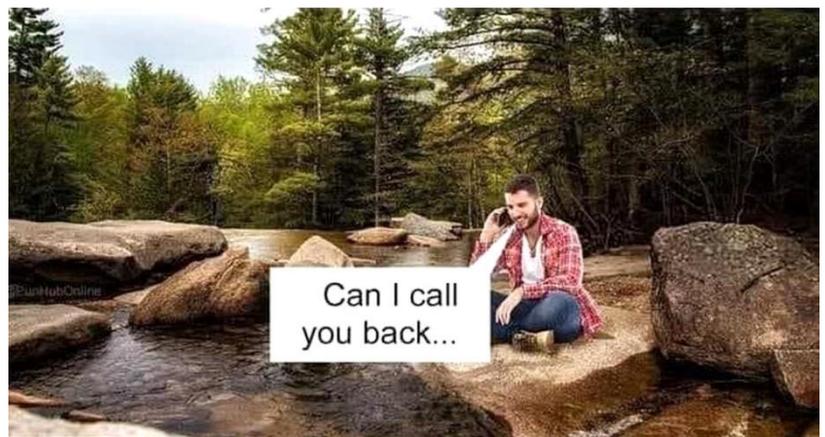
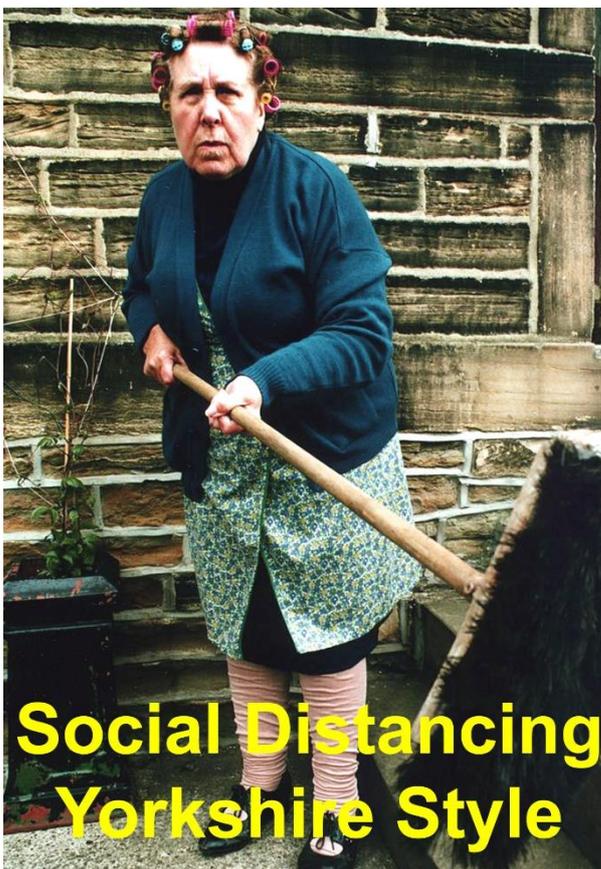
1. Jesu, gentlest Saviour,  
Thou art in us now,  
Fill us with Thy goodness,  
Till our hearts o'erflow.
2. Multiply our graces,  
Chiefly love and fear,  
And, dear Lord, the chiefest,  
Grace to persevere.
3. Oh, how can we thank Thee,  
For a gift like this,  
Gift that truly maketh  
Heav'n's eternal bliss!
4. Ah! when wilt Thou always  
Make our hearts Thy home?  
We must wait for Heaven;  
Then the day will come.

Source: [The Cyber Hymnal #3316](#)

# Editor's Lockdown Humour

Clicking on images and links in this magazine may be informative or even entertaining

- Had a painter and decorator round. He's a currently furloughed Virgin Atlantic Pilot. Made a lovely job of the landing...
- Now that I've lived through an actual plague, I totally understand why [Italian Renaissance](#) paintings are full of naked fat people laying on couches...
- There was a woman selling batteries down the park. Yes, she sells C cells by the seesaw.
- I went to donate blood today. Never again, too many questions. Whose blood is it, where did you get it and why is it in a bucket?
- Every box of raisins is a tragic tale of grapes that could have been wines.
- Go to [Google](#) – type wizard of oz – click / touch the red slipper, then the tornado – Trust me it is worth it!
- I need a Day between every Day to recover from the Day Before, and, prepare for the Day Coming.
- I would never have believed that 16-weeks of uncut hair would weigh over a stone. But if that's what the scales say it must be right.
- The other day I yelled into a colander and I strained my voice...



# From the Registers

## Funerals

SGS = Simple Graveside Service and SCS = Simple Crematorium Service  
Memorial Services will follow when things are back to normal.

Friday 3rd July                      Jean Gilbertson                      aged 93

*Grant her, O Lord, refreshment, light and peace.*



## CHAPELTOWN & DISTRICT PROBUS CLUB

Chapelton and District PROBUS Club meets every month in the Grenoside Community Centre. Founded in December 1985 to provide facilities for retired and semi-retired professional and business men to meet in fellowship and to maintain social contacts, a typical meeting has a short period for business followed by a guest speaker and then usually members retire for lunch at either Whitley Hall Hotel or Wortley Hall. In addition to meetings, there are occasional visits and recent visits have included the Price of Wales' gardens at Highgrove, Bletchley Park and the Jaguar and Toyota factories.

2020 has obviously been a different year with the last "real" meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> March. However, we have adapted running Committee Meetings on Zoom and with member meetings resumed in June using Zoom. The July meeting had a presentation by Fred Dewhurst on the rise of Trade Unions in Sheffield – "The Sheffield Outrages". Although there will be no lunch, we have the following meetings scheduled by Zoom: -

Wednesday 12th August – Peter Slater, "Don't You Know Who I Am? - Famous Sports people"

Wednesday 9th September – David Templeman, "The Great Sheffield Deer Park"

At present, guests and new members are very welcome and you can join for the special price of £10 with no further membership charges until normal meetings resume. If you are interested, please contact the secretary, Trevor Winslow on 07966 317258 or [trevor.winslow@outlook.com](mailto:trevor.winslow@outlook.com)

# God in the Sciences

*This series is written by Dr Ruth M. Bancewicz, who is Church Engagement Director at The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion in Cambridge. Ruth writes on the positive relationship between Science and Christian faith.*

## **Parable: The Strength of a Seed**

At this time of year we enjoy the fruits of our gardens, fields and hedgerows: vegetables ripen, crops are harvested, and berries begin to show bright among the leaves. Much of this growth started with a few seeds in spring: the miracle of life coming from small dead-looking things. There is a league table of long-lived seeds. The winners so far are from the narrow-leafed campion, buried by squirrels in the Siberian permafrost over 30,000 years ago. When those seeds finally germinated, they became healthy plants that flowered and produced seeds of their own.

The Bible contains many links between seeds and spiritual growth, and the parable of the sower is the most famous (in Matthew 13). A person may hear or experience something of God which has the potential to germinate into a life of following Him, resulting in the fruit of others coming to know God too. But things can happen that snatch that seed away, killing it before it has finished germinating, or choking its growth.

What about the knowledge of God that gets trampled, churned too deep in the mire of life to receive the warmth and light it needs to develop into faith? Buried seeds don't always die, but they can lie dormant, remaining alive but inactive until the earth is turned over. The possibility of that moment of connecting with something divine, scrap of knowledge, or snatch of conversation resulting in a changed life may seem infinitesimally small, but it's not zero. The seed may be incredibly tough, just waiting for a chance to grow.

The Gospel narrative plays on the fact that it took a long time for the disciples to understand the full implications of Jesus' teaching: a germination process that took many of them three or more years. They could have been discouraged, but Jesus was not. I don't think it's too much of a stretch to draw out of the parable of the sower to include the observation that it can take a long time, sometimes decades, for people to work their way through the various barriers, sticking points, and phases of forgetfulness that may keep them from following through on their spiritual experience. When we finally receive – or are open to – the encouragement, challenge, or experience that helps our faith in Christ grow, we can experience the rich fruit of a transformed life.

## Saint of the month - Radegund

13th August Radegund – victim of domestic abuse

St Radegund (518-87) is a saint for anyone who has suffered domestic abuse. She is also a reminder that domestic abuse can occur in any family, however wealthy, and can span the generations, so that some women go straight from violent father to violent husband.

Radegund was born in 518, the daughter of Berthaire, king of Thuringia in east-central Germany. Berthaire was a brutal man, and Radegund grew up surrounded by violence and intrigue. When she was only 12, she was captured by the Franks, converted from paganism to Christianity and at 18 was given in marriage to Clotaire, a king of the Franks.



Sadly, Clotaire's nominal Christianity did not affect his own natural bent for violence and immorality. Though Radegund was said to have been both beautiful and good, Clotaire was repeatedly unfaithful to her, ridiculing her for her childlessness. When, six years into the marriage, Clotaire murdered Radegund's brother, she fled the court for her life, and sought refuge in the Church.

Radegund took the veil at Noyon, and became a deaconess, known for her alms giving. But it seems that a lifetime of violence had left deep scars on her spirit, and instead of enjoying her newfound peace and freedom, Radegund turned savagely upon herself. She became an extreme ascetic, refusing most foods. She began to self-harm, binding her neck and arms with three iron circlets which badly cut into her flesh. Sadly, it seems that although her body was freed from the violence of her father and husband, her spirit was still in subjection to violence and suffering. Though she was a Christian, she never took her rightful possession of the joy, love and peace that God offers to all believers through the grace of His Son, Jesus Christ.

Still, Radegund meant well and God blessed her as much as she would let Him. She founded the monastery of Holy Cross at Poitiers, which became a centre for scholarship (the nuns spent two hours a day in study) and also of Radegund's various peace-making activities.

Various ancient churches in France and England were dedicated to her, as well as the [Cambridge College](#) now commonly known as Jesus.

## Musings on modern life:

**Gardens are not made by singing** 'Oh how beautiful' and sitting in the shade. - *Rudyard Kipling*.

**We cannot control** the evil tongues of others; but a good life enables us to disregard them. – *Cato*.

**An angry man** opens his mouth and shuts his eyes. – *Cato*.

**Patience** is the greatest of all virtues. – *Cato*.

**Old age** has deformities enough of its own. It should never add to them the deformity of vice. – *Cato*.

**By all means marry.** If you get a good wife, you'll be happy. If you get a bad one, you'll become a philosopher. – *Socrates*.

**There's a way** of transferring funds that is even faster than internet banking. It's called marriage. - *James Holt McGavran*.

**In character**, in manners, in style, in all things, the supreme excellence is simplicity. - *Henry Wadsworth Longfellow*.

**Terrorists no longer scare me.** Not after the past months at home with my partner, three children, two dogs and a moody cat. - *Anon*

**Summer Sales:** much trouble is caused by our yearnings getting ahead of our earnings. – *Anon*

**Tomorrow never comes**, but the morning after certainly does. - *Anon*

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# Covid-19, Foodbanks, Popcorn, Red Salmon, and me

*Continued*

One thing I have learnt, is that the lives of the people that need to use foodbanks are very complex and often chaotic.

The more I get to know, the more I realise how little I do know about being disadvantaged, about being hungry and about not knowing how you are going to pay your bills. I don't think I have ever felt so privileged, I want to help, but foodbanks are only a sticking plaster, how do we campaign for a just and fair society where all are fed and sheltered?

How can we proclaim the hope we know in Jesus to those in need?

It is a real challenge to us to respond to the human need, to pray and campaign for a fairer world. But as Christians it is our responsibility to do so. We need to take this issue seriously and do what we can to right this social injustice. I know I will.

If you wish to donate to work of the foodbank

St Paul's church hall is open for donations of food on:

Wednesdays 9-11am

Fridays 10am-1pm

Or click on this link [to donate money](#).

Katharine Lonsborough

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## The Gardening Year – August 2020

**Dahlias** – Inspect the plants for mottling or discolouration of the foliage. This may indicate the presence of virus disease, especially if the plants growth is stunted. Mark any suspected plants so that they can be destroyed in the autumn and not kept for producing cuttings the next year, such cuttings would themselves be affected by disease. Feed with liquid fertiliser and keep the plants carefully tied to avoid wind damage.

**Gladioli** – cut gladioli for indoor decoration when first flower on the spike is just opening. Leave at least four or five leaves when cutting a flower spike otherwise the new corm will be deprived of its source of nourishment. Be alert for signs of gladioli thrips and spray if necessary.

**Chrysanthemums** – buds will form very rapidly during this month on outdoor flowering varieties. If large blooms are required disbud the plants to the one flower per stem,

disbudding is sometimes called securing the bud or taking the bud. It entails removing the side shoots which appear where each leaf joins the stem; they appear at the same time as a bud forms at the tip of the stem. Complete the disbudding of outdoor flowering varieties by August 21 to ensure blooming before autumn is too far advanced.

**Sweet Peas** – mulching and if necessary, feeding and watering encourage flowering over a long period. Hoe regularly if you have not applied mulch. Cut the blooms regularly which ever system of growing you have adopted. Never allow blooms to fade and drop on the plants or to form seed pods otherwise the flowering period will be reduced dramatically.

**Vegetables** – as the first crop are harvested, early in the month sow seeds of spring cabbage 1/2 in. deep in drills 6in. apart, first dusting the drills with garden lime, also turnips, early carrots and autumn cauliflowers to produce head next March and April. Continue to pinch outside shoots from outdoor tomatoes, thin the lower leaves remove any that are turning yellow and when the plants have made four or five trusses of fruit pinch out the tips. Greenhouse tomatoes grown in growbags or pots need to be watered two times a day morning and evening. If your tomatoes have a brown sunken patch on the bottom of the tomato this is called blossom end rot and is caused by lack of water during the day.

**Fruit – Blackberries, loganberries, raspberries, and blackcurrants** – when harvesting has finished, cut out shoots that have fruited, Keep the leaves on blackcurrants healthy so that they continue to feed the present seasons shoots as long as possible. Peaches and Nectarines – when the fruit has been picked prune the shoots that have borne fruit, leaving in the current seasons growth that has been selected to replace them.

*Colin Williams*

## Eat the Seasons – August

**Vegetables** - Artichoke, Aubergine, Beetroot, Broad Beans, Broccoli, Carrots, Chillies, Courgettes, Cucumber, Fennel, French Beans, Garlic, Kohlrabi, Lettuce & Salad Leaves, Mangetout, Marrow, Onions, Pak Choi, Peas, Peppers, Potatoes (Maincrop), Radishes, Rocket, Runner Beans, Spring Onions, Sweetcorn, Tomatoes, Turnips, Watercress, Wild Mushrooms

**Fruit** - Apricots, Bilberries, Blueberries, Cherries, Damsons, Figs, Greengages, Loganberries, Melons, Nectarines, Peaches, Plums, Raspberries, Redcurrants, Strawberries

**Herbs** - Basil, Chives, Coriander, Oregano, Mint, Parsley (Curly), Parsley (Flat-Leafed), Rosemary, Sage, Sorrel, Tarragon, Thyme

**Meat** - Beef, Lamb, Rabbit, Venison, Wood Pigeon

**Fish** - Cod, Coley, Crab, Dab, Dover Sole, Grey Mullet, Haddock, Halibut, Herring, Langoustine, Lemon Sole, Mackerel, Monkfish, Pilchard, Plaice, Pollack, Prawns, Red Mullet, Salmon, Sardines, Scallops (Queen), Sea Bass (Wild), Sea Bream, Sea Trout, Shrimp, Squid, Whelks

Visit - [www.eattheseasons.co.uk](http://www.eattheseasons.co.uk)

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## 'Life Through Lockdown'

*A new collection to be featured within Ecclesfield Parish Archives*

Ecclesfield Parish Archive to feature a new collection 'Life Through Lockdown', and they welcome submissions from the public which depict this.

We all know we have been living through an historical event since lockdown commenced at the end of March due to the Coronavirus. People will look back on this for generations to come, so Ecclesfield Parish Archives are putting together a collection of photographs, videos, and other media to document such a momentous time. They are hoping to curate a really diverse collection showing all aspects of 'life through lockdown' from the empty streets and empty Supermarket shelves to more social photographs showing families surviving life in lockdown, home-schooling, socially distanced street parties and anything else which will give generations of the future a real feel for what life was like during the pandemic.

If you have anything you would like to contribute or for more information, please contact Ecclesfield Parish Council's Community Coordinator, and  
Archive Curator

Emma Mainwaring - [emmamainwaring@ecclefield-pc.gov.uk](mailto:emmamainwaring@ecclefield-pc.gov.uk)



Empty shelves were a common sight within Supermarkets across the Parish and beyond



**ECCLESFIELD  
PARISH COUNCIL**

<https://ecclesfield-pc.gov.uk/>

<https://ecclesfield-district-archives.com/>

# St Cajetan – the saint who founded the pawnshops

7th August: Cajetan - saint who founded the pawnshops

Bit short of cash just now? Cajetan (1480–1547) should be the patron saint of anyone who needs some extra money – immediately. For it was he who founded the Monts de Piete – the pawnshops – in the 16th century. They were first designed to help people through a lean time, not exploit them.

As a young man, Cajetan gave up a brilliant career in law to become a priest, and he went on to spend his life fighting corruption within the priesthood.



He and his friends founded the Theatine Order, which promoted study of the Bible, sound Christian doctrine, spirituality of worship, caring for the sick, and good pastoral care. They worked in Verona, Venice and Naples – where the pawnshops first appeared. Cajetan would undoubtedly have a lot to say about the amount of interest the credit card companies charge these days.

[Theatine Order](#) - The order was founded by Saint Cajetan (Gaetano dei Conti di Thiene), Paolo Consiglieri, Bonifacio da Colle, and Giovanni Pietro Carafa (afterwards Pope Paul IV).

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## Crossword Puzzle - Solution is here

J	O	H	N		A	N	D	J	A	M	E	S	
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# ERIC EYRE

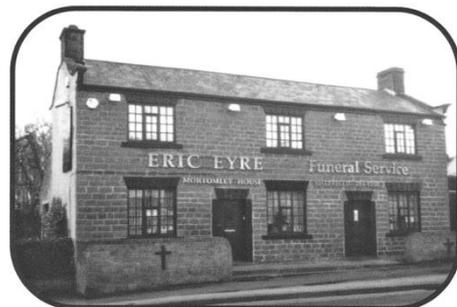
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## It is time to eat Courgettes

In cafés and simple restaurants across the UK, courgettes are frequently (mis)used to make a poor excuse of a ratatouille or the sort of unappetizing vegetable 'lasagne' only ever eaten by desperate vegetarians with no other menu choice. Courgettes (known as zucchini to Italians and Americans) are in fact beautifully tender vegetables with a fresh, delicate flavour. Try one of the fantastic recipes below and start the fight back against courgette abuse.



The origin of the courgette is not entirely clear, partly because common usage of the word courgette often relates to plants that transcend botanical classifications. A member of the cucurbit family, courgettes are related to watermelons, gherkins, and cucumbers. Courgettes are usually marrows harvested at a young age, although the mature fruit of certain varieties of squash may also be sold as courgettes. Colour and shape vary widely with newer varieties tennis ball in shape and size or straight with bright yellow skins.

It was not widely eaten in Europe before the twentieth century and some sources claim that it was developed from the squash, first brought to Europe from the Americas during Christopher Columbus' crusades. Squash have been cultivated in Central America for more than five thousand years and courgettes play a prominent role in Mexican cuisine today.

As with the aubergine, the courgette was brought to the attention of Britons in the mid-twentieth century thanks to the writings of Elizabeth David. Smaller, younger courgettes have more flavour. Look for firm, heavy-feeling courgettes with unblemished bright and glossy skins. They will keep for up to a week in the fridge.

Preparation - Wash well and trim both ends. The courgette is a versatile ingredient and can be baked, fried, steamed or stewed according to recipe. For a selection click here: <https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/recipes/collection/courgette>

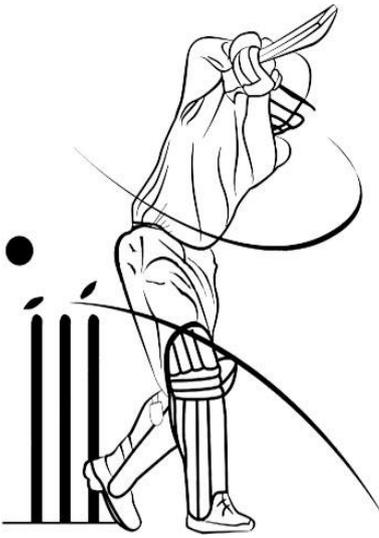
Courgette flowers can often be found on the menus of French, Italian or Greek restaurants. Smaller flowers are given a tempura treatment (fried in a light batter); larger flowers are typically stuffed with tomatoes and herbs, feta cheese or goat's cheese. The Greeks do a special dish of stuffed courgettes in lemon sauce, called Kolokithakia Gemista Avgolemono (κολοκυθακια γεμιστα με αυγολεμονο). You can use the Avgolemono sauce with Baked, BBQed, Grilled or Fried courgettes or indeed most other vegetables, rice, and chicken dishes

Recipe is here: <https://akispetretzikis.com/categories/lachanika/kolokythakia-gemista>

Video is here: <https://youtu.be/IPSImpcJr48>

Avgolemono (egg and lemon) sauce recipe is here: <https://www.thespruceeats.com/greek-egg-lemon-sauce-1706171>

## Whitley Hall Cricket Club



With the lockdown starting before the 2020 season commenced, there had been no cricket up to early July. However, club cricket was given the go-ahead to start again on 11<sup>th</sup> July and an intra-club practice match took place that day. Fixtures for the rest of the season have been released for the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> XI teams starting on July 18<sup>th</sup> as well as some junior games. These will be “mini-leagues” with some changes in format – both senior teams will play 40 over matches with the Premier divided into 2 zones with Whitley in the West section with 5 teams where they will play each team home and away, 10 games in total. The 2<sup>nd</sup> XI will play a limited number of fixtures against the full list of Division 1 teams. The top two will play a knock-out final at the end of the season -

but there will be no promotion or relegation. So the “season” began on 18<sup>th</sup> July with the 1<sup>st</sup> XI beating Barnsley at Shaw Lane and the following day the 2<sup>nd</sup> XI beat Treeton at home. On 25<sup>th</sup> July the 1<sup>st</sup> XI game against Wakefield had to be postponed following positive COVID-19 tests for members of the Wakefield team and Upper Haugh 1<sup>st</sup> XI easily beat Whitley 2<sup>nd</sup> XI at Baxter Field. The fixtures below may be subject to change, for example if national rules change or if any of the teams come from a place where there has been a local COVID-19 flare up.

The club has been involved in the ECB All Stars scheme which has been an amazing success for young people wishing to learn and play the game. However, it will not be possible to have All Stars this season. But there will be a summer camp from 10<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> August for boys and girls aged 5 years to 11. Any parents interested should contact Alex Fletcher on 07811 949536 for more details.

All visitors are warmly welcomed and are invited to use the facilities at the pavilion but must follow the health and safety and distancing rules which will be clearly posted and masks may be required indoors.

Matches start at 12 noon

### League Games at Cinder Hill Lane for the remainder of the season.

Sat 1 <sup>st</sup> August	1 <sup>st</sup> XI	V	Sheffield Collegiate 1 <sup>st</sup> XI
Sat 8 <sup>th</sup> August	2 <sup>nd</sup> XI	V	Sheffield Hallam 2 <sup>nd</sup> XI
Sat 15 <sup>th</sup> August	2 <sup>nd</sup> XI	V	Sheffield and Phoenix United 1 <sup>st</sup> XI
Sat 22 <sup>nd</sup> August	1 <sup>st</sup> XI	V	Barnsley 1 <sup>st</sup> XI
Sat 29 <sup>th</sup> August	1 <sup>st</sup> XI	V	Wakefield 1 <sup>st</sup> XI
Mon 31 <sup>st</sup> August	1 <sup>st</sup> XI	V	Cawthorne 1 <sup>st</sup> XI
Sat 12 <sup>th</sup> September	1 <sup>st</sup> XI	V	Sheffield Hallam 1 <sup>st</sup> XI
Sat 19 <sup>th</sup> September			Finals Day

**Contact:** Joe Webster, Secretary: 0796 901 4592

# Crossword Puzzle

## Clues Across

- 1** and **3** Two of the disciples who witnessed the transfiguration of Jesus (Luke 9:28) (4,3,5)
- 3** See 1 Across
- 8** 'Let us draw — to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith' (Hebrews 10:22) (4)
- 9** O Simon is (anag.) (8)
- 11** Form of government under the direct rule of God or his agents (10)
- 14** How Jesus found his disciples when he returned to them after praying in Gethsemane (Luke 22:45) (6)
- 15** In The Pilgrim's Progress, the name of the meadow into which Christian strayed, which led to Doubting Castle (2-4)
- 17** Glad sin rat (anag.) (10)
- 20** Spinal column (Leviticus 3:9) (8)
- 21** Valley of the Balsam Tree with a reputation of being a waterless place (Psalm 84:6) (4)
- 22** 'The oracle of Balaam son of Beor, the oracle of one — — sees clearly' (Numbers 24:3) (5,3)
- 23** Adam and Eve's third son (Genesis 4:25) (4)

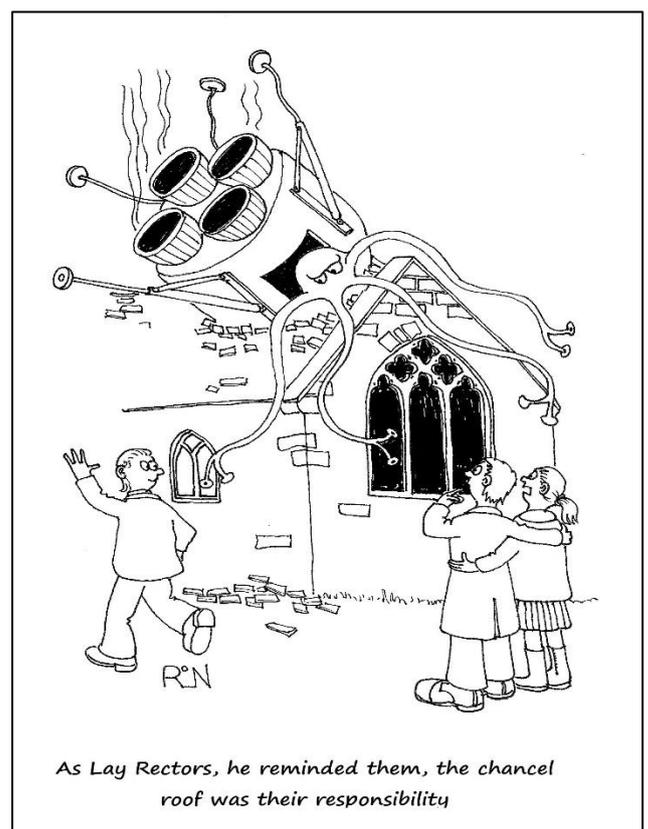
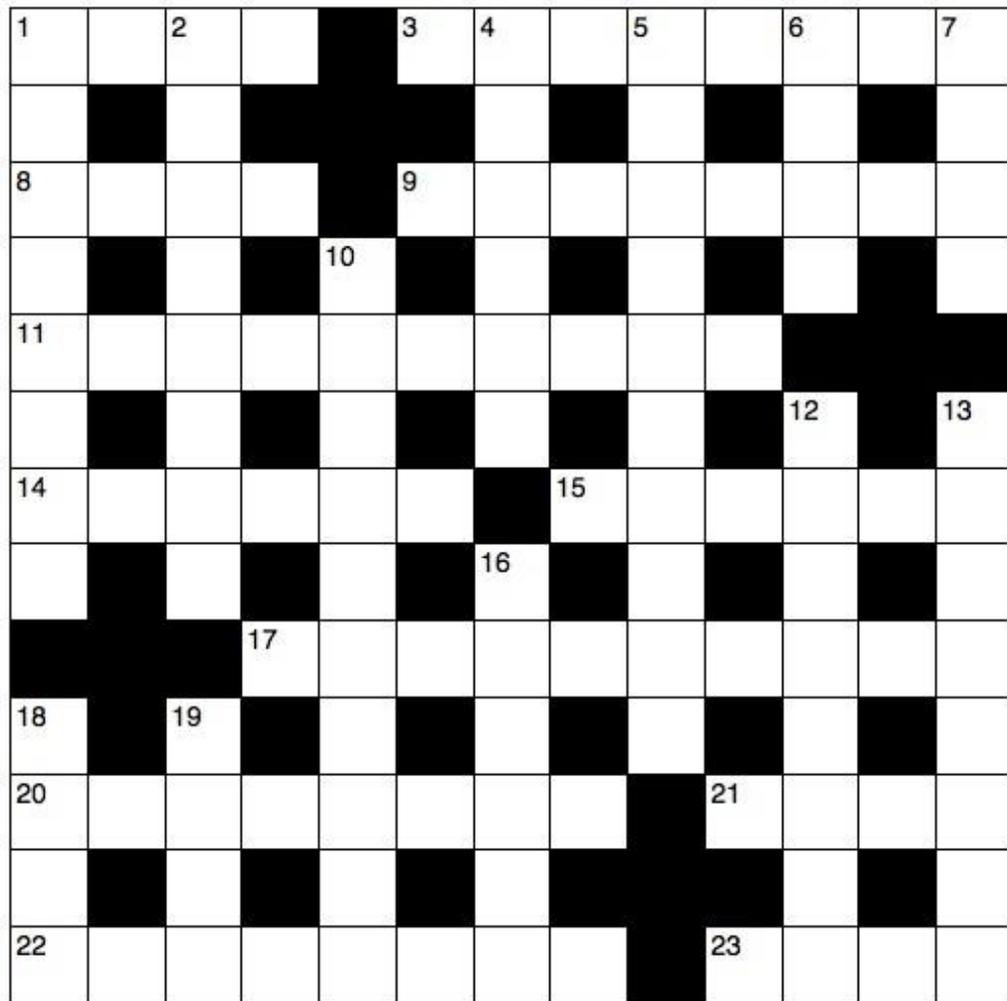
## Clues Down

- 1** David's great friend (1 Samuel 20:17) (8)
- 2** 'The Lord... will bring me safely to his — kingdom' (2 Timothy 4:18) (8)
- 4** 'I, Daniel, mourned for three weeks. I ate no choice food; — — or wine touched my lips' (Daniel 10:3) (2,4)
- 5** Seeking to vindicate (Job 32:2) (10)
- 6** Female servant (Isaiah 24:2) (4)
- 7** 'For Christ died for — once for all' (1 Peter 3:18) (4)
- 10** 'Offering spiritual sacrifices — to God through Jesus Christ' (1 Peter 2:5) (10)
- 12** Jesus said that some people had renounced this 'because of the kingdom of heaven' (Matthew 19:12) (8)
- 13** One of the three men thrown into the furnace for refusing to worship Nebuchadnezzar's golden image (Daniel 3:20) (8)
- 16** 'You have — of good things laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry' (Luke 12:19) (6)

18 'There before me was a white horse! Its rider held — — , and he was given a crown' (Revelation 6:2) (1,3)

19 Equipment to Charity Hospitals Overseas (1,1,1,1)

Solution is on Page 26



# Prayers and Poems Page

## Meditation on the Good Use of Sickness

Lord, you are good and gentle in all your ways; and your mercy is so great that not only the blessings but also the misfortunes of your people are channels of your compassion. Grant that I may turn to you as a Father in my present condition since the change in my own state from health to sickness brings no change to you. You are always the same, and you are my loving Father in times of trouble and in times of joy alike.

*Blaise Pascal (1623 – 1662), mathematician and scientist*

## The Lockdown Lifts

There's life in the town!  
No longer 'locked down'!  
The people stroll out in the sun  
The majestic trees  
Sway in the light breeze  
Like they wanted to join in the fun!

Like light after dark!  
We can walk in the park!  
Buy our tea, and sit out on the grass!  
We can chat to our friends  
As our loneliness ends  
And we smile at the strangers we pass!

Yes there are still queues  
Which cease to amuse  
But things are no longer so black!  
As they sing in that song -  
You miss what is gone,  
But it's great when at last it comes back!

*By Nigel Beeton*

## The Chief Purpose of Man

How clever man is, he has conquered the skies,  
Reached for the stars and stepped onto the moon,  
But he still does not know why he is here  
Or what is the purpose, or why he was born.

And did it all start with one big bang  
As stars and galaxies burst into space?  
Or was it the hand of a mighty Creator  
Who lovingly fashioned this wondrous place?

Into this world God planted a garden  
And placed man there to enjoy its delights,  
But he soon disobeyed, and sin entered in,  
And so, man was banished and thrust from God's  
sight.

How gracious God is, He has reached out again  
To reconcile man and bring him back home,  
Sin's debt has been paid by the death of His Son,  
To know God as Father is why man was born.

*By Megan Carter*

## Lord of the mountains

You, O God, are the Lord of the mountains and the valleys. As I travel over mountains and through valleys, I am beneath your feet. You surround me with every kind of creature... Open my eyes to see their beauty, that I may perceive them as the work of your hands...

Tonight, I will sleep beneath your feet, O Lord of the mountains and valleys, ruler of the trees and vines. I will rest in your love, with you protecting me as a father protects his children, with you watching over me as a mother watches over her children. Then tomorrow the sun will rise and I will not know where I am; but I know that you will guide my footsteps.

*A prayer of the Sioux Indians*

## The Churchyard – Issue 18

In an earlier article mention was made of Parkin Jeffcock, a mining engineer, who died leading a rescue team after the explosion at Oaks Colliery near Barnsley. I have recently read a memoir, written by his brother, which was kindly lent me, by Mrs. Hartley. A paragraph of the preface gives a good indication of his character: 'His was a career from which men who had not yet reached middle life might especially, I thought, gather a few hints for holy living; or be strengthened in following their path of duty towards God and towards man, through catching a sympathy with his great aim, and the oneness of his purpose in pursuing it'.

Born on 27th October, 1829, at Cowley Manor, he was the, eldest son of John and Catherine Jeffcock, a leading family of the gentry of the neighbourhood. His mother was descended from the Parkins who had held Mortomley Hall from the time of Henry VIII. He had a happy childhood enjoying to the full games and sport in the field, but this did not detract him from his studies when he started school, first with Mr. George Rider of Grenoside, and later at the Grange School near Sunderland.

His first choice of a profession was to enter the ministry of the Church and in this direction he was tutored by the Rev. Thompson Podmore at Rockley Old Hall in preparation for entry to Oxford. Shortly before he was due to enter Oxford he realised that this was not his vocation, though his later life proved that he was eminently suitable for this, and he was sent to the College; of Civil Engineers at Putney. 'On leaving this college he was articled to Mr. George Hunter, a colliery consultant engineer, of Belmont Hall near Durham. He there learned the coal trade in an area with perhaps the most difficult conditions.

As an engineer he went to Moira in Leicestershire, Derby and Duffield, working as a mining consultant for mines over a wide area. He worked hard and had to visit many mines after accidents or explosions when his personal bravery was frequently shown.

In all things he was conscientious, methodical, and a, natural leader. His duties and the travelling involved made his working hours long, but he was extremely active in church life and welfare. Most marked were his Sunday School teaching and sympathy and understanding for the old and infirm who he regularly visited. This was no narrow-minded man however, he loved life and organised some of the finest galas, flower shows and social functions ever known in the areas. There is little wonder that after his heroic death, the Church at Mortomley was built in his memory.

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](mailto: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 - 5.45 - 7.00 pm  
Shane Porteous  
[shane@ecclesfieldscouts.org.uk](mailto:shane@ecclesfieldscouts.org.uk)

### Ecclesfield Scouts

Scout Hut (off Yew Lane)  
Thursday 7:15 pm to 9:00 pm  
Leader - Bryony Hemming  
Tel. 07983 719155

### 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

Matches every Saturday and some  
Sundays and weekdays.  
Please make contact if you wish to play or  
learn.  
Secretary: Joe Webster, 0796 901 4592  
[jwebster@horburygroup.com](mailto:jwebster@horburygroup.com)

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





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