

# ALL SAINTS' MALDON



# PARISH NEWS

July 2018

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

£1



## CHURCH SERVICES

<b>Sunday Services</b>	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
<b>1st Sunday in the Month</b>	10:00am Short all age service of stories songs and prayers. 11:15am Parish Eucharist (CW) 6:00 pm Evensong at St Mary's
<b>Last Sunday</b>	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

<b>Morning Prayer</b>	is usually said in church at 8.30am on Monday - Friday.
<b>Evening Prayer</b>	is usually said in church at 5.30pm on Monday - Thursday
<b>Thursday</b>	11:00am Holy Communion (BCP 1662) followed by coffee and biscuits

### Cover Photos:

1. One of our well attended services.



# FROM THE VICARAGE

## EXPLORERS

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As a result of discussions on our respective PCCs, All Saints and St Mary's have agreed to run jointly a short course for enquirers wishing to explore the Christian faith. We are offering this to anyone in the town who feels they would wish to find out more about what Christians believe. "Explorers" is aimed primarily at those who are currently not members of a church; though it might also be suitable for those who have only recently started attending church. We hope you will understand that it is not primarily aimed at those who are already committed Christians. Though there is a way you can help.

If you feel that you have a member of the family or a friend who might be interested, please give them an invitation to attend. Invitations will be available at the back of the church for you to pick up from the beginning of July. The invitations are also going out to parents at All Saints and Wentworth Schools, as well as to parents of children in the uniformed groups. But perhaps the most effective invitation is when members of the congregation give a personal invitation to someone they know.

It will not be an "Alpha" course, that many of you will have heard of. But it will have a similar ethos. We will begin each week with a meal, there will then be a short talk, and then an opportunity for questions and discussion.

We want to create a safe environment where people can honestly ask their questions or air their doubts, knowing that whatever they say will be taken seriously.

Most of us are shy of evangelism and talking about our faith. Here is one simple way you can help us. Try and think of someone you know who would like to explore the Christian faith. Take an invitation to them and encourage them to consider it.



This is the programme.

1. Monday 17th September at St Mary's.  
"Is there more to life than this?"
2. Monday 24th September at St Mary's  
"Who is Jesus"
3. Monday October 1st at All Saints  
"Why did Jesus die?"
4. Monday October 8th at All Saints  
"How and why do I read the Bible?"
5. Monday October 15th at All Saints  
"Why and how do I pray?"

Each session will begin with a hot meal at 7.00pm and finish by 9.00pm.

Please keep this in your prayers.

*Stephen*

## CHURCHES TOGETHER QUIET DAY

During Lent, many of us shared in a series on prayer. One of our speakers was Sister Moira of the order of Canonesses of the Holy Sepulchre. Sister Moira has kindly agreed to lead us in a Quiet Day on Saturday July 28th at St Mary's from 10.00am-3.00pm. Coffee will be served from 9:30 am. St Mary's makes an excellent venue for a Quiet Day, with the facilities of the Octagon, the beautiful churchyard overlooking the river, as well as the church itself.

This will give us a further opportunity to explore the life of prayer as well as to enjoy some time for silence and contemplation. During the day Sister Moira will be helping us to think about the writings of Julian of Norwich, the Medieval mystic whose teaching on prayer is still very accessible and relevant to our own age.

You are asked to bring a packed lunch; and tea and coffee will be provided through the day. Please let me know if you intend to come, either by phoning 01621-854179, or e-mail <revscarter@googlemail.com>. You are asked to bring a contribution of £2 to cover the cost of the day.

*Stephen Carter*

.....  
**Donate**

A friend of mine isn't much of an organ donor, but he did give a piano to the local charity shop.

.....

# SCHOOL VISIT TO THE CATHEDRAL

On June 12th, 90 children from years 3 and 4 at All Saints school visited the Cathedral. The Foundation Governors are fortunate in having an annual income that is set aside to support the Christian ethos of All Saints school. Part of this we use to give Bibles to the Year 6 pupils at the Leavers service in July. But in recent years we have funded a visit in the Summer, to either the Cathedral or to the Orthodox Monastery at Tolleshunt Knights.

The Cathedral education team offer an excellent day for schools. It was stimulating and great fun. We were welcomed by Steve Kersys, the Diocesan Children's Officer. The children were then offered a whole range of experiences during the day, including meeting the cathedral organist and hearing the organ; sitting on the bishop's throne (the "cathedra"), wearing a mitre, and much more. As well as learning much about the cathedral as a place of Christian worship, it also gave them an insight of what it means to be part of the diocese and the wider Church. We are grateful to the cathedral education team for providing such a high quality and enjoyable educational experience, and for making us so welcome.

*Stephen*



**Only the Vicar Not Paying Attention!!**



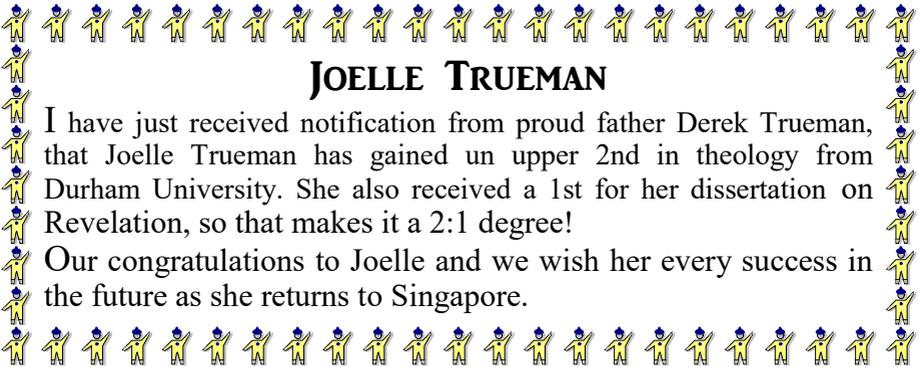
# EXPERIENCE TAIZE

There will be an opportunity for you to experience some of the more well-known music from Taize at a service to be held on Sunday 29 July at 6.30pm.

This will be an informal and reflective service and most of the music will be taken from Taize song sheets. Members of the congregation on that evening will have the opportunity to learn and join in this style of worship.

Even if you have never experienced this style of worship you may find it uplifting. We look forward to welcoming you.

*Alan Marjoram*



## JOELLE TRUEMAN

I have just received notification from proud father Derek Trueman, that Joelle Trueman has gained an upper 2nd in theology from Durham University. She also received a 1st for her dissertation on Revelation, so that makes it a 2:1 degree!

Our congratulations to Joelle and we wish her every success in the future as she returns to Singapore.



## Inner peace

If you can start the day without caffeine,  
If you can always be cheerful, ignoring aches and pains,  
If you can resist complaining and boring people with your troubles,  
If you can eat the same food every day and be grateful for it,  
If you can understand when your loved ones are too busy to give you any time,  
If you can take criticism and blame without resentment ,  
If you can conquer tension without medical help,  
If you can relax without wine,  
If you can sleep without the aid of drugs,  
.....then you are probably the family dog.





**Mothers' UNION**  
Christian care for families

**ALL SAINTS MALDON**  
**MOTHERS' UNION**  
**12th June 2018**

On Tuesday 12th June about twenty Mothers' Union members enjoyed fish and chips in the company of Sue, Stephen, and Tommy the cat in the Vicarage Garden. The weather and gnats were kind to us and we had a lovely evening. The meeting finished just before 9.00pm with the Grace and everyone went home thinking what a lovely evening we had together. Thank you to Stephen and Sue for hosting a lovely evening in a lovely garden. And thank you to Merie and Jackie for planning a grand fellowship evening for us all to enjoy. We can now all look forward to our next meeting at Beeleigh Abbey Gardens in July.

God bless you all.

*Love from Helen*

## JUNIOR CHURCH EUCHARIST

On Sunday July 15th, at 10.00am, we will be having our annual Junior Church Eucharist, when we celebrate the contribution the children of All Saints make to our church. Julie will be presiding, and we are hoping that the children will take a full part in the service. During the service the children will also be presented with an appropriate book.

## COURSE IN CHRISTIAN STUDIES

A number of our congregation have now completed the Course in Christian Studies (CCS) This is an excellent 2 year course and though run by the Diocese, is delivered locally on Tuesday evenings during term time, in St Mary's. Peter Chignell has recently completed the course, and will be receiving the Bishop's Certificate on Wednesday July 11th, at 8.00pm in the Cathedral.

If you are interested in the course, there is a taster evening to be held in St Mary's on Tuesday 24th July at 7.30pm. Alternatively you may wish to find out more from some of our congregation who have completed the course, including Peter Chignell, Mike Kneller, Mike Gibson, Viv Clark, Barbara Gale and Adrienne Knight (who is also currently a tutor) There may also be others I have forgotten!

*Stephen*



## ALL SAINTS ARTS FESTIVAL

If you weren't able to come to the All Saints Arts Festival, from 25<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> May, then you missed a treat. Fourteen professional artists exhibited their work in the D'Arcy Room, and the Church was decorated with twelve glorious flower arrangements by Betty's All Saints team, each portraying a different craft.

My favourites were the floral display celebrating Knitting, with its huge colourful pompoms and a blanket that had been made by a Cub Scout !, the amazing Sugar Craft, the strikingly beautiful modern arrangement under the Chancel table, and the framed floral Art beside the altar – but all the rest were brilliant as well. A lovely idea was the Border of Celebration at the altar rail, where visitors could choose and place a flower.



**Melba Ryde's  
Floral Display  
Representing Art**

The South Aisle became a spacious and welcoming cafe, serving lunches, teas and coffees. Piano accompaniment at lunchtime was provided by Graham, Stephen and Stuart, adding to the relaxed and friendly atmosphere, and the Handbell Ringers also played twice.

Many of the All Saints Church family gave of their time by doing 3-hour shifts as kitchen staff, waiters and waitresses and stewards. The necessary furniture shifting beforehand and afterwards was further great teamwork, and



of course All Saints' bakers produced an abundance of mouth-watering cakes for the cafe.

The invited artists displayed their work beautifully in the D'Arcy. Four different jewellers had used highly individual media such as “upcycled” broken porcelain set in silver, knitted copper wire, silver with blown glass beads, and even paper to produce lovely items. Two potters showed contrasting but equally desirable ceramics, and the work of three textile artists was much admired, from gorgeous berets, mittens and cushions, to wonderful blankets and throws, and then the Alpaca products of Clare Kiely, using fleece from the photogenic Norman, Clement and Fergus!, spun, woven and felted into feather-light scarves, “Huggees” cushions, and covers for cafetieres and pots. Naomi Brangwyn's stained glass panels and suncatchers were very popular, as were the mixed media landscape paintings of both Sally Pudney and Jonathan Trim. Three artist printmakers contributed etchings, linocuts, and woodcut prints. Greetings card versions were also available, as well as three series of reproductions in soft-cover book form, by Sally and Jonathan separately, of paintings on a particular theme, such as Hadleigh Woods through one year, Fingringhoe Wick, and the Thames Estuary.

It was a pity that the two evening talks did not attract larger audiences, but ticket sales did at least cover costs. At the Songs of Praise on Sunday evening the Choir sang splendidly two anthems, by Purcell and by Stanford, and Stuart gave a bravura performance of Holst's Jupiter. Some of the exhibiting artists had chosen very singable hymns, and it was particularly nice that the Mayor attended, but sadly the pews were rather sparsely populated.

Stephen's apt choice for the opening hymn was “Angel Voices Ever Singing” with the words:

“Thou didst ears and hands and voices  
For thy praise design;  
Craftsmen's art and music's measure  
For thy pleasure all combine”

As we remember from Whom all talents come, and seek to serve Him by them, may the Festival have brought our visitors pleasure, and increased our appreciation of one another.

*Sue Frederick*

.....  
**Keep off**

Sign on a newly planted front garden:  
'Please stay off me. I want to be a lawn one day.'

.....



# Church Warden's Chat

Sorry everyone, this is going to be a short chat this month, as I am trying to pack for my holiday tomorrow at the same time!

The Arts Festival brought many new people into the church, which looked lovely with the floral decorations on an arts and craft theme. Thank you so much to our team of talented flower arrangers. The cafe area also looked bright and welcoming, with good food on offer. The waitresses certainly cheered their customers!

On the 9th June I was duly sworn in as your churchwarden, at a service at The Orchards, Great Baddow. This is an unusual church that meets in an old school building, which certainly gives them opportunity to have multiple uses within the building. We met for refreshments in their coffee/cafe room, before having the service in what was the old school hall, beautifully re-ordered as a church!

The following Tuesday evening a few of us went to the cathedral for a meeting about the new data protection act. It was interesting, though much of the information was rather hard to follow ( my brain obviously does not run on the same lines! ) but it did clear up some points for me!

Last Friday Stephen conducted the funeral service for Geoff Vale, a much loved member of Maldon's community. The service was held in All Saints, due to the numbers expected. It was a great tribute to Geoff, ending with all the local ministers joining Stephen for the commendation prayers, which as a strong supporter of Churches Together, I think Geoff would have liked. I knew Geoff through Open the Book, over the last three and a half years and we will certainly miss his contributions at Wentworth School.

Now I must return to my packing, so wishing you all happy holidays, wherever they may take you,

*Jenny*

**N.B.**

**COPY DEADLINE FOR AUGUST MAGAZINE**

**22nd JULY**



## REACTION

In response to Stephen's article last month, and having been to the Holy Land with Embrace the Middle East in 2012 (Biblelands as it was then), I fully endorse his comments. The Holy land is a complex place, with many different views and opinions, and obviously a very important place for Jews, Christians and Muslims. There will be no easy answer, the realities of life there are harsh, yet most people I met, of whatever religion, were just like you and me, whose hospitality was immense, with the same concerns within their daily life and they just want peace. There is no doubt that atrocities happen and hardship and tragedy is also part of their lives. However those we met also feel supported by our prayers.

The following poem was written in response to a visit to Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Remembrance Centre in Jerusalem. It explains my feelings then, while reflecting on the situation in the Holy Land, but, today it represents so much more. The news, reflects the horrors of this world today and the intolerance within the world. I have changed my first line, which was "What do I feel about what I have seen today", because today and every day I can pray this poem, to help me process my thoughts and to help me ask God to give me guidance, tolerance and understanding as I pray for peace in our world, the most precious gift of all.

### Reaction- Yad Vashem

What do I feel about what I see on the television?  
 I hear on the radio, read on the Internet?  
 I don't know how I can comprehend?  
 My middle class, comfy lifestyle  
 Doesn't prepare me for this.  
 I hear stories of people who have lived and died  
 In faith, their own faith,  
 Persecuted in many ways for their beliefs,  
 Hounded out of their homes and jobs  
 And still it goes on  
 It is too much to process at this time.  
 Grant me compassion, understanding, tolerance and faith.  
 Help me to see both sides of the narrative.  
 Let me not judge, Let me listen, Let me act  
 Let me show empathy.  
 We need hope for the future of this world  
 We wish for truth and not lies to be told  
 Help the world know and believe  
 Nothing good is achieved by violence.  
 Let peace reign in all our hearts.  
 Amen

*Gina Southey*

# GEOFFREY VALE 15. 02. 1943 -- 21. 05 2018



As an architect, Geoff knew all about church restoration, conservation, re-ordering and extension. He had for some years been our architect here at All Saints and was responsible for our first reordering in 2002, when the rood screen was removed from between the nave and the chancel and the raised area, where the nave altar now stands, was

formed.

Geoff had a great vision for the Church here in Maldon. He was a committed Baptist, and was nurtured in that tradition. Though, no doubt, he had his own preferences in worship, he was one of those rare Christians who could encounter God in the whole breadth of the Church's worship: from a the ritual of a High Mass, to the simplicity of a Quaker meeting- and everything in between.

Geoff was the driving force for Churches Together in Maldon. In his vision of the Church, for all our differences in theology, tradition and ways of worship, he believed we are all united by our common faith in Jesus Christ which outweighs everything. Even in the last months, while coping with his illness, Geoff was very concerned for the future of Churches Together. He was anxious that the bonds uniting us were loosening and that we were all increasingly wanting to plough our own lonely furrows. Perhaps the best tribute the Christian churches in the town can make to Geoff, is to renew our commitment to work together to witness to our faith in Maldon and to serve its people.

For Geoff, an important part of that was expressed in the annual Good Friday procession of witness through the town. Every year he invested so much of himself into this: looking after every detail of the organisation. Even this year, when he was so ill, he still took a keen interest. He did much of the planning for Good Friday and continued an oversight of the event

Geoff was a valued member of the Open the Book Team which takes Bible stories into local schools. Not only did he take part in the presentations, but spent a huge amount of time and skill in making a whole range of props and visual aids. Some of the most memorable were the camels and the donkeys for use in the Nativity story. I am sure these will continue to be used in the schools for many years to come.

Geoff was a great supporter of the Refugee project to bring a family of Syrian refugees to Maldon. He was never afraid to put his head above the parapet, and when necessary to challenge those in power. He was also committed to inter-faith dialogue. For Geoff, this was never about watering down his own faith. He believed passionately that it is a Christ-like task to speak to those who are different from ourselves and to try to understand them. To tell our own story, but also to listen to theirs. In Lent, for a number of years, he organised an ecumenical Lent Group in the Maldon Tandoori, which would often be joined by Jual, the proprietor, who is president of the Mosque and would join in our discussions. Also, a small group of Christians and Muslims would meet, from



time to time, for Scripture reasoning. We would take them through a passage of the Bible and then they would take us through a passage in the Koran. We would then have a discussion.

Mohsin and Isa are two of the young Muslim men who joined the small group of Christians and Muslims for Scripture reasoning and who made the following comments on hearing of Geoff's death.

*"Geoff was an honest and upright man with a good moral standing. I really looked up to Geoff as a person who really stood out from the crowd. Geoff was so eager and enthusiastic to share the religion of Christianity; but also shared the same enthusiasm to learn about Islam. We all have to depart from this world, today or tomorrow. His presence will truly be missed."*  
Mohsin.

*"Geoff always prepared meticulously before our meetings and he was a powerful presence. I remember the feeling of fear that would come over me when Geoff would look at his thorough notes, before asking a deep thought provoking question. Even though we come from different religious backgrounds, Geoff was a good man and was always able to debate fairly and patiently, whilst being respectful and tolerant. He always received us with friendship and cheerfulness. He will be dearly missed."* Isa.



Sketches Geoff made while receiving treatment

Geoff will be sorely missed by the Maldon Community.  
May he Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory

*This was adapted from the Address Stephen gave at Geoff's funeral. Ed*



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## Lunch at All Saints

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**Wednesday**

**4th JULY**





## SERVICES FOR JULY

- 1st July**      **St Peter the Apostle, Fifth Sunday of Trinity**  
8:00 am Holy Communion (BCP 1662)  
10:00 am Worship for All Pet Service and Church Parade  
11:15 am The Eucharist for St Peter  
6:00 pm Evensong at St Mary's
- 3rd July**      **Tuesday, St Thomas the Apostle**  
10:00 am Holy Communion in St Mary's
- 5th July**      **Thursday**  
11:00 am Holy Communion (BCP 1662)
- 8th July**      **Sixth Sunday of Trinity**  
8:00 am Holy Communion (BCP 1662)  
10:00 am Parish Eucharist and Junior Church  
12 noon Holy Baptism, Abigail Watts.  
6:30 pm evensong and Sermon
- 9th July**      **Monday**  
11:00 am Holy Communion at Hailey House
- 12th July**      **Thursday:**  
11:00 am Holy Communion (BCP 1662)
- 15th July**      **Seventh Sunday of Trinity**  
8:00 am Holy Communion (BCP 1662)  
10:00 am Junior Church Eucharist (All Age Service)  
12 noon Holy Baptism, Alex Surridge  
6:30 pm Evensong and Sermon
- 18th July**      **Wednesday**  
11:00 am Holy Communion at Longfield
- 19th July**      **Thursday**  
11:00 am Holy Communion (BCP 1662)
- 22nd July**      **St Mary Magdalene**  
8:00 am Holy Communion (BCP 1662)  
10:00 am Parish Eucharist and Junior Church  
3:30 pm Installation of the Bishop of Bradwell in the Cathedral  
6:30 pm Evensong and Sermon
- 25th July**      **Wednesday James the Apostle**  
10:00 am Holy Communion in St Andrew's Heybridge
- 26th July**      **Thursday**  
11:00 am Holy Communion (BCP 1662)
- 29th July**      **Ninth Sunday of Trinity**  
8:00 am Holy Communion (BCP 1662)  
10:00 am Parish Eucharist and Junior Church  
12 noon Holy Baptism, Thomas and Lois Crouchman.  
6:30 pm Taize Service.



## DIARY FOR JULY

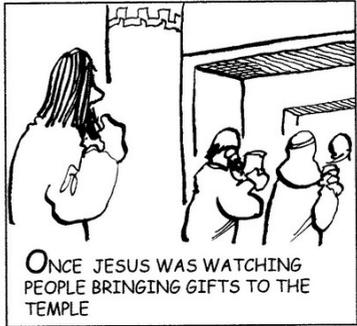
Mon 2nd July	10 - 12 noon Maldon Pioneers Drop In 7:30 pm PCC
Tues 3rd July	10 - 12 noon Meeting Point 10:00 am Prayer Group 8:00 pm MU
Wed 4th July	12 noon - 1:30 pm All Saints' Lunches 7:00 pm Parish Office
Thu 5th July	9:15 am Sunshiners 2-4 pm Maldon Ladies 7:00 pm Junior Choir 7-30 pm Choir Practice
Sat 7th July	1:00 pm Wedding of Anthony Harvey with Leah Christoforou
Mon 9th July	9:00 am Men's Breakfast (Rose and Crown) 10 - 12 noon Maldon Pioneers Drop In
Tues 10th July	10 - 12 noon Meeting Point
Thu 12th July	9:15 am Sunshiners 2-4 pm Maldon Ladies 7:00 pm Junior Choir 7-30 pm Choir Practice
Fri 13th July	Maldon Court Prizegiving
Sat 14th July	10:00 am to noon Church Coffee Morning 2:00 - 4:00 pm Messy Church St Michael's Flower Festival Weekend
Tue 17th July	10 am - 12 noon Meeting Point
Wed 18th July	9:30 am All Saints' Leavers service 7:00 pm Parish Office
Thu 19th July	9:15 am Sunshiners 2-4 pm Maldon Ladies visit to Perrywood's Garden Centre 7:00 pm Junior Choir Practice 7-30 pm Choir Practice
Tues 24th July	10 - 12 noon Meeting Point 8:00 pm Silent film in Church (Maldon Festival)
Thu 26th July	Maldon Ladies on holiday in North Wales 7-30 pm Choir Practice
Sat 28th July	Churches Together Quiet Day at St Mary's
Tues 31 July	10 - 12 noon Meeting Point



# The Widow's little coins



JESUS OFTEN TOLD STORIES WITH HIDDEN MEANINGS



ONCE JESUS WAS WATCHING PEOPLE BRINGING GIFTS TO THE TEMPLE

HE SAW THE RICH PEOPLE BRINGING THEIR MONEY

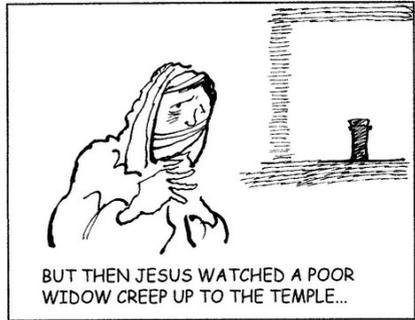


THEY MADE A BIG FUSS

THE PROUD PEOPLE WANTED EVERYONE TO SEE HOW RICH THEY WERE.

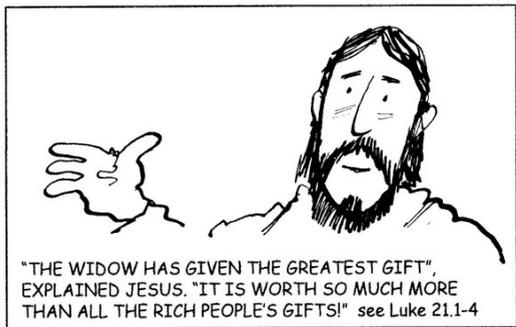


THEY MADE SURE EVERYONE COULD SEE THEM PUTTING THEIR MONEY IN THE BOX



BUT THEN JESUS WATCHED A POOR WIDOW CREEP UP TO THE TEMPLE...

...AND DONATE TWO SMALL COPPER COINS.



"THE WIDOW HAS GIVEN THE GREATEST GIFT", EXPLAINED JESUS. "IT IS WORTH SO MUCH MORE THAN ALL THE RICH PEOPLE'S GIFTS!" see Luke 21.1-4



# Bible Bite

## A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in Numbers chapters 13 and 14.

God had rescued the Hebrew people from Egypt and led them to the border of the land He had promised them - Canaan. But it was not empty..

12 young leaders were chosen to check Canaan out.



They went north to where Abraham had been buried..



and they returned 40 days later with fruit, and their report...



10 said "The people there are like giants! We can't beat them."



Caleb and Joshua said..



But our God is bigger than they are. We can win!

But the people said



No! We should have died in the desert!

We'll choose a new Leader to take us back to Egypt.



But God said..

I have had enough of you not trusting Me. You will wander in the desert for 40 years before your children return here.



We were wrong to complain. Let's go into Canaan!

Don't attack! God will not help you win.

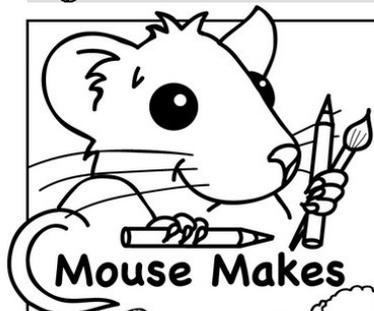


Not listening!

And the Canaanites chased them out of the country.



Run away!



### LOST AND FOUND

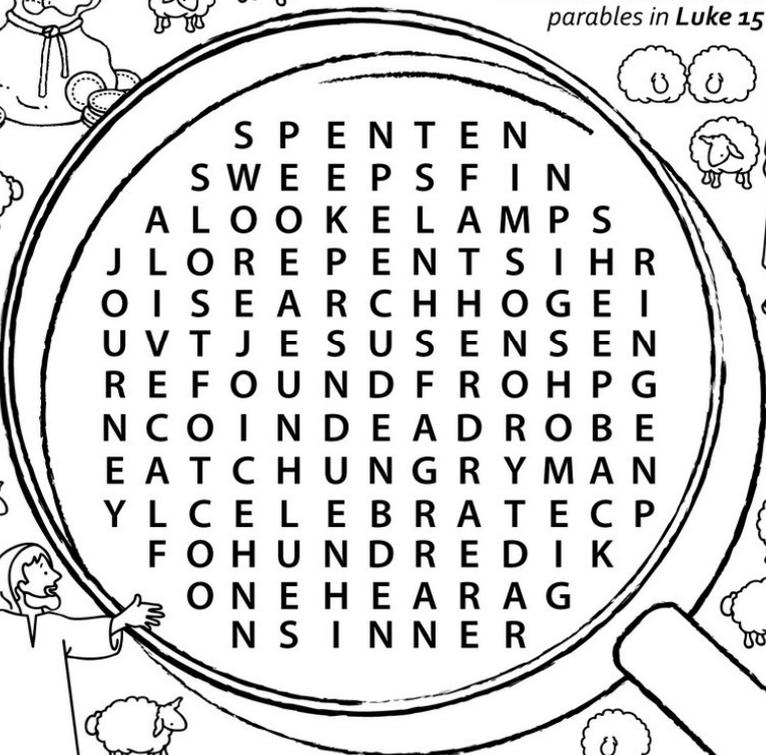
Jesus told three stories to help us to understand God's love and forgiveness.

The first is about a missing sheep that the shepherd did not give up looking for.

The second is about a lost coin that the owner kept searching for until it was found.

The third is about a young man who returned home after he realised he had made a mistake by wanting to go his own way.

Read the 'Lost and Found' parables in **Luke 15**



Can you find the lost COIN, the lost SHEEP and the lost SON in the word search? Can you find these other words from the Lost and Found parables too?

- HEAR • JESUS • HUNDRED • LOST • LOOK • FOUND
- REJOICE • SINNER • REPENT • TEN • ONE • LAMP • SWEEP • SEARCH
- FATHER • JOURNEY • SPENT • HUNGRY • PIGS • BACK • HOME • RAN
- ROBE • RING • CALF • EAT • CELEBRATE • DEAD • ALIVE



## RAMBLING GROUP

(Ten to Ten)

### Rambling Group Walk from Le Talbooth to Flatford Mill and back via Dedham on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2018

Ten of us took part in the walk on Saturday. It was a glorious day and once we had all found the parking place we put on our boots and set off on the footpath under the A12 heading for Flatford. We had the river Stour on our right and a beautiful wildflower meadow on our left and all was well until we reached a field boundary with the dreaded sign 'bull in field'!

It was not long before the herd of cows came into view with the bull in their midst in our path! Needless to say we were all rather apprehensive and took a wide detour around the group. To our relief they took no notice of us but we were very glad to reach the gate into the next field.

We had our lunch at Flatford and enjoyed the surroundings in the warm sunshine. After

lunch we crossed the meadows and picked up the footpath to Dedham. We spent some time in Dedham, looking round the church and visiting a tea shop, then walked back to our starting point, joining the Essex Way for the remainder of the walk. Altogether a very enjoyable day out.

The next walk will be on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> July. We will meet at Winterslete Farm (parking opposite the top cemetery gate) and set off at Ten-to-Ten for a walk around Stebbing. For more information about the walk and the meeting place for carshare, please ring Kathy on 07747198795

Tuesday evening walks were slow to start this year but we have managed three so far Langford and Heybridge Wood, Purleigh and Danbury. If you would like to join the walk, we meet at Tesco's car park (seawall end) ready to leave at 6.30pm for car share and walks. Everyone is welcome. No walk scheduled for July 10<sup>th</sup> at the moment.

*Sue Smith*



Willy Lott's Cottage at Flatford by G Dickman

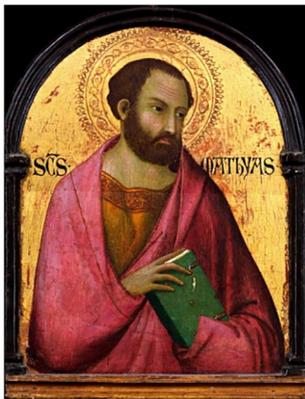


# ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE - CONFUSED AND DOUBTING

## 3<sup>rd</sup> July is the Saints Day for St Thomas the Apostle

Thomas, one of Jesus' 12 apostles, was an impulsive, confused, honest sceptic. Jesus could understand and work with such a man. Thomas' impulsiveness was evident when Jesus prepared to visit Lazarus in Bethany. It was a dangerous trip to make, because of the Jews, but Thomas urged his fellow disciples: "Let us also go, that we may die with Him." (John 11:16) Instead, Jesus brought Lazarus back to life.

Thomas' confusion is shown in later talks with Jesus. He was not really sure where Jesus was going long-term (John 14:5). But Jesus accepted this confused commitment, and began to untangle it, patiently explaining: "I am going to my Father", and "No one comes unto the Father but by me." Finally, Thomas' honest scepticism is revealed after the Resurrection, which he flatly refused to believe - unless he could touch the wounds enough, Jesus appears - him, shows him the wounds. Thomas re-ponds: "My Lord and my God" (John 20.26ff).



Thus Doubting Thomas' honest doubts, turned to honest faith, have become a reassurance for thousands of men and women across the centuries, who also want to follow Jesus, but who require some proof of this amazing event - the Resurrection. In Doubting Thomas' complete affirmation of faith, after meeting the risen, crucified Christ, they can find support for their own faith.

Ancient legends tell how Thomas went on to India as a missionary. There are rumours that Thomas even built a palace for a king's daughter in India, and thus he is the patron saint of architects. It is believed that he was martyred by a spear on 3rd July, 72 AD in Mylapore, near Madras. 46 ancient churches in England were dedicated to him.

*Taken from the Parish Pump Website*



**ACT NOW OR PAY  
LATER:  
PROTECTING A BILLION  
PEOPLE IN CLIMATE  
THREATENED COASTAL  
CITIES.**

More than a billion people across the world are living in cities seriously threatened by climate change. These are coastal cities, and most are already experiencing increased flooding, extreme weather and storm surges.

In the run-up to the World Humanitarian Summit, UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon has given a timely reminder that every £1 spent on reducing the risks from disasters now will save around £7 of damages later. It's essential that we act urgently to prevent the suffering of millions of poor and vulnerable people.

Mega-cities such as Kolkata, Lagos and Dhaka are already facing serious climate threats, and there are hundreds of smaller cities at risk across Asia, Africa and South America. Although US and Chinese coastal cities will face the biggest financial losses, it's the poorest urban dwellers who have the most to lose.

For people already living in severe hardship, it may be almost impossible to recover from such disasters without significant help. With the number of urban poor predicted to swell in coming decades, this is a humanitarian crisis waiting to happen.

The good news is that improvements in science make the impacts of climate change increasingly predictable. It is possible to put measures in place now to identify the most vulnerable people and places and minimise the impacts.

The first action has to be to reduce carbon emissions rapidly and limit temperature increase by encouraging a shift in investment from fossil fuels to low-carbon energy sources. Next is to help vulnerable communities survive and thrive, by better protecting their homes and livelihoods. Finally, is to put in place agreed, international systems that support communities to recover from ultimate loss and damage caused by devastating storms and floods.

*Taken from the Christian Aid  
Email of local news and events.*

Kolkata, regarded as India's intellectual and cultural capital, is also among the world's most flood-prone cities. By 2070 it is expected to rank as the most vulnerable city in the world in terms of exposure of its population, and fourth most vulnerable in terms of exposure of its assets.



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



## **On the Perils of the Ladies' Guild Annual Outing**

The Rectory  
St. James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren

And so once again we start the annual round of parish treats. While the bell-ringers prefer public houses, and the choirboys want fast food outlets, the Ladies' Guild are centred on lavatories. The itinerary is unchangeable: Coach drive to coffee stop and lavatory. Coach drive to luncheon stop and lavatory. Coach drive to some arbitrary attraction – provided it has a tea shop and lavatory. Coach trip home with a lavatory (stop en route).

A sub-committee will have been hard at work for the previous six months deciding where to visit. The most disastrous course of action is to present the group with a choice; if two options are provided, they will attract almost equal numbers in favour, thus ensuring that half of the group will rejoice in saying throughout the day that the other option would have been preferable. When it comes to decision-making, Stalin had a lot going for him.

My predecessor in this parish left me a terrible legacy; he always accompanied the Guild on their day out, thus obliging me to do the same. I do, however, travel equipped with armaments. "The Times" crossword rules out any possibility of conversation for at least the first two hours. Three years ago, Mrs Phillips had the audacity to look over my shoulder and give me 12 across; she will not make that mistake again. A brief nap after these intellectual exertions, assuring those around me that I am meditating on the theme for next Sunday's sermon, ensures a morning almost free from having to comment on the weather, other members of the party, or why I so rarely drop in on the Pram Service.

The ideal destination is one where I have a clerical colleague, so while the ladies wander about, shop and analyse why I still wear the same suit I arrived in 30 years ago, we have an agreeable afternoon assassinating the characters of bishops and archdeacons and bemoaning the standards of a new generation of curates. After our different therapies, we all re-assemble at the coach for the return journey.

Naturally, there is the traditional wait for those who have forgotten where the coach park is. As far as I am concerned, a deficit of less than 10% should be entirely acceptable. I can think of several husbands who may be rather thankful that their wives may not be back as soon as they had feared.



Our ladies return, invigorated with the thought of all the bits of information about other members in the party that can be discreetly shared over the telephone, while I am exhausted from 12 hours of attempting to be polite. Meanwhile the sub-committee gets a date in the diary for planning next year's lavatorial sequence.

Your loving uncle,

*Eustace*

## *Book Reviews*

### **Journey: The Way of the Disciple**

**By Richard Littledale, Authentic, £9.99**

An accessible and thought-provoking devotional look at the nature of discipleship through the lens of pilgrimage. What do we learn about God whilst on the move which could not be learnt whilst stationary? From Abraham, Moses, Ruth to Jesus himself and the apostle Paul, the Bible is full of stories of people on the move.

The chapters cover subjects such as provisions needed on the journey, communications and companions along the way, distractions from the path, the growth of 'new monasticism', and death as 'journey's end'. With questions for personal reflection included after each chapter this is much more than a book about pilgrimage, it encourages the reader to learn to journey through life in an attitude of pilgrimage -revealing that it is often in the very act of journeying that we find our deepest spiritual insights.

### **Earthed in God - four movements of spiritual growth**

**By Christopher Chapman, Canterbury Press, £18.99**

This resource for spiritual directors explores how we can cooperate with God in our own spiritual growth. Using biblical imagery of the natural world, Christopher Chapman explores four recurring patterns of spiritual development:

**Rooted and Grounded:** finding stability through prayer and humility; **Emergence:** recognising and responding to God through 'holy daring'; **The Struggle Towards Abundance:** discerning and overcoming obstacles to growth; and **Fruitfulness and Fall:** finding fulfillment in giving and receiving.

The material is also ideal for personal reading during a retreat or as a resource for those receiving spiritual direction.

*Taken from the Parish pump website*



## **MEMORIES OF TRINITY SUNDAY A LOVELY EVENING SERVICE**

I was among those who attended the evening service on Trinity Sunday May 27<sup>th</sup> which was part of the very successful Arts Festival and was headlined as 'Community Songs of Praise'. The service featured All Saints Choir and our Organist and Director of Music, Dr. Stuart Pegler.

The service composed a wide variety of music, and the choir and congregation sang six popular hymns which had all been chosen by different artists who had been taking part in the Arts Festival. These included 'Morning has Broken', 'God be in my Head', 'Lead us Heavenly Father', 'Love Divine' and finishing with the stirring 'And Did Those Feet?'. The choir contributed two anthems, those being 'Rejoice in the Lord' by Purcell and Stanford's arrangement of the moving 'Te Deum Laudamus' (God, We Praise You). They were both sung beautifully by our excellent choir and it was apparent that a lot of hard work and practice had been put in by the choristers.

The bible reading for this service was appropriately taken from 2 Chronicles chapter 2 and was about the skills of artists and craftspeople who are employed to build the Temple. It was read for us by Prebendary Paul Barnes. Stuart Pegler chose for his solo contribution on the organ, to play 'Jupiter' from the 'Planet Suite' by Gustav Holst. This wonderful piece of music has many memorable melodies and was played with much feeling by Stuart, and I for one was sorry when it finished. Stuart obviously put much time and effort into all the music and singing and those present were treated to a feast of music which made for a great service. Oh yes, I must also mention that Stuart was of course helped on his solo piece by his grandson Finn who was at Stuart's side throughout the playing of Jupiter!

There must surely be a reason that sometime in the not too distant future there could be such an evening service again. What a lovely evening!

### **The Lord God Made Them All**

The title of course refers to the much loved hymn 'All things bright and beautiful'. Most people become familiar with this hymn at a very early age and it remains one of the most requested pieces for both Christenings and Funerals. It is one of those hymns that you hardly need the hymn sheet for and once learned, the words and tune seem to stay forever. It is considered to be an Anglican hymn but is also sung in other Christian churches. The words of 'All things bright and beautiful' were first published by Cecil Frances



Alexander in 1848 in her 'Hymns for Little Children' and can be sung to several melodies.

I mention this, as it was the featured Hymn for Meghan Knight, who was Baptised recently in All Saints by Canon Stephen and this hymn was chosen by Meghan's family. Notice the name of this little girl, a name now made famous by Meghan Markle the new Duchess of Sussex who married Prince Harry. The Baptism took place on May 27<sup>th</sup>, Trinity Sunday. I found myself humming the tune and thinking of its meaning on my way home that Sunday. In the words of the Hymn, everything that is mentioned we can thank God for, and that is the point, it is *everything*; flowers; birds and animals; mountains; rivers; the sun, wind and warmth; fruit and food. Some think that the words were inspired by 1 Chronicles 16: 23-29 or maybe from Psalm 104 verses 24 and 25. It could also be that the words owe something to Samuel Taylor Coleridge's '*The Rime of the Ancient Mariner*' or to William Paley's '*Natural Theology*', both written in the early nineteenth century.

The refrain:           All things bright and beautiful  
                               All creatures great and small  
                               All things wise and wonderful  
                               The Lord God made them all.

Whatever the truth of the matter, I am just happy that Mrs. Alexander penned the words that we all now know and love.

*Ken Downham*

### **The Church of England is facing a serious shortage of church organists**

Be very, very nice to your church organist, and don't upset them, because they are becoming somewhat of an endangered species in the Church of England.

In fact, so many churches now have organs, but no organists, that nearly one in three churches have introduced recorded organ music for their congregations to sing along to.

A recent survey found something ominous: that less than four per cent of churches have organists aged 30 years old or under. Almost half of all churches who do have organists report that they are older than 70.

But recorded organ music is hardly ideal – it tends not to leave enough time between lines, and so rushes the singing along. Also, there is a weaker sense of togetherness and community, if you are singing along to a machine, rather than a person well known to you.

The survey was done by the diocese of St Edmundsbury & Ipswich's music development director. *Taken from the Parish Pump Website.*



# EXCLUSIVISM

In the wake of the tense security climate in many regions – and indeed, worldwide – governments are repeatedly urging people not only to be vigilant, but also to arrest the spread of extremist ideologies and keep in check exclusivist religious views. However, the pairing of extremism with exclusivism may give the unfortunate impression that they are the ‘evil twins’ that are harmful and detrimental to the delicate social and religious harmony that we must all strive to preserve. While the end product of extremism is both obvious and potentially life-threatening, the impact of exclusivism can also yield detrimental results too. Exclusivist views, especially religious ones, are invariably seen by many bystanders as divisive and a catalyst for fostering ill will between the different faith communities. However, some important clarifications are needed if we are to achieve a more nuanced appreciation of religious exclusivism.

These clarifications are important because Christianity makes exclusive claims about God and the world. It declares that the one God who created the universe is revealed in Jesus Christ, who is the way, the truth and the life (John 14:6), and therefore the only Saviour and Lord of all people at all times.

Of course, Christianity is not the only religion that makes exclusive truth-claims about God, the human condition and the world in which we inhabit. Most religions, especially the monotheistic faiths, present a vision of reality that they hold to be true in some absolutist sense. In fact, anyone who is really concerned about the truth would have exclusivist convictions in one form or another. Even the religious pluralists, like the famous philosopher of religion John Hick, who argues that all religions point and lead to the one and the same Ultimate Reality, is making a claim that has an exclusivist overtone.

Two fundamental reasons are routinely rehearsed for the current rejection of exclusivism that has become so pervasive in Western societies. The first has to do with the view that exclusivism – especially religious exclusivism – is simply false. Exclusivism, it is argued, is the result of a kind of jaundiced or blinkered view of reality that is fostered by some version of religious authoritarianism.

And the second reason – which may or may not be related to the first – is that exclusivism is bad or even immoral. Exclusivism is arrogant, abrasive and hostile. It breeds intolerance and discrimination. It results in extremism and, in some cases, even violence.

The present relativistic culture that is so easily scandalised by the claims of objective truth, and where the careless rhetoric of inclusivism and pluralism dominates, has supported the attack on exclusivism by appealing to both its alleged falsehood and intolerance. Christian theologians and apologists have written tomes to demonstrate the rationality and reasonableness of the Christian Faith. But Christians must also take seriously the second issue related to the modern war on exclusivism, namely, that it spawns intolerance, exclusion and violence. Christians maintain that the truths they have received by divine revelation are not true only for the Christian community. Rather, as the missionary bishop and theologian Leslie Newbigin puts it, Christians are called to proclaim the Gospel because it



is public truth. Of the original communicators of the Gospel Newbiggin writes: 'They affirmed that the message which had been entrusted to them was one which concerned the destiny of the whole human race. The one who had died and risen again was the saviour and judge of the world. The news was of vital concern to every human being'.

While Christians must continue to uphold and proclaim the truths concerning God and the world they have received from Scripture, they must always do so with sensitivity and respect for people who do not share their convictions. Christian witness must always be governed by agape, a love that is both patient and kind towards the religious other. This was clearly articulated in *The Cape Town Commitment* (2011), prepared by the Third Lausanne Congress on World Evangelisation. While the document states that the 'spoken proclamation of the truth of the gospel remains paramount in our mission', it is emphatic that this must always be done respectfully.

Furthermore, in a pluralist society Christian witness should always include dialogue. As Newbiggin has succinctly articulated it: 'To affirm the Gospel as public truth is not to assert dominance but to invite dialogue'. In its paper on inter-faith relations entitled, 'On Being a Neighbour' (2002), the National Council of Churches in Singapore maintains that inter-faith dialogue must be seen as 'an aspect of the larger matrix of social intercourse between persons'. It adds that 'Christians should not be afraid to dialogue with members of other religions'. Dialogue should not be seen as the sure road to syncretistic compromise or confused with some form of pluralistic theology where truth-claims are relativised and subjected to negotiations and revisions. Dialogue must be seen as part of Christian witness because Christian witness itself must always be understood relationally (and therefore dialogically). This means that Christians should reject all forms of coercion and use of force to pressure the religious other to accept their vision of reality or their way of life. Rather, they must always respect the religious rights of others and therefore their inherent dignity by acknowledging their liberty of conscience. As *The Williamsburg Charter* (1988), that was penned by Os Guinness and signed by 100 prominent figures in the States, puts it: 'The right to freedom of conscience is premised not upon science, nor upon social utility, nor upon pride of species. Rather, it is premised upon the inviolable dignity of the human person. It is the foundation of, and is integrally related to, all other rights and freedoms ...'

Finally, Christian exclusivism should never be arrogant or abrasive. The Church must see herself as God's humble witness that is given the special privilege and an awesome responsibility to testify to God's unimaginable love, grace and mercy that she has herself received (unworthy as she is).

It is out of this deep sense of gratitude and thanksgiving that the Church faces the world as God's witness. As Newbiggin explains, the Church faces the world merely as the 'arrabon of that salvation – as sign, first fruit, token, and witness of that salvation which God purposes for the whole'

[edited by D Trueman from an article by Dr R Chia of Trinity Theological College, Singapore]



# MUSIC FOR A SUMMER'S EVENING

with **MEN 2 SING**



*Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2018 7.30p.m.*

All Saints Church, Church Hill, Purleigh CM3 6QH

Tickets £10.00 (to include a glass of wine or fruit juice)

Tickets available from: 01245 323886

Alternatively, phone Bob Hemmings on 01702 612117

You can visit our website and find out who we are – [www.men2sing.org.uk](http://www.men2sing.org.uk)

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# **PET SERVICE**

**SUNDAY 1ST JULY AT 10 AM**

## **IN ALL SAINTS' CHURCH**

**BRING YOUR OWN PET FOR A BLESSING**

**DOGS, CATS, RABBITS, BIRDS,  
GUINEA PIGS, MICE,  
SNAKES, LIZARDS, ETC, ETC  
ALL ARE WELCOME.**



## Dates for the Diary

1st September

8th September

7th to 9th December,

Parish Trip to Cambridge

Messy Church

Christmas Tree Festival in All Saints

*Plenty of room for other dates, please let me know. Ed*

## FROM THE REGISTERS



### HOLY BAPTISM

June 17th **LUCUS OAKLEY SAM**

### MARRIAGE

June 2nd **MARK DAVID BOOTHROYD** with **LOUISE CLAIRE THACKER**

### FUNERALS

June 1st **MICHAEL THOMAS FREDERICK AINSWORTH** aged 83  
of Spital Road

June 8th **LINDA PAULINE MUNCEY** aged 75 of Cromwell Hill

June 13th **GEOFFREY OWEN ELLIS** of Abbotsmead

June 15th **GEOFFREY JOHN VALE** aged 75 of Victoria Road

June 22nd **VALERIE MAY TUGWELL** aged 83 of Jersey Road

June 27th **KATHLEEN DORIS SEXTON** aged 88 of America Street

June 29th **JAMES THOMAS RICHARDSON** aged 86 of Rurick Drive



# Prayer Diary

## July 2018

1	5th Sunday after Trinity	Those recently Confirmed
2		Newly ordained Priests and Deacons
3	St Thomas	Churches dedicated to St Thomas
4		The people of the United States of America
5		For all who are disabled
6		The work of General Synod
7		The work of Farleigh Hospice
8	6th Sunday after Trinity	The Mission to Seafarers, and all whose lives are lived on the seas
9		The RNLI and HM Coastguard
10		Those who work with the mentally ill
11		Airport Chaplains
12		The staff of Essex County Council
13		All teachers in Primary and Junior schools in our Parish
14		All who lead and attend Messy Church
15	7th Sunday after Trinity	Those whose lives depend on fine weather
16		The Parish of St Andrew's, Sandon
17		Students who will be leaving school
18		All teachers at Plume School
19		Our Archdeacon - Elizabeth Snowden
20		Our Area Dean - Mark North
21		Those who spread the Good News of Christ's Resurrection
22	8th Sunday after Trinity - St Mary Magdalene	Churches dedicated to Mary Magdalene
23		The Salvation Army
24		All Churches in our Deanery
25	St James	Churches dedicated to St James
26		All who will be travelling
27		Churches in seaside towns
28		Youth Workers and Christian Holiday Camps
29	9th Sunday after Trinity	Staff and pupils at All Saints' School
30		Staff who work in our local hospitals and especially hospital Chaplains
31		Ambulance and Air Ambulance Services

**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
<sup>5</sup> 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
HON TREASURER	Eddie Sewell Tel: 01621 851961
PCC SECRETARY	Julie Ovenden Tel: 01621 858803
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RECORDER OF THE CHURCH	Kenneth Downham Tel: 01621 854655
PARISH NEWS EDITOR	Peter Clark Tel: 01621 740374 email: <a href="mailto:pjandvclark@gmail.com">pjandvclark@gmail.com</a>



## ACTIVITIES

ACTIVITY	CONTACT	TELEPHONE
Choir Practice (Thur 7:30pm)	Dr. Stuart Pegler	01621 850530
Junior Choir (Thur 7:00 pm)	”	”
Junior Church		
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	01621 851623
Flower Group	Betty Smith	01621 854143
Bible Society	Jenny Clinch	01621 840057
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](http://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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