

ALL SAINTS' MALDON



PARISH NEWS

June 2018

Photographic contributions for the front of this magazine sent to the editor will be most welcome.

£1



CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday Services	8:00am Holy Communion (BCP 1662) 10:00 am Sung Parish Eucharist (except first Sunday of the month). 6:30 pm Evensong and Sermon second and third Sundays of the month
1st Sunday in the Month	10:00am Short all age service of stories songs and prayers. 11:15am Parish Eucharist (CW) 6:00 pm Evensong at St Mary's
Last Sunday	6:30 pm Prayer and Praise Service

JUNIOR CHURCH

Each Sunday at 10:00am.in the D'Arcy Room in Church
4th Sunday Freedom Footsteps in the Vicarage

WEEKDAY SERVICES

Morning Prayer is usually said in church at 8.30am on Monday - Friday.

Evening Prayer is usually said in church at 5.30pm on Monday - Thursday

Thursday 11:00am Holy Communion (BCP 1662) followed by coffee and biscuits

Cover Photos: 1. Geof Dickman at All Saints' Church, Galle, Sri Lanka

2. Hymns on the Moot Hall Roof 2017



Editorial

As I reported last month, to comply with the new 'General Data Protection Regulation,' which came into force on 25th May 2018, we need your written permission to include your details in the magazine, the Green Guide and on the website. In the magazine, this applies particularly to the Parish Directory and the Contacts for Activities at the end of the magazine, and also photos.

The PCC has produced a form for you to sign giving your permission for this together with other permissions. The form is printed in the centre of this magazine and I would strongly request that if you have not already done so, that you complete it and send it to Julie Ovenden the PCC Secretary.

Although we have had a good response to consent forms being completed and returned, we still have a few missing. And remember, if you do not give your consent we will not be able to contact you to let you know what is going on.

Peter Clark, Editor



FROM THE VICARAGE

UNDERSTANDING CONFLICT EMBRACE THE MIDDLE EAST

One of the charities All Saints supports is "Embrace" (formerly the "Bible Lands Society") It supports the work of Christian communities in the Middle East, including the Holy Land, Jordan, Syria and Egypt. You will see the charity's magazine displayed in the rack at the back of the church. Embrace supports the work of the Christian churches throughout the Middle East, particularly in their work in education, health care, and working with children with disabilities. We in the West often forget that there are indigenous Christian communities who have been in these countries for centuries, and long before the expansion of Islam. We have supported, for example, a hospital in Gaza, which though run by Christians, serves anyone in need, regardless of race or religion.

THE ISRAELI- PALESTINE CONFLICT

Of all the conflicts in the Middle east, perhaps the most intractable is that



between Israel and the Palestinians. The more I read on the subject, the more despondent and confused I become! It seems to me there are two fundamentally irreconcilable positions. Both sides have just claims, and both sides have been guilty of terrible violence against their enemies. For Israel, the matter is straight forward. The Holy Land is the historical home land for the Jewish people. It was promised them by God in the Bible. Though exiled by the Romans in the 1st Century, they have always longed to return. The right to a Jewish homeland was affirmed by Britain in the historic Balfour declaration of 1917. This accelerated the immigration of Jewish people to what was then Palestine. With the growth of Nazism in Germany in the 1930s, the need for a safe homeland for the Jews became more urgent. Anti-semitism was nothing new. Jews had been persecuted by Christians through the centuries. The pogroms in Russia in the 19th Century brought new dangers for the Jews and strengthened the case for Zionism. The Holocaust confirmed the strong moral case of the Jews for a secure homeland. The British left Palestine when the state of Israel was declared in 1948. The declaration was met immediately with war initiated by the Arab States, who were determined to strangle the Israeli state at birth. Further wars followed in 1967 and 1973, which Israel has always believed to be at the instigation of the Arab states. Continuing acts of terrorism by Arab extremists, including Fatah, Hamas and Hezbollah, have been met with strong (sometimes disproportionate) resistance by Israel. We can only begin to understand the Israeli psychology when we remember their history. The Jews are a people who have been persecuted for centuries. The Jews are a people that a European nation tried to wipe off the face of the earth during the Second World War.

THE PALESTINIAN PERSPECTIVE

The Palestinian view of the conflict is very different. The Jews had continued to live in Palestine as a minority through the centuries. Until the accelerated immigration in the 19th Century, relations between Jews and Arabs had been largely peaceful. The British had made contradictory promises to the Arabs for a sovereign state in Palestine, in return for help against the Ottoman empire during the First World War. The wars of the 20th Century resulted in large numbers of Palestinian refugees fleeing the conflicts. There had been instances of massacres and atrocities committed by both sides. Some of those responsible would become leaders of the state of Israel. Menachem Begin had been responsible for acts of terrorism against both the British military and Arab civilians. Land that had been in the hands of Palestinian families for generations, has in many instances been taken over the Israeli settlers. Now an eight metre high wall, the symbol of the intractability of the conflict, separates Jews from Palestinians. Everywhere in Israel and the Occupied territories, there are walls, fences, checkpoints and barricades. The whole of Gaza is surrounded by an electrified fence. For



Israel, these are seen as reasonable measures of self defence. For the Palestinians, it is the symbol of the oppression of an occupying power that has stolen their land.

THE FUTURE

All attempts to resolve the conflict have ended in failure. The only hope has been at the points when both sides have looked as if they were prepared to make sacrifices, for the sake of peace.

When ever this point is reached, it is high-jacked by extremists, who are not prepared to allow any compromise. I would not presume to know the answer which has eluded some of the world's wisest statesmen and diplomats. Like many people, I look on from a distance hoping and praying for an end to a conflict in a land which is holy to Jews, Christians and Muslims. Israel is now a nuclear power, is well armed, and has strong financial support, not least from the United States. The Palestinians will not prevail by force.

Continued acts of terrorism will only result in suffering on both sides. Because of the overwhelming power of Israel, attacks on Jewish people will always be met with a massive response. There can only be hope with good will (in very short supply); and a patient determination to take small steps to build trust; a process that may take many decades. However, it seems to me that before all this can begin, three steps are necessary.

1. Israel is here to stay. The Palestinians and the Arab states must recognise Israel's right to exist.
2. The slow rebuilding of trust and security can only begin with an absolute renunciation of terrorism, so Israelis can leave in security. Otherwise, all the barriers and checkpoints will remain.
3. Israel and their Arab neighbours, must recognise the aspirations of the Palestinians for a homeland of their own. There can only be peace and justice when Palestinians can live freed from the poverty and oppression, which have been the breeding ground for violence and terrorism.

Please continue to pray for peace in the Holy Land and for all those who work for peace. Especially for the Christian communities in the Holy Land.

Stephen

STORAGE IN CHURCH

Whilst we appreciate the kindness of members of the congregation in wanting to support the church by donations of books and bric-a-brac, this is causing us a real problem with storage. The only storage we have in the church is in the Crypt, and it is now completely full. The next event in which we will be having stalls with books and bric a brac is not until the Town Fair on November 29th. If you have items of books or bric a brac, could you either please store them yourselves till November; or if that is not possible, please take them directly to a charity shop. I am sorry that we are not able to accept any further items till the November Fair.

Stephen



Following his 'From the Vicarage' article, Steven sent me an email from 'Embrace the Middle East' which contains prayers to be used in our intercessions, and suggested I use some of it in the magazine. I have printed below, the Summary Prayer Points.

The full prayers can be found on their website. Ed



Parallel, summary prayer points for use in personal or corporate prayer:

Please join us in:

- praying for comfort for all affected by the violence in Gaza, most especially those who have been injured, traumatised or bereaved
- lifting up Embrace's partners on the ground in Gaza and all who are seeking to help those who have been injured and bereaved, especially Al Ahli hospital – whose medical staff are working extended shifts to support an extended emergency wing to treat people with serious injuries and who are supporting traumatised children who have lost friends and family with counselling and psycho-social support.
- interceding for an end to violence; adherence and enforcement of international law that seeks to protect civilians; and a true and lasting way forward for a just peace that enables both Palestinians and Israelis to thrive in freedom.

Jonas Malden

As we were leaving church this morning, a Frank Hooper came in to seek the memorial to his five times Grandfather - Jonas Malden. I therefore took his photo which he agreed could be put in the magazine.

Mike Ovenden (13th May)



**Frank Hooper beside
Jonas Maldon's memorial**



Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families

All Saints Mothers' Union
May 1st 2018

We met as usual in the D'Arcy Room on Tuesday May 1st at 8pm. Merie welcomed us all and dealt with various notices including the fact that a table top sale raised £29.

It was then time to meet Frances Turner who was the speaker for the evening. There followed a very interesting talk about her life working for Customs and Excise. Frances was commissioned as a Tax Inspector and this gave her the right of entry anywhere at any time. Her job was to catch companies, large and small who were not paying their correct tax.

She visited these premises on her own and was often greeted with hostility but she said that she never felt threatened. This was a good insight into a job which was very demanding but extremely interesting.

We meet again at 8pm on Tuesday June 12th in the Vicarage Garden to enjoy a fish and chip supper. Please note the venue – **not** in the D'Arcy Room.

New members can always be sure of a warm welcome. It would be good to see you!

Stephanie Doe

PLANT STALL

(Supporting our Church School)

We will be running a plant stall at All Saints School summer fete on Saturday 30th June, as we have done before, showing our church support for the school. Any offers of plants or help on the day would be welcome. Please speak to *Colin Brown*. Thank you.

Gardener Wanted **- In Maldon -**

Anyone interested in some occasional light gardening?
No digging or heavy work involved. Time at your
convenience. Please contact 01621 852897 or

leofleda@gmail.com



OPEN THE BOOK



**David Presswell as
King Nebuchadnezzar in Shadrach,
Meshach and Abednego in the fiery
furnace
Photo by Sue Frederick**

Open The Book continues with inter-church teams going in to Wentworth Primary School, All Saints Primary, and Maldon Court School.

At All Saints all the pupils can fit into the School Hall so Open The Book is performed for the whole school, twice a term, at 2.15 pm on Tuesdays. At Maldon Court School the audience is again composed of the whole school, weekly on a Friday morning, with Canon Graham providing musical accompaniment. Wentworth has separate Key Stage One (Infants) and Key Stage Two (Juniors) assemblies, taking place simultaneously in two halls at 9.10 am weekly on Wednesdays. It would be lovely if the congregation would remember all the teams and all the children in prayer.

After now having completed the entire three year programme at Wentworth, a decision was made that KS2 would start again from the beginning, whereas KS1

would begin with the second year stories. This avoids us needing the same props on the same day ! It would not be a problem with simple plates and goblets, or even scrolls, but we have some wonderful creations by David Presswell and the late Geoff Vale, such as Goliath, the well that Jeremiah was thrown into (think spiders and snakes - we do stress in the introduction that they are only lifelike imitations!) a multi-purpose door, a boat, Nebuchadnezzar's statue and the fiery furnace, and many more.

We are constantly delighted by the children's attentiveness, and their ability to fill in by their imagination any shortfalls in props or presentation. I shall always remember how the KS1 children gasped when we lifted a gauzy fabric rainbow above a blue fabric Flood. We trust that these stories and their message of God's love will stay with them as they grow.

Sue Frederick

Ascension Day

Thursday 10th May was Ascension Day and in accordance with our now traditional marking of this day, a selection of the more able bodied congregation members, ascended to the roof of the Moot Hall at 8:30 am to sing hymns, led by Stuart and some of the choir. Unfortunately, those who did not climb to the roof but stayed in the High street, reported that the noise of the traffic drowned out our singing and we could not be heard.

At seven thirty it was pouring with rain but luckily by the time we ascended to the roof it had stopped and the sun came out giving us wonderful views over the Blackwater Estuary and the surrounding countryside.

After descending to the High Street we all made our way to the Rose and Crown for breakfast.

Ed



Photos by Stuart Pegler



Deputy Warden's Waffle

I am writing this just after a most memorable weekend. It offered something for everyone. Although I think Prince William may have experienced a tiny dilemma! The FA Cup final and his younger brother getting married! both on the same day! I am afraid I have not a clue about football, but my TV page says it was Chelsea v Manchester United. Was it exciting, who won? I have no doubt just cast myself to the bottom of a dark pit by all footie fans. But dare I say grown men dashing about after an inflated ball, really! No, on second thoughts I had better not!

So swiftly passing on to the other great event of the week end. Megan looked so composed, her Mother, the most dignified imaginable, but just what must have been going through her mind? The Groom at times did look a bit tense, but quite understandable. The music was magnificent and so diverse. And what about that address? The Most Reverend Michael Curry, a Bishop, senior figure in the American Episcopal Church, which is part of the Global Anglican Communion, (done my home work!) he gave us all something to think about. The entire event was uplifting and so refreshing, and modern. There seemed a splendid balance of tradition and modernity seamlessly working side by side.

Which brings me to my thoughts on how has all this affected us? We live in a rapidly changing world, which at times can be very intimidating. Not only with the ever faster and faster technical advances, (my BT Hub has broken---UGH) but attitudes are changing all the time. Everyone seems to feel that it is their right to own loads of possessions. Sometimes I think we are all more self-centred than we used to be. It is not all gloom and doom, however, as on the train the other day, and it was very crowded in my carriage, two men stood up and offered their seat to an elderly lady (no-I was already sitting down!) but it was noticeable as it does not happen so much now.

So how do we all cope with today's hurly burly? Back to Rev Michael Curry. With Love. Love for one another and with the infinite Love of God. Here, in our church, we too are facing exciting events, and some changes. We are not always good with changes, they kind of make us feel a bit insecure. This data protection is a case in point, it can feel a bit threatening and confusing, but we are trying to embrace it and although at times it can seem daft, if we all work together going in the same direction we will achieve the necessary results.

An exciting new venture for All Saints is the Arts Festival. Which is going to take place this week, so no doubt reports and photos will follow. Actually so far at this church a lot has been going on. Fr Graham wrote his intriguing and it must be said challenging play, but what a fantastic event it was. We have hosted lots of parties of visitors coming to look round our ancient and wonderful church.

We have had birthdays, baptisms and weddings, even our own special wedding with the Beavers, with Rev Julie, "marrying" a young couple, Rev Stephen played the organ and the bells rang out on that occasion as well as for the Duke and Duchess of Sussex. And all the while we are watched over by our ever loving, and it must be said Patient God on high. Whatever ups and downs befall us, be it the frustrations of modern life, or a visit to the dentist!! We are not alone and we are loved.

Vicky Deputy Churchwarden



LETTER FROM YORKSHIRE

Dear Church Family,

So, last month it was Daffodils, this month it is Dandelions! which always remind me of Jesus when he was talking to His disciples on the subject of worrying about things. He said ‘consider the lilies of the field , they do not work they do not spin, yet Solomon in all his glory was not attired like one of these.’ If He had been in England I reckon the ‘Lilies of the field’ could have been the Dandelions, for in my opinion they are beautiful and I can imagine Solomon in his majesty, wearing a beautiful yellow gold cloak over his silky robe!!! But I always did have a vivid imagination, not much good at maths though!!!!

Speaking of worry, sadly the fighting and killing still persists in our world, when will humankind realise that violence only begets more violence? I know that many people are worried about the future, especially because nobody seems to come up with any solutions There is though, something we can do, we can bring all our worries to our God in our prayers, you might think that is a feeble thing to say, but I remember these words, that more things in heaven and earth are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of. That might be a misquote, but I happen to believe it’s true, so let’s try it shall we?

So what about this sudden bursting of Spring then. The blossom and the green leaves telling us how beautiful our world is. Perhaps if it gets a little warmer, I’ll dangle my feet in the sea!!!! The emphasis being on the ‘perhaps’ word!!! Watch out for tidal waves!

Until next time, love and blessings .

Avril.

PS. I suggest two Hymns for prayer .

- ◆ Dear Lord and Father of Mankind. and,
- ◆ O God our Help in ages past.



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Wednesday

6th June





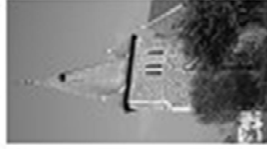
SERVICES FOR JUNE

- 3rd June** **First Sunday of Trinity**
8:00 am Holy Communion (BCP 1662)
10:00 am Worship for All
11:15 am The Eucharist (Said)
6:00 pm Evensong at St Mary's
- 7th June** **Thursday**
11:00 am Holy Communion (BCP 1662)
- 10th June** **Second Sunday of Trinity**
8:00 am Holy Communion (BCP 1662)
10:00 am Parish Eucharist and Junior Church
6:30 pm evensong and Sermon
- 11th June** **Monday St Barnabas the Apostle**
11:00 am Holy Communion at Hailey House
6:00 pm Holy Communion in St Mary's
- 14th June** **Thursday:**
11:00 am Holy Communion (BCP 1662)
- 17th June** **Third Sunday of Trinity**
8:00 am Holy Communion (BCP 1662)
10:00 am Parish Eucharist, and Junior Church
12 noon Holy Baptism
6:30 pm Evensong and Sermon
- 20th June** **Wednesday**
11:00 am Holy Communion at Longfield
- 21st June** **Thursday**
11:00 am Holy Communion (BCP 1662)
- 24th June** **St John the Baptist**
8:00 am Holy Communion (BCP 1662)
10:00 am Parish Eucharist and Junior Church
12 noon Holy Baptism
6:30 pm Prayer and Praise
- 28th June** **Thursday**
11:00 am Holy Communion (BCP 1662)





The Parish Church of All Saints with St. Peter, Maldon



Your privacy is important to us, and we want to communicate with church members in a way which has their consent, and which is in line with UK law on data protection. As a result of a change in UK law, we now need your consent to how we contact you.

Please fill in the contact details you would like us to use to communicate with you and kindly return the form to: **Julie Ovenden, PCC Secretary, 58 Gloucester Avenue, Maldon CM9 6LA** or leave in an envelope at the back of church

Name _____

Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

By signing this form you are confirming that you are consenting to the PCC of All Saints, Maldon holding and processing your personal data for the following purposes (please tick the boxes where you grant consent):-

I consent to the church contacting me by:

- Post
 E Mail
 Phone

to keep me informed about news, events, activities and services at All Saints

It is our custom at All Saints to send out cards from the church family to mark a special occasion (birthday, anniversary etc.) or to let people know we are thinking of them in a time of need.

- I give permission to include my contact details in the Green Guide (as appropriate), magazine and website
- I give permission for my photo (where I am photographed during a church service/event) to be published in Parish News and on the All Saints website

Signed: _____ Dated: _____

You can grant consent to all the purposes; one of the purposes or none of the purposes. Where you do not grant consent we will not be able to use your personal data. You can find out more about how we use your data from our "Privacy Notice" which is available to view on our website or at the back of church.

You can withdraw or change your consent at any time by contacting the PCC Secretary: Julie Ovenden julieovenden@hotmail.com Please note that all processing of your personal data will cease once you have withdrawn consent, other than where this is required by law, but this will not affect any personal data that has already been processed prior to this point.

All Saints Maldon PCC is a Registered Charity, No 1127067



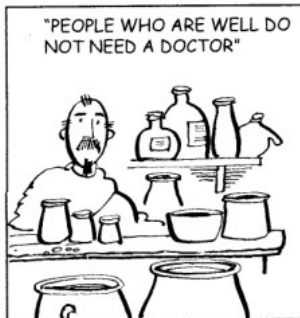
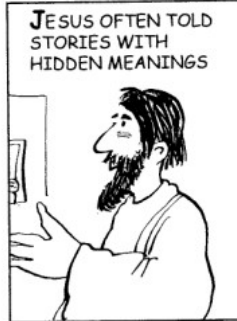


DIARY FOR JUNE

Mon 4th June	10 - 12 noon Maldon Pioneers Drop In
Tues 5th June	10 - 12 noon Meeting Point 10-00 am Prayer Group
Wed 6th June	12 noon - 1:30 pm All Saints' Lunches 7:00 pm Parish Office
Thu 7th June	9:15 am Sunshiners 2-4 pm Maldon Ladies 7:00 pm Junior Choir 7-30 pm Choir Practice
Sat 9th June	10 am - noon Church Coffee Morning 2:00 pm messy Church
Mon 11th June	9:00 am Men's Breakfast (Rose and Crown) 10 - 12 noon Maldon Pioneers Drop In
Tues 12th June	10 - 12 noon Meeting Point 8:00 pm Mothers Union in the Vicarage.
Thu 14th June	9:15 am Sunshiners 2-4 pm Maldon Ladies 7:00 pm Junior Choir 7-30 pm Choir Practice
Fri 15th June	Maldon Art Club Exhibition in Church
Sat 16th June	ditto
Mon 18th June	10 - 12 noon Maldon Pioneers Drop In
Tue 19th June	10 am - 12 noon Meeting Point 7:00 pm baptism Preparation Evening in Church
Wed 20th June	7:00 pm Parish Office
Thu 21st June	9:15 am Sunshiners 2-4 pm Maldon Ladies 7:00 pm Junior Choir Practice 7-30 pm Choir Practice
Mon 25th June	10 - 12 noon Maldon Pioneers Drop In
Tues 26th June	10 - 12 noon Meeting Point 8:00 pm Silent film in Church (Maldon Festival)
Thu 28th June	9:15 am Sunshiners 2-4 pm Maldon Ladies 7:00 pm Junior Choir 7-30 pm Choir Practice 7-30 pm Choir Practice
Sat 30th June	10 - 12 noon Bible Society Coffee morning 1:00 pm Organ Recital (Maldon Festival)



The doctor and the ill person





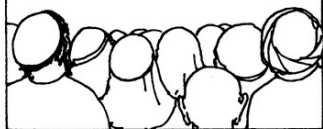
Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Ex.19:3-9,20:1-21,24:7,12-18,32:1-25,34:1-9

God rescued the Hebrew people from Egypt and led them to Sinai mountain. There He offered them a contract...

Keep My rules, and you will be My people and I will be your God and protect you.



We promise to do what You tell us and worship only You.

Moses climbed the mountain. God gave him two stone slabs with the contract on them.

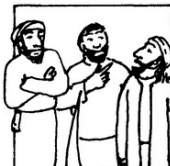


Then God and Moses talked ... for 40 days and nights



Meanwhile...

Aaron, that Moses isn't coming back. We can't worship something we can't see.



Make us something we can worship

So Aaron made a gold bull and the people went wild.

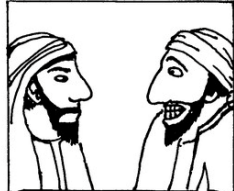


God told Moses....

Your people are already worshipping a statue.



Moses was so angry he smashed the contract slabs



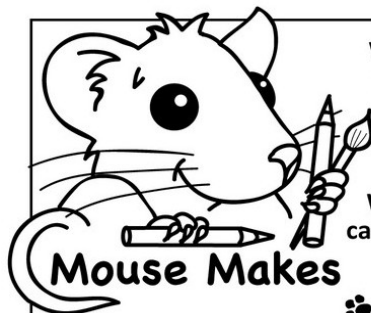
It's not my fault, they made me do it.

God, please, please forgive Your people.



So God forgave His people and gave Moses two more contract slabs.





Which animal did Noah let out of the ark first?

Genesis 8:7

What plague of animals came out of the River Nile?

Exodus 8:6

What insects did John eat in the wilderness?

Matthew 3:4

Which animal can we learn from ?

Proverbs 6:6

Which bird did the Holy Spirit appear as?

Luke 3:22

Which animal did Jesus ride on?

Matthew 21:7

DID YOU KNOW?



Four of the miracles Jesus performed were to do with fish.

1. Feeding of the 5000
Matthew 14:15-21
2. The coin in the fish's mouth
Matthew 17:24-27
3. When Jesus called His first disciples
Luke 5:4-11
4. At the Sea of Galilee after Jesus' resurrection
John 21:4-11



Which animal goes with which bible character?



- | | |
|----------|-------------|
| LAMB | HOLY SPIRIT |
| LIONS | BALAAM |
| LOCUSTS | JESUS |
| DOVE | JONAH |
| RAVENS | PAUL |
| BIG FISH | SOLOMON |
| DONKEY | DANIEL |
| BEES | ELIJAH |
| SNAKE | JOHN |
| PEACOCK | SAMSON |

DID YOU KNOW?

There are four animals that are small but the Bible says are extremely wise... the **ANT**, the **HYRAX**, the **LOCUST** and the **LIZARD**.
Look up **Proverbs 30:24-28** to find out why.



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

Find the animals in the word search

- SHEEP • GOAT • LION • LAMB
 DONKEY • RAVEN
 SNAKE • DOVE
 LOCUST • QUAIL • HYRAX
 CAMEL • DEER • FISH • FROG
 GNAT • PEACOCK
 ANT • OX • LIZARD
 DOG • PIG • BULL





RAMBLING GROUP

(Ten to Ten)

May 2018

Eight of us set off this month on a seven mile circular walk from Hatfield Peverel to Little Baddow and back. This is one of my favourites and a repeat of the walk we did in June last year.

Leaving the village hall, we set off across field footpaths gently down hill to the river Ter and then, beside the river, on towards Boreham village. Some paths had become quite overgrown, as they often are at this time of year, and were quite hard going so the mid-morning coffee stop was really welcome! Then it was uphill again and down the other side. Coming over the brow of the hill, the whole Chelmer valley opened up before us giving glorious views towards Danbury to the south and Chelmsford to the west.

Lunch was taken at the Paper Mill Lock café on the Chelmer and Blackwater canal. This was a hive of activity with walkers, cyclists and youngsters doing their Duke of Edinburgh award hike all making use of the facilities. Following lunch, it was back along the canal towpath, over the old cast-iron bridge, down to the ford, and back through Nounsley village to Hatfield Peverel.

Next month's walk will be on Saturday 9th June, leaving at "Ten to Ten" from Wintersleet Farm, London Road. This walk will be along the river Stour in Suffolk and will be led by Sue Smith.

Everyone is welcome on the walks. If you have any questions, please contact Sue Smith on 01621 854056.

Peter Holmes

.....

Fishing

A young father was taking care of his baby daughter while his wife went to town shopping.

He decided to go fishing and he had to take the toddler along. 'I'll never take her along with me again!' he told his wife that evening.

'I didn't catch a thing!'

'Oh, next time I'm sure she'll be quiet and not scare the fish away,' his wife said.

The father said gloomily. 'No, it wasn't that. She ate all the bait.'

.....



DOCTRINES AS PROMPTS?

Many Christians tend to think of doctrines as a set of ideas about God that the Church needlessly imposes upon its members. Doctrines are important, but why they are important is not always apparent. Right doctrines are right ideas about God while wrong doctrines are wrong ideas about God. But why should right ideas about God matter at all? Isn't it more important that we should behave right? We could cite examples of people who have perfectly right beliefs but are not living right, whereas there are others whose understanding of God may be quite incomplete and simplistic, yet may be living better lives than the former. If right belief (or orthodoxy) does not necessarily lead to right practice (orthopraxy), what is the point of right belief? A faith that does not lead to good works is a dead faith, according to James. If so, wouldn't it be better to have no faith at all than a dead one? A dead faith renders one more culpable than one who has no faith.

Furthermore, doctrines are shrouded in controversies. For every doctrine there are several different points of view, each claiming to be the correct one. It leaves the average layperson confused. If theologians themselves cannot agree on anything, where does that leave ordinary Christians? For many modern Christians these objections are sufficient reason to give doctrines a wide berth.

I would like to suggest that the problem may be due to a misunderstanding regarding the nature of Christian doctrines. Doctrines are not ideas about God—at least this is not the way doctrines began. If we read the gospels closely, we will have noticed that although Jesus spent a great deal of time teaching his twelve disciples, they, for the most part, did not quite understand what he taught. For example, on the most crucial matters regarding Jesus' identity, they misunderstood him, i.e. Peter rightly confessed (inspired by divine revelation) that Jesus was the Son of the living God, yet he was thinking like most Jews of his day that Jesus' mission was to set up a theocracy. He could not conceive of a king who had to suffer and die. Peter had the right formula, but the truth did not quite sink in. What brought about a decisive change in their understanding was their encounter with the risen Christ. It was after the resurrection that his disciples recalled his teaching and understood (cf. John 2:22). Before the resurrection, all they had were jumbled pieces of a jig-saw puzzle; after the resurrection, the pieces fell into place. Everything that Jesus taught them now began to make sense. Their encounter with their risen rabbi forced the first disciples to revise their inherited Jewish monotheism. They could not escape the fact that what Jesus claimed for himself was exactly what Yahweh in the Old Testament claimed that he would do for his people. But if Jesus is somehow identified with Yahweh, what are we to make of 'The One' Jesus repeatedly addresses as "Father"? The attempt to answer this question constitutes the beginning of a trinitarian doctrine. The true doctrine of God did not begin as



abstract ideas, but with the risen Christ coming to meet his disciples, which culminated in Thomas' confession: "My Lord, and my God!" It was the encounter with the risen Christ which elicited a confession of faith.

The story of the risen Christ was circulated orally before it was finally written down in what we now know as the "gospels" (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John). Over time it was reflected upon and formulated in a more concise form to be passed on faithfully to subsequent generations of believers. These concise summaries of the faith (called the Rule of Faith) were eventually standardized in the Apostles' Creed. The Creed (derived from Latin credo: "I believe") is a confession of faith, of which Thomas' confession was the archetype. This Creed was memorized and confessed by all believers at their baptism. Believers today continue to confess the Creed at baptism. It is not merely a set of ideas but a precious, living truth which links the newly-baptized with the first disciples who encountered the risen Christ and were radically transformed. Present-day believers too have encountered the risen Christ in the waters of baptism; there, they died with Christ, were buried, and risen with him to newness of life (Rom 6:4). Baptism is no mere ritual but a real participation in the death, burial and resurrection of Christ.

If we understand doctrines in relation to our baptismal confession which has its roots in the apostles' encounter with the risen Christ, then we begin to realize that doctrines are not mere concepts; rather, they are real links to the living faith of the people of God through the centuries. In the act of confessing "I believe..." we are at one with the first disciples who confessed, "My Lord, and my God!" We begin to experience the vitality of doctrine when we ask: What is this teaching calling us to do? Doctrines, according to Kevin Vanhoozer, are "prompts" to be performed rather than merely ideas to be glibly parroted. The performance of doctrine is what we do regularly at worship, especially in the liturgy, where we proclaim, confess, and encounter God as Trinity. It is from this repeated doing of doctrines that they are 'inscripted' into our very being. Over time, they shape our worldview and behaviour and are consequently critical to our practising of Christianity.

[edited by D. Trueman from an article in Singapore by Rev. Dr Simon Chan]

SATURDAY COFFEE MORNINGS

The Coffee mornings held on a Saturday each month, in All Saints will at present be held only on the second Saturday of each month, between 10am and 12.

Do find time to come along and meet up with other members of our 'Church Family' and welcome any visitors, who may pop in for coffee.

If anyone is able to help or offer a cake, please speak to *Elaine or Jean*.



Continuing our correspondence between Eustace, rector of St James the Least, and his nephew.... Taken from the Parish Pump website.



On church tourists and outrageous lies

The Rectory
St. James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren

I was sorry to hear of the dawn call by the police because your church had been broken into, although the theft of tambourines, books of choruses and banners proclaiming "Jesus wants me for a Sunbeam" are likely to have a limited market. But you are fortunate that those are the only unexpected call-outs you receive.

Those of us with ancient churches are resigned to receiving telephone calls from people living in remote corners of the globe who happen to be on holiday in England and want to trace long-lost relatives who were married or buried in our parishes. They invariably seem amazed when they find you are not personally familiar with someone who died 400 years ago, what family still exists, where they live and what interesting anecdotes you know about their ancestors - preferably something criminal. Any attempts to put them off will be deflected by being told that they fly home tomorrow and since they are booked at a show in London that evening, could they come round early afternoon?

Once inside the church, they will expect a conducted tour. I have a competition with myself to see how outrageous I can make our history, yet still be believed. One family now thinks that the conical tomb in the churchyard is the last visible tip of the spire of the famous cathedral which once stood on this spot but sank into the ground when cursed by a bride who was jilted at its altar.

A second couple now know that a locked safe contains a set of pagan gods which were worshipped by an obscure sect in the parish during the time of the Tudor monarchs. They were removed by the incumbent of the day and locked away. Only the Rector is allowed a key and is only permitted to look inside at the contents on the day he leaves office, as the sight is too terrible.

Yet another are convinced that several dozen mediaeval gold chalices are buried in the rectory garden, where they were hidden from Cromwell's soldiers and their exact location has been forgotten (I told that story when I was looking for volunteers to dig over the rose beds).

Should they get as far as the vestry to inspect the registers of baptisms, marriages and burials, you know that the afternoon is lost. It can



occasionally hasten their departure by casually telling them to ignore the mice which will be running round the floor - although hardened visitors are likely to set up their tripods to catch them on film.

The ultimate deterrent is to suggest they stay to Evensong which I am about to say. That is guaranteed to remind them that they have an urgent appointment back at their hotel.

Your loving uncle,

Eustace

Friday 15th June

Cream Teas

On the lawn

In aid of

Essex Air Ambulance

2pm - 5.30pm

*** Home made Scones ***

*** Tiptree Jam * Clotted Cream ***

*** Raffle * Plants * Tombola * Etc ***

Bring your friends - children welcome

31 Acacia Drive

Maldon CM9 6AW

Details from Diana Rogers

01621 853841 diana.rogers2@btinternet.com

Registered Charity 1108989



Chance Meetings

Canon Stephen opened one of his sermons recently by saying how, on occasion, a chance meeting can sometimes change the direction of those involved and perhaps determine the future for them. He explained that some years previously he had experienced a chance meeting whilst at a festival. He had entered a marquee selling refreshments and met a young lady whom he had not known until then. That was how he met Sue, and she and Stephen have now been married for over thirty years.

Stephen used this introduction to talk about the Reading for the week which was from Acts chapter eight. Acts is short for Acts of the Apostles and is a link between the four Gospels and the rest of the New Testament showing how the Apostles carried on Christ's work. Part of Chapter eight of Acts tells about a chance meeting between the Apostle Philip, and an Ethiopian court official which led to Philip baptising the man. All from a short chance meeting! Stephen expounded more on this story which had been the reading for the day, so I will not say more here, except that it is, of course, fully told in the Bible.

I was intrigued by this story and started to think of chance meetings occurring in my personal life and to others world wide and how they must have determined the direction in the lives of so many people. My own life changing meeting was similar to that of Stephen in that I literally fell for my own wife when getting off a bus many years ago I bumped into her and we have now had over fifty five years of happy marriage as a result. One most fortuitous and happy chance meeting that I am aware of also concerns a wedding. Many years ago when I was a boy, one of my older cousins was bereaved at the age of twenty eight and he was left with two young children. He was devastated, and it took him some months to be able to face the world again. However, in the fullness of time he did take up the reins and needed to take one of his children to a clinic. The nurse that dealt with them was kind, considerate and helpful. So much so, that within a few months they married, a marriage that lasted over fifty years and their marriage was happy as could be and was filled with laughter and love for each other, for their children and for anyone else they encountered. What a lucky visit to that clinic my cousin had! I expect, that if we all thought back on our lives we could all think of incidents that had a bearing on what we did next; life is full of these chance meetings that occur as if by accident. Are such meetings really by chance though?

Ken Downham



WITHAM CHORAL

PRESENTS

VIVALDI GLORIA HANDEL: ZADOK THE PRIEST & OTHER CORONATION ANTHEMS

WITHAM UNITED REFORMED CHURCH,
NEWLAND STREET WITHAM, CM8 1AH

SATURDAY 9TH JUNE 2018 AT 7.30PM

Wendy Watkins &

Mary McCarthy [sopranos]

Catherine Wood [Alto]

with members of the

Colchester Bach Orchestra

Conductor: - Patrick McCarthy



Singers are invited to join Witham Choral in Vivaldi's Gloria

Rehearsal details and tickets from 01245 380958

Audience & Guest Singers' tickets £10 (£5 full-time education)

**from Witham Tourist Office in the Town Hall at 01376 502674,
or from choir members**



www.withamchoralsociety.org.uk





June 2018

MID-SUMMER CONCERT

IN AID OF

CHESS Homeless

FEATURING



MEN 2 SING
MALE VOICE CHOIR

SATURDAY
30th June 2018

7:00pm

Tickets: £12.00 Includes light refreshments

Danbury Mission

Main Road, Danbury, Chelmsford, CM3 4QL

For further information visit: www.chesshomeless.org/events



@Chesshomeless



@chesshomeless

Registered Office: 200 New London Road, Chelmsford, Essex, CM2 9AB. Charity No 1093901 and Company Number 4407742.

After-eight Social Club

Dance Night Italiano



Cold Norton Village Hall
SATURDAY 9th JUNE
7.30pm

Bring your own drinks and glass
Everyone welcome!

Admission: Members £8 Non members £10
Includes a themed supper!

The after eight social club runs various activities every month throughout the year. These include quiz nights, meals out, coffee evenings, excursions etc.

For further information call Mike on 01621 856219
or visit www.aftereightsocialclub.co.uk
We also have a Facebook page



The Church of England
in Essex and East London
Diocese of Chelmsford

E-bulletin

Bishop's Lent Appeal: Thank you!

Thank you to everyone who has donated to the Bishop's Lent Appeal. Nearly £30,000 has been raised so far.

The appeal is raising vital money to support the Diocese of Marsabit in purchasing a water bowser to transport water to remote communities suffering from drought.

The Bishop's Lent Appeal will remain open until September.

FROM THE REGISTERS



BAPTISM

May 20th VERONICA LINDA SCOTT HARRINGTON
of Fambridge Road

May 27th MEGHAN BETHANY KNIGHT of Mariners Way

MARRIAGE

May 18th JAKE THOMAS RIVERS with ALICE MARRITA WALDER

FUNERALS

May 1st JEAN MARGARET KEYES aged 84 of Wantz Haven

May 4th DAPHNE CLAUDIA FALCUS aged 74 of Fambridge Road

May 9th JEAN TRACEY aged 83 of Orchard Road.

May 31st LINDA PAULINE MUNCEY aged 73 of Cromwell Hill

N.B.

COPY DEADLINE FOR MAY MAGAZINE

17th JUNE



Prayer Diary

June 2018

1	Visit of the Blessed Virgin Mary to Elizabeth	Families who attend Sunshiners
2		All who have recently moved house
3	1st Sunday after Trinity	All who lead our Services today
4		Countries in conflict
5		Members of our PCC
6		The residents of Hailey House
7		Members of the Mothers' Union
8		Those who receive Holy Communion at home
9		Those who lead and attend 'Messy Church' today
10	2nd Sunday after Trinity	The Archdeacon of Chelmsford and all Churchwardens
11	St Barnabas	Churches dedicated to St Barnabas
12		Members of Parliament
13		Prison Chaplains
14		Our Tower Bell Ringers
15		Our Eucharistic Ministers
16		The Queen and all the Royal Family
17	3rd Sunday after Trinity	Fathers
18		Children estranged from their Father
19		Those who lead and attend the Baptism Preparation Course
20		Our Police Force in the County
21		Our Town Council
22		Employees of Maldon District Council
23		Playgroups and nurseries
24	4th Sunday after Trinity.	The birth of John the Baptist Churches dedicated to John the Baptist
25		J's Hospice staff and supporters
26		The work of the London City Mission
27		Nurses and Midwives
28		Our Servers
29	St Peter	All who live in our Parish
30		The Trustees of The Plume Library

**PARISH DIRECTORY**

VICAR	Rev Canon Stephen Carter Tel: 01621 854179
ASST CURATE	Rev Julie Willmot Tel:
ASSOCIATE PRIEST	Rev Penny Sayer Tel: 01621 858911
HON. ASST. PRIEST	Rev. Canon Dr. Graham Blyth Tel: 01621 854068
AUTHORISED LOCAL PREACHER VERGER	Mrs Adrienne Knight Tel 01621 841329 Ken Russell 7 Wantz Haven, Tel: 01621 853470
⁵ CHURCHWARDENS	Dennis Johnson 21 Wantz Road Tel: 01621 842410 Mrs Jenny Clinch 4A Belvedere Place Tel: 01621 840057
DEPUTY CHURCHWARDENS	Mrs Vicky Tropman Tel: 01621 857291 Mrs Vivien Clark Tel:01621 740374
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RECORDER OF THE CHURCH	Kenneth Downham Tel: 01621 854655
PARISH NEWS EDITOR	Peter Clark Tel: 01621 740374 email: pjandvclark@gmail.com



ACTIVITIES

ACTIVITY	CONTACT	TELEPHONE
Choir Practice (Thur 7:30pm)	Dr. Stuart Pegler	01621 850530
Junior Choir (Thur 7:00 pm)	”	”
Junior Church	Elaine Brown	01621 853238
Freedom Footsteps	Sue Carter	
Sunshiners (Pre School Group Thursdays 9:15 am)	Gill Nelson	01621 852119
Tower Bell Ringers	Peter Chignell	01376 571170
	Dennis Johnson	01621 842410
Handbell Ringers	Susan Duke	
Flower Group	Betty Smith	01621 854143
Bible Society	Joan Downham	01621854655
Mothers' Union`	Marie Keeble	01621 856354
Childrens Society	Elaine Brown	01621 853238
Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorer Scouts (14-18yrs)	Cliff Hunter	01621 852013
Meeting Point	Barbara Gale	01621 928538
Maldon Pioneers	Mike Frederick	01621 840951
Maldon Ladies Group	Vivien Clark	01621 740374
Ramblers Club		
Prayer Group		

If you require information regarding Rainbows, Brownies, Guides or
Senior Section please visit www.girlguiding.org.uk/interested
or call 0800 169 5901.

PARISH OFFICE

Requests for Baptisms and Marriages should be made at the Parish Office situated in the Church - entrance via the main entrance door from the High Street - on 1st and 3rd Wed of the month between 7:00 and 8:00 pm

Holy Communion will be taken to the sick and housebound on request.

All Saints' Maldon



Open every day

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