

# News & Views From St Mary's Church Ecclesfield



Church Magazine May 2021

[stmarysecclesfield.org.uk](http://stmarysecclesfield.org.uk)

~~Price 60p~~

# First Words

As we slowly move out of Covid restrictions so things at St Mary's will begin to move back to something like normal.

The next relaxing of restrictions is due on the 17th May. After this date we will be able to hold weddings with up to 30 guests.

From this date we will begin to have Sunday evening services again at 6.30pm and the Thursday morning service will once again be a service of Holy Communion.

From 17th May we will revert to our usual Sunday pattern of Holy Communion most Sundays (with a Service of the Word (usually) on the second Sunday of the month.

Even when we are fully back to 'normal' we will continue to make the services available on Facebook and the Church website.

God bless you,

Tim

## Diary this month

Sunday 2nd	10:00am	Parish Eucharist Fifth Sunday of Easter
Thursday 6th	9:30am	Morning Worship
Saturday 8th	1:00pm	Wedding Robert Scholey & Gabriella Wright
Sunday 9th	10:00am	Parish Worship Sixth Sunday of Easter
Monday 10th	7:30pm	PCC Meeting (via Zoom)
Thursday 13th	9:30am	Eucharist Ascension Day
Sunday 16th	10:00am	Parish Eucharist Seventh Sunday of Easter
Thursday 20th	9:30am	Eucharist
Sunday 23rd	10:00am	Parish Eucharist Pentecost
	11:15am	Annual General Meeting
Monday 24th	7:30pm	Wedding Rehearsal
Thursday 27th	9:30am	Eucharist
Saturday 29th	1:00pm	Wedding Matthew Kerridge & Rebecca Wright
Sunday 30th	10:00am	Eucharist Trinity Sunday



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

**Front Cover – Pentecost by El Greco** – currently in Prado Museum Madrid

**Back Cover** – View through St. Mary's lych gate

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# Andrew Jones

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# Prayer for the Month

## “Thy Kingdom Come!”

This very familiar phrase that we pray every day as part of the Lord’s Prayer has, over the past few years, become the focus of a global prayer movement.

Every year for the ten days between the Ascension and Pentecost we are each invited to commit to a daily time of prayer for the mission of Christ’s Church. We read a small passage of Scripture, we reflect upon it, we pray for the Church, both the local Church family that we are part of, and the global Church which embraces all nations and all Christian denominations. We end by praying the Lord’s Prayer for God’s kingdom to touch our world and for God’s good will to be done on earth as in heaven.

We read in the book of Acts how the disciples gathered together daily after Jesus ascended to the Father. They met together and they prayed. Jesus had entrusted them with a mission to witness to Christ “in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth” (Acts 1:8). This was not just a hard and challenging call that Jesus had charged the very ordinary men and women who had followed Him from Galilee; it was impossible. So He also told them “you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you” (Acts 1:8).

So the disciples met together, they prayed about their mission and they prayed for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. And at Pentecost the Spirit of God fell upon them and changed Jesus’ disciples and through them God changed our world.

In the ten days between the Ascension Pentecost in 2021, from the 13th to the 23rd of May, we pray for the mission of Christ’s Church in the post-pandemic world that lies ahead of us. We ask the God to guide His Church and to fill us with the Holy Spirit. Through the Spirit to enlighten our minds and to enlarge our hearts.

It is a happy coincidence that this year on the feast of Pentecost at St Mary’s we will be holding our Annual General Meeting. We will be asking God to show us how we can meet the challenges ahead of us, as individuals and as a Church family.

More than anything else we need the Spirit of God, the life-breath of Jesus. to fill us and inspire us, to challenge us and to empower us., so that the living God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit may be glorified in His Church here in Ecclesfield.

And so, I invite you to pray “Thy Kingdom Come” to ask the Father to inspire and empower us, so that we may see heaven touching earth, so that all people may know the hope that is ours in Christ.

## Thy Kingdom Come: Daily Readings

Thursday 13th May	Luke 24:44-end	Ascension Day
Friday 14th May	John 16:20-23	
Saturday 15th May	John 16:23-28	
Sunday 16th May	Matthew 28:16-end	
Monday 17th May	John 16:29-end	
Tuesday 18th May	John 17:1-11	
Wednesday 19th May	John 17:11-19	
Thursday 20th May	John 17:20-end	
Friday 21st May	John 21:15-19	
Saturday 22nd May	John 21:20-end	
Sunday 23rd May	John 15:26-27	Pentecost

Ask God to open your heart and mind to the Scripture passage, read the passage & reflect on it. Does it stir you to pray for anything in particular? Pray for God's Church worldwide and here at St Mary's. Ask God what He is calling you to do in response to the words that you have read. End by praying the Lord's Prayer.

God bless,  
Tim

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# God and The Arts

*Editor: The Revd Michael Burgess continues his series on God in the Arts with 'May Morning on Magdalen Tower' by Holman Hunt.*

## I wish you a joyful May

When Van Gogh painted 'The Raising of Lazarus', he turned to Rembrandt for inspiration. But in place of the figure of Jesus, he painted a warm, glowing sun, radiant in the sky, and shining out to bring renewal of life to Lazarus and his sisters.



From time immemorial people have placed the sun at the centre of life and worship. As Christianity grew and spread, it took over ceremonies and practices associated with that belief, but then moved the focus from the sun above to the Son, Jesus, on the earth below.

We can see that in the traditions and worship of Christmas and Easter. In May we celebrate the goodness and fruitfulness of nature brought by the sun with Maypole dancing, the crowning of the May Queen, and games and sports, just as the Romans went dancing in the fields at this time, rejoicing in the gifts of Flora, the goddess of nature. In May the druids would greet the sun in the sky as they gathered on a high place.

That custom persisted for several centuries, particularly at Magdalen College in Oxford. In 1840 Dr John Bloxam revived the ceremony. Holman Hunt, one of that group of artists known as the Pre-Raphaelites, visited Oxford in 1851 and so enjoyed the Christmas festivities that he decided to honour the college life in one of his paintings. That decision took many years to reach the canvas: his painting of 'May Morning on Magdalen Tower' is one of his last complete works in 1890.

We can easily identify the choristers gathered to greet the rising sun in music and song. Amid the clouds and blue sky above, the birds are flying and the floor where the choir stand is bedecked with flowers. It is a glorious celebration of the fruitfulness of May and the summer: God's creation bringing so many gifts. The president of the college is the man with the dark beard at the right of the painting, and Dr Bloxam is beside him.

But there is an unusual character there also, at the side of the painting – a Parsee, an ancient worshipper of the sun from Persia, perhaps representing not just those who look to the light of the sun, but are also searching for the light of truth. The young chorister in the middle looking out at us holds a lily, the symbol of Mary, the mother of God's Son.

# St James the Least of All

## On the perils of holding a Rose Queen celebration

The Rectory  
St. James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren.

On reflection, inviting your parishioners to join in our annual Rose Queen celebrations may not have been entirely wise. It was cheering to see that your people arrived on carnival floats, although it was less happy that some of them should have chosen to dress up as coronavirus bugs, full of those nasty spike proteins – that startled some of the timid residents in our community.

Once the procession started, your drivers did not seem to have grasped the fact that the vehicles were expected to tour the village slowly, for the benefit of spectators, instead of treating it as a competitive race. I noticed that numbers on your floats gradually diminished as they were flung off while careering round corners. Those who had a walk of several miles back home while dressed as pirates and ballerinas had my sympathy. Our tea ladies, however, were less sympathetic when one of your hay bales was spun off on a tight corner and went through our Women's Guild like a row of skittles.

The local police normally use the afternoon to do a little gentle point duty while drinking gallons of sweet tea; this year, the number of tickets issued for speeding, and not social distancing, should boost our constabulary's figures for the next 12 months.

I must concede that the group who decided to make a papier mache swan for one of your floats showed great imagination. It was such a pity that they did not know a 15-foot-high swan would be driven under a 12-foot bridge. The drama of its emergence, headless, was only exceeded by the following float which appeared to have a group of Brownies being savaged by a demented, bodiless, vulture.

I am sure that some of your people's offers to help this year's Princesses campaign for election for Rose Queen next year were well-meant. However, I don't think our parish really wants a full-blown social media campaign for next year's Rose Queen, and so we will have to decline your offer.

The crowning of the Rose Queen is always a high point to the afternoon, but could I point out that the 'gold' crown is only metal foil, and the 'diamond' sceptre is only a piece of glass? So, whoever it was in your crowd who walked off with them, please may we have them back before next year?

Your loving uncle,  
Eustace

# 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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## Thought for the Month

This year's annual General meeting will be a month later than usual. We will be holding it on Sunday 23rd May at about 11.15am in Church after the Parish Eucharist. We are holding it late to take advantage of the further easing of Covid restrictions which will happen on the 17th May. We hope that many members of our Church will be able to attend the meeting.

The next year will be a year of re-building after the pandemic and the lockdown. We do not know what the 'new normal' for society or for the Church will be. There will be challenges that we will have to face as we move into the future. Many people who have not been able to attend Church in person are longing for the day when we can be together as the family of Christ in Ecclesfield. But we may find that there are some Church members who never return 'in person.'

One problem facing St Mary's and most Anglican Churches in the coming years is the age of some of our most faithful and active members. So many people whose commitment and work we depend on are over 80. They are ready to pass on the mantle to younger members of the Church. At the AGM we will be looking for people to take responsibility of the life and mission of St Mary's, to shape its future direction.

We will be asking people to take on leadership roles as Church wardens, PCC Members and Deanery Synod representatives. We will be looking for people to help with the maintenance of our beautiful historic Church, as well as people to serve on our mission and ministry teams, to help organise our care for one another and our outreach to our neighbours.

I am asking every member of our Church to pray about this, to ask God how they can best use the gifts and skills and talents that He has given them so that the light of Christ can continue to shine in and through St Mary's.

The future looks very challenging, but if we put ourselves into God's hands, seek God's direction for our Church and trust that the future of St Mary's is in God's good plan and that God has called us to be the Body of Christ in this time and place, we can face that future with hope.

Although it wasn't planned, the AGM will fall on the feast of Pentecost when we celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the first disciples. They were ordinary men and women who trusted God, were filled with the Holy Spirit and through whom God changed the world.

On the 23rd of May we will be praying that God will lead and enable us to fulfil our calling to be the Church of Christ here in Ecclesfield. That through His Church, Jesus will bring hope and light to all among whom we live.

St Mary's has stood for hundreds of years in Ecclesfield as a sign of the hope that is ours in Christ, as a sign of God's presence with us, as a daily reminder that we belong to God and have the promise of the Kingdom of heaven. This hope is given to us, but it is given to us for the sake of all.

In these weeks leading up to Pentecost can I encourage every one of us to ask God "What are you asking of me? What gifts have you given me for the work of the Gospel?"

If God is with us, nothing, no pandemic, no crisis, can stand against us. In prayer we put ourselves and our future into the hands of the God who meets us in Jesus.

God bless you.  
Tim

## New Church Website

The new mobile friendly website is now well on its way to completion. The site was started on the 10<sup>th</sup> of March 2021 and has attracted over 1547 visitors in the last month.

When you have a chance do have a look at it.

<https://stmarysecclesfield.org.uk/>

Services, service sheets, diary and the notice sheet are all available online, and you can check them all on the front page.

The old website will remain open for a few months yet as there are lots of photos that need recovering and archiving.

We won't be re-instating all the archived images – so if there are some you want copies of please download them now, there will be a full archive available on the church PC, which will include the old website pages in static form.

Interestingly more than a third visitors view the website on their mobile phones, such is modern life. So, if you are part of this mobile world, you will find the website much easier to view and use.

New content is always welcome, if you have a contribution that needs adding do get in touch. **PL**



# From the Registers

## Funerals

Thursday 22nd April	Denise Kettlewell	53
Tuesday 27th April	Enid Hooton	94

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

## Marriages

Wednesday 28th April	Nigel Freeman & Sophie Morgan
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*May each be to the other strength in need a comfort in sorrow  
and a companion in joy*

## Miscellaneous observations on life

Patience is the ability to idle your motor when you feel like stripping your gears. - Barbara Johnson

Live your life and forget your age. - Frank Bering

My clothes are addressed to women who can afford to travel with forty suitcases. - Yves Saint Laurent

In order to live off a garden, you practically have to live in it. - F M Hubbard

In my youth I thought of writing a satire on mankind, but now in my age I think I should write an apology for them. - Hugh Walpole

Man's inhumanity to man makes countless thousands mourn. - Robert Burns

It's easy finding reasons why other folks should be patient. - George Eliot

## Miscellaneous observations on our faith

If you wish to know God, you must know His Word. - C H Spurgeon

Freedom comes by filling your mind with God's thoughts. - Erwin Lutzer

It is still one of the tragedies of human history that the 'children of darkness' are frequently more determined and zealous than the 'children of light'. - Martin Luther King

The longest journey is the journey within. - Dag Hammarskjold

It is possible to be so active in the service of Christ as to forget to love Him. - P T Forsyth

Among the attributes of God, although they are all equal, mercy shines with even more brilliancy than justice. - Cervantes

It is necessary to draw near to God, but it is not required of you to prolong your speech till everyone is longing to hear the word 'Amen'. - C H Spurgeon

# 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.

## **Finding Expression – and God’s Response – in Lament**

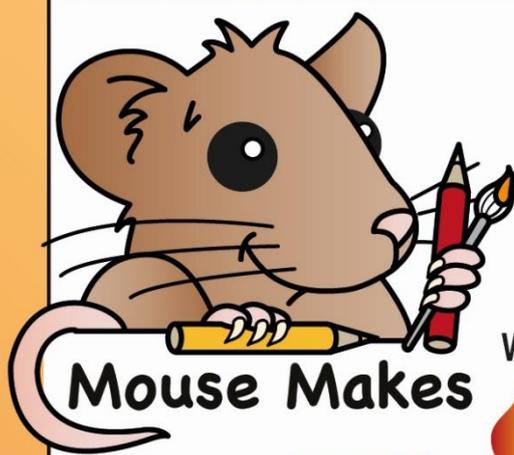
The question of suffering comes up regularly in discussions about science and faith. I once visited a school to speak to some of the older teenagers. One of the pupils had sadly passed away from cancer a few weeks before and his classmates asked, “How God could let this happen?” Of course, these young people’s questions about where God was in this situation were important. But the chaplain also gently reminded the class that their friend’s family were Christians, and that they were finding that their experience of loss had brought them even closer to God than before.

One way that grief can bring us near to God is when we share it with Him, telling Him exactly how we feel. The biblical writers had no scruples about expressing themselves to God, giving vent to emotions we often hold back in a church context. As my colleague Roger Abbott has written in his book on ‘Unanswered’ Prayer, “Let us not confuse reverence with spiritual prudishness. Perhaps honesty, the way it feels, is precisely what God is waiting to hear from us.”

About one third of the Psalms express some form of grief. The book of Job is a series of responses to one man’s suffering as he loses his children, property and health in quick succession. Lamentations is also one long outpouring of sadness at what happened to Israel under the Babylonians. Some of the prophets, especially Jeremiah, also express their pain at these sorts of events – which reflect something of God’s own feelings at the suffering of His people.

Most of these biblical authors would have had access to Scriptures that encouraged them to turn to God whatever the circumstances. Emboldened by their knowledge of His character and promises, these divinely inspired writers even express their anger to God about the things He lets happen, or complain that He seems to act unfairly or ignore them in their plight. Not only do these people let out all their feelings without fear of reprisal, but they also clearly expect a helpful answer. Some record a resolution to their troubles – often simply because God speaks to and comforts them, enabling them to keep going.

The biblical writers demonstrated that God can handle pretty much anything – anger, blame, bitterness – if we are actively looking to Him for help. As Pete Greig of the 24-7 prayer movement has written, “pain that is not expressed can never be transformed”.



## Mouse Makes

Re arrange the scrambled letters to find the missing words.

 The Holy Spirit  
**V S E I L**  
with us and in us.

The Holy Spirit helps us to  
**W K N O**  
we belong to God.

The Holy Spirit  
**H C T S E E A**  
us about God.

The Holy Spirit   
**K P E S S A**  
God's word to us.

The Holy Spirit  
**P H L S E**  
us to tell others about Jesus.

The Holy Spirit helps us when we  
**A Y P R**



On the day of **PENTECOST** the disciples were gathered together in one place...

What sound did they hear?

Acts 2:2

What did they see?

Acts 2:3

What filled them?

Acts 2:4

How did they speak?

Acts 2:4

What did the crowd hear?

Acts 2:6



Which countries had they come from?

Acts 2:9

What was their reaction?  
Acts 2:12-13



Who explained what was happening?  
What did he say?  
Acts 2:14-36

How many people were baptised that day?  
Acts 2:41



Change each letter to the letter before it in the alphabet and see what the **Holy Spirit** produces in us:

  
KPZ  
IVNJMJUZ  
TFMG DPOUSPM  
GBJUIGVMOFTT  
LJOEOFTT  
QBUJFODF  
QFBDF  
MPWF  
HPPEOFTT 

*Galatians 5:22*

What is the work of the **Holy Spirit**? What does He do?

Fill in the missing letters.

  
TEAC \_ ES  
COMF \_ RTS  
REVEA \_ S   
IN \_ OU  
    
TRAN \_ FORMS  
 HEL \_ S   
GU \_ DES   
 ENEWS  
CONV \_ CTS  
SANC \_ IFIES

## Famine may be on the way

That is the stark warning of the Disasters Emergency Committee coalition of UK aid agencies, who says that the economic devastation caused by the pandemic is leading to increasing hunger in poorer countries.

Thousands are likely to die this year as the knock-on effect of Covid-19 worldwide has left millions less able to afford food. South Sudan and Yemen are already on the brink of famine, and Afghanistan and Democratic Republic of the Congo are also in deep trouble.

Just at a time when Covid-19 and wars have crippled the economic and health systems of many countries, humanitarian funding has dropped as donor countries also struggle.

Saleh Saeed, the committee's chief executive, explained: "People living in places made perilous by conflict, violence and climate disasters are coping as best they can, but the odds are stacked against them. The knock-on effects of the pandemic have crippled economies, making the world's poorest people even poorer."

## Remembering an outstanding astronomer

It was 150 years ago, on 11th May 1871, that John Herschel – British astronomer, mathematician, chemist and pioneering photographer – died at the age of 79. Among other things, he named seven of Saturn's moons and four moons of Uranus, as well as investigating colour blindness. He was also President of the Royal Astronomical Society three times.

He was the son of Sir William Herschel, a distinguished scientist who had moved from Germany to Britain and later discovered the planet Uranus, thus creating a pronunciation problem that still hasn't gone away.

Sir John Herschel, himself knighted in 1831, made many contributions to the science of photography and invented the blueprint. He was also deeply interested in the philosophy of science and pioneered an inductive approach to experiments and the construction of scientific theories.

Between 1820 and 1828 he worked in South Africa with his wife Margaret, studying and photographing Cape flora as well as continuing his astronomical interests. It was here that he met Charles Darwin, on his way home in the HMS Beagle, and had a significant influence on him.

Sir John also developed and backed the use of the impressive Julian day numbering system in astronomy.

# Editor's Lockdown Humour

don't forget to click on the pictures and links to learn more!

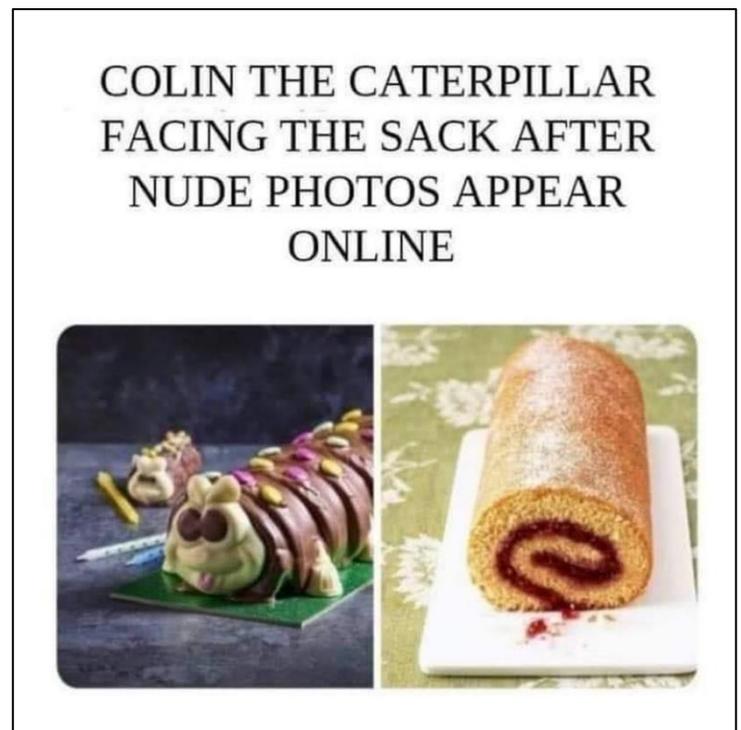
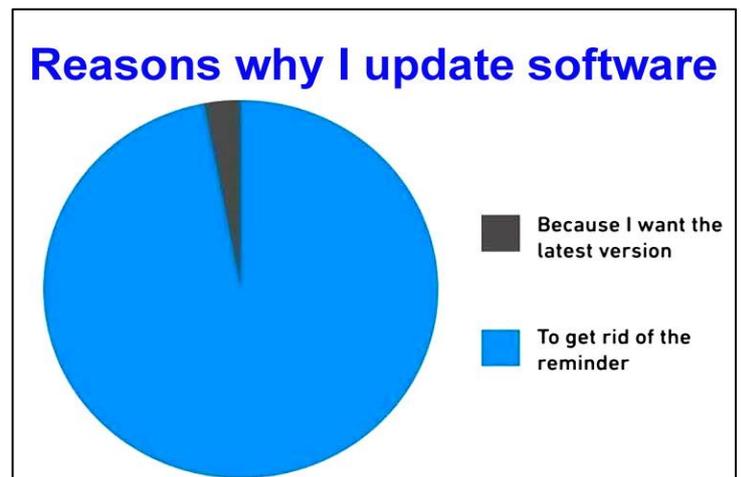
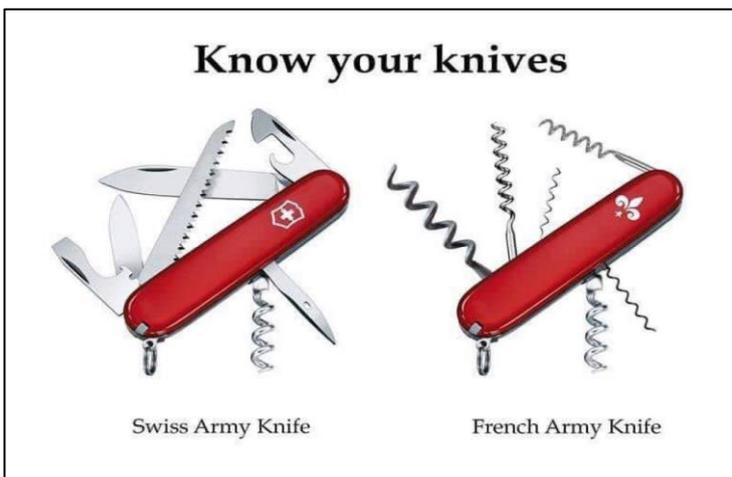
I think one of the most amazing displays of [democracy](#) in history is that one [thousand islands](#) managed to come together and agree on a single dressing

Went to the walk-in barbers today, long queue going round the corner. Some men started getting irate. Manager came out with hotdogs and burgers. It was the best [barber queue](#) I ever had...

Me: Alexa, remind me to go to the gym. Alexa: I have added [gin](#) to your shopping list.

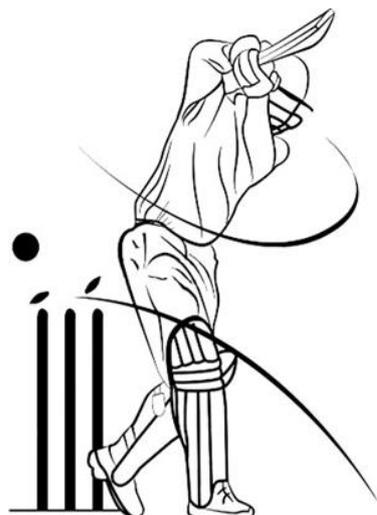
The terms "[uppercase](#)" and "[lowercase](#)" come from the way in which print shops were organized hundreds of years ago. Individual pieces of metal type were kept in boxes called cases. The smaller letters, which were used most often, were kept in a lower case that was easier to reach.

In life there are three undeniable laws – Sod's law, Murphy's law and [Coles law](#)



# Whitley Hall Cricket Club

ACR



The season started on 17<sup>th</sup> April with wins for all three senior teams. The 1<sup>st</sup> XI beat Doncaster at home, the 2<sup>nd</sup> XI Darfield second team and the 3<sup>rd</sup> XI Doncaster fourth team. On 24<sup>th</sup> April, the 1<sup>st</sup> XI came up against a strong team away at Tickhil and failed to beat the challenge of 260 runs coming short with 223 all out. Both the other teams won, the 2<sup>nd</sup> XI at home to Upper Haugh first team and the 3<sup>rd</sup> XI away to Silkstone second team. The new cricket nets are now complete and in use and are proving to be a first class facility with an extremely encouraging group of junior players learning and improving their skills.



The New Practice Nets

Full COVID-19 safety procedures are in place for players, officials and any visitors. There is a strict limit at present on spectators although drinks and snacks can be served at the outdoor hospitality area – these rules may change from 17th May

## Fixtures at Cinder Hill Lane

Saturday 1 <sup>st</sup> May	1 <sup>st</sup> XI	v	Barnsley 1 <sup>st</sup> XI
Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup> May	2 <sup>nd</sup> XI	v	Green Moor 1 <sup>st</sup> XI
Saturday 15 <sup>th</sup> May	1 <sup>st</sup> XI	v	Cawthorne 1 <sup>st</sup> XI
Saturday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	1 <sup>st</sup> XI	v	Elsecar 1 <sup>st</sup> XI
Saturday 29 <sup>th</sup> May	2 <sup>nd</sup> XI	v	Treeton 2 <sup>nd</sup> XI
Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup> June	1 <sup>st</sup> XI	v	Wakefield 1 <sup>st</sup> XI

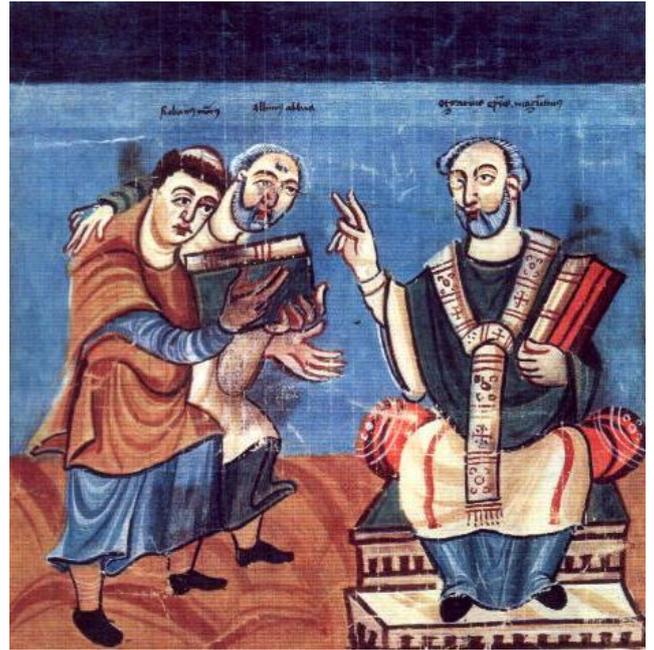
**Contact:** Joe Webster, Secretary: 07969 014592

ACR

## Saint of the month - Alcuin of York, Abbot of Tours a teacher of genius - 20th May

Here is a saint for all primary school teachers who have a passion to help children learn to read and write.

Alcuin was born near York in about 735. His family were of noble stock, and they sent him to York Cathedral School, which had the best teachers in the land. They soon realised that Alcuin had a genius for learning, and within a few years he had become master of the school himself. Under his guidance, the fame of the school grew, with more pupils and an ever-increasing library.



In 781 Alcuin visited Rome, where he met Charlemagne, then King of the Franks, who persuaded him to move to Aachen and become master of the palace school – in effect his minister of education.

Alcuin did a magnificent job – he went on to establish a primary school in every town and village, and because the teachers were the clergy, he saw to it that their own literacy and education were improved. But Alcuin did much more – he set up scriptoria for the copying and preservation of ancient manuscripts, for which we owe him the survival of many classical authors. He is also credited with inventing cursive script – or as we know it, ‘joined-up writing’ – as an aid to speedier copying.

Alcuin also revised the Latin liturgy, wrote nine biblical commentaries, revised the Vulgate Bible, and supported the orthodox doctrine of the procession of the Holy Spirit from the Father and the Son.

By 796, Alcuin was over 60 and ready to retire. Charlemagne appointed him Abbot of St Martin’s at Tours, and here, in his declining years, he built up a model monastic school as he had done at York and Aachen. He died in May 804, but his influence lives on today, and affects hundreds of millions of us – all of us, in fact, who use joined-up writing!

**Alcuin of York** (/ˈælkwɪn/; Latin: Flaccus Albinus Alcuinus; c. 735 – 19 May 804) – also called Ealhwine, Alhwin, or Alchoin – was an English scholar, clergyman, poet, and teacher from York, Northumbria. He was born around 735 and became the student of Archbishop Ecgbert at York. At the invitation of Charlemagne, he became a leading scholar and teacher at the Carolingian court, where he remained a figure in the 780s and 790s. "The most learned man anywhere to be found", according to Einhard's *Life of Charlemagne* (c. 817–833), he is considered among the most important intellectual architects of the Carolingian Renaissance. Among his pupils were many of the dominant intellectuals of the Carolingian era.

# Emails - a blessing or a problem?

David Pickup, a solicitor, considers the challenge of dealing with emails.

*With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse human beings, who have been made in God's likeness. Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this should not be. [James 3 v 9-10](#)*

I wonder what St James would say about emails! He had plenty to say about how what we say can cause lots of damage. He wrote that the tongue is a like a spark which starts a forest fire. It is easy to say a thoughtless thing or inadvertently spread gossip or speculation.

Emails are a great way of communicating. You can send a message to someone in the same parish or across the world almost instantly. Lawyers always ask, "have you got evidence in writing?" Telephone calls or face to face conversations are still evidence but it is difficult to prove what was said. Conversations are recorded so you can see the chain of who said what and when. Emails are quick and free.

Emails can, however, easily be harmful. You can accidentally send a personal or private message to the wrong person or even worse copy it to lots of people. It is also difficult to judge the tone of an email, whether it is light-hearted or serious, cross or joyful. When are on the telephone or speaking face to face it is easier to tell whether the speaker is feeling angry or light-hearted.

Sometimes we need a break. Emails are good but many people find you can never get away from them and constantly check for business messages while at home or on leave. Perhaps we should not send emails to the vicar on a Sunday night while she is watching Strictly. Some discussions are better face to face, and always double check who you are sending it to or copying to.

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# The Gardening Year – May 2021

**Compost:** soil-based compost is heavy and provides a good base for pots in an exposed site, soil-based compost holds nutrients well, Soil-less composts are ideal for hanging baskets and window boxes.

**Peat-free** and organic composts are better for the environment.

**Multipurpose compost** is easy to use and ideal for beginners. Ericaceous compost is essential for lime hating plants such as Blackberries. Grow bags are ideal for beginners and great for plants like Tomatoes and salads.

Soil-based compost is unsuitable for hanging baskets or on balconies, soil-less composts dry out quickly and can be difficult to rehydrate. Peat free compost does not hold onto nutrients well so need regular feeding. Peat free and organic compost are more expensive to buy. Adding materials depending on what you want to grow, you may need loam-based compost a particular moisture-retentive mix. You can buy multipurpose compost and then add certain materials to tweak the properties, adding materials such as perlite, or sharp sand, increases drainage and is good for sowing seeds. Adding loam makes a heavier mix suitable for long term planting such as fruit trees. Now it is time to plant what you will grow. You have spent time learning about the benefits of growing your own food and you have been assessing your own plot to check space and light conditions, Now it is time to choose what you are going to grow, before you rush out and buy packets of seeds, its worth remembering a few things. By taking a look at what you and your family eat in a typical week, you will start to get ideas about what you would like to grow. What are your favourite fresh foods. What fresh items do you buy every week. What staple foods make the basis of your weekly meals

**Colin Williams**

## Eat the Seasons – May

**Vegetables** - Asparagus, Broccoli, Carrots, Jersey Royal New Potatoes, Lettuce & Salad Leaves, New Potatoes, Peas, Radishes, Rocket, Samphire, Spinach, Spring Onions, Watercress, Wild Nettles

**Fruit** - Bananas (Windward), Kiwi Fruit, Rhubarb

**Herbs** - Basil, Chervil, Chives, Coriander, Dill, Oregano, Mint, Nasturtium, Parsley (Curly), Rosemary, Sage, Sorrel, Tarragon

**Meat** – Lamb, Wood Pigeon

**Fish** - Cod, Coley, Crab, Haddock, Langoustine, Plaice, Prawns, Salmon, Sardines, Sea Trout, Shrimp, Whelks, Whitebait

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

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# Pentecost

*The Revd Canon Paul Hardingham considers how the Holy Spirit can change our lives.*

## Pentecost

The celebration of Pentecost this month could be described as a birthday party for the Church, as we remember the gift of the Holy Spirit to the first disciples (Acts 2:1-13). What are we celebrating?

### God's Promise:

The disciples obeyed Jesus' instructions as they gathered in the Upper Room: 'Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised' (1:4). They met expectantly in prayer for God's promised gift. Just as we look forward to birthday presents, how eager are we to receive more of the Spirit in our lives?

### God's Power:

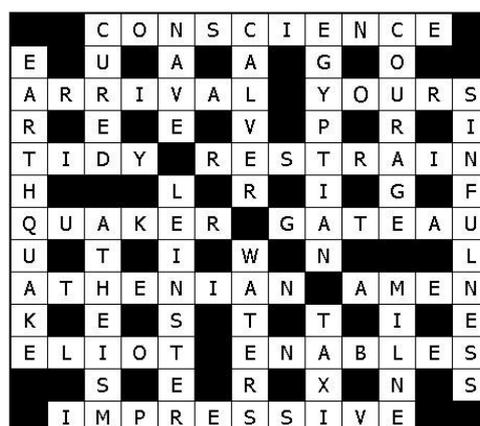
'All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit' (4). The disciples needed the power of the Spirit to be different: not fearfully gathered behind locked doors, but energised to make Christ known. The Spirit can transform our lives into the likeness of Jesus and give gifts to equip our witness. Although the disciples' experience of this power was overwhelming, it was essentially an encounter with God's love. For us, this can be equally emotional or quiet, but all are included, and nobody is excluded from this experience.

### God's Purpose:

The disciples 'began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.' (4). The Spirit empowered their witness, so that everyone heard them speaking in their own 'native language' (lit: dialect, v8). We all have a story to tell of God's activity in our lives and it's the Spirit who translates our words and actions into a language that those around can understand! At Pentecost, 3,000 people were added to the church in one day! What do we expect of the Spirit in our day?

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## Crossword Puzzle - Solution is here



# ERIC EYRE

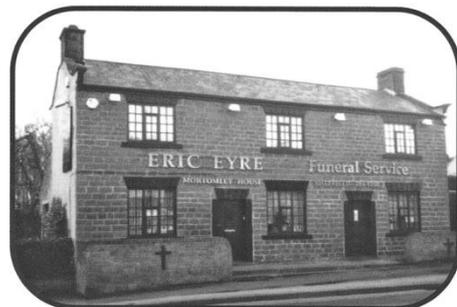
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# It is time to eat Radishes

Juicy, crunchy and crisp, UK-grown red radishes add a delightful punchy colour and flavour to dishes. Their peppery taste stimulates the production of saliva and rouses the appetite. Fantastic with aperitifs (especially chilled Fino Sherry) when served with butter and salt on the side: wipe a radish across the butter before dipping it in salt.



The origins of the radish are uncertain, but they have been eaten in Japan, China and parts of Europe since prehistoric times. Records show they were enjoyed in ancient Egypt and Greece but were not cultivated in Britain until the sixteenth century. Soon afterwards they were introduced to the Americas and are now popular across the globe.

Radishes are taken from the roots of *Raphanus sativus*, a plant related to horseradish, turnip and mustard. There are many varieties, including the red radish, white radish (daikon or mooli - popular in Japan) and black radish.

Look for plump, firm bulbs and bright green, crisp leaves (if attached). Remove the tops to prevent nutrients and water being leached into the leaves and store in the fridge for up to 5 days. Wipe clean and trim off the stem end and tip. The peppery flavour is most concentrated in the skin and so this can be peeled or cut off if the radishes are too pungent. For added crispness soak in iced water for an hour before use. The tops can be used in salads or cooked like other greens. Radishes contain significant levels of vitamin C. Cruciferous plants, which include radish, broccoli and cabbage, are linked with anti-cancer properties.

In Oaxaca, Mexico, elaborate sculptures carved from giant radishes by growers and artists are displayed each year on December 23rd: ['La Noche de los Rabanos'](#) (The Night of the Radishes).

## **Chilled radish and mint soup**

This is a really unusual and wonderfully refreshing summer soup that makes use of the radish leaves as well as the roots. Don't worry if you have only leafless radishes: rocket or watercress can stand in. Serves four as a starter.

About 20 radishes and their leaves (or 20 radishes plus two good handfuls of rocket or watercress)

12 mint leaves, plus extra to serve

250ml vegetable stock, chilled

1 small dessert apple, peeled, cored and diced

2 tbsp creme fraiche

1 pinch cayenne pepper

Sea salt and freshly ground black pepper

Set aside two of the radishes. Bring a large pan of salted water to a boil, plunge in the radishes, their leaves (or the rocket or watercress) and the mint, cook for just a minute, then drain. Refresh immediately by plunging them into a bowl of cold water, or running them under the cold tap in a colander.

Put the blanched radishes, leaves and mint in a food processor with the stock, apple, creme fraiche, cayenne and some salt and pepper. Blend until smooth. Taste, add more salt and pepper as needed, and chill.

Serve the soup cold, garnished with slices of the reserved raw radishes and a little shredded mint.

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## Chapeltown & District Probosc Club

The club is continuing to meet using Zoom as the method of having virtual meetings. It is now unlikely that face to face meetings will resume before September 2021, possibly even later depending on how well the vaccination program goes. Until then, we will be continuing with virtual meetings which have proved to be successful and easy to use, even for those who are not very technical.

The Wednesday 14th April meeting was a talk given by David Templeman on "Street Names of Central Sheffield", Many of the names will be familiar to you but imagine a 10-acre Orchard where Orchard Square is now. The Annual dinner and Christmas lunch have confirmed bookings for this year – details on the website.

Although there will be no lunch, the next meetings, will be: -

Wednesday 12th May – John Hope "Time through the Ages"

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> June – Andrew Foster "Fraud- The secret Crime"

Guests and potential new members are very welcome and until normal meetings resume, you can join for the special price of £10.

If you are interested in joining us, please contact the secretary, Trevor Winslow on 07966 317258 or [trevor.winslow@outlook.com](mailto:trevor.winslow@outlook.com)

Or see the website at [www.chapeltown-probus.org.uk](http://www.chapeltown-probus.org.uk)

ACR

# Crossword Puzzle

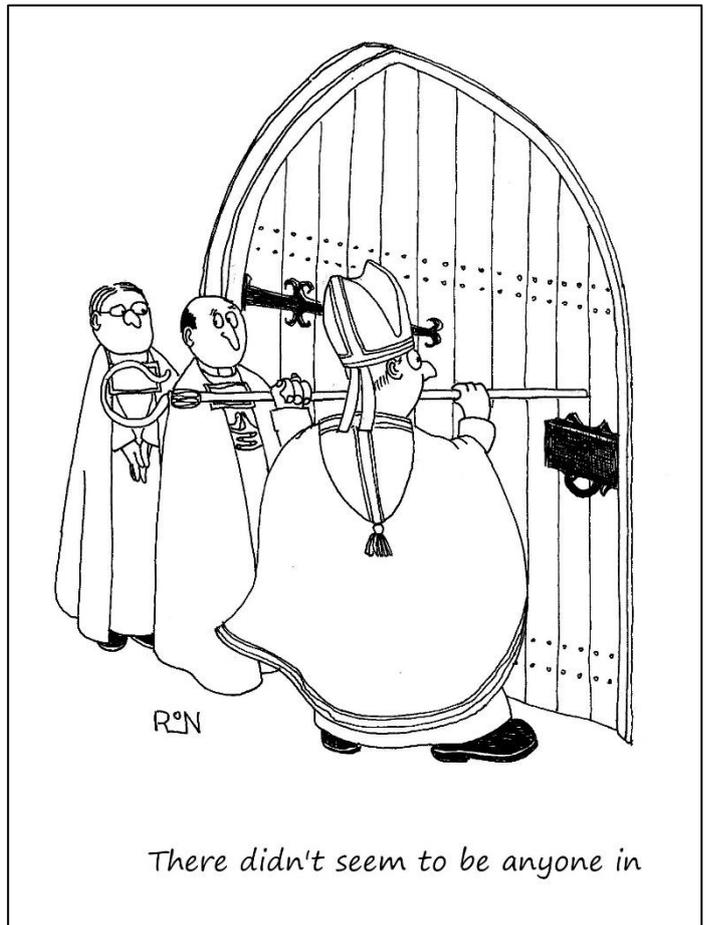
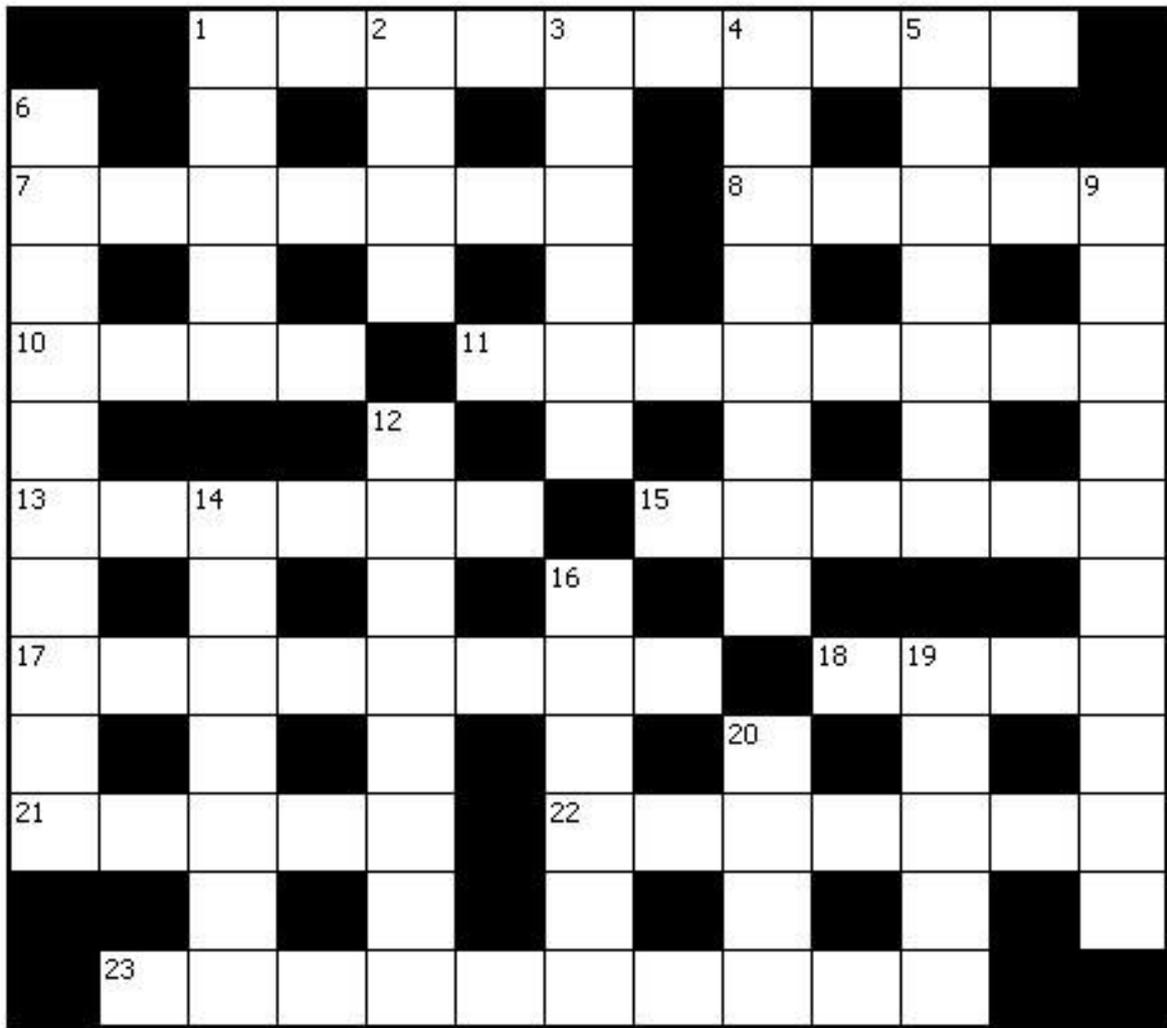
## Clues Across

- 1 Sense of right and wrong (1 Corinthians 8:7) (10)
- 7 Coming (John 11:17) (7)
- 8 'All I have is — , and all you have is mine' (John 17:10) (5)
- 10 Smarten (Acts 9:34) (4)
- 11 Hold back (Job 9:13) (8)
- 13 Member of the Society of Friends (6)
- 15 At ague (anag.) (6)
- 17 Citizen of the Greek capital (8)
- 18 So be it (Galatians 6:18) (4)
- 21 Twentieth-century poet and dramatist who wrote Murder in the Cathedral, T.S. — (5)
- 22 Empowers (Philippians 3:21) (7)
- 23 Imposing (1 Samuel 9:2) (10)

## Clues Down

- 1 Healed (Luke 7:21) (5)
- 2 Central space in a church (4)
- 3 Co-founder of Spring Harvest and General Secretary of the Evangelical Alliance 1983–97, Clive — (6)
- 4 Moses killed one when he saw him beating a Hebrew labourer (Exodus 2:12) (8)
- 5 Bravery (Acts 4:13) (7)
- 6 It interrupted Paul and Silas singing hymns in a Philippian jail (Acts 16:26) (10)
- 9 Transgression (Psalm 36:1) (10)
- 12 Irish province in which Dublin is situated (8)
- 14 Same hit (anag.) (7)
- 16 'The Spirit of God was hovering over the — ' (Genesis 1:2) (6)
- 19 Author of the immortal stories of Winnie the Pooh, A.A. — (5)
- 20 Cab (4)

Solution is on Page 21



# Prayers and Poems Page

## Prayer for Pentecost

Loving Father God,  
Thank you for sending your Holy Spirit;  
Your Spirit who knows no restrictions or barriers;  
Your Spirit who can reach us and be with us and in us, wherever we are, whatever our circumstances;  
Your Spirit who comforts and heals and empowers us to live with confidence that, ultimately, all shall be well;  
Your Spirit who connects us, through the life, death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus.  
Because of Jesus' victory over death we have hope and life forever.  
Thank you, loving Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
Amen.

*By Daphne Kitching*

## The Travellers

They travelled together sad and forlorn  
With all of their dreams shattered and torn,  
It started so well, their hopes were high  
Never to guess that He would die.

The Man joined the two as they walked along,  
He asked why their faces were sad and long,  
'Have you not heard' disbelieving they cried  
'How the One we followed was crucified?'

Opening the scriptures He began to unfold  
How the Christ should suffer as written of old,  
It was not a disaster, but all of God's plan  
That one should come as Redeemer of man.

They listened enraptured as slowly they saw  
The purpose of God revealed in the Law  
The Prophets and Psalms, it's all about Him  
The One who should come and rescue from sin.

O that eyes should be opened and scripture  
made plain,  
To see Christ in its pages again and again,  
That just like the travellers I too should see  
The Master, the Saviour dying for me.

*By Megan Carter*

## A Lady with the Shot

On either side the dangers lie  
We may sicken, we may die;  
We cannot drive, we cannot fly,  
We must wear masks, but some ask, "why?"  
"It's just a massive plot!"  
Though some may protest loud and shrilly  
We have to tell them, "don't be silly,"  
There's just one route from fear so chilly:  
The covid vaccine shot!

Through long and anxious toilsome days  
They sought for virus-killing ways,  
It's hard to find the words of praise –  
Their skill and knowledge just amaze!  
They loosed a Gordian Knot!  
For months the news had gone so badly  
How nice to turn from thinking sadly  
And go and meet so very gladly  
A lady with the shot!

And now must all folk gladly share  
The vaccine which, with equal care  
Protects all people, everywhere  
If it's use is wise and fair.  
We must share what we've got.  
And then at last this virus stealthy  
Will threaten no-one – poor or wealthy  
No more masks to keep us healthy  
This clever vaccine shot!

By Nigel Beeton

# Happiness?

*Editor: The Ven John Barton agrees with Jordan Peterson that happiness isn't really our goal.*

The Canadian psychologist and best-selling author, Jordan Peterson, doesn't believe we should be pursuing happiness. That could be a disappointment to 328m Americans, who have been taught for nearly 250 years that the pursuit of happiness is their God-given right. The same pursuit might describe the quest of others who, despite being educated, well-fed, secure and sexually liberated, still feel deprived and unfulfilled.

Professor Peterson, who himself is finding his way towards God, has just published 'Beyond Order', which embodies his second list of '12 Rules for Life'\*. He analyses various characters in ancient myths, modern literature and the Bible to demonstrate the direction we need to take if we want to make the most of our potential today. Happiness isn't on the agenda.

The Old Testament figure of Abraham, who abandoned all that was familiar in order to fulfil God's command to establish a new nation, is a model for Jews, Christians and Muslims. Was Abraham's divine commission pleasant? Peterson says it was,

“... no call to happiness . . . what calls you out into the world - to your destiny - is not ease. It is trouble and strife . . . That is where the life that is worth living is to be eternally found - and where you can find it, personally, if only you are willing.”

The Bible has little to say about happiness and when we do encounter the word, as in Jesus's Beatitudes (Matthew 5, 3-12), we are disturbed to find it focuses on God's will rather than what we want and is more about giving than getting.

Men and women initially followed Christ because they felt He had got something they needed. Those who thought it would bring them a pain-free, trouble-free life were disappointed. At one point a number of His disciples left him. The first chapter of St John describes the mixed reaction to Jesus like this:

“He came to what was His own, and His own people did not accept Him. But to all who received Him, who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God ...”

In place of the interminable pursuit of happiness, Christ reveals an eternal destiny.

*\*Professor Peterson's earlier book, 'Twelve Rules for Life - An Antidote to Chaos' was first published in 2018 and is now available in a Penguin paperback @ £10.99. 'Beyond Order', has just been published by Allen Lane @ £25.*

## Contact Numbers for Local Groups

### Ecclesfield Rainbows

Gatty Hall  
Tuesday 5.00 pm to 6.15 pm  
Leader - Debbie  
Tel: 0786 047 1793

### Ecclesfield Brownies

Gatty Hall  
Monday 5.30 pm to 6.45 pm  
Leader - Mrs J Hutchinson  
Tel: 0798 344 2742

### Ecclesfield Brownies

Gatty Hall  
Tuesday 6.15 pm to 7.45 pm  
Leader - Mrs A. Kendall  
Tel: 0114 246 8866

### Ecclesfield Guides

Gatty Hall  
Thursday 6.30 pm to 8.30 pm  
Leader - Mrs C Topham  
Tel: 0114 246 1289

### Ecclesfield Priory Players

EPPIC Theatre  
Monday 7.30 pm to 10.00 pm  
Wednesday 7.30 pm to 10.00 pm  
Secretary –Carol Travis  
Theatre Tel No. 0114 240 2624

### Ecclesfield Community Garden

Ecclesfield Park - Located between  
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email: [ecclesfieldlib@gmail.com](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  
[25theecclesfieldscouts@gmail.com](mailto:25theecclesfieldscouts@gmail.com)

### The Grenoside Singers

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